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James C. Tobias



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A CENTENNIAL  
BIOGRAPHICAL HISTORY  
OF  
CRAWFORD COUNTY  
OHIO

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ILLUSTRATED

"A people that take no pride in the noble achievements of remote ancestors will never  
achieve anything worthy to be remembered with pride by  
remote generations."—MACAULAY

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## PREFACE.

THE REV. NEWELL DWIGHT HILLIS, the rising star in the brilliant firmament of the Presbyterian ministry and now the occupant of the pulpit of Plymouth Church, Brooklyn, made famous by the great Henry Ward Beecher, said: "By universal consent biography is the most fascinating of literature. Its charm doubtless grows out of the fact that it is the story of life. At best only a secondary interest can attach to those dead things named stones and stars. But biography has at least three advantages: it concerns life, it concerns human life, and it concerns man in his best form, in the person of earth's best and bravest spirits. For these reasons the books that have ushered in new epochs for society have generally been biographies. Indeed, the very heart of a nation's literature is the history of its heroes."

Crawford County, Ohio, has sustained within its confines men who have been prominent in public affairs and great industrial enterprises for half a century. The annals teem with the records of strong and noble manhood, and, as Sumner has said, "the true grandeur of nations is in those qualities which constitute the greatness of the individual." The final causes which shape the fortunes of individuals and the destinies of States are often the same. They are usually remote and obscure, and their influence scarcely perceived until manifestly declared by results. That nation is the greatest which produces the greatest and most manly men and faithful women; and the intrinsic safety of a community depends not so much upon methods as upon that normal development from the deep resources of which proceeds all that is precious and permanent in life. But such a result may not consciously be contemplated by the actors in the great social drama. Pursuing each his personal good by exalted means, they work out as a logical result.

## PREFACE

The elements of success in life consist in both innate capacity and determination to excel. Where either is wanting, failure is almost certain in the outcome. The study of a successful life, therefore, serves both as a source of information and as a stimulus and encouragement to those who have the capacity. As an important lesson in this connection we may appropriately quote Longfellow, who said : " We judge ourselves by what we feel capable of doing, while we judge others by what they have already done." A faithful personal history is an illustration of the truth of this observation.

In this biographical history the editorial staff, as well as the publishers, have fully realized the magnitude of the task. In the collection of the material there has been a constant aim to discriminate carefully in regard to the selection of subjects. Those who have been prominent factors in the public, social and industrial development of the county have been given due recognition as far as it has been possible to secure the requisite data. Names worthy of perpetuation here, it is true, have in several instances been omitted, either on account of the apathy of those concerned or the inability of the compilers to secure the information necessary for a symmetrical sketch; but even more pains have been taken to secure accuracy than were promised in the prospectus. Works of this nature, therefore, are more reliable and complete than are the " standard " histories of a country.

THE PUBLISHERS.

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# A CENTENNIAL BIOGRAPHICAL HISTORY OF CRAWFORD COUNTY, OHIO.

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## INTRODUCTORY.

From the east and southeast came the pioneers who made the early white settlement in the state of Ohio. Hardy sons of toil were they, following closely upon the steps of the retreating savages. Broad and deep did they lay the foundations of civilization; wisely and well did the old residents build thereupon; and the magnificent results have been enlarged, beautified and enjoyed by their successors.

The state of Ohio was organized and ushered into existence on the 3d day of March, 1803, with its present limits of territory,—two hundred and ten miles north and south, two hundred and twenty miles east and west, in length and breadth, embracing approximately 39,964 square miles. The closing days of the first century of existence of the state constitute a fitting occasion for the publication of a centennial biographical record of those whose civilizing influences wrought the great changes that have taken place in this region since its reclamation from the savages and of those who are now carrying forward the work thus inaugurated. To this end the succeeding pages of biography are devoted to the lives and deeds of many who have been prominent in the settlement, growth and development of Crawford county.

The origin of Crawford county as a distinct political division of the state dates back to February 20, 1820, when the general assembly of the state passed an act for the "erection of certain counties" out of the vast tract of wilderness known as the "New Purchase," and acquired by treaty on the 29th of September, 1817, made at the foot of the Maumee rapids with the Indians,

who ceded to the United States the whole of the remaining portion of the state still under Indian domination.

By a treaty made at Greenville, August 3, 1795, the United States had acquired of the Indians the whole of the state of Ohio save that portion included within a line drawn from the mouth of the Cuyahoga river to Fort Laurens, the present site of Bolivar, in Tuscarawas county, and thence west with the line known as the "Greenville Treaty Line" or "Indian Boundary." In 1807 a further cession was made by the Indians, of that part of their territories which was included between the line of the Cuyahoga river and a new one, drawn from a point on the southern shore of Lake Erie, between the mouth of Sandusky Bay and Portage river, to a point due south on the "Boundary line," a point just a little east of the village of Cardington, in Morrow county. This line passed through what is now Crawford county, on the western boundary of the "Three-Mile Strip," represented in its width in this county by Sandusky township.

It is to be remembered that Richland county, then rapidly settling up, extended to the eastern border of the "Three Mile Strip," and that the eastern tier of townships of Crawford county, namely, Auburn, Vernon, Jackson and Polk, originally belonged to Richland county.

By the act of the general assembly of Ohio, enacted February 20, 1820, the whole of the Maumee valley was opened to settlement, and was divided up into counties for judicial and governmental purposes. Townships 1, 2 and 3 south, in range 13, 14, 15, 16 and 17 east, and all the land east of these townships up to what was then the western limits of Richland county, was named Crawford county, in honor of the gallant soldier, Colonel William Crawford, who was captured by the Delaware Indians and burned by them at the stake, in 1782, on the plains within these boundaries. At first the division of territory known as Crawford county did not have any political significance or power, but was attached to Delaware county. When Marion county was regularly organized, December 15, 1823, Crawford county was attached to it, as the act reads, "for judicial purposes." This association did not continue long. On the 17th of February, 1824, the increase of population having become so great as to make it inconvenient for the more remote settlers to go to Marion to transact their business, that portion of Crawford county which was situated north of the Wyandot reservation, "including one tier of townships lying east and west," was attached to Seneca county for judicial purposes. This continued until January 31, 1826, when, by act of the general assembly, Crawford county was organized into a separate and

distinct county. This act declared "that those townships and fractional townships in Crawford county which have heretofore been attached to and formed a part of any township in Marion or Seneca counties, respectively, are hereby attached to and declared to be a part of Crawford township, in said Crawford county, till the same shall be otherwise provided for by the commissioners of said county."

Crawford county as thus organized embraced a scope of territory three congressional townships in width, and extended from the eastern boundary of Sandusky and Cranberry townships to the western boundary of Crawford, Salem, and Mifflin townships in Wyandot county. The Wyandot Indian Reservation covered the larger part of what is now Wyandot county and three miles of the western portion of what is now Bucyrus and Holmes townships, Crawford county. In 1835 the Indians sold to the government a strip seven miles off the east end of their reservation, which was sold by the government publicly in Marion, Ohio. February 3, 1845, Wyandot county was erected, and in the general reorganization of the counties that occurred Crawford lost all territory west of the middle line of townships in range 15 east, and gained from Marion county a strip of territory two miles wide extending to the Richland county line, and from the latter county on the east a tract four miles wide, extending the whole length of Crawford from north to south, some twenty miles. But in 1848 a tier of fractional sections were taken off in the erection of Morrow county, leaving Crawford in its present limits. On the 6th of March, 1845, the county commissioners organized the county into townships. A change was made in the following June, establishing Jackson township, and in March, 1873, Jefferson township was erected, and since then no change has been made in boundary lines of townships. The county, as now arranged, is comprised of the following civil townships: Auburn, Vernon, Jackson, Polk, Jefferson, Sandusky, Cranberry, Chatfield, Liberty, Whetstone, Dallas, Bucyrus, Holmes, Lykens, Texas and Todd.

A large proportion of the early settlers of Crawford county were from New England, New York, Pennsylvania and other eastern states, while a few came from the south. But later in the settlement of the county the German elements assumed the ascendancy. About the year 1832 there was a large accession of German population, coming direct from Germany, by way of the Erie canal to Buffalo and thence to Cleveland or Sandusky. The political troubles of Germany, in 1848, brought many Germans to the county, and, to-day, many a German "agitator" is represented among the county's most

reliable citizens. The Pennsylvania Dutch, also, are numerous represented in the county.

COLONEL WILLIAM CRAWFORD, in whose honor Crawford county was named, was a Virginian, of Scotch-Irish lineage, born in the year 1732. His childhood home was that of a pioneer farmer of the Old Dominion. His education was limited. In early life he learned the art of surveying in companionship with Washington, and followed the vocation, together with farm work, until about twenty-three years of age.

In the year 1755 he forsook the plow and compass and began a most brilliant military career. Commissioned an ensign by the governor of Virginia, and joining a company of riflemen, he accompanied the army of the ill-fated General Braddock in the march against Fort du Quesne. For gallantry displayed upon that disastrous occasion, Ensign Crawford was promoted the following year to a lieutenancy. Later he received a captain's commission, recruited a company and participated in the second march against Fort du Quesne, reaching which the army found it vacated. For three years thereafter Captain Crawford remained in the army service of Virginia, and then returned to his home in the valley of the Shenandoah. Until 1767 he was again engaged in farming and surveying. After examining the valley of the Youghiogheny, he located there in what is now Fayette county, Pennsylvania, thither removing his family in the year 1769.

When the war of independence came on he recruited a regiment for continental service. January 12, 1776, he was made lieutenant-colonel of the Fifth Virginia Regiment, and October 11th, the same year, he was appointed colonel of the Seventh Regiment of Virginia battalions, by congress, commission to be dated the 14th of August. Colonel Crawford served under Washington upon the seaboard, repaired to Fort Pitt, built Fort Crawford, engaged under McIntosh in the Detroit expedition, aided Clark's expedition, then retired from active military service by returning to his home, hoping to discontinue in warfare. But, induced to join in the Sandusky expedition, we find him again in warfare, and it was in this last named expedition that he lost his life. While on this expedition he was captured by the Delaware Indians, and at their hands met an awful death by torture,—burning at the stake, June 11, 1782!

It is fitting that some mention, in this connection, be made of the gallant officers who served under Colonel Crawford in the Sandusky expedition.

COLONEL DAVID WILLIAMSON, one of them, participated in the Sandusky expedition as field major. He was a patriot, who loved his country. Worthy of especial note in his valor displayed at the battle of Olentangy, fought in what is now Whetstone township, Crawford county, June 6, 1782. He did much to encourage his heroic little band of soldiers, and was ably seconded by the indefatigable "John Rose," whose cheerfulness, suavity and coolness were only equalled by his wonderful skill and intrepidity.

"JOHN ROSE," the hero of the retreat of Crawford's army from the plains of Sandusky, it afterward developed, was really a young Russian nobleman—the Baron Gustavus H. Rosenthal, of Livonia—who, because of killing another in a duel, had been obliged to fly from his own country and seek safety, first in England and then in America. In the Revolutionary war he served the colonists with fidelity until its close, without having revealed his true name or rank, and then, by permission, returned to Europe, subsequent to the Sandusky expedition. He was regarded with favor by Emperor Alexander and became grand marshal of the province of Livonia. The first link in that bright chain of friendship, which has ever existed between the Russian empire and the United States, was forged by "John Rose."

Other officers who served under Colonel Crawford in the expedition were: Thomas Gaddis, John McClelland, — Britton, who were field majors; Daniel Leet, brigade major; John Knight, surgeon; and John Slover and Jonathan Zane, pilots.

On the site of the battle of Olentangy there stands a monument erected to the memory of the brave army of the Sandusky expedition.

SAMUEL NORTON, the first settler of Bucyrus township, was born within one mile of Congress Spring, near Saratoga, New York, March 3, 1870. His father was of Scotch descent, and many years previous to the birth of Samuel had emigrated from Scotland and settled in Connecticut. Samuel Norton was married, January 1, 1804, to Miss Mary Bucklin, who was born in Coventry, Kent county, Rhode Island, October 31, 1785. The Bucklins were of English descent, and Mary Bucklin's parents removed from Rhode Island to Little Falls, New York, when she was about six years of age, and some twelve years afterwards to what is now Susquehanna county, Pennsylvania, where she was married to Samuel Norton. The young couple settled near Elk Hill, then in Luzerne but now in Susquehanna county. The



district is situated in the mountain regions of that state; the land is poor, and even at that time the country was very wild. It is said that at one time, while Norton was still a resident of Elk Hill, he shot a panther which measured eleven feet and three inches in length! These wild beasts have never been seen in Crawford county since it was first settled by white men; and, although the first settlers of Bucyrus township emigrated to a newer country, they did not, in some respects, find a wilder one.

Norton was dissatisfied with this wild, rocky Pennsylvania land, and, after residing there with his wife for fifteen years, determined to seek a more pleasing country. He caught the western fever and finally decided that his destination should be the land obtained by the "New Purchase." His wife was opposed to this movement of the Norton family and refused to go unless her brother Albijence Bucklin would go along. Norton finally succeeded in inducing Bucklin to accompany him with his family, by promising him fifty acres of land. Norton had previously visited the new country, selected a quarter section on the present site of Bucyrus, and had returned to his native state for his family. Very late in the spring of 1819 the pioneers left their home in Pennsylvania, and, after journeying about six hundred miles in a big "schooner" wagon, reached the quarter section of land which Norton had selected, in October, 1819. The party consisted of the following eighteen persons: Samuel Norton and his wife, Mary Norton; their three daughters, Louisa, Catherine and Elizabeth (the late Mrs. A. M. Jones); their three sons,—Rensselaar, Warren and Waldo Norton; Albijence Bucklin and his wife; their six children,—Esther, Cynthia, Austris, Elizabeth, Almada and Pitt; also, Polly, an adopted daughter of the Bucklins, and Seth Holmes.

After reaching their destination the two families lived for three days in an Indian wigwam, which stood near the present site of the court house, and during this brief period the three men constructed a more durable residence. This first rude home was built of small round logs and erected upon the bluff of the Sandusky river. The two families moved into this log cabin, and shortly afterward another was built for the Bucklin family. When these early settlers constructed their first cabin the nearest white neighbors were eight miles off, on the banks of the Olentangy, and that settlement consisted of only a few squatters, who were generally as nomadic in habit as they were transient in location. The Norton family occupied their first log cabin home during one winter and until July, 1820. In this cabin was born, on the 11th of February, 1820, Sophronia Norton, who was the first white child born on the site of the present city of Bucyrus, and probably was the first born in the present limits of



Crawford county. Samuel Norton operated a tannery on a small scale for several years, farmed and in 1835 built and opened a hotel. He was an old-school Baptist and a man of many sterling qualities. He died April 18, 1856, in the seventy-seventh year of his age. His wife, Mary Norton, lived three years after her husband's death, and finally passed away, April 29, 1859. Other children born unto them, not already mentioned, were Harris P., Charles, Jefferson and William B. Being the first settler and original proprietor of the land on which Bucyrus was laid out, Samuel Norton was justly entitled to the name of the "Father of Bucyrus."

COLONEL JAMES KILBOURNE was a native of New Britain, Connecticut, born October 9, 1770, was highly educated, and in early life became a member of the Protestant Episcopal church, and about the year 1800 was ordained. When scarcely more than nineteen years of age he married Lucy Fitch, daughter of the celebrated John Fitch, the inventor and builder of the first steamboat in the world. He became a pioneer settler of Ohio, in 1802, and the following year established a colony from his native state in the Scioto valley. A church was built and he became the rector. He visited neighboring settlements in other parts of the state, preaching and organizing church societies, many of which became permanent Episcopal churches. He retired from the ministry in 1804.

Upon the organization of the state government of Ohio, he was appointed a civil magistrate, and also an officer of the militia for the northwestern frontier. In the spring of 1805 he explored the southern shore of Lake Erie, and selected the site of the city of Sandusky. About this time he was made state's surveyor of a large portion of public lands. In 1806 he was appointed one of the first trustees of the Ohio College at Athens, and in 1808 one of three commissioners to locate the seat of Miami University.

During this year he married for a second wife Miss Cynthia Goodale, his first wife having died soon after he came to Ohio.

About this time he was made major of the "Frontier Regiment," later was promoted to the colonelcy, but this position he resigned, as he also did the former position. On the organization of the Worthington College, in 1812, he was elected its president. The same year he was appointed by President Madison as a commissioner to settle the boundary between the public lands and the Great Virginia Reservation. Immediately after the completion of this service he was elected a member of congress. Later he became a colonel, hence his military title. In 1814 he was again elected to congress.

In 1823 he was elected to the state legislature, and again in 1838-39 he was a member of that body. After a long, useful and active career he died, at Worthington, Ohio, April 9, 1850. Why is he mentioned in a biographical history of Crawford county? It was while surveying public lands that Colonel Kilbourne first appeared in what is now Crawford county. It was he who then persuaded Samuel Norton to have a town survey made upon his farm. Norton owned the land on which Bucyrus is now located. The location the Colonel regarded as a beautiful site for a town. It was within a few miles of a direct line of travel from Sandusky, the nearest point on Lake Erie, to Columbus, the state capital; a tide of emigration had set in; many were settling in the vicinity, and consequently the prospects for a thriving village at this point were flattering. After some hesitation Mr. Norton consented to the survey, and Colonel Kilbourne made the original town plat in February, 1822. The new town was named Bucyrus by the Colonel. One of his favorite historic characters was Cyrus, the Persian general who conquered the city of Babylon, and there is reason for believing that Colonel Kilbourne named the town in honor of this distinguished character, prefixing to the name "Cyrus" the syllable "bu," the sound of the first part of the word "beautiful," declaring that the name Bucyrus should always mean "beautiful Cyrus."

DANIEL McMICHAEL was born in Ireland about 1778, and when about sixteen years old his parents emigrated to America and settled in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania. When he attained his majority he married Mary McDowell, who was a native of Scotland and came to the United States with her parents at an early date. The following children were the issue of their marriage: David, Mathew, William, Martha, Mary, Daniel, Allen and Hattie. In 1820 McMichael removed with his wife and family to Crawford county, and settled for a few weeks on what is now the northern part of Bucyrus corporation. Being a miller by trade and a mechanical genius, he desired to engage in the milling business, and, finding a more suitable location about four miles up the Sandusky river, removed his family to the land he first entered in Liberty township, which township he was the first settler to invade. In a few months he commenced work on this new enterprise, which was the first mill erected in what was then Crawford county. He soon found he could not depend upon the Sandusky river for water to keep the machinery running twelve months each year, and, the outlook not being promising, he rented the mill in 1823 to Nehemiah Squire and removed to Bucyrus, where he died some two years later.

COLONEL ZALMON ROWSE was among the earliest pioneers of Crawford county. He was a native of the Bay state, born in the year 1789. His parents were poor and unable to give him the advantages of a classical education. He was endowed with a quick and comprehensive mind and by his own efforts he succeeded in getting a good education, which he turned to the best advantage by engaging in school teaching. When sixteen years old he went to Wayne county, Pennsylvania, and while there, when he had arrived at the age of nineteen, he was married to Miss Mehetabel Kent, who was then sixteen years old. In the spring of 1821 he walked from Wayne county, Pennsylvania—five hundred miles—to Crawford county, Ohio, where he entered three tracts of land of eighty acres each, after which he again walked to his home. In the fall of the same year he came to this county with his family, which consisted of his wife and six children, coming by means of a team of oxen, arriving in December. He first located in Whetstone township, but later in Bucyrus township. He taught one term of school after he came to the county.

Mr. Rowse was a man well fitted for public trusts, and the citizens appreciated his natural abilities by electing him to many important positions. He was one of the first justices of the peace in Bucyrus township, and served in this capacity for nearly twenty years. In 1825 he was commissioned lieutenant-colonel of the Fourth Regiment of Ohio Militia. During the latter part of 1825 and until Crawford county was organized, in 1826, Colonel Rowse served as one of the commissioners of Marion county, to which Crawford county was then attached "for judicial purposes." Upon the organization of Crawford county Mr. Beardsley was appointed clerk, but shortly afterward resigned, and Colonel Rowse became his successor. He served the people faithfully in this position for many years. At this time the recording of deeds and mortgages was a part of the duties of Colonel Rowse, and he left an excellent file of records.

In 1826 he was one of the charter members of the Columbus & Sandusky Turnpike Company, and in 1846 a charter member of the Bucyrus Lodge of Freemasons. In 1831 he erected the American Hotel of Bucyrus. His death occurred August 15, 1854, after a residence in the county of over thirty years. He was a member of the Whig party and was a man of general respect. Of his children, Horace and William Rowse became prominent merchants of Bucyrus.

LEWIS CARY, born in New Jersey, in 1783, first resided in Jefferson

county, Ohio, but came to Crawford county in the spring of 1822; erected the first hewed-log cabin, with a shingle roof and grooved floor, in Bucyrus, all other cabins until then having been made of round logs and puncheon floors; built and operated the first tannery in Crawford county, and was the first postmaster of the village of Bucyrus, being appointed by President Monroe, about 1823. He died in Defiance, Ohio, in 1866.

JOSIAH SCOTT.—Perhaps the most distinguished lawyer and jurist of Crawford county was Josiah Scott, of whom the following eulogy was delivered in 1886 before the Ohio State Bar Association, by the Hon. Stephen R. Harris, of Bucyrus:

"Josiah Scott was born on the 1st day of December, 1803, in Washington county, Pennsylvania, on his father's farm, three miles from Cannonsburg, the seat of Jefferson College, where he was educated under Dr. Matthew Brown, and received his religious impressions under the celebrated Dr. McMillen. He lived at home, walked daily to and from the college, and graduated in the year 1823, with the highest honors of a class of thirty-two young men, many of whom afterwards rose to distinction, mostly in the church and as college presidents, among whom may be mentioned the names of David H. Riddle, LL. D., president of Washington and Jefferson College, and David L. Carroll, D. D., president of Hampden Sidney College, Virginia.

"After his graduation he was thrown entirely on his own resources and set out at once to enter courageously upon the life work before him. He first went to eastern Pennsylvania and for a period of two years taught in a classical academy at Newton, Bucks county, and in this time prepared several students for the freshman class at college, some of whom graduated at his own alma mater and came to preferment in after life. He went south and taught a classical school for two years in Richmond, Virginia, employing his leisure time in the study of law. He then returned to the home of his youth and was soon after chosen by the authorities as a tutor in Jefferson, where four years before he had taken his degree with distinguished honor. He taught in this institution for one year, during which he employed his leisure intervals in pursuing his legal studies. At the end of that time he decided to visit Ohio, with a view of selecting a location for the practice of law. He traveled west on horseback, as was the custom of the day, and arrived at Mansfield in the spring of 1829, where he visited Hon. Thomas W. Bartley, who had been his pupil at college and afterward became his associate on the bench. He was admitted to the bar and permanently located himself at Bucyrus, the

county seat of Crawford county, Ohio, in the month of June, 1829, when that village was but a hamlet in the wilderness, and nearly half of the county was, and for some fifteen years afterward remained an Indian reservation, occupied by the Wyandots.

"His abilities were very soon appreciated and he rapidly rose in his profession, so that he was regarded as a lawyer of great influence with court and jury, both in Bucyrus and in the surrounding counties, where he had a growing practice. In 1840 he was elected as a representative to the general assembly for the counties of Crawford, Marion and Delaware. In 1855 he removed to Hamilton, Butler county, and continued the practice of his profession with great distinction and success, in competition with such lawyers as John Woods, Lewis D. Campbell, Thomas Milliken and William Bebb. In October, 1857, he was elected judge of the supreme court of Ohio, for the term commencing on the 9th day of February, 1857. Shortly after his election he was appointed by the governor, Chase, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Judge Ranney, and held under the appointment until the 9th day of February, the commencement of the regular term. He was twice re-elected and continued on the bench until the 9th day of February, 1872, having declined to be a candidate for another term.

"Some years before he left the bench he returned again to Bucyrus, and at the expiration of his term he resumed practice and continued until January, 1876, when he was appointed by Governor Hayes a member of the supreme court commission. On the expiration of the commission, in February, 1879, he again resumed the practice of his profession, but was soon stricken with a malignant disease, which terminated his life on the 15th day of June, 1879, in the seventy-sixth year of his age, but still in his intellectual prime.

"Such, gentlemen of the Ohio State Bar Association, is a brief sketch of the eventful life of one of the most gifted men who ever adorned our profession. It is with a willing heart and grateful mind that I embrace the present opportunity to commemorate his virtues, only regretting my inability to set forth in a deserving manner the tribute which I shall endeavor to bring to his memory.

"Over thirty-seven years ago I came to Bucyrus a stranger, and commenced the practice of my chosen profession. I was young and diffident, and the first member of the bar to give me a friendly greeting and extend the hand of encouragement was the Hon. Josiah Scott. After a few months' acquaintance and professional intercourse he invited me into his office as a partner. We continued our partnership until he removed to Hamilton. After



he returned from Hamilton to reside in Bucyrus, while still on the bench, he made my office his headquarters, and at the expiration of his term we resumed our partnership, after an interval of over twenty years. We continued together until his death, and by the terms of his last will and testament he made me one of his executors. Do I need, therefore, to apologize for my veneration of the man, and when I say I will revere his memory as a friend and benefactor until the last pulsation of my heart?

"In the professional and judicial career of Judge Scott he did not neglect the pursuits of learning, but habitually indulged in mathematics, the reading of English classical authors and the study of Latin and Greek literature. Of the ancient classics, Horace and Demosthenes were his favorite authors. He would turn at random to any portion of Horace or Virgil and translate them fluently into elegant English. Sometimes, in his arguments at the bar, in the midst of a flight of eloquence, he would quote and adapt passages from Pollock's *Course of Time* or Milton's *Paradise Lost* with such ease and grace, and so appropriate to his theme as to make his hearers lose sight of the quotation.

"He was always diffident and retiring until called out by some genial friends or professional associates, in whose company he might be cast. On such occasions he was always found to possess conversational powers of a high order, enlivening his conversation by a warm glow of delicate humor and brightening it often by lively flashes of wit. His knowledge and skill in mathematics were astonishing. No mathematical problem capable of solution baffled him. It may be safely asserted that he was absolute master of algebra and geometry. He would solve difficult algebraic problems mentally in an incredibly short space of time, announcing his methods as he progressed. By way of light reading he would peruse by the hour that wonderful production, Euler's *Elements of Algebra*, with as much delight as if it were a romance, instead of a work so deep that few but professional mathematicians could comprehend it.

"Whilst he was a profound scholar and linguist, yet his greatest triumphs were at the bar. He had leading practice in all the counties in his part of the state, and rarely was an important jury case tried but he conducted one side of it. It was there he displayed his great power as a *nisi prius* lawyer. His skill was displayed in the cross examination of witnesses. He seldom rebuked or intimidated a witness so as to excite his stubbornness or aggravate his hostility, but rather led him along first in the line of undisputed facts in a pleasant manner until he would get the truth out of him,



when it was unintentional on the part of the witness, who had gone on the stand with the full determination to perjure himself in behalf of the opposite party. On such occasions a grim shade of disappointment might be observed to steal over the countenances of the opposing counsel. In his arguments he was ordinarily mild, eloquent and persuasive before a jury, but when occasion required he would pour out a torrent of invective that was overwhelming, like that of Curran's celebrated denunciation of Flood in the Irish parliament. In his argument to the court, Judge Scott was logical and convincing. He belonged to that older class of lawyers who began the practice when books were few, but read, studied and thoroughly mastered all the elementary principles of the law. I have seen him in combats with other lawyers of the same class, a race that has nearly all disappeared, such as Judge Stewart, Bartley, Kirkwood, Brinkerhoff and Cooper K. Watson, and deep were the impressions they made on my mind in the outset of my practice. What models for the emulation of the young practitioner! In their legal conflicts it was a battle of giants. What ponderous arguments, mostly on principles rather than an array of authorities, with Judge Bowen on the bench to appreciate them, without requiring the production of books! Such thrusts and such parries! Such logical reasoning, so pregnant with legal principles that they would seem unanswerable, and then see an antagonist meet and combat them like Hercules with his club! I sometimes pause and ask, Will ever cases be tried like those again?

"Whilst on the bench, Judge Scott's position was characterized by the highest degree of learning and accuracy. His published judicial opinions are found in the Ohio State Reports, from volume V to volume XXI inclusive, and the first series of volumes containing the decisions of the commission, and they take rank with the best ever announced from the bench. In preparing a brief, when a lawyer finds a decision of Judge Scott on the subject, it always affords pleasure and relief. His analysis is so complete and his reasoning so conclusive and easily understood that one almost wonders why the question should ever have been involved in doubt. It is also a notable feature of the Ohio State Reports that there are few, if any, dissenting opinions in cases where the decisions were announced by Judge Scott. He left his impression upon the jurisprudence of Ohio as distinctly as any other figure in the history of our courts, and his opinions are not only sound, but instructive.

"He was an earnest believer and professor of the truths of the Christian religion, whose holy precepts he practiced in the whole course of his life. It may safely be asserted that he never in his life, in his business, in his pro-

fession, in court or elsewhere, did or conceived a dishonorable act, and his life teaches us that without professional uprightness and integrity there can be no enduring success. Judge Scott always regarded it as a duty, not only to his client and himself, but a higher and more important one to his country, which bestows on a lawyer important privileges and requires of him important services, to discourage groundless and unlawful litigation, and to present his client's case truthfully and fairly. Sad, indeed, would be the thought, when such a man is gone from earth, were all his learning and wisdom gone, too. But all of such men cannot die. While his body slumbers in the earth his words of wisdom and his example of purity will shed their lustre as a beacon to guide those who succeed him."

LAWRENCE W. HALL came from Cuyahoga county in the spring of 1844 and commenced the practice of law in Bucyrus. For six years from October, 1845, he held the office of county prosecuting attorney; was elected judge of the common-pleas court in 1851 and held the office until 1857; was elected a member of the house of representatives of the thirty-fifth congress, and then resumed the practice of law. He was a brilliant, able lawyer, and as a political and partisan leader possessed even still greater ability. In the last years of his life his course was less commendable. The opposition to the war of the Rebellion, developed in Bucyrus and vicinity, attracted the attention of the government, and in 1862 Judge Hall was arrested and nominally held for several weeks a political prisoner, at Camp Mansfield, and finally discharged without further action. In consequence of ill health, largely on account of drink, he was on parole, and required to report,—only as it suited his convenience. He died at Bucyrus, January 18, 1863.

JOSIAH S. PLANTS, born in Pennsylvania in 1820, died in Bucyrus, August 23, 1863, of wounds received by the accidental discharge of a gun. He was educated in Ashland (Ohio) Academy, studied law under the preceptorship of Judge Josiah Scott, and was admitted to the bar and began practice at Bucyrus, in 1844. He rose very rapidly in the profession, and, in 1858 was elected judge of the common-pleas court; and while in office he was distinguished for industry, honesty of purpose, devotion to his friends, fidelity to his clients and earnestness and force as a public speaker. His career at the bar and on the bench was such as to justify the highest expectations of his friends had his life been prolonged.

ALONZO M. JONES, deceased, was a native of Berkshire county, Massachusetts, born April 4, 1811. His parents were Ludwig and Mary (Hale) Jones. They removed to the Western Reserve in the spring of 1817 and settled in Lorain county, where their son was reared. He had gained a limited education when, at the age of fourteen, he lost his father in death, and thereafter, until twenty-one, the care and support of his family fell upon him. He began the study of medicine, in the spring of 1832, at La Grange, in the office of Dr. E. W. Hubbard. A year later he attended lectures at the medical school in Worthington, Ohio, graduating in July, 1834. He came to Bucyrus, in December, 1835, and thereafter continued his profession with scarcely an interruption until 1843. For some seven years thereafter Dr. Jones operated a woolen mill, and then, selling his interest in the mill to a partner, he engaged in the real-estate business, for several years with success. In 1866, in company with three other gentlemen, Dr. Jones embarked in the manufacture of hubs, spokes and bent work. He was a competent business man and a worthy citizen.

In 1838, he married Elizabeth Norton, a daughter of Samuel Norton, an early pioneer of the county, and the original proprietor of the land on which the village of Bucyrus was first laid out. Of the eight children born unto the marriage, five died in infancy and childhood. The other three were Mary L., wife of Col. W. C. Lemert, Lorenzo E. and Volney W.

DR. GEORGE KELLER, deceased, was one of the most eminent and skillful physicians and surgeons that ever graced the medical profession in Crawford county. He was a native of Franklin county, Pennsylvania, the date of his birth being November 24, 1826. He was three years old when his father removed to Ohio and settled at Dalton, where Dr. Keller spent his youth and was educated. When only fifteen he began the study of medicine, under a practitioner of Dalton, and until he was prepared to practice, both studied medicine and taught school. At DeKalb, Ohio, he began the practice and after some time spent there he went to Cleveland to further prepare himself for the profession by attending medical lectures during the sessions of 1846 and 1847.

Returning to Dalton, he practiced there until March, 1850, when he became physician for a party of two hundred and forty people, who were traveling overland to California, this journey covering a period of one hundred and eight days and fraught with some accidents and fatal occurrences, nine men being killed by the Indians on Pitt river. On July 4, 1850, they reached their destination, arriving at a point on the Sacramento river. For six months Dr.

Keller practiced in Yuba City and Marysville. Returning to Ohio, in May, 1851, he located at West Liberty, where he remained about three years, and, graduating, in the spring of 1853, from the Cincinnati Medical College, he was then located for a short time at Bluffton, Indiana, but in 1861 became a resident physician of Bucyrus, where he continued until the time of his death, with an interruption of about two years spent at Churubusco, Indiana.

In 1877 and 1878 he was a member of the faculty of the Fort Wayne Medical College. He was well educated and of varied knowledge and skill in his profession. He was noted for his literary ability and extensive knowledge of various subjects. Some ten years ago death closed his useful and exemplary career. In 1848 he married Mary J. English, of Canton, Ohio, who survives him and still resides in Bucyrus.

JAMES S. MCCARRELL, one of the best known older citizens of Bucyrus, was born in Armstrong county, Pennsylvania, February 16, 1836. His parents were James and Nancy (Shearer) McCarrell. He was reared on a farm and educated in the common schools until fourteen years of age, when he was sent to an academy at Hookstown, Pennsylvania, where he studied for three years, after which he spent six years in teaching school. When aged twenty-four years he entered a dental office at New Brighton, Pennsylvania, where he was a student of dentistry for three years. After a further stay of two years in New Brighton he came to Ohio and located in Bucyrus, and began the practice of dentistry, in which he has been so successful as to establish a high reputation for himself.

January 16, 1867, Dr. McCarrell married Mary Matthews, of Sandusky, Ohio.

ASA HOSFORD was among the early settlers of Crawford county. He was born in Richfield, Massachusetts, in 1799, and lived to a ripe old age, spending an active and fruitful life. When he was six years of age his parents became residents of Jefferson county, New York, where they spent fourteen years and then removed to Ontario county, New York. He was reared on the farm, and when he became twenty-one years of age, and having a strong desire to see Ohio, he and his brother went by steamboat to Cleveland, and then started out on foot for the interior of the state. This was in the fall of 1819, and in Huron county Mr. Hosford remained all winter, and was joined in the spring by his parents, who with him located in Crawford county, where he worked for several years to earn his first one hundred dollars, with

which he entered eighty acres of land near Galion. In the year 1824 he opened the first hotel in the neighborhood. It was located within the present site of Galion, and for eight years he was its proprietor, and then sold it for six hundred dollars, and purchased forty-three acres of land, which was situated where the heart of Galion is to-day. It was his intention to lay out a town on it, but finally sold the land to Michael and Jacob Ruhl, who laid out the town of Galion, September 10, 1831. Mr. Hosford, in 1832, purchased the mill property in Polk township, which he operated for more than fifty years.

In 1825 Alta Kent became his wife, who bore him three children, viz.: Rebecca, Eri and Stephen.

JOHN RUHL, the father of Michael and Jacob Ruhl, who laid out the town of Galion, September 10, 1831, came from York county, Pennsylvania, direct to Crawford county. His family consisted of his wife and his children,—Michael, Jacob, Levi, Henry, Peter and Rebecca. He was possessed of considerable means in land and money, and his sons became important factors in the development of Polk township, and the town of Galion. His grandson, Alexander A. Ruhl, son of Jacob and Sarah (Daws) Ruhl, served as auditor of the county four years from 1859, and was elected clerk of courts in 1879. Alexander A. Ruhl was born in Shrewsbury, York county, Pennsylvania, April 4, 1828; was well educated; married, in 1853, Aurelia M. Shanke, and was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

CHARLES G. RUPP, son of Peter and Hellena (Earnst) Rupp, was born February 3, 1822, in York county, Pennsylvania. Gottlieb Rupp, his grandfather, was a native of Germany, came to America late in the eighteenth century and settled in York, Pennsylvania, where he was a butcher: he had four sons and two daughters. The marriage of Peter Rupp and Hellena Earnst was blessed with four sons and two daughters. The father died at York, Pennsylvania, in 1825, while the mother survived him many years, dying at Wapakoneta, Ohio, in 1878, aged ninety-three years.

Charles G. Rupp received a limited education, became a clerk at the age of eleven, at his native town, and was thus employed for ten years. In 1843 he came to Ohio by stage and canal, remained only a short time in Galion, then went to Leesville, where he kept store for three years, and then removed to Bucyrus, in 1848, and was employed as a clerk for four years. He then engaged in business for himself, with partners, for a short time and was



compelled to retire on account of ill health; but later he became a clerk again. Upon the failure of the Bucyrus Machine Works he became the assignee and settled up the business, which required some three years. In 1873 he bought a stone quarry at Leesville, which was a profitable investment. He was post-master of Leesville during the administration of President Polk. In politics he was first a Free-soiler and then a Republican. He was married, in 1848, to Margaret J. Ruhl, of Galion. To the marriage were born four children,—Annie, Clara, Maggie and Lincoln, who grew to maturity, while five died in childhood.

#### HORACE EUGENE VALENTINE.

In the affairs of state, as taken aside from the extraordinary conditions of warfare, there are demanded men whose mental ken is as wide and whose generalship is as effective as those which ensure successful maneuvering of armed forces by the skilled commanders on the field of battle. The nation's welfare and prosperity may be said to hang as heavily upon individual discrimination and executive ability in the one case as the other. It requires master minds to marshal and organize the forces for political purposes and produce the best results by concerted effort. One of the honored Democratic political leaders of Crawford county is Hon. Horace Eugene Valentine, who served for two terms as state senator from the thirty-first senatorial district, and his public record reflects credit upon his constituents and district which he represented. He is also an active man-of-affairs in business circles, being the cashier of the First National Bank of Bucyrus, which position he has occupied since 1898.

Mr. Valentine is one of the native sons of Crawford county, his birth having occurred in the village of Benton in Texas township, April 8, 1859. He represents an old New York family, his ancestors having come from the Empire state. His father, James Valentine, removed to Crawford county from the city of Syracuse, New York, about 1830, his wife and his parents coming with him. He secured a tract of land in Texas township and there devoted his energies to agricultural pursuits until his death, which occurred in the year 1861. His wife bore the maiden name of Angeline Clark. She was born near Syracuse, New York, and was a daughter of Edward Clark, who served in the New York Militia in the war of 1812. Mrs. Valentine was called to her final rest in 1866. They had four sons, the eldest being Edward, who enlisted for service in the Civil war and died in Libby prison; Jabez Clark,





*W E Valentine*



deceased; George B., deceased, and Horace Eugene. There was one daughter, Emily, now deceased.

Throughout his entire life Horace Eugene Valentine has been a resident of Crawford county. His preliminary education, acquired in the common schools, was supplemented by study in the Ohio Normal University, at Ada, Ohio, where he was graduated in the class of 1888. The following year he was elected county surveyor of Crawford county and was re-elected in 1892, serving continuously until 1895, covering a period of nearly seven consecutive years. Before his retirement from that office he was elected, as a Democrat, to the position of state senator to represent Crawford, Seneca and Wyandot counties, or the thirty-first district. He served for four years and filled the position so creditably that in 1897 he was re-elected. He was one of the active working members of the senate and gave to each question which came up for consideration earnest thought and study and left the impress of his individuality upon the legislation of the two terms served by him. He was the author of the anti-trust law of Ohio, known as the Valentine Anti-Trust Law. It was declared constitutional by the state supreme court and if enforced would effectually do away with injurious and unlawful trusts. His labors were untiring in behalf of the people and his record is creditable to the district which honored him.

In 1889 Mr. Valentine was united in marriage to Miss Josephine Nedry, of Texas township, a daughter of Joseph Nedry, one of the pioneer settlers and native sons of Crawford county, who is now seventy-five years of age. His father came to Ohio from Pennsylvania at a very early period in the development of the state. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Valentine have been born two children, Allen Gladstone, and Florence Emily.

Mr. Valentine is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and on the political stage such is his popularity and such his personal magnetism that his appearance to address the people is the signal of due enthusiasm. He is a sturdy American character and a stalwart patriot, and has ever had the strongest admiration for our free institutions, being ever ready to make any personal sacrifice for their preservation.

#### CYRUS W. FISHER.

Colonel Cyrus W. Fisher, who for many years was a prominent promoter, constructor and operator of railroads in the west, has for the past decade been a leading and influential citizen of Bucyrus. He was born in

Waynesville, Warren county, Ohio, on the 22d of September, 1835. His father, a prominent physician of Waynesville, removed to Indiana in 1839 and in 1844, accompanied by his family, went to Illinois. The following year he became a resident of Monroe county, Wisconsin, and in 1846 settled in Rock county, that state, from which place Cyrus W. Fisher was sent to Ohio in 1848 to attend school at Waynesville. In 1849 his parents returned to Ohio, locating in Lebanon, Warren county, at which place our subject completed his academic studies in 1851. Soon afterward he joined a corps of engineers engaged in making surveys of several railroads centering in Cincinnati. He was thus employed until 1854, when he entered the service of the Ohio & Indiana Railroad Company, which was constructing its line between Crestline, Ohio, and Fort Wayne, Indiana, serving in various capacities with that company, in shops, offices and in running trains upon the road until July, 1856. Next he entered the employ of the Bee Line Railroad as conductor, running between Crestline and Indianapolis. In February, 1857, he accepted a position in the office of John Canby, superintendent of the same road, at Bellefontaine, Ohio, and continued in that capacity until 1861.

When President Lincoln issued his first call for seventy-five thousand troops Mr. Fisher entered the army and was chosen first lieutenant of his company, which reported at Camp Chase, Columbus. It was mustered into the United States service for three years as Company F, Twenty-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry. The field and staff officers of the regiment were: W. S. Rosecrans, colonel; Stanley Mathews, lieutenant colonel; Rutherford B. Hayes, major; Cyrus W. Fisher, adjutant; and Skiles Gardner, quartermaster. The regiment was sent to West Virginia, in July, 1861, and participated in the battles, marches and hardships of the campaign of that summer and fall which resulted in clearing West Virginia of Rebels. In November, 1861, Mr. Fisher was appointed major of the Fifty-fourth Ohio Infantry, and joined that regiment at Camp Dennison, Ohio. In February, 1862, his command was sent to Paducah, Kentucky, and was one of the regiments forming the division first commanded by Brigadier General W. T. Sherman. In November of the same year Mr. Fisher was promoted to lieutenant colonel of his regiment, which remained with that division that afterward became the nucleus of the Fifteenth Army Corps, and thus took part in many battles and sieges until the close of the war. His promotions are an indication of his ability as a military leader and of his unquestioned loyalty and fidelity to duty.

In Bellefontaine, Ohio, on the 15th of December, 1859, Colonel Fisher had been united in marriage to Miss Sallie M. Dunham, who died September 25, 1860, and on the 11th of August, 1864, he was again married, his second union being with Miss Martha I. Hetich, of Crawford county, Ohio, by whom he had three children—Cyrus, John and Sallie, but the second is now deceased.

In March, 1865, accompanied by his wife, Colonel Fisher removed to Oskaloosa, Iowa, and purchased the Oskaloosa Herald, of which he was proprietor and editor-in-chief until February, 1868. During his residence in Bellefontaine, Ohio, he had studied law under the instruction of the Hon. Benjamin Stanton, who was for a number of years the member of congress from that district. In July, 1864, Colonel Fisher was admitted to the bar by the supreme court of Ohio, and after selling the Herald in 1868 he opened a law office in Oskaloosa, Iowa, but threatened pulmonary troubles compelled him to seek the dryer climate of the Rocky mountains.

Having been tendered the position of superintendent, general freight and ticket agent of the Denver Pacific Railroad, he accepted the appointment in November, 1869, being the first to hold those offices, on any railroad in Colorado. He acted in those capacities until the road was purchased by the Kansas Pacific Railway in 1873. In the summer of 1870 the Kansas Pacific Railroad was completed to Denver and he was tendered the position of superintendent of the Denver division, which he accepted in September of that year, thus serving until July 15, 1878. He was also superintendent of the Colorado Central Railway for a few months until Mr. Loveland again assumed control of the road in 1875. In the summer of 1878 he was made superintendent of the mountain division of the Union Pacific Railway, and assumed the duties of that office on the 15th of July, remaining there until February 7, 1879, when he resigned to accept the position of general superintendent of the Denver, South Park & Pacific Railway, of which he was also chosen a director and second vice-president in January, 1880. Upon the purchase of the Denver, South Park & Pacific Railroad by the Union Pacific he left that employ in September, 1882, and became general manager of the New Orleans & Denver Railroad Company, of which he was elected president and general manager in 1883. In 1884-5 he was lessee and general manager of this road, but resigned in March, 1886, to accept the position of general manager of the Rock Island lines west of the Missouri river, a position which he held until 1888, building and putting into operation thirteen hundred miles of railroad during that time.

Colonel Fisher's wife, a sufferer from rheumatism, died at Hot Springs, Arkansas, in 1888, and the Colonel then resigned his position and spent six months traveling in Europe, after which he returned to Denver. In 1889 he brought his children to Bucyrus, where he established a home for them. In 1891 he married Mrs. Mary D. Beer, and has since continued his residence in Bucyrus.

In politics Colonel Fisher has ever been a stalwart Republican, and has done much active service in behalf of the Grand Old Party. In the campaign of 1896 he effectively supported William McKinley, who was his comrade in the Civil war, and in order to lessen the silver "craze" in Colorado he went to that state to do service for the party of sound money doctrine. While he was in Denver the Denver, Cripple Creek & Southwestern Railroad Company was organized, and Colonel Fisher was elected president of the company, acting in that capacity for two years, when the road was sold to the Colorado Southern. The Colonel has been identified with the Masonic fraternity since 1857, and is now a thirty-second-degree Mason. He is the present commander of the Grand Army post at Bucyrus, and is also identified with the Knights of Pythias lodge. His has been a very active and useful career, in which he has advanced steadily to positions of importance and responsibility. His prosperity has resulted entirely from his own efforts, and his promotions have come to him in recognition of his worth and merit. He is widely known in railroad circles throughout the country, and his reputation in business circles is above reproach, while in social life he is known as a genial, courteous gentleman who enjoys the warm regard of many friends.

#### JUDGE JAMES C. TOBIAS.

Judge James C. Tobias was born in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, on the 11th of November, 1856, a son of William B. and Catherine (Mills) Tobias. The father was born near Carlisle, Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, October 1, 1815, and was a son of Benjamin and Sarah (Clouse) Tobias. William B. Tobias resided on a farm until he was fifteen years of age, receiving but three months' schooling, and that at a night school. He then went to Carlisle, where he was apprenticed to a cabinet-maker to learn the trade, serving four and a half years. Then, after working about six months as a journeyman, he went to Greencastle, Franklin county, Pennsylvania, about the year 1836, there opening a shop, and worked at his trade for about three



years. His health failing, he closed his shop and took up farming in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, farming and residing in that county until 1864, when he came to Crawford county and settled in Liberty township, removing to Holmes township some four years later. In the latter township he continued his residence until 1877, when he sold his farm and removed to Bucyrus, where he spent the remainder of his life in retirement from active business affairs. He died in Bucyrus, in 1882, at the age of sixty-seven years. In 1841 he married Catherine Mills, a native of Franklin county, Pennsylvania. She is now, in 1901, residing in Bucyrus, and is eighty-four years of age. She bore her husband the following children who reached mature years: William F., Jane C., Elizabeth, John L., James C. and Daniel M.

William B. Tobias was dependent upon his own resources from an early age, but by energy and industry he prospered and gained a good estate. When the Civil war broke out he was residing four miles from the Maryland state line, and the army of General Robert E. Lee marched through his farm, destroying much of his property, while the state militia destroyed his stock without scruples, taking all but six of his horses. At that time his son, James C., the subject of this biography, was a mere lad, and when the Union army encamped on the Tobias and adjoining farms to that of his father, the lad visited the soldiers' camp, where he was permitted to go in and out with freedom, as he was also permitted to do when a part of General Lee's army camped in the same vicinity. But the boy was soon to be taken from the scenes of his birthplace and that of warfare, for in 1864, when James was eight years of age, his father resolved to remove with his family to Crawford county. His youth was spent upon the farm and his preliminary education was acquired in the common schools. He was afterward sent to Cold Run Academy, and in the spring of 1872 entered Oberlin College, where he studied until the following September, when he entered Mount Union College, remaining there three years. He thus acquired a broad literary education to serve as a foundation upon which to rear the superstructure of professional knowledge. During the period of his college days he taught school during the winters, and all his vacations he labored upon the farm earning money to assist in paying collegiate expenses.

Predilection led him to prepare for the profession of law, and in the fall of 1876 he became a student of law in the office of Finley & Swigart, well known attorneys of Bucyrus. He was admitted to the bar at Delaware, Ohio, July 2, 1878, at the age of twenty-one, and immediately afterward began

the practice of law in Bucyrus, soon winning a fair share of the public patronage. Important litigated interests were entrusted to him and he soon demonstrated his ability to successfully handle the intricate problems of jurisprudence. In 1881 he entered into partnership with F. S. Monnett, ex-attorney general of Ohio, under the firm name of Tobias & Monnett, their relationship being maintained until 1888, when Mr. Tobias was elected probate judge of Crawford county, a position he continuously filled until 1894. In 1896 he was elected judge of the court of common pleas for the district comprising Crawford, Marion and Wyandot counties, and is the present incumbent, his term continuing over a period of five years and re-elected in 1901, without opposition, for a second term. His decisions have been conspicuously fair and impartial and based upon a thorough understanding of the law.

In 1879 the Judge was united in marriage to Miss Amina J. Monnett, a daughter of Abraham Monnett, elsewhere mentioned in this volume, and they now have two children, Deane A., who is now a student in the Ohio State University, at Columbus, and Helen, who is pursuing her education in the Bucyrus high school. The Judge has always given his political support to the Democratic party and is unswerving in his advocacy of its principles. The cause of education has ever found in him a warm friend, and for fifteen years he efficiently served as a member of the school board, acting as its president during the last ten years of his incumbency. He did much to promote the interests of the schools, his labor proving of great benefit along the lines of intellectual advancement. The Judge has been identified with the financial interests of the city as well as with the practice of law, and was one of the organizers of the City Bank of Bucyrus, in which he served as vice-president for ten years and director for eighteen years. Socially he is connected with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and with the Knights of Pythias fraternities, serving as past chancellor in the lodge of the latter organization. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, of which he is one of the trustees. Endowed by nature with high intellectual qualities, to which have been added the discipline and embellishments of culture, his is a most attractive personality. Well versed in the learning of his profession and with a deep knowledge of human nature and of the springs of human conduct, he is in the courts an advocate of great power and influence and on the bench is a judge who ever commands the respect of the lawyers and of the public by reason of his dignity in office and extreme fairness in decision.

## J. C. FREMONT HULL.

The superior business ability of Mr. Hull has been an integral factor in the commercial activity whereon has rested much of the prosperity of Crawford county. The world judges the character of a community by those of its representative citizens, and yields its tribute of admiration and respect for the ability and accomplishments of those whose works and actions constitute the record of a state's prosperity and pride. Therefore it is proper that a just celebrity should be given to those men who are prominent in their day and generation that the living may enjoy the approbation of their contemporaries as well as that of a grateful posterity.

J. C. F. Hull is one of the leading and progressive business men of Bucyrus, where he is occupying the important position of cashier in the Second National Bank. He was born in Morrow county, Ohio, in 1861, and is a son of the late George W. Hull, who was born in Delaware county, Ohio, July 21, 1824, his parents being Benjamin and Elizabeth (Smith) Hull. Benjamin Hull came to Ohio from New Jersey. In 1828 the family removed to Whetstone township, Crawford county, locating upon a farm, and there George W. Hull was reared to manhood. In 1844 he was united in marriage to Miss Attie Scribner, of Marion county, a daughter of Samuel and Elmira (Clark) Scribner. The Scribners were New Hampshire people, and the maternal grandfather of our subject was a soldier in the war of 1812. In an early day he engaged extensively in dealing in stock, which he drove over the mountains to the east. His death occurred when he had attained the very advanced age of ninety-six years. His wife's people lived and died in Marion county, Ohio. In 1855 George W. Hull removed with his family to Morrow county, locating near Cardington. He was an energetic and wide-awake business man, made judicious investments in real estate and at one time was the owner of over fifteen hundred acres of land in Crawford, Morrow and Wyandot counties. In *ante-bellum* days he was a stanch abolitionist, and was one of the promoters of the "underground railroad," whereby many negro slaves were assisted on their way to Canada, where they could enjoy freedom without fear of being returned to their former masters. His earnest Christian life was in harmony with his belief as a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he served both as steward and class leader, and was also prominent and influential in public affairs, having served as county commissioner in Morrow county for one term, while for twelve years he capably filled the office of justice of the peace. In 1877

he came to Bucyrus and assisted in organizing the Crawford County Bank, in which enterprise he was associated with Abram Monnett, who was made president, while Mr. Hull became vice-president, and his son, Lewis W. Hull, cashier. These gentlemen, together with L. B. Harris, of Upper Sandusky, and E. Blair, of Bucyrus, constituted the board of directors. The bank was opened for business January 1, 1878, and Mr. Hull was connected therewith until his death, which occurred in 1891, when he was sixty-eight years of age. He became president of the institution on the death of Mr. Monnett, and remained at its head until a short time prior to his own demise, when he retired, Mr. Blair becoming his successor. In 1885 the bank was reorganized and chartered under the name of the Second National Bank of Bucyrus. Mr. Hull took a very active interest in many important concerns contributing to the substantial development and material progress of Bucyrus, and in his death the town lost one of its most valued and honored citizens. He was a gentleman of keen discernment and sound judgment in business affairs, and his advice was valued very highly in commercial circles. His wife, surviving him about two years, passed away in 1893, at the age of sixty-eight years. Their eldest son, J. G. Hull, is the cashier of the Farmers National Bank at Findlay, Ohio, a position which he has occupied since 1880. Lewis W., another son, was the first cashier of the Crawford County Bank, now the Second National Bank of Bucyrus, and at present he resides in Upper Sandusky, Ohio. There are also two sisters in the family, Mrs. Olive A. Monnett, wife of Mervin J. Monnett, of Central City, Nebraska; J. C. F., our subject; and Adell, wife of Ed D. Wolfe, who is general freight agent at Dallas, Texas, for the Queen & Crescent Railroad Company.

J. C. F. Hull, the immediate subject of this article, spent the first sixteen years of his life in his native county, much of that time being devoted to the mastery of the branches of study forming the curriculum of the public schools near his home. In 1877 he accompanied his parents to Bucyrus, and in 1879 entered the bank as collector. He closely applied himself to the work given to his charge, and from time to time was promoted, becoming cashier on the 1st of January, 1885, a position which he has occupied continuously since. Previously his father had established the Farmers' National Bank at Findlay, Ohio, and our subject went to that place in 1880 and acted as assistant cashier for three years, and was then cashier of the First National Bank of Fostoria, Ohio, a bank he assisted in organizing, securing its charter. In this bank his father was also a stockholder. He resigned the position of cashier of this bank to become the cashier of the Second National Bank of



Bucyrus. He is still a stockholder in the Farmers' National Bank of Findlay. Mr. Hull is thoroughly conversant with banking business in every detail and possesses excellent executive ability, keen discrimination and reliable judgment. These are qualities which are absolutely essential to the successful conduct of banking institutions, and his ability and labors have been a potent factor in securing the prosperous business which the Second National Bank has enjoyed. His labors have not been confined to one line, for he is president of the Bucyrus Board of Trade, and treasurer and general manager of the Bucyrus Telephone Company. He has acted as trustee for an unusually large number of estates in Crawford county, each of which he has settled up satisfactorily to all concerned. He has also dealt quite extensively in real estate, and is the owner of valuable property in Bucyrus, including a handsome residence in the city.

In Republican circles Mr. Hull is also recognized as a leader, and since April, 1900, he has represented the third ward of Bucyrus in the city council, being elected to that position in a Democratic ward, which fact indicates his personal popularity and the trust reposed in him by those who know him best. He is treasurer of the Crawford county Republican central committee, and on a number of occasions he has served as a delegate to the state conventions of his party. Socially he is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias fraternity and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and in the first named he has passed all of the chairs. He holds membership in the First Methodist Episcopal church of Bucyrus, and during the past ten years he has served as its trustee and treasurer. His business career is above reproach. He has met every obligation most fully and honorably, is courteous and fair with his patrons and his reliability commends him to their confidence and good will.

#### AUGUST BROEMEL.

August Broemel is the editor and proprietor of the Bucyrus Courier, the German weekly paper of the county, and is a well known factor in journalistic circles. He is also regarded as one of the reliable and enterprising citizens of the community, whose active co-operation in the movements for the general good is both practical and profitable. As his name indicates, Mr. Broemel is a native son of the fatherland, his birth having occurred at Stadt Ilm, Schwarzburg-Rudolstadt, Germany. He pursued his education in the public schools of his native land and also in an academy where special

training was given after the manner of that received in Armour Institute, of Chicago, pupils being fitted for various lines of business life. He was nineteen years of age when he bade adieu to home and friends and crossed the Atlantic to America. In 1872 he purchased the Bucyrus Courier, which he has since published. This is a German weekly newspaper, which was established in 1874. For a short time Mr. Broemel was associated with a partner, but during the greater part of the period in which he has published the paper he has been alone in business. It has a large circulation among the German speaking people of this portion of the state and exercises a wide-felt influence in public affairs. Mr. Broemel is deeply interested in everything pertaining to the welfare and support of measures for the public good through the columns of the Courier, and at the same time advances the interest of the Democratic party.

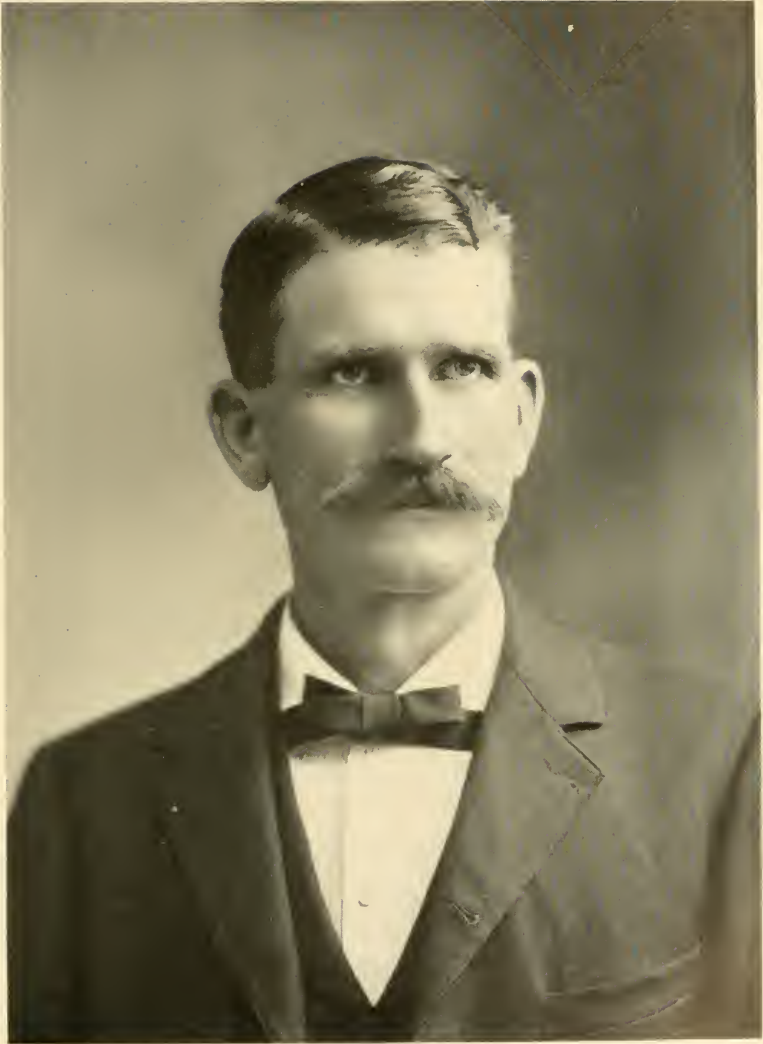
In Bucyrus occurred the marriage of Mr. Broemel and Miss Emma Liebich, a native of Bucyrus. In 1896 he was elected a member of the city council and by re-election has been continued in the office since that time. He is a member of the German Lutheran church and is found as a champion of educational, material and moral interests.

#### WILLIAM C. KIESS.

The subject of this review is a self-made man who, without any extraordinary family or pecuniary advantages at the commencement of his career, has battled earnestly and energetically, and by indomitable courage and integrity has achieved both character and fortune. By sheer force of will and untiring effort he has worked his way upward and is numbered among the leading citizens of Crawford county, where he is now occupying the position of judge of the probate court, having entered upon the duties of his office on the 9th of February, 1900. His public service has demonstrated that the trust reposed in him is fully merited, and his name is now found on the record of reliable and capable officials in this section of Ohio.

Mr. Kiess was born on a farm in Whetstone township, in 1857, and is a son of Jacob and Catherine (Delker) Kiess. His paternal grandfather, Christopher Kiess, was a native of Germany, received excellent educational privileges and became a successful teacher in his native land. Crossing the Atlantic to America, he followed the profession of teaching for twenty years in Pennsylvania. Jacob Kiess, the father of our subject, was born in Lycoming county, Pennsylvania, and after arriving at years of maturity





*W. C. Kiess*

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

wedded Catherine Delker, whose birth occurred in Germany, and who came to the United States when a maiden of fifteen summers. In the year 1850 they removed to Crawford county, locating upon a farm, which the father owned and operated until his death, which occurred in 1882, when he was seventy-one years of age. His wife passed away in 1885, at the age of sixty-nine years. They were people of the highest respectability, enjoying the esteem and good will of all with whom they came in contact. Of their family, four sons and a daughter are living, namely: William Christopher, of this review; Jonathan H., Simeon and Joseph H., all of whom are successfully following farming in Whetstone township; and Mrs. M. A. Butts, of Hiawatha, Kansas. Two sons, Daniel and Samuel, and two daughters, Lydia and May Margaret, are deceased.

Born upon his father's farm, William Christopher Kiess was there reared and early took his place in the fields to assist in the work of plowing, planting and harvesting. In the public schools he acquired his elementary education, which was supplemented by study in the Ada Normal University in the year 1887-8. Subsequently he became identified with educational work, and for seven years was known as a competent instructor in the schools of Whetstone township. His fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, then called him to public office, and for four years he served as clerk of the township, and was also land appraiser there. In the fall of 1899 he was elected to the office of probate judge of Crawford county and entered upon his duties February 9, 1900, for a three years' term, so that he is the present incumbent. He is extremely faithful, prompt and reliable in performing the labors that devolve upon him, and is making a most creditable record.

Mr. Kiess was united in marriage, in 1879, to Miss Sarah E. Wagner, a daughter of John and Mary Wagner, of Whetstone township, who came to Crawford county from Lycoming county, Pennsylvania, about the year 1852. Both have now passed away, the father dying at the age of sixty-four years, the mother being called to her final rest when sixty-nine years of age. The marriage of the Judge and Mrs. Kiess has been blessed with two children,—Thomas Clinton, who is now seventeen years of age and is a student in the high school, and Bessie Belle, who is also pursuing her studies in the schools of Bucyrus. In his political affiliations the Judge has ever been a Democrat, and keeps well informed on the issues of the day, politically and otherwise. His religious views are indicated by his membership in the Evangelical church. On the 15th of March, 1900, he removed his family to Bucyrus, where they now occupy a pleasant home, which is celebrated for its gracious hospitality.

In the county which has been his home throughout his entire life Judge Kiess has made many warm friends, owing to his possession of those sterling traits of character which everywhere command admiration and respect.

#### EMANUEL R. BIRK.

Emanuel R. Birk is one of the prominent business men of Bucyrus, where he is engaged in the manufacture and sale of harness and saddlery. A country has but one chief ruler, be he king, emperor or president. Comparatively few men can attain to the highest office in civil or military life, but commerce offers a broad and almost limitless field in which one may exercise his powers unrestrained and gain leadership at the head of a chosen calling. Drawing the lessons which we do from the life of Mr. Birk, we learn that the qualifications necessary for success are a high ambition and a resolute, honorable purpose to reach an exalted standard that has been set up.

One of the native sons of Bucyrus, he was born July 25, 1866, unto the marriage of John G. and Johanna B. (Kuhn) Birk. His father was a native of Wurtemberg, Germany, born July 22, 1823. In accordance with the laws of his native country he attended school until fourteen years of age, and then began learning the harnessmaker's trade, which he mastered both in principle and detail. Believing that the new world offered better opportunities for advancement than the older and more thickly settled countries of Europe, he determined to cross the Atlantic, and in 1845 sailed for New York. In 1847 he came to Bucyrus and three years later established a harness shop on his own account, beginning the business which is now carried on by his son, our subject. In 1851 he married Miss Johanna B. Kuhn, of Whetstone township, Crawford county, though born in Germany, and unto them were born four sons and one daughter,—Christian F., who is now mayor of Bucyrus; Lewis C., foreman of the harness shop; Emanuel R., of this review; George M., who is conducting a drug store in Bucyrus; and Elizabeth, wife of F. P. Donnenwirth, of Bucyrus. The father was the treasurer of Crawford county from 1874 to 1876. His death occurred November 10, 1888.

Emanuel R. Birk spent his youth in the usual manner of lads in the ordinary walks of life and enjoyed the pleasures of the playground and gave considerable time to the duties of the schoolroom. After putting aside his text-books he began learning the harnessmaker's trade of his father in 1882. He worked with him until the latter's death, in 1888, when he succeeded to the business, which he has since carried on. He now enjoys a large and

growing trade, which covers Crawford county and northeastern Ohio. The business has more than doubled under the management of Mr. Birk. He carries on a retail trade and also manufactures harness and saddlery, and the excellent quality of his goods, combined with his honorable business methods, reasonable prices and earnest desire to please, has secured to him gratifying prosperity.

On the 25th of October, 1892, Mr. Birk was joined in wedlock to Miss Melinda L. Vollrath, a daughter of Albert Vollrath, who for a number of years conducted a planing-mill in Bucyrus, but is now living a retired life. He is a native of Stadtilm, Germany, born January 31, 1830, and is a son of Gottlieb R. Vollrath, who was born in the same place September 29, 1804. There the grandfather acquired his education and married Frederike Meissner. After coming to Bucyrus he carried on the cabinet-making business, being one of the leading representatives of industrial concerns in this part of the state. He was highly respected as a reliable business man and public-spirited citizen. His son, Albert Vollrath, acquired his education in the schools of the fatherland, and when twenty-one years of age came to Bucyrus, in company with his parents, his two brothers, Charles and William, and his sisters, Mrs. Christian Renkert and Mrs. Frank Blicke. Mr. Vollrath entered upon his business career in Bucyrus as a contractor and builder, and in 1852 he became a partner in the planing-mill, which he conducted up to the time of his retirement from active business life. Mr. Birk is identified with two fraternities, the Masonic and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He attends the German Lutheran church, and as a citizen he co-operates in all movements for the general good, withholding his support from no measure which he believes will advance the public welfare.

### JOHN C. SHERER.

John C. Sherer, than whom there was no citizen more widely or favorably known in Whetstone township, Crawford county, was born in Stark county, Ohio, in 1830 and was the eldest son of Adam Sherer, one of the pioneers of that county, where he was known as a public-spirited and progressive citizen and one who exerted considerable influence in political affairs, his opinions carrying weight in the councils of his party, while his labors contributed in no immaterial way to its success.

John C. Sherer was his father's chief assistant after the removal of the family to Whetstone township, Crawford county. His educational advantages



were only those afforded by the common district schools, but reading, observation and experience constantly broadened his fund of knowledge and he became a well informed man, being recognized throughout the county as a gentleman of more than ordinary intellectual strength. He always followed agricultural pursuits and developed an excellent farm, to which he added all the modern accessories and improvements. Neatness and thrift characterized his place, and the practical yet progressive methods which characterized his work contributed to his prosperity.

Mr. Sherer was united in marriage to Miss Catharine Helfrich, a daughter of Peter Helfrich, one of the leading farmers of the county, and they made their home about four miles west of Galion, where they owned a nice property. They became the parents of six children: Jenny M.; William; May S.; Harry W., who is now located in Columbus; Willard A., of Toledo; and John A., who is principal of the East End schools of Galion. Four of these children, together with their mother, still survive the husband and father, and Mrs. Sherer and her son still reside upon the farm.

In his political views Mr. Sherer was a Republican, and on account of the minority of the party in the county he was not so prominent in political affairs as he otherwise would have been. He was abundantly qualified for office, and in a quiet way he did much to promote the welfare and progress of the community. He enjoyed the friendship and regard of all with whom he came in contact, irrespective of political or religious belief, and his death, which occurred in 1879, was sincerely mourned by the general public.

#### CHARLES KINNINGER.

The subject of this review is one of the best known and most active workers in the ranks of the Democratic party in Crawford county, and has rendered most effective service in the party cause. But recently his second term as probate judge of the county closed. In this office he acted as deputy previous to his election to the office for a period of six years, and then having been elected twice to the position he served as the incumbent six years, and is now holding a clerical position in the same office. As a man of splendid character and much ability he has been conspicuous in public affairs, and has made a record which commends him to the public confidence and assures him the esteem of the community.

Judge Kinninger is numbered among the native sons of Crawford county, his birth having occurred at Sulphur Springs, in Liberty township, July 22,



Charles Skimminger



1853. His parents, John and Caroline (Schindler) Kinninger, were both natives of Germany, and took up their abode in Liberty township, Crawford county, many years ago. They resided in Sulphur Springs, where the father followed wagon-making. He was a hale and hearty man at the age of ninety-two years, at which time, in 1881, he met with an accident which resulted in his death. His wife passed away in 1879, when seventy-two years of age. She was twice married, Mr. Kinninger being her second husband. By her first husband, Christian Sexauer, she had four children: William F., Christian, Frederick and Lewis, all of whom are now deceased. By the second marriage there were also four children: Caroline, who has passed away; Rosa, wife of W. D. Mewhort, of Sulphur Springs; John, deceased; and Charles.

The father was not in very affluent circumstances and therefore could not give his children more than a common-school education, hence our subject received only such advantages of mental discipline as he could obtain in the village schools of his native town. He learned the trade of carriage painting in the carriage factory of his half-brother's at Sulphur Springs, conducted under the name of the Sexauer Carriage Works. He eventually became superintendent of the factory, for, although he began work in the humble capacity mentioned, he was advanced through various positions as he demonstrated his ability to perform the work entrusted to him. In early life much responsibility devolved upon him in connection with the support of his parents. He was employed in the factory until he was made deputy probate judge, but his first public service was in the capacity of clerk of Liberty township, in which he has served for several years. In 1888 he became deputy probate judge under Judge J. C. Tobias, and he made a splendid record, continuing in that position for six years, when in 1893 he was elected probate judge and entered upon his duties in 1894. He was re-elected in 1896 and served as probate judge through six consecutive years, retiring from the office on the 9th of February, 1900, as he had entered it—with the confidence and good will of the public. On that occasion the members of the bar presented him with a fine silver tea and water set,—a compliment to his efficiency in office and an expression of their friendly and high regard for him as a man and citizen. He has always taken a very active interest in political affairs as a worker in Democratic ranks, has served as a member of the county central committee, and for three years was a member of the county executive committee.

In Liberty township Judge Kinninger was united in marriage to Miss

Alice Bickley, a daughter of Joseph Bickley, of Sandusky, Ohio, and their living children are Emma E., George E., Edna M. and Grace Alice. Their first born, Harry W., died at the age of seventeen years. The son George E. enlisted in 1896 as a member of Company A, Eighth Ohio National Guard, and at the time of the Spanish-American war he volunteered with his regiment in the United States service, in which he was mustered in as a corporal. The command was sent to Cuba and participated in active service there, being present at the surrender of Santiago. He recently received an honorable discharge from the company after five years' connection therewith. The family now reside upon a fine farm two miles south of Bucyrus, in Bucyrus township, where the Judge owns one hundred acres of land. He is successfully carrying on stock-raising, and the fine grades of cattle which he raises enables him to command a ready sale on the market. In whatever work he undertakes he is energetic and industrious, and thus he has advanced to a position among the affluent citizens of Crawford county. He belongs to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Knights of Honor, of Bucyrus, and is also a member of the German Lutheran church. The cause of education has ever found in him a warm friend, and while residing in Bucyrus he served for several years as a member of the city school board. During his residence at Sulphur Springs he was the leader of one of the best bands in the county, and his love of music is one of his salient characteristics and is a source of pleasure not only to himself but also to his many friends, enabling him to become an active factor in entertainment and social circles.

### JOHN A. SHERER.

Professor John A. Sherer, principal of the East End schools of Galion, is one of the most competent and successful educators in this portion of Ohio, a man of strong mentality, whose careful preparation has well qualified him for his work and who has a just comprehension of the importance of the duties devolving upon him.

Professor Sherer was born on a farm a few miles northwest of Galion and is of ancestry well known in Crawford and adjoining counties. His father, John C. Sherer, is mentioned on another page of this volume. His mother belonged to the distinguished and numerous Helfrich family, so closely allied with the history of this locality. Mr. Sherer was born in 1873, and in his early youth attended the district school near his home, while later



he enjoyed the privilege of a course in the Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware. On its completion he began teaching and had charge of a number of schools in Crawford county through a period of ten years. His success in a general way attracted the attention of the school board of Galion and he was called here to take charge of the East Side schools in 1900. The able manner in which he discharged his duties in that scholastic year recommended him for the position for the succeeding year, and through his two years' service he has won the highest commendation.

In 1899 Professor Sherer was married to Miss Viola Kiess, the daughter of a prominent and well known family of Whetstone township. Professor Sherer is one of the county board of school examiners, and has the acquaintance and friendship of the majority of teachers in the county. He is also one of the board of trustees of the Crawford County Historical Association, and his literary contributions to the history of Crawford county, in various newspaper articles, have attracted not only local attention but also that of the State Historical Association.

At this point it would be almost tautological to enter into any series of statements as showing the Professor to be a man of broad intelligence and genuine public spirit, for these have been shadowed forth between the lines of this review. Strong in his individuality, he never lacks the courage of his convictions, but there are as dominating elements in this individuality a lively human sympathy and an abiding charity, which, taken in connection with the sterling integrity and honor of his character, have naturally gained to him the respect and confidence of men.

#### CHARLES F. SCHABER.

Charles F. Schaber is one of the younger representatives of the bar of Bucyrus, but those who are acquainted with him and are familiar with his ambitious and resolute spirit have no fear in predicting for him a successful future. Bucyrus may well be proud to claim him among her native sons. His birth occurred in this city July 30, 1873, his parents being John A. and Bertha W. (Margraff) Schaber. The paternal grandparents were John George and Fredrica Schaber, who with their family, consisting of John A. and Frederick, came to Crawford county in June, 1854. The last named died in Bucyrus several years ago. The father of our subject, after following the blacksmith's trade in Bucyrus for several years, took up his abode at

Sulphur Springs, where he established and conducted a dry-goods and grocery store. He subsequently became identified with the mercantile interests of Bucyrus, and in 1877 he became an active factor in official life, being elected in that year to the position of county sheriff, in which capacity he served for two terms. After his retirement from office he engaged in the insurance business until 1896, when he put aside all business cares and is now quietly resting in the enjoyment of the fruits of his former toil. In his political views he is a Democrat, unswerving in his advocacy of the principles of the party, and he and his family are members of the German Lutheran church. Charles F. Schaber is their only living son (one dying in childhood), but there is one daughter, Sophia M., who is a graduate of the high school and is now a successful teacher in the schools of this city. She is also a trustee of the Bucyrus Memorial Library and a member of several literary societies.

Mr. Schaber has always been a resident of Bucyrus, and the public-school system of the city provided him with his educational privileges. In January, 1892, he became a clerk in the county probate office, under Judge J. C. Tobias, and later served through a period of six years as deputy probate judge, under Judge Charles Kinninger. His labors in that position proved to him an excellent training school in the line of law and probate work. He read law under the direction of the firm of Finley & Gallinger, of Bucyrus, and after mastering many of the principles of jurisprudence he successfully passed an examination and was admitted to the bar in December, 1900. He immediately opened an office, in partnership with W. J. Schwenck, with whom he has since been associated in the active practice of law, the firm meeting with complimentary success, although they are the youngest members of the Bucyrus bar. Mr. Schaber is resolute and determined, and such qualities cannot fail to secure success.

His labors were at one time interrupted by military service. In 1892 he enlisted in the Eighth Ohio National Guard as a private, but was soon advanced to official positions. At the time of the Spanish-American war, in 1898, he was mustered into the United States service as lieutenant and adjutant of the Eighth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and was also ordnance officer of the regiment. He was sent to Cuba with his command, which joined the Fifth Army Corps, participating in the battle of Santiago, and was present at the capitulation of that city. At length the regiment was recalled to the United States, and Mr. Schaber was honorably discharged from the service.

Socially he is connected with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, being the exalted ruler of Bucyrus Lodge, No. 156, also is connected

with the Knights of Pythias and the Knights of the Maccabees. He is a young man of genial manner, unfailing courtesy and many sterling qualities, and is very popular in social circles.

### BENJAMIN SEARS.

Richard Sears, the progenitor of the American branch of the Sears family, landed at Plymouth Rock in 1632. He and his descendants after him bore their share as pioneers in the subjugation and settlement of the new world and in those events which culminated in the independence of our nation.

Benjamin Sears, the subject of our sketch, is descended on both sides from Revolutionary ancestry. His great-grandfather, Captain Elkanah Sears, was a conspicuous figure in Massachusetts during the Revolutionary war. He was distinguished for his activity in promoting the cause of freedom, and was a member of the committee appointed to provide necessities for the Continental army. After the breaking out of hostilities he equipped a war vessel, which he commanded. Many personal anecdotes are related of him in family history and tradition, which illustrate his character as a man of great enterprise and courage. His son, Benjamin Sears, following the line of descent to the Crawford county family, was born at Chatham, Connecticut, in 1771, and removed thence to New Durham, New York. He filled with honor various military offices, and among the papers now in possession of the family is his commission as major, signed by Governor De Witt Clinton. He became a minister in the Baptist church, and in that capacity distinguished himself by his zeal and fidelity. He felt much drawn toward mission work among the Indians, and in 1821, in company with his two sons, John and Benjamin, all having received appointments as missionaries among the Indians, journeyed to Fort Wayne, Indiana, and established there the first Baptist church in that territory. While returning to his family in New York the next year, he was taken sick with fever at Delaware, Ohio, and died there October 11, 1822, much lamented as a man of energy and piety. He was buried in the old grave yard east of the college campus at Delaware, and a monument marked the last resting place of the pioneer missionary. Eighty years afterward, when the grave yard at Delaware was abandoned, the remains were removed to the family lot in Oakwood cemetery at Bucyrus, Ohio. Letters written by him in his last illness, now in possession of the

family, show with what resignation, hope and courage he entered "the valley of the shadow."

His oldest son, Elkanah Sears, the Crawford county pioneer, was born in Meredith, New York, in 1795, and died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Aminda Nicholson, in East Rockport, Ohio, November 15, 1886, aged ninety-one years. His mother, whose maiden name was Ann Biglow, was a woman of remarkable character, and belonged to a family; members of which have attained national distinction. Elkanah Sears came to Crawford county in 1836 with his family, consisting of a wife and four children, three sons and one daughter. He moved upon a farm two miles west of Bucyrus. For several years the family occupied a log cabin on the place, and afterward a two-story log house, which in the course of time was weather-boarded, and thus became, for that period, one of the most pretentious dwellings in the neighborhood.

Elkanah Sears continued to live for many years on the farm where he originally settled, occupied with the duties of a pioneer farmer. His wife, whose maiden name was Desair Phelps, came of a distinguished family, and was a very superior woman. She proved herself an efficient helpmate and in those early days of limited school privileges she assisted in inculcating into the minds of her children that desire for knowledge and ambition for improvement to which, doubtless, much of their success in life is owing. These children, now all living, the eldest over eighty years of age and the youngest nearly seventy, venerate their mother long since gone to her reward. The eldest of the family, John Dudley Sears, is living a retired life at Upper Sandusky, Ohio. For more than half a century he practiced law. He was not only the acknowledged leader of the bar in his county, but by many was regarded as the best legal authority in this section of Ohio. He was equally successful in a business way, and in a green old age now enjoys, in the esteem of his fellow citizens, the rewards of a life well spent.

Cyrus, the youngest son of Elkanah Sears, grew to manhood in Crawford county. He graduated at the Cincinnati Law School, and began the practice of law in Cincinnati, where he also lectured in the law school. When the war of the Rebellion broke out he entered the army, where he continued in service throughout the war, and greatly distinguished himself in many battles. He rose to the rank of colonel. For distinguished gallantry at the battle of Tuka he received a medal of honor from congress. After the close of the war he practiced law for a time at Upper Sandusky, Ohio, and later engaged in manufacturing and mercantile business, also in farming and real estate.

He now resides in Harpster, Wyandot county, Ohio, in which locality he has large real estate and other interests. He married a daughter of David Harpster, long known as the wool king of Ohio.

The only daughter of Elkanah Sears, Mrs. Lewis Nicholson, is a widow living at Lakewood, Ohio.

Benjamin Sears, the second son of Elkanah Sears, is the only member of the family who has made his permanent home in Crawford county. He continued to reside on the farm where his father settled until 1876. Since that time he has lived in Bucyrus. He was successful as a stock-raiser, fruit-grower and nurseryman, and in these pursuits laid the foundation for an estate now one of the most considerable in the county. He is largely interested in real estate and in banking, and is a man of great business sagacity and judgment. He is quiet and unostentatious, simple in his habits and style of living, and although his early education was limited he has always been a great reader, and is one of the most widely informed and best-informed and best-read men in the community. On subjects in which he has taken a special interest, such as horticulture and botany, he is recognized as one of the best local authorities.

He has a family of seven children living, three sons and four daughters. His oldest daughter, Annie, who was for fourteen years a missionary in China, died in 1894. His oldest son, R. V. Sears, is a successful lawyer at Bucyrus. His second son, Frank O. Sears, is a leading farmer and stockman, residing with his family on the old family homestead, two miles west of Bucyrus. The third son, Hiram B., is unmarried, and was for some years in the newspaper business in Bucyrus. He is at present assisting his father in the management and care of his property. Of the daughters, who are all ladies of culture and education, the eldest, Alice, is living at home, and is an ornament in the literary and social life of the city. Minda P. is a graduate in medicine and a woman of superior ability. Bertha is a successful teacher in Cleveland; and Ruby D., the youngest daughter, is married to Mr. Otto Carpenter, a prominent insurance man of Cleveland, Ohio.

#### RUFUS V. SEARS.

Rufus V. Sears is the oldest son of Benjamin and Melissa (Minich) Sears. His mother is the granddaughter of a Revolutionary soldier and a descendant of one of the early settlers of Maryland. He was born at the old family homestead, two miles west of Bucyrus. After graduating at the



Bucyrus high school he followed farming for several years, in the meantime pursuing the study of law, and was admitted to the bar in 1886. He immediately began the practice of law in Bucyrus. In 1888 he married Sallie J. Harris, the accomplished daughter of Hon. S. R. Harris, of Bucyrus. In 1893 Mr. Sears formed a partnership with Mr. Harris, the leader of the Crawford county bar. The firm enjoys a large and lucrative practice, being retained in many cases of importance both in the state and federal courts.

Mr. Sears, while not personally ambitious in politics, has always been a Republican, and in 1894 was elected city solicitor of Bucyrus, by a large majority over his Democratic opponent, although the city was strongly Democratic. He has been as successful in business matters as in professional life, and is interested in various investments and enterprises, taking an active part in every movement for the benefit and prosperity of the city and community. He is a director of the Bucyrus board of trade, a director in the First National Bank of Bucyrus, and president of the Buckeye Traction Company, now constructing several electric railway lines.

Mr. Sears is the father of three sons: Paul Biglow, born December 17, 1891; Demas Lindley, February 6, 1894; and John Dudley, December 4, 1897.

### JULIUS J. BLISS.

No compendium such as the province of this work defines in its essential limitations will serve to offer fit memorial to the life and accomplishments of the honored subject of this sketch, who is numbered among the prominent educators of Ohio, and for six years has been superintendent of the public schools of Bucyrus and previous to this time was for more than a decade a successful teacher in Crawford county.

Professor Bliss was born on a farm in Bainbridge township, Geauga county, Ohio, May 16, 1854, and traces his lineage back through many generations to the founder of the family in America—Thomas Bliss, who came from Devonshire, England, in 1635, and was a member of the Plymouth colony. Representatives of the name were active and leading citizens of the communities in which they resided, and took an important part in shaping the events which go to form the colonial history and early annals of the Republic. Ephraim Bliss, Sr., joined the Colonial army at the time of the war of the Revolution, serving as a member of the company commanded by Captain John Pain. His son, Ephraim Bliss, Jr., was a member of the company commanded by Captain Israel Hix. He joined the service in 1775,



J. J. Bliss.



and loyally aided in the cause of independence. His home was in Rehoboth, Massachusetts. His son, Benjamin Bliss, the great-grandfather of our subject, was born in 1760, and when the yoke of British oppression became intolerable the same patriotic and liberty loving spirit which prompted his grandfather and his father were manifest in him and caused his enlistment as a member of the company commanded by Captain Sylvanus Martin. He lived to enjoy republican liberty for more than half a century, passing away in 1823.

Otis B. Bliss, the grandfather of our subject, resided in Berkshire county, Massachusetts, at North Adams, in his early manhood, and thence came with the family to Ohio in 1833, locating in Bainbridge township, Geauga county, where he secured a tract of wild land. With characteristic energy he began its improvement, transforming it into a rich and fertile farm, upon which he resided until his death, which occurred in 1873, when he was sixty-five years of age. He married, in 1831, Julia Elma Maria Potter, a daughter of Olney and Mary (Richardson) Potter, of Gloucester, Rhode Island. Mrs. Bliss was born November 26, 1809. Her grandfather, James Potter, was also a Revolutionary hero, serving as lieutenant in a Rhode Island regiment under command of Colonel Christopher Smith. His father, Samuel Potter, was captain of a company in Colonel Dyer's regiment of Rhode Island troops. The celebrated divine, Bishop Potter, is also a member of this family. Among the children of Otis B. and Julia E. M. (Potter) Bliss was Olney R. Bliss, the father of our subject. He, too, was born in Geauga county, in the year 1833, and is still living at a ripe old age, his home being in Brookville, Kansas. His has been a useful, active and honorable career, and he is still well preserved. He married Mahala J. McFarland, a daughter of John Wesley McFarland, of Bainbridge township, Geauga county, and took up his abode in that county in 1816, emigrating westward from Berkshire county, Massachusetts. The McFarlands are of Scotch lineage, and the first members of the family in America, leaving the land of hills and heather in 1719, took up their abode in what was then the Massachusetts colony.

Professor Julius J. Bliss has spent his entire life in the Buckeye state. He acquired his education in the district schools of his native county, receiving instruction from some very capable instructors from New England. At an early day he entered Hiram College, during the presidency of B. A. Hinsdale, a learned man who for some years was the leading professor of pedagogy west of the Alleghanies. There he frequently saw and heard that great teacher who afterward became the chief executive of the nation, James

A. Garfield, and the spirit of the master found lodgment in the character of the pupil. However, wishing a more complete course of study than Hiram College then afforded, Professor Bliss matriculated in Oberlin College, where he completed the full classical course and was graduated in 1881, with the degree of bachelor of arts. Five years later, in 1886, his *alma mater* conferred upon him the degree of master of arts. Throughout his entire business career he has been connected with the profession of teaching. For two and a half years, from 1883 until 1885, he was one of the teachers in the high school of Bucyrus, and then went to Crestline as superintendent of the schools of that city, continuing in charge through the succeeding decade. The schools there grew rapidly during his incumbency and marked improvement was seen in the methods of teaching and in the work done in the schools. He not only kept abreast of the times in thought, but had the bravery to put that thought into practice. He carried forward his investigations along original lines, and introduced into the schools valuable methods of great utility. The School Journal, published in 1894, contained the following:

"The receipt of the manual of the public schools of Crestline, Ohio, at this office led us to look up the Ohio boy who could plan so rich, though so logical, a course of study. Here, it seemed to us, was planned work of a really practical nature, and yet in harmony with the best thought of the 'new education.' Investigation showed that the theory was fully wrought out in the schoolroom, and that under his direction an able corps of teachers are securing results superior to those in many much larger places. The high school courses are unique and most admirable. We have never seen the work of a high school better arranged. It is simple, yet rich and complete.

"Our long experience in teaching and superintending enables us to judge these matters, and we unhesitatingly pronounce Professor Bliss one of the most level-headed and progressive of such superintendents."

In the year 1895 Professor Bliss was called to the superintendency of the public schools of Bucyrus and has since remained in charge, his services giving excellent satisfaction. It is well known to all what great progress has been made in the methods of education and that the attendance of the schools has greatly increased. There are three school buildings in the city, with twenty-eight teachers, and in 1900 the membership was twelve hundred and seventy-two pupils, which has increased to more than thirteen hundred in the present year, 1901. During the incumbency of Professor Bliss the increase in attendance at the high school has been more than one hundred per cent. and the institution is of such a high character that its graduates are prepared



to enter college without further mental training. There are now one hundred and fifty students in the high school department. The number of courses of study have been increased and improved and an elective system has been added, which has proved very profitable and popular, enabling the scholars to pursue such courses of study as they believe will be of most benefit to them in later years. The influence of his work cannot be estimated, but will prove of lasting benefit to all who have come under his instruction. He is continually seeking to promote advancement, and labors with and for his teachers that the results attained may be of the highest practical benefit. In many instances he has made individual study of his pupils, realizing that their needs are as varied as are their characters. Professor Bliss is the possessor of the highest grade state teacher's certificate, and his fame as an instructor is not limited by the confines of Crawford county, for he is known throughout the state in educational circles as one whose ability is of superior order. He is a graduate of the Ohio State Teachers' Reading Circle, of the Chautauqua literary and scientific course, and has taken the Prang course in form study and drawing.

In 1886 Professor Bliss was united in marriage to Miss Ella May Fuhrman, of Bucyrus, a daughter of Thomas and Adeline (Kirby) Fuhrman and the foster daughter of George Donnenwirth, the president of the Bucyrus City Bank. Their marriage has been blessed with two children,—Marion George and Mary Mahala. Mrs. Bliss is a lady of superior culture and refinement, and intellectual activity make her a leader in society in Bucyrus. She, too, pursued the Chautauqua course. The Professor holds membership in the Congregational church and his wife in the Presbyterian church, and socially he is connected with the Knights of Pythias fraternity.

#### GEORGE W. MILLER.

As a representative of an honored pioneer family, of the educational interests of Crawford county and now of the insurance business, George W. Miller is widely and favorably known throughout this section of the state. He has attained to an enviable position in the business world entirely through his own unaided efforts. Faithfulness to duty and strict adherence to a fixed purpose in life will do more to advance a man's interests than wealth or advantageous circumstances. The successful men of the day are they who have planned their own advancement and have accomplished it in spite of many obstacles and with a certainty that could have been attained only through

their personal efforts. It has been along such lines that George W. Miller has won and maintained a creditable position in business circles in his native county, where he is now occupying the position of secretary of the Crawford County Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company and of the Crawford County Agricultural Society.

He was born in Todd township in 1859, a son of John D. and Mary (Kahl) Miller. The father came to Ohio with his parents in 1837 and located in Richland county. He was born in Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, in 1813, and his parents, George M. and Cartherine (Rex) Miller, were also natives of the Keystone state. Having arrived at years of maturity, in 1840 John D. Miller married Miss Mary Deal, and their union was blessed with five children, three of whom are yet living: Nathaniel M., living in California; Annias D., a resident of Wyandot county, Ohio; and William A., of Seneca county, this state. Andrew J. died in 1901, in California; and a daughter died in childhood. Annias D. and William A. served through the Civil war as defenders of the Union. The mother of these children died in 1852, and in 1855 Mr. Miller wedded Mrs. Mary Barga, a widow who had two children, Albert and Lovina. She was the daughter of Henry and Susan (Rank) Kahl, who emigrated to Richland county, Ohio, from Pennsylvania, at an early date. The subject of this review is the only child born unto this marriage. His father came to Crawford county in 1852 and located on a farm just north of Oceola, where both he and his wife spent their remaining days, the later dying in 1890, at the age of sixty-six years, and the father in 1896, at the age of eighty-three. Both were consistent Christian people, and enjoyed the respect of all who knew them.

The childhood days of George W. Miller were spent on the old homestead which he now owns. His education was mostly acquired in the common schools, supplemented by a course in the Northwestern Normal, of Fostoria, Ohio. Having qualified himself for teaching he became a follower of that profession and for a number of years performed the duties of an instructor in the schoolroom through the winter months, while in the summer seasons he engaged in farming. Having the ability to impart readily and with accuracy to others the knowledge he had gained, and being also an excellent disciplinarian, he proved a competent educator, giving excellent satisfaction. During the last three years of his school work he was employed as principal of the Oceola schools. He did much to advance the efficiency of the schools and his labor was attended with gratifying results. He is now president of the county board of school examiners and of the Ohio Teachers' Reading

Circle of the county, thus keeping in close touch with the educational interests of this part of the state.

In 1880 Mr. Miller was united in marriage to Miss Dell A. Sigler, the youngest daughter of George E. and Harriett (Horrick) Sigler, of Todd township. Her parents were among the pioneers of Crawford county, having come here in the early '40s. They were the parents of four children: Mary L., Elliot W., Rosamond E. and Dell A. Mrs. Sigler, who was the daughter of John and Mary (Grimes) Horrick, died in 1898, but Mr. Sigler is still living on a farm in Todd township. He is a son of Jacob and Rachel (Hines) Sigler and is a native of Pennsylvania, while his wife was born in Ashland county, Ohio. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Miller has been born but one child, Minta M., who is in the senior year in the high school of Bucyrus. In that city her parents have a pleasant home, justly celebrated for its warm-hearted hospitality.

In 1898 Mr. Miller was elected secretary of the Crawford County Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company, which was organized in 1877 and now is the strongest farmers' mutual in the state. In 1899 he was elected secretary of the Crawford County Agricultural Society, and since his election the society has introduced the educational feature in their fair and it has proven one of the best attractions. A new hall has been constructed especially for this feature, which is filled each year with the best work from the schools of the county. Mr. Miller also served for fourteen years as treasurer and clerk of Todd township. In his political views, like his father, he is a stalwart Democrat, and takes an active interest in the work of the party, doing all he can for its substantial advancement and success. He is a man of strong purpose, of sterling worth and of unquestioned integrity and fidelity to duty, and enjoys the high regard of the people among whom his entire life has been passed.

### COLONEL EDWARD VOLLRATH.

Prominent among the lawyers of Crawford county, and well known in public affairs is Colonel Edward Vollrath, of Bucyrus, in which city his birth occurred forty-three years ago. His parents, Charles and Elizabeth Vollrath, were natives of Germany. He attended the Bucyrus public schools, graduating at the high school in 1878. After attending Wittenberg College, Springfield, Ohio, he entered Princeton University, at which latter institution he graduated in 1883. In youth he worked at the carpenter's bench, but predilec-

tion led him to the study of law. In 1885 he was admitted to practice as an attorney at law by the supreme court of Ohio, and has since practiced with success as a member of the Crawford county bar.

In 1884 Colonel Vollrath entered the Ohio National Guard as a private. He rose to the rank of major, in which capacity he volunteered with his regiment—the Eighth Ohio Volunteer Infantry—in the Spanish-American war, and participated with Shafter's corps in the siege of Santiago, Cuba. He was mustered out of the United States service as major of volunteers, and was chosen colonel of his regiment—the Eighth Ohio—upon its reorganization into the Ohio National Guard. Colonel Vollrath has a large and lucrative practice, and is also largely interested in manufacturing and real estate.

In 1888 he married Miss Millie C. Wise, and his home is celebrated for its generous hospitality. Fraternally Colonel Vollrath is a member of the Knights of Pythias fraternity. He is a member of the St. Paul's English Lutheran church at Bucyrus; has been a deacon in the church for more than fifteen years, and for several years he has superintended the Sunday-school.

Unassuming and genial in manner, and always fair and just in all dealings, Colonel Vollrath is highly esteemed by his fellow citizens, and enjoys the confidence of a wide circle of friends.

#### ALBERT F. MESSNER, M. D.

Dr. Albert Frederick Messner is one of the younger representatives of the medical fraternity in Bucyrus, but his years seem no bar to his success, as his ability is such as to win for him a constantly growing practice. He is numbered among the native sons of the city, his birth having occurred here on the 3d of May, 1865. His father, Frederick Messner, was born at Schulerhoff, Germany, and after crossing the briny deep to the new world he took up his abode in Bucyrus. He married Fredrika Nachtrieb, who was born in Bretzenacker, in the province of Weiblinger, Germany, and after coming to the new world took up her abode in Columbus, Ohio.

The Doctor, at the usual age, entered the public schools and after putting aside his text-books he worked at the carpenter's trade for three years, but desiring to enter professional life he took up the study of medicine, reading under the direction of Dr. Jerome Bland, with whom he continued until nineteen years of age. He then studied in the Starling Medical College of Columbus, Ohio, where he remained for two terms, after which he became a student

in the Hahnemann Medical College of Chicago, where he was graduated in 1890, at the age of twenty-four years. The same year he opened an office and began practice in Bucyrus, where he remained until 1896, when, wishing to still further perfect himself in his chosen work, he crossed the Atlantic to Berlin, Germany, and pursued a post-graduate course as a student in the Frederick Wilhelm University, known as the Imperial University. In the latter part of 1897 he returned to his native land, resuming practice in Bucyrus.

On the 16th of April, 1896, Dr. Messner was united in marriage to Miss Martha A. Jordan, a daughter of Daniel and Mary A. Jordan. Their pleasant home in Bucyrus is noted for its hospitality, which is freely extended to their large circle of friends. The Doctor has attained a remarkable degree of success in his professional career, and is accorded a prominent position in the ranks of the medical fraternity by his brethren of the profession and by the public as well.

#### JOSEPH NEFF.

An esteemed citizen and substantial farmer of Holmes township, who has been identified with much of the development of this section of Crawford county, is Joseph Neff, who was born in Hepburn township, Lycoming county, Pennsylvania, on November 10, 1829, a son of Michael Neff. (The family history may be found in the sketch of David Neff, in another part of this volume.)

The early life of Joseph Neff was similar to that of other healthy and happy boys, some schooling but much more farm work occupying his time. Until he was twenty-eight years old he remained at home, managing the farm for his mother. In the spring of 1857 our subject, with his mother, brother Jonathan, and three sisters, came to Crawford county, Ohio, and spent his first summer with his uncle, John Wagner. In the fall Joseph Neff and his brother Jonathan, bought two hundred acres of his present home farm, and here the brothers carried on extensive operations for a number of years together, their mother residing with them. During this partnership they increased the acreage to three hundred and seventeen, and when Jonathan Neff decided to retire from active labor Joseph purchased his interest. In later years he has added to it and now owns in Holmes, Liberty and Sandusky townships some nine hundred and ten acres of the finest farming land in Crawford county.

Mr. Neff was married February 9, 1869, to Sophia D. Yeiter, and to



this union were born nine children, eight of whom still survive: Emanuel, who married Sarah Krauter; Elizabeth, the wife of Joseph Durr; Aaron and Amos C., twins; J. Jacob, who married Ella Schieber; Mary, the wife of Abraham Schieber; Matilda, deceased; Emma, at home; and Joseph. All of the children are at home or located on farms in the county. Mr. Neff is surrounded by his descendants and has great cause to feel pardonable pride in them. Mr. and Mrs. Neff are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Neff, one of the most generous of men, donated the ground and was a member of the building committee for the Methodist church building, which was erected on his farm near his residence. For a number of years he has been a trustee and his advice and business management of its affairs are invaluable. Politically he is a staunch Republican, and has taken an active part in educational matters and has been a wise and judicious member of the school board. Mr. Neff is one of the most highly esteemed citizens of Crawford county.

Mrs. Neff was born in Liberty township, Crawford county, Ohio, April 5, 1840. Her parents were Jacob and Elizabeth (Aupperly) Yeiter, both natives of Wurtemberg, Germany, and were married there and came to this country in 1832, and settled in Liberty township, where they lived and died, the father dying in 1878 and the mother in 1885. They had nine children, of whom four are deceased. The names are John, deceased; Jacob; Mary, deceased; David; Catherine; Christina, deceased; Frederick; Sophia; Emanuel, deceased.

### JACOB BABST.

In studying the lives and characters of prominent men we are naturally led to inquire into the secret of their success and the motives that prompted their action. Success is oftener a matter of experience and sound judgment and thorough preparation for a life work than it is of genius, however bright. When we trace the career of those whom the world acknowledges as successful and of those who stand highest in public esteem, we find that in almost every case they are those who have risen gradually by their own efforts, their diligence and perseverance. These qualities are undoubtedly possessed in a large measure by the gentleman whose name introduces this sketch, and added to these is a devotion to principle that may well be termed the keynote of his character. It is this which commands the confidence and respect so



*Jacob Babel*



universally given him, and it is this which has secured him prominence in the professional and industrial circles of Crestline.

Mr. Babst was born in Canal Fulton, Stark county, Ohio, February 11, 1846, and is the third child of Daniel and Margaret (Yost) Babst, whose life history may be found elsewhere in this volume. When seven years of age he was brought by his parents to Crestline, where he pursued his education in the public schools. In early life he learned the tinner's trade, which he followed for about eight years, when, in 1868, he opened a stove and tin store, which he successfully conducted until 1871, when his father erected the building and opened his present bank, at which time he disposed of his store and joined his father in the bank, acting as bookkeeper for one year. May 10, 1872, he went to Berea, Ohio, where he opened the first bank in that village, the firm being known as Clark, Babst & Company. By an agreement entered into with his father prior to his going to Berea, he returned to Crestline the following May, and became cashier of his father's bank, assuming entire management, and these relations continued until the retirement of his father in 1878. It was at this time that Dan Babst, Jr., became identified with the bank, a co-partnership being formed between the brothers, the active management, however, remaining in Jacob's hands, as heretofore. This partnership was dissolved by mutual consent in May, 1887, when Jacob became sole owner of the institution, continually occupying the same room and same position for almost one-third of a century. His good judgment, keen discrimination and scrupulous honesty have caused this institution to be regarded as one of the most reliable financial concerns in the county. His close application to business duties and the confidence reposed in him by his fellow citizens have been the potent elements which have marked to a great degree the increasing patronage of his bank. These strong characteristics are noted not only by his daily acquaintances but also by his fellow bankers, he having served three years on the Ohio Bankers' Association executive board, and was selected by this association, being one of five in the state, to represent them at the World's Congress of Bankers at Chicago during the World's Fair, and again in 1898 he represented this same body at the American Bankers' Association at Denver.

At the present time he is the president of the Burch Plow Works, which employs about forty men. He organized the Schill Brothers' Furnace & Range Company, of which he was one of its stockholders and directors.

In him Crestline has always found a warm friend. No movement which embodied the development and upbuilding of this city ever failed to get his

heartly endorsement and active support. Indeed, he has been looked upon as their leader, being selected as chairman of committees on public improvements. He may well be termed the "father of pike roads" in this township. The first articles in the city papers agitating the "piking" of the roads emanated from his pen, the initial meetings being held in his banking house. It was through his efforts that the first "pike" road was built in this township, and to-day it is noted for its splendid roads, being one of the foremost townships in the county. One of the most important considerations of a city is its sanitary condition. It is this feature which attracts the attention of the promoter and the home-seeker, and it is this which assures health to its inhabitants, and to this end Mr. Babst has toiled most untiringly; nor did he cease his untiring labors until he succeeded in securing a sewerage system which is the beginning of a movement that must prove of great benefit to the community. While Crestline cannot boast of an oil well to-day, yet it was the pioneer town in the late oil development in Ohio, and in this Mr. Babst was the prime mover, being personally interested in five wells.

He stands very prominent in the Knights of Pythias fraternity, having frequently represented this order in the grand lodge. He is known all over the state as the "Pythian," for his activeness in behalf of the order. He belongs to the Masons, having been a member for thirty-two years, and also holds membership in the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks.

Like his father, his support is ever given to the Republican party, and while he has always refused political honors yet he has taken an active interest in all local affairs, and is always ready to uphold the principles of the "Grand Old Party," and has often been a delegate to the state convention of his party.

In 1869 Mr. Babst was united in marriage to Miss Mathilde Stoll, a daughter of George F. and Caroline Stoll, of Bucyrus, who were pioneer settlers of this county. To a man's social standing and to his success or failure in business life may be attributed to a degree the co-operation he receives from the personage he selects for his life companion. As a factor in the progressive and successful business life of our subject can be added the influence of his domestic life which is portrayed in the character of his wife. Before marriage Mrs. Babst was engaged in teaching in the public schools of Crawford county and has a broad, progressive and comprehensive mind. Their beautiful home, which is so noted for the hospitality they have exhibited there, has been made brighter by the presence of three children: Earl D., who is now a prominent attorney at Detroit, Michigan; Jessie, the wife of H. H. Cockley, the secretary of the Shelby Steel Tube Company, of Cleveland,



Ohio; and Bertha S., who is with her parents. Their home is always found open for the warm reception of their many friends, and the family enjoys a leading place in social circles and gatherings in the county. The churches and charitable organizations of Crestline all profit by Mr. Babst's generous nature, and the poor and needy always find in him a warm friend. Thus we see portrayed the life of an active and progressive self-made man,—the life of an honest, kind-hearted and charitable man who for a third of a century has participated in the business life of Crestline, and during this entire time he has so conducted himself and the affairs entrusted to him as to gain the respect and esteem of the entire county, and no word of censure has ever been uttered against him.

#### LEWIS H. BATTEFELD.

In the affairs of state, as taken aside from the extraordinary conditions of warfare, there are demanded men whose mental ken is as wide and whose generalship is as effective as those who insure successful maneuvering of armed forces by the skilled commanders on the field of battle. The nation's welfare and prosperity may be said to hinge as heavily upon individual discrimination and executive ability in the one case as the other. It requires master minds to marshal and organize the forces for political purposes and produce the best results by concerted effort. One of the leaders in Democratic ranks in Crawford county is Lewis H. Battefeld, who has labored untiringly and effectively to promote the welfare and progress of his party and to secure a successful termination to its campaigns. He has filled many positions of public trust and is now serving for the second term as county commissioner.

Mr. Battefeld resides in Bucyrus and is numbered among Ohio's native sons, his birth having occurred in the capital city in 1842, his parents being Lewis and Christina (Biber) Battefeld, both of whom were natives of Germany. The father was a Hessian and the mother was born in Wurtemberg. She was a little maiden of nine summers when, in 1832, she was brought to Crawford county, Ohio, by her parents, Conrad and Christina (Utz) Biber, both of whom spent their remaining days in this county. Having located here in pioneer times, the grandfather of our subject entered land from the government in Cranberry township, and there developed and improved a farm.

The parents of our subject both died of cholera in 1849, and he was

thus left an orphan at the early age of seven years. Lewis H. Battefeld was educated in the country schools. He has also added largely to his knowledge through reading, observation and experience. In 1860 he came to Bucyrus and learned the trade of harness and saddle making under the direction of J. G. Birk. For fourteen years he followed that pursuit and then abandoned it to engage in the manufacture of drain tile in Bucyrus, in 1876. He commenced operations on a small scale, using horse power, but his trade soon demanded increased facilities; steam power was introduced, improved machinery was secured and an extensive business was carried on. The enterprise is now conducted by his son, Lewis P. Battefeld, in his own name.

Our subject has frequently been called to public office and has been long a recognized leader in Democratic circles. In April, 1869, he became city marshal and filled the office for two years, and at the same time was township constable. For six years, from 1886 until 1892, he was township trustee of Bucyrus township, and in 1895 he became county commissioner, being elected in 1894. Three years later he was re-elected to the office, so that he is the present incumbent. For two years he was president of the County Commissioners' Association of Ohio, filling the office in 1898-9, its sessions being held in Toledo and Dayton in those years. From the time he attained his majority down to the present Mr. Battefeld has never wavered in his allegiance to Democracy. He was a delegate to the national convention held in Kansas City in 1900 from the thirteenth congressional district of Ohio, and has been chairman of the county central committee of the Democracy for the past eight years, filling that position at the present time. For five years prior he was also a member of the committee and he has frequently been a delegate to congressional and state conventions, where his opinions carry weight in the councils of his party.

Mr. Battefeld was united in marriage, in Bucyrus, to Miss Phillipina Krebs, a daughter of Frederick Adair and Christina (Weibel) Krebs, who came from Rhine, Bavaria, to the United States in 1852, and located in Liberty township, Crawford county, upon a farm, where they remained until called to the home beyond. The only child of Mr. and Mrs. Battefeld is Lewis P. They lost a daughter, Cordelia S., who died in 1886. The son is a graduate of the high school of Bucyrus, of the class of 1887, and is now carrying on the business established by his father. He manufactures brick and terra cotta and employs about twenty workmen, making shipments to various towns in Ohio. He is a member of the blue lodge and chapter of the Masonic fraternity, and, like his father, is a stalwart Democrat.

Socially Mr. Battefeld, whose name introduces this record, is connected with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and in the latter he has filled all of the offices. He also belongs to the English Lutheran church. His business affairs were ever so conducted as to gain for him a constantly increasing patronage. He was at all times strictly reliable, and his integrity, combined with his keen discrimination and capable management, won him a high degree of success, so that he is now enabled to rest in an honorable retirement from the active cares and duties of business life. Always courteous and genial, he possesses a social disposition that well fits him for the part he has taken in political affairs. The high esteem in which he is held speaks better than words can do as to his character as a man and a citizen.

#### MICHAEL SIEFERT.

Michael Siefert, who is proprietor of a warehouse and has other property interests in New Washington, is one of the oldest of the pioneer settlers of Cranberry township, where he now lives. Throughout the years of his residence in this county he has been known as a progressive and wide-awake citizen. He was born in Stark county, Ohio, October 8, 1830, and is a son of John and Salome (Lantz) Siefert. The father of our subject was born in Alsace, France, now a part of Germany, in 1803, and was there reared to farm life. His father, John Siefert, emigrated to America with his wife and seven children in the year 1827, landing at New York city after a voyage of twenty-seven days. Making his way westward, he came through the canal to Stark county, where a location was secured, the father purchasing forty acres of land, upon which he spent his remaining days. The same year of their arrival John Siefert was married and located in Stark county, where he operated one farm of forty acres, conducting this on the shares for six years.

In 1834 he came to Crawford county and entered a farm of eighty acres, one mile northwest of New Washington. Upon this tract of land he built a log cabin sixteen by eighteen feet, and soon his family were installed in their new home. The farm was all covered with a dense growth of timber and the Indians in the neighborhood were far more numerous than the white settlers, but that year several white families took up their abode in the vicinity of the Siefert farm. The father of our subject cleared his land and purchased thirty acres adjoining, developing a valuable property, upon which he

resided until the time of his death, which occurred in 1859. His wife, who was born in Alsace, France, in 1804, came to this country with her parents on the same vessel on which her future husband made the voyage, and the Lantz family also located in Stark county. Mrs. Siefert survived until 1863, when she, too, was called to her final rest. Six children were born of their union, but only two of the number are now living, namely: Michael and Anna, the latter the wife of John Schemley, of New Washington.

Michael Siefert spent the days of his childhood in his parents' home, and to the common-school system of the neighborhood he is indebted for the educational privileges which he enjoyed. On the 19th of October, 1854, he started out upon an independent business career, going to Eaton Rapids, Michigan, where he worked in a hotel until the 23d of December following, then returning to his home. On the 29th of January, 1856, he married Miss Christine Hofsisz, a native of Baden, Germany, who was born August 12, 1834, and came to America in 1854 with her mother and step-father, who settled in Crawford county.

After their marriage our subject and his wife took up their abode upon the old family homestead, which he cultivated on the shares until the death of his mother. He then purchased the interests of the other heirs and subsequently added a tract of twenty-five acres. Later he purchased seven other farms, making judicious investments in real estate as his financial resources were increased. However, he has since sold all of this with the exception of a tract of thirty acres, one mile east of New Washington, and the home farm. In 1879 he purchased the warehouse at New Washington, which he still owns, and he also has his present town residence and three other dwellings here, the rental from which materially increases his income. He took up his abode in New Washington in 1882 and his attention has since been largely given to the management of his invested interests.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Siefert has been blessed with fourteen children, of whom nine are yet living, namely: Jacob, a resident farmer of Wyandot county, Ohio; Caroline, the wife of John Knodel, of New Washington, Ohio; George, of New Washington; William, who operates the home farm; Anna, wife of Frederick Michelfelder, a shoe dealer of New Washington; John, also of New Washington; Clara, wife of George Sheets; Emma, who married Art Donnenwirth, a telegraph operator of Waldo, Ohio; and Frederick, with his parents in New Washington.

Mr. Siefert gives his political support to the Republican party and keeps well informed on the issues of the day, but has never sought or desired office,

preferring to give his attention to his business affairs, in which he has met with very creditable success, his labors bringing to him a handsome competence, so that now he is enabled to enjoy an honorable retirement. For more than sixty years he has been a witness of the growth of the county, having watched its development from early pioneer days.

### JACOB SHEETZ.

The history of a state, as well as that of a nation, is chiefly the chronicles of the lives and deeds of those who have conferred honor and dignity upon society. The world judges the character of a community by those of its representative citizens, and yields its tribute of admiration and respect for the genius or learning or virtues of those whose works and actions constitute the record of a state's prosperity and pride, and it is this record that offers for our consideration the history of men, who in their characters for probity and benevolence and the kindly virtues, as well as for integrity in the affairs of life, are ever affording to the young worthy examples for their regard and emulation. Therefore it is proper that a just celebrity be given to those men who are distinguished in their day and generation, that the living may enjoy the approbation of their contemporaries, as well as that of a grateful posterity.

Jacob Sheetz certainly deserves mention among the representative men of Crawford county. He stands at the head of the firm of Jacob Sheetz & Brother, bankers and merchants, and the influence of his business activity is widely and beneficially felt. He was born in New Washington September 23, 1843, being one of the six children of John A. and Margaret (Domnenwirth) Sheetz. As the name indicates the family is of German lineage. The father of our subject was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, December 3, 1809, and in 1824, when only twenty-one years of age, crossed the Atlantic to the new world in company with an older sister. After landing in New York city they made their way to Ohio, locating in Columbiana county, where they took up their abode. For some years the father of our subject was employed as a farm hand and at various occupations which would yield him an honest living, receiving but six dollars per month in the first capacity. His sister having married and removed to Crawford county, he determined to go to Dayton, where he secured employment in a livery stable. He was very fond of horses and prospered in this new line of business. About 1830 he came to Crawford county to visit his sister, and, being pleased with the



locality, determined to remain. Therefore he purchased ninety acres of land in Auburn township, which tract includes the present site of the village of Waynesburg. He erected a log cabin, planted an orchard and began the task of clearing his land and cultivating crops. He was three times married. His first wife was Miss Margaret Weisenbacher, whom he wedded in Dayton, in May, 1836; but after a short married life she died, in July of the same year. Subsequently (October, 1837) he was joined in wedlock to Miss Margaret Weaver, of Auburn township, Crawford county, and this union was blessed with one child, Catherine Agetta, now the wife of William H. Donnenwirth, a resident farmer of Stark county, Ohio. The second wife lived but a little more than a year, and about 1842 John A. Sheetz wedded Mrs. Margaret Hesse, the widow of Ehregott Hesse and a daughter of George Donnenwirth. She was a native of Alsace, Germany. Her father emigrated to America about 1829, locating in Stark county, Ohio, whence he came to Crawford county, taking up his abode in Cranberry township, three miles northwest of New Washington, where he resided until his death. In early womanhood his daughter Margaret became the wife of Ehregott Hesse, a merchant of New Washington, and after the death of her first husband she carried on the business until her marriage to Mr. Sheetz, when he took up his abode in the town and assumed the management of the business, conducting the same until his death, which occurred December 7, 1889. The Democracy received his political support, but he never sought office as a reward for public service. He was, however, the first postmaster of New Washington, and for several years prior to the establishment of the post-office at this place he walked once each week to a point four miles west of the town in order to meet the stage and get the mail for the people residing in this locality. As an accommodation for his business patrons and his fellow townsmen residing in this locality he continued to act as postmaster for many years. By his third marriage Mr. Sheetz had six children, four of whom are yet living, namely: John H., a banker and merchant, who is in partnership with his brother; Louisa P., wife of John M. Guiss, of New Washington; Jacob, of this review; and Caroline, now the wife of John L. Assenheimer, a lumber dealer and contractor of Bucyrus.

Jacob Sheetz had the refining influences of a good home and the advantages of educational privileges in his youth. Having pursued his education in the common schools, he supplemented his preliminary course by study in the Bucyrus high school, in DeKalb College and in a private institution of learning in Cleveland. From his sixteenth year he worked upon his father's

farm during the summer months, becoming familiar with all of the duties that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. Later, however, his father insisted upon his entering the store, and when he was nineteen years of age he took his place behind the counters, there serving as a clerk. He soon manifested superior aptitude for business, and six months later he had complete charge of the enterprise. In less than a year the bills were made out in the name of John A. Sheetz & Son, although this was unauthorized by a business partnership. In 1866, however, our subject purchased a half interest in the store, and in 1874 his brother, John H., purchased the father's interest, and the firm of Jacob Sheetz & Brother has since carried on operations. Not long afterward our subject established the Farmers Exchange Bank, under the name of the John A. Sheetz Company. Both branches of his business have contributed in a considerable measure to the general prosperity of the community, and at the same time have returned an excellent revenue to the partners.

On the 17th of October, 1867, Mr. Sheetz was married to Miss Elizabeth A. Guiss, a native of Cranberry township and a daughter of Abraham Guiss, one of the prominent farmers of the community, now deceased. He was a native of Columbiana county, Ohio. This marriage has been blessed with three children: Ada M., the eldest, is the wife of John Seifert, proprietor of an elevator at New Washington; George W., who is a graduate of the New Washington high school and of the Spencerian Business College, of Cleveland, Ohio, is now attending the Ohio State University, preparing himself for the practice of law; and Emma L., the youngest, is also a graduate of the high school of New Washington and is now the wife of Martin L. Belser, D. D., of Ann Arbor, Michigan.

In his political affiliations our subject is a Democrat, and for ten or more years has served as a member of the town council, exercising his official prerogatives in support of all measures for the public good. For fifteen years he has served on the school board and was one of its members when the present school building was erected. He holds membership in the Lutheran church, and was one of its trustees, serving on the finance committee when the present church edifice was built. He is one of the most public-spirited and progressive citizens of the county, and has contributed in a large measure to the upbuilding and improvement of this part of the state. When he became a member of the mercantile firm of which he is now at the head he assumed an indebtedness of three thousand, seven hundred and fifty dollars. The year following he erected a residence and thus increased his indebtedness, but

in a short time, owing to his capable business methods and management, he was enabled to pay off all obligations and has continually added to his wealth. He is a man of whom the most envious can scarcely grudge success, so well has he earned it, so admirably does he use it, so entirely does he lack pride of purse. He is kind, unaffected and approachable, and every comer has a claim upon his courteous attention. There has been nothing sensational in his career, every step has been thoughtfully and deliberately made and every advance has been at the cost of hard and self-denying labor. Born to lead, his great experience makes him a safe counselor and guide. He stands to-day in his mature years a strong man, strong in the consciousness of well-spent years, strong to plan and perform, strong in his credit and good name and a worthy example for young men to pattern after.

THOMAS H. B. CLUTTER, M. D.

A prominent physician and the oldest practitioner of Crestline in years of continuous connection with the medical profession in this place is Dr. T. H. B. Clutter, who was born in Washington county, Pennsylvania, August 2, 1841, and is a son of J. P. Clutter, who was also a native of the same county. He was a farmer by occupation, and died in Washington county, Pennsylvania, at the ripe old age of eighty years. His father, John Clutter, was a native of New Jersey and served as teamster in the Revolutionary war, enlisting for service at the age of seventeen years. The paternal great-grandfather, who was also named John Clutter, was also a defender of the nation, serving in the army for seven years and was paid for his services in continental money, and some of this money yet remains in the family.

A native of Germany, he came to America when a young man and took up his abode in Washington county, Pennsylvania, his being the first family to settle west of the Alleghany mountains. Their home was in the midst of the deep forest. The settlements were afterward made and these early pioneers were frequently called upon to fight with the Indians, and a number of the white settlers were massacred by the red men. John Clutter, the great-grandfather, was a well known Indian fighter and a great hunter, and lived to be ninety years of age, his being a family noted for longevity. The maternal ancestors of our subject were of German and French blood. The grandfather, James Andrews, was a native of New Jersey, but was of German lineage, and his people had located in Washington county, Pennsylvania, among its pioneer settlers. He married a Miss Van Vorhees, who



*Thos. H. Butter*





was of French lineage. She was born in New Jersey and was educated in the English schools, being able to speak both English and French fluently. The maternal great-grandmother of Mr. Clutter belonged to the Blackburn family, and she, too, was a native of New Jersey. The Clutter and Andrews families were united by the marriage of J. P. Clutter and Margaret Andrews, a native of Washington county, Pennsylvania. They became the parents of seven children,—five sons and two daughters. All of the sons reached manhood and with but one exception are yet living; but the daughters died in infancy. The mother passed away at the age of seventy years. Her son Samuel is now living in Akron, Ohio. John P. resides in Washington county, Pennsylvania, and Robert M. is a resident of Waynesburg, Pennsylvania.

The Doctor, who was the second son and third in order of birth in his parents' family, spent his youth in Washington county, Pennsylvania, where he pursued his education in the district schools. In 1861, when twenty years of age, he came to Crestline and began the study of medicine with Drs. A. and A. E. Jenner, under whose direction he continued his reading for five years. In the meantime he attended lectures at Starling Medical College, and was thus well equipped by broad learning for his professional duties. He began practice in Leesville, Crawford county, in 1867, and there remained until 1888, when he located in Crestline, where he has since successfully followed his chosen calling. He was graduated in the Columbus Medical College, with the class of 1879, and has always continued his close study of his profession, his reading and investigation keeping him abreast with the most advanced thought of the times. In addition to his practice he is interested in the First National Bank of Crestline, of which he is a director.

The Doctor was twice married. In 1867 he married Miss Joanna Day, a native of Washington county, Pennsylvania, born June 15, 1842. After her death he was again married, on the 15th of November, 1896, his second union being with Miss Ida Mapes, of Bucyrus, who came to Ohio from Pennsylvania.

The Doctor is a Democrat in his political affiliations, and at all times takes a very active part in political affairs, attending conventions and doing all in his power to promote the growth and success of his party. He has also served in the city council and on the school board, and takes a deep and abiding interest in everything pertaining to the welfare, progress and substantial upbuilding of his community. Of the Masonic fraternity he is a very prominent member, having attained the thirty-second degree of the Scottish Rite. He is also connected with the Ancient Arabic Order of the

Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. The success which attends his efforts is but in natural sequence, for his position soon became assured as an able physician, a man of sterling integrity and one devoted to his profession and to the interests and welfare of those to whom he ministered. He possesses marked judgment and discernment in the diagnosing of disease, and is peculiarly successful in anticipating the prognosis of complications, seldom making a mistake and never exaggerating or minifying the disease in rendering his decisions in regard thereto. He is a physician of great fraternal delicacy, and no man ever observed more closely the ethics of the unwritten professional code or showed more careful courtesy to his fellow practitioners than does Dr. Clutter.

#### REV. NATHANIEL J. HADLEY.

Rev. Nathaniel J. Hadley, pastor of the Christ English Lutheran church, was born in Mahoning county, just south of the Western Reserve line, November 17, 1866, the son of prosperous parents whose home was on a farm. After attending the district schools the son took a course in Poland Union Seminary, which in its day was one of Ohio's most famous preparatory institutions. Among others who have there fitted themselves for more advanced educational work is President William McKinley. Mr. Hadley's course was an intermittent one, and in the intervals between the periods of study he engaged in teaching. He later entered the Northeastern Ohio Normal College, also a well patronized institution in the Western Reserve, its location being Canfield, Mahoning county. Subsequently he matriculated in Wittenberg College and was graduated at that institution with the degree of Bachelor of Arts in 1891. In the fall of the same year he entered Wittenberg Theological Seminary and on the completion of the three-years course the degree of Bachelor of Divinity was conferred upon him. The same year his alma mater bestowed upon him the degree of Master of Arts.

Immediately afterward, in the fall of 1894, he was ordained as a minister of the gospel by the Wittenberg synod at Bellefontaine, having been licensed to preach the gospel by the same religious authority the previous year. In fact, while in his senior year he had been called upon and had supplied several pulpits in the absence of the regular pastors, one of which he supplied for five months. In May, 1894, Rev. Mr. Hadley took charge of his first congregation at West Liberty, Logan county, a town of about fifteen hundred population. There he remained in successful and harmonious relations with

his flock until called to the broader field over which he now watches in Galion. This was on March 15, 1898.

Rev. Mr. Hadley's work in Galion has been of a nature that well illustrates the force of character of the man, convincing the greatly increased congregation that they were fortunate in choosing him as their spiritual adviser and pastor. Young and energetic, he went to work with a will, wiped out an indebtedness and established the church organization on a basis which has added to its power and influence. In numbers the congregation has greatly increased, and its progress and development has been so marked as to attract the attention of churches in larger cities. When in Logan county he was president of the County Christian Endeavor Union and during his incumbency in the office the county had the distinction of winning the banner offered by the State Association for the best organization and for the progress and work of the year. Since accepting his pastorate in Galion Rev. Hadley has served for one term at the head of the Crawford County Christian Endeavor Union. Rev. Hadley has been president of the Ministers' Union of Galion and at present is the secretary of the Wittenberg Synod. He is also editing an eight-page parish paper entitled the "Lutheran Visitor."

In 1895 he was united in the holy bonds of matrimony to Miss Myrtle Bowsher, who had taken a select course at Wittenberg College and was previously a teacher in the public schools of Millersburg, Ohio, where her parents reside, her father being a prominent merchant of that place. Mrs. Hadley is a lady of superior intelligence and culture and is of great assistance to her husband in the exercise of the high functions of his holy calling.

#### CHRIST'S ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH.

Christ's English Lutheran church of Galion, Ohio, had its beginning in the summer of 1831 when the Rev. John Stough on the invitation of some Lutheran and Reformed church families came to Galion. He at once organized a united church, composed of the two denominations and served the congregation as pastor for five years, when on account of the infirmities of age he was compelled to resign. During his ministry he added to the church through instruction and confirmation forty-three members. He was succeeded by the Rev. Mr. Lower of the Lutheran church and then followed three pastors of the German Reformed church in succession. About this time the united congregation built a church edifice on the southeast corner of Church and Union streets. During the existence of the united congrega-

tion the Rev. Solomon Ritz, George Leiter and F. J. Ruth of the Lutheran church occasionally preached in the English language. About 1841 the united church separated, the German Lutherans and the German Reformed people each building a church of their own, while those who preferred the services in the English language bought the old church property, organized an English Lutheran church and secured as their pastor the Rev. J. B. Hoffman. The immediate succeeding pastors were Revs. Andrew Kuhn, J. Crouse, E. Eastman and I. Culler. Of these pastorates very little can now be learned save that Rev. Andrew Kuhn served the congregation for nearly four years, during which time nearly sixty-one members were added to the church. The choice of a successor to Rev. Kuhn resulted in a division of the church. There were two candidates for the position. The friends of the defeated candidate were dissatisfied and a number withdrew from the church and united with other denominations. Rev. Crouse was the successful candidate and remained as pastor for two years and nine months, during which time he was only able to add seven members owing to the inharmonious condition of the congregation. In September, 1851, Wittenberg synod in its session at Bucyrus arranged the church of the synod into pastorates. By this act the Galion pastorate was composed of the following named churches: Galion, New Castle, Leesville and Lost Creek. In April, 1852, the Rev. J. F. Ruth became the pastor of this new charge. He found the Galion church small in membership but composed of faithful and pious people. This congregation received one service every two weeks. Rev. Ruth continued as pastor until April, 1861. During the nine years of his service here seventy-five persons were received as members of this congregation.

Rev. Ruth was succeeded by Rev. J. Stover, whose pastorate continued two years and nine months, during which time the membership was increased by twenty-one, but the church largely felt the depressing influences of the Civil war. In March, 1864, Rev. J. F. Ruth was recalled to Galion and served this charge until 1870. The old church edifice had become dangerous and for nearly two years the congregation worshipped in the Baptist church. During this time an effort was made to buy a lot and erect a new house of worship. The work progressed and the new church was dedicated in February, 1869. The indebtedness of the church was fully covered by subscriptions but as there was a shrinkage in the collection the church was left in debt. The membership was increased by thirty-eight during the second pastorate of Rev. Ruth.

During the fall of 1869 some of the members, enjoying their new church



home and recognizing a good opportunity for building up a strong English Lutheran church in this growing city, desired to be separated from the rest of the charge and employ a pastor to devote his entire time to the congregation. This was accomplished during the following year. Rev. Ruth continued as the pastor of the remainder of the charge and the Rev. H. B. Miller was invited to become the pastor of Christ's English Lutheran church.

On the 1st of January, 1871, Rev. Miller took charge of the congregation and on the 29th of the same month organized it under the name of Christ's Evangelical Lutheran church of Galion. There were about fifty-six members. Rev. Miller continued as pastor until 1876, during which time he received one hundred and seventeen members into the church, but lost by letter, removal and excommunications fifty-three, thus leaving a net gain of sixty-four. At the end of his pastorate the church membership was one hundred and twenty. His successor, the Rev. E. W. Souders, served the congregation from July, 1876, until July, 1881, and at the close of this pastorate the church had one hundred and fifty-three members. He was succeeded by the Rev. C. S. Ernsberger, who took charge November 13, 1881, and continued as pastor until January 1, 1891, during which time there were two hundred and forty-seven new members received, but by letter and otherwise one hundred and forty-three left the church, its membership being two hundred and fifty-seven at the close of his pastoral service here. By the 1st of October, 1882, he had also liquidated a debt of ten hundred and fifty dollars and during 1884 and 1885 the church was repaired at a cost of fifty-seven hundred dollars, the repairs consisting of the building of a Sunday-school annex and the remodeling of the auditorium. The church also made great advancement along all the lines of church work.

From the 1st of April, 1891, until September 1, 1893, the Rev. James K. Argo was pastor, and during that time the church membership was increased by sixty-six, though death, removal and other causes reduced the net gain to thirty-nine, and the church indebtedness was decreased from ten hundred and seventy dollars to three hundred and twenty-five. On the 1st of December, 1893, Rev. M. Colver became pastor of the church, then numbering three hundred and seventeen members, but though eighty-eight people were received into the church by him the net gain was only twenty-eight. He remained until December 1, 1897.

The present pastor Rev. N. J. Hadley, assumed charge March 15, 1898, at which time there were found by careful examination only three hundred and eighteen names upon the church record. There have been received up to



the present time (October 1, 1901) one hundred and thirty-one new members, but lost by death, letter and otherwise forty-seven, leaving a net gain of eighty-four, thus making the present membership four hundred and two. The average attendance at the Sunday-school in the beginning of this pastorate was eighty-seven and at the present time is one hundred and sixty; the Christian Endeavor society has thirty members and the Women's Home and Foreign Missionary Society is meeting every demand made upon it by the general society. The indebtedness of the church, which was composed of the deficit on the current expenses, was one thousand dollars. This amount was canceled during the first year of his pastorate. The church has been repaired, including repainting, papering and carpentering at a cost of between four and five hundred dollars, all of which has been paid for and the church is free from debt. Thus far during this pastorate there have been fifty-three funerals conducted, fifty children baptized and thirty-one marriages solemnized.

#### CHARLES VOLLRATH.

The subject of this sketch is a native of Saxony, Germany, born May 16, 1835, a son of Gottlieb and Fredericke (Meissner) Vollrath. He attended the schools of his native land seven years, and came to this country with his father's family, which lived the first year in Rochester, New York, and in May of 1849 came to Bucyrus. Here Charles Vollrath learned the carpenter's trade and followed it till 1855, when he became interested in a planing-mill, a business in which he prospered for years.

March 23, 1858, he married Elizabeth Hocker, a native of Baden, Germany, born in June of 1831.

#### JAMES R. HOMER.

In the following record will be given the history of the busy and useful career of a distinguished resident of Galion, who as a citizen, a leading business man and a soldier has ever done his duty without fear and without reproach, with an eye single to the greatest good to the greatest number. He has been honored by election to public office and is now filling the position of mayor in a most acceptable manner. He is a man of keen discrimination, sound judgment, and his executive ability and excellent management have been a great benefit to the city of which he is now the municipal head.



*J R Homer*



He has made his home in Galion since 1854, and throughout this long period he has been the promoter of many movements and measures for the general welfare and advancement of the material progress of the community.

James Rodolphus Homer is a native of the Pine Tree state, his birth having occurred in Monson, Maine, on the 7th of April, 1833. His father, William Hoar, was a native of Monson, Massachusetts, and died in the year 1870, when more than sixty years of age. His wife bore the maiden name of Betsy Goodel and she, too, was born in Monson, Massachusetts, but died in Monson, Maine, in 1897, when she had almost attained the age of ninety years. Their son, James R. Homer, spent the period of his boyhood and youth in his father's home and pursued his education in the schools of his native city, also spending one winter in the city of Monson, Massachusetts. He had but one brother and no sisters. His brother, Henry Homer, died at Monson, Maine, leaving two sons, who reside at the old homestead, from which place is taken the famous Monson slate. The subject of this review was about eighteen years of age when, in 1851, he left home and started out to make his own way in the world. In 1854 he emigrated westward and became identified with the interests of Crawford county as a resident of Galion. Here he secured employment in a foundry, being thus engaged until after the inauguration of the Civil war, when he put aside all personal and business interests in order to aid his country in the preservation of the Union. His patriotic spirit was aroused, and in August, 1862, he joined Company E, of the One Hundred and First Ohio Volunteer Infantry, which company was organized at Galion. He entered the service as a private, but was promoted from time to time until he was made first lieutenant, and as such had command of his company. The regiment was attached to the Army of the Cumberland, and with that great military force he participated in the engagements at Perryville, Stone River and Chickamauga, the last named being a continuous engagement of many days. Subsequently he took part in the Atlanta campaign, and though under fire for one hundred days he was never wounded or injured in the slightest degree. Always found at the post of duty, he was brave and loyal in his efforts to protect the old flag and with a most honorable military record he returned to his home, the blue uniform being a badge of honor.

In Galion Mr. Homer worked at his trade, and in 1869 he embarked in business on his own account, purchasing a half interest in the foundry owned by A. C. Squier, the relationship being continued almost without a break for about twenty-nine years, and was then terminated by the death of Mr. Squier.

who passed away on the 4th of April, 1896. Since that time Mr. Homer has been alone in business, and is now sole proprietor of the enterprise with which he has been so long identified. That it has been attended with success is indicated by its long continuance as an active factor in the industrial circles of Galion. Its patronage has steadily increased in volume and importance, and as a result Mr. Homer has acquired a good income.

In 1857 was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Homer and Miss Jane E. Nave, of Galion, who came from Pennsylvania to Crawford county with her parents, both of whom died here. The Naves were pioneer farmers of Polk township. Her brother, Sol P. Nave, was one of the first postmasters of Galion, and his son, the Rev. Orvill Nave, is now a chaplain in the regular army. He spent fourteen years in producing a topical Bible, which has recently been published and which is now meeting with an excellent sale. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Homer have been born two children, the son, Charles O., is a graduate of the high school of Galion, and is now interested in the Building & Loan Association. He married Miss Lewis, of Galion, a daughter of the late George F. Lewis, who died in this city in 1897. Charles O. and Minnie Homer now have two children: James Lewis and Lucile, aged, respectively, five and two years. The daughter of the family, Lulu Belle, is a graduate of the high school, and for seven years successfully taught in the public schools of this city.

Mr. Homer has ever taken a deep and commendable interest in everything pertaining to the welfare and progress of his adopted town, and has been honored with several positions of public trust. On his forty-sixth birthday he was elected mayor of Galion, which at that time contained a population of about three thousand, he being the first mayor chosen under the new city charter, which was obtained in 1879. He served for one term, and then, after an interval of twenty years, he was again elected to the same position, taking the office April 7, 1899, on the sixty-sixth anniversary of his birth. He is now the present incumbent and capably handles the reins of the city government. He exercises his official prerogatives in support of many movements of reform and improvement. For four terms he has been a member of the city council, having first been elected to that office in 1862, while his last term was in 1896. For eight years he was a member of the school board and labored earnestly for the advancement of the educational interests. He is identified with the Republican party, the principles of which he warmly advocates and is untiring in his labors for the promotion of its success.



Mr. Homer is prominent in social circles, being identified with various fraternal organizations. He became the first commander of Dick Morris Post, G. A. R., of Galion, and has ever manifested an abiding interest in the organization whereby he retains a pleasant relationship with his old army comrades. A prominent Mason, he belongs to the blue lodge, chapter, council and commandery, and has attained the thirty-second degree of the Scottish Rite, in the consistory of Cleveland, Ohio. He has passed all of the chairs in the blue lodge and has served as worthy master. In his life he has exemplified the benevolent spirit of the fraternity, which inculcates among its members principles of mutual helpfulness. The family attend the services of the Episcopal church. In all life's relations Mr. Homer has won the confidence and respect of his fellow townsmen. He is public spirited to a degree that renders him a very helpful citizen and he is held in the highest esteem by people of all classes and of all shades of political and religious belief.

#### DAVID E. NEFF.

As a thorough and successful farmer, an excellent neighbor and a highly respected citizen David E. Neff enjoys the esteem of the community in which he lives, and is regarded as a representative citizen of Liberty township. His birth was in Hepburn township, Lycoming county, Pennsylvania, on September 17, 1825, a son of John Michael and Christina (Wagner) Neff, and he was one of a family of eight children, the three survivors being David E.; Christina, a maiden lady living with her brother Joseph; and Joseph, a farmer in Holmes township.

John Michael Neff, the father of our subject, was born in the town of Mahrenjen, Wurtemberg, Germany, in 1783, a son of Michael and Catherine (Groff) Neff, both of whom died in Germany, after rearing a family of six sons and one daughter. These sons were all of fine physique, all of them except John Michael being over six feet in stature. Two of them, Lorentz and Frederick, during the German war with France were chosen, on account of their fine appearance, as members of the king's body guard at the battle of Leipsic. In 1818 our subject's father, with his own family and three brothers, Lorentz, Abraham and John, emigrated to America. At that time the trip was a long and wearisome one. They took a flatboat from their home and came down the river Rhine on it to Amsterdam, and there embarked on a sailing vessel, the Susan, and added their number to the three hundred

passengers already on board. Before sailing two deaths occurred, but there were none later on the voyage: on the contrary there were two births, one of these being a son born to our subject's parents, when in sight of land, and he was piously named Gottlobe, the meaning of the name being Praise God. As the voyage had consumed eighty-six days, seventy-six of these being without sight of land, the joy and thankfulness over its ending was universal, and perhaps no one rejoiced more than did John, who had been hidden in a barrel of household effects.

The destination of the family was Lycoming county, Pennsylvania, and there they settled. The father was thrice married, his first wife and her infant died together. It was the wife of the second marriage that made the voyage with him, and she bore four children, all of whom are deceased. The mother of our subject, Christina Wagner, was the third wife. She was born in the same locality as the father, and was a daughter of John and Christina (Herdtnack) Wagner. The paternal grandparents of Mrs. Neff came to America on the same vessel with Mr. Neff, and were in very limited circumstances. Having a family of seven children, Christina and her sister Dorothy were bound out, after landing, to a family in Philadelphia, to work out their passage, and at the expiration of three years Christina was married to our subject's father and became the former's estimable mother. An uncle of Mrs. Neff occupied the position of veterinary surgeon to the king of Wurtemberg. In Germany the Wagner family at one time had been prosperous, but unfortunate times came and they also came to America to repair their fortunes and settled in Lycoming county.

With his brother Abraham, John Michael Neff bought one hundred and twenty acres of land in Hepburn township, each taking sixty acres, and both added to their estates in later years, the father owning at one time one hundred and twelve acres. After the death of his second wife he walked to Philadelphia to bring back with him the bright girl he remembered so well, and with her as his bride returned to the farm, through ten inches of snow. By trade he was a potter, and he established a pottery on his estate, but the country was too sparsely settled to make this pay. Here he lived, and died on April 21, 1841.

Our subject grew up on his father's farm in Pennsylvania and received his education in the common schools, in the German language, and for six weeks received instruction in English, after he was twenty-one years of age. At the age of eighteen he apprenticed himself to the cabinet-making trade, in Williamsport, Pennsylvania, and remained until he was a finished workman.

In April, 1848, he took passage on a canal boat to Philadelphia, being able to work for his passage, as the owner of the boat was a friend, and he soon found employment in Philadelphia, at his trade, following it there for fifteen months, at the expiration of which time he returned to Williamsport.

In 1851 Mr. Neff took a trip to Crawford county, Ohio, with his brother John, who was returning to Ohio with his bride, this being a pleasant excursion of sixteen days in an old prairie schooner. He spent the winter in Crawford county, returning to Williamsport in the following June, but in the spring of 1858, as his health seemed impaired, he removed with his wife and two children to Crawford county, in order to be again with other members of his family. His mother, with his brothers Jonathan and Joseph, with three sisters, had moved to this locality the previous year. Our subject lived with the family eight years. They had purchased two hundred acres of land and our subject worked with them in Holmes township and assisted in paying for it. In the spring of 1866 he purchased his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres and removed to it, where he has ever since resided, engaged in developing and operating this fine property.

The marriage of Mr. Neff was on September 7, 1854, to Miss Mary Wise, a native of Lycoming county and the daughter of Jacob Wise, also a native of Pennsylvania, who with his wife, Mary Magdalene (Ott) Wise, were of German extraction. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Neff numbered four, these being Henry E., living at Ada, Ohio; Ellen M., deceased; Charles J., the farmer on the home farm; and Louisa, deceased.

In politics Mr. Neff has been for many years a staunch supporter of the Republican party, although his first vote was cast for a Democratic candidate. His family belongs to the English Lutheran church, which he also attends and to which he gives liberal support. The social standing of the family in Liberty township is high, and Mr. Neff is well known as a liberal-minded and most estimable citizen who enjoys the respect of all with whom he has either business or other relations.

#### WILLIAM A. BLICKE.

The history of a community as well as that of a nation is chiefly the chronicle of the lives and deeds of those who have conferred honor and dignity upon society. The world judges the character of a community by that of its representative citizens, and yields its tribute of admiration and respect for the genius, learning or virtues of those whose works and actions constitute the

record of a state's prosperity and pride; and it is in their character, as exemplified in probity and benevolence, kindly virtues and integrity in the affairs of life, they are ever affording worthy examples for emulation and valuable lessons of incentive.

Mr. Blicke, who is now acting as cashier of the Bucyrus City Bank and who through almost two decades has been connected with this institution, was born in Bucyrus, April 4, 1866, his parents being Frank and Theressa (Voll-rath) Blicke. The father was born May 6, 1836, in the town of Nice, Germany, and between the ages of seven and sixteen years pursued his education in the public schools there, receiving good mental discipline. In the year 1860 he determined to try his fortune in America and crossed the briny deep to the new world. After landing in New York he made his way westward to Bucyrus, where he began merchandising, conducting a store for twenty-five years with signal success. His trade grew with the increase of population and his business brought to him an excellent financial return. He carried on operations along that line until 1898, when, with a handsome competence, he retired to private life to enjoy the fruits of his former toil. He is now living in his adopted city, surrounded by many of the comforts and luxuries of life, and enjoying the esteem of many warm friends. His fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, have called him to public office, and from 1888 until 1892 he served as county treasurer. He was also the treasurer of Bucyrus township for several terms, was city treasurer for four years and for a number of terms was a member of the city council. His public duties have ever been discharged with promptness and fidelity, and the record of his service is one worthy of the highest commendation. His wife resides with him in their pleasant home in Bucyrus, and they have two daughters,—Carry M. and Lulu M., who are still under the parental roof.

The boyhood days of William A. Blicke were spent in a manner usual to lads of the period. He enjoyed the pleasures of the play-ground and devoted considerable time to the duties of the schoolroom. In 1879 he entered the county recorder's office, where he served as deputy for a year and a half, and on the expiration of that period he entered the Monnett Bank, now the Bucyrus City Bank, in the capacity of bookkeeper and assistant cashier, filling the dual position in a most acceptable manner. On the 1st of January, 1901, he was elected cashier, and is now acting in that capacity. He is thoroughly familiar with banking, and his close application, energy and creditable business methods have been potent factors in securing the success of the institution which he represents. His labors have not been confined to one line, for in

1884 he organized the W. A. Blicke Fire, Life & Accident Insurance Agency, which is still one of the leading insurance organizations in the county. He has been auditor of the People's Savings Loan & Building Company since its organization in 1889, and has capably controlled these various interests.

The marriage of Mr. Blicke was celebrated in 1889, Miss Antonia L. Mader, of Bucyrus, becoming his wife. The lady was a daughter of J. G. Mader, a director of the Bucyrus City Bank. She died in 1891, leaving one son, Frederick F., who is now in school. In 1901 Mr. Blicke married Nelle A. Hall, daughter of Joseph Hall, postmaster of Bucyrus. Mr. Blicke is connected with Demas Lodge, No. 108, K. P., and Bucyrus Lodge, No. 156, B. P. O. E., and of the latter is trustee. He also belongs to the German Lutheran church. In 1888 he was elected city clerk of Bucyrus and filled the position for a term of twelve years. His entire life has been passed in the city which is yet his home, and the fact that those who have known him from boyhood are numbered among his warmest friends is an indication of an upright and honorable career. He has ever won the respect of his fellow men by his fidelity to duty and his worth as an individual is indicated by the warm esteem in which he is uniformly held.

#### CHARLES LAKE.

The history of Charles Lake forms an integral part of the annals of Crawford county, for he has been engaged in the jewelry business in Bucyrus for fifty years and is one of the most successful and enterprising merchants of the city. His life has been an evidence of the fact that ambition, enterprise and diligence can cope with an adverse fate and ultimately reach the goal of prosperity. He arrived in Bucyrus in 1852, and since that time he has advanced steadily toward prosperity and is to-day accounted one of the progressive, respected and well-to-do merchants of this portion of Ohio.

Mr. Lake was born April 20, 1838, in Chester, which was then the county seat of Meigs county, Ohio. His father, Joseph Lake, removed from Hartford, Connecticut, to the Buckeye state in 1800. He was then a young man desiring of improving his financial condition in the west. He secured a tract of land, cleared and improved it and developed it into a fine farm. He married Eliza Cassell, who was of Scotch descent and came to the Buckeye state from Hartford, Connecticut. Their son, Charles, was reared in the county of his nativity, pursued his education in the public schools there and learned the jeweler's trade in Cincinnati, Ohio. He came to Crawford county



from the vicinity of Pomeroy, Meigs county. On arriving in Bucyrus he opened a jewelry store, and his close attention to business and honorable methods have enabled him to command a liberal share of the public patronage and therefore enjoys a large and constantly increasing trade and a good income. He carries a well selected stock of goods and his splendidly equipped store would be a credit to a city of much greater size than Bucyrus.

Mr. Lake was united in marriage to Miss Appalie Seiser, of Bucyrus, a daughter of William H. and Salome (Lozier) Seiser. The father came to Ohio from Germany with the Zoar colony. One daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Lake, Helen, who is now the wife of James Aylward, of Toledo, Ohio. They also lost a daughter, Fanny, and one son, Edwin, who died at the age of eight years. The mother was called to her final rest in December, 1890, at the age of forty-five years. In his political affiliations Mr. Lake is a Republican, earnestly advocating all measures of his party, believing that it contains the best element of good government. He is an attendant on the services of the Methodist Episcopal church and is a gentleman of scholarly attainments, his library being one of the important features of his pleasant home. From an early age his life has been one of ceaseless activity, and all that he has acquired is the reward of his own labors. He is a man of strong purpose and resolution and brooks no obstacles that can be overcome by determined and honorable effort, and it is these laudable qualities that led to his success. He justly merits the high regard in which he is held and his example should serve as a source of encouragement to others.

#### DANIEL W. LOCKE.

Holding marked prestige among the prominent members of the Bucyrus bar is Daniel Wheeler Locke, who has been successfully engaged in the practice of the legal profession since the 1st of October, 1879. There are few men whose lives are crowned with the honor and respect which is universally accorded him, and through twenty-one years' connection with the legal interests of the county his has been an unblemished character. With him success in life has been reached by sterling qualities of mind and a heart true to every manly principle. In his varied business interests his reputation has been unassailable, and in offices of public trust he has displayed a loyalty that has classed him among the valued citizens of the commonwealth. In the courts



DW Locke



of his district he displays strong mentality and a power of argument that has won for him many notable forensic victories.

Daniel W. Locke was born in Bucyrus September 25, 1858, his parents being Daniel Wheeler and Martina (Bodine) Locke. His paternal grandparents were John and Ruth (Saxon) Locke. The former was born in Woburn, Massachusetts, June 10, 1752, and died March 31, 1834, in Chocanut, Pennsylvania. He was one of fifty men who, disguised as Indians, threw the tea into the Boston harbor on the 16th of December, 1773, an act which has since become historic under the name of the Boston Tea Party. Opposed to the policy which Great Britain was pursuing toward her American colonies, he joined the Colonial army and was mustered into the service March 19, 1777, as a member of Captain Blodgett's Company and Colonel Enoch Poore's Regiment of New Hampshire troops. He marched with the company of Captain Melwich to the relief of Ticonderoga. In 1775 he had served as a minute man in Captain Parson's Company, and this proved an excellent training school for his later military service. In 1781 he was a member of a company commanded by Captain Thomas and attached to the New Hampshire Militia Regiment commanded by Colonel Renal. He was a loyal defender of the colonies, doing all in his power to secure independence for the republic.

Nathaniel Reed Locke, the grandfather of our subject, was born at Deerfield, Connecticut, in 1792, and after arriving at years of maturity he wedded Hester Ross, a daughter of Dr. William and Sophia (Merceran) Ross. Her mother was a daughter of Joshua Merceran, who served as aide-de-camp on the staff of General Washington on Long Island. Daniel Wheeler Locke, Sr., father of our subject, and a son of Nathaniel R. and Hester (Ross) Locke, was born in New York and came to Crawford county, Ohio, when a young man about twenty years of age. Here he joined his brother, David R. Locke, in the publication of the Bucyrus Journal. The latter went from Crawford county to Findlay, Ohio, and thence to Toledo. He became famous under the *nom de plume* of Petroleum V. Nasby, of the Kentucky Cross Roads. His first article written under this name was due to a remark of a German minister named Vail, who, while attending a funeral of a Union soldier at Wingerts Corners, in Crawford county, in his prayer asked God "to have mercy on another victim of this God-damned abolition war." This appeared to David Locke as very ridiculous in a minister of the gospel and inspired his first article on the slavery question. The preacher's name was Peter Vail,

and Mr. Locke changed this to Petroleum Vail, adding the name of Nasby, which was that of a quaint, humorous and original character who lived near Benton, Crawford county, named Nasby Wilcox.

Daniel Wheeler Locke, the father of our subject, abandoned the journalistic and printing business on account of trouble with his eyes, and then began dealing in stone. He died in Crawford county in 1858, at the age of twenty-eight years, from injuries sustained in a runaway. He had married Miss Martina Bodine, a daughter of Peter and Susan (Ervin) Bodine. Her mother was a daughter of Peter Ervin, who served as a colonel in the Revolutionary war. The Bodines resided in Cayuga county, New York. Mr. Locke died very suddenly at a time when his wife was ill in bed. She was left with no patrimony and with three small children to support. She borrowed money at ten per cent. interest, purchasing a sewing machine, and by doing work as a seamstress began to provide for the support of herself and her children, Daniel W. and Ross, the latter now in the newspaper business in Tiffin, Ohio. Another brother, Mathew Bodine Locke, the twin of our subject, had died in childhood. After a time Mrs. Locke had saved enough money to purchase a home for her little family. She gave to her children good educational advantages and did everything in her power for them. There was something heroic in the sacrifice which she made for her sons, putting aside every personal interest in order to provide for them and gain for them a good start in life. She is still living, at the age of sixty-nine years, and has the gratitude, respect and unbounded love of the two children for whom she cared and who have now attained to man's estate, being numbered among the respected citizens of the communities in which they reside.

Daniel W. Locke, whose name introduces this record, began to assist his mother as early as possible, and when only fourteen years of age engaged in teaching. He also sold books and did everything else he could in order to make an honest living. His preliminary education, acquired in the public schools, was supplemented by study in the high school of Bucyrus and in Wooster University. Desiring to engage in the practice of law, he began reading under the direction of the well known firm of Scott & Harris, of Bucyrus, and when he had mastered many of the principles of jurisprudence he passed an examination before the supreme court at Columbus and was admitted to the bar on the 1st of October, 1879. His success in a professional way affords the best evidence of his capabilities in this line. He is a strong advocate before the jury and concise in his appeals to the courts.



He is also remarkable for his wide research and the provident care with which he prepares his cases. In no instance has his reading ever been confined to the limitations of the questions at issue; it has gone beyond and compassed every contingency and provided not alone for the expected, but for the unexpected, which happens in the courts quite as frequently as out of them. His logical grasp of facts and principles and of the law applicable to them has been another potent element in his success; and a remarkable clearness of expression, an adequate and precise diction, which enables him to make others understand not only the salient points of his argument but his every fine gradation of meaning, may be accounted among his most conspicuous gifts and accomplishments. He was one of the organizers of the Bucyrus Loan & Building Company, in February, 1887, and since that time has been its secretary.

In Bucyrus, in 1887, Mr. Locke was united in marriage to Miss Eva Kerr, a daughter of John Kerr and a granddaughter of Robert Kerr, who was one of the pioneers of Crawford county and one of the wealthiest men in this portion of Ohio. Her mother bore the maiden name of Alice Chambers, and in early life resided in Carey, Ohio. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Locke have been born two sons,—John George Gormley and Daniel Wayne. Mr. Locke is identified with the Knights of Pythias fraternity, has served as past chancellor in the local lodge and is now a representative to the grand lodge. In the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks he is serving as chaplain, is past chancellor in the Ancient Order of United Workmen and past councilor in the Junior Order of American Mechanics. He also belongs to the Independent Order of Foresters and to the Presbyterian church, and in the latter he is now serving as trustee. His political support has been given the Republican party and he is an enthusiastic advocate of its principles and policy. He does all in his power to promote its growth and success and has several times been honored with nominations for office. He was a candidate for congress in the thirteenth district in 1900, and, although the district has a Democratic majority of seven thousand, he made a strong race and succeeded in largely reducing the vote given to the Democratic candidate. He is a man whose life experiences have been broad and varied, and as the years have passed he has learned the lessons of life and become imbued with humanitarian principles. His strong individuality, his generous sympathy and marked intellectuality have rendered him one of the honored and valued citizens of his native state, and his record now forms an important chapter in the history of Crawford county.

## WILLIAM H. HISE.

One of the most widely known and highly esteemed citizens of Liberty township, Crawford county, is William Hise, who for forty years was an eminent justice of the peace and for a period of four years the careful and efficient treasurer of Liberty township. By birth Mr. Hise is a Pennsylvanian, being born in York county, on July 25, 1818. His parents were John and Eve E. (Kunckle) Hise, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania, and the fathers of both were born in Hesse, Germany. They came to America as soldiers in the British army during the Revolutionary war and both the grand-fathers participated in one engagement, but after it was over both of them deserted from the British army, joined the troops under General Washington and continued their services in the Patriot army until the close of the struggle. Many of their Hessian acquaintances who were taken prisoners at the battle of Stillwater did likewise. After the close of the war, Mr. Hise and Mr. Kunckle made their way to York county, Pennsylvania, where they settled and turned their attention to farming, literally turning their swords into ploughshares. There both lived to advanced age.

This Hise, of Revolutionary fame, reared four sons, and one of them, John, became the father of our subject. He learned the trade of shoemaker, married in York county and then lived for a time in Adams county, coming to Crawford county, Ohio, in 1824. Here he entered eighty acres of land in Jefferson township, built his log cabin and established a shoe shop. His land was cleared by hired help, as he was able to earn enough by his trade to pay for having it done. Here he prospered until he removed to Bucyrus, in 1832, and to Circleville in 1836.

William H. Hise learned the shoe trade of his father and worked with him in Crawford county until the latter's removal. He then opened a shoe shop at Parcher's Corners, in 1844. The following year, on March 13, 1845, he was united in marriage to Miss Isabella Ridgely, a native of Wayne county, Ohio, who was born on July 15, 1818. She was a daughter of Wesley Ridgely, who came to Crawford county either in 1818 or 1819 and settled in Jefferson township. Later he sold his first farm and located on another two miles east of Bucyrus, and in 1844 removed to Cass county, Michigan, where he died in the following year.

Mr. and Mrs. Hise had seven children, the six survivors being: Sarah C., the widow of Nelson Smith, of Bucyrus, Ohio; John W., of this township; Andrew H., of Carrollton, Ohio; Samuel L., of this township; Nora B., the

wife of O. E. DeWitt, of Bucyrus; and Rebecca, at home. Mrs. Hise, the devoted wife and mother, passed out of life on March 10, 1895.

Following his marriage Mr. Hise removed to Liberty township and bought an acre of land upon which was a house and shop and began work at his trade, which he followed industriously and continuously until about 1887, a period of nearly forty-two years. Then he gave up work and since that time has devoted his attention to the cultivation of his farm of eighty acres, which he purchased about 1865, and removed to this property in 1876, his sons managing the farm while he continued his work at his trade, which always was pressing.

Mr. Hise has been very active in Democratic circles in the county and has been held in such high esteem that his selection as township treasurer met with approval from both parties. Four years of service were faithfully given, and also several years as township trustee. For forty years his decisions as justice of the peace were upheld by the superior courts and he then declined to serve longer. Although Mr. Hise has reached his eighty-third year he is a man of much younger years in appearance, rides a bicycle with pleasure and during the past year not only seeded but cultivated seven acres of corn and seven of oats by his own labor! Through this section of the county no one is better or more favorably known than William H. Hise.

#### FRANK DICK.

Close application to business, aptitude for earnest labor and indefatigable enterprise have been the salient features in the success which has crowned the efforts of Frank Dick, the well known proprietor of the Dick Brewery and Artificial Ice Factory, of Bucyrus. He has carried on business here since July, 1889, his trade constantly increasing.

Mr. Dick was born in Hamilton county, Ohio, in the year 1861, but his parents were both natives of Baden, Germany, whence they crossed the Atlantic to the new world. Under the parental roof he was reared, and in early life he became associated in business with his father, who owned and operated a brewery in La Porte, Indiana. He was admitted to a partnership in the enterprise, but in 1889 he sold his interest and came to Bucyrus, establishing the brewery of which he has since been proprietor. In 1890 he erected a large brick and stone building, a model, and in connection with the brewery business added the manufacturing of artificial ice, and in both lines of business he has enjoyed a constantly increasing trade. He confines his sales to this section of

Ohio, having a large patronage from surrounding towns. He gives close attention to his business affairs, allowing no outside interest to interfere with the duties that come to him in this relation. Each year he overhauls and equips his plants, which are supplied with the latest improved machinery and all modern conveniences and accessories. He now employs a large force of workmen, and he is familiar with his business in every detail. He personally conducts all transactions with patrons and is in full control of the business, being acquainted with the work done in every department.

In 1893 Mr. Dick was united in marriage to Miss Bertha Aichner, of Chicago, Illinois, and they have a pleasant home in Bucyrus. He takes an active interest in political affairs as a supporter of Democratic principles, and does everything in his power to advance the growth and insure the success of the party. He has served as a member of the county and other committees and is a recognized leader in Democratic ranks. He belongs to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, but his time and attention are largely given to his business affairs, which are constantly growing in volume and importance, and are therefore annually augmenting his income.

#### AARON J. QUAINANCE.

Aaron J. Quaintance is one of the highly esteemed and public-spirited men of Crawford county. His birth was in Holmes township, on March 4, 1834, a son of Joseph and Hannah (Hale) Quaintance, and was one of a family of ten children, five of whom survive, namely: Aaron, of this sketch; Samuel, of Todd township; Angeline, the wife of Edward Smith, of Todd township; Lucetta, the wife of Valentine Underwood, of Todd township; and Fisher, of Todd township. The father was born in the state of New York, a son of Samuel Quaintance, who came to Crawford county, at an early day, settling in Holmes township, on the Tiffin road about two miles north of Bucyrus, where he entered eighty acres of land and built a log cabin in the forest, passing the rest of his life there. After Joseph Quaintance married he settled on a tract of forty acres given him by his father, on the east of the home farm, on which he built a cabin, cleared the land and lived there some years and then sold it to buy a farm of eighty acres in Liberty township, where he spent the remaining years of his life. In his political life he was an active Whig and for very many years was a leading member of the Methodist church.

Our subject was reared on the farm and acquired but a limited education

in the common schools, as his services were so often needed in the management and clearing of the land. About the age of sixteen the death of his father threw upon him the responsibility and care of the family, as he was the eldest son. Most worthily did he perform this duty, taking the place of his father with a judgment far beyond his years and earning the affection and gratitude of the other members of the family.

In 1857 Mr. Quaintance was united in marriage to Miss Mary Heller, a native of Pennsylvania, the daughter of Daniel and Catherine (Gingery) Heller, who came to Crawford county about 1839, settling in Liberty township for one year and later permanently settling in Holmes township, where they died. When the home farm was sold, one hundred and three acres of our subject's present farm was purchased, and our subject's mother lived with him some years, when he bought the estate from her and she passed her last days in Todd township. Some years later Mr. Quaintance purchased an additional fifty-seven acres, making the amount in his possession one hundred and sixty acres, a fine and valuable estate.

The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Quaintance numbered twelve, and ten of these survive, namely: Joseph, of this township; Leroy, of Bucyrus, Ohio; Martha E., the wife of William Dobbins, of Sandusky township; Daniel, of Johnson county, Kansas; Oscar, of Whetstone township, Crawford county, Ohio; Blanche, the wife of D. S. Kimble, of the same township; James, of Bucyrus; Olive E., at home; Orland J., and Onie M., who is the wife of Albert Brown, of Bucyrus, the latter two being twins. Israel and Hannah are dead. The political affiliations of Mr. Quaintance is with the Republican party, while religiously all the family are connected with the United Brethren church, where they are highly esteemed.

#### PETER HELFRICH.

Peter Helfrich is the ancestral head in America of one branch of the family of that name that has helped Crawford county to a citizenship which has always proven a credit and a substantial support. He came from Germany to this country in 1830. His birth occurred in the fatherland and he was the son of parents who were well-to-do and prominent people. His father served as burgomaster, an office equivalent to that of mayor in this country, and was also public administrator, in which position his duties were similar to those performed by the sheriff in the United States. Peter Helfrich acquired a good common-school education which he broadened by study at home and his



appreciation of education was indicated by the liberal advantages which he afforded his children, a large family of farmer's children seldom receiving such good opportunities as he gave to his sons and daughters.

Ere leaving his native country, Peter Helfrich was united in marriage to Miss Margaret Burmuth, and when they came to the United States they brought with them their daughter, Margaret, then two years of age. The voyage across the Atlantic was made on a sailing vessel and consumed eighty-five days, while to-day the same trip can be made in one-fourteenth of that time. Mr. Helfrich first settled in Pennsylvania and in 1835 he came with his family to Crawford county, taking up his abode in Whetstone township. Here he entered land from the government, built a house and established the Helfrich family, which, grown very numerous, celebrated a reunion on July 4, 1901.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Peter Helfrich were born the following named: Jacob, now a prominent farmer of Missouri; Nicholas C., who for thirty-three years has been a representative of the ministry of the Presbyterian church and is now located in Columbus, Ohio; Catharine, the wife of John C. Sherer; and Elizabeth. The Helfrichs, with one or two exceptions, were identified with the Lutheran church. The death of Peter Helfrich occurred in 1862, but he is still remembered and honored by those in Crawford county who knew him and yet survive him.

#### H. S. Z. MATTHIAS.

The press has not only recorded the history of advancement, but has also ever been the leader in the work of progress and improvement,—the vanguard of civilization. The philosopher of some centuries ago proclaimed the truth that "the pen is mightier than the sword," and the statement is continually being verified in the affairs of life. In molding public opinion the power of the newspaper cannot be estimated, but at all events its influence is greater than any other single agency. In the history of Crawford county therefore an account of the Galion Inquirer should form an important factor, and as the paper is the mirror of the thought, effort and labor of its editor, the history of Mr. Matthias well deserves place in the annals of his native county.

He was born in Sandusky township May 21, 1844, on what is now known as the "Old Biddle Farm," east of Kinsely Springs. His father, the late M. Matthias, was born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, and at



*H.S.Z. Matthias*



an early age accompanied his parents on their removal to Ohio, the family taking up their abode upon a farm in Stark county, where at the age of twenty-five years Mr. Matthias was married to Miss Frances Bryfogle, of the same county, who had removed to this state from Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, with her parents. For a number of years Mr. and Mrs. Matthias resided in Stark county, but in 1837 came to Crawford county, accompanied by four children, who had been born to them in their first home. While residing on the Biddle farm three children were added to the family, one of whom was the subject of this sketch. At Galion two more children were born, making nine in all. The parents both died a number of years ago.

Mr. Matthias, of this review, was about three and a half years of age when his parents sold their farm to the late Rev. Alexander Biddle and removed to a farm on the Columbus and Portland state road, one mile northwest of Galion, where, at the age of about five years H. S. Z. Matthias lost the use of his lower limbs from the effects of scarlet fever. A year later his parents sold their farm and removed to Galion, where they purchased and conducted the Franklin House, and old-time tavern. This move was made principally for the purpose of securing better educational facilities for the cripple boy, and there in the private and public schools he received the mental discipline and training which fitted him for his life work. With great ambition and an indomitable will the boy grew to young manhood, and on the 7th of January, 1864, he purchased the only printing office in Galion, entering the field of journalism as the youngest editor in Ohio. He successfully conducted the Galion District Democrat and several other newspapers, and for the past twenty-four years he has been part owner and editor of the Galion Inquirer, a weekly Democratic paper, and for nine years the editor of the Evening Inquirer, which is the daily issue of the journal. He has always been devoted to his work and starting out in a modest way he has steadily improved his papers until to-day they are among the brightest and best journals published in the state, being gems in mechanical and typographical appearance.

On the 26th of November, 1868, Mr. Matthias was united in marriage to Miss Delia French, at Mount Vernon, Knox county, and they now have two children, Verna, who is now the wife of B. A. Baker, and George G., who is his father's assistant in the recorder's office. Mr. Matthias has never held any public position except that of recorder, although he was elected justice of the peace in 1893. He refused to serve, however, on account of the duties of the office interfering with his business. In the spring of 1896 he was

nominated on the Democratic ticket for the position of county recorder and was elected to that office the following November by a plurality of two thousand, seven hundred and eighty-seven votes, leading the ticket by forty-nine more than were cast for William J. Bryan. He assumed the duties of the office September 6, 1897, and in the spring of 1898 he was nominated for a second term, being re-elected the following fall. In his official duties he has been punctual, careful and obliging, and has given the best of satisfaction in every respect.

Fraternally Mr. Matthias is a member of Galion Lodge, No. 215, I. O. O. F., and of Lebanon Encampment, No. 123. While he has always been a very busy man, he has found time to devote to literary pursuits outside of his newspaper work. He has written a number of very creditable poems. He reads widely, is a deep thinker and carefully digests what he reads. Through the columns of his paper he has had marked influence in promoting public interests in Crawford county, and has ever been found the champion of reform, improvement and advancement.

#### HENRY SCHIEBER.

Among the successful farmers and highly esteemed citizens of Liberty township, Crawford county, Henry Schieber takes a leading position. He was born in this township on May 24, 1860, and was the second son of Jacob and Eva (Mauer) Schieber, to whom nine children were born. The survivors are: John, Jr., of Bucyrus, Ohio; Henry, of this sketch; David S., of Bucyrus; Emanuel, of Liberty township; Mary, the wife of Frederick Hieber, of Liberty township; Elizabeth, wife of John Hieber, of Liberty township; and Samuel Abraham, of Holmes township. The father was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, on May 19, 1831, a son of Göttlieb and Magdalena (Brose) Schieber, who emigrated to the United States in 1832, settling in Liberty township. The father of our subject was only one year old when brought by his parents to America; and as he was the youngest son who grew to maturity he remained with his parents until his twenty-fourth year, assisting in clearing the land. On June 14, 1855, he was united in marriage to Miss Eva Mauer, and he continued to farm on his father's land during the following year. In 1856 he purchased eighty acres of land in Liberty township, twenty of which had been cleared, on which stood a log cabin, and here Mr. Schieber moved his family, both he and wife energetically laboring to make this a comfortable home. Prosperity rewarded their efforts, and later they added thirty-seven



and one-half acres and eighty more purchased in Liberty township. Gradually additions made to the farm increased it to two hundred and eighty-seven acres; and as time went on, each year saw improvements added, in the way of excellent buildings, fences, and planting of orchards, the estate being finally regarded as one of the most desirable in the township. In the meantime Mr. Schieber had made himself well known and had gained the confidence of his fellow-citizens to such a degree that he was made township trustee for a period of two years, faithfully performing the duties. He was long a valued member of the Lutheran church. His death occurred November 4, 1883.

The estimable widow of the late Jacob Schieber, Martha Mauer Schieber, was born on June 21, 1835, in Stark county, Ohio, and was but two weeks old when her parents removed to Crawford county. Her father, Jacob Mauer, emigrated from Germany, with his wife and one child, settling in Stark county, subsequently removing to this county, where he died, leaving a widow who later married Simeon Price. Mrs. Schieber now makes her home with Mrs. John Hieber, of this township, one of her daughters. She is the only survivor of a family of six children.

Henry Schieber, our immediate subject, grew up to honest labor on the home farm and acquired his education in the common schools, remaining at home until his twenty-first year and then was given regular wages. On February 29, 1884, he was married to Miss Elizabeth S. Pfeiderer, a daughter of Daniel Pfeiderer, who was a son of Jacob Pfeiderer; a sketch of the last mentioned appears in another part of this volume. After marriage Mr. Schieber and his bride removed to Holmes township, where he rented a farm of eighty acres, and upon that they lived for eighteen months, and there his young wife died and he returned to Liberty township and took charge of the home farm and remained there a number of months.

On October 3, 1900, our subject contracted a second marriage, this time with Mrs. William O. Steen, formerly Miss Clara C. Pfeiderer, a daughter of David Pfeiderer, and then Mr. Schieber purchased his present home farm, which consists of eighty acres, and has carried on general farming and stock-raising ever since. Mrs. Schieber's first husband was a son of William Steen, one of the early settlers of Crawford county. One child was born to this marriage, Rufus D. Steen, May 1, 1892.

Politically Mr. Schieber is a prominent member of the Democratic ranks. Both he and his estimable wife are valued and consistent members of the Evangelical church, where they are known to be kind, charitable and devoted

Christians. Mr. Schieber has a fine farm, is esteemed in the community, happy in domestic life, a valued member of the church, and thus represents the best class of citizens.

#### TILGHMAN GEORGE.

An eminently successful and thoroughly representative farmer of Holmes township, Crawford county, is Tilghman George, who was born in Northampton county, Pennsylvania, on May 12, 1834, and was a son of Jacob G. and Elizabeth (Haupt) George. Jacob G. George was born in Northampton county, Pennsylvania, where he grew to manhood and learned the trade of shoemaker. In 1852 he emigrated to Ohio, settling in McCutchenville in Wyandot county, where he remained but a short time, going then to Lykens township, in Crawford county, where he rented a farm, placed his sons in charge of it while he continued to work at his trade. About 1858 he removed to Seneca county and here rented a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, continuing to engage in farming and shoemaking. About seven years after his last removal his first wife died, and some time later he married a Mrs. Trombold, formerly a Miss Elizabeth Yeager, who was a native of Lehigh county, Pennsylvania. Shortly after this marriage he removed to Tiffin, Ohio, where he worked at his trade for many years. After the death of his second wife he made his home with our subject and his other son, William, until the time of his decease, in his eighty-second year. He was always an ardent Democrat, and a consistent member of the German Reformed church. His first marriage had been to Elizabeth Haupt, and they became the parents of eight children. Those living are Tilghman, our subject; William, of this township; James, of Tiffin, Ohio; Elizabeth, the wife of Julius Deal, also of Tiffin, Ohio; and Stephen, of the same place, while the three deceased are Apecena, who married a Mr. Sloat, and died in Indiana; and two daughters died in girlhood.

Our subject was reared on a farm and had but limited opportunities for acquiring an education. In May, 1852, he left his parental home and came to Ohio, reaching McCutchenville on May 5th, and during the following summer worked as a farm hand; but when his father arrived, five months later, he assisted him in the shoe shop, accompanying the family in its removal to Lykens township. The following summer was spent in work on the farm, and the winter in work at shoemaking. In November, 1857, our subject was married to Miss Sarah Miller, who was a native of Holmes township and was

were among the earliest settlers of Holmes township.

the daughter of Jonathan and Anna (Shupp) Miller. Mr. and Mrs. Miller

The winter following his marriage was spent by Mr. George in hauling cord wood for the Pennsylvania Railroad, with an ox team which he had purchased, but in the following spring he removed to Wyandot county, where he conducted a shoe shop through the summer, and returned to Crawford county in the autumn. He again opened up a shoe shop, and conducted it in Lykens township for a period of eighteen months, removing then to Seneca county, where he rented a small farm and began to operate it. Here he farmed for some twelve years as a renter, continuously, with the exception of one summer spent in Holmes township. At the expiration of his ten years as a renter, Mr. George purchased a farm of fifty-five acres and operated this for two years, selling it then to locate in Crawford county, where he purchased seventy-one and one-half acres, his present home farm. During his early farming experiences, Mr. George operated a threshing machine, with success, for several years. His land has been well cultivated and his methods of farming meet with the commendation of his neighbors who in friendly spirit rejoice in his prosperity.

To Mr. and Mrs. George were born seven children, six of whom survive, as follows: William, of Seneca county, Ohio; Wesley, a baggagemaster for the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, at Chicago; John, of Holmes township; Anna, the wife of Reuben R. McBride, of Van Wert, Ohio; Raleigh, of Wyandot county, Ohio; and Rosetta, the wife of Abraham Schaal, of Marshall county, Indiana. Mr. George has been a life-long Democrat, but is liberal in his views. For two terms he faithfully served the township as trustee, and he is one of the leading members of the Evangelical church, having held almost all of its lay offices, discharging the duties most efficiently.

#### ANDREW J. HARVEY.

Andrew Jackson Harvey was born in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, August 14, 1817, and is a son of Thomas and Frances (Bartley) Harvey, who were also natives of the same county and there the father died in 1830 at the age of fifty-three years. He was a son of Thomas Harvey, who came to the United States from Ireland at an early period in the development of our country's history. On the maternal side, our subject is also of Irish lineage.

Andrew J. Harvey is one of a family of fourteen children, eleven of whom reached mature years. He was reared upon a farm and pursued his

education in the common schools in a log school house. He was only fourteen years of age at the time of his father's death. The mother and her children came to Ohio in 1835 and settled in Crawford county, where Mrs. Harvey died when about sixty-seven years of age. Here our subject has since resided, and throughout his entire business career he has carried on agricultural pursuits. For about eighteen years he also operated a threshing machine and owned the second thresher ever used in the county. Until 1846 he resided in Whetstone township, but has since made his home in Bucyrus township, where he owns two hundred and eleven acres of fine land.

When thirty-six years of age Mr. Harvey was united in marriage to Miss Maria McCracken, but she lived only a year afterward, and three years later he wedded Elizabeth Price, by whom he had six children now living, namely: Olive, Lawrence Lincoln, Minnie May, Ulysses Grant, Clay McCracken and Ida Annetta. In his political views Mr. Harvey is a stalwart Republican, but has never sought office, preferring to give his time and attention to his business affairs. In his work he has prospered, and as the years have passed, he has added continually to his income so that he is to-day the possessor of a handsome competence. He has now reached the age of eighty-four years—a venerable old gentleman, honored and esteemed by all who know him.

#### • JOHN G. MYERS.

Prominent among the progressive, intelligent and broad-minded citizens of Holmes township, is John G. Myers, who is well and favorably known through Crawford county, having been for many years one of its most popular teachers. Mr. Myers was born in Berkeley county, Virginia, which is now included in West Virginia, on February 6, 1826, a son of John L. and Margaret (Fiser) Myers, and was a member of a family of eight children, the survivors of whom are: Susan L., the widow of Nathaniel Heaton, now a resident of Seneca county, Ohio; John G., of this biography; and Isaiah and Margaret P., both members of our subject's household. The father, John L. Myers, was born in Berkeley county, Virginia, a son of Henry and Susan Myers, natives of the same place, the former being a veteran of the Revolutionary war. In the fall of 1832, John L. Myers, with his family of six children, his parents and one sister, emigrated to Ohio, settling in Richland county, where they spent the succeeding winter, in the spring of 1833 locating near Melmore, in what was then a part of Crawford county but now is included in Seneca county.

There Mr. Myers bought eighty acres of land, upon which was a hewed-log cabin and a recently erected log barn, paying for it five hundred dollars. Some four acres of the land had been cleared, but the balance was still virgin forest. Here the father of our subject passed his life, showing his aged parents a most filial regard and caring for them until their lives ended, when at advanced age. John L. Myers died about 1846. His life had been a busy and useful one. Reared in a slave state, he always adhered to the belief that the negro could never learn self-government, and continued all his life a pro-slavery man. His religious connection was with the Methodist church. The mother, a daughter of Michael Fiser, also was born in Berkeley county.

John G. Myers grew up in his pleasant home, with a decidedly studious bent of mind. After completing the common-school course he was given educational advantages at the Ashland Academy, and at Republic, where he was under the instruction of Professor Harvey and also his assistant, Professor Schuyler, the author of Schuyler's Arithmetic. A short time was spent at Delaware, but sickness compelled his return home. Prior to his twenty-first year Mr. Myers began teaching school and continued with marked success in this profession for fifteen or twenty years, teaching in every school in Holmes township except the one in district No. 3.

In 1855 Mr. Myers purchased eighty acres of land in section 30, Holmes township, where he resided from 1856 to 1858, in the latter year selling this farm and buying sixty acres of the present home farm. Some years later he purchased forty acres across the road from his other possessions, making his present ownership of land about one hundred acres.

In politics Mr. Myers is a stanch Republican and has twice efficiently served as assessor of the township and several terms as a member of the election board. He is held in high esteem in this section and has a wide circle of friends, both in public and private life.

#### ROBERT WILLIAM KERR.

Among the prosperous young agriculturists of Bucyrus township is Robert William Kerr, who is successfully cultivating a fine farm of ninety acres. Mr. Kerr is a native of Ohio, born in Wyandot county on September 22, 1872, a son of John and Alice (Chambers) Kerr, the former of whom was born in Marion county and the latter in Wyandot county. For many years John Kerr was a successful and extensive farmer, but is now one of the respected retired citizens of Bucyrus.



Robert W. Kerr was reared on a farm and received his primary education in the common schools, supplementing this with a period at a military school in Orchard Lake, Michigan, and later by a course in a business college in Poughkeepsie, New York. For several years Mr. Kerr was variously employed, undecided as to the choice of a career. He was a member of Company A, Eighth Ohio National Guards, and when this company was called into service in 1898, in the war of the United States with Spain, he went with his company to Cuba as a corporal. His command landed at Sibona, but it saw no active service. Corporal Kerr was very fortunate, as his excellent constitution prevented him from falling ill of Cuban fever; nevertheless he returned with his company with a well nigh broken constitution, reaching home in September, 1898, and was mustered out of the service in November, 1898.

In the spring of 1899 Mr. Kerr rented a fine and productive farm from his father, which he has successfully operated ever since. On March 20, 1900, he was married to Miss Jessie Strawbridge, a most estimable young lady, who ably assists him in dispensing the hospitality of their pleasant country home. Unto the marriage a son, John Milton, has been born.

#### JOHN A. CHESNEY, M. D.

One of the exacting of all the higher lines of occupation to which a man may lend his energies is that of the physician. A most scrupulous preliminary training is demanded, and a nicety of judgment little understood by the laity. Then, again, the profession brings one of its devotees into almost constant association with the sadder side of life,—that of pain and sufferings,—so that a mind capable of great self control and a heart responsive and sympathetic are essential attributes of him who would essay the practice of the healing art. Thus when professional success is attained in any instance it may be taken as certain that such measure of success has been thoroughly merited.

Dr. Chesney was born in Marseilles, Wyandot county, Ohio, November 10, 1857, and is of Scotch lineage. His parents were John M. and Jumelia (Thompson) Chesney. His paternal grandfather, John Chesney, was a native of Scotland and became the founder of the family in America. He married Elizabeth Mahon, and unto them, in Mercer county, Pennsylvania, on the 31st of May, 1825, was born a son, to whom they gave the name of John M. The latter was educated in an academy at Jamestown, Pennsylvania, and studied medicine under the direction of his brother, Dr. Robert



John A. Cheney M.D.



Chesney, of Shelocta. From 1853 until 1876 he was engaged in practice in Marseilles, Ohio, and prior to that time had been a member of the medical fraternity in Kenton and in Huntersville, Ohio. In 1876 he came to Bucyrus and established a drug store, which he conducted up to the time of his death, in 1883. He wedded Jumelia Thompson, a daughter of James and Elizabeth Thompson, who came from Lynchburg, Virginia, and settled in Marion, Ohio, where Mrs. Chesney was born. Her father was a colonel in a Virginia regiment during the Mexican war. In Marion he took quite an active part in public affairs, and at one time served as sheriff of his county. His death occurred a number of years ago.

Dr. Chesney, whose name introduces this record, pursued his literary education in Wooster University, of Wooster, Ohio, and, determining to make the practice of medicine his life work, he then began study in the office and under the direction of Dr. Cuykendall, in 1876. Subsequently he entered the Columbus Medical College and was graduated at that institution with the class of 1879. In 1880 he became connected in practice with Dr. J. N. Richie, of Oceola, their relation being maintained until 1881, when Dr. Chesney completed his medical studies in New York, in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, where he graduated in 1882. He then formed a partnership with Dr. Thrift, of Lima, Ohio, at that time a leading physician in that city and a professor in the Fort Wayne Medical College. Owing to his father's death Dr. Chesney came to Bucyrus and has since practiced his profession in this city with excellent success. His reputation is not limited by the confines of the county and his practice has extended into adjoining counties. He has very superior ability as a surgeon, and the fraternity as well as the public accord him a foremost place as a representative of the medical science. In 1883 he declined the chair of physiology in the Fort Wayne Medical College. In connection with his private practice he has served as division surgeon for the Toledo & Ohio Central Railroad for the past sixteen years, is local surgeon of the Pennsylvania Railroad, also for the Columbus, Sandusky & Hocking Railroad. He was one of the organizers of the National Association of Surgeons, and as a student he is continually carrying his investigations into broader realms of medical knowledge. Each year finds him further advanced on the road to perfection in his profession. He is also identified with other lines of business activity, is president of the Caledonia Deposit Bank, of Marion county, Ohio, and is a director in the First National Bank of Bucyrus. He is also president of the Broken Sword Stone Company.

In 1887 Dr. Chesney was united in marriage to Miss Cora Rouse, a daughter of William and Catherine Rouse. Her death occurred in 1892, and a daughter, Edith, was left to mourn her loss. In 1898 the Doctor was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Celia B. Mulford, of Hanover, New Jersey. In the summer of 1900 the Doctor and his wife visited Europe, traveling over a portion of the continent and visiting many places of historic and modern interest. Theirs is one of the tasteful and finely appointed homes of Bucyrus, and he also has a splendidly equipped office, supplied with all modern accessories that prove of aid and value in the line of his profession. He is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and of the Masonic and Knights of Pythias fraternities. A man of scholarly attainments and broad general information, he is not only a leader in professional circles but is held in high esteem in fraternal and social circles, and enjoys the warm regard of all with whom he is associated.

#### CHRISTIAN F. BIRK.

To achieve renown in the political field there must be something substantial on which to base aspirations and something more than the desire to attain prominence. A man must possess a strict sense of honor, a firm conviction that he is capable of performing the duties to which he is assigned and must have the welfare of his community and constituents at heart, sacrificing his personal interests to those of the people. For more than a quarter of a century Mr. Birk has been identified with the Democracy and has labored untiringly to promote its growth and to secure the adoption of its platform. Many times has he been honored with positions of public trust and responsibility, and in these he has ever been found faithful to his duty. He is now serving as mayor of Bucyrus and handles the reins of city government in a manner that has promoted the welfare and progress of the municipality.

One of the native sons of Bucyrus, Christian F. Birk was born April 29, 1852, a son of John G. Birk, who was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, and came to the United States in 1845. After living for a time in Albany, New York, he went to Tuscarawas county, Ohio. In 1847 he came to Bucyrus, and here followed harness-making many years. From 1874 to 1876 he served as treasurer of Crawford county. His death occurred November 10, 1888. In 1851 he married Miss Joanna Kuhn, also a native of Germany and a representative of one of the pioneer families of Crawford county, her people having come to this section of Ohio in 1836. Her death occurred in October,



1893, when she had attained the age of sixty-five years. In their family were the following named: Christian F., of this review; George M., who is engaged in the drug business with his brother; Christian F.; Emanuel R., who is now proprietor of the harness shop established by his father and is doing a very extensive business, making sales in various portions of the state and even beyond its borders; Lewis C., who is foreman in the harness store; and Elizabeth, the wife of F. P. Donnenwirth, a retired citizen of Bucyrus.

Christian F. Birk, whose name forms the caption of this review, acquired a common-school education in Bucyrus, and at the age of fourteen began assisting his father in the harness shop, where he mastered the business both in principle and detail. For several years he was a partner with his father in the enterprise, under the firm name of J. G. Birk & Son. For fifty-three years the business has been continued as the Birks Harness Store and is one of the most successful commercial institutions of the city, being now conducted by two of the sons of the former. In 1892 our subject and his younger brother, G. M. Birk, established a drug store, which they are still conducting. They carry a large and well selected stock of goods and their business methods are such that those who once become their customers remain as regular patrons. Their sales are constantly increasing and the proprietors therefore enjoy a good income. Our subject is also connected with the Board of Trade. In Bucyrus, in 1873, was celebrated the marriage of Christian F. Birk and Miss Bertha S. Volk, a daughter of William F. Volk, who came to Crawford county about sixty years ago. They now have three children: John W., a graduate of a commercial course in Chicago, was the first lieutenant in Company A, of the Eighth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, during the Spanish-American war and served at Santiago, being present at the time of the surrender of the city; Carry Elizabeth is now the wife of G. W. Kerr, of Wrightsville, Pennsylvania; and Edna T. is a teacher in the schools of Bucyrus. The mother died August 10, 1898, a month after her son sailed for Cuba, and while he was still on the Island. Socially Mr. Birk is connected with Knights of Pythias fraternity, and with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He also belongs to the German Lutheran church and in his political affiliations is a stalwart Democrat, unswerving in his support of the party. When only twenty-three years of age he was elected to the city council and after an interval he was chosen, in 1896, for a second term of two years. He served as city marshal from 1884 until 1890, and in the latter year entered upon a four years' term as county sheriff. His fellow townsmen conferred upon him the highest honor within their power when, in 1898, he was elected mayor of Bucyrus, and two years

later they again called him to the same position, a fact which indicates how faithfully he had served them, his administration being practical, progressive and beneficial. Public spirited, he has withheld his support from no measure that he believes will promote the welfare and substantial advancement of Bucyrus, and his discriminating mind enables him to judge correctly of the value to the city of any measure introduced. Over the record of his public life and private career there falls no shadow of wrong or suspicion of evil, and he is rich in those qualities which win and retain personal friendships.

### FREMONT F. STURTZ.

Fremont F. Sturtz was born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, August 8, 1857, and is the youngest of five children of Solomon and Elizabeth (Kennel) Sturtz. His father was born in Dauphin county, Pennsylvania, near Harrisburg, August 22, 1821, and his youth was spent upon the old home farm there. He afterward went to Westmoreland county when a young man, and was there married to Miss Elizabeth Kennel. Their children were Joseph, of Fayette county, Pennsylvania; Susan, the wife of Peter Stoner, of Scott-dale, Fayette county; Samuel, of Crawford county, Ohio; Elizabeth, the wife Emanuel Hess, of Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania; and Freeman F. For some years after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Sturtz resided upon a rented farm. In 1857 the wife and mother died, and in 1859 the father married Mrs. Barbara Davis, the widow of Solomon Davis. Her maiden name was Barbara Brooks. By the second marriage there are three children: Malinda, the widow of James Bodley, of Plymouth, Ohio; Dolly A., who married Henry Morton, of Shelby, Ohio; and George B., of Bucyrus. Soon after his second marriage Solomon Sturtz purchased a farm of one hundred and twenty acres in Fayette county, Pennsylvania, and continued its cultivation until 1865, when he came to Crawford county, locating in Liberty township. Here he rented land until 1887, since which time he has lived retired in Whetstone township. In early life he was a Republican, but since coming to Ohio has joined the Democratic ranks. Religiously he is connected with the Evangelical church.

When only eight years of age Fremont F. Sturtz was bound out to a man by the name of Jehu Davis, in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, and with him our subject remained until eighteen years of age, when he entered upon an independent business career. For three years he was employed as a farm hand by Mr. Laucks, of Westmoreland county, and in December, 1878, he came to Crawford county, Ohio. During the three succeeding years he

worked by the month for his brother. On the 17th of February, 1881, he was joined in wedlock to Miss Ella J. Charlton, a daughter of John E. and Laura E. (Lones) Charlton. Her father was born on the farm where our subject now resides, December 18, 1830, and was a son of John Charlton, who came to Crawford county among its first settlers, making the journey hither from Maryland. He entered eighty acres of government land, upon which Mr. Sturtz now resides. After his death this farm was purchased by John E. Charlton, who afterward bought an adjoining forty acres, so that the farm comprised one hundred and twenty acres. It remained his place of residence up to the time of his death, and he also purchased another farm of ninety acres on the Bucyrus road. He voted with the Republican party and in religion was a stanch member of the Evangelical church, in which he held different offices for many years. His death occurred July 12, 1897. He had three children: Ella J.; Joseph E., of North Enid, Oklahoma; and Wilbur J., who is in the employ of the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railroad.

Soon after his marriage Mr. Sturtz took charge of his father-in-law's farm, which he operated up to the time of the latter's death, when J. E. Charlton was appointed administrator of the estate. When the business was settled up our subject purchased the old homestead of one hundred and twenty acres, and he and his wife are now thereon rearing their children, namely: Melvin Roy, Florence E. and Milton Clare.

Mr. Sturtz votes the Republican ticket and is a stanch supporter of the principles of the party. He, too, belongs to the Evangelical church, in which he has served as trustee, and socially he is connected with Sulphur Springs Tent, No. 298, K. O. T. M. At the tender age of eight years he started out to make his own way in the world and has since depended entirely upon his own resources. Whatever success he has achieved has resulted from his labors and his energy, guided by sound judgment. His career has ever been upright and honorable, winning him the confidence and good will of those with whom he has been brought in contact.

### SAMUEL SPONSELLER.

Samuel Sponseller is one of the influential and esteemed citizens of Crawford county, where he owns and operates a well cultivated and productive farm of one hundred and ninety-six acres of land, in Liberty township. His birth was on the farm where he now resides, on December 31, 1836, a son of Michael and Susanna (Mentzer) Sponseller, and is one of a family of eleven

children born to his parents, ten of whom grew to maturity and five of whom still survive, viz.: Susanna, the widow of Martin Brown, resides near Dixon, Indiana; Emanuel is a farmer of Hancock county, Ohio; Henry is a farmer of Kosciusko county, Indiana; Reuben is a farmer of Defiance county, Ohio; and Samuel, of this sketch.

The father, Michael Sponseller, came to Crawford county from Columbia county about 1831, having been married there, and eight of the children were born there. Upon his arrival in this county he purchased eighty acres of land, where our subject now resides. This was owned by his brother-in-law, John Mentzer. Then he entered the eighty acres adjoining this on the west, and soon after purchased another eighty acres on the south, making his farm one of two hundred and forty acres. In 1858 he built a commodious farm residence and the year following he erected a substantial and sightly barn, making his property one of the best improved in this locality. The mother died in 1858 and the father contracted a second marriage, with Mrs. Maria Hatton, who survived him some seven years. The father died in 1874, having been one of the thoroughly respected citizens of the township. In his early days he was a Democrat, but cast his first Republican vote for Abraham Lincoln, and ever after voted and worked for that party.

Our subject, Samuel Sponseller, grew up and spent his boyhood on the old farm, gaining his education in the schools of the locality, with one summer at the Haysville Academy, and at the age of twenty-two took charge and managed the home farm for his father. In 1860, on the 18th of April, he was united in marriage with one of the fair daughters of this county, Miss Sarah A. Kling, a native of Cranberry township, the daughter of Moses Kling, who for fifteen years was a well known justice of the peace in his township. After his marriage our subject remained on the home place and continued to manage it successfully, but about 1870 he bought forty acres of the home farm, which he cultivated until his father's death, when he purchased the old place of one hundred and twenty acres, from the other heirs, the father having previously disposed of eighty acres to his son Emanuel, and still later our subject bought of his brother eighteen and one-half acres, and also seventeen and one-half of the Daniel Chambers farm, making his acreage one hundred and ninety-six acres, which is desirably located in section 20.

Mr. Sponseller has displayed great energy, judgment and industry in the acquisition of so large a farm, but he thoroughly understands the management and care of it and enjoys the ownership of not only one of the most productive but also one of the most attractive farms of the county.

To Mr. and Mrs. Sponseller have been born three children, two of whom, Sylvanus E. and James, are deceased, the survivor being William H., a farmer of Bucyrus township. Although not a member, Mr. Sponseller is a liberal supporter of the German Baptist church, of which his estimable wife is a consistent member and he is an attendant on the services. A life-long Republican, he has taken an active interest in the success of his party and its men and plans, believing the principles advocated by it to be the best for the country at large. Several years he served as a member of the school board and is regarded as one of the safe and reliable advisers in educational matters. The esteem in which he is held is general, and he may be justly regarded as a representative man of Crawford county.

#### WILLIAM A. ECKERT.

Among the successful and highly esteemed farmer citizens of Dallas township, Crawford county, is William A. Eckert, who was born in Wyandot county, Ohio, on August 1, 1851, a son of the late Nathaniel H. and Emeline (Decker) Eckert.

Nathaniel H. Eckert was born in Syracuse, New York, on August 4, 1819, and was reared and educated in his native state. When about thirty years of age he came to Ohio and bought forty acres of land in Wyandot county, near Nevada, and upon that farmed for some nine or ten years. Selling that tract he bought fifty-five acres just east of Nevada and here he farmed until 1867, when he came to Dallas township and bought ninety-five acres in section 24 and later fifty-five acres in section 25. For several years he lived on the former tract and about twenty-five years ago built a residence on the south side of the road, on the other tract, and lived upon it until his death, with the exception of about two years' residence in Nevada.

The marriage of Mr. Eckert was to Emeline Decker, who was born in Crawford county, Ohio, her parents being pioneer settlers of the county. Her death took place on September 3, 1892, her husband surviving until April 25, 1900. Their children were William A., Marietta, Caroline, Delia Jane, Sarah Loetta and George E., the latter a farmer of Bucyrus township. Only William A. and George survive.

Although Mr. Eckert began life with limited means, by industry and good business management he became a substantial farmer and stock-raiser. Before his death he added still another fifty-acre tract to his estate and was thus one of the large land owners of the county. In politics he was a Re-



publican and for many years was a leading member of the United Brethren church, and was a man who enjoyed the respect and esteem of the whole neighborhood.

William A. Eckert, the most worthy son of this estimable father, was reared on the farm, and was educated at the State Deaf and Mute Institute at Columbus, Ohio. His home has always been in Dallas township since his parents came to Crawford county.

Mr. Eckert was married on December 7, 1880, to Bertha O. Sohlke, who was born in Germany, a daughter of Christian and Emma Sohlke, who emigrated to America when Bertha was four years old. They settled in New York, but later removed to London, Ohio, later to Putnam county, where they died. Mrs. Eckert was also educated in the fine institution for the mutes at Columbus, and there formed the acquaintance of her husband. Three bright, entertaining and well educated children form the home circle for Mr. and Mrs. Eckert,—Callie, Victoria and Robert Ray. Mr. Eckert has been a successful farmer, is a Republican voter and is one of the most highly respected citizens of the township.

#### TARLINGTON B. CARSON.

Tarlington B. Carson is now serving as postmaster of New Washington and is one of the honored pioneer settlers of Crawford county, whose growth and progress he has witnessed from an early period, having located within its borders when civilization had hardly gained a foothold, much of the land being in its primitive condition, while the work of development and improvement lay in the future. A wonderful transformation has since occurred, and the forests have been replaced by waving fields of grain, giving evidence of the care of enterprising agriculturists; towns and villages have also been founded and have been supplied with all of the accessories known to the older east.

Mr. Carson was born in Venus township, Seneca county, Ohio, June 7, 1837, his parents being Samuel and Elizabeth (Willoughby) Carson, both of whom are of German-Irish descent, and were natives of Virginia, but were married in Harrison county, Ohio, in 1814. In 1835 they removed to Seneca county, locating in Venus township. The father entered a section of land and erected thereon a double log house, which served as the family residence for several years and was also used as a place of religious worship. Later a log schoolhouse was built in the neighborhood and it was used for church



*Farlington B. Carson.*



as well as school purposes. Samuel Carson was a distant relative of the celebrated trapper and Indian fighter, Kit Carson. A man of very decided views and excellent judgment, he was in his day considered one of the most prominent and intelligent residents of northern Ohio. In politics he was a Democrat until the election of Buchanan to the presidency. Entertaining strong abolition views and not being pleased with Buchanan's administration, he enlisted under the banner of the new Republican party which was formed to prevent the further extension of slavery, and was identified with that organization from the early days of its history until his death. His fellow townsmen, recognizing his ability, frequently called him to positions of public trust, yet he was never an office-seeker. He had the high regard of his neighbors and friends and he left the impress of his individuality upon public thought, feeling, progress and advancement. His wife died in February, 1866. She was very devoted and considerate in her relations with her husband and children and won the love of all. Her husband survived her until June of the following year, when he, too, passed away and was laid to rest by the side of the woman who had been to him a faithful companion and helpmeet on life's journey. They were both active and consistent members of the Methodist Protestant church, Mrs. Carson being most influential in carrying forward all church and charitable work. They became the parents of eleven children, namely: Robert, Jackson W., Annie, Harrison H., George, Margaret, Sarah, Hannah, Eliza, Samuel and Tarlington B.

The last named is the immediate subject of this review, and is one of the well known citizens of Crawford county. His school privileges in youth were very meager, for he probably never attended more than forty days in any one year. At the time of his birth there were but five families in the school district, the country round about being a vast wilderness. He, however, mastered the common branches of the English course, and when twenty years of age he began teaching, which profession he followed for four years. Desiring to still further perfect his own knowledge, he then entered the Seneca Academy and he was also materially assisted in his studies by his two older brothers, who were teachers, and by his brother-in-law, Alanson Cory, who at that time was one of the ablest educators of this portion of the state. He had two brothers, Harrison H. and George W., who were ministers of the Methodist Protestant and Freewill Baptist churches, respectively, and four of his sisters and three of his brothers were teachers. Mr. Carson eagerly continued his pursuit of knowledge, often studying far into the night, and by this means he acquired an excellent education. On the breaking out of the

Civil war he responded to his country's call and joined the boys in blue of Company H, Fourteenth Regiment of Ohio Volunteer Infantry, being mustered into the service on the 5th of September, 1861. Not long afterward the regiment joined the Army of the Cumberland, and he served his country faithfully throughout the war and participated in many engagements, among the most prominent of which were the battles of Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge, Jonesboro, Wild Cat, Spring Mills and many others of lesser importance. He was also in the skirmishes around Pittsburg Landing and was in the battle of Tusculum, Alabama. He sustained two flesh wounds, one at Missionary Ridge and the other at Chickamauga, and on the close of his three years term of service was honorably discharged September 9, 1864, returning home with a most commendable record for valor and loyalty.

After again reaching Ohio Mr. Carson purchased eighty acres of the farm upon which he was born, but in 1868 sold that property and for a year resided upon what was known as the Joseph Summerland farm. Later he removed to a farm of eighty acres, now owned by Samuel Willford, having purchased this property at the time he sold his first farm. He cleared and improved it, making it his home for seven years, when he found a purchaser for the property, and having disposed of it invested his money in another farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Cranberry township, which he still owns. During the ten years of his residence thereon he cleared eighty acres, placing the tract under a high state of cultivation, but in March, 1886, he rented his land and removed to New Washington, taking up his abode in his present residence, which he rented for a year and then purchased.

On the 2d of May, 1861, Mr. Carson was united in marriage to Miss Sarah R. Smith, a native of Venus township, Seneca county, and a daughter of Jonathan and Elizabeth (Bigam) Smith. By this marriage were born seven children, of whom three are yet living. During the earlier years of his business career Mr. Carson also engaged in teaching in the public schools for twelve years in connection with his farming operations, and many of the prominent men of New Washington and vicinity were among his pupils. On the 15th of May, 1889, without solicitation on his part he was appointed postmaster of New Washington, and occupied the position until October 1, 1893. On the 1st of September, 1897, he was again appointed to the office and is the present incumbent. In his political views he is a staunch Republican, unswerving in his advocacy of the party which upheld the Union cause during the Civil war, and has ever been found on the side of progress and reform.



In 1894 he was solicited by many of his friends to become a candidate for the office of township trustee. At length he consented, and although the township is strongly Democratic he was elected by a majority of fifty-five votes. His party would have again given him the nomination, but he refused uncompromisingly to become a candidate. A member of the Methodist Episcopal church, he is an earnest Christian gentleman, whose business record, public career and private life are likewise above reproach or condemnation. To the duties of the home, in commercial circles and when in office he is as true and loyal as when he was a Union soldier upon the battle-fields of the south.

### JACOB DENZER.

Jacob Denzer, who has passed the eightieth milestone on life's journey, is one of the oldest citizens and most honored pioneers of Crawford county. He was born in Baden, Germany, May 13, 1821, a son of Andrew and Hester A. (Finfgelt) Denzer. The father also was born, reared and educated in Baden and served as a soldier under Napoleon Bonaparte, going with that general on the ill-fated expedition to Moscow, where thousands of his comrades fell. Unto him and his wife were born four sons and a daughter, namely: Andrew, George, Jacob, Mary and Simon. Two of the number died in fatherland and were buried in Upfingen, Baden. The father died about 1840, seven years after coming to this country, but the mother lived many years, passing away in 1876, at the age of ninety-four years.

It was in the autumn of 1833 that Jacob Denzer, then a lad of thirteen years, came with his parents and their family to the new world. Not long after their arrival they became residents of Crawford county and the father purchased fifteen acres of timber land in Liberty township. This tract was then cleared and a log cabin was built the following spring. Jacob Denzer began to earn his own living that spring by working as a farm hand, receiving three and four dollars per month for his services. He was employed in that capacity until twenty-five years of age and gave his wages to his parents until he had attained his majority. At the age of twenty-five he began farming on rented land, which he operated for three years.

As a further preparation for a home of his own Mr. Denzer secured as a companion and helpmate for the journey of life Miss Matilda McNeal, of Crawford county, their marriage being celebrated on the 13th of March, 1850. The lady was born in Huntingdon county, Pennsylvania, December 6, 1826,

and proved of great assistance to her husband in his work. After his marriage Mr. Denzer rented one farm for six years, and in the meantime he purchased thirty-eight acres of land. In 1863 he bought his present homestead—one of the best farms in the county, the purchase being made possible through the enterprise and energy of Mr. Denzer, who has labored consecutively and industriously, thus working his way upward to a position of affluence. For ten years he operated a sawmill, working the fields in the day time and running the mill by night and through the seasons in which he was not cultivating his crops. He thus prospered and became one of the extensive and representative farmers and stock-raisers of the county. He made many improvements on his place, adding thereto all the accessories and conveniences of the model farm.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Denzer were born the following children: Mary L., Jennie, Andrew, Esther, Simon J., Anson J., Ella, Alexander, Maggie, Lewis I. and Electa V. Two died in childhood—Florence and an infant son. In rearing their children Mr. Denzer and his wife brought up a family of sons and daughters who are a credit to their name, being valued and influential citizens of the respective communities in which they make their homes. Mr. Denzer cast his first presidential vote for Martin Van Buren and since that time has been a stalwart Democrat in his political views. For several years he has loved a retired life, owing to impaired health, and well he deserves his rest for he has passed the eightieth milestone on life's journey and his honorable, active and useful career deserves to be crowned with a period of rest. He is respected by all who know him, and his acquaintance has been a wide one through his residence of more than six decades in the county, which he has seen developed from a wild region into a splendidly developed tract of country, which has become the abiding place of a contented and prosperous people.

#### LEWIS I. DENZER.

Lewis I. Denzer is one of the native sons of Crawford county and is widely known among its citizens, where his educational work and his personal characteristics have made him popular and respected. He is a son of Jacob Denzer, an honored pioneer, whose sketch appears above. His birth occurred May 12, 1867, on the old family homestead in Bucyrus township, where his father is still living. There our subject early became familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. He assisted in the cultivation of the fields, the planting and harvesting of crops and in the winter season

he pursued his education in the common schools. His preliminary course was supplemented by study in the Ohio Normal University, at Ada. He has followed his chosen vocation with success and for several years has been widely known as one of the most competent and popular teachers in the county. He is a follower of the Democracy, earnest and enthusiastic in support of the principles of his party, and on its ticket he has been elected for the second time to the office of township assessor of Bucyrus township, in which position he discharges his duties with promptness and fidelity. He still resides on the old family homestead, which is endeared to him through the associations of youth as well as those of his manhood. He is a member of the Junior Order of United American Mechanics. His acquaintance is extensive, his friends many, and among the young men of the county he holds a high place in public regard.

MRS. LOUISA MILLER.

Perhaps there is no more highly esteemed resident of Holmes township than the most estimable lady whose name introduces this sketch. Born in Dauphin county, Pennsylvania, February 24, 1825, she has lived a long life filled with worthy deeds and has exerted an influence for good through the community. Her parents were Cyrus and Margaret (Warner) Hacker, both of whom were natives of Dauphin county who emigrated with their family to Ohio, in 1835. Father Hacker purchased eighty acres of land in Liberty township, and settled down to make a living for his family. The soil was fertile, but it required hard work to clear the land, and only a portion of it was ready for cultivation when his death occurred, in 1848, when he was but forty-seven years old. His widow was left with a family of seven children to rear, under circumstances which would have completely crushed many a woman; but Mrs. Hacker was made of strong nerve, took up her burden, managed her farm, reared her children to be capable and self-supporting and self-respecting men and women, and in her later years found a peaceful home with one of her excellent daughters in Indiana.

Our subject grew up at her mother's side and was taught all the household duties of the time, and the art of spinning and weaving she put into practice in later life, after marriage, when she wove all the cloth for family use, working frequently by firelight, and to those early efforts much of the success of Mr. Miller was due. In 1848 occurred the marriage of Louisa Hacker to Joseph Miller, and during the succeeding ten years he farmed for his father,

on shares ; but in 1858 he came to Crawford county and purchased eighty acres of land, in Holmes township, where the present Miller residence is located. The years that followed were years of hard work, but diligence and perseverance had their final reward. The land was unimproved, and for eleven years a pioneer log cabin was the family home. In 1867 Mr. Miller erected a substantial barn and two years later one of the best residences in the township. As he prospered he added eighty adjoining acres to his farm on the south, eighty more on the north and fifty a short distance east of his home farm, making his farming lands comprise about two hundred and ninety acres. During all these years, while life for Mrs. Miller was at its busiest and most demanding stages, for she was rearing her son and assisting in every way possible the business interests of her husband, Mrs. Miller was making a happy home and becoming a beloved neighbor in the rapidly growing community. Mr. Miller died on January 28, 1897, a man of sterling worth, with a name which was ever recognized as good as his bond, and one of the leading members of the United Brethren church which he had faithfully served as trustee, class-leader and Sunday-school superintendent for many years. His early education was neglected because of the demands made upon him when a child when he should have been at school.

Joseph Miller was born in Richland county, Ohio, September 16, 1816, a son of Israel and Rachina (Kitch) Miller, the former of whom was a native of Pennsylvania, a blacksmith by trade, which he followed in connection with farming. His marriage was in his native state and there his three children were born ; but Joseph, who was the fourth child, was born in Richland county. Some time about 1816, Israel Miller removed to Richland county, Ohio, and entered one hundred and sixty acres of land, in Franklin township, building upon it a cabin and making other improvements, residing upon it until 1860, when he sold this farm and removed into Todd township, Crawford county, where he bought a small place of forty acres, and had his children settled comfortably around him. Here he remained a number of years, but late in life removed to Osceola and spent his last days in retirement, dying on April 30, 1872, at the age of eighty-three years and six months. The separation was too great a blow to his devoted wife, and twenty-four hours later she also passed away, at the age of seventy-six years.

During life Joseph Miller voted with the Democratic party, having been reared in that faith. Since his death Mrs. Miller has continued to reside on the farm, her son, Ceno P., living with her and managing the estate with

ability. Many changes have taken place since this estimable lady first made this her home, and it is with satisfaction that she can look back and realize how much of the improvement is due to her own efforts.

### CONRAD HASSEL.

The life of a man who gives his years and his energies to evangelical, educational and charitable work is always interesting and valuable as showing men what a fellow man has done for mankind. Rev. Conrad Hassel, one of the most prominent preachers and workers in the field of Christian charity, living at Galion, Ohio, was born two miles southeast of Sharon, Mercer county, Pennsylvania, January 26, 1863. When he was six years old his parents removed to a point two and a half miles southwest of Sharon, Trumbull county, Ohio, where he passed his boyhood and received his early education in the district school near his home and at a night school taught in that neighborhood in which special attention was given to arithmetic. He was instructed in the German language at his home by his parents and attended several winter terms of a German night school at Sharon, where he devoted himself to German, grammar and writing. In his boyhood he became a member and regular attendant of the Reformed church at Sharon. For a number of years he taught a class in the Sunday-school of that church and was a regular attendant at another Sunday-school in that neighborhood, the sessions of which were held on Sunday afternoons. The superintendent of the Sunday-school last mentioned had a happy faculty for simple narration of the deeds and sufferings of Christ, and his presentation of the Savior's career and mission was so effective that it powerfully impressed young Hassel, who has no recollection as to when he first conceived a desire to enter the ministry of the gospel. As long ago as he can remember, he felt such a desire. Even at the age of seven, while reading the simple narratives of the Bible, he was strongly impressed by the Gospels and the Acts to preach Christ and Him crucified.

At the age of twenty young Hassel entered Calvin College at Cleveland, Ohio, where under the competent direction of the Rev. H. J. Ruetenik, D. D., LL. D., he took a full collegiate course and won a gold medal which was offered as a prize to the student taking first rank in the German language. After graduating, with the degree of B. A., he took a seminary course at Heidelberg University, Tiffin, Ohio, where he was graduated with the degree



of B. D., and seven years later his alma mater conferred upon him the degree of A. M.

Rev. Hassel's first pastorate was composed of the Reformed church at Ashland and a country congregation near West Point, Ohio. That pastorate continued for two years and nine months, during which time the membership, especially in the country church, was greatly improved, and in many ways it was crowned with the reward of blessed work well done. Having accepted a call from the First Reformed church of Galion, Ohio, Rev. Hassel entered upon his second pastorate April 1, 1891. The tenth anniversary of his connection with the Galion church was made the occasion of an interesting celebration. His church has a membership of over six hundred.

In addition to his work in the ministry Rev. Hassel has distinguished himself in connection with the Crawford County Historical Society. He began historical researches local in character in 1893 which attracted so much attention and prompted so much interest in the matters in question that the society was duly organized May 18, 1896, with Conrad Hassel as president. In the same year a monument was erected by the society on the site of the Olentangy battle-field, where on June 6, 1782, Colonel Crawford's retreating army faced about and had a battle with the pursuing Indian warriors from Sandusky and Buttler's Rangers from Fort Detroit. Though hard pressed the Americans gained the victory. Rev. Hassel's familiarity with the opening of the Northwest Territory gave him intimate knowledge concerning its early settlement and the trials and successes of such pioneers as Boone and his contemporaries, as well as the subsequent brave pathfinders of the wilderness. Rev. Hassel has been president of the Heidelberg Classis, president of the Central Synod, delegate to the General Synod and treasurer of the Home Mission board and is at this time president of the board just mentioned.

Rev. Hassel married Lydia Forwick, of Vermillion, Ohio, August 26, 1889, and their union was blessed with six children,—three boys and three girls, named as follows: Frieda, Alma, Otto, Irene, Carl and Ira. Mrs. Hassel is a daughter of a well known minister of the Reformed church, now deceased.

#### JAMES B. GORMLY.

The unostentatious routine of private life, although of vast importance to the welfare of the community, has not figured to any great extent in the pages of history. But the names of men who have distinguished themselves



*McDonnell*



by the possession of those qualities of character which mainly contribute to the success of private life and to the public stability and who have enjoyed the respect and confidence of those around them should not be permitted to perish. Their example is more valuable to the majority of readers than that of heroes, statesmen and writers, as they furnish means of subsistence for the multitude whom they in their useful careers have employed.

Such are the thoughts that involuntarily come to our minds when we consider the life of him whose name initiates this sketch. He is one of the most prominent representatives of the banking interests of this section of Ohio. A man of sterling worth, his ability in business and reliable methods have won for the institution with which he is connected a foremost position in money circles.

Mr. Gormly was born in Bucyrus November 23, 1836, and is the eldest son of John A. Gormly, whose birth occurred in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, July 19, 1804. His paternal grandparents were John and Elizabeth (Gill) Gormly. The former was born in county Tyrone, Ireland, in 1776, and about 1790 crossed the Atlantic to the new world, locating in Pittsburg, where he entered the milling business. He wedded Elizabeth Gill, a daughter of John Gill, who was born in Scotland and took up his abode in the Keystone state prior to the Revolutionary war. When the colonies attempted to throw off the yoke of British oppression he joined the army and valiantly assisted in obtaining independence. About 1830 John A. Gormly removed to Brownsville, Pennsylvania, where he engaged in the dry-goods business, and while residing there became a member of the Presbyterian church. In 1833 he was united in marriage to Miss Louisa Bowman, and in 1836 they came to Bucyrus, Ohio, where he conducted a small general store on Sandusky avenue, having purchased property there. By close attention to business and careful management on the part of himself and wife he became one of the wealthy men of the county. He judiciously invested a part of his capital in realty, becoming the owner of valuable city property and one thousand acres of rich farming land. In 1859 he turned his attention to the banking business, establishing the People's Deposit Bank, which he successfully conducted until 1864, when he organized the First National Bank of Bucyrus and was chosen its president, acting in that capacity until his death, which occurred May 8, 1878, when he was in his seventy-fifth year. To his management, fair dealing and integrity the bank owes its high reputation, which has not been lessened under the management of his son, James B. Gormly, who is now president. In church work he always took an active interest,

doing all in his power to promote the cause of Christianity. In 1838 he was elected a ruling elder in the Presbyterian church and in 1868 was made a lay delegate of the presbytery from Bellfontaine to the general assembly in Brooklyn, New York. His wife passed away prior to his death, being called to her final rest May 6, 1872. In their family were three children, James B., George C. and Mary L., the daughter being the wife of the Rev. James G. D. Findley, of Newburg, New York.

Mr. Gormly, whose name introduces this record, pursued his education in the schools of Bucyrus until his seventeenth year, when he entered the store of his uncle, James P. Bowman, with whom he remained for a year. In 1856 he was graduated in Bartlett's Commercial College, of Cincinnati, and then entered the Exchange Bank, of Bucyrus, as teller and bookkeeper there, remaining until 1859. In that year he and his father organized and became sole proprietors of the People's Deposit Bank, which ceased to do business on the organization in 1864 of the First National Bank, of which the father became president, while Mr. Gormly was made cashier, serving in that capacity until 1878, when he succeeded his father to the presidency. For almost a quarter of a century he has occupied the position, and the safe, conservative policy which he has followed has annually increased the business transacted over the counters of that institution.

A man of splendid executive force, of keen discrimination and of splendid powers as an organizer, he has been an active factor in the control of many important business concerns in this section of the state. From 1871 until 1875 he was secretary and treasurer of the Ohio Central Railroad Company and was treasurer of the Crawford County Agricultural Association from 1867 until 1878. He was for several years the president of the Gas & Electric Light Company and is now president of the Bucyrus Water Works Company. Of the former he served as president until its sale in 1901. In 1893 he was made assignee of the estate of ex-Governor Foster, of Fostoria, Ohio, the business of which he has just brought to a conclusion. In connection with Colonel W. C. Lemert, he was one of the organizers of the Fry-Sheckler Company, now the American Clay Working Machinery Company, of which he was treasurer for several years. This is the largest enterprise of the kind in the world. In 1859 Mr. Gormly was united in marriage to Miss E. Virginia Swingly, a daughter of Dr. Frederick and Mary (Denman) Swingly. Their children are: Ella K., now the wife of F. S. Monnett, ex-attorney general of Ohio and now a resident of Columbus; Susie E., wife of W. H. Picking, a hardware merchant of Bucyrus; and James B. The



son was educated in the schools of Bucyrus, and in 1890 entered the First National Bank, where he is now acting as assistant cashier. The family is one of prominence in the community and attends services at the Presbyterian church, of which Mr. Gornly is an elder. In politics he is a Republican. There are few men whose lives are crowned with the honor and respect which is uniformly accorded him, and through more than a quarter of a century's connection with the business interests of Ohio his has been an unblemished character. With him success in life has been reached by his sterling qualities of mind and a heart true to every manly principle.

#### FREDERICK SWINGLY, M. D.

No representative of the medical fraternity in Crawford county has had a more extended patronage or a higher reputation in the line of his profession than Dr. Swingly, late of Bucyrus. He was born in Washington county, Maryland, November 22, 1809, and was a son of Leonard and Prudence (Brentlinger) Swingly. At the usual age he entered school and continued his studies in the schools of Hagerstown, Maryland, until eighteen years of age. Subsequently he determined to make the practice of medicine his life work and became a student in the office and under the direction of Dr. Russell, of Mt. Vernon, Ohio, who planned his reading until he matriculated in the Jefferson Medical College, of Philadelphia. In 1840 he was graduated in the Ohio Medical College, of Cincinnati, and immediately afterward began practice in Chesterville, Ohio, where he remained for seven years. Subsequently he spent one year in Mt. Gilead. His success in his profession was so pronounced that his reputation extended to surrounding counties and he became recognized as one of the leading members of the medical fraternity in this part of the state. In 1843 he came to Bucyrus, where he was already known by reputation, and at once secured a lucrative practice. The Doctor spent many years in his profession. His work was arduous, for the practice of medicine in those days involved long and dreary rides by day or night, in storm or sunshine, and he often had to make his way over almost impassable roads or through stretches of forest, but he never failed to respond to the call of the sick and suffering. Often times he knew that no pecuniary remuneration would be received, but his generous spirit and broad humanitarianism prompted him to relieve those in need of professional service. On the 21st of June, 1836, Mr. Swingly was united in marriage to Miss Mary,

daughter of Joseph and Mary (Trobridge) Denman, of Knox county, Ohio. Their children are: Edith V., now the wife of J. B. Gormly, a banker of Bucyrus; Ellen M., who for several years was principal of the schools of Bucyrus, and is now the wife of Major E. C. Moderwell, of Chicago, Illinois; John R.; Frederick; Mary D., wife of Colonel C. W. Fisher, of Bucyrus; and Kate M., the wife of H. M. Fulton, also of Bucyrus. The mother of this family died February 28, 1874, and on the 5th of June, 1889, the Doctor was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Barbara Van Vorhees, widow of Isaac Van Vorhees, one of the early settlers of Crawford county.

Dr. Swingly passed away June 13, 1900, at the age of ninety-one years. His was a long, useful and honorable career, and his life history forms an integral part of the annals of Crawford county. Probably no man in the community was more widely known than this loved family physician in many a household. His work brought him into close contact with a large majority of citizens, and his sterling worth gained him very warm regard.

#### SYLVANUS CHARLES CHANEY.

A good name is a priceless legacy and one of which the children of an ordinary man should be more proud than the children of a great financier who had died and left millions smirched with dishonor. Sylvanus Charles Chaney, in his time one of the prominent citizens of Crawford county, Ohio, left such a priceless legacy to his descendants and to his children, property of considerable value which he won by hard work and honest dealing with his fellow men.

Sylvanus Charles Chaney was born in Columbiana county, Ohio, July 5, 1830, a son of Johnson and Mary (Brooks) Chaney, who had six sons and two daughters, only two of whom—James Chaney of Fort Wayne, Indiana, and Mary, who is the wife of Elija Moore, of Columbiana county, Ohio,—survive. His parents were both of Irish blood and his grandfather died when Johnson Chaney was only a lad, leaving his widow with a family of six children and without means adequate for their support. When our subject's father was only fifteen or sixteen years old, he began to work out by the month to assist in the maintenance of the family. After his brothers and sisters had become old enough to be self-supporting, he married and took up the career of a farmer in Columbiana county, Ohio, where he lived until his death which occurred in 1875 at the advanced age of ninety-three years.

Sylvanus Chaney was one of six brothers, five of whom, including himself, learned the carpenter's trade and one of whom became one of the most skillful workmen in his line in the country. After he finished his apprenticeship, he took up the work of his trade and in connection with farming he continued it until the spring of 1860. In September, 1858, he had come to Crawford county for his bride, whom he took to Columbiana county where they lived about a year and a half. In the spring of 1860 he returned to Crawford county where he took up his residence and in connection with Eli Q. Lones, his brother-in-law, rented a farm of two hundred and twenty-six acres, which belonged to his father-in-law, which they worked together for three years under lease. At the expiration of that time, they bought the farm and owned it in partnership, Eli Q. Lones living in Mr. Chaney's family, until 1876, when Mr. Lones married and the property was divided and Mr. Chaney became owner of one hundred and fifty-six acres of the original farm. Later he purchased of the Lones heirs seventy acres of land, which is now the home of his son, Lambert. As a farmer he was thoroughly enterprising and his splendidly improved property and everything upon it afforded ample evidence of his thrift and of the excellence of his business management.

Mr. Chaney's educational advantages were limited to those afforded by the public schools of his day, but he possessed an active mind that was inclined to the acquisition of knowledge and by reading he became well informed in a general way, and by careful attention to business and a constant study of economic conditions and influences became one of the ablest business men in his part of the county. One of his marked traits was caution and he brought it into use often with most gratifying results. Eminently fair in all of his dealings, his integrity and probity were never questioned and he is remembered as one who in all his relations with his fellow men was fair and honorable. Of keen perception and liberal views, his grasp of all questions was certain and comprehensive and his gift of language was such that he was noted for the clearness and force with which he presented his views of any question that he discussed, and he was no less convincing in argument than entertaining in conversation.

Though not a member of any church Mr. Chaney attended religious services frequently and, with a leaning toward Presbyterianism, was a liberal supporter of churches of various denominations. An advocate of popular education, his influence upon schools in his neighborhood was very marked and his public spirit was so great that it may be said of him that during all his active years he withheld his encouragement and financial support from

no measure that promised good to the general public. In politics he was an uncompromising Republican and as such he was elected to numerous local offices, and in the capacity of township trustee he served his fellow citizens with noteworthy ability and fidelity. A man of deep conviction, he possessed courage and force of character to maintain any position to which he was brought by his view of any question. He was a true and faithful friend and nobly filled his obligations to his fellow men, and as a husband and father he was loving, generous and in every way helpful, a blessing to those who depended upon him and who mourn him with tender affection and reverence.

In September, 1858, Mr. Chaney married Mary J. Lones, daughter of Joseph and Jane (Bowman) Lones. Mrs. Chaney's father was born in Berkeley county, Virginia (now West Virginia), March 17, 1801, a son of John and Mary (Spahr) Lones. It is a singular historical fact that he was born in the same house in which his mother was born. John Lones, also a native of Virginia, was a son of one of three brothers who early came from Germany to America, and, locating in different parts of the country, lost knowledge of one another's whereabouts and fortunes. John Lones' father served his adopted country in the Revolutionary war and was killed in battle. John, who was at that time but ten years old and spoke only in the German language, was bound out to an English speaking family, with whom he remained until he attained mature years, entirely forgetting his mother tongue.

In 1810, when Joseph Lones was nine years old, his father moved to Columbiana county, Ohio, and settled about six miles from the Ohio river. Upon Joseph, who was the oldest of eleven children of parents who were comparatively poor, much farm work devolved early in his life and he aided his father very materially in improving and cultivating his farm and in rearing his large family. In 1828, Joseph Lones removed from Columbiana county, Ohio, to Crawford county, Ohio, with John Bowman, his father-in-law, and settled in Holmes township. There is a tradition in the family that the journey consumed eleven days, John Bowman and his family coming to the county in a large wagon drawn by five horses, while Mr. Lones drove a sixth horse attached to a small Dearborn wagon. This journey was made in the month of March, through a wild country so nearly impassable that on some days not more than ten miles were traveled.

Mr. Lones built a cabin of poles, fourteen by sixteen feet inside, in a locality near Bucyrus, Ohio, known as Ludwig's bottoms. There he spent the summer, entering one hundred and sixty acres of land adjoining the Quaintance farm in Holmes township. Having only twenty-five dollars in

cash, he worked on the streets in Bucyrus at twenty-five cents a day to earn money with which to pay for his farm. Later he worked on the canal in Columbiana county and from time to time at whatever his hands found to do. In the fall succeeding his arrival in the county he penetrated the dense forest which included his land to a point where he made a small clearing, in which he intended to erect a cabin. Attempting to return to the place a few days later, he was utterly unable to find it and accordingly made a new clearing, in which he built a home for himself and family, and it was not until years afterward that one day he came unexpectedly to his original clearing. For some years he lived there in a primitive way until he replaced his log cabin with a more modern frame residence. After a time he bought sixty-six acres of the old Eli Quaintance farm, which extended his holdings to the road on the west side; and not long afterward he bought sixty acres more of the Quaintance farm, on the east side of the road, and where he erected a residence and good farm buildings and lived out the remainder of his days.

A few years after Mr. Lones came to Crawford county he entered eighty acres of land north of his home farm for his father, who soon came to the county, of which he was a citizen until his death. To enter the tract of land just mentioned Mr. Lones was obliged to walk to the land office at Tiffin, twenty-seven miles distant. He had completed his business and had covered seven miles of the return journey by dinner time of the day on which he had left his home, and by the time he had eaten dinner the muscles of his legs were so badly swollen that he was unable to resume his journey until the following day and he remained over night at Melmore, Seneca county, Ohio. He died at the age of eighty-six, in the year of 1886. He was married three times.

Mr. Lones was a man of remarkable constitution, but the strenuous life of his earlier years told upon him and in his later years he suffered much from rheumatism. His early political affiliation was with the Whigs, for he was a strong anti-slavery man, and from the organization of the Republican party until his death he was a member of that virile and influential political party. His interest in public education was such that, though he was not an office seeker, he was repeatedly elected a member of the local school board, and his advocacy of road improvements made him so popular with his fellow citizens that he was several times elected supervisor, in which office he served most willingly and efficiently. For many years he was an active member of the Protestant Methodist church. By his first marriage Mr. Lones had eight children, of whom three survive. One of these is Mrs. Sylvanus Chaney, who was born in Holmes township, on her father's farm, on which she now lives,



on the eighteenth day of December, 1832. She has borne her husband five children, of whom the following survive: Emma C., wife of J. M. Herron, of Perry, Iowa; Laura J., who is a member of her mother's household; Lambert J., a farmer of Holmes township, and Rush A., who is the manager of his mother's farm. Johnson Chaney, another of her sons, died in infancy, at the age of two years and four months.

#### WALLACE B. FORREST.

Wallace Byron Forrest, who is occupying the position of clerk of the courts of Crawford county, was elected to the office in 1897 and entered upon the discharge of his duties on the 1st of August, 1898. In the fall of 1900 he was re-elected, so that he is now serving for the second term. If all public officers were as true and faithful to duty as Mr. Forrest there would be no complaint of corruption in politics, for his public service is above reproach.

Mr. Forrest was born in Huntingdon county, Pennsylvania, May 3, 1853, and is a son of James and Margaret (Aston) Forrest. On the paternal side he is of Irish lineage, for his grandfather was a native of county Derry, Ireland, whence he emigrated to the new world, becoming a resident of the Keystone state. James Forrest was born in Huntingdon county, Pennsylvania, in the year 1799, and died at Oceola, Ohio, in 1880, at the ripe old age of eighty-one years. His wife, who was born in the same county, in 1805, passed away in 1881, at the age of seventy-six years. She was of Scotch lineage for the Astons came to the new world from the land of hills and heather. In 1854 the parents of our subject came to Ohio, taking up their abode in Todd township, Crawford county, upon a farm, where they spent their remaining days. They became well known and highly respected citizens of the community.

Wallace B. Forrest was an infant at the time of the removal, and thus within the boundaries of Crawford county he was reared. To its public school system he is indebted for the educational privileges which he enjoyed in his youth. In 1872 he began teaching school and for seventeen years followed that profession in Oceola. He was acknowledged to be one of the most competent instructors in this portion of the state, was enthusiastic and zealous in his work and has the ability to impart clearly and accurately to the students the knowledge which he had acquired, and to forcibly impress upon the young minds the lessons which prepare them for life's practical



*W. B. Forrest.*



duties. He also served as school examiner for six years and was long an active member of the Crawford County Teachers Association, and served as its president for two years.

Mr. Forrest was married, in Ocoola, to Miss Lottie E. Stull, a daughter of J. M. and Mary E. (Smith) Stull, who removed from Stark to Crawford county. The marriage of our subject and his wife has been blessed with the following named children: Edith S., who is now acting as deputy clerk for her father; Nina, the wife of Charles McLaughlin, of Ocoola; Fannie, who is in school; Bruce and Irene. The family took up their abode in Bucyrus in 1898, removing hither from Ocoola. Mr. Forrest is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Junior Order of American Mechanics. In politics he is a Democrat and takes considerable interest in political affairs, doing all in his power to advance the growth and success of his party. Todd township many times honored him by electing and re-electing him to office, he having held the offices of clerk and treasurer for ten and five years, respectively. In 1880 he was a census enumerator for Todd and Dallas townships, having been appointed by a Republican president over three Republican rivals. In 1890 and 1891 he acted as deputy county treasurer under Frank Blicke. For five years he was proprietor of a general store, which he closed out in order to assume the duties of county clerk, and during four years of the time he spent in merchandising he was also postmaster, appointed to the office by President Cleveland in 1892. During the fiftieth congress he was an index clerk in the house of representatives, having been appointed to the position by General Clark, of Missouri, who was at that time clerk of the house. In the spring of 1901 Mr. Forrest was elected a member of the Bucyrus city council, a position he now holds. His election to this office, he being not long a resident of Bucyrus, indicates the high esteem in which he is held by his fellow citizens of Bucyrus. Called to the position of county clerk by popular ballot, he discharged his duties so faithfully through one term that he was re-elected to the office. His public career is one over which there falls no shadow of wrong or suspicion of evil, and as a man and citizen Mr. Forrest commands uniform respect.

#### JAMES KERR.

James Kerr, deceased, resided in Crawford county for many years, and so active was he in affairs that contributed to the material growth of the community and so extensively did he engage in farming and wool-growing

that no biographical record of Crawford county would be complete without mention of this honored and venerable gentleman, who through a long and useful career ever commanded the respect and esteem of his fellow men.

Mr. Kerr was born in Knox county, Ohio, February 18, 1818. His parents were James and Elizabeth (Arbuckle) Kerr, natives of Pennsylvania, whence they removed to Knox county, Ohio, at a very early day. In that county their son James was born and there he spent his youth, working on the home farm, but when seventeen years of age he left his father's fireside to take up the battle of life for himself. His mother had passed away in death and his father had married a second wife, and it was a disagreement with the step-mother that caused Mr. Kerr to leave home. He came to Crawford county and made his home with his elder brother, "Bobbie" Kerr, for whom he worked on the farm for about three years. On the expiration of that period he began farming for himself and completed his arrangement for a home of his own by his marriage to Miss Nancy Towers, on the 5th of November, 1840. They began their domestic life upon a farm of forty acres, which he had purchased in Dallas township. Not long afterward, however, he sold that tract of land and purchased another farm in Whetstone township, taking up his abode thereon and making it his home for many years. He prospered in his undertakings and became an extensive land-owner, at one time his possessions aggregating nearly nine hundred acres. For years he engaged in trading and raising sheep, carrying on the business on a very large scale, finding it a profitable source of income. For five years he lived with his son, George T. Kerr, but in 1897 he removed to Marion, Ohio, where his wife died July 12, 1900, and he himself passed away October 22, 1901.

Mrs. Kerr was born in Pickaway county, Ohio, January 14, 1820, and was a daughter of Thomas and Nancy (Sullivan) Towers, both of whom were natives of Maryland, whence they removed to Pickaway county in an early day. In later life they came to Crawford county and here made their home until called to their final rest. The father was a soldier in the war of 1812 and was a farmer by occupation, following that pursuit in order to provide for his family. Both he and his wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal church. They had twelve children, six sons and six daughters. Unto James and Nancy Kerr were born the following children: Susan, the wife of William Arbuckle, a resident of Crawford county; George T., who is mentioned elsewhere in this volume; and James F., who died when four years of age. The mother was a most noble woman. She was a pioneer



daughter, a pioneer wife and bore bravely the struggles and hardships of pioneer life. She worked with an energy equal to that of her husband and materially assisted him in gaining a competence in life. She passed away in the eightieth year of her age, but her memory remains as a blessed benediction to all who knew her. Like her husband she was for many years an active and faithful member of the Disciples church, located in Bucyrus, an organization which owes much to their support. They were liberal contributors to the erection of the church building, and to the work as it was carried on along various lines. Upon the death of Mrs. Kerr her remains were laid to rest in the beautiful cemetery at Bucyrus. Mr. Kerr passed the eighty-third milestone on the journey of life. He certainly deserves great credit for the exemplary life he lived and the success he achieved. A man of strong conviction, yet charitable in his opinions of others; honest in his business relations and at all times living in harmony with upright principles and honorable manhood, he not only gained wealth, but also won that good name which is rather to be chosen than great riches.

#### GEORGE A. SPAHR.

A familiar and well-known figure in all of the important and progressive agricultural movements in Holmes township, Crawford county, for many years past, has been George A. Spahr, a highly respected citizen and most substantial farmer. The birth of Mr. Spahr was in Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, on June 21, 1825. He was a son of Jesse and Margaret (Peterman) Spahr, and is one of three surviving children. His two sisters are: Catherine, who is the wife of Urias Smith, of Defiance county, Ohio; and Sarah A., who is the wife of Richard Knisley, of Liberty township, in this county.

Jesse Spahr, the father of our subject, was born in Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, and grew up on a farm there, married in his native vicinity and there four of his family of children were born. In 1830 he emigrated to Crawford county, Ohio, and after farming for some years as a renter he purchased eighty acres of land in Liberty township, six miles east of Bucyrus, and there he resided until the time of his death in his eighty-fifth year. In politics he was an adherent of the Democratic party, became prominent in public affairs in the township and efficiently filled the office of trustee for several terms. Both he and his wife were life-long, devoted members of

the English Lutheran church, and he is still remembered as one of the most upright citizens of Crawford county. The mother of our subject also was born in Pennsylvania and survived her husband several years, dying at the age of eighty-four.

The subject of this biography, who is so well and favorably known through this section of Crawford county, grew up on his father's farm and received the best possible schooling of the time and locality, in the little log school house in the vicinity of his birth. At the age of twenty-one he began his own career as a farmer, and on December 10, 1846, he was married to Miss Catherine Cover, the daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth (Zent) Cover, who came to Crawford county from Pennsylvania at an early day and settled in Liberty township, where they lived and where their worthy lives closed.

After marriage our subject continued to work as a farm hand for one year and then removed to his father-in-law's farm and managed that estate for a year, during which time the latter was on a visit with his friends in Pennsylvania. The following year Mr. Spahr purchased eighty acres of his present home farm and in subsequent years has continually added to the original tract, until he now owns one hundred and fifty-four acres of some of the most productive farming land in the county.

Our subject's family consists of five surviving children, one son, Joshua, having passed from life; but all the others are comfortably settled, their names being: Daniel; Rev. Moses, a minister of the Methodist church, located in Sedan, Kansas; Julia A., the wife of Eli Miller, a prosperous farmer of this county; Lovina, the wife of Elias Crall, of Defiance county; and Eliza, the wife of David Schlosser, of Todd township.

In early life Mr. Spahr managed a threshing machine through the neighborhood for a number of years. His farming operations have been conducted with thoroughness and good judgment and he has been eminently successful. While a stanch and life-long Democrat, he respects the opinions of others and with satisfaction to both parties served the township several times as trustee. Repeatedly he has served on the election board, and in matters of public interest he is very generally consulted. Mr. Spahr is an active and useful as well as consistent member of the United Brethren church, to which his wife also belongs, and has long been a trustee of both church and parsonage, and he has also served as class-leader at various times. His circle of personal friends comprises every one in his locality, while his standing before the public is that of the highest.

## ADAM J. WISMAN.

Adam John Wisman, one of the progressive young farmers and stock-raisers of Crawford county, was born in Bucyrus township, February 12, 1863, a son of Christian and Elizabeth (Conkle) Wisman. The father was born in Waynesboro, Franklin county, Pennsylvania, September 15, 1827, and was a son of Frederick and Elizabeth (Heinlen) Wisman, both of whom were natives of Wurtemberg, Germany, from which country they came to America in childhood. They were married in Pennsylvania and resided in that state until their removal to Crawford county, Ohio, in the year 1828. The father was a wagonmaker by trade, but after establishing his home in the Buckeye state devoted his energies to farming. He was an industrious man, reliable in business and was greatly respected by his neighbors and acquaintances. His wife died about fifteen years after their arrival in Ohio, and his death occurred on the 18th of February, 1867. They were the parents of nine children.

Of this number Christian Wisman, the father of our subject, spent his youth and early manhood in assisting his father upon the farm, and in the primitive log school house, such as was common at that time, he obtained his education. On the 17th of October, 1850, he was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Conkle, who was born in Columbiana county, Ohio, September 30, 1830, and by her marriage became the mother of three children, namely: Adam J., Elizabeth and Amanda, the last named now deceased. Upon a fine farm situated on the west bank of the Sandusky river the father farmed for many years, but is now living retired in Bucyrus, where he had made his home for several years. He started out in life with no capital save a stout heart and willing hands, but by means of industry and frugality he gained a good estate and ample competence. In politics a stanch Democrat, he, however, never sought office, preferring to give his attention to other interests. He was esteemed for his honesty, his integrity standing as an unquestioned fact in his career.

Mr. Wisman, whose name forms the caption of this review, was reared upon the home farm and educated in the neighborhood schools. He lived with his parents until twenty-three years of age and was then married and established a home of his own in Bucyrus township. In March, 1890, he took up his residence on the Sandusky road, about two miles southeast of Bucyrus, where he has a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres of fertile land. The place is splendidly improved with all modern equipments usually

found upon a model farm. There is a pleasant and attractive residence, a large and substantial barn and other outbuildings and the latest improved machinery. In addition to the home farm he also owns another tract of land in Bucyrus township, consisting of eighty-six acres, and a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Sandusky township. A man of marked energy and enterprise, he carries forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes and as the result of his perseverance and business ability his capital is annually increasing.

In 1886 Mr. Wisman was united in marriage to Miss Louisa Brown, a daughter of John G. and Catherine (Christman) Brown. Her father was a native of Wurtemberg, Germany, and when a young man came to America. For several years he was employed in Bucyrus, and in this locality he was married. He then located in Holmes township, where he became a prosperous farmer and useful citizen, respected by all who knew him for his sterling worth. He died there in 1892, but his widow still resides on the old homestead. They were the parents of one son and nine daughters, and they reared their children in the faith of the German Lutheran church, of which they were members. Mrs. Wisman was born and reared in Holmes township and by her marriage she became the mother of three children, namely: Cleo L., Ruth and Mabel. In his political views Mr. Wisman is a Democrat and as every true American citizen should do he keeps well informed on the issues of the day. Although he has never sought or desired political preferment to any extent, his fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, have called him to public office in 1888, when he was chosen township trustee, and for six consecutive years he was continued in that position through re-election. He is a good citizen, liberal and public-spirited and by all who know him he is highly esteemed for his genuine worth of character.

#### JAMES P. BEALL.

For almost half a century James Perry Beall has been a resident of Crawford county, and throughout the greater part of the period has been identified with agricultural pursuits, but at the present time he is living retired. He has passed the Psalmist's span of three score years and ten, and in the evening of life is enjoying a well earned rest—the fitting crown of many years of labor.

He was born on a farm in Harrison county, Ohio, May 13, 1828, his parents being James Perry and Minerva (Huff) Beall. The father was born

in Washington county, Pennsylvania, in 1797, and was a son of Colmore Beall, who was of Scotch lineage. Representatives of the family have become very numerous in the country since the first of the name took up his abode in the Keystone state. The family there founded has since scattered until it is now represented in various states of the Union and its members have become prominent in business, professional and political life. The father of our subject was reared in the country of his nativity and was there married to a Miss Albert, by whom he had two children—Zenas, now deceased, and Mrs. Jane Chance, now a resident of Todd township, Crawford county. The father was a farmer by occupation. His first wife died in Pennsylvania and afterward, when a young man of about twenty-seven years, he came to Ohio, settling in Harrison county, where his father had entered land from the government.

James P. Beall, Sr., settled in the midst of the wild forest, becoming one of the pioneers of the county, where he resided for thirty years. He then sold his property there and came to Crawford county, where he resided until his death, which occurred in 1870, when he was seventy-three years of age. After taking up his abode in Harrison county he had formed the acquaintance of Minerva Huff, whom he married. She was of a Virginian family and was born in the Old Dominion. By her marriage she became the mother of ten children: Casander, William, Elizabeth and Colmore, all now deceased; James Perry, of this review; Cyrus, who died while serving in the Union army during the Civil war; Rebecca, deceased; John, who also died while a Union soldier; Minerva, deceased; and Zephaniah, who also served in the Civil war and is now a resident of Fulton county, Indiana. The mother died about 1874, at the age of seventy-three years.

Mr. Beall, whose name forms the caption of this review, was reared in Harrison county, Ohio, amid pioneer scenes and privations, and was educated in the old primitive log school house, which was built with a huge fireplace in one end large enough to hold immense logs. The windows were made by removing a log from one side and one end, and filling the aperture with glass. The desk was formed of boards resting on pegs driven into the walls, and there were slab seats, resting on wooden pegs. In such a school Mr. Beall learned to read, write and "cipher," but was only instructed in arithmetic for thirteen days. In after years, however, he applied himself to study at home, even after his marriage continuing his educational work, for he realized the value of education and wished to prepare himself for the duties of life. He worked on the home farm and remained under the parental roof until his



marriage, which occurred in 1848. For three years thereafter he worked as a farm hand in Harrison county, and rather than remain idle one spring, before the time for farm work, he spent one week at splitting rails for thirty-seven and a half cents per day. He thus began an independent career under rather difficult circumstances. During the fifth year after his marriage he cultivated a rented farm of one hundred and thirty acres and after paying his rent in cash he had four hundred dollars clear above all expenses. This was the result of hard work and good management. In 1852 he came to Crawford county, and the first year he was here was the year he rented lands and cleared the four hundred dollars, and the next year he could not rent to suit him, and, being offered a good proposition to work as a hired hand, he accepted the proposition. In 1854 he purchased the farm upon which he now resides, comprising one hundred and twenty acres of rich land. He has since prospered in his undertakings and at one time had extensive landed possessions, but has since sold much of it, although he still owns two other farms in connection with that upon which he now resides. He has engaged quite extensively in raising stock, mostly sheep and hogs, but for several years has lived a retired life, having in the meantime acquired a handsome competence, which supplies him with all of the comforts and many of the luxuries of life.

In 1848 Mr. Beall was married to Miss Mary Ann Kecklar, who was born in Pennsylvania in 1827 and went to Harrison county, Ohio, with her parents during her early girlhood. Mr. and Mrs. Beall have had seven children: James Perry and John W., who are deceased; Mary Margaret, the wife of Charles B. Henry, a farmer of Bucyrus township; Lauraette, the wife of Edward Hill, also a farmer of Bucyrus township; Dorsey Lincoln, an attorney living in Toledo, Ohio; Eva Minerva, the wife of Wesley Beal, an agriculturist of Bucyrus township; and Nora Ellen, the wife of John I. Milliken, who also engages in the tilling of the soil in the same township. Both Mr. and Mrs. Beall are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. He joined the church in early manhood and for many years he has been a leader in church work, serving as Sunday-school superintendent, church steward and in other offices. He has labored earnestly and conscientiously for the spread of the cause of Christianity among the people of this locality and has molded his life according to the teachings and tenets of the religious organization with which he is connected.

Mrs. Beall's parents were John and Rosanna (Gordon) Kecklar. Her father and mother were born in Pennsylvania, but her grandparents, both pa-

ternal and maternal, were born in Germany, and on coming to this country settled in Pennsylvania. Her paternal grandparents were Michael and Mary Ann Kecklar, and the maternal grandparents were Josiah and Martha Jane Gordon. They lived and died in the Keystone state. Mrs. Beall was born in Adams county, Pennsylvania, in 1827, and when she was seven years of age her parents came to Ohio and settled in Harrison county. Here her mother died, but her father died in Kansas, while on a visit to a daughter living in that state. Martha Jane, Mary Ann, Rosanna, Josiah and Malinda are the living children born unto John and Rosanna Kecklar. Their father was a blacksmith by trade, but farmed the greater part of his life.

An uncle of Mrs. Beall, Josiah H. Gordon, soon after his marriage removed to the south and was there living when the Civil war came on. In the conflict he became a Confederate soldier and rose to the rank of general and was killed in battle. By profession he was a lawyer, and he was one of ability.

#### EZEKIEL STEINHILBER.

Among the prosperous farmer residents of Bucyrus township, who have made farming a very successful life business, is Ezekiel Steinhilber, who owns a fine farm of eighty acres in a desirable part of this township. The birth of Mr. Steinhilber was in Todd township, on December 12, 1857. He was a son of John M. and Christina (Leitz) Steinhilber, both of whom were born in Germany and who came with their parents to America. Grandfather Steinhilber settled in Chatfield township, Crawford county, and there lived and died, and his son John M. married there and lived on the old place for some seven years and then sold out and bought a farm in Todd township, where the remainder of his life was spent. They were good and worthy people and were the parents of nine children.

Ezekiel grew up on the farm and attended the country schools, remaining with his father until the age of twenty-one and then married and began housekeeping and worked for his father on halves. His wife, whom he married in 1881, was Sophia Hirtz, the estimable and amiable daughter of the late George Hirtz, of Holmes township, in which township Mrs. Steinhilber was born May 15, 1860. Her parents were natives of Germany.

Mr. Steinhilber was not possessed of very large means at first, and rented a small farm in Todd township, but both he and his wife were frugal and industrious and in 1880 purchased a compact little farm of thirty-five acres, which he sold in 1895 and bought the eighty-acre farm where he now lives.

Seven of the children born to his marriage are still living, and he has reared them in the faith of the German Brethren church. The children are George, Joseph, Lawrence, Annie, Cora, Katie and Reuben. Four children died in childhood.

In his political connection he has always voted for the men and measures of the Democratic party. It is a very commendable thing to so live as to become independent in so few a number of years as has Mr. Steinhilber, but it is still more so to have gained in that time the esteem and respect of the neighborhood, and this he has done also.

### JOHN HOPLEY.

In the promotion and conservation of advancement in all the normal lines of human progress and civilization there is no factor which has exercised a more potent influence than the press, which is both the director and the mirror of public opinion. Bucyrus has been signally favored in the character of its newspapers, which have been vital, enthusiastic and progressive, ever aiming to advance the interests of this favored section of the Union, to aid in laying fast and sure the foundations of an enlightened commonwealth, to further the ends of justice and to uphold the banner of Ohio. In a compilation of this nature then it is clearly incumbent that due recognition be accorded the newspaper press of the state.

The universal acknowledgment that the press is the most potent factor in molding public opinion indicates therefore the prominent position which the editor occupies. Every publication bears the impress of him who occupies the editorial chair, whether this is given consciously or unconsciously; his thought goes forth into the work and receives the support or awakens the opposition of the reading public. A fair view of public questions, clearly presented, will therefore do more to form the general opinion of a community than any other one agency; and as the editor of the Bucyrus Journal for forty years Mr. Hopley has been an important factor in laboring for the interests of Crawford county along all lines of progress and advanced thought.

A native of England, he was born in Whitstable, in 1821. His paternal ancestors were substantial farmers of Suffolk county. His father was a surgeon in the British navy, and after his retirement from the army practiced the profession of medicine and surgery at Whitstable, in Kent, and afterward in Lewes, Sussex county, one of the oldest towns in England.



John Hopley





He married a Miss Prat, who was descended from a long line of ancestry distinguished in the Church of England. Our subject has a genealogical table of the line of his descendants on the maternal side for hundreds of years.

John Hopley, of this review, pursued his education in the Royal Naval College, then located at Camberwell, in the county of Surry, a suburb of London, but at the present time it is situated at Newcross, in Surry. This college is for the sons of naval officers, and its course is very extensive and thorough, but it is not licensed to confer degrees. Accommodations are furnished for three hundred and thirty pupils, all of whom reside in the college. The Bell or monitorial system of teaching was in vogue. It was to this extent a normal, for the monitors at the head of their classes received much experience in the art and duties of teaching. Mr. Hopley excelled in athletics as well as in study. He was a constant and often successful contestant for the honors of the various classes. About the close of his college course he was made a teacher, and remained in the institution for some years. In 1842, soon after attaining his majority, he came to the United States with his maternal uncle, John R. Prat, of Zanesville, Ohio, whose store he entered in the capacity of clerk. He there continued until 1844, when he began teaching with a view of entering upon the study of law and making its practice his life work. In 1845 he removed to Logan, Hocking county, and induced the trustees to establish graded schools, theirs being among the first graded schools in the state. The system which he inaugurated was highly successful and proved an important factor in advancing the educational interests of Ohio.

In 1848 Mr. Hopley was united in marriage to Miss Georgiana Rochester, the fourth daughter of John Rochester, of Logan, Ohio. Her father was born near London, England, January 9, 1796, and in 1816 he married Miss Gladle, a daughter of a French gentleman who left his native land, owing to the French revolution, and entered the English army as an officer and was killed in Spain while fighting against Napoleon. Mr. Rochester came to America in 1820, settling at Englishtown, Athens county, Ohio, but soon removed to Logan, where for nearly half a century he was engaged in merchandising, being recognized as one of the most prominent and influential citizens of the place. For more than forty-four years he was a member of the Presbyterian church and served for thirty-four years as an elder, while through a long period he was superintendent of the Sunday-school and a trustee of the church property. He aided greatly in promoting the

moral advancement of the people among whom he lived, and the memory of his upright career remains as an inspiration and benediction to all who knew him. He died November 28, 1876, at the age of eighty-one years. His daughter, Mrs. Hopley, was born July 22, 1826.

Desiring to study slavery and its influence upon the social life of the south, Mr. Hopley removed to Tennessee, becoming a teacher in a school at Yellow Creek, that state, and later he engaged in teaching near Elktown, Kentucky, and in New Providence, Tennessee, and during this time he gave earnest thought and attention to the institution of slavery and its influences. In 1852 he returned to Logan, where he remained for three years, and in addition to his work as a teacher he served as supervisor of the schools. In 1855 he was made instructor in mathematics and commercial arithmetic in the Grangers' Commercial College, but that institution was not a very substantial one and in six months he removed to Wellsville, Union county, Ohio, and took charge of the schools there for a fractional term. From that place he came to Bucyrus, on the 12th of April, 1856, and was a very important factor in promoting the educational interests of this place in the middle of the century. The schools had been far from prosperous, but he entered upon the duties here with his usual thoroughness and zeal and the system which he established soon awakened the admiration of the people of this vicinity and of other portions of the state. In the school work he was an excellent organizer as well as disciplinarian and instructor. He knew how to utilize his forces, studied his pupils individually and was particularly proficient in imparting to them the knowledge he had acquired so as to make a lasting impression upon their minds.

In 1858 Mr. Hopley was admitted to the bar, having in the meantime devoted much of his leisure to the mastery of the principles of jurisprudence. He then entered into partnership with A. M. Jackson, but the following year this was discontinued and he opened an office of his own and continued to practice with encouraging success until 1862. In that year he went to England with Thomas Alsop on professional business, and on his return his law practice was virtually destroyed, for owing to the absence in the army of many parties who were needed as witnesses no cases could be tried. Mr. Hopley was then appointed by Mr. Chase to a clerkship in the office of the second auditor of the treasury, and soon by special order of Mr. Chase he was transferred to the latter's office, having a desk in the library of the treasury. As he found opportunity he studied the financial problems and employed his pen effectively in advancing the financial policy

of the secretary of the treasury and the establishment of national banks. After the national bank law was passed he was transferred to the banking and currency bureau. Hugh McCullough, who was then comptroller of currency, placed Mr. Hopley in charge of the statistical department of the bureau. His duties there included examination of regular reports and the reports of the bank examiners. Mr. Hopley during that period of his life occasionally furnished data for speeches made by members of congress whereby the statesmen became distinguished.

In 1864 he resigned his position in order to accept an offered position in a large bank in New York. In 1866 he went to Washington in a private capacity for his employer, and was soon afterward appointed national bank examiner for all the southern states excepting Delaware, Maryland and Virginia. Kansas was afterward added to the list. After completing this work in 1867 he returned to Bucyrus, and in September purchased a half interest in the Bucyrus Journal. In May of the following year he became sole owner, and, becoming absorbed in journalism, he abandoned his intention to enter upon the practice of law, and has since given his time to his work as a representative of the press. From August, 1870, until January, 1879, he served as postmaster of Bucyrus, but has never given his newspaper work into the charge of others. He has continued to be a close student of the important questions of the day affecting the state and national welfare, and the keen, analytical mind of the lawyer, added to the comprehensive knowledge of the journalist, have made his treatment of such subjects of great interest, his opinions being quoted by the press throughout his section of the country.

On the 19th of April, 1898, Mr. Hopley and his wife celebrated their golden wedding. The members of their family are as follows: Charles Rochester; John Edward; Thomas Prat, who died in childhood; Thomas Prat, Mary Catherine, Georgiana Eliza, Harriet Eveline, James Richard, Frank Lewis and Joseph William. The second named is now United States consul at Southampton, England.

Viewed in a personal light, Mr. Hopley is a strong man, of excellent judgment, fair in his views and highly honorable in all his relations with his fellow men. He is a man of very strong convictions, and his integrity stands as an unquestioned fact in his career. He has always been a student, and the scope and amplitude of his knowledge render him a charming conversationalist. He is in full sympathy with all the great movements of the world about him and watches the progress of events with the keenest interest.

Though severe at times toward men and measures deserving criticism, he is nevertheless a generous friend and warm advocate of those who are battling for the right and of principles and policies for the public good.

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#### CHILDREN OF JOHN HOPLEY.

All the children of Mr. Hopley are more or less engaged in the newspaper business.

J. E. HOPLEY was for years in newspaper business in New York, and afterward, at Bucyrus, established and managed the Evening Telegraph, the first daily newspaper established in Bucyrus. He took an active part in the politics of his congressional district, where he was a prominent and successful political manager. He was mainly instrumental in securing the nomination and election of Hon. S. R. Harris, a Republican, to congress, in a congressional district in which the natural Democratic majority is over four thousand. He acted as private secretary, at Washington, to the congressman whom he had so actively contributed to elect, and in this position, by his political foresight and ability, he became known to the prominent Republicans of the state. He is at present United States consul at Southampton, England.

THOMAS P. HOPLEY was for some time a bookkeeper in his father's office. He was, and he is, a strong Prohibitionist and established the Temperance Ballot. Before commencing the publication of his paper he canvassed the county for subscribers, and by this systematic visitation he secured a very large subscription list and placed his temperance paper on a paying basis before he had issued the first number. He continued this active canvass and knew more citizens in Crawford county than any other man in it. Having disposed of his paper to Andrew J. Hazlett, Esq., he went to Oklahoma and was among the first settlers at Enid, where he is now publishing two papers, both the daily and the weekly Enid News. He married Miss Rosa Curtis and is now the father of two children.

Each of the daughters—Mary C., Georgia E. and Harriet E.—is directly or indirectly in newspaper work. Misses Mary and Harriet are both in Chicago, and Miss Georgia is a well known newspaper correspondent in this state. She was one of the women commissioners to the Paris Exposition and represented Ohio as the commissioner at the Pan-American Exposit-

tion at Buffalo. At present, in the interest of the state labor bureau, she is investigating the condition of women and girls engaged in the factories at Columbus.

JAMES R. HOPLEY was in his father's office and is now with C. Harper, Esq., of Columbus, editing the Advertising World and also Ad. Art, two of the leading advertising publications of the country, having the largest list of *bona-fide* paid-up subscribers,—over twenty thousand. He is a newspaper man from his youth up, studying and practicing his profession as a science.

FRANK L. HOPLEY was also in his father's office until employed as manager of the advertising department of the American Clay-Working Machinery Company, in which capacity he has been acting for several years.

JOSEPH W. HOPLEY, the youngest of the family, was in his father's office when war was declared against Spain, and he went with his home company as newspaper correspondent, first to their camp at Washington and afterward to Cuba. He was with the company through the campaigning, and was present at the surrender of Santiago. Soon after this he contracted yellow fever, and after many weary and anxious weeks he was sent home a skeleton, only just alive. By good home nursing he was restored, and he is now assisting his brother as deputy United States consul at Southampton, England.

CHARLES R. HOPLEY is the only one of the family not in newspaper work either directly or indirectly. He was for years in the railroad business in Texas, and he is now in the Klondyke, where he owns several promising mining claims.

#### CHARLES BREISINGER.

It is pleasant indulgence to write the biography of a man who has been so prominent in the industrial and business affairs of the county as has Charles Breisinger. He has certainly won the somewhat hackneyed but expressive title of the self-made man; the possibilities of accomplishment which surround each individual were improved by him, and by determined purpose, unflagging industry and a will to dare and to do he has worked his way steadily upward. He is now engaged in the manufacture of brick, a business which he has followed with marked success for nineteen years.

Mr. Breisinger is a native of Wurtemberg, born July 28, 1853, and was reared and educated there, beginning his studies in the public schools. After



arriving at years of maturity he married Miss Julia Baushlinger, a daughter of Daniel Baushlinger, and unto them were born five children, of whom Maude, Carrie, Sadie and Carl are living, and Robert is deceased.

As before mentioned, Mr. Breisinger is connected with the manufacture of brick, establishing the enterprise in 1882. He was for some time associated in business with his father-in-law and the enterprise which they conducted was a successful one, but for the past nine years he has been identified with John Witter. They have a splendidly equipped plant, a large yard, steam power and a capacity of twenty-five thousand bricks each day. They own a splendid clay bed of eleven acres and in the yard employ twenty men. The brick which they produce is of an excellent quality, being manufactured after the most improved methods of the times and their sales are very extensive. In addition to the home trade they ship some brick and annually the business nets to the proprietors a good income. In his political affiliations Mr. Breisinger is a Democrat and is deeply interested in the growth and success of the party. He belongs to the Royal Arcanum and to the Deutsche Gesellschaft. Mr. Breisinger and his family attend the Methodist Episcopal church and he co-operates in many movements for the general good, being a public-spirited and progressive citizen.

#### GEORGE DONNENWIRTH.

There is ever a degree of satisfaction and profit in scanning the life history of one who has attained to eminent success as the diametrical result of his own efforts, and has had the mentality to direct his endeavors toward the desired end and to singleness and steadfastness of purpose. As a distinctive type of the self-made man we can refer with singular propriety to the honored subject of this sketch, the president of the Bucyrus City Bank and a well known and honored resident of Crawford county.

A native of Columbus, Ohio, George Donnenwirth was born January 28, 1835, a son of George and Sophia (Anthony) Donnenwirth. His paternal grandparents, George and Magdalene (Ruth) Donnenwirth, were natives of France, who in 1827 crossed the Atlantic to the United States, locating first in Buffalo, New York, whence they removed to Stark county, Ohio. In 1834 they came to Crawford county and secured land in Cranberry township, where they spent the rest of their lives. They were the parents of five children, including George Donnenwirth, the father of our subject, who was born in Strasburg, France, September 7, 1810, and was educated in



*By Governor Smith*



the schools of his native town. At the age of fifteen he was apprenticed to the blacksmith's trade, and soon afterward accompanied his parents on their emigration to the new world. He found employment at his trade in Buffalo, New York, and later in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, and then in Stark county, Ohio, and then worked on the Ohio canal, drifting to Columbus, Ohio, in 1833, and there he wedded, in 1834, Miss Sophia Anthony, who was born in Lorraine, France, in 1809, and died in Crawford county in 1849. Their children were George and Adam (twin brothers), Jacob, William, Magdalene, Charles and John. Three other children died in childhood. William, Charles and Jacob are deceased. After the death of his first wife the father wedded Miss Caroline Derr, a native of Bavaria, Germany, and four children graced this union, namely: Lewis C., Franklin P., Sophia M. and Caroline M., but the last named has passed away. In 1838 the father came to Crawford county and located at New Washington, where he engaged in blacksmithing, continuing with success for several years. He became well and favorably known, and about 1846 was elected to the lower house of the state legislature, representing Crawford and Wyandot counties. In 1855 he was elected county treasurer and the following year removed to Bucyrus, the county seat, where he resided up to the time of his death, in 1884. In 1868 he was chosen mayor of Bucyrus and filled the office for two terms of one year each. In all the public positions which he was called upon to fill he discharged his duties with entire satisfaction to all concerned, his loyalty being above question, was prompt and energetic and gained the unqualified approval of the best citizens. His judgment was considered sound and reliable in the councils of the Democratic party, and he aided materially in advancing the best interests of his community.

George Donnenwirth, whose name introduces this record, pursued his education in the schools of New Washington, Crawford county, until his fifteenth year, when he entered his father's shop and worked at the blacksmith's trade for four years. On the expiration of that period he removed to Sandusky, Ohio, where he was employed in a grocery store for eighteen months. For a short time he was also a clerk in Burlington, Iowa, but returned to Bucyrus and entered a business career that has been prominently successful through a long period of forty-four years. His first venture was in connection with Henry Anthony. They established a brewery and after a short time Mr. Donnenwirth's father purchased Mr. Anthony's interest, the enterprise being then conducted under the firm name of George Donnenwirth & Son. Upon the father's retirement, in 1875, Frank P. Donnen-

wirth, a half-brother of our subject, entered the firm, and their business connection was maintained until 1889, when they sold the business. They had built up an excellent trade, having a large and constantly increasing patronage, owing to the excellence of the brewing product and through reliable business methods. In 1881 Mr. Donnenwirth was one of the organizers of the Monnett Bank, of Bucyrus, the style of which was changed in 1892 to Bucyrus City Bank. He became a director of the institution upon its organization, and was also elected vice-president of the bank. Since 1886 he has been its president, and the concern is one of the most substantial in this portion of Ohio. His business career in Bucyrus covers a period of about forty-three years and has been one of uninterrupted success due to tireless energy, cool, sound judgment and to strict integrity. These traits have been a tower of strength to the bank, and have had much to do with its steady and substantial growth.

In 1865 George Donnenwirth was united in marriage to Miss Mary A. Fuhrman, of Bucyrus. Fraternally Mr. Donnenwirth is connected with the Masonic fraternity and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. A stanch advocate of Democratic principles, he exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the party, and on that ticket has been frequently called to public office. He is also active in formulating the policy and controlling the campaigns in his county, having served as a member of several committees, while his advice and counsel carry weight in Democratic circles. For twenty-five years, from 1874 until 1899, he served as a member of the school board, and for a number of years was its treasurer. He has also been a member of the city council for fifteen years, and was treasurer of the township through a long period. In public office he has labored for the good of the majority, and his work has proved of benefit and value. In business affairs he has displayed great discrimination and superior executive ability, and such qualities, combined with industry and strong purpose, never fail to gain success. He stands to-day among the wealthy residents of Bucyrus, and his enviable position in financial circles is well merited.

#### THOMAS S. KENNEDY.

Thomas S. Kennedy, whose success in life results from earnest, indefatigable efforts, is numbered among the leading and influential farmers and stock raisers of Dallas township, Crawford county, his farm being on section



2. He was born in Tully township, Marion county, Ohio, October 23, 1848, and is of Irish lineage, for the name is of Irish origin. The family, however, was probably established in America at a very early day and the grandparents of our subject, Thomas and Nancy Kennedy, were both natives of Pennsylvania. In 1832 they left that state and coming to Ohio settled in Crawford county, where they spent their remaining days, passing away in Whetstone township. The journey to this state was made in a wagon, and during their early residence here they lived in true pioneer style. The grandfather died in the '40s, and the grandmother passed away in 1863. Their children were: William K., the father of our subject; Martha, who died in early womanhood; Margaretta, who is living in Marion county, Ohio; John, deceased; Nancy Jane, who has also passed away; Thomas, who died in Jasper county, Indiana, in 1900; Sarah, deceased; Samuel, who is living in Whetstone township; Mary E., who died in Marion county in 1901; and George Washington, who is living in Marion county.

William K. Kennedy was born in Juniata county, Pennsylvania, February 16, 1818, and when a youth of fourteen accompanied his parents to this state, being reared here upon the home farm. He acquired a good common-school education and for a few terms engaged in teaching school. He had a strong mind, was a man of good judgment and was well informed. For five years he worked as a farm hand, at eleven dollars per month, being thus employed on the plains south of Bucyrus. For his first wife he married Miss Margaret Shank, who was born in Pennsylvania, and was of Pennsylvania-Dutch descent, her ancestors coming from Holland. Her parents, Jacob and Lydia (Bush) Shank, settled in Crawford county about 1832. By the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy the following children were born: Nancy, who died at the age of three years; Lydia Jane, the wife of Samuel Baker, of Dallas township; Thomas S., of this review; Martha, who died after her marriage; James W., who is residing in Marion county, Ohio; Emma, wife of Madison Roberts, of Marion county; Anzilla, wife of George Watts, of Marion county; Margaret, wife of John R. Hill, of Marion county. The mother died in 1861 and a few years later the father married Mary Lance, a native of Pennsylvania, who still survives him and is living on the homestead farm in Marion county. By the second marriage there was one child, Samira, the wife of Elsworth Jones, of Marion county. Throughout his business career the father followed farming. He located on the boundary line between Crawford and Marion counties, his farm lying in both counties, but his residence in the latter, and there he remained until his life's labors were ended in death. He

prospered and gained a good estate. He engaged in dealing in and raised large flocks of sheep and also handled other stock. Being an excellent judge of domestic animals he was enabled to make judicious purchases and upon his investments he realized a handsome profit.

Mr. Kennedy was reared upon the home farm and the labors of the field and meadow became familiar to him during the period of his youth. The common school afforded him his educational privileges and through the winter months he pursued his studies, again taking up the work of the farm with returning spring. In 1874 he was married to Hester F. Monnett, a daughter of Thomas Monnett, of Marion county, and their union was blessed with twelve children: Thomas Mervin, William C., Otho W., Orange D., Myron G., Amy E., James C., Ollie, Ralph, Myrtle, Almet and Jay. The last named died at the age of two years, but the others are all living, and three of the sons, Thomas Mervin, William C. and Otho W., have engaged in teaching in the district schools.

After his marriage Mr. Kennedy began farming in Whetstone township, Crawford county, where he remained for seven years, after which he removed to his present place of residence. Here he owns two hundred and eighty acres of land, and in addition he has eighty acres a mile west, forty acres in Whetstone township and one hundred and seventy-five acres in Marion county. In connection with general farming he raises cattle, sheep and hogs and also buys and sells others. His business interests are well conducted and directed along progressive and straightforward lines. His fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, have frequently called him to public office, and he has satisfactorily served in a number of minor positions, but he has never been an aspirant for political office. In his political views he is a Democrat, and in religious faith is a Methodist. His life is honorable, his actions sincere, and his integrity unquestioned, and in Crawford county he has gained many warm friends who esteem him highly for his sterling worth.

#### ROBERT K. WARNER.

Among the honored pioneers who aided in laying broad and deep the foundations for the present prosperity and progress of Crawford county, who met the hardships and trials of pioneer life, yet continued an active factor in the work of reclaiming the wild land for purposes of civilization was Robert K. Warner. He was one of the representative men of the community, hon-

ored by all for his sterling worth and upright life, and in the biographical history of the county he well deserves prominent mention.

A native of Lycoming county, Pennsylvania, Mr. Warner was born on the 8th of April, 1825, a son of Benjamin and Mary (Walton) Warner, both of whom were born in the same county and were of English descent. The father's birth occurred about 1801, the marriage was celebrated in 1822, and in 1827 he came with his family to Ohio, traveling in a wagon drawn by four horses. When they were about four miles from Galion the wagon sunk so deeply in the mud that the family were obliged to get out and walk the remaining distance to the home of a relative in Galion, leaving the wagon behind. The father remained in Crawford county throughout the remainder of his life and for many years carried on farming. He settled in the southern portion of Whetstone township, Crawford county, but in 1833 removed to a farm on section 35, Bucyrus township, where he resided through a long period. He was a successful farmer, although frail health prevented him from taking an active part in the work of the fields, but he capably managed his affairs and realized therefrom a good financial return. He died May 8, 1872, while visiting in Kankakee, Illinois, and his wife passed away March 7, 1877. He was a man of kind heart and noble purpose and his wife was a most excellent woman. They were of the Quaker faith and lived useful and quiet lives, which gained them uniform respect. They had three children: Robert K.; Harriet, the widow of St. Clair Welsh and a resident of Missouri; and Louisa, the wife of Hiram Everett, of Iowa.

Robert K. Warner was only two years of age when brought by his parents to Ohio, and here he was reared amid pioneer scenes and environments. The Wyandot Indians were still numerous in the county and he played with the "Johnny Cake boys" many a day, also learned their language. It was in 1836 that he attended the first school taught in Dallas township, the teacher being Miss Susan Bovee. He continued his education in the old log school house until twenty years of age and was reared to manhood upon the farm, where he early became familiar with the work of caring for the stock and cultivating the field. Lessons of industry and perseverance were early impressed upon his mind and were active factors in his successful career. He remained under the parental roof until he had reached his twenty-third year, when he was married.

The wedding was celebrated November 22, 1847, Miss Martha Monnett becoming his wife. She is a daughter of Jeremiah and Elsie (Slagle) Monnett, and to her husband she proved a most faithful companion and help-

mate on the journey of life. For a year and a half they resided on a farm on section 26, Bucyrus township, on the Columbus & Sandusky road and then removed to the old homestead on section 27, of the same township, where Mrs. Warner still makes her home. At that time he owned one hundred and twenty acres of land, to which he added in later years, until at the time of his death his farm property comprised four hundred and twenty acres. In 1875 he erected a fine residence and afterward built a barn. He was a successful business man and gained a large estate, dying a wealthy man. The home was blessed with four children: Ellen, the wife of W. T. McKinstry, of Bucyrus township; Mary, the widow of Albert Yaker; Harriet, the wife of Smith C. Caldwell; and Louisa, who married Francis M. Caldwell. They reside with her mother on the old homestead.

Mrs. Warner is now in her seventy-fifth year and yet enjoys fair health. She was born and reared a Methodist and has been a member of the church since fourteen years of age, her entire life being in harmony with her professions. In his political views Mr. Warner was a strong Republican and held a few minor political positions, but was not an office seeker. He was highly esteemed for his strict regard for honesty and upright principles and in his religious faith was a Quaker, living a life consistent with that faith. He passed away October 14, 1889. In his friendships he was faithful and in the discharge of his duties of citizenship he was loyal and true, while in his family he was a devoted husband and father, finding his greatest happiness in ministering to his family.

#### ALBERT M. ENSMINGER.

The press has not only recorded the history of advancement, but has also been the leader in the work of progress and improvement,—the vanguard of civilization. The philosopher of some centuries ago proclaimed the truth that the pen is mightier than the sword, and the statement is continually being verified in the affairs of life. In molding public opinion the power of the newspaper cannot be estimated, but at all events its influence is greater than any other single agency.

In the history of Bucyrus, therefore, an account of the Daily and Weekly Forum should form an important factor, as this journal is the oldest established one of the county and its present proprietors keep in touch with the most advanced methods of journalism, making the paper one of great value in Crawford county. Albert Milton Ensminger was associated with this paper

from 1890 until October, 1901, when it was sold to the newly organized Bucyrus Publishing Company. He was born in Perry county, Pennsylvania, September 27, 1858, and traces his ancestry back to Christian Ensminger, who was born in the Keystone state June 8, 1762, and died March 6, 1836. His second son, David Ensminger, the grandfather of our subject, was born in Perry county, Pennsylvania, and married Barabar Messinger. Their son, Henry Ensminger, was born in Perry county, Pennsylvania, February 2, 1826, and pursued his education in the district schools near his home. He afterward turned his attention to agricultural pursuits and followed farming in Pennsylvania until 1866, when he settled in Jefferson township, Crawford county, Ohio. In that year he established a store, and for two years was in partnership with his brother, George Ensminger, at North Robinson, the connection being dissolved by the death of the brother. Henry Ensminger then carried on business alone for four years, when he disposed of his mercantile enterprise and purchased a farm near North Robinson, upon which he resided until 1879. In that year he came to Bucyrus and opened a dry goods store in the Quinby block, being identified with business affairs in this city for some time. He was known as a reliable and trustworthy merchant and enjoyed the business confidence of the public in an unusual degree. He married Susan Jacobs, and his death occurred in Bucyrus, February 24, 1892. Unto this worthy couple were born the following children: Franklin P., Albert M., Charles E., Anna M. and Alberta E.

Albert Milton Ensminger, whose name forms the caption of this article, pursued his education in the public schools of Crawford county, Ohio, and on the completion of his literary course entered the law department of the State University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, where he was graduated with the class of 1882. In the same year he was admitted to the Ohio bar and began practice in Bucyrus. In 1885 he was elected city solicitor and discharged his duties so capably that he was re-elected for a second term. After his retirement from office he became associated with *The Forum*, and has since been connected with the paper except during the period from the 1st of August, 1894, until the 1st of September, 1898, when he was postmaster of Bucyrus.

On the 16th of December, 1886, Mr. Ensminger was united in marriage to Miss Carrie Blair, a daughter of E. Blair, president of the Second National Bank of Bucyrus and a most prominent citizen. Their only child, Edward Blair, was born September 2, 1899. Mr. Ensminger is a member of St. Paul's English Lutheran church and socially he is connected with the Knights



of Pythias fraternity and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. In his political affiliations he is a stalwart Democrat and was a candidate for presidential elector on the Democratic ticket in 1888. He has been an important factor in the progress and upbuilding of Bucyrus since locating here, and educational, church and social interests owe their promotion in a considerable degree to his efforts.

### WILLIAM W. REEHL.

William W. Reehl, the subject of this sketch, was born in Bucyrus on February 22, 1868, attended the public schools until 1885, and then he took a business course in the Nelson Commercial College, of Cincinnati. After finishing his course he accepted a position as bookkeeper for Lee Cann & Company, of that city, but resigned to enter business for himself. Returning to Bucyrus, he entered the firm of Reehl & Howe, hardware dealers, an enterprise which he did much to build up. Owing to failing health, he sold his interest to G. P. Fisher, and after six months of rest and recuperation he, in December, 1888, with others, organized the Frey-Sheckler Company, which bought out the Frey-Sheckler & Hoover Company, manufacturers of clay-working machinery. In organizing the business staff of the new company Mr. Reehl was made head bookkeeper, and after a year was made auditor of the company, acting in that capacity until September, 1896, when a consolidation of the Frey-Sheckler Company and the firm of J. W. Penfield & Son, of Willoughby, Ohio, was consummated under the firm name of The American Clay-Working Machinery Company, with general offices in Bucyrus. Under the consolidation Mr. Reehl was made secretary and resident manager of the Bucyrus plant. He has continued in this capacity since his election to the office and has contributed in large measure to the phenomenal success of the enterprise. The American Clay-Working Machinery Company does the most extensive business of its kind in the world, its products being shipped to all parts of this country and abroad. They manufacture a full line of clay-working, cement and pottery machinery, and employ over four hundred workmen in their combined plants. In 1888 the Bucyrus and Willoughby plants combined employed about fifty-six men, which taken in comparison with the present pay-roll indicates the great increase in business.

Mr. Reehl is also the president of the New York Blower Company, a



*M. W. Smith*



growing enterprise composed largely of eastern capitalists, devoted to the manufacture of heating and ventilating machinery. The company was established in Bucyrus in 1899. Owing to his ability as a manager, Mr. Reehl was selected as the head of the company, a position he assumed in January, 1901. The employes of the company number nearly a hundred, with branch offices in New York, Boston and Chicago.

On January 7, 1892, Mr. Reehl was married to Miss Margaret Troop Harris, of Peoria, Illinois, Miss Harris being a daughter of D. W. C. Harris. Two children grace their union: Helen Harris, born May 20, 1894, and William W., born December 5, 1900. The parents occupy an enviable position in social circles, the hospitality of the best homes in Bucyrus being open to them. They also belong to the Presbyterian church, Mr. Reehl having served on the board of trustees of the church. Mr. Reehl is a young man, but has already attained a position in business circles that many a man of even twice his years might well envy. His determination and keen sagacity, combined with unflagging diligence and scrupulous honesty, have been the salient features of his success.

Mr. Reehl is of German parentage. His father, Nicholas Reehl, was born at Hessen-Darmstadt, Germany, August 1, 1825. The parents of Nicholas Reehl, Michael Reehl and Anna Louise Plaizer Reehl, were lifelong residents of Hessen, the wife having been born at Allarts-Hofen, Germany. Michael Reehl died September 14, 1852, his wife preceding him in February of the same year. The son, Nicholas Reehl, came to the United States in 1847, and after a year spent in Philadelphia he removed, in 1848, to Bucyrus. Soon after his arrival he formed the acquaintance of Anna Elizabeth Kreighbaum, and on May 13, 1851, they were married. Mrs. Nicholas Reehl was born in Reichenbach, Germany, December 10, 1828, and came to this country in 1849, landing at New Orleans, and later settling at Upper Sandusky. Her parents were Falten Kreighbaum, who died February 2, 1850, and Katherine Kaffenberger, who died December 10, 1866.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Reehl was solemnized at Columbus, and they at once removed to Bucyrus, where they were identified with the early history of the community, Mr. Reehl following his trade of wagon and carriage-maker, and later on becoming largely interested in manufacturing and real estate. Mrs. Reehl died in the fullness of a well spent life on September 12, 1899. To Mr. and Mrs. Reehl nine children were born, as follows: Henry, born October 28, 1852, deceased; Carl, born October 30, 1853, deceased; Louisa, born November 3, 1855, the wife of Rev. John

Horst, of Covington, Kentucky; Lewis, born July 29, 1858, deceased; John, born October 28, 1861, deceased; Edward, born December 14, 1862, deceased; Katherine M., Bucyrus, Ohio, born December 1, 1864; William W., born February 22, 1868; and Samuel, born May 21, 1870, deceased.

#### DANIEL PFLEIDERER.

The ancestors of the Pfeleiderer family were old and established families of Wurtemberg, Germany, where their thrift, energy and economy had brought them a comfortable competence; but a restless spirit entered into the younger members, as they saw their sons growing up about them, and some of them decided to emigrate to the great country across the sea, where there was land for all. Among these came Christian and his wife Barbara (Auberly) Pfeleiderer, the former born in 1789, the latter in 1794. They left Germany in the spring of 1831, with their children,—Adam, Jacob, David and Christian,—and after ninety-two days on the ocean, they landed in Baltimore, Maryland, and pursued their journey across the continent until they reached Columbiana county, Ohio. Winter was near and they were weary of travel, and although they intended to go into the forest they wisely decided that it was not the season to go into an unsettled portion of the country. They found shelter with the family of Mr. Seacrist, and Mr. Pfeleiderer went to work at whatever jobs he could find, as did also the oldest boys. As soon as spring opened they purchased a yoke of oxen and an old wagon, and thus equipped set out for Crawford county, where they arrived the first week in April. They located on eighty acres, which had been entered by the father during their stay in Columbiana county, and on arriving in Crawford county he purchased an adjoining eighty acres for one hundred and forty-five dollars. The improvements on this tract consisted of a miserable log cabin, and there the family found refuge until they had time to build a more comfortable one, in which there was scarcely a nail used in construction. About one year later the father bought another eighty acres, for one hundred and forty dollars. In those days each settler felt honorably called upon to assist every other, and soon after his location the father was asked to assist a man by the name of Ludwig Geiger to raise a cabin. By some accident a pole fell upon Mr. Pfeleiderer and broke his right leg. This was a terrible discouragement, for there was so much work to be done in the clearing of land and improving the farm. No clearing had yet been done and no crops could be started, but fortunately he had brought some means with him, and the money earned by him



and his sons in the cranberry marshes, upon their arrival in Ohio, had been saved, and things were not so desperate as they were with some pioneers. Just as he seemed to be recovering from his accident, however, paralysis set in and he was alive but a short time afterward, expiring suddenly.

This was a terrible blow to the widow with her six children, two of whom had come amid the stress of the years after the family arrived in Ohio. John and Daniel, our subject, who was but an infant at this time, having been born in Liberty township, on April 10, 1840, were too small to be of any assistance at this time, but the older children went sturdily to work, and, assisted by the mother, commenced to clear the land, and finally succeeded in a most admirable manner. Later the mother married a neighbor, John Heckenlively, but spent her last years with her son David. She was a remarkable woman, a true type of the pioneer. At the advanced age of ninety she would walk several miles to take part in the services of the Lutheran church, of which she was a devoted member, and walk home again, without apparent fatigue. She would relate that in early pioneer days the congregation would walk to church barefoot, in flax shirts and homespun dresses.

Daniel Pfeiderer was but nine months old when his father died, but remained with his mother until he was twelve, and then, as she had married again, he started out to make his own way in the world. His education was necessarily limited. He worked at farm work, as this was all he knew anything about, and had saved enough by the time he was twenty-one to purchase a team and wagon and then he began farming, on shares, on the old home place for his mother. In 1862 he was married to Miss Mary Kafer, the daughter of John Kafer, who came to Crawford county, Ohio, at an early day, from Germany and became one of the prosperous farmers of Liberty township.

After his marriage Daniel Pfeiderer was employed on the home farm for one year, but in 1863 he purchased sixty acres of land in section 4 and removed to his new home. Three years later he sold this and purchased eighty acres in Chatfield township, and there he resided until 1873, when he exchanged this farm for one hundred acres of his present home farm, where he has ever since remained. During the subsequent years he has added to his land, until he now owns two hundred and thirty acres of the rich and productive soil of Crawford county. Mr. Pfeiderer comes of good stock and in no way could he have proved this more than in the success which he has made of his business life.

The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Pfeiderer are: Eliza, the wife of

James Givens, of Mercer county, Ohio; Lizzie, deceased; Tillie, the wife of Charles Hillboat, of Mercer county; John, a butcher of North Robinson, this county; Rosa, at home; Emma, the wife of William Rhine, of Bucyrus; Laura, at home; Edward, on a portion of the home farm; and James and Jane, at home.

Although Mr. Pfeiderer has been a life-long Democrat and somewhat prominent in township affairs, he has never sought office, but has cheerfully and efficiently served on the school board for several years. Both he and his wife are consistent members of the Lutheran church and have carefully reared their children in the same faith. The family is one which is held in high esteem in Crawford county.

#### ABRAHAM FROST.

Among the prominent, successful and highly esteemed farmers of Holmes township, Crawford county, Ohio, is Abraham Frost, who was born in Northampton county, Pennsylvania, on March 18, 1825, a son of George and Christina (Kindt) Frost, and was one of a family of eleven children, four of whom survive: Uriah, who resides in this township; Abraham; Isaac, who resides in Osceola; and Julia A., who is the wife of Mr. Hines, of Nebraska.

George Frost was born in the state of New Jersey and early in life displayed a talent for working in wood. He learned the trade of wagon-making and was constantly employed in developing a mechanical genius. All of his furniture was made by his own hands, and he finally constructed a carding-machine, which he used for twenty years. After his marriage he removed to Northampton county, Pennsylvania, where he was given, free of charge, water power for his carding-machine, if he would build and operate a carding-mill, and bought a small tract of land near the mill, from which came his power, consisting of some twenty acres; but later he sold this land and purchased a desirable farm, of eighty acres, although he was obliged to hire labor to work it until his sons grew old enough to take charge of it.

In the spring of 1840, Mr. Frost came to Wayne county, where he remained for two years, farming on rented land, and then removed to Liberty township, Crawford county, where he was engaged in farming until the outbreak of the Civil war. So interested was Mr. Frost in the stirring events of the time that he insisted upon going to town to obtain news from the seat of war for himself, although at this time he was in his seventy-fourth year, that he became the victim of a fast train on the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne &

Chicago Railroad and was instantly killed. Early in life Mr. Frost was a Democrat, casting his vote for Andrew Jackson, but later his adherence to that party weakened and before his death he had become an ardent Republican. His life was one of morality, and although he never was formally connected with any religious organization he contributed freely and was a constant attendant upon religious services.

The mother of our subject was born in Northampton county, Pennsylvania, also, about 1798, and died in her forty-fourth year. She was the daughter of Martin and Elizabeth Kindt, both of whom passed their whole lives in Pennsylvania. Both parents are remembered with affection and respect, and their counsels and care had much to do in the formation of the character of their children, all of the survivors of the large family being esteemed and respected in their several neighborhoods.

Abraham Frost grew up under his father's care, working on the farm and assisting in other ways, attending school and growing to manhood, strong, moral and energetic, a son of whom his parents were pardonably proud. At the age of twenty-one he began his personal business career, in Bucyrus, working at a gristmill. After his first marriage he rented a house one and one-half miles west of Bucyrus and worked industriously, sometimes at chopping wood and sometimes at other labor which he found to do, managing to save enough money to purchase eighty acres in Todd township, and later added to this twenty-seven acres, making a nice farm of one hundred and seven acres, but he never resided upon this place and later disposed of it, advantageously, and bought his present farm, of one hundred and fifty acres, having previously resided upon it after his second marriage. In 1872 Mr. Frost erected his present handsome brick residence, which is one of the best in the county.

In 1850, Mr. Frost was united in marriage to Miss Hannah Hollinger, and to this marriage one child was born, deceased; and Mrs. Frost, on account of giving birth to this child, died some six days later, on July 3, 1851. The second marriage of Mr. Frost was in 1852, to Miss Esther H. McCollough, a native of Crawford county, who was born upon the farm which is now the family home. The father of Mrs. Frost, William McCollough, was a pioneer of 1828, and entered the land at that time. Ten children were born to this union, the eight survivors being: Nancy, the wife of D. W. Myers, of this township; Laura, the wife of George Studer, of Fresno county, California; Julia, the widow of F. E. Brester, of Dunkirk, Ohio; Jay, of Bucyrus township; Ira, of Holmes township; Dilla, the wife of Frank V. Steen, of Holmes township; Willis, the farmer on the home place; and Ida, the wife of George

Goodwin, of Holmes township. The death of Mrs. Frost was in 1873. In 1877 Mr. Frost was married to Mrs. Jerry Orthwein, formerly Miss Christina Bahler, a native of Germany, who came to America, with a brother, when she was but twelve years of age. She died September 9, 1888. One son, Frank, has been born of this marriage, and he resides at home.

Mr. Frost is known to be a staunch Republican, and he was first a "Know Nothing," and has ever taken an intelligent interest in public affairs. For many years he has been a leading member of the Presbyterian church and one of its liberal supporters. During an extended period Mr. Frost has been fraternally connected with the I. O. O. F., and has been an active and interested member, but in late years he has not felt disposed to attend the night meetings. He is also connected with Bucyrus Grange, No. 507, P. of H., and is one of the most highly esteemed citizens of Holmes township.

#### FRANK E. LIEBICH.

Frank E. Liebich, assistant postmaster of Bucyrus, was born March 3, 1859, in the city which is now his home, and during the greater part of his life has been identified with its business and public interests. His grandfather, Franz Otto Liebich, was a native of Germany and died when about fifty-two years of age, while his wife, Mrs. Amelia Liebich, who was also a native of the same country, passed away in 1883. Their son, Leo Otto Liebich, the father of our subject, was born in Gera, Germany, January 29, 1830, and in 1857 emigrated to the new world, settling at Cincinnati, Ohio, where he resided for a few months and then came to Bucyrus. Here he entered the employ of a Mr. Beam, in the printing office of the Democrat, and a year later he entered into partnership with a Mr. Koch, and purchased the office and paper, conducting business under the name of Koch & Liebich. They continued to publish the paper for some years and met with success in the undertaking. Mr. Liebich was married in 1858, to Teresa Hoffman, who was a daughter of Andrew and Annie Hoffman. The father of our subject died February 22, 1884.

In his boyhood days Frank E. Liebich pursued his education in the public schools of Bucyrus, but at an early age put aside his text-books and accepted a position in a woolen mill. On leaving that service he went into a printing office, where he was engaged in setting type. Six years were passed in such employments, and from 1878 until 1881 he followed the carpenter's trade. From 1881 until 1883 he was a member of the firm of Broemel & Liebich, proprietors of woolen mills, in which they engaged in the manufacture of blankets,

woolens, yarns and also did custom work for farmers. The firm continued in existence for about two years, on the expiration of which period Mr. Liebich sold his interest to his partner and through the succeeding year resided in Cleveland, where he was employed as a hard-wood finisher. In 1884 he returned to Bucyrus and entered the service of the firm of Roehr & Sons, manufacturers of banking and church furniture. During President Cleveland's administration Mr. Liebich was appointed assistant postmaster of Bucyrus under Shannon Clement, and served four years, after which he returned to his old employers, the firm of Rohr & Sons, who at that time were giving work to about one hundred men, and during his second period of service for that firm he was selected among others of their employes to go to Chicago and put in place a large amount of work made by the firm for exhibitors at the World's Columbia Exposition. During President Cleveland's second administration he was again appointed assistant postmaster, under A. M. Ensminger, and has occupied the same position under Postmaster J. E. Hall. In March, 1901, he was chosen by the Bucyrus city board of education a member thereof, to fill the vacancy which was occasioned by the resignation of J. F. Angel, and at the general election on April 1st, he was elected a member of the board.

On Christmas day of 1884, in Bucyrus, Mr. Liebich was united in marriage to Miss Louise Hertzner, a daughter of Theodore and Louise Hertzner. Unto them have been born four children, namely: Arthur Theodore, who was born March 17, 1886; Richard Otto, born October 18, 1888; Alma Marie, born August 6, 1892; and Frank August, born August 18, 1899. Mr. Liebich is a consistent member of the German Lutheran church and also belongs to the Deutsche Gesellschaft, a very strong German organization. He has a wide acquaintance in Bucyrus, and the strong elements in his character are such as to win for him uniform respect.

#### MRS. EMMA J. DALZELL.

A history of the educational interests of Bucyrus would be incomplete without mention of Mrs. Emma J. Dalzell, a most successful teacher who occupied a position in the second-grade primary for years. She has been a representative of the educational work of Bucyrus since 1874, having taught continuously from that time, with the exception of a period of three months, until June, 1901, when she resigned her position in the city schools.

She is a native of Huron county, Ohio, and in 1873 came to Bucyrus with



her parents, Samuel and Rebecca (Bergert) Frisbie. Mrs. Dalzell was very young at the time of her father's death and she then went to live with an aunt, Mrs. Mary Moffit, who now resides with her, and who is a most interesting old lady. Mrs. Dalzell pursued her education in the schools of Bucyrus and at the age of fourteen began teaching at Wingert Corners, in Crawford county, where she taught for several terms.

She was married in this county to William Dalzell, a native of Columbus, Ohio, who accompanied his parents on their removal to Crawford county during his early childhood, the family locating in Chatfield township, where he was reared to manhood. At the time of the Civil war he responded to the country's call for troops, enlisting in 1861 as a member of the Fifty-seventh Ohio Infantry, with which he served throughout the war, the regiment being attached to the Army of the Tennessee. He was in all of the battles with that corps and was ever found at his post of duty as a loyal defender of the stars and stripes and the cause it represented. The rigors and hardships of the war, however, undermined his health, which he never fully recovered and his army experience was the ultimate cause of his death, which occurred in 1871, when he was thirty years of age. He had been engaged in business in Bucyrus for a short time. His parents were John and Sallie (Raymond) Dalzell. Unto Mr. and Mrs. William Dalzell were born two daughters, Eva and Lottie, the former is a graduate of the high school of Bucyrus and is now teaching in the grammar school, No. 8, of this city, while the latter is the wife of William Redman, of Canton, Ohio.

In 1874, after her husband's death, Mrs. Dalzell accepted a position in the city schools of Bucyrus, holding the same until she resigned in June, 1901. She is a very successful educator, having the ability to impress strongly and forcibly upon the young minds the principles of knowledge with which each child must become acquainted as a preparation for life's work. She holds membership in the Methodist Episcopal church and is a woman of high character whose many excellent qualities of heart and mind have won her the high regard and esteem of all with whom she has come in contact.

#### MICHAEL AUCK.

Michael Auck, a well known resident of Bucyrus, is a son of Christopher Auck, a native of Germany, born in Wurtemberg January 31, 1813. The name was originally spelled Auch. The father obtained a fair education in his native land, and at an early age was apprenticed to learn the



*Michael Auck*



tailor's trade. In the year 1831 he emigrated to the United States, locating in Pennsylvania, where, in 1841, he was united in marriage to Rachel Wagner. By this union three children were born, the living being Michael and Elizabeth, while Mary is now deceased. In the year 1848 the father removed from Pennsylvania to Crawford county, Ohio, and purchased a farm in Whetstone township. His first wife died on the 2d of September, 1875, and on the 7th of September of the following year he was united in marriage to Catherine Flick, who was born in 1818, and since the demise of her husband has made her home with her daughter, Mrs. Kunkle, of Bellefontaine, Ohio, with whom she is now living, in her eighty-fourth year. Christopher Auck was long a respected and honored citizen of Crawford county. He never sought or desired office, but undoubtedly could have enjoyed political preferment had he so desired. He was a reliable citizen, a faithful friend and considerate neighbor, and wherever known was held in high esteem.

Michael Auck, whose name forms the caption of this review, was born in Lycoming county, Pennsylvania, July 23, 1842, and acquired a good common-school education. On attaining his majority he started out in life on his own account, and on the 20th of September, 1866, he wedded Miss Caroline Elman, who was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, February 9, 1845. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Auck have been born six children: Mary J., who became the wife of D. S. Schieber, of Bucyrus, in 1887; John C., who is living on the old homestead in Whetstone township, and who in 1892 married Ora Andrews, a daughter of F. L. Andrews, of Liberty township; William H., who in 1898 wedded Theressa Seifert, of Jefferson county, Pennsylvania, and was for one year an assistant in the office of county treasurer, his father being his superior, after which the position of assistant cashier in the Second National Bank was tendered him and accepted; Lucy E., who was married, in 1890, to J. E. Myers, of Liberty township; Priscilla S., who, in October, 1900, became the wife of H. G. Hoover, of Bucyrus; and Samuel E., who was married, in December, 1900, to Lulu Viola Knoedler. He succeeded his brother William in the position of deputy treasurer, and retained the office under the successor of his father, being now the bookkeeper for the American Clay-Working Machinery Company.

Michael Auck was elected township treasurer of Whetstone township in 1880, and continued to serve in that position for seven years. On his retirement he became actively identified with business life, and has been connected with several mercantile ventures and industrial pursuits. He has

devoted some time to the operation of his farm, and at intervals has engaged in the administration of estates, often acting as guardian and trustee. In all of these the character of the man has been attested by his honesty and integrity in the discharge of his duties. Now, when almost sixty years of age, Mr. Auck is in the vigor and prime of an active business life, and frequently lends his aid for the transaction of business affairs in the office of county treasurer. In the year 1895 he became a candidate for that position and was elected, and on the 7th of September, 1896, was installed in that office, which he held for two consecutive terms. Upon his retirement, in 1900, his friends and associates presented him with a beautiful gold-headed cane, appropriately inscribed, as a testimonial of respect for him and in appreciation of the honesty and fidelity with which he had discharged the duties committed to his keeping. As the result of thirty years of continued and well directed effort in business affairs he is now the possessor of a comfortable competence, a handsome residence in Bucyrus, together with a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Liberty township and another of two hundred and four acres in Whetstone township, Crawford county. His land is very valuable and productive and therefore brings to him a good income. In his political views he has always been a Democrat of the Jeffersonian type, and in his religious belief is connected with the German Reformed church.

#### ARTHUR M. DUNCAN, M. D.

In no department of professional life has such rapid advancement been made in the last quarter of a century as in the medical. Investigation has been carried forward and remarkable discoveries made so that the methods in vogue and the practices followed twenty-five years ago are hardly known to-day in the light of modern science and discovery. It is this which renders the work of the medical fraternity so effective and makes its work a boon to humanity. One of the most learned and capable physicians in Crawford county is Dr. Duncan, of Bucyrus, who has attained a position of distinction in connection with his chosen life work and has thus set at naught the old proverb that a prophet is never without honor save in his own country, for the Doctor is a native of Crawford county and his fellow citizens have not been slow in acknowledging his worth and professional skill.

He was born in Texas township, January 18, 1850, and traces his ancestry back to the colonial epoch in the history of the country, and thence back



to Scotland, to a period antedating the religious wars of the seventeenth century. The best information attainable seems to establish beyond reasonable doubt the fact that three Duncan brothers, coming from Scotland about 1722, settled in Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, and became the progenitors of the family in America. They were descendants of the Rev. William Duncan, a martyr in the Covenanter persecution in Scotland. Andrew Duncan, the grandfather of our subject, was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, March 12, 1750, and died in 1828, in York county, that state. Under George III, he was appointed justice of the peace. When the colonies had achieved their independence from the British crown he was reappointed by the federal government and served in that capacity for more than half a century. He was of the Presbyterian church faith, and from 1770 to the time of his death he served as an elder of the Round Hill Presbyterian church, in York county, Pennsylvania.

Washington Duncan, the father of the Doctor, was born in York county, Pennsylvania, in 1810, and when a young man left his native state, removing to Crawford county in 1833, with his mother and sister Ann Elizabeth, who afterward became the wife of Arthur Andrews, a prominent pioneer and citizen of Crawford county. They took up land from the government, the deed to their claim being signed by Andrew Jackson, and for many years Mr. Duncan followed agricultural pursuits in Crawford county. He married Eliza Gibson, a daughter of John Gibson and a sister of the late General William H. Gibson, of Tiffin, Ohio. Her father was born in Washington county, Pennsylvania, in 1782, and in 1821 removed to Seneca county, Ohio, his death occurring in that county, near Melmore, in 1854. His wife bore the maiden name of Jeanette Coe and was a daughter of Moses Coe, a soldier of the Revolutionary war and a descendant of Robert Coe, who was born in Suffolk, England, about the year 1590. With his family he sailed from Ipswich, England, in 1634, and finally settled in Jamaica, New York, so that the maternal ancestry of the Doctor can be traced back to a period equally remote with that of the paternal. His father died in Bucyrus, in 1888, and the mother in 1890.

Arthur McDowell Duncan displays many of the sterling characteristics of his Scotch and English ancestry. He acquired his preliminary education in the common schools of the county and afterward attended normal schools in Republic and Fostoria. When he had completed his literary education he matriculated in the Columbus Medical College, where he remained as a student

for two years, after which he was graduated at Bellevue Hospital Medical College, of New York city, in the class of 1878. Having prepared for practice he opened an office in Albion, Michigan, where he remained for about two years and then spent two years in practice in the mining regions of Colorado. In 1885 he located in Bucyrus, where he has since remained and in the performance of his professional duties he has displayed marked ability and a comprehensive knowledge of the principles of the medical science. He has been a prominent and active member of local, state and national medical societies, and has thereby broadened his knowledge and at the same time has added to the fund of information there disseminated, also from his own personal experience, by contributing many valuable papers read before medical societies and published in medical journals. His advancement has been continuous throughout the years of his practice, for he has continued his studies at home as well as in college. He took a post-graduate course in the Polyclinic in New York city in 1886, and in 1892 spent some time in visiting the hospitals of Great Britain, giving special attention to the diseases of the eye, ear and throat. He has served as secretary and president of the Crawford County Medical Society, and president of the North-Central Ohio Medical Society, has filled several minor positions in other medical societies and has served on the board of pension examiners.

On the 9th of April, 1890, Dr. Duncan was united in marriage to Miss Adelaide H. Young, of Lisbon, Ohio. She died June 24, 1899, leaving three daughters, namely: Carol, Ethel Elizabeth and Lois Emma. She was the only daughter of Colonel G. I. Young, who was military secretary to Governor Tod and served on the governor's staff during his term of office. Afterward he was for four years in the war department at Washington and then returned to Lisbon, where he became editor and proprietor of the "Buckeye State." He died suddenly, of lung hemorrhage, in the capitol at Columbus, January 27, 1871, while representing Columbiana county in the state legislature. He was the only son of Peter Young, whose father came from Holland to America and settled near Lisbon, Ohio, in 1807.

Dr. Duncan is a member and elder of the First Presbyterian church of Bucyrus and was a commissioner from the Presbytery to the general assembly of the church in 1897. He was a member of the board of health of Bucyrus for six years after its organization, but resigned to accept the position of health officer of the city. A year later he resigned, for the work interfered with the performance of his professional duties.

## JOHN GEBHARDT.

John Gebhardt, whose identification with the commercial interests in Bucyrus is not only of benefit to himself but of value to the community through the promotion of commercial activity, was born in Holmes township, Crawford county, on the old family homestead two miles north of Bucyrus, September 16, 1859. As the name indicates, the family is of German lineage, and Adam Gebhardt, the father of our subject, was born in Baden, Germany, on the 15th of September, 1815. Emigrating to the United States, he located in Crawford county, Ohio, in 1848, immediately after landing in this country. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Wittner, and to whom he was married in Germany, died only six months after their arrival in this country, leaving two children, viz: Eva, wife of Philip Whittmer, of Paulding county, Ohio, and Elizabeth, deceased wife of Jacob Defenbacher. He subsequently wedded Susan Brand, also a native of Baden, this marriage being celebrated at Bloomville, Seneca county, Ohio, in 1851. On the farm where he first located in Crawford county the father continued to reside until the time of his death, which occurred August 27, 1897. His widow is still living and resides with his daughter on the old home place two miles north of Bucyrus. The children of this marriage are: Catherine, wife of J. C. Krauter; Caroline, wife of William Krauter, a brother of her sister's husband, and both are energetic business men of Crawford county; Jacob, who resides in Ada, Hardin county, Ohio; Susan A., wife of A. Michaelis, who is engaged in saddlery and harness-making business in Bucyrus; and John, of this review.

In taking up the personal history of John Gebhardt, we present to our readers the life record of one who has a wide acquaintance in Crawford and adjoining counties. The old home farm was the scene of his youthful labors and pleasures. He worked upon the farm through the summer months and at intervals attended school, obtaining a good English education. His time was thus passed until eighteen years of age. In 1891 he began auctioneering in connection with George McNeal. His first attempt at this business was made at a stock sale on the farm of Mr. Murphy, just west of Bucyrus. He is said to have become greatly frightened at the sound of his own voice as he began his duties there, but with resolute will he conquered his timidity, and, not dismayed by this beginning, he has persevered until he is to-day regarded as one of the best auctioneers in northern Ohio. In conducting this business he speaks both English and German. In 1892 he extended his field of labor by joining J. W. Snavely in the butchering business in Bucyrus, and this they con-

tinued until 1898, when they sold their market to George Tuttle, but in May, 1899, Mr. Gebhardt repurchased the business from Mr. Tuttle, and with his son, Cleo E., is now operating the market on North Sandusky street. They carry a large line of first-class meats, and their obliging manner and earnest desire to please their customers have secured to them a gratifying patronage.

In 1881 Mr. Gebhardt was united in marriage to Miss Emma C. Vollrath, a daughter of F. A. and Caroline (Ashbacher) Vollrath, of Bucyrus. Two children have been born unto them: Jeanette S., born November 20, 1882; and Cleo E., born May 24, 1886. The former is an accomplished young lady of eighteen years and the latter is a bright and enterprising youth of fourteen, who now occupies the responsible position of bookkeeper and assistant manager in his father's extensive meat and provision house in Bucyrus.

Mr. Gebhardt, of this review, has served in several positions of public trust. He was associated with the management of the Crawford County Agricultural Society and is now its president, having served as director and vice-president. Throughout his entire life he has supported the principles of Democracy, doing everything in his power to advance the party's interests. At the Democratic primary election held in April, 1901, Mr. Gebhardt was nominated for sheriff of the county, the nomination being equivalent to an election, as the county is overwhelmingly Democratic. He is a member of the German Lutheran church.

#### CHARLES B. SHUMAKER.

Since 1865 Charles Baker Shumaker has been a resident of Galion and has long been accorded a position of prominence in connection with public affairs and as an honored representative of business interests. Many are his individual characteristics that win for him the high regard of those with whom he is associated. He is a native of the Keystone state, his birth having occurred in Northumberland county. His father, John Shumaker, was born in Schuylkill county, Pennsylvania, and is a son of John Shoemaker, Sr. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Catherine Baker, and she, too, was a native of Schuylkill county. The subject of this review was reared in Williamsport, Lycoming county, and acquired his education in the public schools and afterward engaged in clerking in a general store for several years. In 1865 he came to Galion, where he has since continuously made his home. For eight years he was employed in the railroad shops and in 1873 was elected

constable for Polk township, serving for one term of four years, after which he was made justice of the peace. Through a long period he has been connected with the insurance and real-estate business, handling much valuable property and conducting many important real-estate transactions. He has a very comprehensive knowledge of the value of realty and is thus enabled to make judicious investments and to advise his clients so that they will purchase property that will bring to them a good return. His time has also been occupied by official duties, which have ever been discharged in a manner so as to win him the commendation and respect of all concerned. In the year 1878 he was elected justice of the peace and was again chosen to that office in 1881, 1883, 1886, 1889 and 1899. He filled the position for fifteen consecutive years and then after an interval was again elected, so that he is now serving his sixth term. He discharges his duties with the utmost impartiality and has "won golden opinions from all sorts of people." Law and order find in him a careful guardian, and no higher testimonial of his efficiency could be given than the fact that he has been so long in office. He has also been honored with other official positions by his fellow townsmen, who recognize his worth and ability. In 1885-6 he filled the position of mayor, and in 1890 and 1891 was a member of the city council. In both capacities he exercised his prerogatives in support of every measure calculated for the general good, and his labors were effective, beneficial and far-reaching in their influence.

On the 31st of December, 1857, Mr. Shumaker was united in marriage to Miss Rachel A. Smith, a daughter of Asa and Letitia Smith and a native of Williams county, Ohio. Unto them have been born nine children, of whom four died in early life. The eldest, Alice, became the wife of Theodore Stewart, of Dayton, Ohio, and died January 28, 1891, at the age of forty-two years, leaving two children, Charles Theodore and Helen. Thomas M., the second of the family, pursued his education in the schools of Galion and entered the railroad service in the freight office of the Big Four road at this place. He has worked his way upward step by step, his close application, energy and ability winning him advancement through all the grades until he is now occupying the very important and responsible position of traffic manager for the Union Pacific Railroad Company, having charge of the Oregon Short Line, with headquarters at Salt Lake City. He was for several years manager of the Continental Fruit Express Company. Clara, the third member of the family, is now the wife of George Stoltz, a resident farmer of Whetstone township. Sarah Emma is the wife of William Neff, of Polk township.

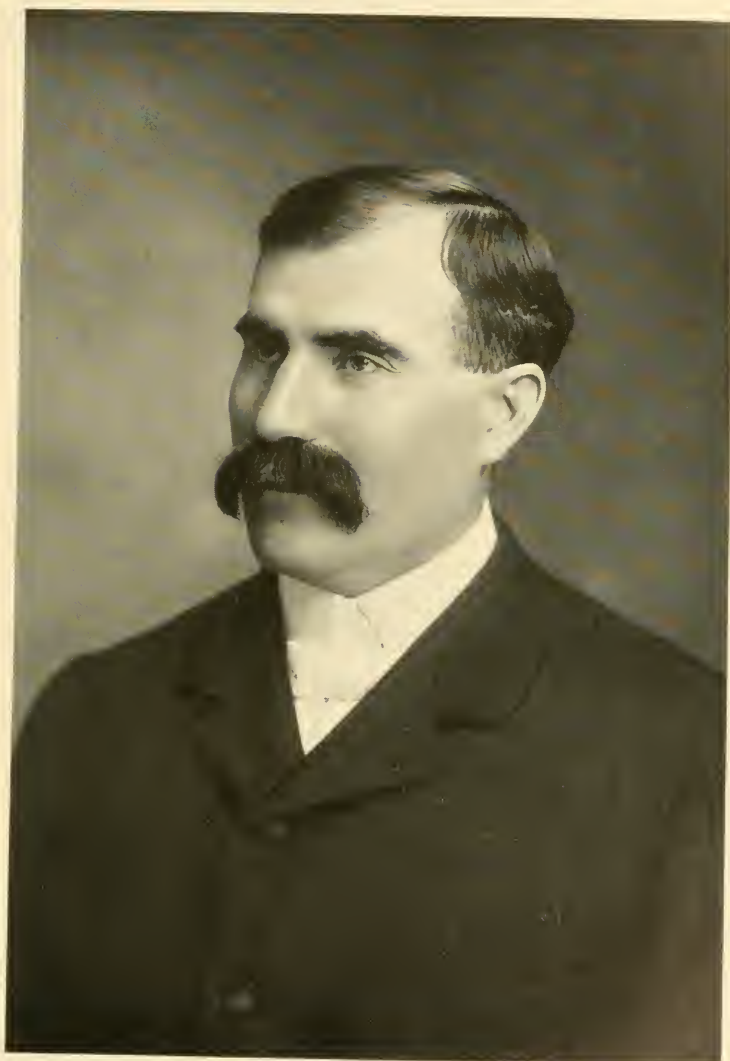


Wilbert A., who was graduated in the high school of Galion with the first honors of his class of eighteen, engaged in teaching school here for one year and then went to Chicago, where for several years he was in the employ of the Illinois Steel Company. He now occupies a splendid position with Armour & Company, as manager of the transportation department. He married Miss Cunningham, of Salt Lake City.

For thirty years Mr. Shumaker has been a member of the church of Christ, with which all of his family are identified. In his political views he is a stalwart Democrat, believing that the principles of the party are best adapted to secure the welfare of the nation. For thirty-five years he has been a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, has filled all of the chairs in the local lodge, for sixteen years was its treasurer and also belongs to the encampment. He has made good use of his opportunities, has prospered from year to year and has conducted all business matters carefully and successfully, displaying special aptitude for successful management. He has not permitted the accumulation of a competence to affect in any way his actions toward those less successful than he and always has a cheerful word and pleasant smile for those with whom he comes in contact. He is a splendid type of manhood, honorable and honored, and in the history of his native county he well deserves mention.

#### WILLIAM L. ALEXANDER.

On the roster of county officials in Crawford county appears the name of William Lewis Alexander, who is now serving as treasurer, having entered upon the duties of the office on the 3d of September, 1900, for a term of two years. He has long figured conspicuously in connection with public affairs, and his patriotic devotion to the general good is widely recognized. Crestline is his place of residence, and in Richland county, Ohio, four miles east of Crestline, he was born October 14, 1865, his parents being Isaac Newton and Sophia (Shifler) Alexander. On the paternal side he is of Scotch lineage. Several centuries ago, however, the ancestors removed from Scotland to the north of Ireland. His great-grandfather, Jacob Alexander, was born in Pennsylvania, in 1780. G. W. Alexander, the grandfather of our subject, is still living in Hocking county, Ohio, and has passed the eightieth milestone on life's journey. He was born in Hocking county September 1, 1819, and for many years was engaged in farming and school



Wm. L. Alexander



teaching. The grandmother was born in the same county as was her husband, the date being October 4, 1815.

Isaac N. Alexander, the father of our subject, was born in Pickaway county, Ohio, September 17, 1843, and from his native county removed to Richland county, and thence, soon afterward, to Crestline. There he was in the service of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company for some nineteen years, being thus employed at the time of his death. He took quite an active interest in public affairs, was elected and served as a member of the city council, and was also a member of the city school board. In Richland county he was united in marriage with Miss Sophia Shifler, who was born in that county July 15, 1840. Her parents came from Pennsylvania to the Buckeye state and cast in their lot with the early settlers of Richland county. Mr. Alexander died at Crestline, Crawford county, April 10, 1889, in his forty-sixth year, but he is still survived by his widow. There is also another living son, Frank O. Alexander, who makes his home in Toledo, Ohio.

In taking up the personal history of William L. Alexander we present to our readers the life record of a popular and prominent citizen, who is both widely and favorably known in Crawford county. He pursued his education in Crestline, in the public schools, and in 1882 entered the service of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company as a telegraph operator at Crestline, occupying that position until 1894. His fitness for public duties and public honors has led to his selection for a number of positions of trust and responsibility. He abandoned the profession of telegraphy on account of being appointed by President Cleveland to the position of postmaster of Crestline, in 1894, and served in that capacity for four years. He was a member of the city council of Crestline for two terms, and for one term of three years served as a member of the school board, having been president of the board for one year. The cause of education found in him a warm friend, whose labors in its behalf were effective and beneficial. In 1899 he was nominated for the office of county treasurer, and, having been elected, entered upon his duties on the 3d of September, 1900. He is a faithful custodian of the public exchequer, prompt and reliable in the discharge of the trusts reposed in him. He has long been a recognized leader in Democratic circles and served for three years on the county central Democratic committee of Crawford county.

In 1891 Mr. Alexander was united in marriage, in Toledo, Ohio, to Miss Carrie Evelyn Vineia, a daughter of F. H. and Harriet (Johnson) Vincia, of French descent. Mrs. Alexander was born in Toledo, Ohio.

They now have four children, namely: Egie Mina, Guy Stanley, Harriet Elsie and Dodge Vineia. The parents hold membership in the English Lutheran church, in which Mr. Alexander served as trustee for ten years. Prominent in the Masonic lodge of Crestline, he has served in all of its offices and is regarded as one of its exemplary representatives. He is also connected with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks in Bucyrus.

Mr. Alexander has passed his entire life in this portion of Ohio, and he has become widely known, his characteristics being such as to commend him to the confidence and regard of those with whom he has been associated. He is known as a man of sterling integrity, of strong convictions and fearless in support of what he believes to be right. He has a large circle of friends, who have been won and are being retained by his mental ability, his attractive personality and his outspoken devotion to the best interests of the community.

### JOHN G. HERBOLD.

John G. Herbold is engaged in the undertaking business in Galion, having carried on operations along this line since 1885, but the establishment of which he is at the head has been numbered among the business interests of the city since 1862. Mr. Herbold is a native of Galion. His father, Philip Herbold, was born in Baden, Germany, pursued his education in the schools of that country and about 1848 sought a home in the United States, first locating in Buffalo, New York. He afterward came to Ohio, taking up his abode in Galion, and in 1862 he opened a furniture store and undertaking establishment, which are still carried on. He was proprietor of both departments for forty-nine years and then divided the business, his son assuming the management of the undertaking, while Mr. Herbold continued in charge of the furniture store. He carries a large and well selected stock of goods, and, though now eighty-one years of age, he daily gives his attention to business. Such a record should put to shame many men who, grown weary of the struggles and labors of business life, would relegate to others the burdens which they should bear. He is still hale and hearty and is an honored and valued representative of the commercial interests of his adopted city. He married Frederica Feldman, a native of Germany, who died in 1895, at the age of sixty-seven years. They were the parents of four sons,—John George, Gustavus, Philip H. and Adam, all residents of Galion.

John George Herbold, whose name forms the caption of this review, was



reared under the parental roof, and to the public school system of Galion he is indebted for the educational privileges which he enjoyed. After putting aside his text-books he entered his father's employment, becoming familiar with the business. He also attended the Oriental School of Embalming, at Boston, Sullivan's Embalming School, of Cleveland, Ohio, and Barnes Embalming School, of Chicago, while for a time he was associated as a student under Mr. Clark, of Cincinnati. He is one of the most efficient and capable embalmers in the entire state, and for his work in this direction is known throughout the northern part of Ohio, where his services are continually in demand. He was the first undertaker to introduce the ambulance and invalid coach in Crawford county, and has the only one in the county at the present time. He remained in business with his father until 1895, when he assumed charge of the undertaking department, of which he has since been sole proprietor. He has a liberal patronage, which is well deserved, and his labors bring to him a good income.

In 1895 occurred the marriage of Mr. Herbold and Miss Ester Burgener, of Galion, a daughter of John and Elizabeth Bergener, pioneer residents of this portion of the state and natives of Germany. Socially Mr. Herbold is connected with the Knights of Pythias lodge, of Galion, in which he is past chancellor. He also belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and is a representative of the Modern Woodmen of America. Although reared in the Reformed church, of which his people are members, he is now identified with the Presbyterian church. Having long resided in this city, he has a wide acquaintance among its residents, and in social circles as well as in business life he is highly esteemed.

#### CAPTAIN C. H. MUELLER.

Captain Mueller is so well known in business and military circles that he needs no introduction to the readers of this volume. He has long been a conspicuous and honored factor in both walks of life and his history cannot fail to prove of interest. He is a young man of sterling worth, popular, genial and courteous, and wherever he is known he wins the friendship of those with whom he comes in contact. He was born in Carey, Ohio, in 1869, and is of German lineage, for his father, John Jacob Mueller, was a native of Hesse-Castle, in the province of Darmstadt, Germany, where he lived until fourteen years of age, and in that period acquired his education in accordance with the laws of his native land. He then came to America, and at the time of the

Civil war he manifested his loyalty to his adopted country by entering the Union army, enlisting in 1862, among the boys in blue of Company K, Fifty-fifth Regiment of Ohio Volunteers. He joined the service at Upper Sandusky as a private, and with his command proceeded to the front. He accompanied Sherman on his celebrated march to the sea, which showed that the strength of the Confederacy was exhausted. He took part in the battle of Lookout Mountain, and was in the hotly contested engagements at Gettysburg, Missionary Ridge, Resaca, Buzzards' Roost and other places where sanguinary engagements tested the courage and strength of both armies. When the war was over he received his honorable discharge and with a most creditable military record returned to his home. In 1876 he took up his abode in Galion, where he is still living, and throughout the period of his residence here he has been a representative of the mercantile interests of the city. The prosperity of every community depends upon its commercial activity, and Mr. Mueller has been one who has taken an active part in advancing business growth. He now retains pleasant relationship with his old army comrades through his membership with the Grand Army of the Republic. He married Elizabeth Wright, a native of Petersburg, Virginia, and a representative of a family prominent in connection with the Confederacy. Mr. and Mrs. Mueller are members of the Reformed church of Galion.

Captain Mueller, of this review, was a lad of only five summers when brought by his parents to this city, where he has continuously resided, enjoying the pleasures and advantages of school life, after which he put aside his text-books to learn the more difficult lessons in the school of experience. He is now associated with his brother, George Franklin Mueller, under the firm name of Mueller Brothers, in conducting the largest merchant tailoring establishment in the city. They employ quite a large force of workmen, and their skill and ability in the line of their chosen calling is such as to retain for them a large share of the public patronage. In fact their business surpasses in volume and importance that of any other individual or firm in the same line in the city. They also have a large and well selected stock of goods to display to their patrons, and the work executed in their establishment is ever of high grade.

The patriotic spirit which prompted the father's enlistment as a defender of the Union has been manifest in the son, who is well known in military circles. He has ever taken a great interest in military affairs, is familiar with tactics and early learned that a soldier's first duty was obedi-

ence. He commanded the High School Cadets in 1898. On the 12th of March, 1900, he joined the Eighth Ohio National Guard, as captain of Company L, a position which he still occupies. Skillful in maneuver and accurate in marksmanship, he has also been captain in the uniformed rank of the Junior Order in Galion for one year. While Captain Mueller ever maintains discipline, he is also just and considerate of those who serve under him, and the most amicable relations exist between him and his troops.

### GEORGE W. DIDIE.

George W. Didie is one of the native citizens of Bucyrus, his birth having occurred here April 21, 1848. He is also recognized as one of the important factors in political circles, and through many years has been continued in office, a fact which indicates in an unmistakable manner his ability and fidelity to duty, for though men may win office sometimes through unworthy means, when they are incapable of performing the duties the judgment of the American people is too accurate to permit of their continuance in positions of public trust. Through many years Mr. Didie has served his fellow townsmen in office, and his labors have been of value to the city, for his administration of public affairs is ever business-like and progressive. His father, Washington Didie, was a carpenter and builder and spent his last days in Bucyrus, passing away in 1882, at the age of sixty-seven years. His wife bore the maiden name of Maria Layman and was a daughter of Christian and Mary (Botts) Layman, who came from Berks county, Pennsylvania, to Ohio. The paternal grandfather of our subject was Isaac Didie, who resided in Cumberland county, Pennsylvania. His people were formerly from Philadelphia and originally from France. John Didie, the great-great-grandfather of our subject, came from France to the new world and with patriotic spirit aided the colonists in their struggle for independence. The maternal great-grandfather of our subject was a native of Holland, and his family resided upon a farm which Major Andre made his headquarters during the Revolutionary war.

Mr. Didie, of this review, pursued his education in the schools of Bucyrus, completing the high school course, and after putting aside his text-books entered upon his business career, being connected with several lines of trade, and for three terms he engaged in teaching school in Indiana, but since 1874 he has been almost continuously in public service, filling many positions of trust and responsibility. In the year mentioned he was elected

city clerk of Bucyrus and filled the position for six years, while for many years he was township clerk. He has also been deputy and county recorder and was deputy county auditor for nine years. He was a member of the Bucyrus city board of education for twelve years, ten years of which time he was clerk of the board. He has filled some of those positions contemporaneously. Since 1897 he has been justice of the peace of Bucyrus township, and his decisions are strictly fair and impartial, for he displays neither fear nor favor in passing judgment upon the merits of a case, without regard to parties concerned.

In Indiana Mr. Didie was united in marriage to Miss Amanda F. Wise, a daughter of Jacob and Maria (Didie) Wise. Two sons have been born of this marriage: Edgar Allen, whose birth occurred in 1876 and who is now employed in a retail grocery house; and Dallas Dio. There are also two daughters: Laura Della and Dora Zelah.

Mr. Didie is connected with the Order of the Knights of the Maccabees and is a gentleman of social prominence and popularity. He has a very large acquaintance throughout Crawford county and enjoys the warm friendship of a large number of those with whom he has come in contact.

#### THOMAS C. WOODS.

Thomas C. Woods, one of the pioneer railroad men living in Crestline, was born in Beaver county, Pennsylvania, November 30, 1833. The paternal grandfather, Henry Woods, was a soldier in the war of 1812 and was of English descent. His father, David Woods, was also a native of the same locality and in his early manhood followed the Ohio river as a blacksmith and assistant engineer. He learned the blacksmith's trade in early life and was connected with that line of work in his native county, successfully carrying on the business on his own account until his death, which occurred in the fifty-ninth year of his age. In politics he was an old-line Whig and held a number of local offices in the county. He married Miss Margaret Evans, who was also born in Beaver county, Pennsylvania, and was a daughter of Samuel Evans, whose birth occurred in Ireland, and who was thirty years of age when he came from that country to Pennsylvania. In early life he served as a pilot on a steamer on the Ohio river. His daughter, Mrs. Woods, died at the age of eighty-four years. By her marriage she became the mother of seven children, four sons and three daughters, namely: Joseph, a manufacturer of wooden ware in Bedford, Pennsylvania; Thomas C., of

this review; Mary Ann, of Allegheny county, Pennsylvania, who is the widow of John Evans, a native of England; Alexander, who died when about ten years of age; Nancy Jane, wife of J. R. Parott, who has charge of the electric light plant at Bucyrus, Ohio; Carrie, who died in infancy; David H., who is an engineer on the Peoria, Decatur & Evansville Railroad and resides at Mattoon, Illinois.

Thomas C. Woods, whose name introduces this record, remained in his native county of Pennsylvania until nineteen years of age. He made his home with his father and attended school. On leaving the parental roof he entered the railroad service, driving a horse and cart at the time the grade was being made. He was afterward with the Pennsylvania & Ohio Railroad Company, in Pennsylvania, and later he obtained a position as a laborer on a work train used in hauling all kinds of materials necessary in the construction of the road. Mr. Woods served in that capacity until he was made fireman on a freight train, running from Allegheny City, Pennsylvania, to Alliance, Ohio. He acted as fireman for about four years, part of the time on a passenger train. During that period the new road had been completed to Crestline, Ohio, and Mr. Woods made some of the first trips to this city. After four years as fireman he was promoted to the position of engineer and ran on both divisions, from Allegheny to Alliance and from Alliance to Crestline. Since his marriage he has spent much time on a switch engine, through choice, as it allowed him to spend more time at home than if he was on the road. He has seen all of the shops erected and all of the improvements made here. He was a witness to the laying of the first railroad iron in the town and is the oldest man in the motive-power department west of Pittsburg in the employ of the company. He never was suspended from duty except once and that was for only six days, being occasioned by a very important accident, backing into an engine. By consent of the railroad company, whom he has served so long and faithfully, he has been put on the retired list with a pension of forty dollars and thirty cents per month, and one thousand dollars payable to his beneficiaries at his death.

On the 29th of July, 1857, Mr. Woods was united in marriage to Miss Mary Jane Moore, who was born near Columbiana, Ohio, June 29, 1832, and is a daughter of John C. and Mary (Deldaback) Moore, natives of New Jersey and of French and Holland descent. Since 1859 Mr. and Mrs. Woods have resided in Crestline. They became the parents of four children: Ella, who died at the age of nine years; Dora, who died at the age of six years; Edward, who passed away at the age of four years; and Della B., who became



the wife of Charles E. Johnson and died October 5, 1897, leaving a son, Donald, who is now residing with his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Woods. Our subject is a Republican in his political affiliations, having voted that ticket since the organization of the party, previous to which time he was a Whig. He has a wide acquaintance in this portion of Ohio and is particularly well known in railroad circles.

### JAMES H. PERRINE.

Among the conductors in the railway service now living in Crestline is James H. Perrine, who is numbered among Ohio's native citizens, his birth having occurred in Wyandot county, on the 11th of July, 1844. His father, James Perrine, was a native of Pennsylvania, where he spent the period of his boyhood and youth. When a young man he took up his residence in Wyandot county, Ohio, where he followed farming and also bore his part in the work of development and progress, for he located there in pioneer days. He married Nancy Duddelson, a native of that county, where her parents had located when it was a frontier district, the Indians being far more numerous than the white settlers. Mr. Perrine lived to be about seventy-two years of age, and his wife died when seventy-six years of age. They were the parents of three children: William, who was a conductor and was killed in the yard of the Grand Rapids & Indianapolis Railroad in September, 1880; John was a soldier in the One Hundred and Twenty-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry during the Civil war; James H. completes the family. The eldest brother, William, was also numbered among the boys in blue, serving with the one-hundred-day men in an Ohio regiment.

Taking up the personal history of James H. Perrine we present to our readers the life record of one who is widely and favorably known and whose many excellent qualities are worthy of emulation. He was reared in his native county upon the old homestead and upheld the family record for loyalty and patriotism by joining the Union forces when only eighteen years of age, becoming a member of Company F, One Hundred and Twenty-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry, in 1862. He served until the close of the war, participating in many important engagements, including the battles of Winchester, Piedmont, Snicker's Gap and was detailed to act as nurse in the hospital, taking care of the wounded at Winchester, Virginia. This was in 1864. He also participated in the battle of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, and in many other engagements of importance, and though always found at the post of

duty, even if it carried him into the thickest of the fight, he was never wounded. In the winter of 1865, when in front of Richmond, he was taken prisoner, being captured on the first of April, but on the 4th of the same month he was paroled and sent to Columbus, where he remained until mustered out on the 14th of June, 1865.

Mr. Perrine then returned to his native county and in July of the same year entered the service of the Pennsylvania & Ohio Railroad Company, now the Pittsburg, Ft. Wayne & Chicago Railroad Company. He was first engaged in hauling dirt and working on the grading of the road as a laborer. He afterward served on a construction train and then built fences for the company. Subsequently he was made brakeman in 1869, running between Crestline and Fort Wayne, Indiana, for eighteen months, after which he was promoted to conductor. In that capacity he ran between the two cities mentioned for about two and a half years, and was then transferred to the eastern division between Crestline and Alliance, where he served as brakeman for three and a half years. He was then again promoted to conductor, remaining upon that run for about eighteen years. On the 25th of April, 1898, he fell from the train, while it was in motion, and his injuries incapacitated him for further duty for four months. At the time of the accident he was running through Allegheny, on the 6th of August, 1889, and the engine went through his caboose. His own train was moving very slowly when it was run into by a train in the rear, which was going at a speed of twenty-five miles per hour. Mr. Perrine was the only one in the caboose at the time. The car was completely demolished, nothing being left but the trucks, while his collar bone was broken and he suffered other serious injuries. Since that time he has run on many trains, but it is the earnest desire of his family that he should give up railroad service. He is one of the most reliable and highly respected men in the employ of the company, having served them for over thirty years.

Mr. Perrine was married in Wyandot county, Ohio, in May, 1866, to Miss Ellen Dunlap, a native of that county, where she was reared and educated. Her parents were Samuel and Jane (Steele) Dunlap. Her father was born in Scotland and died at the age of sixty-six years, and her mother passed away at the age of fifty-five years. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Perrine have been born three children, a son and two daughters: William, who is now a brakeman on the Pennsylvania Railroad and resides in Crestline; Bertha, wife of William Bennett, who is living in Indianapolis and by whom she has three children,—Maude, Donna and Milfred; and Maudie, wife of Charles

Rice, of Cleveland. Both she and her husband are operators for the Western Union Telegraph Company. The son married Sophia Denner and they have two children,—Ella and Mabel, and also lost one child at the age of four years.

Mr. Perrine is a member of the Order of Railway Conductors, and, as the result of his years of business activity he has become the possessor of a comfortable competence. He is now one of the stockholders of the First National Bank and holds government bonds. He also owns considerable valuable property, including a pleasant residence on Henry street. In politics he is a staunch and inflexible Republican, and his wife is a member of the Presbyterian church. They are honored and respected in Crestline, where they have resided for so many years and the hospitality of the best homes is extended to them.

#### REV. JOHN W. KUNTZ.

The stamp designating true nobility of character must ever find its ineffaceable tracery on the brow of one who sets himself apart from "the madding crowd's ignoble strife" and dedicates his life to the uplifting of his fellow men. A more than superficial investigation is demanded when one essays to determine the mental struggle and the spirit of unselfish devotion that must animate the man who gives all that he has and all that he hopes to be to service in the great vineyard of life, seeking reward only in that realm "where moth and rust do not corrupt and where thieves do not break through and steal." Preparations for and labors in the priesthood are perforce exacting, demanding an ever ready sympathy, a broad intellectuality and an unswerving fidelity. Scoffing, cynicism and careless irreverence would often be silenced if only the inner life of those who minister in holy places might be laid open for inspection. Honor is due and honor will be paid when once there comes a deeper understanding of the truth.

As the minister of the German Evangelical Lutheran church, known as the Goodhope Evangelical Lutheran church, John Waldo Kuntz is widely known. He began his pastoral work in Bucyrus on the 20th of May, 1897, and his labors have been attended with excellent results. He was born in Germany, in 1868, and with his parents came to America in 1880, the family locating in Loudonville, Ohio. The father is now a contractor and builder of Hutchinson, Kansas.

The son began his education in Alsace-Lorraine, Germany, and con-

tinued his studies in Loudonville, Ohio. He afterward matriculated in the Capital University, at Columbus, and then entered the Lutheran Seminary at St. Paul, Minnesota, where he was graduated in June, 1891. Being prepared for the work of the ministry, he began preaching the gospel in Baltimore, Maryland, as pastor of St. James church, where he remained until 1893, when, owing to ill health, he had to take a smaller charge, where the labors and responsibilities were not so great. He is a most zealous and indefatigable worker and carries on his labors oftentimes at the expense of his own strength and health. While in Baltimore he was instrumental in erecting a new church there. On leaving the south he accepted the pastorate of the German Lutheran church at Jelloway, Knox county, Ohio, where he remained for four years, and on the 20th of May, 1897, he came to Bucyrus as pastor of the Goodhope Evangelical Lutheran church of this city. During the four years in which he has remained at this place the church debt of over three thousand dollars has been paid out and the church is now in a very flourishing condition. It has a membership of over seven hundred, the number having been largely increased during the ministrations of Rev. Kuntz.

In Jelloway, in 1895, Rev. Kuntz was united in marriage to Miss Ida C. Richert, who was born in that place and is a daughter of George J. Richert. Their marriage has been blessed with two children. Mrs. Kuntz is to her husband an able assistant in his Christian work. He is a man of broad sympathy, of marked personality and strong force of character, and his labors for the uplifting of his fellow men have been productive of great good.

It will be interesting in this connection to note something of the history of the church of which he has charge. The Goodhope Evangelical Lutheran church was established in 1829 by the Rev. J. D. Schule, who acted as pastor for a time and was succeeded by the Rev. J. Steanch, who came to the church in December, 1832. The Rev. F. J. Ruth, an English speaking minister, was also employed, and he and the Rev. Steanch alternated their labors in the pulpit, the latter speaking in the German tongue, the former in the English language. In 1836 a house of worship was erected for both the German and English speaking worshipers. It was the first church with a steeple in the city of Bucyrus. The Rev. J. O. Ergens preached to the German portion of the congregation, and under his eloquent discourse and earnest labor the membership of the church grew rapidly. He was succeeded in 1839 by J. Krons, who was a member of the Ohio synod, which still has control of the Goodhope church. In 1842 the German portion became a separate congregation and assumed its present name. On the 9th of December, 1843, they

sold their share in the church to the English speaking people, and that division of the church has since been known as St. Paul's. The German congregation then occupied a hall until 1857, when the old church was erected. In 1855 the Rev. Michaelis became pastor, and during his ministrations a house of worship was erected, work being begun on the 1st of April, 1857, and the corner stone laid on the 12th of August of that year. The house was erected at a cost of five thousand dollars. In 1867 the Rev. Michaelis was called away, and in October of that year the Rev. J. F. Graessle became pastor, acting in that capacity until 1880, during which time the congregation grew rapidly and many improvements were made. A fine pipe organ was built in the church and a parsonage was erected. From 1881 until 1887 the Rev. J. C. Eirich attended to the spiritual needs of the congregation as pastor of Goodhope church, and at the latter date was succeeded by W. F. Deiss, who died while filling the pulpit, in 1889, and was laid to rest in the cemetery in Bucyrus. He was succeeded by C. F. Gebhardt, who came to the church in September, 1890. During his pastorate the present house of worship was erected, at a cost of twenty-seven thousand dollars, and the old church is now used as an armory. The present structure is commodious and modern in every respect. Rev. Gebhardt died in 1897, and was succeeded by the Rev. John Waldo Kuntz, who was the first pastor to introduce the English language into the services. On each alternate Sunday at the evening services he speaks English, and once a month delivers a lecture to young people in the English tongue. Like many of his predecessors, his labors are proving of great benefit and value to the community, and the influence of the church is widely felt.

#### MATHEW L. CARMEAN.

Mathew L. Carmean, a well-known citizen and extensive farmer and stock-raiser of Dallas township, was born on the 5th of March, 1846, in the township which is still his home, his parents being Mathew G. and Rachel (DeLong) Carmean. His father was a southern gentleman and came to Ohio with his parents, who were pioneer settlers of Pickaway county, where Mathew G. Carmean spent the greater part of his youth. The family name is of French origin and the first representative of the family in America crossed the Atlantic from France at an early day in the history of this country. After arriving at years of maturity Mathew G. Carmean was united in marriage, in Pickaway county, to Miss Rachel DeLong, who was born in



New Jersey and was of Pennsylvania Dutch descent. They soon afterward came to Crawford county, where they began life in limited financial circumstances. The father entered from the government eighty acres of land in what was then Bucyrus township, but not long afterward exchanged that land for a tract on section 11, Dallas township, whereon he took up his residence, making it his place of abode throughout his remaining days. He prospered in his undertakings and as his financial resources increased he made judicious investments in other property, until at the time of his demise his realty possessions aggregated twelve hundred acres.

Unto Mathew G. and Rachel Carmean were born seven children, namely: Mrs. Mary Ann Coulter, who is now a widow and resides in Toledo, Ohio; Martha E., deceased; Jonathan, a representative citizen of Crawford county; Elizabeth, who died in childhood; Nelson, who died at the age of sixteen years; and Mathew L., of this review.

The last named was reared upon a farm and pursued his education in a log school house. At the time of early spring planting he took his place in the fields and assisted in the cultivation of the crops until after the harvests were garnered in the late autumn. He has always resided in Crawford county and has always followed farming, remaining with his father until the latter's death. He now owns a valuable farm of three hundred acres, all of which is under a high state of cultivation and yields excellent harvests for the care and labor bestowed upon it. Buildings and fences are kept in good repair and everything about the place is neat and thrifty, indicating the owner to be a man of progressive spirit, energy and perseverance.

In 1876, January 6, Mr. Carmean was united in marriage to Miss Hannah Drollsbaugh, who was born in Juniata county, Pennsylvania. Her mother died during her early girlhood and when she was sixteen years of age she came to Crawford county, where she had brothers and sisters living. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Carmean has been blessed with four living children: Maud G., Olivette, Ruth R. and Theodore M., all at home, and they lost one, Luther J., who died at the age of thirteen months. The wife and mother, a lady of sterling qualities, died in the fall of 1900, esteemed by all who knew her.

In his political views Mr. Carmean is a Republican, who earnestly advocates the principles of the party and never seeks official reward for his fidelity. Socially he is a Master Mason, belonging to Oliver Lodge, No. 447, F. & A. M., and to the Order of the Eastern Star. He is likewise a member of Caledonia Lodge, No. 116, K. of P., and belongs to the Methodist Episco-

pal church. The fraternal spirit of the one and the Christian principles of the other have largely shaped his course in life and made him an honored and respected man.

#### HENRY A. RAUB.

Henry A. Raub was born in Columbiana county, Ohio, November 16, 1831, and is a son of Henry and Hannah (Aultman) Raub. The father, a native of Pennsylvania, was born in 1801. Coming to this state he resided for some time in Columbiana county, but subsequently returned to Pennsylvania, where he remained for about five years. On the expiration of that period he took up his abode in Knox county, Ohio, where he remained for some time, owning and operating a farm there. At length he sold that property and purchased another farm in Marion county, but while preparing to remove to the new home he was taken ill and died in the year 1867. His widow, however, went to Marion county, where she spent her remaining days, passing away in 1871.

No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of the farm life of Henry A. Raub in his youth. He pursued his education in the schools of Knox county, Ohio, and in April, 1852, when twenty-one years of age, he came to Bucyrus. That summer he worked upon a farm and in the autumn entered school in this city, his leisure time outside of the school room being devoted to working for Andrew Failor, and during the succeeding year he was again employed as a farm hand and then once more came to Bucyrus, where he was employed in the store of Dr. Converse. Subsequently he secured a position in a sawmill in the fall of 1854 and served in that capacity for three years. He was employed as fireman in McLane's gristmill for one year and in a similar capacity in the hub and spoke factory owned by Jones & Company, in whose service he spent the year 1860. On the expiration of that period he embarked in the milling business on his own account, under the firm name of Bowers & Raub, and at the end of the year he was succeeded by Mr. Nussbaum, but remained with the new firm in the position of fireman. Subsequently Mr. Bowers purchased his partner's interest and Mr. Raub continued as fireman until he rented the mill of Mr. Bowers and conducted it on his own account until Mr. Bowers sold the property to a stock company. Mr. Raub then again assumed the position of fireman for the stock company, and afterward the mill was leased by a Mr. Miller, who operated it for a time. Subsequently he leased the property and carried on

the business for himself for about three years, when the mill was destroyed by fire. Not long afterward he opened a feed store in Bucyrus and has since carried on business along that line, enjoying a large and profitable trade.

In January, 1855, Mr. Raub was united in marriage to Miss Sarah D. Howenstein, who was a daughter of John Howenstein. She died in 1872. Their children were: Mary L., who was born in February, 1856, and died on her fifteenth birthday; Lillian, Jay, Harry and Charles.

Mr. Raub has led a busy, industrious and useful life and his fidelity to principle has ever been manifest in his honorable conduct, which has gained for him the confidence and good will of his fellow men. His first presidential vote was cast for Franklin Pierce, then he voted for John C. Fremont, then Abraham Lincoln, and has since voted the Prohibition ticket.

#### DANIEL KANZLEITER.

Daniel Kanzleiter is a well-known factor in the business circles of Bucyrus, where since 1885 he has been an active representative of real-estate interests, handling farm lands in Crawford and adjoining counties, town property and southern lands. In the latter connection he is land agent for the Mobile & Ohio Railroad Company, with which corporation he has thus been connected since 1895. Success has attended his efforts, for among his dominant qualities are numbered keen discernment and sagacity, progressive methods and unfailing courtesy. He is thoroughly in touch with the modern business methods of the times, and his well directed efforts have gained for him a position among the prosperous residents of his native city.

Mr. Kanzleiter was born in Bucyrus, June 21, 1843, his parents being John and Ursula Catherine (Koberlin) Kanzleiter. The father was a native of Switzerland and the mother was born in Wurtemberg, Germany. Leaving the land of the Alps Mr. Kanzleiter crossed the broad Atlantic in September, 1837, and took up his abode in Bucyrus, where he resided for many years. Thus our subject became a native of this city and was here reared, pursuing his education in the public schools. In 1861 he entered the Journal printing office, where he was employed until May, 1864, when, at the age of twenty-one years, he responded to the country's call for troops, enlisting as a member of Company E, One Hundred and Thirty-sixth Ohio Infantry. After the war he returned to the printing business, which he followed until the fall of 1868, when, on account of poor health, he was forced to abandon that line of business. He then conducted a depot and circulating library, containing

two thousand volumes. Subsequently he was employed in the Forum office until March, 1885, when he embarked in the real-estate business, which he has since conducted with marked success. As a representative of the Mobile & Ohio Railroad Company he does a land business throughout Ohio. He has in charge much valuable real estate and has conducted many important real-estate transactions. His knowledge of land values is comprehensive and exact, and he is thus enabled to aid his clients in making judicious investments.

In 1876 Mr. Kanzleiter was united in marriage to Miss Emma E. Mohler, a daughter of A. B. Mohler, of Dayton, Ohio, who was a wealthy dealer in broom corn and was known as a king on account of his extensive operations in that product. He employed several hundred workmen and carried on a business of mammoth proportions. His death occurred in 1883. His wife bore the maiden name of Isabella Young and was a resident of Cincinnati. In her girlhood Mrs. Kanzleiter was her father's able assistant in business, and in 1884 she began business as a representative of life, fire and accident insurance companies and as a loan agent. She has since conducted operations along those lines and is recognized as a lady of superior executive force, sound business judgment and marked enterprise. Both Mr. and Mrs. Kanzleiter hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church, with which he has been identified for forty years, while her membership relations with the church dates from 1876. In his political views Mr. Kanzleiter is a Republican, but the honors and emoluments of office have had no attraction for him, as he has preferred to devote his energies to his business affairs, in which he is now meeting with creditable success.

#### ARISTA O. LUCAS, M. D.

In taking up the history of the prominent men of Crawford county we note that Dr. Lucas occupies a leading position in their ranks. He is one of the most skillful, able and successful medical practitioners in this portion of the state, and his comprehensive knowledge of the science of medicine, combined with his accuracy in applying his knowledge to the needs of suffering humanity, has gained for him a very liberal and constantly increasing patronage. His time is fully occupied with his professional duties, and his brethren of the fraternity as well as the public acknowledge his eminence and express admiration for his worth.

Dr. Lucas was born in Johnsville, Morrow county, Ohio, April 5, 1865,



*A. O. Lucas.*





and is a son of Adam and Susan (McGill) Lucas. The father was born in Perry township, Morrow county, Ohio, February 22, 1838. The family is of German lineage and was founded in America by the great-grandfather of our subject, who was born in Germany, but came to this country at an early day. Adam Lucas, the grandfather of the Doctor, was a native of Pennsylvania and was reared in the Keystone state. His father was one of the well known distillers of Lancaster county, and there the grandfather learned the business, which he followed for some years. After the inauguration of the war of 1812 he was drafted for service, but as he was then in charge of his father's business the later hired a substitute and Adam Lucas was therefore exempt from duty. In an early day in the development of Ohio he took up his abode in Morrow county, entering three hundred acres of land, whereon he built a log cabin. The following spring his wife and eldest child died, and he then returned to Pennsylvania, where he remained for about a year. On the expiration of that period he was again married, and once more took up his abode in his Ohio home, where he resided until seventy-five years of age. He then retired from active business life and removed to the town of Johnsville, where he spent his remaining days, passing away at the ripe old age of eighty-eight years. His wife, the grandmother of the Doctor, bore the maiden name of Magdalene Emig, and was also a native of Pennsylvania.

Adam Lucas, the Doctor's father, was reared on the old home farm and in the common schools acquired his education. He married Miss Susan McGill and then located in Johnsville, where for six or eight years he was employed as a teamster. Later he removed to Woodbury, where he engaged in the grocery business, conducting the enterprise for ten years or more, and during the greater part of the time he was also postmaster of the town. Disposing of his store, he was then employed for a number of years in a general mercantile establishment, and in 1876 he removed to Johnsville. Soon afterward he became a "knight of the grip," going upon the road as a traveling salesman for a Mansfield (Ohio) boot and shoe house, with which he was associated for two years. He then established a retail boot and shoe store of his own in Johnsville and carried on business along that line until 1895, when he sold his store and removed to New Washington, since which time he has represented the Rochester Horticulturist and Florist firm. He is an energetic and wide-awake business man, reliable and trustworthy. In his political views he is a Democrat, and in religious belief was a Baptist, but as there was no church of that denomination in New

Washington he has united with the Methodist Episcopal church. His wife was born in Licking county, Ohio, near Newark, in 1841, and died June 6, 1865. About three years afterward he married Miss Molly Pittman, and unto them were born two children, both of whom are now deceased, the children and the mother dying within a few weeks of typhoid fever. About 1875 Mr. Lucas was married for the third time, Miss Charlotte Edwards becoming his wife. They had four children, of whom two survive,—Mamie, who is at home, and Wilbur, who is attending lectures in the Starling Medical College, at Columbus, having previously read medicine under the direction of the subject of this review.

Dr. Lucas is the only child of his father's first marriage. He acquired his early education in the graded school of Johnsville, and at the age of nineteen he began teaching. He would follow that profession for one term and then attend school for a term, being a student in the Ohio Normal University at Ada. He taught altogether eight terms and thus made possible his own education. In March, 1888, he began reading medicine under the direction of Dr. Eli Stofer, of Bellville, Ohio, and in September of the same year he entered the Western Reserve Medical College, of Cleveland, where, on the 4th of March, 1891, he was graduated, having completed the regular prescribed course. On the 28th of the same month he located at West Point, Morrow county, and began practice, continuing at that place until the 13th of July, 1892, when he came to New Washington, and to-day he is recognized as one of the leading physicians of Crawford county. He is a member of the Ohio State Medical Society and the American Medical Society, and through his connection with these organizations and through reading and study he has kept in close touch with the progress that is being made along professional lines. His career has been remarkably successful, and as he is yet a young man further advancement undoubtedly awaits him.

While residing at West Point Dr. Lucas was united in marriage, on the 10th of June, 1891, to Miss Verdie Hosler, a native of Johnsville, and a daughter of George R. Hosler, now deceased, but at that time one of the prominent merchants of West Point. The marriage of the Doctor and his wife has been blessed with two children: George A., born March 28, 1892; and Charles H., born May 26, 1899. Socially the Doctor is connected with Hyperion Lodge, No. 561, K. of P., and with Rex Lodge, No. 229, Knights of the Maccabees. In his political views he is a Democrat, but the honors and emoluments of office have no attraction for him, as he prefers to devote his attention to his professional duties. Nature seems to have

fitted him for this calling, and with strong mentality, keen discernment and close application he has won a position in the ranks of the medical fraternity which many an older practitioner might well envy.

#### ALLEN G. SPRANKLE.

Allen G. Sprankle, editor and proprietor of the *Crestline Advocate*, was born in Shanesville, Tuscarawas county, Ohio, in 1848, and received a liberal education in the common schools of that day.

He is a son of Jacob F. and Harriet (Caskey) Sprankle. The paternal grandparents of our subject were Frederick and Elizabeth (Long) Sprankle, natives of Germany, and emigrated to this country in the latter part of the eighteenth century, locating at York, Pennsylvania, where they became valued residents throughout the remainder of their lives. Nine children were born to their union, viz.: Michael, Daniel, Jacob, Ludwig, George, Sarah, Polly, Lydia and Susan. It was in August, 1802, that their third son, Jacob, the father of our subject, was born. He spent his youth in York, and here also received his brief education. Early in life he learned the shoemaker's trade and in 1825 emigrated west, locating at Canal Dover, where he resided for one year, and in 1826 he removed to Shanesville, where he followed his trade until 1832, when he opened a hotel, which he successfully conducted until 1867. At this date he discontinued his hotel and opened a grocery store, which he operated until within a few years of his death.

In 1834 he married Miss Harriet Caskey, a daughter of Sheriff Caskey, an early sheriff of Stark county, Ohio, and their union was blessed with six children, viz.: Isabelle, deceased; Mary, wife of W. E. Layton, residing in Shanesville; John, deceased; Ada; Allen G. and Theresa. The three sisters reside at the old homestead at Shanesville. The deaths of this aged couple occurred on the 15th day of December, 1898, and was of marked singularity and an unusual coincidence, being only twelve hours apart, the father dying at 5 o'clock A. M. and the mother at 5 o'clock P. M! Death was only a matter of change in the form of the relation of the married life of this couple. Their spirits departed for the better world at about the same hour and their lifeless forms were laid to rest in the same grave.

Allen G. Sprankle at an early age was apprenticed to learn the "art preservative" at Philadelphia, the county seat of his native county, and when he mastered his trade he secured a position in Cleveland, Ohio, where he remained for a short time. In 1867 he went to Millersburg, this state, where

he resided until 1895. In the meantime he had abandoned his chosen occupation, for in 1872 he entered the mercantile business, successfully conducting a store for about twelve years. During that period he received the appointment of postmaster at Millersburg, under President Cleveland, and was then serving his first term. Mr. Sprankle occupied the position for four years and his administration was prompt and reliable, giving satisfaction to all concerned. Before entering the mercantile business he was employed by a historical publishing company as one of three editors and for about eighteen months aided in writing the history of Venango county, Pennsylvania, also the Pan Handle of West Virginia, and Belmont and Jefferson counties, Ohio. After his retirement from the position of postmaster he sold his store in Millersburg, and was offered the position of associate editor of the Newark Daily Advocate, which he accepted. While acting in this capacity his family still continued to reside in Millersburg and in 1895 he purchased the Crestline Advocate and has since been its editor and proprietor. His experience in the journalistic field well qualifies him for the successful conduct of the paper of which he is now at the head, and he has made it one of the leading journals in this section of the state. It is devoted to a consideration of local and general domestic and foreign news and he treats in a fair and impartial manner the questions of public interest, at the same time giving editorial support to the principles of Democracy.

While residing in Millersburg Mr. Sprankle was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Newton, the third daughter of G. F. Newton, who was a prominent resident of that place, having a state reputation as a horticulturist and pomologist. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Sprankle have been born two daughters: Virginia, wife of S. B. Klippelt, living in Birmingham, Alabama; and Harriet, who is assistant editor of the Advocate. The family is one of prominence in the community, enjoying the warm regard of many friends.

#### ANDREW J. HAZLETT.

In the field of political life and professional activity Andrew Jackson Hazlett has won distinction and to-day is numbered among the leading, influential and honored residents of Bucyrus. A young man, he possesses the enterprising spirit of the west and has been a dominant factor in producing the wonderful development of this section of the country. Brooking no obstacles that honest effort can overcome, he has steadily worked his way upward until he has left the ranks of the many to stand among the suc-



cessful few. He is widely known as a leading journalist in this portion of Ohio and has also won public honors and recognition in the legislative halls of the state.

Mr. Hazlett was born in Texas township, Crawford county, November 8, 1865, and is a son of Robert Chamberlain and Elizabeth (Walter) Hazlett, and is descended from Revolutionary ancestry. The paternal grandparents of our subject were John and Nancy (Ury) Hazlett, who in 1829 came to Crawford county and purchased a farm in Texas township from a Mr. Roberts. He purchased and operated the first sawmill in that township and in connection with Mr. Bender he laid out the town of Benton, in Crawford county. He owned several hundred acres of land and was a very prominent and influential citizen, doing much to promote the progress and upbuilding of this section of the state. In 1848 he erected in Benton a hotel, which was the first building in the town, and was actively concerned in the improvement of the place, which had a good growth in the early days. He also built the first brick residence in that section of the county.

The maternal grandparents of our subject were Daniel and Susanna (Baum) Walter, who came from Pennsylvania to Ohio, locating in what was then Sycamore township, Crawford county, but is now in Wyandot county, on the present site of the village of Sycamore. The grandfather was a Dunkard preacher. Unto John and Nancy (Ury) Hazlett were born the following named: Ann, deceased wife of John Taylor, of Lafayette, Indiana; Robert, the father of our subject; Elizabeth, deceased wife of E. P. Kellog, of Todd township, Crawford county; John, who served as a justice of the peace in early days and was a prominent citizen; Mary Jane, the wife of B. F. Jaqueth, of Todd township; and William.

Robert Chamberlain Hazlett, the father of our subject, was born in Washington county, Pennsylvania, in 1809, and was twenty years of age when he accompanied his parents to Crawford county. Here he became familiar with all the experiences and trials which fall to the lot of the frontier settlers. He married Miss Elizabeth Walter. She and her twin sister were the first white children born in Sycamore township, and through this marriage two of the prominent pioneer families were united. Their children are: Mrs. Susan E. Wilcox, widow of P. P. Wilcox; Mason W., who is living near Bucyrus, Ohio; W. H. and J. S., who are residents of Poplar; and Andrew J.

Andrew Jackson Hazlett, whose name forms the caption of this review, pursued his preliminary education in the public schools, and at the age of

seventeen he became a student in Fostoria Academy, where he pursued his studies for two years. In the meantime he had engaged in teaching to some extent, a profession which he followed through twelve terms. Desiring, however, to gain more advanced knowledge he matriculated in Heidelberg University, at Tiffin, Ohio, and was graduated with the class of 1888. He was afterward superintendent of schools at Sulphur Springs, Crawford county, for two years, and during that period graded the schools and largely promoted the educational interests of the town.

Mr. Hazlett began his newspaper career on the *Daily Advertiser*, at Tiffin, Ohio, and for a time was also engaged in newspaper work in Helena, Montana. Returning to his native county in 1891, he then purchased an interest in the *Crawford County News*, in connection with his brother, J. S. Hazlett. The paper was founded on the 14th of November, 1880, by Thomas P. Hopley, as a Prohibition organ, and when it passed into the possession of the Hazlett brothers, in October, 1891, it was changed to an independent paper. J. S. Hazlett disposed of his interest in the journal in 1892, to M. A. Charlton, and the new firm of Hazlett & Charlton equipped the plant with a large Cottrell press and gas engine, put in new body type and a good job plant. The paper was also changed from an independent to a Democratic journal and was issued semi-weekly. In 1895 Mr. Charlton disposed of his interest to H. B. Sears, who in turn sold it to L. M. Smith, the present business manager, in September, 1898.

During all the changes the present editor, A. J. Hazlett, remained with the paper and saw it grow from a six-column folio weekly to a six-column quarto and semi-weekly. A curious fact connected with the changes in the ownership is that each of Mr. Hazlett's partners, upon leaving, disposed of his interest for double the amount he invested in the plant. During the past eight years the paper has constantly grown in circulation, patronage and influence until it has outstripped all of its competitors and is now the official organ of the county, having practically all of the county patronage at full legal rates. During this time it has also added several thousand dollars' worth of material, has been compelled to move into larger quarters twice on account of increasing business, is out of debt and able to discount all of its bills.

On the 10th of June, 1890, Mr. Hazlett was united in marriage to Miss Nellie Carpenter Baker, a college classmate, having been graduated in Heidelberg College in 1888. She is a daughter of Edward and Nancy (Carpenter) Baker, and her ancestors came from Massachusetts. Her father was a sea

captain, but at present is engaged in mercantile business. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hazlett has been born a daughter, Edwina, whose birth occurred March 11, 1899. He is well known in fraternal organizations, belonging to Trinity Lodge, No. 556, F. & A. M., to the Tribe of Ben Hur, and to the Phi Kappa Psi, a college fraternity. He is also a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and has served on its board.

In politics he is an ardent advocate of the Democracy and through the columns of his paper earnestly labors to promote the interests of his party. That he is a recognized leader in its ranks is indicated by the honors that have been conferred upon him. In 1896 he was nominated on that ticket for representative in the general assembly and served for two years, retiring from the office on the 1st of January, 1900. He had considerable influence in framing the legislation of the state during that period and gave to each question that came up for settlement his careful consideration, thus manifesting his patriotic devotion to the welfare of those whom he represents. He is also state fish and game commissioner, having been appointed to the office by Governor Bushnell and afterward by Governor Nash. He is also city school examiner and is found as a champion of every measure calculated to benefit the community.

Since the foregoing sketch of Mr. Hazlett was written there was organized in October, 1901, a stock company, known as the Bucyrus Publishing Company, which company purchased and combined in one newspaper the Bucyrus News and Forum, and thereby Mr. Hazlett became disconnected with the News, and at the present writing is in editorial charge of the Findlay Courier.

#### G. WASHINGTON WILLIAMS.

Among the residents of Crestline who are identified with the railroad service is Mr. Williams, who is an engineer on the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railroad. Numbered among Ohio's native sons, his life record began in Richland county on the 4th of August, 1843. His father, Joseph Williams, was also a native of Ohio and became one of the honored pioneers of Richland county, where his last days were spent. He married Rebecca Chew, who was born in Richland county, and there her demise also occurred. They were the parents of six children, but only three are now living.

G. W. Williams pursued his education in his native county, attending the district school near his home, and after he had become old enough to

handle the plow he assisted in the work of the fields, becoming familiar with every department of farm labor. His time was thus occupied until he attained the age of eighteen years, when, the country having become involved in Civil war, he donned the blue as a defender of the Union, enlisting on the 10th of October, 1861, as a member of Company E, Sixty-fourth Ohio Volunteers. The regiment was assigned to Sherman's brigade, and he served for three years, two months and nineteen days, during which time he participated in many hotly contested engagements, including the battles of Shiloh or Pittsburg Landing, Stone River, Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge. His division, under command of General Thomas Wood, was the first to land on the top of the ridge. After the engagement at that place Mr. Williams was with the pioneer corps until mustered out of the service in 1864. On many a field of battle he had displayed marked bravery and loyalty, and with a most creditable military record he returned to his home in Lucas, Richland county, Ohio.

Not long afterward he assumed the position of brakeman on the Pennsylvania Railroad, and was thus employed for three years, after which he worked for a short time in the machine shops in Crestline. He next became fireman on the same road, devoting his energies to that task for thirteen months, when he became hostler in the roundhouse. After fifteen months he was promoted to the position of engineer, on the 23d of March, 1883, and since that date has been a regular engineer on the road. His service in the employ of the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railroad has continued through thirty-five years, during which time he has met with but one accident, and that of a very unimportant character. Fidelity to duty, promptness and close application are qualities which are absolutely demanded by railroad corporations on the part of their employes, and that Mr. Williams is lacking in none of these particulars is plainly indicated by the fact that through more than a third of a century he has been retained in the service of one company.

\* On the 4th of June, 1866, was celebrated the marriage of our subject and Miss S. E. Travis, who was born in Mt. Vernon, Ohio. Her father was a native of this country, but her mother was born in England. Mr. and Mrs. Williams have become the parents of three children, of whom two are living,—Charles A. and Mrs. E. Moores. In his political affiliations Mr. Williams is a staunch Republican, giving an inflexible support to the principles of the party. He belongs to the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, to the Knights of Pythias fraternity and to the Grand Army of the Republic. In an analyzation of his character it is not difficult to determine that fidelity is one of his salient

characteristics. It was manifest upon the field of battle, and has been continuously shown forth in his business career. Although he has lived a quiet and uneventful life, his history is one which has ever commanded respect and confidence, and as one of the reliable and representative citizens of Crawford county he well deserves mention in this volume.

### JACOB SHERER.

Jacob Sherer, one of the leading and successful farmers of Crawford county, is a native son of the Buckeye state, his birth having occurred in Whetstone township, Crawford county, on the 18th of January, 1835. He is a son of Jacob and Christine (Gross) Sherer. The father was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, in 1792, and in 1805 came with his parents to America, locating in Lycoming county, Pennsylvania, where Jacob Sherer grew to years of maturity and engaged in farming. In early life he also engaged in the manufacture of looms for weaving, and in later years worked at that occupation in connection with his agricultural pursuits. In 1833 he emigrated to Ohio, and after spending one winter in Richland county he came to Crawford county, locating on the farm now owned by a Mr. Kurtz in Whetstone township. A few years later his parents joined him in this state and he purchased the farm adjoining the one on which our subject now resides on the north, where he spent his remaining days, passing away at the advanced age of eighty-five years. At the time of his death he owned five hundred and twenty-eight acres of land, and was accounted one of the prosperous and representative citizens of the county. He made thirteen trips by wagon to Pennsylvania, having assisted many families to remove to this state.

Mr. Sherer was united in marriage with Christine Gross, also a native of Wurtemberg, Germany, born on the 5th of January, 1797. She came to America in 1804, and her death occurred at the age of seventy-seven years. They became the parents of three children, two of whom still survive, and the sister of our subject, Catherine, is now the wife of Jacob Hurr, of Bucyrus, Ohio. Although not a member of any religious organization, Mr. Sherer was an active worker in the Pietist church, contributing liberally of his time and means to its support. He was a Democrat in his political affiliations, and both he and his estimable wife were numbered among the worthy and honored citizens of their adopted county.

Jacob Sherer, whose name introduces this review, enjoyed only the educational advantages afforded by the pioneer schools of his locality, but as



the years have passed he has greatly augmented his knowledge by observation, reading and by practical experience. At the early age of twelve years he earned his first money working for a cattle buyer, and by saving his earnings he was soon enabled to purchase a calf, and later on, a colt. He was married at the age of twenty-five years, after which he located in a log cabin on his father's farm and was engaged with the latter in agricultural pursuits until 1870, when he and his brother Samuel took charge of the homestead farm. Some time later the father divided the land, giving each of the two sons a third interest and retaining the remainder for himself. Mr. Sherer is now the owner of two hundred and seventy-eight acres of the finest land to be found in Crawford county, and there he is engaged in general farming, his efforts being attended with a high and well merited degree of success.

As a companion on the journey of life our subject chose Miss Mary Hurr, a native of Lycoming county, Pennsylvania. She came to Ohio, where their marriage was celebrated. She was a daughter of George Hurr. Unto this union were born five children, all of whom still survive, namely: Emanuel D., a resident of Bucyrus township, Crawford county; Sarah E., the wife of John Heverly, of Iowa; Emma C. and John W., at home; and Laura A., the wife of Isaac Kurtz, of Whetstone township. The wife and mother was called to the home beyond in 1875, and three years later Mr. Sherer was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Beal, a native of Crawford county, and the daughter of Jonathan Beal. Two children have graced this union,—Bertha E. and Ruth M., both at home. Mr. Sherer exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the Democracy, and he served one term as trustee of his township. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he has held a number of prominent offices, and both are active workers in the cause of Christianity. The family is one of prominence in their community, and they enjoy the high regard and esteem of many friends and acquaintances.

#### EMANUEL D. SHERER.

Emanuel D. Sherer, son of Jacob Sherer, was born in Whetstone township February 12, 1861, and was reared on the farm and given a common-school education. Until he was prepared to establish a home of his own he remained under the parental roof, but on June 2, 1885, he was married to

Esther Stump, the estimable daughter of Isaac Stump, of Whetstone township. To this union two daughters have been born,—Mattie and Elsie.

Mr. Sherer is an enterprising and prospering farmer and stock-raiser of Bucyrus township, where he owns and operates a fine farm of eighty-five acres in section 24. Mr. Sherer has made many valuable improvements on this place, erecting a most comfortable frame dwelling and commodious barns, and so manages his interests that he is regarded by the community as one of its most desirable and efficient citizens.

### F. M. FOSTER.

F. M. Foster, a conductor on the Pennsylvania Railroad, residing in Crestline, was born in Boone county, Kentucky, on the 2d of July, 1841. His father, James A. Foster, was a native of Knoxville, Tennessee, and was there reared until sixteen years of age. The paternal grandfather of our subject was seven times married and the grandmother of our subject was his fourth wife. There were three children by this marriage, a daughter and two sons, one of whom was J. A. Foster. At the age of sixteen he left home and went to Kentucky, where for a time he followed any employment that he could get, which would yield him an honorable living. With two of his half-brothers he went to Springfield, Illinois, in an early day, but afterward returned to Kentucky. He married in Boone county, that state, and then took up his abode there, making it his place of residence until about 1851, when he removed to Grant county, where he was engaged in farming. Earlier in life, however, he had been connected with steamboating as a mate on the Mississippi and Ohio rivers, running between Cincinnati, St. Louis, New Orleans and other cities. After devoting some time to farming in Grant county Mr. Foster went to Tipton county, Indiana, where he again carried on farming until his removal to Edgar county, Illinois, where he spent two years. On the expiration of that period he became a resident of Coles county, Illinois, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits and later he resided for some time in Montgomery county, Illinois. His wife bore the maiden name of Prudence Knight, and was born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania. She was of Scotch-Irish and German lineage, while her husband was of Irish and Scotch descent. Her father entered the army as a soldier in the Mexican war and was killed in the service, leaving to his widow a large family. Mrs. Knight was in her maidenhood a Miss Walker and belonged to the same

family with James G. Blaine, now deceased. She was a woman of much more than ordinary intelligence and displayed ability in rearing her family. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Foster have been born five sons, of whom F. M. is the eldest, the others being: Robert K., a resident of California; George, who is supposed to be in Texas; William, now in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania; and Charles, who died in Grant county, Kentucky, when twenty-one months old. The father of this family passed away in East St. Louis, in 1869.

Mr. Foster, whose name introduces this review, was reared under the parental roof and when twenty years of age started out in life on his own account. He had previously devoted his time and attention to assisting his father and in the acquirement of his education in the common schools, but a year prior to the time when he attained his majority he began railroading, on what was then the Indianapolis & St. Louis road, building bridges and culverts along the line. His next railroad service was in the employ of the Illinois Central, as brakeman on a passenger, the train running from Centralia to Cairo, Illinois, and subsequently he became a brakeman on the Ohio & Mississippi road, running on a freight train. He was with that company for about four years and during the latter part of the time acted as conductor. After severing his connection with the road he traveled over the country to a considerable extent, hoping to benefit his health, which had become impaired. He found in travel and rest the help he needed and after a time went to Scott county, Iowa, where he spent about four years, engaged in farming. In 1872 he came to Crestline and entered the service of the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railroad as brakeman, serving in that capacity until the 11th of October, 1873, when he was promoted to conductor. He has been constantly in that service through the past twenty-eight years, running most of the time on a freight train running between Crestline, Alliance and Allegheny. He is very reliable and painstaking, is courteous and obliging in manner and has won the warm regard of many of the patrons of the road.

On the 20th of June, 1872, Mr. Foster was united in marriage to Miss Mary E. Wertz, a native of Ohio, born in Holmes county, and a daughter of George and Amanda (Myers) Wertz. She was reared and educated in the place of her nativity, and by her marriage has become the mother of one son, yet living, Ira J., who is engaged in the undertaking business in Crestline. Two sons have passed away, Benjamin having died at the age of seven months, while the eldest son, Charles H., died in his twenty-sixth year. He married Josephine Dunlap, of Freedom, Beaver county, Pennsylvania, and they had one son, Marion H., who is living with his mother in Pennsylvania.

Charles F. was a telegraph operator and at the time of his death was acting as manager of the office at Conway, Pennsylvania. At the time of his demise the following memorial was prepared by the Masonic lodge, of which he was a member :

“IN MEMORIAM.

“Death, the impartial messenger of the Grand Master, has again entered our ranks. The name of another loved brother has been added to the long roll of our fraternal dead that have their final record in the reports of our committees ‘In Memoriam.’

“Brother Charles H. Foster, of Arcana Lodge, No. 272, of Ohio, Free and Accepted Masons, died at Freedom, Beaver county, Pennsylvania, June 5, 1899, A. L. 5899, at 6:00 P. M., in the twenty-sixth year of his age. Brother Charles H. Foster was born in Crestline, Crawford county, Ohio, August 23, 1873, his father being Brother Frank Foster, of Arcana Lodge, No. 272, Free and Accepted Masons. He was made a Mason in Arcana Lodge, No. 272, Free and Accepted Masons, August 12, 1897.

“He was united marriage March 9, 1898, in Crestline, Ohio, to Miss Josephine Dunlap, of Freedom, Beaver county, Pennsylvania. Nearly the whole of his life he lived in our midst, with some of our young brothers as a schoolmate, in his youth and young manhood living in friendly intercourse with both old and young, and respected by all, for those native endowments that make a good citizen and brother. As a husband he was kind and affectionate, as only she can know and tell, into whose home entered so early in life, the dark-winged angel of death, and carried away the loved half of life, and left sorrow and almost despair in both heart and home.

“As a grandson he also exemplifies his character as a son, by his love and considerate kindness for his aged grandmother, Mrs. Prudence Foster, by having his marriage solemnized at the home of his parents, that she might be the honored one among all the guests; but for this love and considerate kindness, her infirmities of age would have prevented her attendance at the ceremony and would have compelled her as though neglected to live alone by recollection in and with the past, for she had long passed the Psalmist's allotted time of three score years and ten, and for years she had not been able to participate in the affairs of the active present. But recalled from the memories of the past to be the honored guest at the most important event in her grandson's life, was evidence to her aged heart that she had not been forgotten, and that she was not an unwelcome guest, that here was a grandson young and strong who would if necessary care for her.

"Filial devotion like that manifested by our young brother that brings throbs of joy and confidence to the aged heart, bears the impress of a nobility of soul that God alone can bestow and that no outward adornment can typify, and is expressive of a feeling fine as pure gold and for his parents is the highest tribute to his worth as a son as well as a grandson.

"As a brother he was devoted to the interests of Masonry: few of his brothers were more faithful in the discharge of their Masonic duties; worthily have warm tears bedewed his grave; worthily did our brother Masons of Rochester Lodge, No. 229, of Pennsylvania, drop into his grave in our stead the sprig of acacia, that Masonic emblem of sympathy, undying affection and immortality, and with the hope that we, and they, may meet our brother, Charles H. Foster, in the grander halls than those of earth.

"Bowling with reverence to the mandate of the Grand Master of the universe, that God whom all Masons must acknowledge, it is appropriate, it is a duty here to place our testimonial to the worth of our brother, Charles H. Foster, in life and to his memory in death upon the pages of our enduring record:

"Therefore be it resolved that in the death of Brother Charles H. Foster, of Arcana Lodge, No. 272, of Ohio Free and Accepted Masons, the parents, our brother Frank Foster and his wife, have lost a devoted son; the wife a kind and affectionate husband, Arcana Lodge, No. 272, Free and Accepted Masons, a just and upright brother.

"*Resolved*, That these resolutions in memoriam of Brother Charles H. Foster be made a part of the record of this meeting.

"*Resolved*, That a copy of these resolutions under seal of the lodge be presented to Brother Frank Foster and to Mrs. Josephine Foster.

"*Resolved*, That Arcana Lodge, No. 272, of Free and Accepted Masons, tender to Rochester Lodge, No. 229, of Pennsylvania, Free and Accepted Masons, our Masonic thanks for their attention to Brother Charles H. Foster in his illness, and for the faithful discharge of the burial rites of the Masonic order at his grave.

"*Resolved*, That we extend to his fellow operators the thanks of Arcana Lodge, No. 272, Free and Accepted Masons, for their kind words and floral testimonial to the memory of our deceased Brother, Charles H. Foster.

"W. STAHL,

"THOMAS H. B. CLUTTER,

"CHARLES REDEKER,

"Committee in Memoriam."



For sixteen years Mr. Foster has been identified with the Masonic fraternity, in which he has taken the degrees of the blue lodge and chapter in the branches at Crestline. For about twenty years he has been a member of the Order of Railway Conductors, and in politics he is a Republican in the questions of state and national importance, but at local elections, where no national issue is before the people and the question is merely to select the most capable man to perform the business of the office, he votes independently. As a citizen he is public-spirited and progressive, taking a commendable interest in everything pertaining to the welfare of the community. For thirty years he was connected with the Pennsylvania Railroad Company and the record is certainly a creditable one, indicating his prompt fidelity to duty.

#### GARRETT SHARROCK.

Garrett Sharrock, a farmer of Bucyrus township, is a well-known citizen of Crawford county and is the eldest son of Joseph Sharrock, one of the pioneers of this county, of whom mention is made in the personal sketch of Charles A. Sharrock, elsewhere in this volume.

Mr. Sharrock was born in Morrow county, Ohio, September 17, 1845, and was reared on the farm and educated in the public schools of the county. His choice of a life pursuit resulted in his becoming a farmer and he has always remained on the old homestead in Bucyrus township. This is a very valuable tract of land, consisting of one hundred and twenty acres, and is crossed by the Sandusky river. Just south of his residence is a piece of bottom land, along the bank of the river, comprising several acres, which Mr. Sharrock arranges to overflow with a dam, rendering it an artificial lake in the spring, and here wild ducks and geese gather and the sport of duck and geese shooting is brought almost to his door. This is very agreeable, as it is an amusement of which Mr. Sharrock is very fond, being a good wing shot. Mr. Sharrock is also very fond of other sports, particularly fox-hunting, and owns several valuable dogs for that purpose. His farm is a most hospitable place to visit during the season, and as Mr. Sharrock is genial and entertaining, his home is often filled with guests.

Two years subsequent to his mother's death Mr. Sharrock married, and after that time his father made his home with him as long as he survived. Prior to her marriage Mrs. Sharrock was Miss Ida May Gahagan, a daughter of John and Catherine (Fagan) Gahagan, pioneer settlers in Todd township, but Mrs. Sharrock was born in Benton, Ohio. One son has been born

to our subject and wife, Leroy G., a popular young man, who is still at home with his parents.

Although he has never sought any public office Mr. Sharrock has taken a deep interest in political matters, is an uncompromising Democrat and has considerable party influence in his neighborhood.

#### FRANKLIN ADAMS.

Since the year 1837 Franklin Adams has practiced law in Crawford county, and throughout this long period of time he has maintained a foremost position in the legal fraternity, not alone on account of his ability as manifest before court or jury, but also on account of an irreproachable life and marked fidelity to duty.

Mr. Adams was born at Alsted, New Hampshire, on the 16th of November, 1813. His parents were John and Susanna (Morse) Adams. His paternal grandfather, Nathian Adams, was a native of Massachusetts, and a colonial soldier in the American Revolution. In the annals of our country no name has figured more conspicuously and honorably than that of Adams, and our subject belongs to the distinguished family that has furnished two presidents of the United States, while the eloquence of a representative of the name inspired the Declaration of Independence. Maternally our subject is descended from another prominent Bay state family, that of Morse. His parents were born in Massachusetts; they lived in New Hampshire; in 1820 removed to New York, thence to Michigan in 1836, and in the last named state both died. They had two sons and four daughters, and of the children our subject was the youngest but one. After attending the common schools in early boyhood he entered an academy at Middleburg, Wyoming county, New York, and later continued his academic course in Henrietta, Monroe county, New York.

In the year 1834, being then twenty-one years of age, he made his way westward, believing that better opportunities were afforded young men in this new but rapidly developing portion of the country. Going to Ashland, Ohio, he made his home there for eighteen months. During that time he took up the study of law, under the direction of Silas Robbins, and later, going to Mansfield, Ohio, continued the study of law under James Purdy, of that city. At the July term of the supreme court of Ohio, held in Bucyrus in 1836, Mr. Adams was admitted to the bar and also licensed to practice by the district court of the United States, held in Columbus in 1839. At Mans-



*Franklin Adams*



field Mr. Adams began the practice of law in association with Mr. Purdy, his preceptor, but on the 7th of August, 1837, he came to Bucyrus, and has since remained here, enjoying throughout the intervening years a large clientage. From 1838 to 1845 he held the office of prosecuting attorney. This is the only office ever held by him. He has never sought political preferment. To the practice of the law his undivided time and attention has been given. In politics he has ever been a staunch Democrat.

As a lawyer, his has been a general practice, covering the usual variety of litigated interests that make up the docket of *nisi-prius* courts in a country town. To chancery he has given special attention, especially to the administration of estates. He accomplished much toward settlement of cases outside of the courtroom. He has always advised compromises rather than settlement of difficulties in the courts. In early days it was not unusual for disputants to bring before him their respective grievances for arbitration, and thus he became in the best sense counsel for both parties, and in fact took the part of both counsel and judge. An amiable disposition, unquestioned integrity, unfailing tact, insight into human nature and regard for equity as well as law enabled him to solve hundreds of difficulties and restore the relations of friendship and confidence between men who had become antagonistical over some point and were inclined to ruinous litigation. Always a student, always thorough, and ever exact, Mr. Adams has long held the reputation of being a learned and able lawyer, accurate and exact in his pleadings, alert in trial, logical and convincing in argument.

He began his professional career a poor young man, and besides gaining for himself an enviable reputation in the profession he has amassed a desirable competency.

Many years ago he became a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, as a charter member of La Salle Lodge, of Bucyrus.

### JAMES M. GUNDER.

In the death of James Madison Gunder, which occurred on the 17th of March, 1901, Crawford county lost one of its valued citizens—one who made the world better for his having lived. Although his life was quietly passed, he day by day faithfully performed the duties that came to him and in his consideration for others added much to the happiness of existence. Especially was he tender and thoughtful of his family and to them his memory remains as a blessed benediction.



Mr. Gunder was born in Marion county, Ohio, December 18, 1841, a son of Abraham and Magdalene (Young) Gunder. They were Pennsylvania Dutch people and removed from the Keystone state to Ohio, locating first in Marion county, whence they afterward went to Wyandot county. The father was a shoemaker by trade, but in this state devoted his energies to farming, and it was upon the homestead farm that James M. Gunder was reared. He was the seventh in order of birth in a family of nine children, and as the parents were in rather limited financial circumstances the children were early obliged to aid in their own support. He attended the country schools to a limited extent and in later years he read extensively. The knowledge thus gained, added to wide business experience, made him a well informed man, his naturally strong mentality enabling him to acquire a broad fund of information. He was, too, a man of liberal ideas, who carefully considered every subject which came up for thought or settlement and his opinions were, therefore, never formed along narrow lines.

At the age of fifteen he left his father's home although he aided in the support of the family until he had attained his majority and even after that made frequent remittances to his parents. He first worked as a farm hand and later began farming and stock-raising on his own account. He first operated on the shares, and prospered until he was able to buy eighty acres on section 24, Dallas township. There he settled soon after his marriage, and as he prospered in his undertakings he purchased additional tracts of land, the first being an adjoining forty acres. About 1889 he bought the forty acres upon which the family residence now stands and to which he then removed, making it his home until he was called to his final rest. Thus at the time of his death he was the owner of a valuable tract of land of one hundred and sixty acres, all of which, with the exception of about five or six acres, he placed under a high state of cultivation. The farm was well improved with good buildings and modern accessories and always indicated the careful supervision of Mr. Gunder, who was neat and thrifty in his farm work and kept everything upon the place in excellent condition. He raised stock, including horses, cattle, sheep and hogs, and also bought and sold stock to a considerable extent. He was a typical farmer, energetic, progressive and capable, and although his health was somewhat impaired for several years prior to his death, he made his farm one of the most attractive and desirable in his part of the county.

Mr. Gunder was twice married. He first wedded Miss Emma Harris, who lived for about six years after their marriage and died, leaving two

children: Cynthia Luemma, who died of consumption when twenty-one years of age; and Blanche, who became the wife of Herbert Shafer, of Wyandot county, Ohio. In 1873 Mr. Gunder married Dora Kyle, whose birth occurred in Mahoning county, Ohio, but who was reared mostly in Crawford county. Unto the second marriage four children were born: Sadie, the wife of Martin McBeth, of Wyandot county; James G., Pluma and Lela, at home, the son having the management of the farm.

Mr. Gunder took quite an active interest in public affairs and in politics was a staunch Republican, doing all in his power to promote the growth and insure the success of his party. For eighteen years, although not for a consecutive period, he served as township trustee, rendering most acceptable service. In other ways he capably served the public, being ever ready to aid in the adoption of all measures or assisting in the promotion of all movements calculated to prove of general good. For many years he was a member of the United Brethren church and was an active and consistent Christian. He held office in the church until within a few years of his death, when he resigned on account of his failing strength. He was a kind-hearted man and his domestic tastes led him to find his greatest happiness at his own fireside in the midst of his family, to whom he left the rich heritage of an untarnished name.

#### LORENZ SCHICK.

Few men are more prominent or more widely known in the enterprising city of Crestline than Lorenz Schick. He has been an important factor in business circles and his popularity is well deserved, as in him are embraced the characteristics of an unbending integrity, unabating energy and industry that never flags. He is public-spirited and thoroughly interested in whatever tends to promote the welfare, moral, intellectual and material, of Crestline.

Mr. Schick was born in Baden, Germany, December 29, 1833, and there remained until nineteen years of age. He learned the trade of nail-making, entering upon an apprenticeship when a youth of sixteen years, and he has worked in the vineyards and nurseries of his native land. Believing, however, that he might better his financial condition in the new world where opportunities were greater, he bade adieu to the fatherland, and in 1854 he sailed for America, landing in New York on the 15th of August of that year. He was a passenger on the French vessel *Admiral*, which lost two hundred and twenty-six of its passengers within ten days, the cholera breaking out among them.

After forty-two days spent upon the broad Atlantic, the harbor of New York was reached and for two weeks they were in quarantine.

Mr. Shick was the only one of the family who came to the United States, but was accompanied by four other young men, one of whom died in Philadelphia. Another of the party, Mr. Amelschek, resides in Defiance county, Ohio, and with the exception of our subject is the only survivor of the five. Mr. Schick made his way from New York city to Philadelphia and then to Wilmington, Delaware. In the vicinity of that city he worked as a farm hand and also engaged in buying and selling cattle. In 1856 he came to Ohio, first visiting Crawford county, after which he spent four months as a farm hand in Huron county. On the 20th of December, 1858, he started for California by way of the water route, going by way of Aspinwall and Panama to San Francisco, where he arrived February 2, 1859. For five months he was engaged in coasting along the coast shore of California and South America on two vessels, the *Ocean Queen* and *Don Pedro*, both being regular steamers in the coasting service. He did this for the benefit of his health, worked on the decks in order to pay his board and received no other compensation for his services. He remained for six years on the Pacific coast as a miner and in 1864 he went north as far as Vancouver land, on a coasting vessel. He also sailed through the gulf of Mexico and was in the gulf stream. Although his voyages were accomplished in all kinds of weather he can claim the novel experience of never having been seasick, although he was in many hard storms and gales. He was shipwrecked at Vancouver Island and the vessel on which he sailed was lost, but all on board were saved. He was also on the *Golden Age* when she broke her shaft in the Pacific ocean. They were then two and a half days from San Francisco, but it took seven days to return to the harbor. They went back with only one wheel and thus their progress was greatly retarded. He made the trip back from Aspinwall to New York city on the steamer *Ocean Queen* in six and a half days, the quickest trip ever made by the vessel. He then, in June, 1865, embarked for Germany to visit his old home, friends and relatives.

In 1866 Mr. Schick again came to the United States and in the autumn of that year located in Richland county, Ohio, where he gave his attention to farming. In 1872 he came to Crestline and established a provision store, which he has since conducted, being very successful in that work. He carries a large and well selected stock of groceries and provisions and enjoys a large and constantly growing trade, which brings to him an excellent income, but his labors have by no means been confined to one line. He is a man of

resourceful business ability, is enterprising and energetic, and has been connected with various industries and business concerns that have proven of value to the community as well as a benefit to the stockholders. He is one of the directors of the Schill Furnace & Range Company, and is a stockholder in the Burch Plow Works.

In Richland county, Ohio, in 1866 Mr. Schick was united in marriage to Miss Johanna Horning, a native of Germany, who was brought to this country when three years of age. They are now the parents of five children, two sons and three daughters: Emily, Ellis, Joseph, Charles and Minnie, all of whom are residents of Crestline. In his political affiliations Mr. Schick is a Democrat, having always supported the party since becoming an American citizen. He takes an active interest in everything pertaining to the welfare of the county and has served as a member of the city council for one term. He withholds his support from no measure or movement which he believes will promote the general good, and he is a prominent member of the Catholic church. He is a man of broad capacity as his varied and extensive business interests indicate. He is at all times approachable and patiently listens to whatever others have to say, is courteous and at all times is true to the best interests of his friends. He cares not for notoriety nor is there about him the least shadow of mock modesty. His life has been a varied, interesting and eventful one. Starting out for himself at an early age without capital he has to-day gained a place among the affluent citizens of his adopted country, and moreover he enjoys the thorough respect, confidence and highest esteem of his business associates.

#### SMITH C. CALDWELL.

Throughout his entire life Smith C. Caldwell has resided in Crawford county and has always followed farming. His birth occurred in Bucyrus township, March 17, 1856, his parents being Alexander J. and Harriet (Chambers) Caldwell. The Caldwell family is well known in this county and its representatives through many years have been prominent in connection with its agricultural interests and in promoting its progress and welfare along many lines. His grandparents, Samuel S. and Margaret E. (Mickle) Caldwell, emigrated to Ohio in 1835, taking up their abode in this locality. The former was born in Adams county, Pennsylvania, in May, 1804, and in the fall of 1835 he came with his family to Crawford county, settling on the plains south of Bucyrus. There he purchased two hundred acres of land and carried on agri-

cultural pursuits until 1856, when he removed to Bucyrus. For many years he served as justice of the peace and notary public and in the former office he discharged his duties with marked impartiality, his decisions being noted for their extreme fairness. In 1844 he was elected to the legislature and faithfully served his constituency in the forty-third general assembly, during which time he used his influence to have the county seat retained at Bucyrus. His wife survived him for many years and reached a very advanced age.

Their son, Alexander J. Caldwell, the father of our subject, is one of the oldest and most favorably known citizens in Crawford county. He was born in Adams county, Pennsylvania, August 27, 1828, and remained in his parents' home until twenty-three years of age. His education was acquired in a log schoolhouse such as was common at that day and he experienced the usual hardships and trials of pioneer life. He was married May 25, 1853, to Miss Harriet Chambers, a daughter of Andrew and Isabella (Marshall) Chambers. She was born in Richland county, Ohio, July 14, 1830, and by her marriage became the mother of seven children: Thomas J., a farmer of Bucyrus township, who married Mary Wentz, a daughter of John Wentz; Smith C., of this review; Edward C., a farmer of Whetstone township; Mina B., who died in 1897, at the age of thirty-four years; Hattie; Mary; and Francis Marion, a farmer of Bucyrus township.

The duties and labors of the home farm early became familiar to Smith C. Caldwell, who worked in the fields and meadows as occasion required, while in the winter months he attended the public schools of the neighborhood. He has always followed farming and when he began work on his own account he was well qualified for his duties by previous practical experience. He continued his work in connection with his father until twenty-nine years of age, and for two years after his marriage he rented land, which he operated until 1888, when he removed to his present farm of one hundred and ninety acres, on section 35, Bucyrus township. His fields are highly cultivated and yield a golden tribute in return for the care and labor bestowed upon them. In fact he has a model farm, complete in all particulars. He raises considerable stock, especially sheep and hogs, and also buys and sells large numbers of these animals each year. As he is an excellent judge of stock he is thus enabled to make judicious investments from which he realizes a handsome profit. In 1895 he erected a neat frame residence and the following year a good barn. Fences, buildings, fields and stock all indicate his careful supervision and indicate him to be a progressive, enterprising agriculturist.

In 1886 was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Caldwell and Miss Harriet J.



Warner, a daughter of Robert K. Warner, and in the community they have many friends. In politics Mr. Caldwell is a Republican, and in religious belief he and his wife are Presbyterians, holding membership in the church of that denomination in Bucyrus. His business principles are commendable, his fidelity to duty unquestioned, and thereby he is accounted one of the representative and valued citizens of his native county.

#### E. P. DAVIS.

E. P. Davis is an important factor in the business circles of Crestline, being actively identified with the commercial interests of the city as a member of the firm of E. P. & L. R. Davis, dealers in dry goods. He is one of the native sons of the city, his birth having occurred here on the 22d of January, 1856. His father, James P. Davis, was born in Columbiana county, Ohio, in 1824, and came to Crawford county about 1830 with his parents. The grandfather, John Davis, settled on a farm near Dekalb and there resided until his death. Upon the old homestead there James P. Davis was reared between the ages of six and nineteen years. At the latter date he left home, and not desiring to make farming his life work he went to Shelby, Ohio, where he secured a clerkship in a store. Later he came to Crestline and entered the employ of the Big Four Railroad Company, being the first agent of that road in this place. He held the position for four years, covering the period of the Civil war. He was also employed by the state to manage affairs connected with the transportation of soldiers through Ohio. In 1863 he engaged in the dry goods business, which he continued until his death, in August, 1894. Throughout that long period he was actively associated with the mercantile interests of Crestline and won a high measure of success, his trade continually increasing as the people recognized his honorable business methods. In his political views he was a Republican, unswerving in his advocacy of the principles of the party. In early manhood he married Catherine Mickey, a native of Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, and came to Richland county, Ohio, in her girlhood with her parents, the family locating upon a farm near Spring Mills, where Mrs. Davis was reared and educated. She survived her husband about one year, passing away in 1895. They became the parents of eight children, six of whom are now living, as follows: W. E., who is train master of the Pittsburg, Ft. Wayne & Chicago Railroad Company, located at Fort Wayne, Indiana; E. P., of this review; George P., who is a yard conductor in the employ of the Pittsburg, Ft. Wayne & Chicago road; Lillie M.,

wife of J. P. Vining, of Seabreeze, Florida, where he is engaged in the hotel business; L. R., who is traveling salesman for a wholesale house and is also a partner in the dry goods business in Crestline; and G. A., who is acting as a traveling salesman for a Cleveland house.

E. P. Davis, the second son of this family, was reared in Crestline until nineteen years of age and during that period acquired a good English education. He then went to Columbus, and was in the employ of the Big Four Railroad Company from 1876 until 1882, acting as clerk for four years, while for two years he was chief clerk in the general freight office. On the expiration of this period he removed to Chicago as an employe of the Trunk Line Association, occupying a clerical position, but later that association was merged into the Central Traffic Association, of which Mr. Davis became chief clerk in the statistical department when the new company was organized. Subsequently he was transferred to the joint-rate inspection bureau and was traveling inspector for two years, from 1889 until 1891, traveling from the Missouri river to the Atlantic seaboard. He next entered the employ of the Inter-state Commerce Commission as special agent, his duties being to look after the maintenance of railway rates; at this time he was elected in the United States attorney's office in Chicago, acting in that capacity for about a year.

After long years of connection with the railway service, in which he won promotion from time to time with increasing salary as well as increasing duties and responsibilities, he at length determined to abandon that department of business activity and embark in merchandising on his own account. Accordingly he came to Crestline and entered into partnership with his brother, L. R. Davis, and opened a large and well appointed dry goods store. They carry a large and well selected stock of goods and their honorable business methods and courteous treatment of their patrons have secured to them a liberal and well merited patronage. In his political views Mr. Davis is a Republican. His advancement in business life has resulted entirely from merit and individual worth and as the result of his well directed efforts. He now has a handsome competence.

#### ALBERT HAWORTH.

The life of him whose name initiates this review represents a career which is interesting and instructive. Integrity, activity and energy have been the dominant elements, while superadded to these have been manifest

those sterling attributes of character, integrity, fidelity, honor and kindness which gain to a man the confidence and good will of his fellowmen. The unostentatious routine of private life, although of vast importance to the welfare of the community, has not figured to any great extent in the pages of history, but the names of those men who have distinguished themselves by the possession of those qualities which contribute to the success of private life are most worthy of being held in high estimation. Mr. Haworth is a business man of the distinctive type—alert, broadminded and duly aggressive—is one who has a capacity for affairs of great breadth, a discriminating financier and a promoter of public good through the avenues of legitimate enterprises. His prominence in political circles and his position as one of the honored representative citizens of Crawford county render most consonant this review of his life.

A native of the world's metropolis—London, England—Albert Haworth was born March 22, 1848, and with his parents came to America when a small boy, the family locating in Providence, Rhode Island. At the time of the Civil war Benjamin Haworth, the father, enlisted in the Sixth Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry and remained at the front until after the stars and stripes were planted in the southern confederacy. His regiment was the one that was mobbed in Baltimore while en route to Washington, a fact that aroused the country as nothing else had done and fired the loyalty of the north so that hundreds and thousands responded quickly to the president's call for aid.

At the age of twelve years Albert Haworth became a resident of Cleveland, Ohio, where he entered the service of L. G. Russell in the Depot Hotel as office boy, and there he remained until 1865, when he came with Mr. Russell to Crestline, where Mr. Russell opened the Continental Hotel. For many years Mr. Haworth was in the employ of Mr. Russell and rose steadily step by step through various positions until he became manager not only of the entire business interests of Mr. Russell but of the firm of which the latter was a member. In this connection Mr. Haworth had the control of the large business of the Continental and Gibson hotels of Crestline. At one time the firm owned the largest hotel interests in Ohio, Mr. Haworth acting as manager of the business. He was also superintendent of the dining cars of the Big Four Railroad Company, owned by L. G. Russell & Company. He also became owner of the Central Hotel of Crestline which he conducted until 1897, when he retired and enjoyed one year's rest from the arduous duties of business life. A local publication said: "By reason of adverse circum-

stances, Mr. Haworth had little opportunity to attend school, but by dint of hard work over 'midnight oil' and private instructions, he has attained a thorough knowledge of the practical part of an education. Mr. Haworth has borne a leading part in social, business and political events of Crestline. If there is one thing more conspicuous than another in his make up, it is that of tireless energy, and an unrest until the task given him is completed. This element of his nature has made him indispensable to his employers, and brought him a reputation for capacity and willingness that placed him in the forefront of affairs."

In the year 1871 Mr. Haworth was united in marriage to Miss Magdalena McCuthin, and they now have one son and one daughter. The former, William J., is a graduate of Kenyon College, and is now a draftsman residing in Cleveland, Ohio. The daughter, Effie A., is at home with her parents. Mr. Haworth is one of the most prominent representatives of the Knights of Pythias fraternity of Crestline, and also belongs to the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks and to the Ohio Brigade, serving on the staff of General Thomas W. Minshull. In politics he has ever been a stanch Republican, unswerving in his allegiance to the party and its principles. He has labored unselfishly for the good of the republic without hope or desire of official reward, but in 1898 there came to him in recognition of his ability and labor the appointment to the office of postmaster of Crestline, the appointment being made by President McKinley on the 22d of March, 1898, coming to Mr. Haworth on his fiftieth birthday. While conducting the hotel business he had many times performed some service in the line of his chosen vocation for the president. The Crestline postoffice has the cleanest record of any in the state since Mr. Haworth took charge, there having never been an error made by the head of the office or by one of its clerks. They dispense over one hundred and thirty thousand dollars in wages to railway and postal clerks and to others in the various departments of the business, and since our subject assumed the duties of the office no mistake has ever been registered against him. He will undoubtedly be commended for the position during President McKinley's second term as he has the confidence and highest regard of the business men and general public. He is a very popular man owing to his unflinching courtesy, genial disposition and kindly temperament, combined with unquestioned honesty and fairness in all business transactions. He certainly deserves great credit for what he has accomplished in life, which illustrates the possibilities that lie before young men in the land of the free.

## CHARLES A. SHARROCK.

At the time when the colonists were engaged in a struggle for independence with the mother country, the Sharrock family was founded in America by the great-grandfather of him whose name introduces this review. He was a native of England and came to America as a British soldier, but becoming convinced of the justice of the cause of the colonists he deserted the English army and joined the American troops, whom he assisted until war was ended and the republic was established. He afterward took up his abode in New York, where he spent his remaining days. His son, Benjamin Sharrock, the grandfather of our subject, was born in the Empire state and fought for the American cause in the second war with England. He had become one of the pioneer settlers of Guernsey county, Ohio, and from there entered the service for the war of 1812. After the cessation of hostilities he made the third settlement in Morrow county, Ohio, and there he operated a water-power gristmill for a number of years. He continued a resident of that county until called to his final rest. He met death in a tragic way. Robbers effected an entrance into his house and not only took from him six thousand dollars, but also broke his back and he died soon afterward in great agony, when one hundred and four years of age.

Joseph Woodward Sharrock, the father of our subject, was born in Guernsey county, Ohio, in 1814, when his father was engaged in the military services of his country in the second war with England. Amid the wild frontier scenes and environments the son was reared and after acquiring a good English education he devoted his attention to farming, which he made his life work. In 1851 he came to Bucyrus township, Crawford county, where he made his home for more than forty years, his death here occurring on the 26th of October, 1893, when he had reached the advanced age of eighty-nine years. He was a successful farmer and business man, ever worthy of trust and confidence. In his habits he was very temperate and though he was not a church member, his life was in conformity to the basic principles of Christianity, for he lived an honorable, upright life, never used profanity and was kind, considerate and just. His wife bore the maiden name of Mary Woodside. She passed away eleven years prior to the death of her husband, being called to the home beyond at the age of sixty-five. They were the parents of six sons, but had no daughters. Of the family Gardner was accidentally shot when twenty-nine years of age, while the others, Garrett, Charles A., Oscar K., Benjamin F. and James J., are still living.



On the home farm Charles A. Sharrock was reared, and no event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for him. He remained with his parents until twenty-three years of age and then established a home of his own. He wedded Mary A. Stineman in 1870, a daughter of William and Susan Stineman, of Crawford county, and their union has been blessed with two children: Alvertis D., who married Emma Mullenkopf; and Minnie A., the wife of Tira E. Ditty. Both the son and son-in-law are farmers of Bucyrus township.

After his marriage Mr. Sharrock began farming on the old Stineman homestead, where he remained until 1882, when he came to his present farm. Here he owns two hundred and forty acres of land and altogether he has about four hundred acres in Bucyrus township. Upon his place he has a fine barn, one hundred by forty feet, with thirty-foot posts and a basement. This was built in 1892 and in 1897 he built another good barn. In 1900 he erected his present palatial residence, which is built of brick, contains twelve rooms and is supplied with all modern conveniences and is very tastefully furnished. It is one of the most imposing country homes in the county and stands as a monument to the enterprise and industry of the owner. In politics Mr. Sharrock is a Democrat and in 1900 he served as land appraiser. Socially he is connected with the Knights of Honor. In 1876 he visited the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia, and in 1893 the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago, and at other times he has traveled quite extensively over the country, gaining that knowledge and culture which only travel can bring. He is a citizen of worth, highly esteemed by all who know him, and in this volume he well deserves representation.

#### CAPTAIN J. G. BARNEY.

Captain J. G. Barney, who is engaged in real estate and insurance business in Crestline, is a native of the Empire state, his birth having occurred there in Wayne county, on the 6th of October, 1833. His father, Moses Barney, was born in Herkimer county, New York, and was a son of William Barney, who served as a private soldier in the Revolutionary war. He also engaged in military service under General Sullivan, which resulted in the expulsion of the Indians from the Empire state. He was a brave and loyal soldier in both wars. The Barrey family is of Welsh lineage and was founded in America by the great-grandfather of our subject, who, when a young man, crossed the Atlantic to the new world and took up his abode in Vermont,

whence the two sons removed to New York. The father of our subject was reared in the county of his nativity and followed the occupation of farming there until his removal to Wayne county, where he devoted his energies to the same pursuit. He served as a non-commissioned officer in the war of 1812, and died April 10, 1838. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Matilda Powers, was a native of Herkimer county, New York, and in her girlhood removed to Wayne county. Her father, William Powers, was also a native of the Empire state, but was of Irish descent. Mrs. Barney was left a widow with five children, the eldest being then only fifteen years of age, and the youngest, the subject of this sketch, being a little lad of five and a half years. He remained with his mother until his marriage and was reared upon the old home farm.

After his marriage Captain Barney took up his abode in Wayne county, New York, where he lived until 1859, when he came to Richland county, Ohio, and engaged in the produce business in Butler until 1864. In that year he responded to the country's call for aid, enlisting as a private in Company A, One Hundred and Eighty-seventh Ohio Volunteer Infantry, in which he was promoted to orderly, then to sergeant major and later was made second lieutenant and first lieutenant. He was likewise commissioner of the Freedmen's Bureau, at Macon, Georgia, where he served until January 26, 1866, having charge of refugees seized and abandoned land, freedmen's churches and schools. At that place he was in command of Company D, One Hundred and Thirty-seventh Regiment of the Ohio Volunteers.

On receiving an honorable discharge Captain Barney returned to his home in Richland county, Ohio, where he remained until 1868, when he came to Crestline, where he engaged in merchandising, carrying on business with success until 1875, when he sold out and turned his attention to the real estate and insurance business. The latter line proved to him profitable and he has done a large and constantly growing business. In 1895 he extended his field of operations by becoming connected with the Building & Loan Association, of which he was secretary and agent.

Captain Barney was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth L. Clemens, a native of New York, where their marriage was celebrated. They became the parents of one daughter, Emma E., who is now the wife of Dr. W. P. Bennett. Mrs. Barney is a graduate of the Normal school, of Albany, New York, and holds a life certificate as a teacher in that state. She followed the profession for some years in New York and through a considerable period was principal of the schools of Clyde, Wayne county, New York. A most

worthy, cultured and refined lady, she presides in a most gracious and hospitable manner over their pleasant home and her influence in social circles has been marked and beneficial. The family is one of prominence in the community and the hospitality of the best homes is extended to them. The Captain is very prominent in military circles and he is now commander of Snyder Post, No. 129, G. A. R., of Ohio, has taken an active part in its work and has filled all the offices in the order. He belongs to the Presbyterian church, with which he has been identified forty-five years, and is serving as one of its elders. In politics he is a staunch Republican, having supported the party since its organization. He served as postmaster in General Harrison's administration, and while residing in Belleville he served for six years as justice of the peace and also filled the honorable position of mayor of that town. He has ever taken an active interest in public affairs, supporting all movements and measures which he believes to be for the general good. He was president of the Crestline board of education and was one of its members through a long period. By reason of his connection with the Freedmen's Bureau he served as superintendent of the schools of Macon, Georgia, while at that place, succeeding General Wild, of Maine, to the position. Captain Barney has led an active, useful and honorable life and whether in public office, upon the field of battle, in his place of business or in his home he has ever been found as a true, upright and honorable gentleman, worthy of the genuine regard of his fellow men.

#### JOSEPH H. BEARD.

Joseph Hiram Beard, who is now living retired in Bucyrus, has for many years been identified with the movements and measures which have contributed to advancement along agricultural lines, and has ever been a citizen of value, taking an active interest in everything pertaining to the general good. He was born on a farm four miles east of Hagerstown, Maryland, May 3, 1830, a son of John and Susan (Sager) Beard. The ancestry of the family can be traced back to Nicholas Beard, the great-grandfather of our subject, who came from Germany to the new world and located in Maryland, near the present site of Beard's graveyard, in Washington county. In the same locality stands a chapel, which is known as Beard's church. He had four sons, of whom Andrew, the eldest, had three children—George, Mary, the wife of Jacob Beachtel, and Margaret, the wife of Nicholas Beard. Philip Beard, the second son, became the grandfather

of our subject. Nicholas, the third son, had three children,—Nicholas, George and Samuel; Catherine, the wife of Andrew Noerr, of Washington, D. C.; and Sarah, who married Samuel Rice. George Beard, the fourth son, had four children: George; Jacob; Mary, who became the wife of Andrew Steffy; and Laah, wife of Andrew Newcomber. The daughters of Nicholas Beard, the original member of the family in America, were: Magdalene, who became Mrs. Mautzer; Margaret, who married Jacob Martin; and Elizabeth, the wife of William Haus. The father of this family became a resident of Baltimore when it was but a village in the colonial epoch of our country's history.

Philip Beard, the grandfather of our subject, was born on the old family homestead in Maryland, where Joseph's birth occurred, and died there. He made farming his life work. He married a Miss Haus and had three children: John; Magdalene, the wife of Joseph Fiery; and Elizabeth, who married Samuel Lyday.

The first named was the father of our subject, and his birth occurred in the old family home where his son Joseph first opened his eyes to the light of day. There he was reared to agricultural pursuits, and when he had attained his majority he married Susan Sager. Two of their children died in infancy, while the others were: Ellen, now deceased; Martha, who is living in North Baltimore, Ohio; Joseph H.; Philip A., a resident of Bucyrus township; John F., who is living in Tiffin, Ohio; and Amanda, deceased. In 1852 the parents left Maryland, removing to Seneca county, Ohio, their new home being near Tiffin, where they spent their remaining days. The father died in 1867, at the age of sixty-three years; and the mother passed away in 1897, when about ninety-three years of age.

Upon a farm in Maryland Mr. Beard of this review spent his youth, and during that time acquired a limited common-school education. He remained at home until his marriage, which important event in his life occurred on Christmas of 1858, the lady of his choice being Miss Catherine A. Nusbaum, a daughter of David and Rebecca (Gedultig) Nusbaum, both of whom were natives of Frederick county, Maryland, and were of German descent. In 1851 they removed to Seneca county, Ohio, and there the father died in 1875, at the age of seventy-two years, while the mother departed this life in 1861, when nearly fifty-six years of age.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Beard began their domestic life upon a farm near Tiffin and there remained until the spring of 1865 when they came to Crawford county, and took up their abode on their present farm on

section 10, Bucyrus township. Mr. Beard started out upon his business career empty handed, but by indomitable perseverance and unfaltering energy was enabled to gain a start and work his way upward. On coming to this county he purchased sixty-five acres of land and now owns two hundred acres. In 1873 he erected a good frame residence and has made other desirable and modern improvements which add to the value and attractive appearance of the place. There Mr. Beard carried on farming until 1901, when he retired to private life and removed to Bucyrus. For many years he has also been engaged in the insurance business. In 1875 he was one of the organizers of the Crawford County Mutual Insurance Company, and was its first adjuster of losses, filling that position for twenty-two years, since which time he has represented the company as agent.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Beard has been blessed with six children: Celia Viola, who married John Beckett, of Columbus; Della Helen, who died in infancy; Joseph Lewis, who married Electa Denzer and is a farmer of Bucyrus township; Anna Della and Ralph H., at home; and Mabel Gertrude, the wife of Fred Wise, of Bucyrus.

In his political views Mr. Beard is a stalwart Republican, but had never aspired to office. He and his wife and family are members of St. Paul's English Lutheran church. He has done much to benefit the county, especially in agricultural circles. He is a member of the Grange and has been a promoter and supporter of the farmers' institutes of the county for more than twenty years, while for thirty-five years he has labored earnestly to advance the interests of the Agricultural Society, of which he has served as a director and vice-president. He is also a member of the Pioneer Association, and at all times has heartily co-operated in every movement which he believed would prove of general benefit.

### JAMES MCKINSTRY.

James McKinstry is the oldest living resident of Bucyrus, for he has reached the ninetieth milestone on life's journey. His has been a useful and active career, in which there is much worthy of emulation and little to regret, and now in the evening of life he receives the veneration and respect of all who know him; and while he has outlived the friends of his early manhood he yet has many warm friends and admirers among the younger generation. He was born in Washington county, Pennsylvania, June 18, 1811, and is of Irish lineage and descended from good old Revolutionary





Gas McKinstry



stock. His paternal grandfather, Nathaniel McKinstry, was a native of Ireland, and on coming to America located in Pennsylvania, dying in Franklin county at a good old age. He served his adopted country in the war of the Revolution, being most of the time engaged in the powder mills. His son, John McKinstry, the father of our subject, was born in Belfast, county Antrim, Ireland, and when a little lad of three summers was brought by his parents to the new world, their first home being in Philadelphia, whence they afterward removed to Franklin county. He was there married to Miss Mary Patton, a native of Loudon, Franklin county, and a daughter of James Patton, who was born in South Carolina and served throughout the war for independence, being in the command of General Washington. He then served in the capacity of captain and did valiant service for the cause of liberty. He was of English origin, and his ancestors came to this country some time before the Revolution. The parents of our subject were married in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, and then located upon a farm there, but subsequently removed to Washington county, that state, and in 1833 came to Ohio, settling upon a farm in Marion county. Mr. McKinstry was a Jackson Democrat in early life, afterward became a Whig, and later was identified with the Republican party. He held membership in the Presbyterian church and took an active interest in its work. He died in Marion county, in his ninetieth year, and his wife passed away in the same locality in her sixty-seventh year. They were the parents of seven children, three sons and four daughters, of whom one died at the age of five years, while the others reached adult age. Only three are now living, namely: Thomas, of Pekin, Illinois, who is now more than eighty-seven years of age; Mrs. Rebecca Hayes, of Marion county, Ohio; and James.

The last named was the oldest son and the third child of the family, and was twenty-two years of age when he accompanied his parents to Ohio. He had acquired his education in an old log schoolhouse in his native county, where school was conducted on the subscription plan. He attended only through the winter season, while in the summer months he worked upon the farm. He also engaged in teaming, driving a five-horse team, in hauling goods from Wheeling to Pittsburg, Pennsylvania; there were no railroads or canals in those days. After coming to Ohio he assisted in clearing and improving the farm in Marion county through several years. He became a well known and influential citizen of the community, and in 1840 was the Whig candidate for sheriff, lacking only a few votes of winning the election.

In 1842 Mr. McKinstry was united in marriage to Miss Rebecca Gar-

berson, a native of Mount Vernon, Ohio, and of German lineage. Colonel Crawford, who was burned at the stake, was her great uncle. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. McKinstry located upon a farm in Marion county, where he carried on agricultural pursuits and stock-raising. He made a specialty of sheep, keeping on hand about a thousand head. During the last two years of the war he also had about four thousand sheep in Illinois. He owned six hundred acres of land, constituting one of the largest farms in Marion county. In 1863 he rented his property and came to Bucyrus, purchasing the residence in which he still lives. About 1871 he sold his farm in Marion county and was afterward engaged in various lines of business. He conducted a grocery store and was quite extensively engaged in the purchase and sale of horses, buying them in Canada and shipping them to Ohio. At length, after a long and useful business career, in which he won a handsome competence, he retired to private life, and is now living in the enjoyment of the fruits of his former labor.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. McKinstry was blessed with ten children, namely: One who died in infancy; John Calvin, who died at the age of six years; William Thomas, a farmer of Bucyrus township; Mary E., who is the widow of John R. Miller, who resides with her father; Ann Maria, deceased; Frances Marion, who has passed away; Amanda, the wife of Theodore Shotwell, of Detroit, Michigan; James Briggs, deceased; Mathew, of Kansas City; and Joseph, who also has passed away. In 1890 Mr. McKinstry was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died at the age of sixty-eight years. He cast his first presidential vote for Andrew Jackson in 1832, supported Henry Clay in 1836 and in 1840 voted for William Henry Harrison, being an advocate of the Whig party until the organization of the Republican party, when he joined its ranks, becoming one of its stalwart supporters. He has also held various church offices. He aided in the organization of the church at Caledonia and was one of the building committee having charge of the erection of the house of worship. He also assisted in the repairing of the Bucyrus church, and he has contributed liberally to the support of Christian work, doing all in his power to advance the cause among his fellow men. He also has a military record, for in 1839 and 1840 he was first lieutenant of a cavalry company of Marion county. When he resigned he was succeeded by a Mr. Shaw, who was promoted to the rank of colonel and was killed at the battle of Winchester. The company was the only one of the kind in Marion county, and only two of its members are yet living—James Kerr, of Marion county, and Mr. Mc-

Kinstry. The life record of our subject forms the connecting link between the primitive past of Ohio and the progressive present. He has been identified with the progress and development of the state for almost three-score years, and now in the evening of life he has the friendship and veneration which he so richly merits.

#### JOHN R. MILLER.

John R. Miller, deceased, was born in Londondary, England, November 13, 1839, and when a boy of five years was brought to America by his parents, Joseph and Sarah (Henry) Miller, who settled in Stratford, Canada, where their son grew to manhood and was educated. When about thirty years of age he came to the United States. He first located in Attica, Seneca county, Ohio, where he followed his trade, that of carpenter. In the year 1874 he married Mary E., the daughter of James McKinstry, whose sketch is just given. He became a permanent citizen of Bucyrus about 1876, and followed his trade here at first, but at the time of his death he was engaged in the sawmill business. His death occurred August 27, 1884, being killed by a bull he was leading in the barn-yard of his father-in-law, the bull goring him to death! Unto his marriage were born four children, viz.: Carrie Gertrude, James William, Sarah and John Robert. He followed contracting and building with success for several years in Bucyrus, and was a well respected citizen of the place.

#### DAN BABST, JR.,

The ancestors of Dan Babst, Jr., came from Alsace-Lorraine, a province of France, known in history from the time of Henry I. of Germany (Der Bogler, 876-936). By the treaty of Ryswick, in 1697, Strasburg and the territory surrounding it in Alsace were indefinitely ceded to France. This was during the reign of Louis XIV, of France, who on his deathbed made the confession: "I loved war too much." He had loved it madly and exclusively, but this fatal passion which had corrupted and ruined France did not remain fruitless. To all people within the bounds of civilization inured the benefits of the enormous crimes of the repeal of the Edict of Nantes and the fusilade of 1792. From these crimes against humanity arose those emigrations which brought father Daniel Babst, and the Yost family, as also many other



thousands of the truest and bravest children of France to the United States. In this later period, 1832, Daniel Babst and the Yost family crossed the Atlantic to the new world. The former remained in New York for two years and then in 1834 removed to Kindel, Stark county, and later to Canal Fulton in the same county, where he became acquainted with Miss Margaret Yost, also from the German-French Rhine, and they were married May 10, 1841. In Alsatia the families Babst and Yost had enjoyed special note and they lost nothing of this characteristic by emigration.

Dan Babst, Jr., the subject of this sketch, was born in Canal Fulton, Tuesday, October 19, 1847. In 1852 the family removed to Crestline, Crawford county, Ohio. Here the son passed his youth and in the public schools of that day received his primary education. From 1864 until 1867 he was a student in Oberlin, Ohio. He then left college and began the study of law under the instruction of Nathan Jones, Esquire, of Crestline, Ohio. He pursued his chosen line of work until 1872 when after examination he received his diploma admitting him to practice and from that time to the present, with the exception of one year, he has been engaged in the general practice of law. As city solicitor he served from 1877 until 1879 and then resigned to accept the appointment as mayor of the city, tendered him by the common council. From 1878 until 1885 he occupied the position of chief executive of the city. In 1884 he was the candidate on the Republican ticket to congress, really scoring a victory against his opponent, who won but by a majority so greatly decreased that victory was only a name to cover defeat, and this is the thirteenth congressional district, which is one of the Democratic strongholds of Ohio.

But public business or political honors, however attractive they may have seemed to him, have never seriously won Mr. Babst's attention from his chosen profession. This under all circumstances and all temptations has claimed his most serious thought and most earnest efforts. As a citizen Mr. Babst has always taken a personal and active part in the local affairs of his home city and county. His vigor and sound judgment have been specially felt in the educational work of the city. He served for ten years on the school board and on the board of examiners of the city of Crestline, thus devoting to this most important of public interests the benefit of his professional acquirement and his careful literary training. In county affairs he has constantly and fearlessly supported such men and measures as tend to promote public welfare. In all enterprises of a public nature he has always taken a prominent part. He was largely interested in the fine system of public roads surrounding

Crestline, and for this and more, which it is needless to mention, Crestline is a large debtor to Dan Babst, Jr.

His education is liberal and broad, based upon the old-fashioned college plan. When he laid down the text-books of the college course to take up those that belonged to his profession, it was not to neglect them, as is at present so often the case. His happiest hours are now, and doubtless always have been, those spent in the restful quiet of his large and valuable literary library—"swapping thought with the Good and Great of all Time" on even terms. His political opinions, as must be the case with every honest man, are based upon his convictions of right, partake of and are permeated through and through by the loyal fiber of his character. Associating on terms of friendly intercourse with the leading state and national politicians of his party, and when state and national politics attract public attention, campaigning with them, he has never been swayed from his sense of right, nor lost his native independence of character. In address Mr. Babst is frank, fearless and manly; in manner, plain, systematic and practical; in argument, cogent and convincing; in matter, safe, solid and substantial; his aim being always to convince men's minds rather than to rouse their passions or excite their prejudice. As a debater he is ready with his material, exact and accurate in his statement. On questions of law he is clear, discriminating and forcible, and what few possess, he has in a singular degree,—the power of condensation and separation of facts and their application to principle. For many years Mr. Babst was a member of the Republican state executive committee and has usually represented his party in the various state conventions. In 1887 he was a candidate before the Republican state convention for attorney general. In 1896, chiefly because of the money question, he withdrew from the Republican party and has since actively identified himself with the Democratic cause.

Mr. Babst was one of the counsel for the regular Masonic lodge in its prolonged litigations through all the courts with the Cerneau bodies, in which the regular Masons were successful. He is a Freemason himself and therefore, perhaps, felt more vitally interested in the result of the litigation. He is past commander of Mansfield Commandery, K. T., and is a member of Alkoran Temple of the Mystic Shrine. His views of religion are broad and liberal and he is a generous contributor to all church and charitable work. Mr. Babst displays at the bar the same clearness of statement and the same eloquence of diction, wit, sarcasm and invective that has distinguished him upon the stump. As an advocate he guards with honorable jealousy the rights and privileges of his profession. In the presence of the court and bar he is always

dignified and courteous, brief in address, speaking to the point, and when that is reached resting his case. In argument he is not prolix, is careful in citation of authority and concentrates all his energies upon the points vital to his case. In business he is honorable, liberal and generous to a fault, while deserving need always finds in him a friend. In personal intercourse he is kind, courteous and winning, and these are qualities which are thoroughly appreciated by his wide circle of friends, who enjoy the kindly companionship of his pleasant home, with its genial intercourse, its generous and thoughtful hospitality.

Mr. Babst has been twice married. In 1872 he wedded Miss Alice E. Martin, and to them were born two children: Lora M. and Carl M. Mrs. Babst died in 1878 and in 1882 he married Miss Luella Carlisle. By this marriage there were two children—Clara Eleanor and Guy Mannering. The daughters are now students in college; Carl is an attorney; and Guy is at home—a pupil in the schools of Crestline.

#### ALBERT SHEIBLEY.

Albert Sheibley is practically living retired in New Washington, but for many years was one of the most progressive, enterprising and prosperous representatives of the agricultural interests of Crawford county, and his life illustrates most forcibly the advantages which America offers to her citizens and which have proved a strong inducement to native citizens of foreign lands in bringing them to the shores of the new world. Mr. Sheibley is one of the residents of Crawford county that Germany has furnished to Ohio. He was born in Bremgarten, Baden, on the 6th of April, 1837, and is a son of John B. and Mary Magdalena (Link) Sheibley. The father was called by his friends John the Baptist. This worthy couple were the parents of eight children, but only two of the number are yet living, the sister of our subject being Teresa, widow of Peter Fox, of Milan, Erie county, Ohio. The father was born in Baden, Germany, in January, 1800, and was an only child. He was reared in the place of his nativity, learning the tailor's trade, and was there married. He also resided in Baden until 1845, devoting his attention to tailoring and farming. He belonged to the middle class of people, not being rated as wealthy, yet being in comfortable circumstances. On the 6th of March, 1845, he sailed for America with his family, embarking at Havre de Grace on a former war vessel, the *St. Nicholas*. They reached New York City after thirty-six days and the vessel was there condemned, so that they made the

journey on her last trip. On reaching the eastern metropolis the Sheibley family proceeded by canal to Buffalo, thence by lake to Huron and from that point to Milan by way of the canal, and from Milan they continued the trip by wagon to Galion, where the father located his family. He then began the search for a suitable home farm, and after three months purchased a tract of land of forty acres in Vernon township, in that portion which was a part of Richland county, but is now in Crawford county. To the new home he removed his family, the farm having been improved with a hewed-log house and a round-log cabin. There was also a good orchard and ten acres of land had been cleared. There Mr. Sheibley remained for more than seven years, and during that period completed the task of clearing the land and placing it under cultivation. He was the first man to introduce artificial drainage, cutting a ditch through his own land and through that of a neighbor in order to get an outlet for his ditch. After a number of years spent upon his first farm, he sold the property and removed to the southeast corner of Cranberry township, where he purchased an eighty-acre farm, and there he continued the work of ditching and improving his land until 1860, when he sold out and bought an eighty-acre tract that is now owned by our subject and is situated three-fourths of a mile east of the corporation limits of New Washington. It remained his place of abode until the time of his death, which occurred in January, 1885. He was a man of remarkable energy and did much toward developing and upbuilding the section of the county in which he lived. A year after reaching Galion he took out naturalization papers and was ever a loyal and faithful citizen of his adopted land. His political support was given the Democracy, and in religious belief he was a German Catholic. His wife was born in 1802 and died May 15, 1888. She, too, was a devoted member of the Catholic church. Her father, Philo Link, was a burgomaster or mayor of Bremgarten, Germany, for sixty consecutive years, a fact which indicates his popularity and prominence. During that period he was also proprietor of the Gasthaus zur Stube, a hotel which had been built by his father. Mr. Link was one of the wealthiest men and most influential citizens of the town. In his family were two sons, Moritz and Erhardt, who were with Napoleon in the Prussian war.

Albert Sheibley, whose name forms the caption of this review, spent his boyhood days in his parents' home and acquired a common-school education in an old pioneer log school house, being instructed in both German and English. His father was for many years crippled with rheumatism and thus the burden of the farm work devolved upon our subject, and as soon as he was old

enough to drive the oxen became the practical farmer upon the place. His life has been one of marked industry and honest toil, and throughout the years his labors, honorably conducted, have brought to him creditable success.

On the 29th of September, 1862, Mr. Sheibley was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Karl, a native of Bohemia and a daughter of Christopher and Anna (Mottlin) Karl, who emigrated to America in 1853, locating in Crawford county, where they resided until death. After the marriage of our subject he took up his abode in Shelby, Ohio, and was employed by the Anderson Slaughtering Company, having previously learned the butcher's trade from William Weaver, a neighbor. After five months spent in Shelby Mr. Sheibley returned to his home and purchased the old homestead farm, his parents residing with him until they were called to their final rest. The marriage of our subject and his wife has been blessed with eleven children, of whom nine are yet living, namely: Mathias is now serving as township trustee and is operating the home farm. Albert F., of Ottawa, Ohio, is a graduate of the New Washington high school and was supervisor of the institution for the insane in Toledo, Ohio. He had previously taught school, and for seven terms was a successful teacher. He was also graduated at the Starling Medical College, of Columbus, and took a post-graduate course in Berlin, Germany. He is now successfully practicing in Ottawa and has a large patronage. Mary A. is the widow of Joseph Miller and is conducting a dressmaking and millinery establishment in New Washington. Rosa is the wife of Peter Heydinger, a farmer of Cranberry township. Catherine is the wife of Frank Goodman, a brick mason and contractor of Akron, Ohio. Fannie is the wife of M. E. Lauerma, a merchant of Hammond, Indiana. John B. is at home. Margaret is the wife of Joe Miller, of Van Wert county, Ohio. Jacob, who resides in Delphos, Ohio, is now a traveling salesman for the McCormick Machine Company. The children have all been provided with excellent educational privileges and are a credit to their honored parents.

Mr. Sheibley, of this review, is a staunch Democrat in his political affiliations and for forty years has served almost continuously in township or county offices. For a number of years he was supervisor in his district, and during that period did much toward ditching and improving the roads. He afterward served for three terms as township trustee and refused to continue longer in that office. After an interval of two years, however, he was again elected and remained in the position for three or four years longer, although he was decidedly opposed to holding the office. Fidelity to duty and the capable manner in which he guarded the interests of his constituents



made him a very desirable official and his fellow townsmen again and again elected him to office. In 1883 he was elected county infirmary director and served in that capacity for six years. In 1891 he was appointed superintendent of the infirmary and then resigned the office of justice of the peace, to which he had been elected in the meantime, in order to accept the new position, which he held for eight years and nine months. He then resigned and removed to New Washington, where he is now enjoying the fruits of his many years of labor. About a year ago he purchased a forty-acre farm near the town. This is one of the best improved properties in the county, being supplied with all modern accessories and conveniences, and to its supervision Mr. Sheibley devotes his attention. He has however, in former years acquired a handsome competence sufficient to supply him with all of the comforts and many of the luxuries of life. He is a charter member of the Maccabees Lodge, of Bucyrus, but is not now in active connection with the organization. He is one of the best known men of the county, a substantial and prosperous citizen, whose public and private life are alike above reproach.

D. D. McCALLUM, M. D.

The medical profession in Crestline is well represented by Dr. McCallum, who has advanced steadily to a position of prominence as the result of his thorough understanding of medical principles and the ability with which he applies his professional knowledge to the needs of suffering humanity. He was born in York county, Ontario, Canada, on the 24th of August, 1868, and is a son of John McCallum, a native of Scotland. The father was a carriage-maker by trade, learning the business in the land of his birth. When a young man he went to Canada, where he was engaged in the manufacture of carriages through a long period. For some years prior to his death, however, he lived retired, enjoying a comfortable competence, which had rewarded his earnest and well directed efforts. He married Miss Mary Capner, who was also born in Scotland. His death occurred when he was seventy-five years of age, and his wife passed away at the age of sixty-eight years. They were the parents of eight children, five sons and three daughters, all of whom reached years of maturity, while with one exception all are yet living.

The Doctor, the seventh child and second son of the family, pursued his preliminary education in the schools of his native town and later enjoyed educational advantages afforded by Seaforth College, in Huron county, On-

tario. Subsequently he matriculated in the University of Toronto, Canada, where he was graduated in 1896, on the completion of a course in medicine. He practiced for one year in that place and then came to Crestline, where he established his home in 1897. Here he has since prosecuted his profession with excellent success, his broad reading and investigation keeping him in touch with the most advanced thought and improved methods in the line of his chosen calling, and from the faithful performance of each day's duties he finds inspiration and encouragement for the labors of the succeeding day. He is a member of the Ohio State Medical Society.

In July, 1896, Dr. McCallum was united in marriage to Miss Carry Coats, a native of Clinton, Ontario county, Canada, and a daughter of William and Sarah Coats, the former a native of Scotland. The Doctor and his wife now have two interesting children,—Lillian and Jessie. Their pleasant home is a favorite resort with many friends, and they also enjoy the hospitality extended to them by the best families of Crestline.

#### DAVID E. HOSLER.

While success cannot be achieved without unflagging industry, the futility of effort is often noticeable in the business world and results from the fact that it is not combined with sound business judgment. Many a man who gives his entire life to toil, earnest and unremitting, never acquires a competence, but when his labor is well directed, prosperity always follows. Mr. Hosler is one whose work has been supplemented by careful management and to-day he is among those who have triumphed over adverse conditions and won success. As a manufacturer of lumber he is now actively connected with the industrial interests of Crawford county.

A native son of Richland county, Ohio, he was born August 1, 1862. His paternal grandparents, Henry and Lydia A. (Hoffman) Hosler, were both natives of Pennsylvania, and came to Morrow county, Ohio, among the early settlers. Subsequently they removed to Noble county, Indiana, where their remaining days were passed. The grandfather followed the occupation of farming as a life pursuit. Levi H. Hosler, the father of our subject, was born in Morrow county, Ohio, April 2, 1845, and there spent his youth, learning the trade of a wagonmaker. He married Miss Abigail Bachelder, who was born in the same county August 26, 1847, and was a daughter of New England parents, who came from Maine to the Buckeye state at an early period in its development. Soon after his marriage Levi H. Hosler removed to Richland

county and opened a shop in the village of Shancks. Three years later he went to Noble county, Indiana, and engaged in farming in Jefferson township for four years, after which he took up his abode in Green township, where he made his home for fourteen years. On the expiration of that period he went to Cass county, where he operated a sawmill for three years, when he removed his mill to Auburn, DeKalb county, Indiana. After two years, however, he disposed of that property and went to Alberton, Williams county, Ohio, where he established a mill, conducting the same for eleven years, and in May, 1900, he disposed of that enterprise by sale and went to Hicksville, Ohio, where he is now successfully engaged in the manufacture of lumber. In his political opinions and connections he is a stanch Democrat and while in Williams county he held the position of township treasurer for a period of seven years, proving a careful guardian of the public exchequer. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Levi H. Hosler were born four children, of whom three are living, namely: David E., William E., a lumber merchant of Homer, Michigan, and George L., who is engaged in business with his eldest brother.

Surrounded by the refining influences of a good home, Mr. Hosler passed the period of youth and in the common schools acquired the education which fitted him for the transaction of business in later years. He was not yet twenty-one years of age, when, on the 11th of January, 1883, he was united in marriage to Miss Florence N. Applegate, of Noble county, Indiana, a native of Ohio and a daughter of James M. Applegate, one of the pioneer farmers of Noble county, now deceased. Her mother was Sophia (Gray) Applegate. The young couple began their domestic life upon a farm in that county and for three years Mr. Hosler cultivated rented land, after which he removed to Albion, where he pursued a course of study in a business college. There he remained for three years and his next place of abode was in Alberton, Ohio, where he was employed as bookkeeper and secretary by his father. After acting in those capacities for eight years he acquired an interest in the business, but after two years the sawmill and lumber yard were completely destroyed by fire and Mr. Hosler, of this review, thus had swept away in a few hours the accumulations of years of persistent and earnest toil. In May, 1899, he came to New Washington, where he began life anew, with a bank account of only twenty-five dollars. With characteristic energy, however, he took up the struggle whereby he is retrieving his lost possessions. He began buying logs on a small scale and had these sawed into lumber in the mill of Herman & Mahon, carrying on business in that way until the following December, when he had accumulated enough to purchase his present mill. Becoming owner

of the property which he now controls, he has since forged ahead, and to-day he is one of the leading business men of the town, furnishing employment to some twenty-six workmen at the present writing, while his force usually ranges from ten to thirty. He cuts export stuff, largely for a firm in Indiana, and is one of the leading lumber manufacturers of his district. His business has reached a large volume and the magnitude of his undertakings results in bringing to him a handsome financial return.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Hosler has been blessed with five children: Harvey E., Rosa M., Sylvia N., Lela A. and James H., all yet with their parents.

In his social relations Mr. Hosler is connected with Superior Lodge, No. 179, F. & A. M., of West Unity, Ohio; Alberton Lodge, No. 655, K. of P., and has twice been a delegate to the grand lodge. His political support is given the men and measures of the Democracy. Splendid business and executive force make him one of the leading representatives of the industrial interests in the county, and his reliable methods have gained for him the confidence and respect of all with whom he has come in contact.

#### ALBERT H. SCHWEMLEY.

Albert H. Schwemley was born in New Washington, Ohio, November 9, 1862, being one of the eight children whose parents were John G. and Mathilda (Hesse) Schwemley. The father was a native of Germany, born in 1830, his parents being George and Catherine (Gugle) Schwemley. The grandfather of our subject was born in Germany, about 1805, and came to America in 1833, locating in Chatfield township, Crawford county, where he entered eighty acres of wild land. With characteristic energy he began clearing the tract, being thus employed through the winter season, while in the summer months he worked on the canal, in order to secure the money necessary to the support of his family. He built a log cabin and for a number of years resided upon his first claim, but he eventually sold that property and purchased eighty acres adjoining, upon which he made his home until 1870. In that year he became a resident of the home of his son, John, an uncle of our subject. He had lived with our subject's father for a short time, until after his wife's death. His own demise occurred in 1872. In his political faith he was a Democrat and in his religious belief was a Lutheran.

John G. Schwemley, the father of him whose name introduces this record, was only two years of age when his parents came to the new world and in

Chatfield township, Crawford county, was he reared, learning the carpenter's trade in his youth. He married Miss Mathilda Hesse and located in New Washington, where he followed his chosen vocation until 1864, when he purchased a farm of sixty acres in Chatfield township, devoting his energies to its improvement and cultivation up to the time of the death of his wife in 1870. He then sold out and went to Columbus, where he studied for the Lutheran ministry. Three years later he accepted a call to preach the gospel in the church of this denomination, in Hopewell, Mercer county, Ohio, and while living there he was again married, his second union being with Miss Caroline Houk, of Delaware, this state. They became the parents of four children, of whom three are living: Clara, the wife of George Metzger, of Columbus; Rufus, who lives in the same city; and Laura, who lives with her mother, also of Columbus.

After three years passed in Hopewell John G. Schwemley removed to Homerville, Medina county, Ohio, and in February, 1879, went to Kansas, settling near Spearville, in Ford county, upon a farm of one hundred and sixty acres. He was engaged in preaching in that locality for about two years, after which he did missionary work, while his sons cultivated the farm. His missionary work was a labor of love, for he received no remuneration for his church work and missionary services. In November, 1891, he returned to Ohio, locating in Grove City, where he followed gardening and canvassing. In April, 1898, he became a resident of Columbus, but was not long permitted to enjoy his new home, for his death occurred on the 25th of May following. He voted with the Democracy, but had no desire for office, preferring to devote his energies to his business affairs and to the gospel work. He possessed superior ability as a vocalist and for a number of years engaged in leading the singing in his district and also taught vocal music. The mother of our subject was born in New Washington, Ohio, about 1836, and her father was one of the pioneer merchants of the city. While on a trip to Buffalo to buy goods the boat on which he had embarked was destroyed by fire and he was drowned. Mrs. Schwemley departed this life in 1870, and our subject is the only survivor of her eight children. The others of the family were: William, who died in August, 1870, at the age of thirteen years; Jacob F., who was a ranchman at Del Norte, Colorado, and died in 1892 at the age of thirty-two years; Mary L., who resided with her grandparents at New Washington and died December 26, 1887, at the age of twenty-one years; Robert A., who was a miner and died at Lake City, Colorado, in February, 1897, at the age of



twenty-nine; Franklin and Margaret, who died in early life; and an infant who died unnamed.

Mr. Schwemley, whose name forms the caption of this review, was only eight years of age at the time of his mother's death, after which he made his home with his uncle, Jacob Sheetz, during the greater part of the time until 1879, when he went to Kansas with his father. In December, 1881, he returned to New Washington. Previous to this time his educational privileges had been those afforded by the common schools, but on again coming to Ohio he entered the New Washington high school and was a member of its first graduating class in June, 1883, at which time he had the honor of delivering the salutatory address. On putting aside his text-books he entered upon his business career as an employe in the store of J. Sheetz & Brother, and continued to serve as salesman until 1894, with the exception of a period of one year, from February, 1888, until February, 1889, when he was in the employ of L. C. Hall & Company, dry goods merchants of Bucyrus. In January, 1894, he secured a position in the store of J. M. Guiss, a hardware merchant of New Washington, with whom he remained until March 10, 1898, when he engaged in the dry goods, notions and grocery business for himself. Since that time he has secured a liberal and constantly growing patronage and is now accounted one of the enterprising, wide-awake and progressive merchants of his native city.

On the 30th of December, 1891, Mr. Schwemley was united in marriage to Miss Mathilda R. Biber, a native of Cranberry township, Crawford county, and a daughter of Jacob and Christina (Utz) Biber, both of whom were natives of Germany. Her father came to the United States with his parents during his childhood, the family settling in Cranberry township at a very early period of its development. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Schwemley was blessed with four children: Louisa M., who was born November 25, 1892; Paul H., born August 31, 1894; Mary C., born February 10, 1897; and George W., born May 10, 1900.

Mr. Schwemley is recognized as one of the active workers in the Democratic ranks and for the past three years has been a member of the school board, while for several terms he has held the office of corporation treasurer. His name is on the membership roll of the Lutheran church and in its work he is actively and deeply interested. For several years he has served as a teacher in the Sunday-school and did all in his power to promote Christian education among the children of the community. He and his family occupy a comfortable residence at the northwest corner of Scharf and Rossman streets

and the household is celebrated for its gracious hospitality. Mr. Schwemley is now accounted one of the substantial business men of his native place and is a highly esteemed resident. His close application in business, unflinching purpose and sound judgment have enabled him to progress steadily on the path to prosperity.

### JOHN H. SHEETZ.

Rising above the head of the masses are many men of sterling worth and value, who by sheer perseverance and pluck have conquered fortune and by their own unaided efforts have risen from the ranks of the commonplace to positions of eminence in the business world, and at the same time have commanded the trust and respect of those with whom they have been in any way thrown in contact. Among the earnest men whose depth of character and strict adherence to principle excite the admiration of his contemporaries Mr. Sheetz is prominent. He is now recognized as one of the leading merchants of his portion of Crawford county and is not only in control of one of the extensive commercial enterprises of New Washington but is also successfully engaged in the banking business, and is regarded as one of the best financiers in this part of the state.

Mr. Sheetz was born in the city which is still his home, his natal day being August 29, 1852. His parents were John A. and Margaret (Donnenwirth) Sheetz. He remained with his parents during the period of his boyhood and youth and acquired his preliminary education in the New Washington district schools, supplementing his early study by a course in Oberlin College and in Mount Union College. During the last two years of his school life he spent the summer months on his father's farm. Agricultural pursuits were congenial to him and he rather desired to carry on farming, but in 1872, at the earnest solicitation of his father, he became a clerk in the latter's store and served in that capacity until 1874, when he purchased his father's interest in the business and became a partner of his brother Jacob. This connection has since been maintained. Our subject soon manifested superior ability in the line of commerce and as a merchant took front rank among the leading representatives of trade interests in his native town. The store which the brothers own is large and well stocked and they enjoy a very liberal patronage. In 1876 the banking firm of the John A. Sheetz Company was organized and our subject became cashier and financial manager. The success of the

institution is largely due to his efforts, which have resulted in making this one of the leading financial concerns in this portion of the county.

On the 2d of October, 1889, occurred the marriage of Mr. Sheetz and Miss Theresa W. Michaelis, a native of Bucyrus and a daughter of the Rev. August Michaelis, a minister of the Lutheran church. Her father was born in Prussia and came to America about 1840, when a young man. Unto our subject and his wife have been born two sons,—John A. and Walter F. Mr. Sheetz votes with the Democracy and is a recognized leader in its ranks. He has served for six or seven years as a member of the school board and for six or eight years has been treasurer of the board. His religious belief connects him with the Lutheran church, and for three years he was a member of the church council, while for a similar period he served as deacon and was secretary of the building committee when the present substantial and commodious house of worship was erected. Mr. Sheetz is a man of distinctive ability, and his character is one which is above a shadow of reproach. He has been faithful in the offices to which he has been called, loyal to the duties of public and private life and is widely known and respected by all who have been at all familiar with his honorable and useful career.

### CHARLES J. SCROGGS.

Charles Jacob Scroggs, the senior member of the law firm of Scroggs & Monnett, is the only child of the late Hon. Jacob Scroggs, attorney at law, and his wife, Julia A. Walwork. The Scroggs family in America was founded by three brothers, Alexander, Allan and John, who came from Edinburg to Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, about 1740, and who, according to family tradition, were either nephews or grandnephews of Chief Justice Scroggs of the King's Bench under Charles II. Allan Scroggs died in Cumberland county in 1776, leaving a numerous family, of whom the second son, John, made his way to Baltimore, where, in 1786, he was married to Frances Hook. Their third son, also named John, was born in Baltimore June 9, 1794, and continued to live there until 1819, taking part in the war of 1812 and being present at the bombardment of Fort McHenry and at North Point. He then removed to Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, and one year later to Columbiana county, Ohio, where in 1821 he was married to Miss Ann Shawke, daughter of Jacob and Dorothea (Kester) Shawke. Her father was born in Lebanon county, Pennsylvania, November 15, 1759, and was of Bavarian ancestry, being able to trace his family back to the



*Jacob Scroggs—*





fourteenth century. He was a soldier of the Revolution, serving during portions of seven years in a number of Pennsylvania companies, and dying at Lisbon, Ohio, in 1832.

John Scroggs was a hatter by trade and followed this business at Lisbon and Canton, Ohio, and afterward at Bucyrus, moving to this place in 1839 and settling on the site of the present residence of the subject of this sketch, his house at that time being the last one but one on Walnut street and the last one on Rensselaer street. Here he resided until his death, in 1861, having lived, not an eventful life, but one which won for him the highest respect of all who knew him. After his death his widow made her home with her only living daughter, Mrs. W. T. Giles, until her death in 1882, at the ripe age of eighty-six years. Both Mr. and Mrs. Scroggs were lifelong and faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and the present beautiful edifice in Bucyrus contains memorial windows in their honor.

They were the parents of seven children: Joseph R., who died in Freeport, Illinois, unmarried, in 1867, a newspaper man by profession, and a prominent Mason and Odd Fellow; William M., for two terms county auditor, married Miss Margaret Byron in 1849, and died at Bucyrus in 1874, leaving surviving him his widow and two children, all since deceased; Jacob; Mary, wife of W. T. Giles, one of the veteran newspaper men of the west, who died at Freeport, Illinois, in 1898, his wife having passed to the spirit world in 1889, leaving two children,—W. S., a railway mail clerk, and Mira L., a teacher in the Chicago schools; Mira, wife of C. W. Butterfield, died at Bucyrus, Ohio, in 1859; Amanda, who died young; and John B., a prominent lawyer of Kansas City, Kansas, where he died in 1899, leaving surviving him a widow and three step-children.

Jacob Scroggs was born in Canton, Ohio, August 11, 1827, and died at Bucyrus, Ohio, March 23, 1897. During his boyhood he acquired such education as the frontier schools could furnish, and also learned his father's trade, but that not proving congenial employment he taught school for five terms, worked on the local newspapers and in clerical positions in the courthouse, clerked in Toledo for a year and traveled for one year for Winthrop Smith & Company, the predecessors of the American Book Company. He then studied law, under the direction of Judge Hall and D. W. Swigart, was graduated at the Cincinnati Law School in 1854, and the following year opened an office in Bucyrus, where for forty years he occupied an honored position at the Crawford county bar. Never sanctioning the "sharp practice" which too many consider a necessary concomitant of the practice of

law, others had more success than he in making a jury believe "the worse were the better cause;" but in profound knowledge of the law, fine reasoning powers and in that integrity of character which enabled and compelled him on occasion to fearlessly tell a client he was in the wrong, he stood easily in the front rank. From the memorial to him adopted by the Ohio State Bar Association, we extract the following:

"Upon his fair fame the breath of suspicion never dared to rest. His word was a bond that was never forfeited and his rugged manhood commanded confidence and won respect from all. With few early advantages, he made himself, by industry and energy, a peer of the ablest lawyers of the state, a man of liberal education, broad views and affluent circumstances. He was held in universal esteem by men of all parties throughout the city, the county and the state."

Always an active Republican and Crawford county being heavily Democratic, circumstances prevented his ever holding important public office. He was mayor of Bucyrus for four years and for twelve years a member of the board of education, being for ten years the president of that body, and for nine years his name being upon both tickets. He was a presidential elector in 1864 and again in 1880, was the Republican candidate for circuit judge in 1884, and two years later was an unsuccessful candidate for the Republican nomination for supreme judge.

He was married to Julia A. Walwork on September 22, 1859. She was born in Philadelphia August 4, 1833, and died at Bucyrus, Ohio, July 23, 1901. She was a daughter of Thomas Walwork, a native of England, and Mary Stephens, of Glens Falls, New York, her mother's family tracing back to the early Puritan settlers. She commenced to teach school at the age of fourteen, her first experience being gained near Syracuse, New York, and had a life certificate empowering her to teach in any school in New York state. In 1855 she went to Georgia as a teacher, but her anti-slavery views led to her return north in 1857, she coming to Bucyrus to take charge of the high school, a position she filled with marked success and continued to hold until three years after her marriage. The rest of her life was devoted to her home, family and friends. For many years before her death she was an invalid and virtually confined to the limits of her own home, yet her personality was such that so long as she lived she remained one of the most prominent factors in the intellectual and social life of the city.

They had but one child, Charles Jacob Scroggs, the subject of this sketch. He was born in Bucyrus, Ohio, July 14, 1863, was educated by his mother

and in our public schools, at which he graduated in 1877, the youngest high-school graduate on record. He attended Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware one year, and then took a four-years course at Michigan University, Ann Arbor, graduating at that institution in 1884 with the degree of A. M., being one of seven in a class of ninety to receive the master's degree instead of the customary A. B. Two years later he was graduated at the Cincinnati Law School with the degree of LL. B., and since then has been actively engaged in the practice of his profession at Bucyrus, being associated with his father until the latter's death, and since then with his present partner. He has inherited many of his father's characteristics, and as a safe, accurate advisor, particularly in matters of commercial and corporation law, he is excelled by none in the county. He has also been actively identified with the business life of the community. He was one of the organizers of the Bucyrus Loan & Building Association, of which he has been attorney and director since its inception, and helped organize, and is one of the board of directors of, the Home Mutual Fire Association.

Outside of business he finds employment for his time in his books, secret orders and the game of whist. He has one of the finest private libraries in Bucyrus and has it thoroughly at his command, is a member of all of the local Masonic bodies and of Ohio Consistory, thirty-second degree, at Cincinnati; is a past chancellor, Demas Lodge, No. 108, K. of P., and under Grand Chancellor Young was his deputy for the sixteenth Pythian district, composed of Crawford, Seneca and Wyandot counties; was a charter member of Bucyrus Lodge, No. 156, B. P. O. E., and is a life member of the grand lodge of that order. He also takes an active interest in the Sons of the American Revolution, and has been one of the board of managers of its Ohio society and was a delegate to its last national congress. He is recognized as one of the leading whist-players of the state, and is a frequent contributor to the literature of the "silent game." He has never married.

#### WALLACE L. MONNETT.

Wallace Lafayette Monnett, the junior member of the law firm of Scroggs & Monnett, was born at Bucyrus, Ohio, September 18, 1871, his parents being Abram Cahill and Jennie E. (Walwork) Monnett. The ancestry of the Monnett family can be traced back to Abraham Monnett, who came to Ohio from Virginia in 1800, taking up his abode in Chillicothe.

He had eight children,—Isaac, Thomas, Margaret, Jeremiah, John, William, Osborne and Elizabeth. Isaac married Elizabeth Pittinger, and in 1813 removed to Pickaway county, moving again in 1828 to Crawford county, where he entered fourteen hundred and forty acres of land south of Bucyrus and engaged in stock-raising on an extensive scale.

His son, William, was born in Ross county, Ohio, April 22, 1808. When about eighteen he taught school a few terms, and at twenty accompanied his parents to Crawford county, where he became prominently identified with stock-raising interests. About the time of his removal to this county he joined the Methodist church, and when thirty-two years of age received a license as a local preacher. The same day he was appointed colonel of the First Regiment, Third Brigade, Eleventh Division, Ohio militia, and filled this position acceptably for seven years. In 1851 he moved to Bucyrus and opened a general store in partnership with Patterson Marshall, but in 1854 returned to stock-raising, purchasing four hundred acres of land near Bucyrus, part of which is now in the city limits, and eleven hundred acres of land in Cranberry township. This land he continued to occupy until his death, March 21, 1885. He was prominent in county affairs and in church work, and lent his influence to all measures calculated to prove of good along material, intellectual and moral lines. He was married, in January 11, 1831, to Miss Elizabeth Cahill, a sister of the late Hon. R. W. Cahill, of Vernon township, and a daughter of Abram and Nancy (Wallace) Cahill. She was born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, April 12, 1810, and died at Bucyrus, Ohio, May 3, 1891. Her father resided in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, and at one time was connected with the state militia. Colonel Monnett and wife were the parents of five children: Mary J., wife of Hon. S. R. Harris; Rachel, wife of W. H. Kinnear, of Bucyrus township; Sarah L., wife of L. L. Walker, of Whetstone township; Isaac W., formerly of Walla Walla, Washington; and Abram C. Of these, Mrs. Walker is the only one now living.

Abram Cahill Monnett, the father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Bucyrus township March 31, 1839, and died in Bucyrus April 17, 1879. He was educated in the county schools and at Ohio Wesleyan University, Delaware, Ohio. From 1861 to 1864 he was a member of Company E, Thirty-fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, of which he was orderly sergeant, and participated in all the engagements of the Army of Virginia. He was married, December 11, 1867, to Miss Jennie E. Walwork, a daugh-

ter of Thomas and Mary (Stephens) Walwork, who was born at Saratoga, New York, June 6, 1840. She was educated in the Albany State Normal School of Albany, New York, at which she graduated in 1860, and the following year became a teacher in the Bucyrus schools, a position she satisfactorily filled for five years. They were the parents of five children: Frank W., Wallace L., Elizabeth, Julia and Rachel. Frank W. was educated in the Bucyrus schools and at the Cincinnati Law School, and was admitted to practice in 1893. He located in Albuquerque, New Mexico, where he remained until the breaking out of the Spanish war, since which time he has been in the army, being now in charge of a company of native scouts in the Philippines. Elizabeth was educated at the New England Conservatory of Music and is the wife of Rev. James M. Cass, a Methodist minister now located at Jay, Essex county, New York. Julia and Rachel are graduates of the elocution department of the Cincinnati College of Music and reside in Bucyrus with their widowed mother. They are teachers of elocution, of ability, and have an enviable reputation as public readers, an occupation to which they give a large part of their time.

Wallace Lafayette Monnett was born in Bucyrus September 18, 1871. After graduating in the Bucyrus schools and at Eastman Business College, of Poughkeepsie, New York, he studied law in the office of Scroggs & Scroggs and afterward at Cincinnati Law School, at which he graduated in 1896. Hon. Jacob Scroggs having meanwhile retired from practice, he returned to his old office and on April 1, 1897, was admitted to partnership, the firm since then having been Scroggs & Monnett. He is now serving his second term as referee in bankruptcy, discharging his duties in a manner that has won him the commendation of the profession and the public, and has acquired a high reputation in his general practice. In politics he is an aggressive Republican, having been chairman of the county executive committee. He belongs to but one of the large secret orders, Demas Lodge, No. 108, K. of P., of which he is past chancellor and has been county deputy grand chancellor. April 6, 1897, he was married to Mary Zouck, a daughter of Jacob and Martha (Millinder) Zouck, of Baltimore, Maryland, where the family is widely known in official and social circles. Mrs. Monnett was born near Baltimore December 26, 1876, and was educated at Maryland College, formerly Lutherville Seminary, and at the Cincinnati College of Music, at which she graduated in 1896. They are the parents of two children,—Martha Elizabeth and Margaret Louise.



## WILLIAM S. TAYLOR.

William Stacy Taylor, a popular passenger conductor on the Big Four Railroad residing at Galion, Ohio, was born in Loudoun county, Virginia, on the 10th of February, 1845, and is a representative of one of the early families of that state. His grandfather, Joseph Gore, was a native of the same county, as was Mahlon K. Taylor, the father of our subject, whose birth occurred about the year 1810. In 1830 the latter was married to Miss Amanda M. Gore and in the year 1849 removed to Logan county, Ohio, locating on a farm two miles northwest of Bellefontaine, where he continued to reside, engaging in the business of farming until his death, which occurred October 18, 1868. The children of this marriage were as follows: Sarah J., the widow of Henry Casebolt, of Bellefontaine; Ruth H., wife of John Grimes, a retired farmer of Bellefontaine; Thomas O., who for a number of years has been an employe of the Standard Oil Company, located at various points and is now a resident of Columbus, Ohio; Annabelle, wife of R. B. Keller, cashier of the People's National Bank, of Bellefontaine; Frank G., a resident of Sioux City, Iowa, and is now in the employ of the street railway company of that place; Alice, who is living in Springfield, Ohio; Elizabeth, who died at the old home farm near Bellefontaine, in 1864, when three years of age; and William S., whose name introduces this review.

William Stacy Taylor, whose name forms the caption of this sketch, was a little lad of three summers when the parents came with their family from Loudoun county, Virginia, to Ohio, locating in Logan county, near Bellefontaine. There from early youth until manhood Mr. Taylor continued to reside on the farm contributing such labor and assistance as his age and strength would enable him to perform. On the 27th of October, 1868, at the age of nearly twenty-four years, he chose as a companion and helpmeet on life's journey Miss Rachel Melinda Clabaugh, a daughter of Nicholas Clabaugh, of Champaign county, Ohio, who died in 1851. This union was blessed with the following children: Cornelia Amanda, born October 4, 1869; Agnes Belle, born September 10, 1870; Grace Edna, born May 10, 1872, and died March 23, 1878; and Iva Adel, who was born November 19, 1873. The eldest daughter is the wife of Joseph Belser, of Bellefontaine, and Agnes Belle is the wife of William H. Heffner, of Galion, while Iva married the Rev. O. D. Baltzly, pastor of St. Luke's church of Mansfield, Ohio.

William S. Taylor is a veteran of the war of the Rebellion. He responded to the call of his country, promptly enlisting in Company L, Second

Ohio Heavy Artillery, with which he served throughout the war. His connection with the Big Four Railroad Company was begun in May, 1874, when he was made brakeman. He successively passed through different positions of importance and trust and was, in 1888, promoted to the position of passenger conductor, which he has held continuously through thirteen years. Judged by his advancement during the term of his connection with the Big Four Company, merit and efficiency seem not to have been lacking in the discharge of the duties assigned to him. At this writing he is still a passenger conductor on the Big Four road and resides in a handsome residence on North Columbus street in Galion. He owns this property, together with other realty in the city, and there he is living, surrounded by the comforts and pleasures of life amid an affectionate family of noble children and grandchildren to whom he is fondly attached. He is happy in the evening of life knowing that he has provided well for his loved ones. In October, 1873, he took up his abode in Galion, where he has lived ever since. In religious faith the family are Lutherans and in the church for many years past Mr. Taylor has held various offices at different times, ever giving his aid to church work with a willingness and cheerfulness commensurate with his means, and he was respected and highly esteemed by all who knew him.

#### EBENEZER B. FINLEY.

Ohio has always been distinguished for the high rank of her bench and bar. Perhaps none of the newer states can justly boast of abler jurists or attorneys. Many of them have been men of national fame, and among those whose lives have been passed on a quieter plane there is scarcely a town or city in the state that can boast of one or more lawyers capable of crossing swords in forensic combat with many of the distinguished legal lights of the United States. While the growth and development of the state in the last half century has been most marvelous, viewed from any standpoint, yet of no one class of her citizenship has she greater reason for just pride than her judges and attorneys. In Judge Finley we find united many of the rare qualities which go to make up the successful lawyer and jurist. He possesses perhaps few of those brilliant, dazzling meteoric qualities which have sometimes flashed along the legal horizon, riveting the gaze and blinding the vision for the moment, then disappearing, leaving little or no trace behind, but rather has those solid and more substantial qualities which shine with a constant luster, shedding light in the dark places with steadiness and continuity. Mr. Finley

possesses oratorical ability of high order and has in a manner secured that rare ability of saying in a convincing way the right thing at the right time. This has won him fame not only as a lawyer but as a lecturer, for he is widely known throughout the country by reason of his prominence as a speaker on historical and literary topics.

A resident of Bucyrus, Mr. Finley has long been a recognized leader at the bar and in Democratic circles in Crawford county, and has won distinction in the legislative halls of the nation. He was born in Orville, Wayne county, Ohio, July 31, 1833, and is still an active member of the legal profession. He was educated in the public schools, and, determining to make the practice of law his life work, after careful study and preparation was admitted to the bar in 1862. He then took up his abode in Bucyrus, where he has since made his home. He had scarcely entered upon his professional career, however, before he offered his services to his country, assisted to raise a company as the Sixty-fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and became first lieutenant of Company K, of said regiment, with which he served until wounded in the service and was honorably discharged. After being mustered out of the service he resumed the private practice of law and rose to a position of eminence in the profession. Along with those qualities, indispensable to the lawyer—a keen, rapid, logical mind, plus the business sense, and a ready capacity for hard work—our subject brought to the starting point of his legal career gifts—eloquence of language and a strong personality. An excellent presence, an earnest, dignified manner, marked strength of character, a thorough grasp of the law and the ability accurately to apply its principles are factors in Mr. Finley's effectiveness as an advocate.

Mr. Finley is no less widely known in connection with political affairs. He has long been one of the foremost men of his party in Crawford county, and in 1876 was elected to the forty-fifth congress from the fourteenth district, consisting of the counties of Crawford, Wyandot, Richland, Ashland and Holmes. He served so acceptably that in 1878 he was re-elected to the forty-eighth congress from the eighth district, comprising Crawford, Hardin, Marion, Morrow, Seneca and Wyandot counties. He made an excellent record in the national congress and acquitted himself brilliantly in debate. To every question that came up for consideration he gave earnest thought and attention, laboring untiringly for the measures which he believed would prove of general good. In 1884 he was made adjutant general of Ohio by Governor George Hadley and brought militia to a high state of organization. In 1897 he was elected circuit judge of the third circuit and displayed great ability in

his judicial capacity. In 1896 he was elected as one of the delegates at large from Ohio to the national Democratic convention at Chicago, and took a prominent part as a leader in the convention, as chairman of one of the important committees. His mind is analytical, logical and inductive. With a thorough and comprehensive knowledge of the fundamental principles of law he combines a familiarity with statutory law and a sober, clear judgment, which makes him not only a formidable adversary in legal combat but has given him the distinction while on the bench of having few of his decisions revised or reversed.

He attended all of the Democratic national conventions from 1876 until 1896. He has long been prominent in the councils of his party in Ohio, and his opinions carry weight with Democratic leaders. For some years he was on the platform as a lecturer on historical and literary topics and was very successful in that line. His study and reading have been broad and comprehensive, and he is a man of scholarly attainments and strong mentality, qualities which render him an entertaining and convincing speaker, while his oratorical ability of high order was always sure to please.

#### ADAM G. LEDERER.

Various business interests have claimed the attention of Mr. Lederer, and enterprise and energy have secured his advancement along the path of prosperity. He is now a well known auctioneer and is also proprietor of a livery barn at New Washington. He was born in Cranberry township, December 19, 1852, a son of Jacob and Magdalene (Doemenwirth) Lederer, both of whom were natives of Germany, the father born in Wurtemberg and the mother in Alsace, and came to America with their respective parents when about five years of age. The father of our subject was reared in Stark county, Ohio, and in his early manhood worked in a livery stable in Wooster, Ohio, for two or three years. He then came to Crawford county and entered from the government eighty acres of land a mile south and a mile west of New Washington. Not long afterward he was married, and upon the farm he made his home until his death. In subsequent years he added thirty-seven acres to his place, which then comprised one hundred and seventeen acres, and his labors and energy transformed it into a valuable and attractive farming property. As an auctioneer he won wide fame and cried all of the sales in this portion of the country in his day. He was a man of social nature, genial disposition and unflagging energy, and those qualities made him popular,

gaining for him many friends. Of the Lutheran church he was a most ardent and influential member and was largely instrumental in securing the erection of the house of worship in New Washington. He voted with the Democracy. His death occurred August 19, 1857, when he was only thirty-nine years and eleven months old. His wife was born in 1822, and after the death of her husband she cared for her family, residing upon the old homestead until the early '80s, when she removed to New Washington, where she has since made her home with her daughter. Although she is now in her eightieth year she retains possession of her faculties unimpaired and is a most highly esteemed old lady. Her father was George Donnenwirth, who belonged to one of the well known families of Crawford county. Mr. and Mrs. Lederer became the parents of five children, of whom the following are living: John F., who makes his home in Dundee, Michigan; Jacob, who is living on the old homestead in Cranberry township; Adam G.; and Odella, wife of Andrew Cronenberger, of New Washington.

Adam Lederer was reared on the home farm and his early education was acquired in the public schools, was supplemented by study in the Lexington Seminary and in the Fostoria high school. He met the expenses of his education by his own labor, and the resolute will which enabled him to secure this intellectual advancement indicated the elemental strength of his character, which has been developed as the years have passed, making him a self-reliant and energetic man. When eighteen years of age he began work as a farm hand, and the money thus earned paid his tuition in the Lexington Seminary. When twenty years of age he began teaching, and after following that profession for a year he continued his studies in the high school of Fostoria. For fifteen terms he followed the teacher's profession, and during twelve terms of the time was connected with the schools of New Washington. In the summer season he and his brother Jacob engaged in farming in partnership, and in 1878 they began breeding fine short-horn cattle, in which they gained a wide reputation by reason of their success and the splendid stock which they handled. In 1882 they established a livery business in New Washington, and with the exception of two periods of two and a half and three years Mr. Lederer, of this review, has since been connected with the enterprise. In 1895 he and his brother terminated their partnership. Three years previous our subject had purchased the grocery store of J. Bear and conducted the same for eighteen months. In connection with his livery business he is also well known as an auctioneer of Crawford county. He



seems to have inherited his father's ability in this direction and has cried sales throughout this portion of the county.

On the 8th of February, 1877, Mr. Lederer married Miss Ella A. Hartupee, a native of Mansfield, Ohio, and a daughter of Thomas Logan and Phebe O. (Patterson) Hartupee, her father born in Richland county. They now have two children and have lost three. The living are: Ora D., who possesses much talent in both vocal and instrumental music; and Estella. Mr. Lederer is independent in politics, supporting the men and measures that he thinks are best adapted to secure good government. He served for four years on the school board, for two years in the city council and was the first man to carry a petition for the building of pikes. In this matter he incurred the ill will of many men opposed to the pike system, but to-day they are among his best friends, for time has demonstrated the great value of good roads. Socially he is connected with Hyperion Lodge, No. 651, K. P. His worth is widely acknowledged, and wherever he is known he has gained many warm friends, who esteem him for his trustworthiness and social qualities.

#### FREDERICK WISMAN.

Among the prosperous farmers of Bucyrus township is Frederick Wisman, who owns and operates a large, well cultivated and finely situated farm, consisting of one hundred and forty acres of fertile Crawford county land.

The birth of Mr. Wisman was in this same township, on November 2, 1833. His parents were Frederick and Elizabeth (Heinlen) Wisman, both natives of Wurtemberg, Germany, from which country they came when they were children. After their marriage in Pennsylvania, in 1828, they came and located in Crawford county, where the remainder of their lives were spent, the mother dying in 1843, the father surviving until 1867. By trade Mr. Wisman was a wagonmaker, but after locating in Ohio he pursued farming. His life was an honest and industrious one, and both he and his wife lived and died enjoying the respect of all who knew them.

Frederick Wisman was one of nine children born to his parents, and he was reared on the farm, thus becoming well prepared for the active duties of an agriculturist. His education was in the schools of his neighborhood. In 1861 he married Malissa Aumiller, and then left the parental roof to set up his own home. For a time the young couple lived on a farm located just

west of his birthplace, but later removed to Holmes township. In 1864 Mr. Wisman moved to the farm he now occupies, which consisted of eighty acres and belonged to his father. After the death of the latter Mr. Wisman purchased this farm and has added to it until he now owns one hundred and forty acres, and in addition to this, he, in association with his son Charles E., owns a tract comprising ninety acres. In 1874 Mr. Wisman built his fine, brick residence and has made many improvements of a substantial character which not only add to the attractive appearance of the place but materially to its value also. One feature of Mr. Wisman's business is the raising of great numbers of sheep.

The three children of Mr. Wisman are all comfortably settled in life, in Crawford county, Alfred E., being a successful farmer in Holmes township; Emma Alice, the wife of Joseph Starner, lives in Todd township; and Charles E. is a farmer with his father. Mr. Wisman is identified with the Democratic party, and is generally regarded as one of the leading citizens of Bucyrus township.

#### JAMES O. HOLLAND.

Among the prominent agriculturists of Bucyrus township, James O. Holland takes a leading position, both as a successful farmer and as a veteran of the Civil war. His birth was in Mahoning county, Ohio, on December 20, 1841. His parents, Nehemiah and Lucinda (Bentley) Holland, were married on August 13, 1836, and resided for several years in Mahoning county, later removing to Hancock county, Ohio, where the father died July 3, 1847, at the age of forty-eight years. The children born to him and wife were: William C., who resides in Marshall county, Indiana; John A., who resides in the same county; Chauncy F., who is deceased; James O., who is the subject of this biography; Richard M., who has passed away; and Austin, who is a resident of Crawford county. The widow of Mr. Holland married, on December 31, 1849, James Reid, by whom she had three children: Nancy L.; Alfred C.; and Esther M., deceased. The mother outlived her second husband, surviving until 1892, when she passed away at the age of seventy-two years.

James O. Holland was between six and seven years of age when his father died, and remained with his mother only until he had reached his tenth year. Then he began the struggle of life for himself, beginning by working at odd jobs for those who would employ him, principally farmers of

his neighborhood. His educational advantages were thus limited. At the age of sixteen, with commendable forethought, he decided to learn a trade, selecting that of carpenter, and remained employed at it for three years.

The Civil war, breaking out just at this time, found in Mr. Holland a patriotic young soldier. On August 22, 1861, he enlisted in Company B, Twenty-first Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and participated in twenty-two battles and skirmishes, including Stone River, Chickamauga, Jonesboro, Atlanta, and those of Sherman's "march to the sea." Mr. Holland did not escape all the dangers of war, as at Nolansville, North Carolina, he was taken prisoner, but after fourteen days was paroled and sent back to the Union lines. After a faithful service he was mustered out at Columbus, June 20, 1865.

Mr. Holland married the year following his return from the army, the ceremony taking place on October 10, 1866, to Miss Ellen Starner, and he and wife removed to Nevada, Ohio, where he followed his trade for several years, but later engaged in farming in Bucyrus township. In 1882 he removed to his present fine farm, on section 22, in this township.

In politics Mr. Holland is a staunch Republican, and is a man interested deeply in the success of his country in all public affairs. George W. Holland, his only son, born October 4, 1870, assists in the conduct of the farm.

#### GEORGE W. STARNER.

The late George W. Starner was a good citizen and a prosperous farmer of Crawford county, and was born November 12, 1812, and was a native of Monroe county, Pennsylvania. His lamented death occurred April 6, 1887. He was a son of George M. and Katie M. (Van Vleet) Starner. His youth was spent upon the farm and received limited schooling, as the facilities were wanting in those early days. The school-house was a log structure and the instruction correspondingly crude.

On July 12, 1835, Mr. Starner was united in marriage to Susan Stiff, of Monroe county at that time, but her birth took place in Sussex county, New Jersey, July 20, 1810, she having removed to Monroe county when fourteen years of age. To this marriage these children were born: Elizabeth, who married Jacob Yeagley; Ellen, who married James O. Holland; Harriet, who married John Dobbins; and William.

Mr. Starner removed to Ohio in the month of September, 1832, coming in a two-horse wagon, making the trip in four weeks, and settling in Perry county. For six years the family resided there on a farm. In 1843 the

family removed to Crawford county and located in Bucyrus township. Mr. Starner soon became well known through the township as a very reliable man and good citizen. He voted with the Republican party and passed away regretted by a large circle of friends. His widow died July 3, 1901, being almost ninety-one years of age. The last thirteen years of her life were spent in the home of her daughter, Mrs. James O. Holland.

### JOHN W. CUPP.

In the history of the men and forces that have contributed to the growth and success of the Republican party in Ohio reference must be made to Mr. Cupp, and the journal company of which he is secretary and general manager. The paper has ever been an advocate of Republican principles, its columns championing the measures of the party setting forth strong arguments in favor of its planks and policy, and laboring for its progress and rejoicing in its victories. But not alone along this line has Mr. Cupp been connected with the public interest of Galion and Crawford county. At the present time he is postmaster of the city, having been appointed to the position by President McKinley in 1898. In the office he has given entire satisfaction to its patrons, his administration of its affairs being business-like, prompt and reliable.

A native of Sandusky county, Ohio, Mr. Cupp was born November 20, 1864, a son of Philip and Eliza Heter Cupp. His paternal grandfather came from Alsace-Lorraine, at that time a province of France but later of Germany. He landed at Baltimore, Maryland, with his wife, but in a short time the young couple went into the then wilderness of Ohio, settling in what is now Thompson township, Seneca county. There they made a home and raised a large family, and there Philip Cupp, the father of the subject of this sketch, was born and reared. In early manhood, shortly after marriage, he removed to Bellevue and from that time until his death, April 17, 1901, in the sixty-fourth year of his age, he was identified with the business interests of that town. He was married to Eliza Heter, daughter of John and Salome Freese Heter, and five children were born to them: Mrs. Addie Higbee, Emma, deceased, Charles V., John W. and Otis P.

John Heter, the maternal grandfather of the subject of our sketch, was the fifth of this name of whom any record is had, the first coming from Bavaria, Germany, and landing at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1735. John, fifth, was born in Berks county, that state, in 1794, and was a soldier of the war of 1812, under Captain Warr Middlesworth and General Smythe,

of Virginia, serving at Black Rock on the Niagara river. He came to Ohio in 1825, settling first in Wayne county, but two years later removing to Seneca county, where he acquired eighteen eighty-acre tracts of land, some of the original deeds signed by John Quincy Adams still being held in the family.

John Wesley Cupp acquired his education in the public schools at Bellevue, Ohio, supplementing his knowledge gained there by the learning which he acquired in a newspaper office. He became connected with the "art preservative of arts" at the age of seventeen years and mastered the business in every department, working on the Bellevue News. After learning the trade in that office he became editor of the paper, which he conducted successfully for two years. On the expiration of that period he went to St. Paul, Minnesota, where he engaged in the job printing business, but later returned to Bellevue and became a partner in the Gazette, being one of the owners of that journal until 1892, when he removed to Galion. Here he organized a stock company and purchased the Sun-Review of the assignee and changed it from a weekly to a semi-weekly journal in 1894. In 1896 his company also became the owner of the Leader. The Sun-Review Printing Company was organized, with Mr. Cupp as secretary and manager. The company does a general printing, publishing and binding business, and under the new control both papers have increased rapidly in circulation. The enterprise is a successful one, and the trade enjoyed in their line is large and profitable. The office is well equipped with the latest improved machinery, and the paper, while advocating the interests of the Republican party, is also devoted to the publication of local, general and miscellaneous news and treats in a fair and unprejudiced manner the questions of the day. It supports local enterprises calculated to prove of public benefit and staunchly upholds the banner of Republicanism.

Mr. Cupp has ever been an advocate of the grand old party, and his labors in its behalf have been effective and enduring. He has served on the county executive committee, being a member thereof from 1892 until 1898, when he resigned, having been appointed to the position of postmaster of Galion. This honor was conferred upon him by President McKinley, and it is needless to say that the trusts reposed in him have never been betrayed ever in the slightest degree. He carefully looks after the business of the office, which is performed in a prompt manner, and its patrons have expressed the highest satisfaction with his administration.

May 25, 1893, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Cupp and Miss Emma



Wood, of Bellevue, daughter of Mrs. Elizabeth McElhenny Wood, widow of Henry Wood. Her father was a stock-raiser and dealer, and served his country in the Union army, retiring at the end of the war with the rank of lieutenant. His father was Bourdette Wood, one of the largest land-owners in northern Ohio. The marriage of our subject and wife has been blessed with one son, Robert Otis, born July 25, 1895. Mr. Cupp is identified with the Knights of Pythias fraternity, with the Masonic Order and with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He is charitable and tolerant, though positive in his convictions and aggressive in defending them, and he enjoys the confidence and esteem of all who know him.

### SAMUEL J. KIBLER.

Prominent among the business men of New Washington who for eight years has been closely identified with the history of the city as a representative of one of its most important business interests is Samuel Jefferson Kibler, who is a man of keen discrimination and sound judgment, and his executive ability and excellent management have brought to the concern with which he is connected a large degree of success. The safe, conservative policy which he inaugurated commends itself to the judgment of all, and he secured to the company a patronage which makes the volume of trade transacted over its counters of great importance and magnitude. The firm of Kibler Brothers has enjoyed a reputation for reliability that is known in all sections of the country in which their dealings are extended.

Samuel J. Kibler of this review was born in New Washington, on the 9th of March, 1851, and is a son of Matthias and Frederica (Pfahler) Kibler. As the name indicates, the family is of German origin. The father of our subject was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, June 11, 1822, and was the youngest of the eight children born unto John and Maria Kibler. In 1829, when a child of only seven years, he came with his parents to the United States, locating in Trumbull county, Ohio, where he was reared to manhood, working on the farm and on the canal. As he found opportunity he attended school, and being of a studious nature he acquired a good common-school education, so that at the age of seventeen he was qualified to teach in the neighboring schools. In 1841, in company with his brother, Christian Kibler, he came to Cranberry township, Crawford county, the brother purchasing a tannery on the farm now owned by Abraham McNutt and after some months spent in the employ of his brother, our subject pur-



*Matthew Kibler*



chased an interest in the business. In the winter of 1844-5, shortly after the death of Christian Kibler, the tannery was burned to the ground and in the spring of the latter year Matthias Kibler removed to New Washington, where he purchased of Robert Robinson a small tannery which had been established in 1834. This Mr. Kibler rebuilt, increasing its facilities and enlarging its capacity as the demand warranted. He also improved upon the quality of his goods until the output of his tannery was not only equal in kind to any other but often commanded the highest market price. Mr. Kibler was one of the leading and influential men in the upbuilding of the village of New Washington and in securing for the town a sober and intelligent class of citizens. His interest in educational affairs led him to take an active part in the work of improving the school facilities of the town and it was greatly due to his influence that the citizens were aroused from their lethargy in educational matters and erected commodious and comfortable log schoolhouses in the town and in neighboring school districts. He served in many of the town offices and co-operated heartily in the movement to secure the division of the township into school districts—eight in number. He was largely instrumental in the work of inducing the citizens to furnish their children with ample school privileges and was a contributor of time, effort and money toward the promotion of any movement calculated to prove for the general good. At the time he located in New Washington he purchased a tract of land adjoining the town and in subsequent years he laid out an addition to the original village, one of the principal streets of the city now bearing his name. He was justice of the peace for some twenty-five years, and was the first mayor of New Washington and was acting in that capacity at the time of his demise, Sept. 23, 1876. His political support was given the Democracy and in religious faith he was a Lutheran and did much for the progress of the church. His death proved a serious loss to the town, owing to his splendid business ability and his aggressive labors in behalf of every measure for the general welfare. His wife died September 28, 1900. They were the parents of eight children: Maria, deceased, Samuel J., Franklin P., deceased, James M., Lovina, John W., Caroline, deceased, and Louisa M.

The majority of men who accomplish most in life are self-made men,—the men who are taught the value of industry and perseverance in youth and who exemplify those lessons in the work of life as the years progress. Mr. Kibler of this sketch pursued his education in the common schools of New Washington and in his boyhood days he worked in the tan yard with

his father. In 1873 he purchased an interest in the business and soon after assumed the entire management of the enterprise, owing to his father's ill health. In 1876 his father died and Mr. Kibler continued to manage the business with his mother as a partner until some time in 1881, when she sold her interest to her son John Wesley, and the business has since been continued under the firm name of Kibler Brothers. Soon after his entrance into the firm our subject began dealing in hides on a small scale, but constantly his efforts in this line increased in magnitude and early in the '90s the brothers gave up their tanning business in order to devote their entire time and attention to their rapidly growing trade as dealers in hides. About 1895 they purchased the C. C. Keech Company's hide business in Sandusky City. This was at one time one of the largest fur houses in the northwest, and they now conduct it as a branch house of their business in New Washington. Their trade has rapidly increased both in volume and importance until they are now among the largest dealers in raw hides and tallow in the entire country. They purchase almost all of the hides in Ohio, Indiana and Michigan and almost the entire amount sent to Cleveland. It requires splendid executive ability and skill as a manager to control such extensive interests, but the partners are well qualified and ably direct the important concern with which they are associated.

In April, 1875, Samuel J. Kibler was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Herr, a native of Crawford county and a daughter of George Herr, who for many years was a prominent farmer of Seneca county, but died in New Washington in January, 1892, having removed to the town in the previous December. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Kibler have been born seven children, of whom six are now living: Alfred G., who married Miss Mildred Donnenwirth and is engaged in traveling for his father; Clara O., at home; Milton M., who is attending the Tri-State Business College, of Toledo; Aaron Sylvester, who is a graduate of the New Washington high school; Ida P., who is attending the high school; and Florence E., who is also a student.

In his political affiliations Mr. Kibler is a Democrat and, like his father, he is a firm believer in the cause of education, for which he has done active work while acting on the school board for fifteen consecutive years. For ten or more years he was president of the board and was untiring in his efforts to advance the best educational interests of the town. He was serving on the board at the time the present school building was erected, a structure that stands as a monument to the intelligence and enterprising



efforts of the board and citizens. For three or four terms after his father's death Mr. Kibler served as township treasurer, becoming his father's successor. He has also been a member of the town council. He belongs to the Lutheran church and was a member of the building committee that erected the present handsome church edifice, one of the finest in the country to be found in a village of this size. He has served for many years as trustee and deacon in the church and withholds his co-operation from no measure intended for the general good. Wherever he is found he is a social, affable, genial gentleman whose friends are legion and all honor and esteem him for his many virtues and genuine worth. His record is one of which he may justly be proud. Success is not measured by the heights which one may occupy, but by the distance between the starting point and the altitude he has reached; therefore Mr. Kibler has gained a most brilliant success,—a just reward of meritorious, honorable effort, which commands the respect and admiration of all.

#### GEORGE W. HEINLE.

Prominent among the successful farmer residents of Bucyrus township, who is known and esteemed as one of the industrious and upright citizens, is George W. Heinle, whose birth was in this township, on what is now known as the Ben Sinn farm, on February 18, 1845. His parents were John G. and Maria (Leitz) Heinle, both of whom were born in Wurtembery, Germany, but were married in America, having come to this country on the same vessel. The father was accompanied by his brother, Mathias Heinle, and the mother came with her parents, who settled about one mile north of Bucyrus, where they passed the remainder of their lives. Both of the parents of our subject were about eighteen years old, and the friendship formed on board the ship continued for three years, by which time Mr. Heinle had become established, and then they were married, settling first in Bucyrus township, but soon after purchased land in Holmes township, where they ever after lived. The mother died in 1897, aged seventy-five years, and the father survived until 1899, when he was eighty-one. Their eight children were: Eliza, Francis, George W., Catherine, Mary Ann, John M., Philip and Joseph, all of whom survive. Although Mr. Heinle had but one dollar when he landed in America, he accumulated a fair estate, by the exercise of industry and economy, and was well known as one of the pioneers who did his full share toward the development of the resources of Crawford county. Mr. Heinle was present at the land sale, when the Indians disposed of a vast tract

of land in the northwestern portion of the county. He could relate many very interesting tales of the Indians, who were still numerous when he settled in the county. Both he and wife were consistent and worthy members of the German Lutheran church and were universally respected by all who knew them, and reared a family which has reflected credit, not only upon them, but also on the community. All were reared on the farm, were given a common-school education and taught in the household those principles of honesty and industry which have been useful in their lives until the present day.

George W. Heinle remained at home until he was twenty-six years old, marrying at that age, and then settled down as a farmer, passing the first five years in Holmes township, and then moving to Bucyrus township, where he has since remained. His business in life has always been that of a farmer and stock-raiser and his industrious efforts have been amply rewarded. He now owns a fine, well-improved farm of one hundred and forty-three acres and is able to enjoy all of the comforts of life.

The marriage of Mr. Heinle was to Matilda Zimmerman, a daughter of Martin Zimmerman, a pioneer of Crawford county, coming here from his native place, Wurtemberg, Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Heinle have three children: Susan, Amos and James. Susan married William Traxler, a farmer of Bucyrus township, and Amos married Blanch Mason, and is also a farmer in this township, both of them residing near enough to their parents to be able to enjoy their companionship.

Mr. and Mrs. Heinle are consistent members of the German Lutheran church and are among the most respected residents of the county. In politics Mr. Heinle has always supported the men and measures of the Democratic party, but has never been an office-seeker. All his life he has been frugal and industrious and has honestly earned the comfort which now is his.

#### REV. GEORGE MATHER.

Rev. George Mather is one who has had signal influences in Galion, where, as a minister of the Methodist Episcopal church, he has labored among the people for many years. There often seems a barrier between the representatives of the ministry and the men in business life, but this is not so in the case of Mr. Mather. He is in close touch with the people, has their confidence and regard in an unusual degree and enjoys the warm friendship of many of the residents of this city in all walks of life. He is a native of England, his birth having occurred in Derbyshire, on the 17th of

February, 1832. His grandfather lived to be ninety-six years of age and was never ill. For seventy-six years he was a member of one church. His son, the father of our subject, was a well known resident of his locality in England, where he had charge of railways and mines. In his native land our subject was educated as a civil engineer, after which he was employed in Cambridgeshire and North Wales on the Cambridge & Newmarket and the Chester & Holyhead Railroads. After coming to the United States he spent two years as civil engineer in southern Ohio, in the employ of what is now the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company. His education was completed in the Ohio Wesleyan University, at Delaware, Ohio, with the class of 1858, and for the four succeeding years he was professor of natural science and mathematics in the female department of that institution. On the expiration of that period he began regular ministerial work, but previous to this time had engaged in the preaching of the gospel, entering the ministry at the age of twenty-six years, as a member of the Central Ohio Conference. He has served as presiding elder of the Cleveland district for one term and of the Wooster district for one term, and in his church work he has met with excellent results, witnessing a wonderful growth in Methodism in this state and taking a very active part in promoting the labors of his denomination. In 1881 he came to Bucyrus, as pastor of the Methodist church of this city, remaining there through the full term of three years. In 1886 he was appointed to the church in Galion, where he also remained for three years, and in 1899 he took up his permanent abode in Galion, for his health does not now permit him to engage in active ministerial work. His influence and efforts have been far-reaching and beneficial. He took up his work with zeal and energy, and in the pulpit his words of wisdom and strength, supplemented by eloquence born of the theme and of the occasion, left their impress upon the minds of his hearers, and in a way this has produced much rich fruit.

In 1875 Rev. Mather was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Neal, a native of Knox county, Ohio, born near Fredericktown, and a daughter of the Rev. Thomas Neal, who was a minister of the Methodist Episcopal church and died many years ago. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Mather have been born two children,—Arthur, who is now a lawyer in Seattle, Washington, and Mary, who is successfully engaged in teaching in the schools of Galion.

Mr. Mather yet actively performs his work as a local member of the church, and is a public spirited citizen who is deeply interested in everything pertaining to the progress and welfare of his community. He does not

belong to that class of ministers who, somewhat narrow-minded, feel that they have naught to do with the practical and active interests concerning political life and the duties of citizenship. With a full realization that this life is a preparation for the one to come he believes in performing each duty day by day and joining forces with the work of progress and improvement in all lines. He was elected mayor of Galion April 1, 1901. His high character and honorable purpose win him the good will and confidence of all with whom he is associated, and wherever known his influence is felt on the side of all that is right, true and beneficial.

#### WILLIAM ARBUCKLE.

William Arbuckle, a successful farmer, who for many years has carried on agricultural pursuits in Crawford county, makes his home on sections 15 and 16, Bucyrus township. He was born in Juniata county, Pennsylvania, on the 5th of September, 1832, a son of John and Isabella (Innis) Arbuckle, who were also natives of the same county. The father was of Irish lineage and the mother was of both Irish and Scotch descent. William Arbuckle, the paternal grandfather, was likewise a native of the Keystone state and there followed the occupation of farming. In the state of their nativity the parents of our subject were married and then took up their abode on a farm, where were born unto them three children, one of whom died in infancy, the others being William and James. The last named died in Marion county, Ohio, in 1874. The mother passed away in Pennsylvania, in 1851, at the age of forty years, and in 1853 William Arbuckle came to Ohio, settling in Marion county. The following year he and his father removed to Macon county, Illinois, the father remaining in that state until 1862, when he became a citizen of Bucyrus, which was his place of abode for four years. On the expiration of that period he returned to Pennsylvania, where his death occurred about 1893, when he was eighty-six years of age. He was a second time married, Mary Dobbs becoming his wife.

In the common schools, William Arbuckle of this review, pursued his education and in his early youth he worked on the home farm. Later he was employed by others, but his father received his wages until he had attained his majority. For six years he was employed as a salesman in one store in Pennsylvania. As before stated he came to Ohio in 1853 and for one year engaged in clerking in Marion county, after which he went to Illinois. For seven years he resided in Macon county, that state, and was there engaged in the

stock business, but in 1861 he returned to Marion county, where he again spent a year handling stock. In the spring of 1861 he went to New York with a shipment of stock and was in that city when Fort Sumter was fired upon.

In the spring of 1862, Mr. Arbuckle was united in marriage to Miss Susan Kerr, a daughter of James and Nancy (Towers) Kerr, of Crawford county, Ohio, and then took up his abode upon his present farm in Bucyrus township, where he has now lived for almost forty years. At first the farm comprised one hundred and thirty-five acres, given his wife by her father, and to this he has since added sixty acres; and his wife has a valuable farm of one hundred and twenty acres in Whetstone township, Crawford county. He makes a specialty of sheep-raising and has large flocks of fine sheep. His farm is well improved with modern accessories, indicating his careful supervision and progressive spirit, and the place is characterized by neatness and thrift.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Arbuckle has been blessed with six children: James Franklin, who is living in Cleveland; Elmer, who died when four years of age; Clara, the wife of William Price, of Bucyrus; William L., who was a railroad brakeman and was killed on the road November 28, 1900, leaving a little daughter, Ethel, her mother, who bore the maiden name of Cora Sauer, being also deceased; Grace, the wife of Oscar S. Quaintance, of Whetstone township; and John K., at home. The parents are members of the Christian church, and in his political views Mr. Arbuckle is a Democrat, but he never seeks or desires office, preferring to devote his time and energies to his business affairs, in which he is meeting with creditable and gratifying success. He started out in life on attaining his majority, having no capital to aid him in the commencement of his business career, but by close application, industry, economy and perseverance he has gradually increased his possessions until he is now numbered among the men of affluence in the community.

#### LOUIS K. REISINGER.

This well-known and popular proprietor of a drug store in Galion is also a representative of one of the old pioneer families of the city. He was born here, in 1852, and is a son of Dr. John S. Reisinger, one of the first practicing physicians of this locality. His paternal grandfather, Jacob Reisinger, was a resident of Hanover, Pennsylvania, and married Susanna



Schultz. Among their children was Dr. Reisinger, who was born on the 6th of October, 1811, in Hanover, Pennsylvania. He furthered his education in the Willoughby Medical College, in which he was graduated in 1845, and then continued the practice of medicine, to which he devoted his energies throughout his active business career. In 1832 he came to Galion, being one of the first physicians in the city. For thirty-four years he was a member of the medical fraternity here and throughout a long period was a leader in the line of his chosen calling. His patronage was extensive and of an important character. He was also recognized as a leader of public thought and action. He was twice chosen to represent his district in the state legislature, serving from 1859 until 1862, and he left the impress of his individuality upon the laws that were enacted during that period. He carefully considered each question which came up for discussion and his support was given or withheld from a measure after due reflection. He was one of the founders of the German Reformed church of Galion, took an active part in its work, was known as one of its leaders and long served as one of its trustees. He held membership in the State Medical Society, which he joined in 1819, becoming one of its first representatives. He married Miss Sarah Ditzler, a daughter of Jacob Ditzler, of Hanover, Pennsylvania, the marriage being celebrated on the 13th of December, 1832. They became the parents of the following named children: Samuel D. Reisinger was a student in the Miami Medical College, of Cincinnati, in 1866, and was there taken ill with cholera. His father, Dr. Reisinger, went to that city in order to attend him and both the son and father died of the disease. The son was a member of the One Hundred and Ninety-first Regiment of the Ohio Volunteers in the Civil war, from 1863 to 1865, serving as hospital steward. George Z., the third of the family, spent his entire life in Galion, where for a quarter of a century he was engaged in the hardware business. He died in this city in 1900, at the age of fifty-three years. James P. died in July, 1900, at the age of fifty-one years, being at that time a resident of Kansas City, Missouri, where he was a prominent member of the stock exchange. Homer V. engaged in the practice of dentistry in Galion and died in 1886, at the age of thirty-three years. Sarah E. is the wife of James Leibert, of Pasadena, California; Louis K., of this review; and John, who died at the age of twelve years.

In taking up the personal history of Louis K. Reisinger we present to our readers the record of one who is widely and favorably known in the county. He pursued his education in the schools of Galion and then entered a drug store, where he became familiar with the business. His connection

with this line of trade dates from 1873. He opened a store of his own in 1873 and has since conducted the enterprise with success, it proving very profitable to him. He carries a large and well selected line of drugs and other commodities kept in a first-class establishment of that kind and his trade is constantly and steadily increasing, his business methods commending him to the confidence and patronage of the public.

Mr. Reisinger was united in marriage to Miss White, of Fremont, Ohio, daughter of William B. and S. A. White. Her father served for four years in the Civil war. Their marriage has been blessed with three daughters and a son, namely: Estella, who graduated in the high school of Galion and is now the wife of E. R. Lovett, of Delaware, Ohio; Alice, who was also graduated in the high school; Rollin Ditzler, who completed the high school course and is now associated with his father in business; and Ethel, who is one of the graduates of the Galion high school. The family attend the Presbyterian church, in which Mr. Reisinger holds membership. He is a Democrat in his political affiliations, and socially he is a prominent Mason, belonging to the blue lodge and to the Scottish rite, in which he has attained the thirty-second degree. He is also a member of the Mystic Shrine and the Knights of Pythias fraternity. The cause of education finds in him a warm friend and for fifteen consecutive years he has been a member of the school board, having acted as its secretary since 1900. He is interested in everything pertaining to the welfare of his city and his labors have been of benefit to the public along many lines.

#### REUBEN STAHLEY.

Reuben Stahley is now living in Crestline. He was for many years an active factor in public affairs and his official career is without blemish, for he discharged his duties in a manner at once prompt, capable and trustworthy. He was born in Stark county, Ohio, January 25, 1852, and is descended from Revolutionary stock. His paternal great-grandfather, a native of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, was proprietor of a hotel, which he was conducting at the time the Revolutionary war was inaugurated. The spirit of independence burned strong within him, and when the colonies attempted to throw off the yoke of British tyranny he joined the Pennsylvania troops and served throughout the conflict. He was with Washington in the memorable winter at Valley Forge, where the army suffered untold hardships, but at the same time manifested the spirit of resolution, which was the potent factor in

winning independence for the country. When victory had crowned the army Mr. Stahley returned to his Pennsylvania home, and in connection with general farming he conducted a hotel, remaining in Pennsylvania until his demise. His son, the grandfather of our subject, was born in Lancaster county, that state, and was a clock-maker by trade. He removed to Stark county, Ohio, at an early period in the development of that section of the state and was there engaged in the manufacture of clocks, building up a good trade. His death occurred when he had attained the venerable age of eighty-three years.

Jacob Stahley, the father of our subject, was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, in 1815, and in early life learned the tailor's trade, which he followed through many years. In 1840 he became a resident of Stark county, Ohio, where he conducted a tannery until his removal to Crawford county, making the journey on one of the first trains that ran over the Pennsylvania road. In Crestline he opened its first clothing and tailoring shop and received a liberal patronage from the best class of citizens, his large and constantly increasing business gaining for him a good income. He was also a leader in public thought and action and his opinions carried weight among his friends and neighbors, who, recognizing his ability, called him to public office. For two terms he served as mayor of the city, and his administration was practical, business-like and progressive. He exercised his official prerogatives in support of all measures for the general good and introduced many needed reforms and improvements. He was a member of the board of education and was one of the promoters of the movement which led to the erection of the west school building. He continued to make his home in Crestline until his death, which occurred in 1873. In early manhood he married Rebecca Moser, a native of Pennsylvania, who was born in Berks county, near Reading, whose father was a near relative of Governor Heister, of the Keystone state. Mrs. Stahley's mother, who bore the maiden name of Catherine Ludwig, was also born in Pennsylvania, but spent her last days in Crawford county.

In taking up the personal history of Reuben Stahley we present to our readers the life history of one who is widely and favorably known and whose upright character has commended him to the confidence and good will of all with whom he has been associated. In his boyhood he came to Crawford county and has since been a resident of Crestline. In the public schools here he acquired his primary education, but completed it by a course in the Ohio University, at Delaware, after which he returned to his home and took up

the practical duties of a business career. For fifteen years he was employed by the American Express company at this place and was a trusted representative of that corporation. For four years he was postmaster of the city and for six years he filled the office of county auditor, discharging his duties in a manner that enabled him to retire from the office as he had entered it, with the confidence and good will of all. For twelve years he was a member of the school board and for some time served as its president, the cause of education finding in him a warm friend, who had strict regard for the best interests of the schools, and is at present serving as one of its directors. He was also a member of the county board of school examiners for nine years, and his political support has ever been given to the Democracy, his labors in its behalf being efficient and valuable.

### JACOB LUST.

The farming interests of a country are apt to have great influence in determining the position that country occupies in the world. In a like degree such is the case with a county, and Crawford county, Ohio, is most fortunate in having its agricultural affairs so well looked after. Among those of this county who have become well and, favorably known as excellent farmers able to bring from the soil an abundant harvest, is Jacob Lust, one of the progressive and successful citizens of Holmes township. The birth of Jacob Lust was in Lykens township, in this county, on March 17, 1855, a son of David and Catherine (Yeiter) Lust, and he was one of a family of ten children, all of whom still survive. These are: Jacob; Elizabeth, the wife of William Heiber, of Liberty township; Simon, of Liberty township; Mary, the wife of Philip Cook, of Whetstone township; Noah, of Whetstone township; Sarah, the wife of William Hayden, of Mount Gilead, Ohio; Lydia, the wife of Isaac Stump, of Lykens township; Wesley, of Holmes township; Abe, of Holmes township; and Amos, of Lykens township.

David Lust, the father of our subject, was born in Marion county, Ohio, in 1829, his parents dying when he was still an infant. He was taken by his uncle, Conrad Lust, and was reared through his boyhood by him, earning his own way by working for his relatives. In 1832 the family came to Crawford county, settling in Chatfield township, and here David grew up to manhood and later married a most estimable lady. A tract of Indiana land had been left him, from his parents, and this he exchanged for one hundred and sixty acres, which comprises his farm in Lykens township. Here he set-

tled and has long been one of the successful farmers of the locality. At one time he owned five hundred and six acres, but has recently disposed of one hundred and four acres. His political sympathies make him a Democrat. For a great many years he has been a consistent member of the Methodist church, in which he held office for a lengthened period.

Jacob Lust grew up in his comfortable and happy home and obtained his education in the public schools. In 1880 he was married to Miss Amanda Brown, a native of this township, who was born on the farm where the family now resides. After marriage Mr. Lust began domestic life on one of his father's farms, of one hundred and sixty acres, in Liberty township, and operated it for three years on shares; but in 1884, in partnership with his father, he purchased eighty acres in Bucyrus township and Jacob removed to that farm, residing upon that place until about 1893, when he purchased of his brother-in-law, George W. Brown, one hundred and fourteen acres of his present home farm, which was a portion of the old Brown estate. In the spring of 1900 our subject bought an additional thirty-five acres, making his present farm one hundred and forty-nine acres. This is an estate of which any agriculturist might be proud, well improved and cultivated.

The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Lust numbered six, four of whom survive. Of those deceased, one died in infancy and Effie May died at the age of fifteen years. The others are: Lavern J. D., Leroy L., Leara E. and Gordon R.

The political belief of Mr. Lust retains him in the Democratic party and he has considerable influence through the township. He takes an active interest in educational matters, and for the past four years has acted as school director. In his immediate vicinity, where he is best known, he is most highly esteemed, and ranks as one of the representative men of Holmes township.

### JOHN ENGLISH.

John English has for thirty-eight years been a resident of Galion and is one of its most esteemed and worthy citizens. His father, Samuel English, was a native of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, born in the year 1813, and on leaving the Keystone state took up his abode at Blooming Grove, Richland county, Ohio, about the year 1836. Here, in 1838, he was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Hall, who was a native of Richland county. Their union was blessed with the following children: William Henry, who was



born in 1839 and was killed in a sawmill near Spencerville, in Van Wert county, Ohio, in July, 1870; John, of this review; Mary Ann, who was born in 1842 and is the wife of Robert Park, their home being now in the southern part of Crawford county; Margaret Ann, wife of Freeman L. Corey, of Osceola county, Michigan; Calista Jane, wife of Edward Pangborn, a resident of Leavittsburg, Ohio; Harry L., of Galion; Elizabeth, wife of Henry Boltz, a resident of Wood county, Ohio; Minerva, wife of Adelbert Farnsworth, who is living in Galion; David Allen, of Fayetteville, Missouri; and Nelson Barnett, who is residing with his family at Akron, Ohio. Samuel English, at the age of forty-eight, enlisted in the Fuedelier Regiment, of Chicago, and in two months was discharged, and, returning to Galion, he re-enlisted, in April, 1862, in Company K, Twenty-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and served three years, when he was honorably discharged. He and three sons all came home safe, excepting our subject, who was seriously wounded.

John English was born in Johnsville, Morrow county, Ohio, on the 9th of April, 1840, and throughout his entire life has resided in the Buckeye state. He remained in Blooming Grove until he was ten years of age, and then accompanied his parents on their removal to what was known as the Adam Christman farm, four miles west of Galion. There he aided in the work of field and meadow, performing his share in the labors of the old homestead, and in response to the call of President Lincoln for troops for the defense of the Union, on the 1st of March, 1862, he enlisted as a member of Company D, Twenty-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry. At the battle of Antietam, on the 17th of September of that year, he was seriously wounded in the leg and the following month the member was amputated. In consequence of this serious loss which he had sustained, he was unable to do active service and was honorably discharged on the 3d of March, 1863, and returned to his home. For ten years after the war he was in the employ of the Erie and Big Four Railroad Companies and for twelve years following his retirement from railway service he acted as notary public in Crawford county. At the present time he is engaged in the confectionery business in Galion, where he has a large and well-selected stock, his store being neat and attractive in appearance. He is enjoying a liberal patronage and his business is constantly increasing.

Mr. English has been twice married. In Galion, on the 18th of November, 1870, he married Miss Maria Noblet and unto them were born five children, but only one is now living, Anna May Burgener, now a resident of Galion. After the death of his first wife Mr. English wedded Miss Mary C.

West, a daughter of Montreville West, who resided at Marsailles, Wyandot county, Ohio, where he died in the year 1857. For thirty-eight years he has been a continuous resident of Galion and is a citizen of sterling worth, who commands and enjoys the respect and confidence of his fellow men by reason of his fidelity to duty, and he is in the highest and best sense of the term a gentleman, courteous in manner and in his own home is considerate and hospitable. He made for his country a great sacrifice and therefore is entitled to the everlasting gratitude of the nation for the part which he performed in preserving the Union.

#### REUBEN O. MORGAN.

Reuben O. Morgan is one of the native sons of Galion, his birth having occurred in this city on the 2d of September, 1873. His father, George Morgan, was born in Webster, Darke county, Ohio, and is now a resident of Bellefontaine, Ohio, being employed as a passenger engineer by the Big Four Railroad Company. In the city schools of Galion the subject of this review pursued his education until sixteen years of age, when he entered the service of the Big Four Railroad Company. After a year he was promoted to the position of telegraph operator and acted in that capacity until 1896, when he resigned the office in order to engage in the coal business in Galion. He dealt in that commodity until 1898, when he was appointed superintendent of the Galion Gas Light Company, in which capacity he is still serving. Every business change which he has made has been a promotion, with increasing responsibility and increasing income. These attest the merit of the man and his advancement is a deserved tribute to his inherent worth. As the manager of the Galion Gas Light Company he has shown himself to be a man of superior executive force, keen discrimination and sound judgment, and the enterprise is meeting with prosperity under his care.

In 1895 Mr. Morgan was joined in wedlock to Miss Grace Bryan, a native of Galion, and they now have a pleasant home in the city, which is celebrated for its charming and gracious hospitality.

#### HERMAN HENRY HARTMAN, M. D.

In the subject of this review we have one who has attained distinction in the line of his profession. He has been an earnest and discriminating student, and he holds a position of due relative precedence among the medical

practitioners of this section of Ohio. He is now successfully practicing in Galion, where he has a large and distinctively representative patronage.

The Doctor is a native of this city, his birth having here occurred in 1869, his parents being A. H. and Catherine (Bohl) Hartman. For forty years the father has been engaged in business as a druggist of this city and is one of the most prominent representatives of commercial interests here. He is a native of Germany, whence, in early life, he came to America. His wife was born in Polk township, Crawford county, a daughter of Henry Bohl, one of the honored pioneers of that township, now deceased. He, too, was a native of the fatherland, and on coming to the new world cast in his lot with the early settlers of this portion of Ohio. The Doctor pursued his preliminary education in the common schools, and supplemented his studies there by a course in the Capital University, at Columbus. Determining to make the practice of medicine his life work, he began study in Columbus, and was graduated at the Columbus Medical College with the class of 1890. He afterward pursued a post-graduate course in the polyclinic of New York, completing his studies there in 1893. He then began practice in Jacksonville, Ohio, where he remained until 1896, when he returned to Galion. He has been very successful in following his chosen calling, his success resulting from his skill and ability, his comprehensive knowledge of the principles of medical science and his correct methods in applying remedies to relieve the suffering of his fellow men. As the years have passed his patronage has steadily increased in volume and importance, and he has kept in touch with the advanced thought and progress of the day.

Dr. Hartman has always been quite prominent in public affairs. While residing in Jacksonville he was a candidate of the Democracy in 1895 for the office of representative in the state legislature. He was also elected mayor of Jacksonville, and was filling that position at the time of his removal to Galion, resigning in order to take up his abode in the latter city. He is now serving his second term as health officer of Galion, and since 1898 he has been city physician. His political support has ever been given to the Democracy and he takes an active interest in its work, laboring untiringly and effectively for the adoption of its principles and the election of its candidates.

Dr. Hartman was united in marriage to Miss Effie L. Woodworth, of Athens county, Ohio, a daughter of C. Woodworth, a merchant, who is now deceased. Their marriage has been blessed with two interesting little daughters,—Mary and Alma. The Doctor is connected with the German Lutheran

church. He and his wife enjoy the high regard of many friends in Galion, and the circle is constantly increasing as their acquaintance is widened. He is a gentleman of strong mentality, marked individuality and sterling worth, and his prominence in his chosen profession is a merited tribute to his indefatigable labor and ability.

#### STEPHEN R. HARRIS.

Hon. Stephen R. Harris, who was born on his father's farm seven miles west of Massillon, Ohio, May 22, 1824, sprang from patriotic stock. His grandfather was John Harris and his paternal grandmother Mary Hamilton. The former was a soldier in the army of Washington and distinguished himself at the battle of Monmouth, where his brother-in-law, John Hamilton, was killed beside him.

The subject of this biography worked on the farm and attended district school until fourteen years of age, when he started out for himself. He was employed as a clerk in a store at Canal Fulton, Stark county, about four years, attended a select school at Dalton, taught by John W. Rankin, afterward a distinguished lawyer and a partner at Keokuk, Iowa, of the late Justice Miller, of the United States supreme court. In 1842 he was a student in the preparatory department of Washington College, Pennsylvania, which institution recently conferred upon him the honorary degree of Master of Arts. In 1843 and 1844 he studied in Norwalk Seminary, under the late Edward Thomson, bishop of the Methodist Episcopal church. For the next two years he was a student in the classical department of the Western Reserve College, at Hudson. In the winter of 1846-7 he taught school at Canal Fulton.

Having by this time acquired a liberal education through his own unaided and persistent efforts, he entered upon the study of law in the office of his uncle, John Harris, a pioneer lawyer of ability, at Canton. After reading under instruction for two years he was admitted to the bar in the spring of 1849, and on the 14th day of June of that year opened an office for practice at Bucyrus. From that time to the present, more than half a century, he has continued to practice at the same place. He became the law partner of the late Judge Josiah Scott in 1850, and the partnership was continuous until the death of the latter in 1879, except for the period of Judge Scott's service on the state supreme bench. Mr. Harris served as deputy United States marshal and member of the county military committee during



*Stephen R. Harris*





the war. He was elected, in 1894, to represent his district, which has been strongly Democratic, in the fifty-fourth congress of the United States, and was the candidate of his party for re-election in 1896, but the free-silver sentiment and fusion of the Populists were sufficiently strong to defeat the ticket. Mr. Harris has been a Republican ever since the organization of the party, and prior to that was a Whig.

He has, however, given his chief thought to the duties of his profession, and has for years stood in the fore front of practitioners in Crawford county. His reading is deep and broad; he is successful in the trial of cases, and remarkably successful in the argument of cases before the supreme court. It has become proverbial in the bar where he is well known that if Mr. Harris has the slightest ground for appeal or error to the higher courts his adversary may as well give up at once, because he nearly always wins in the appellate court. He holds the esteem of his brethren at the bar and the confidence of the courts. His methods are such as to commend themselves to the best and most respected members of the profession. He also stands well in the highest political circles, and his personal popularity rests upon merit.

He was married September 15, 1853, to Miss Mary Jane Monett, who died in 1888, leaving two sons and two daughters, offspring of the union.

He has been very successful as a financier, and as a result is a man of large possessions. He is quite an extensive landed proprietor in the state of Ohio and Iowa. As an amateur sportsman he is a frequent contributor to the Turf, Field and Farm, and Forest and Stream. Now, over seventy-five years of age, he is an excellent shot on the wing, either in the open or from the trap.

Mr. Harris was one of the original members of the State Bar Association, and has been an active member from the beginning, serving as president of the association in 1894. He is now chairman of the committee on legal biography. As a public speaker he is clear, logical and convincing, rather than eloquent. He entertains decided views on all question of political importance or popular interest. The following is an extract from his annual address delivered in 1894, before the Ohio State Bar Association, of which he was then president:

#### STRIKES.

"Another topic I approach with diffidence, for the reason that no expression has been uttered on the subject by our Association. What the views of our members here assembled may be are unknown to me, but I

cannot refrain from expressing my own feelings and convictions, whether they be acceptable to this Association or not. I allude to the growing state of anarchy to which our beloved republic is rapidly drifting under the unchecked growth of communism, which takes the specious form and name of so-called strikes. Thousands upon thousands of laborers have had ample employment with good living wages, on the railroads, in the mines and manufacturing establishments of our country. On the other hand there are triple the number of honest laborers in miscellaneous pursuits, uncertain in their nature, liable to fluctuate in wages and of uncertain duration, such as the common day laborer. The latter class may well envy the miner, the railroader and the factory hand. They would gladly change places for the same wages, but what state of things confront them? They are met and repulsed by strikers, who voluntarily go out themselves and refuse to permit the other laborers to take their places.

"Here we see the work of the seditious demagogues with political aspirations and a burning desire for notoriety. With incendiary eloquence they seek to embitter labor against capital, when they well know that labor and capital are mutually dependent on each other. They tell the laborers, who are the strongest numerically, that they are abused and oppressed by their employers, at times when the laborers are well compensated and contented. They incite discontent and resentments where none existed before. They arouse the dormant passions and cupidity of the laborer. They frame and formulate organizations and societies for them, and incite them to strike down and ruin their benefactors. They dupe their followers with the doctrine that capitalists and corporations are powerful and oppressive, but fail to tell the other truth that a host of hostile and unreasonable laborers are also oppressive and dangerous. The result is that they have prevented the running of railroad trains, they have tied the hands of property owners, they have closed factories and they have shut up coal mines on which private families, factories, railroads and steamers on our navigable waters depend for fuel. They have impeded the carrying of mails and have inflicted untold injury, either directly or indirectly, upon every business pursuit.

"For the vacant position of every striker there are three equally honest laborers with families in need of their earnings, who are ready and willing to go to work, but the horde of strikers, under the instructions of designing leaders, sullenly and forcibly repulse every non-union laborer who ventures to start the train, to open the mine or set the idle machinery to running in the

factory, and that to the extent of assassination, if necessary, to carry the point. There can be a tyranny of labor as well as a tyranny of capital.

“Suppose a change of places. Imagine an employer who would discharge a laborer and at the same time say to him, ‘I will neither give you employment nor permit you to work for anybody else.’ The same designing and insidious leader who first inaugurated a strike would be ready to turn around and incite the rich against the poor, if he could thereby obtain political power and notoriety. A demagogue in a republic and a courtier in a monarchy are the same. They both fawn and flatter the governing power for the sake of personal gain and notoriety. The designing orator and demagogue who incite a happy and contented class of well paid laborers, as well as the poor who are out of employment, to mutiny against their employers and benefactors; who make inflammatory speeches to convince them that the rich have no other designs than to crush the poor, deserves to be classed with the bloody anarchist and should, like him, be stamped out by the government for its own protection. The organized strikers compose less than one-third of the laboring men of the United States, and of them a considerable majority are foreigners. Our land has been latterly made the receptacle into which foreign nations have dumped their paupers and criminals. The honest, intelligent, industrious, law-abiding foreigner will, in the future, as in the past, be welcome to our shores. We see the neatness and thrift of the Germans, who have clad these lovely islands with their vines, and, like Werhle, have beautified them with structures. I allude to these people only in words of praise, but, unhappily, statistics show that class of immigration to be on the wane, and in their stead we are flooded with dangerous criminals like the Italian bandit, born with a stiletto in his hand.

“This republic has been kind to the laboring man. Political parties have vied with each other as to which could best promote his interests. Under congressional legislation the Chinese, with their cheap labor, have been excluded in the interest of the American laboring man. The construction of the Union Pacific Railroad was completed by Chinese labor, and the same class can live, work and thrive on wages that would starve an American laborer and his family. Hence they have been excluded purely for the benefit of compensatory wages for Americans.

“The legislature of Ohio has enacted laws peculiarly beneficial to the laboring classes. It protects wages against the homestead and other exemptions of the debtor. It gives them priority over all others in case of their employers’ failure. It gives them mechanics’ and workmen’s liens on struc-

tures of all kinds, and our courts construe all those laws liberally in the interests of the mechanics and laborers whose work is in the structures. I would go farther: I would have our legislature and our courts protect the honest laborer, who, seeking employment, finds a vacant place with an employer ready and willing to set him to work, but finds himself met, halted and threatened, not by the owner of the property, but by a striker who has vacated the position, stopped the business, depreciated the property of his former employer and now forbids a fellow citizen to work when his services are needed and the wages offered are satisfactory. It becomes at this point an issue, not between employer and employe, but it is the oppression of one class of laborers against another class. It is the tyranny of those who abandon their work and deprive other worthy and needy laborers of employment. It presents the spectacle of an unreasonable and tyrannical class of laborers arrayed against another and less favored class seeking employment.

"Personally, I am not interested in the conflict between the strikers and their employers. I allude to it without personal feeling for either class. In fact I have a friendly feeling for the laboring man. 'I have been there myself.' The first money I ever earned for myself was by chopping wood for forty cents a cord. I have a sympathy with the laboring man, and especially for one who is out of employment and kept out by another. I have no especial affection for an unreasonable capitalist. I am not in love with George M. Pullman. I have on sundry occasions 'blowed in' two of the silver dollars of our fathers for the privilege of a sleep in one of his cars. I have also helped enable him to pay his taxes and keep up his style of living by adding the tribute of a quarter of a dollar toward the wages of his colored porter. We have all done the fair thing by George. In fact we have been liberal toward him almost to a fault: consequently he has no preferred lien on our affections. The state of our feelings, however, has little to do with the subject under consideration. The constitution of our own state as well as the federal constitution is broad enough to support appropriate legislation to remedy these evils: to practically afford equal and exact protection to the poor against the rich; to protect the property of the rich against mob violence; and, what appears to be more needed at the present time, to afford protection to one class of laborers against the tyranny of another class.

#### THE MISSION OF LAWYERS.

"In all the political history of our country, when emergencies have arisen, lawyers were depended on to guide legislation, to frame treaties and to



draft acts of legislature so that they might be in conformity of law. De Tocqueville, that accurate and sagacious observer of our country, as early as 1835, wrote these remarkable words: 'I cannot believe that a republic could subsist at the present time if the influence of lawyers in public business did not increase in proportion to the power of the people.' Thirty of the fifty-five members of the convention which framed the federal constitution were lawyers, and all of those who put it in proper legal shape were lawyers. Of all the United States senators since 1787 two-thirds have been lawyers, and of the entire number of representatives more than one-half were lawyers.

"While it is true that men of other vocations have been useful and perhaps indispensable as legislators, because of their knowledge and experience in the various wants, industries and business interests of the country, yet upon the lawyers rested and still rests the responsibility of framing laws to meet and protect those wants and business interests, that they may stand when contested in the courts. Ludicrous results sometimes appear when the work of lawyers is left out. In Kansas at one time the people sat down on the lawyers and elected a granger legislature. The session laws of that year subsequently faded away like mists when they came before the courts. In one circuit they elected a granger judge who was down on lawyers. He refused to render decrees for the foreclosure of mortgages, giving as a reason that times were too hard and no foreclosures could be had in his court until times improved. In one case the supreme court rendered a decree of foreclosure and sent a mandate to the granger's court, but the same judge refused to obey the mandate, refused to carry the judgment into execution and was, I believe, attached for contempt by the supreme court. In Iowa they had a similar experience as to the transitory character of granger legislation. A joke was once scored against the legislature of Ohio, when, by the act of March 11, 1875, they made it unlawful to spear fish through the ice between the 1st of May and the 1st of September. A similar joke came near passing into our last legislature when an act went through one house which empowered a justice of the peace to appoint receivers for railroad companies who failed to pay the squire's judgment with due promptness.

"My friends, the longer I have practiced law the more do I learn to admire the profession to which I have the honor to belong. A lawyer devoted to his profession has little other thought than to study his cases in the interest of his clients. He seldom stops to reflect upon his calling or view it from an outside standpoint. A bar association with its periodical meetings has a beneficial tendency to relax his labors for the time being, and to afford

him the opportunity to exchange views with his fellow members of the legal profession when they are met together socially, and not in the heat of litigation at the bar. Upon the lawyer rests the responsibility of managing and directing the highest and most important business interests, the rights of persons, the rights of property, including in many instances the domestic relations. When I speak of lawyers I have no reference to that small class who have crept into our profession, who grovel in the dregs of dishonorable practice, the shysters,—a set of turkey buzzards, whose touch is pollution and whose breath is pestilence. To such a class drifts dishonest litigation. If a man has a crooked case he naturally hunts a crooked lawyer to manage it. I desire on the contrary to bring my tribute to the higher class of our profession. I mean the honorable, conscientious lawyer, who has many important privileges conferred upon him, and who in turn has many important duties to perform. He acts with fidelity to his client and with courtesy to the court, gives all the light and aid he can to honorably advance the interests of his client. He discourages useless and discreditable litigation. He investigates his client's cause and promptly tells him if it be true that he cannot defend or recover, as the case may be, and advises a settlement or compromise. While such a lawyer may forego a fee for the time being he will build up a reputation for honesty that will ultimately flood him with business of a meritorious character, in which he himself will have confidence. On such a lawyer will the business man rely, when complications arise and his property is in jeopardy. To him will the testator in contemplation of death send to write his last will and testament. On him will the widow and orphan depend when designing men seek to deprive them of their patrimony, and the lawyer who would prove false to such a trust, and himself become the robber, deserves to be expelled from the bar in his lifetime after his death go where the worm dieth not and fire is not quenched,—and that, too, without any obituary notice by our committee on legal biography.

“Everything a lawyer acquires in the practice of his profession he deserves, because he has earned it. Every step that he makes is in the face of tenacious opposition. His progress is contested inch by inch. His life is one of mental conflict. The other learned professions, in the acquisition of which the student burns his midnight oil in school or college, are not so. The pastor's sermon is an *ex parte* production. The physician prescribes to his patients in secret and without opposition; if he makes a mistake the world is none the wiser; but when the lawyer takes a false position or makes a mistake it is in the glare of the light. He is detected and exposed in public

and suffers humiliation and perhaps defeat. ' Therefore, I repeat, that the lawyer who succeeds in the face of incessant and unyielding opposition deserves all he has gained. In conclusion, my friends, I propose to you this sentiment: There is no more exalted human character than the man of our profession who has rounded up a life of industry as an honest and successful lawyer."

### JOHN WESLEY KIBLER.

Throughout the years of his business career John Wesley Kibler has resided in New Washington and has won success by his untiring labor, his ambition, his energy and well directed efforts and is to-day the possessor of a handsome competence and a beautiful home. His name is the synonym for honorable dealings in trade circles and he enjoys an unassailable reputation by reason of his fidelity to the strictest ethics which govern commercial life.

Mr. Kibler was born in New Washington, June 28, 1859, and is a son of Matthias and Frederica (Pfahler) Kibler, whose life history is given at length in connection with the sketch of Samuel Jefferson Kibler, on another page of this work. No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of the life of our subject in his boyhood, play, work and study occupied his attention. He attended the common schools of the town and from early youth assisted in the work of the farm and the tan yard. At the age of eighteen years he entered the business house then owned by his brother and mother, who were proprietors of the business which his father had established. Soon after attaining his majority he purchased his mother's interest in the enterprise and the firm name was changed to Kibler Brothers, under which title operations have been since carried on. During the intervening years the business has increased to one of mammoth proportions, the partners being now the owners of one of the largest hide houses in the country. During the first ten years of his connection with the firm Mr. Kibler was upon the road as traveling representative, but since that time he has largely remained in the house in control of some of the important branches of the concern.

Our subject exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the Democratic party and has served as corporation clerk for six years. He takes a deep interest in the growth and success of his party and at various times has been a delegate to county and state conventions.

He is likewise a member of the Lutheran church, is a man of pleasing address, courteous in manner, unflinching principle and unquestioned integrity and yet withal having that practical common sense, which never runs to extremes and it is no wonder that wherever he goes he wins friends. His life has been well spent and his honorable and useful career is worthy of emulation.

#### REV. JOHN P. KUNNERT.

Devoting his life to the spread of the Gospel as a priest of the Catholic church, Rev. John P. Kunnert is now in charge of the congregation in New Washington. He was born in Mandercagne, in the grand duchy of Luxembourg, on the 27th of October, 1856, his parents being Henry and Magdalen (Scheuerens) Kunnert. The father was born in 1823, in the same house in which occurred the birth of our subject, the property having descended through the eldest sons of the family from generation to generation. Through a long period representatives of the name have been farmers and breeders of fine stock, and for a number of years the father received more premiums at fairs for thoroughbred horses and cattle than any other one man. He brought his stock up to a very high standard of perfection and his labors were of benefit to the locality in which he resided, for he greatly improved the grade of stock raised and therefore increased its market value. On numerous occasions he was chosen to act as judge at stock shows. His death occurred August 21, 1900. His wife, who also was born in the village where his birth occurred, first opened her eyes to the light of day in 1825 and represented one of the old families of farming people in that locality. She is still living and is also an excellent judge of horses. Since her husband's death she has managed the business, and her opinion is considered authority on stock. Mr. and Mrs. Kunnert were the parents of seven children, of whom six are living, namely: Margaret, now the wife of Jacob Keifer; Nicholas; Mary A.; John N., a railroad contractor in the employ of the Big Four Company at Cleveland, Ohio; Peter; and John P., of this review.

In taking up the personal history of Father Kunnert we note that he remained with his parents until his fifteenth year, when, in 1871, he entered the government commercial college at Ettelbrick, Luxembourg, where he was graduated in the spring of 1874. Subsequently he went to Belgium and entered the Petit Seminary, an ecclesiastical college at Bostogne, Belgium, where he remained for five years. On the expiration of that period he went

to France and for two and a half years was a student at Luxeuil les Bains, being in the Petit Seminary in the province of Haute Saone; from that place he returned to Belgium Seminary and studied philosophy, continuing in that institution for a year and completing his course there in the fall of 1882.

Father Kunnert then came to America and made his way to Wyandot county, Ohio, to visit some relatives, who were living in the town of Kirby. After some months there passed he went to Cleveland and entered St. Mary's Theological Seminary, where he continued until the spring of 1886. A week after he left the institution he went to Upper Sandusky and said his first mass. He was soon afterward given charge of the Catholic church in Harrisburg, Stark county, and also had charge of a mission, known as Maximo Mission, remaining there until December, 1888, when he was transferred to St. Peter's church in Cleveland, where he remained fifteen months. In the spring of 1890 he returned to his first charge in Stark county, acting as pastor at that place until September, 1899, when he was called to New Washington. In each church he has been handicapped by heavy debts, but these he has cleared away and on leaving the churches has left money in the treasury. He is most earnest and untiring in his labors in behalf of his people and ministers to their spiritual needs with marked devotion. In connection with the church at New Washington he superintends the Honey Creek Mission at Auburn.

Father Kunnert has inherited his father's love for a good horse and now has a mare in his stables whose sire was a brother of Star Pointer. In manner Rev. Kunnert is genial, kindly and courteous and wins friends wherever he goes, and at the same time he fully sustains the dignity of his high and holy office.

#### WILLIAM HAYS.

One of the prominent and leading citizens of Galion, Ohio, who passed away during the closing decade of the last century was William Hays, who was born in Connecticut in 1820 and died at Galion in 1896.

Mr. Hays' early boyhood was spent in hard work, from which he could spare little time to acquire an education. His only text-books were the spelling book and that revered book, the Bible, but he read widely and diligently and while yet a very young man had the reputation of being exceptionally well informed, and his practical knowledge of business affairs enabled him, when he came to Ohio, to take a lead in matters of finance and to advise his associates ably concerning important commercial interests.



When Mr. Hays was about twenty-six years of age he met Mrs. Susan Black, formerly Miss Seager, of Syracuse, New York, who became his wife. Soon after his marriage he came to Wooster, Wayne county, Ohio, where he lived for a time. From Wooster he removed to Ashland county, Ohio, where he remained until 1857, and after living in Morrow county, Ohio, two years, took up his residence at Galion, in 1859, where during the remainder of his life he was prominently identified with leading business interests of different kinds. He was one of the original incorporators of the First National Bank of Galion, Ohio, established in 1864, with which important financial institution he was connected for twenty-two years. Afterward he became identified with the management of the Galion National Bank, with which he was associated until his death.

Mr. Hays has often been referred to as "one of the bright stars that the New England states have given to the financial and monetary interests of the state." His popularity and his position as a useful and prominent member of society were well attested in a series of resolutions that were adopted by the joint meeting of the Bankers' Association, of which Hon. J. W. Coulter was chairman, in which a glowing tribute was paid to Mr. Hays, not only as a financier, but as a patriotic, public-spirited man who had always had at heart the best interests of Galion.

#### GEORGE T. KERR.

This well known citizen of Crawford county is one of the largest sheep-raisers in Ohio and has been largely instrumental in improving the grade of stock raised in the state. His efforts have therefore been of public benefit, for the improvement of stock adds to its market value, and the wealth of the agricultural class is thereby augmented. The rich pasture lands of this portion of Ohio provide excellent opportunities to the sheep-raiser, and this industry has become an important one in the commercial interests of the state. Mr. Kerr is one of its leading representatives,—a progressive, energetic business man, capably controlling extensive interests which have made him widely known.

Mr. Kerr is a son of James and Nancy (Towers) Kerr and was born on the home farm in Whetstone township, December 13, 1847. He spent his youth there and pursued his education in the country schools. In 1869, after attaining his majority, he married Lydia Echleberry, a native of Pennsylvania and for two years thereafter engaged in agricultural pursuits in

Whetstone township. He then took up his residence in Bucyrus township where he now resides. Here he owns four hundred and thirty acres of fine farming land, and with the exception of about forty acres the entire amount is under cultivation and the improvements are most modern. There is a fine frame house built in attractive design and nicely furnished; a good barn, substantial outbuildings and the latest improved machinery for facilitating the work of the farm. He also owns two hundred acres of land in Marion county. He is perhaps the largest sheep-raiser of the county, having about twelve hundred head. In addition he raises other kinds of stock and is also an extensive farmer.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Kerr has been blessed with eight children, namely: Cloyd, who died at the age of seventeen years; Burtie, at home; James, who died at the age of eight years; Elnora, wife of Charles Hoover, a farmer of Bucyrus township; Bevie May, Clementine, Ava and Walter J. The family is one of prominence in the community, and the members of the household have many warm friends. In his political views Mr. Kerr is a Republican. He has spent his entire life in this county and that many who have known him from boyhood are numbered among his warmest friends is unmistakable evidence of the upright life which he has led. He is well known in business circles for his promptness, trustworthiness and energy and thus he maintains a foremost position among the representative agriculturists of the state.

### JOSEPH SCHILL.

The industrial interests of Crestline are well represented by this gentleman, who is now the president and treasurer of Schill Brothers Company. He is a wide-awake, progressive and enterprising business man, whose close application, perseverance and resolute will have enabled him to advance steadily to a leading position among the most prominent business men of Crawford county. He was born in Sharon township, Richland county, Ohio, December 4, 1862. His father, George Schill, is a native of Germany, and in 1833 came to the United States, locating upon a farm in Richland county, Ohio, where he remained until 1892, when he came to Crawford county. For a number of years he engaged in the operation of a sawmill. In early life he became a stationary engineer and is now acting in that capacity in the factory owned and controlled by his sons.

Joseph Schill was the second child and came to Crawford county in 1875,

at the age of thirteen years, and entered upon his business career as an employe in the store of L. Schick, a grocer. He was employed as a salesman for some time, but at length embarked in business on his own account, in connection with his brother, as a dealer in hardware. They equipped their store with a large and well selected stock of goods and carried on a successful business until 1892, when they organized the Schill Brothers Furnace & Range Company, which was organized in 1900, with a capital stock of one hundred thousand dollars, Joseph Schill being president and treasurer. This is one of the leading industrial concerns of Crestline, employing about eighty men throughout the entire year. They began operations on a small scale, but their sales have continually increased and in the present year have almost doubled those of the year just passed. Their products are shipped to nearly every state in the Union, from the Atlantic to the Pacific coast and from the great lakes to the gulf of Mexico. The success of the business is largely due to the capable management and keen sagacity of Joseph Schill. Four men are continually employed on the road to introduce and sell their goods to the merchants, and they also have distributing points at Minneapolis, Minnesota; Denver, Colorado; and St. Louis, Missouri; Topeka and Lawrence, Kansas; and other points.

Mr. Schill was united in marriage, in August, 1891, to Miss Maggie Koendere, a native of Cleveland, Ohio.

#### OLIVER J. KELLER.

Prominent in Liberty township is Oliver J. Keller, a progressive and representative business citizen of Crawford county and a member of the mercantile firm of O. & C. Keller, of Sulphur Springs. Mr. Keller was born in Northampton county, Pennsylvania, on July 28, 1843, and was a son of Joseph and Lovina (Kline) Keller, the former of whom was born in Northampton county, Pennsylvania, about 1823, and was a son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Shook) Keller, both also natives of Northampton county. In the spring of 1857 Jacob Keller, the grandfather of our subject, came to Crawford county and bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Sandusky township, and also one of eighty acres in Liberty township, making his home on the first tract, with his son, Joseph, residing there several years, and then removed to a property which he purchased in the village of Sulphur Springs, and upon which he resided until his death.

Joseph Keller, the father of our subject, came to Crawford county in

1857 with his father, and after some years of residence on the Sandusky township farm, purchased it and continued to live there until 1876, when he rented it to his son, Josiah, since deceased, and removed to Sulphur Springs, where he lived until his death, in 1891. In politics he was a Democrat in his earlier years, but the issues of the Civil war caused him to change and ever after he supported the Republican party. Through the greater part of his life he was an active member of the Reformed church, filling many of its offices, and was one of the most worthy citizens of the community.

The mother of our subject was born in Pennsylvania, about 1825, and was a daughter of Jacob Kline, also a native of Pennsylvania, of German origin, who was one of the prominent farmers of Northampton county, where he passed his whole life. The death of the mother was in July, 1899. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Keller numbered eleven, the four survivors being: Oliver, of this sketch; Jeremiah, a painter residing in Easton, Pennsylvania; Rev. Reuben, a Reformed minister residing in White Pigeon, Michigan; and Albert D., a professor in Heidelberg University at Tiffin, Ohio.

Oliver J. Keller grew up in a moral and happy home. His education was pursued in the common schools. At the breaking out of the Civil war he offered his services to his country, enlisting on August 15, 1861, in Company C, Forty-ninth Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and was assigned to the Army of the Cumberland, and hence took part in these never-to-be-forgotten battles: Shiloh, Stone River, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, Nashville and Franklin, and went through the Atlanta campaign,—in fact took part in almost all of the important operations of that brave and gallant part of the Union army. At the battle of Stone River he was taken prisoner, on December 31, 1862, and was incarcerated in Castle Thunder and Libby prison for some thirty days. For the following five months he was on parole, his exchange taking place some time in May, when he returned to his command, finally receiving his discharge at Victoria, Texas, in the latter part of November, 1865, but did not reach home until on January 1, 1866.

After his return from the army Mr. Keller accepted a position as clerk in the mercantile establishment of A. Fry & Company, of Sulphur Springs, and remained in this capacity for two years, at the end of which period he purchased an interest in the business of J. H. Biddle & Company, of this place. Some years later the firm was merged into the firm of Scott & Keller, but several years afterward Mr. Keller sold his interest to his partner, Mr. A. J. Scott, and shortly after that purchased an interest in the business of Kloppenstein & Company. Some time later the interest of Mr. Kloppenstein was bought

by C. A. Keller, who became a partner of our subject, and since that time the firm has been O. & C. Keller. During the intervening years the industry and ability of these partners have resulted in the building up of an immense trade, and they are justly considered important factors in the mercantile business in Crawford county.

Mr. Keller is a staunch Republican, and has long been an active member of the Reformed church, holding many of the offices in it and supporting it liberally. Socially he is connected with the G. A. R. Mr. Keller is unmarried, but takes a prominent position in the social as well as business life of Sulphur Springs.

#### FRED NEWMAN.

Fred Newman, an attorney at law and justice of the peace of Crestline, is one who has attained a prominent and enviable position as a leading business man of Crestline entirely through his own efforts. Without any extraordinary family or pecuniary advantages to aid him he has successfully coped with adverse fate and by determined purpose has worked his way steadily upward. He was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, January 21, 1839, and there remained until thirteen years of age, during which time he pursued his education in the schools of his native country. In 1852 he started for America, coming alone as a passenger on the sailing vessel, which was fifty-four days upon the water. While on the passage he engaged in cooking and from the wages which he received he managed to save twenty-five dollars, which was the amount of capital which he possessed when he arrived at Baltimore, Maryland. From that city he made his way to Laurel Factory, where he engaged in clerking in a store for a short time, after which he went to Annapolis, Maryland, where he occupied a clerkship in a general mercantile establishment.

In 1854 Mr. Newman arrived in Crestline, after having spent a few months in Leesville, Ohio. He was employed as a salesman in a store belonging to his uncle, John Newman, who was one of the pioneers of the county, and he remained in his service until 1866. He desired, however, to enter professional life, and when about nineteen years of age, he took up the study of law, which he continued as occasion offered until he was prepared for admission to the bar. He was licensed to practice at Mount Gilead, Ohio, in 1868, and immediately afterward opened his office in Crestline, where he has since remained. The profession of law is one in which attainment must de-



pend upon individual merit; it cannot come from the aid of birth or influential friends. The lawyer must prepare, plead and win his first case and continue to advance through merit and ability resulting from a comprehensive knowledge of the principles of jurisprudence and a correct application of the law to the points of the case in litigation. Mr. Newman is always painstaking and careful in his preparation of the case and before the court and jury he is a logical reasoner, basing his arguments on facts with clearness and force. For a number of years he was city solicitor of Crestline and in 1895 was elected justice of the peace, a position which he yet holds. Success has attended his efforts and in addition to the large practice which he retains he is the owner of a fine business block, the rental from which adds materially to his income.

In 1868 Mr. Newman was united in marriage to Miss Emma T. Smith, a native of Wayne county, Ohio, and unto them have been born three daughters and one son: Florence, now the wife of William Moss, a resident of Utah; Eleanora, who resides in Jacksonville, Florida, and is the widow of Henry E. Bosworth, who was killed at Bristol, Tennessee, in July, 1897; Edna, a resident of New York city; and Earl, who is studying law with his father. Mr. Newman is a member of the Presbyterian church at Crestline and his family attend its services. Since 1862 he has been an exceptionally valuable member of the Masonic fraternity and for about the same time he has been a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of which he has been secretary for a number of years. He takes an active interest in promoting the work of these organizations and is a true follower of their benevolent teachings. He gives his support to the Democracy and is unswerving in his allegiance to the principles of the party.

A self-educated and self-made man the work that he has accomplished in life is certainly creditable. He is public-spirited in an eminent degree: national progress and local advancement are both causes dear to the heart of this adopted and thoroughly loyal son of the Republic. His devotion to the country is above question, and no native son of America is more true to her institutions or more faithful to his duties of citizenship.

#### PHILIP KELLER.

Joseph Keller, ancestor of the Keller family of America, was one of one hundred and eighty passengers, who came to this country in the fall of 1737 from Rotterdam, Holland, in the ship "William," landing October 31.

His father, who had died when the boy was young, had been a Roman Catholic; his mother was a Protestant. Joseph was nineteen years old and was from Zweibrücken, Bavaria, but the family is believed to have originated in Switzerland. In the fourteenth century, when the "black death" raged especially in the Alps, many people fled into the Rhine countries, and among them the Keller family. Joseph Keller, the emigrant, married and had seven sons, all of whom except one, Christian, were given scriptural names. Following is a translation of a record in German that was made by Joseph Keller and which is interesting not alone because it is a part of the history of his family, but because it suggests an always interesting vicissitude of pioneer life: "My beloved housewife, Maria (Engler) Keller, was led captive by the Indians, September 15, 1757, my son Christian was killed, and my sons Joseph and John Jacob taken captive. My wife returned October 20, 1760, but of my children I have not heard." Christian Keller, who was murdered and scalped by the savages, was fourteen years and five days old. The youngest son, a babe of five months and twenty-four days, was left unharmed in his cradle. Three sons and his only daughter remained to Mr. Keller. His neighbors sympathized with him, and in testimony of the regard in which they held him, built a block house as a means of defense to him and his remaining family.

There was a Rev. John Keller, a minister of the Reformed church, who prepared himself for the gospel ministry under the direction of the Rev. George Weiss, at Lancaster, Ohio, and who was licensed and ordained in New York, in 1827, by the synod of Ohio, and died in Erie county, New York, in 1852, in his fifty-second year. He was a member of this family of Kellers, a descendant of one of the brothers of "great-grandfather Philip" Keller. In all generations the Kellers have been noted for loyalty to convictions and honesty of purpose and for the strength of their physical constitutions.

Philip Keller was born in Northampton county, Pennsylvania, January 26, 1818, one of the eight children of John H. and Maria (Engler) Keller, who were named as follows: Philip; Anna, wife of Philip Ossman, of Bucyrus, Ohio; Eli, a minister of the Reformed church at Allentown, Lehigh county, Pennsylvania; Amos, captain of Company C, Forty-ninth Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, who was killed at the battle of Stone River; Aaron, lieutenant of Company C, Forty-ninth Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, who was also killed in the same engagement; Susan, who married J. B. Shumaker, of Tiffin, Ohio; Joseph A., who also saw service in the Civil war and who lives

at Alliance, Ohio; Joel F., who lives in Liberty township, Crawford county, Ohio.

John H. Keller, father of Philip Keller, of Liberty township, was born in Northampton county, Pennsylvania, December 24, 1786, a son of Philip and Sarah (Miller) Keller, both natives of Northampton county, Pennsylvania; he was born March 29, 1763, and she September 27, 1763. Sarah (Miller) Keller died October 16, 1804, and Philip Keller afterward married Susanna Niemeyer, who was born November 22, 1770, and died December 4, 1859, aged eighty-nine years and twelve days. Philip Keller died October 2, 1842, aged about eighty years. He was a son of Joseph Keller, the emigrant, who as has been stated came to this country in 1737. He was a prominent farmer of Northampton county, Pennsylvania, where he died.

John H. Keller grew to manhood in his native county in Pennsylvania, and was educated in the common schools near his home and in due time married and settled down to farming and the operation of a gristmill. His father owned a large tract of farming land and was able to give each of his children a good start in life. After a time Mr. Keller gave his attention to surveying and became expert in such work. He long held the office of justice of the peace and was for several years judge of the court of common pleas of Northampton county, Pennsylvania. In 1856 he disposed of his holdings in Pennsylvania and came to Crawford county, Ohio. He had come out the previous year and contracted for two farms,—the Rupert farm, of two hundred and sixteen acres in Sandusky township and the Souder farm of one hundred and eight acres in Liberty township. Upon their arrival in this county in 1856, Mr. Keller and his son Philip settled on the Rupert farm and his son Joel F. on the Souder farm. In the fall of that year Mr. Keller removed to Bucyrus, Ohio, where he lived until his death, which occurred September 10, 1867. In early life he was a Jackson Democrat, but he voted for Fremont for the presidency in 1856 and thereafter was an ardent Republican. For many years he was an elder in the Reformed church and in every relation of life was faithful to all trusts reposed in him and as a citizen stood deservedly high in the esteem of all who knew him. His wife, Susanna Engler, was born in Northampton county, Pennsylvania, July 4, 1797, a daughter of Casper and Susanna (Niemeyer) Engler, and died in November, 1884. After the death of her father, her mother, Mrs. Susanna Engler, married Philip Keller, grandfather of the subject of this sketch.

Philip Keller, of Liberty township, Crawford county, Ohio, was reared on his father's farm in Pennsylvania and acquired a fair common-school edu-

cation in German schools, but attended English school only three months; but his father was a constant student and his home was practically a school, where every night study was carried on by lamp light, from immediately after supper until late bedtime, the father being the teacher of a class constituted of his children. At the age of twenty-five, Philip began to teach school and taught four winter terms successfully. In January, 1846, he married Miss Hannah Stocker, a native of Northampton county, daughter of Francis and Barbara (Stofflet) Stocker, both of whom were of German parentage. After his marriage, he settled on a farm of one hundred and sixty acres which he leased from his father. In the fall of 1855, with his father and his brother Joel, he came to Crawford county, Ohio, to prospect for land. His father had come out earlier the same year and desired his sons to see certain property before he contracted for it for them. The purchase of land in Sandusky and Liberty townships and the early removal of the father to Bucyrus have been referred to. About ten years ago, Mr. Keller sold fifty acres of his original farm and bought his present home farm of seventy-five acres, on which his son John lived until his death. About 1895, Mr. Keller removed to his present homestead, leaving his son Amos on the old farm. To Mr. Keller have been born eleven children. His daughter Maria is dead. His daughter Mrs. Sabina Teel resides in Bucyrus, Ohio. His son John is dead. His daughters Abbie and Ellen are members of his household. His daughter Lydia is the wife of C. S. Ackerman, carpenter, of Liberty township. Amos is managing the old homestead in Sandusky township.

In politics Mr. Keller is liberal and independent. He has been a life-long member of the Reformed church, but is tolerant of the religious views of others of all denominations. Now in his eighty-fourth year, his mental and physical preservation is remarkable. A diligent and studious reader all his life, he is a well informed man.

#### GABRIEL KESSLER.

Gabriel Kessler was born in Schuylkill county, Pennsylvania, on the 30th of September, 1838, his parents being Daniel and Susanna (Clouser) Kessler. The family is of German lineage on both the paternal and maternal sides. The father of our subject was born in Schuylkill county, but his parents were both natives of Germany, having located in the Keystone state in early life. There Daniel Kessler was reared to manhood and began farming on his own account, acquiring a property of one hundred and sixty acres. In 1849, how-

ever, he disposed of his interests there and came to Crawford county, Ohio, purchasing sixty acres of land in Liberty township, where he made his home up to the time of his death. Soon after his arrival he also bought a tract of land of eighty acres in Chatfield township, and his farming interests returned to him a good financial reward for his labors. He was a member of the German Reformed church and was a Democrat in his political views. His wife was also born in Schuylkill county, Pennsylvania, and they became the parents of ten children, of whom six are yet living, namely: Paul, who makes his home in DeKalb county, Indiana; Daniel, of Mercer county, Ohio; Mathilda, who resides in Liberty township, Crawford county; Lucy, the wife of Peter Trumater, of Sandusky township, this county; and Catherine, who married Samuel Kurtz and is also living in Liberty township.

No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of life for Gabriel Kessler in his youth. His early boyhood days were passed on the old homestead in Pennsylvania and later he accompanied his parents on their removal to Ohio. He attended the common schools to a limited extent, but was largely engaged in clearing away the timber upon the new Ohio farm when he was at the school age. On attaining his majority he started out upon an independent business career as a farm hand in the employ of agriculturists living in the neighborhood. Three years later he purchased a threshing machine, and for eleven years was engaged in its operation during the harvest season, receiving a very liberal patronage and thus prospering. In 1871 he was enabled to purchase his present home farm of seventy-six acres. Since that time he has carried on agricultural pursuits on his own account, and his work has been crowned with a well merited and highly gratifying degree of success.

On the 7th of August, 1873, occurred the marriage of Mr. Kessler and Miss Sarah E. Clapper, a native of Warren county, Indiana, and a daughter of William and Julia A. (Moore) Clapper, who came to Crawford county in 1864. The young couple began their domestic life upon the farm which has since been their home, and in 1884 Mr. Kessler rebuilt his barn and in 1886 erected one of the most attractive residences in this portion of the county. The latest improved machinery and all modern accessories are found upon his place, and the buildings stand as a monument to his thrift and enterprise. The home is well known for its gracious hospitality, which is enjoyed by many friends of Mr. and Mrs. Kessler. Unto our subject and his wife have been born eight children, of whom seven are yet living, namely: William A., a resident of Auburn township; and Charles E., Clara E., Franklin S., Ada B.,



Harvey A. and Mabel M., all yet under the parental roof. The parents hold membership in the German Reformed church, and Mr. Kessler exercises his right of franchise in support of Democratic principles and the men who are made the candidates of the party for office. His life has been one of untiring activity in agricultural circles, and he is known and honored for his fidelity to principle and his straightforward dealing.

### JOHN WENTZ.

One of the prosperous, energetic and capable agriculturists of Crawford county is John Wentz, who makes his home in Bucyrus township, where he is engaged in the tilling of the soil and the raising of stock. He was born in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, in Chambersburg, September 1, 1837, a son of John and Mary (Monard) Wentz, both of whom were natives of Hesse, Germany. In early life, however, they came to the new world and were married in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania. In the fall of 1839 they removed to Blackford county, Indiana, settling in the midst of the forest and there they cleared and developed a farm, upon which they spent their remaining days. Of their children only John and his brother Jacob are now living.

John Wentz was only two years of age when his parents removed to the Hoosier state, and there amid the wild scenes of pioneer life he was reared to manhood, assisting his father in clearing away the forest trees and preparing the fields for cultivation. He never attended school for a single day until he was fifteen years of age, and after that attended for only a few weeks for two or three years. His entire attendance would not aggregate one year, but though he gained a limited education in the schoolroom he is a well informed man, gaining his knowledge through reading, observation and experience.

On the 26th of November, 1857, when twenty years of age Mr. Wentz was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Greenwich, who was born in Waynesburg, Pennsylvania, a daughter of Jacob and Christina Greenwich, who were also natives of the fatherland and early settlers of Crawford county, Ohio, whither they came with their daughter, Mrs. Wentz, when the latter was only five years of age. In the spring of 1858 Mr. Wentz and his young wife went to the place where his parents were living, in Blackford county, Indiana, and there he engaged in farming through the summer, but in the autumn of the same year he returned to Crawford county, where he purchased of his father-in-law ninety acres of land, situated on section 34, Holmes township. On

this land he took up his abode, entering upon a successful career as an agriculturist. He added to his landed possessions as he prospered and at one time owned nearly five hundred acres, a part of which he afterward sold but, at the present writing, in the summer of 1901, he owns more than three hundred and sixty acres of fine land, three hundred acres being within the borders of his home farm, on section 34, Holmes township, and sections 2 and 3, in Bucyrus township. The farm is under a high state of cultivation and is well improved. Upon the farm are two residences. The one situated in Holmes township was his place of abode for thirty-one years, but after purchasing the old George Kent farm in Bucyrus township, he removed to the residence thereon in 1890, and two years later remodeled it into a convenient and pleasant home.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Wentz have been born the following children: Mary E., the wife of Thomas J. Caldwell, a farmer of Bucyrus township; Annette, the widow of John Beall; Clement L., at home; Willis J., who wedded Mary Miller, is a farmer of Holmes township, residing on his father's old homestead; Ora Alice, the wife of Hugh Dobbins, of Bucyrus township; Ida May, Emma Pearl and John Earl, all at home. They also lost one child, who died in infancy in 1870. The Wentz family is one of the most prominent in the county, its different members being highly respected for their sterling worth.

In his political views Mr. Wentz is a staunch Democrat, but the honors and emoluments of public office have had no attraction for him. He has preferred to give his time and attention to his farm interests and though he began business life as a poor boy he is to-day numbered among the prosperous farmers of the community as the result of his untiring industry, his determination and his force of character. He is a public-spirited citizen and withholds his support from no movement or measure which he believes will prove of public benefit. His worth is widely acknowledged by those who have regard for true and upright character, and thus he has gained many friends.

#### CHARLES L. WHITMYER.

Charles L. Whitmyer, who is yard conductor of the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railroad at Crestline, was born in Baden, Germany, April 15, 1845. His father, Michael Whitmyer, was also a native of this locality and was there reared, educated and married. He was a stone cutter by trade and in 1852 came to the United States, locating in New York City, where he died six months later. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Christina

Bishop, was also a native of Baden and she only survived her husband three days. They were the parents of six children, one of whom died in the old country, one went upon the sea, crossing the Atlantic, and one in New York City, so that three children were the only ones living at the parents' death. These were: Anna, Charles L. and William, aged respectively, ten, eight and six years, when the parents were called away. They were then reared by strangers, and going to different families, were separated. The daughter is now the wife of George G. Herr, of Crestline, and William died in Mansfield, Ohio.

At the time of the father's death Charles Leonard Whitmyer was placed with a poor family and as soon as old enough he began to work, following any pursuit that would yield him a living. He spent a period of some time in New York City, where he acted as nurse. There he remained until 1854, when the children all came to Ohio together, locating in Akron, their home being with an aunt.

Our subject remained with his aunt for about three years, when, with his sister and brother, he went to Canal Fulton, Stark county, Ohio, where he lived for two years. On the expiration of that period he returned to Akron and a year later came to Crestline. In the vicinity of this city he worked for one summer as a farm hand, receiving three dollars per month in compensation for his services. After two years spent in Crestline, Mr. Whitmyer and his sister and brother went to Mansfield, Ohio, and he secured a situation as a porter in the Wyler House, where he continued for about two years. He then began working on the Sandusky, Mansfield & Newark Railroad, now the Baltimore & Ohio road, in the Lexington gravel pit, remaining with the company for one season, after which he returned to Crestline. In 1863 he engaged with the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railroad Company to shovel coal at the coal pile and was thus employed for eight months, when he was made brakeman in the yard, acting in that capacity for three years. He was then made brakeman upon the road running between Crestline and Alliance, with Conductor Jake Fink. He had been engaged in that work for about six weeks, when, as the train ran out of Alliance and was about one and a half miles west of Orville, the cars separated from the rail while in full speed and Mr. Whitmyer was thrown to the ground and it seemed that he turned about twenty somersaults before alighting. He then went back to Orville and telegraphed to the conductor that he was all right. On the next passenger train he went to Crestline. For about a week he was forced to remain at home on account of the injuries from his fall and then began

work in the yard again as brakeman, which work he followed until he was promoted to yard conductor about 1874. In 1878 he was made assistant yard master and served in that capacity for about six years, when he again assumed the position of yard conductor and is now acting in that office, being the oldest yard conductor in Crestline by many years.

In 1864 Mr. Whitmyer was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Hass, a native of Mansfield, Ohio, where she was reared, and a daughter of Peter and Elizabeth (Brick) Hass, both of whom were natives of Germany and became early settlers of Richland county. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Whitmyer have been born four children: Anna, wife of John Reindal, of Crestline; Charlie W., who married Miss Nettie Paden and is now a traveling salesman, living in Chicago; Mary E., widow of John C. Adams, who was killed on the railroad in the Crestline yards in 1899; Ellen, wife of Irvin Bishop, of Crestline. They also have six grandchildren: Estella and Charles W. and Helen L. Reindal; Ruth L. Adams; Elizabeth C. Whitmyer; and Leona Gladys Bishop. Mr. Whitmyer is a member of the Railroad Brotherhood, the Crestline Tent, No. 51, Knights of Maccabees, and of the Relief Society. He also belongs to the German Reformed church, and is a Democrat in politics. His life has been quietly passed, devoted to the promotion of the welfare of his community, being one of those substantial citizens, who at all times and under all circumstances are faithful and loyal to their country, to their friends and the people.

#### ROBERT R. BLACK.

A representative of the medical fraternity of Galion, Robert Resee Black has already won an enviable position as a member of the profession, although he has engaged in practice for only a few years. He is a native of Knox county, Ohio, born in 1874, and is a son of Dr. John Luther Black, now deceased. The father was also born in Knox county, and was a son of William Black, one of the pioneer settlers of that locality, who is still living, at the advanced age of ninety years. He married a Miss Cornell, who probably came to this state from Pennsylvania. Dr. John L. Black pursued his professional education in Wooster University, of Cleveland, Ohio, now the Cleveland Medical College, and for about twenty years successfully engaged in practice at Democracy, Knox county, enjoying a large and lucrative business. He died in 1886, at the comparatively early age of forty-five years. His wife bore the maiden name of Fedora Sapp, and is a native of Knox county. She is still

living, her home being in Mount Vernon, Ohio. Her father, Robert Sapp, was also numbered among the early settlers of Knox county.

Dr. Black, whose name introduces this review, pursued his literary education in the schools of Mount Vernon and of Democracy, Ohio. He began reading medicine under the direction of Dr. Russell, in 1891, and later continued his studies in the Starling Medical College, of Columbus, being graduated in that institution with the class of 1897. Immediately afterward he entered into business relations with his former preceptor, Dr. Russell, with whom he practiced in Mount Vernon, Ohio, for six months, after which he came to Galion, where he has since remained. The ambition and energy of young men are his, and, supplemented by a laudable determination to succeed, he will undoubtedly gain a foremost place in the ranks of the medical fraternity, having already won success which many an older practitioner might well envy.

Dr. Black was joined in wedlock to Miss Lulu Knight Hall, of Mansfield, Ohio, a daughter of William B. and Margaret (Knight) Hall, formerly residents of Knox county, Ohio, where the father was extensively and successfully engaged in farming and stock-raising. The Doctor and his wife now have one interesting little son, Robert Russell. The Doctor is identified with the Independent Order of Foresters. During his residence in Galion he has formed a wide circle of acquaintances, gained many warm friends and won a desirable position in the ranks of his chosen calling. In business affairs he is energetic, prompt and notably reliable, and as a student his researches and investigations are continually broadening his mind, fitting him in the highest degree for the responsibilities that rest upon him as a representative of the medical profession.

#### JEFFERSON I. SMITH.

Jefferson I. Smith, who is serving as deputy auditor of Crawford county, and a resident of Bucyrus, is a well-known resident of this portion of Ohio, where his entire life has been passed. He was born in Lykens township, Crawford county, Ohio, in 1863, his parents being Frederick and Lucy Ann (Shupp) Smith. More extended mention of the parents is made in the biography of L. M. Smith. At the usual age he entered the public schools and pursued his studies until he had completed the high school course at New Washington, with the class of 1885. In the fall of that year he became editor of the Herald, published in New Washington, and continued his connection





J. I. Smith.



with the paper until 1897, making it a representative Democratic journal of the county. He was a forceful, earnest and interesting writer and his editorials carried weight in forming public opinion in the county. While still connected with the paper Mr. Smith served for three terms as town clerk of New Washington and was also a member of the board of education. He made a close study of the needs of his town and the improvements that would best advance its interests and in every way possible promoted the upbuilding and substantial improvement of the place. Throughout his entire life he has been connected with the Democracy and for three years was a member, from Cranberry township., on the Democratic county central committee, and for one year acted in the capacity of chairman. From 1890 until 1896 he was a member of the board of school examiners for the county and has been one of the state supervisors of elections since 1893. In 1897 he was appointed deputy auditor of Crawford county and in April, 1901, was nominated, without opposition, the Democratic candidate for county auditor, and elected in November following. In every public duty he has manifested marked loyalty and trustworthiness.

Mr. Smith was united in marriage in Wayne county to Miss Linnie Breneman, a daughter of J. H. and Lydia B. (McNary) Breneman. They now have one son, Russell B. Mr. and Mrs. Smith hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church. He has been a very active worker in the Sunday-school, realizing the importance of youthful training. For five years he served as superintendent of the Sunday-school at New Washington, which made commendable progress under his direction and is now a teacher in the Sunday-school of the church at Bucyrus. Socially he is identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and with the Knights of Pythias fraternity, of New Washington. He is a popular man, of genial and courteous manner, and the circle of his friends is limited only by the circle of his acquaintances.

#### FERNANDO J. NORTON.

Fernando Jefferson Norton was born in Bucyrus, December 28, 1859. His father, Jefferson Norton, was a native of Pennsylvania, born February 26, 1825, and with his parents he became a resident of Bucyrus. After arriving at years of maturity he married Eleanor M. Byron, who was born March 9, 1824, and died March 18, 1882. At the usual age Mr. Norton, of this review, entered the public schools, where he acquired a good English

education, after which he learned the trade of carriage wood working. When he had completed his apprenticeship he engaged in journeyman work with his father for a year and then took a contract to carry the mail from Bucyrus to Ocoola. Subsequently he extended his route to Benton, Buljoe and Wingert's Corners and was so employed for nine months. He then accepted a position as fireman on the Toledo & Ohio Central Railroad and was employed in that capacity for two years and nine months, when he was injured in the performance of his duties. This necessitated his retirement from labor for nine months, and on recovering he found that he would have to give up railroad work. He then secured a position in a machine shop, where he remained for a brief period. Prior to this he had erected a small greenhouse, fifteen by forty-five feet, and determining to leave the shop he decided to give his attention to gardening and the cultivation of flowers. He admitted his brother to a partnership in the business, under the firm name of Norton Brothers, and purchased six and a half acres of land, known as the Winner estate, north of Bucyrus. The relationship between the brothers was maintained for about a year, when Mr. Norton, of this review, became sole proprietor, purchasing his partner's interest. After two years he purchased the property on the corner of Spring and Charles streets and removed his greenhouse to that place. After conducting the business for about two years he returned to the Toledo & Ohio Central Railroad as a fireman and on the completion of his apprenticeship was promoted to the position of engineer, running an engine on the road for three and a half years. He then left the railroad service, for his greenhouse business demanded all of his attention. About that time he erected two more greenhouses in Bucyrus and purchased and equipped a greenhouse at Nevada and three in Bucyrus, but after a time he moved the greenhouse from the former place to this city, combining the business so that he had over ten thousand feet of glass roof. He made a specialty of cut flowers and potted plants. Already he has an extensive and profitable business, but in the near future he expects to enlarge his facilities by increasing his greenhouses until he will have two thousand more feet under glass. The finest varieties of plants, shrubs and flowers may be seen here and Mr. Norton thoroughly understands the business, making him very competent to conduct the extensive enterprise which he now controls.

On the 11th of July, 1878, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Norton and Miss Kate Anna Adams, who was born in Galion, Ohio, in October, 1859, and is a daughter of Jacob and Margaret Adams. Five children grace this marriage: Myrtle Byron, born March 26, 1879; Ralph Jefferson, born

September 17, 1880, and died May 4, 1881; Arthur Franklin, born September 2, 1882; Fairy Elmer, born March 21, 1884; Mabel Carrie, born March 12, 1886; and Harry James, who was born April 2, 1893.

Mr. Norton has spent his entire life in Bucyrus and his career has been a useful and honorable one. Along the legitimate lines of business he has won splendid success. He is thoroughly conversant with the subject of horticulture, understands the needs of plants and their requirements and is not only able to grow and cultivate flowers, but to transact the business affairs necessary to make his labors profitable. In all his dealings he is straightforward and reliable and his large business is a merited success.

### Mrs. ELISABETH TEEL.

Mrs. Elizabeth Teel, a representative of one of the old and firmly established families of Crawford county, was born in Liberty township, in this county, on July 20, 1829. She was a daughter of Horatio and Nancy (Link) Markley. Horatio Markley, distinguished as one of the most powerful men, physically, in Crawford county, came here from his home in Somerset county, Pennsylvania, where he was born in 1804, and entered a fractional quarter section of land (one hundred and forty-four acres) in Liberty township, this now being the home and property of the subject of this sketch. He erected a log cabin on his land and spent his life here, being very prosperous and able to assist his children very materially. His death was in 1880, at the age of seventy-six. He was one of the leaders in the English Lutheran church and for many years prior to his death no needy person ever applied in vain to him for assistance. Far and wide his charities extended and he was beloved by all who knew him.

The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Teel was also a remarkable man, living to the age of one hundred and two years, nine months and twenty-seven days, and his death occurring in the house where our subject now lives, in 1864. His father, a veteran of the Revolutionary war, owned six hundred acres of land on the present site of Wheeling, and was killed by the Indians.

Mrs. Teel was one of four children in her parents' family, the three survivors being: John, of Morrow county; Elisabeth, of this sketch, and Mathias, of Wyandot county, this state. She grew up at her parental home, acquiring an education in the pioneer schools, and on September 17, 1844, was united in marriage with Mr. George W. Teel, who during his life was one of the energetic and successful business men of Crawford county.



George W. Teel was born in Ashland, Ohio, on May 16, 1821, and he was a son of poor but honest and industrious parents. At the age of ten years, having received but a limited education, he went to work in the brick-yard of John Moffit, where he remained for two summers, and during the two following seasons drove a team on the Ohio canal. Later he engaged in farm work at various places in Stark county, for several years. In the meantime his father, John C. Teel, had removed to Guernsey county and purchased a small farm. George managed this property for some two years, while his father worked at his trade of blacksmith. In his seventeenth year he taught school in Wayne county during one winter, and also followed the same occupation in his nineteenth year. After this he attended the Ashland Academy for one term of five months and then engaged in clerking for one year in a general store, in Benton, Holmes county. In 1842 he removed to Navarre, in Stark county, and from April to July engaged in the business of buying horses, which he took to Canada and sold to the British officers.

Mr. Teel removed to Crawford county in August, 1843, and purchased the George W. Galloway farm, on which he resided to the time of his death. For fifteen years he taught school in Sulphur Springs and vicinity and conducted the first English school ever taught in the Broken Sword district. After this the residents never wished to support a German school in that locality. In 1844, for a period of six months, he was engaged in the mercantile business in Sulphur Springs, with a Mr. Allen, the establishment being known as The Great Western Store. In 1862 he was appointed revenue assessor of Crawford county and served in this capacity for nine years, and during the fall of 1872 he was employed by the A. & L. E. R. R. as collecting agent for the corporation, continuing with the company in this capacity for three years.

In the spring of 1877 Mr. Teel removed his family to Bucyrus and was engaged one year as assignee in settling up the business of Osman & Woodside. The family removed to Crestline in the spring of 1878 and remained there some twelve months and then returned to the farm in Liberty township. During this time, however, Mr. Teel still continued in Bucyrus as a partner in a carriage establishment. He served some years as secretary of the Crawford County Farmers' Fire Insurance Company, and was also purchasing agent for the Ohio Central Railroad Company, being agent for this corporation, and also for the old A. & L. E. R. R. He secured nearly all the right of way for the roadbed from the coal fields to Toledo, including the depot grounds, which were purchased in the '70s, in that city. Mr. Teel was also instrumental to a great extent in securing the guarantee fund for over one

hundred thousand dollars subscribed, in 1880, by the company, along the route as a local aid to its completion. With Messrs. D. W. Swigart, C. Fenton, S. R. Harris and James B. Gormly, he succeeded in the enterprise of getting the machine-shops bill passed by the legislature and was a member of many organizations requiring a man of integrity.

Mr. Teel died on July 19, 1889. In 1882 he had had a premonition, being stricken then with paralysis and then gave up his position with the railroads and retired to live on his farm. He enjoyed seven years of quiet life before the end came. He was an active member of the Republican party, and had been connected with the English Lutheran church for many years. His death was widely lamented, as he had been one of the most public-spirited men that Crawford county ever possessed. Seven of his eight children still survive, viz.: Leander; Jared, of Mansfield; Laura L., the wife of Milton Ebert, of Elyria, Ohio; Ellen, the wife of Ernest Michaelis, of Spokane, Washington; George, of North Robinson, Ohio; Horatio M., in the electric light business in Seattle, Washington; and Frances, the wife of Grant Zerbe, of Sandusky. Jennie, the second child, passed away.

After the death of her husband Mrs. Teel, so badly bereaved, removed to the old Markley homestead, the home of her youth. At the time of her father's death she purchased the property and resides upon it, very efficiently managing the extensive farming operations carried on there. She is a very intelligent lady, of superior judgment, and is one very highly esteemed in Crawford county.

#### W. C. FRANZ.

W. C. Franz is a well-known resident of Bucyrus and the trainmaster for the Toledo & Ohio Central Railway. He represents one of the distinguished and honored pioneer families of the county, the name of Franz being inseparably associated with the history of this section of the state. More than seventy years ago representatives of the name became residents of Ohio, and through the decades which have since been added to the cycle of the centuries descendants of those original ancestors in Ohio have borne their part in the work of progress and development in Crawford county. The paternal grandfather of our subject was a native of Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, born in the year 1812. He acquired a good education in the schools of his native country and served in the army there. When a young man of twenty-five years he resolved to seek his fortune in America and accordingly crossed the Atlantic

to the new world, locating in Galion, Ohio, in 1837. He afterward removed to Leesville, this county, but spent his last days in Bucyrus, where he passed away in 1870. He was long a prominent factor in public affairs and his opinions carried weight and influence among the leading residents of the community. His worth and ability were widely recognized and led to his selection to various positions of public trust. For nine years he filled the office of justice of the peace in Jackson township and in 1859 he was elected sheriff of Crawford county for a two-years term, in which he acceptably served and was then re-elected, so that he was continued in the office for four years. In 1867 he was chosen by popular vote to the position of county treasurer and was acting in that capacity at the time of his death. His public and private records were alike above reproach. He always discharged his duties in a prompt, efficient and creditable manner, and in private life he displayed those manly qualities that ever command respect and confidence. With him friendship was inviolable, and the duties of the home were to him the most important in life. At the time of the Civil war he manifested his loyalty to his adopted country by entering the service as a member of the One Hundred and First Ohio Volunteer Infantry and became lieutenant-colonel, serving in that capacity until he was forced to resign, owing to wounds sustained in the battle of Perryville. He was married in this county to Miss Jane Burwell, and unto them were born five children, namely: Joseph Burwell, now of Toledo, Ohio; William, the father of our subject; Kate, who married John R. Clymer; John S., of Tampa, Florida; and Sally, wife of Alexander Kerr, of Holmes township. The mother of this family is still living.

William Franz, the father of our subject, was born May 21, 1843, in Leesville, and attended school there until fourteen years of age, when he accompanied his parents on their removal to a farm near Bucyrus. He learned the trade of watch-making and the jewelry business in the city and afterward purchased his employer's store, carrying on the enterprise for some time. Subsequently he resided in Plymouth and Cleveland, Ohio, and in Meadville, Pennsylvania, where he engaged in the watch and jewelry business until 1865. He then returned to Bucyrus, and in connection with H. J. Riblet established a jewelry store. In 1867 he removed to Crestline, where he entered business with Dr. William Pope. Here he perfected and patented a knitting machine, and in November, 1869, began manufacturing the machine, incorporating the business under the name of the Bucyrus Knitting Machine Works. In 1871 the name was changed to the Franz & Pope Knitting Machine Company, and a prosperous and growing enterprise was established, the steadily increasing

trade bringing the stockholders a good financial return upon their investment. Mr. Franz continued with the concern until 1879, when, owing to failing health, he retired, spending his remaining days in quiet and rest from labor. He was a prominent Mason, holding membership with Crawford Lodge, Ivanhoe Chapter, No. 117, R. A. M., and Mansfield Commandery, No. 21, K. T. He also became a charter member of Demas Commandery, No. 108, K. T. In September, 1881, he was called to his final rest, and the community thereby lost one of its valued citizens, for he had long been an important factor in promoting the commercial activity, whereon depends the welfare, progress and advancement of every community. His labors resulted, not alone to his individual benefit, but proved of general good. He withheld his support from no movement calculated to promote the general welfare and had a public spirit and abiding interest in everything pertaining to his native county.

On the 22d of January, 1868, Mr. Franz was united in marriage to Miss Almira Melissa Campbell, who was born in Clarion county, Pennsylvania, in 1844, and is a daughter of John and Catherine R. (Staltz) Campbell, both of whom were natives of Northumberland county, Pennsylvania. They removed from the Keystone state to Byron, Ohio, in 1854 and in 1860 came to Bucyrus. The father was a contractor and builder, and died in Logansport, Indiana, in 1897, at the age of seventy-eight years. When the country became involved in Civil war he responded to the president's call for aid, enlisting in an Ohio regiment. His death occurred about 1880, when he had attained the age of fifty-one years. Obediah Campbell, the great-grandfather of Mrs. Franz, was a native of Scotland, and on coming to America located in Northumberland county, Pennsylvania, where he met and married Miss Kate Keader. Unto William and Almira M. (Campbell) Franz were born the following children: Katie J., William C., Mellie A. and Jay W. The older daughter is the wife of F. J. Barth, of Bucyrus, and the younger daughter is now a teacher in the public schools of Bucyrus and is a graduate of the high school.

William Charles Franz, whose name introduces this record, was born in Bucyrus, March 14, 1871, and pursued his education in the public schools, being graduated in the high school in 1889. For four months he was with the United States Express Company and afterward with the Toledo & Ohio Central Railway. He entered the railroad service October 27, 1889, and is yet with the company. His first position was that of night yard clerk, was made chief yard clerk on the 1st of April, 1890, and on the 1st of September, of the same year became clerk to the train master. On the 1st of November, 1890, J. F. Angell was appointed superintendent of the eastern division, with head-

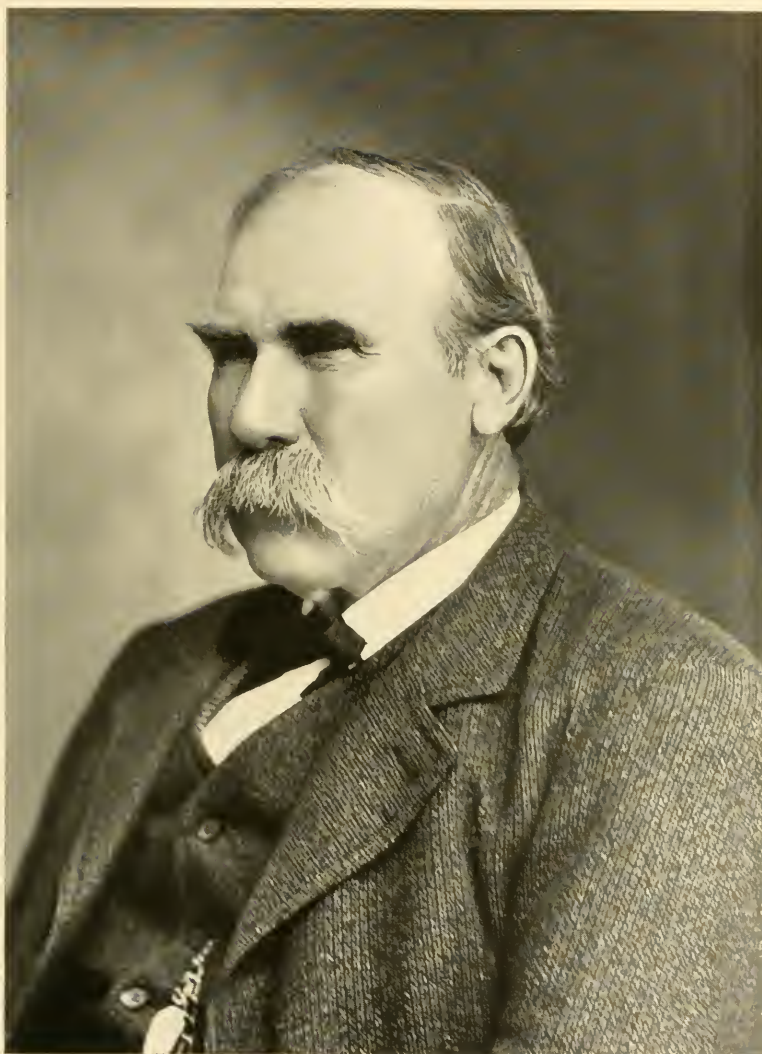
quarters at Bucyrus, and Mr. Franz was made his chief clerk, in which capacity he remained until the 1st of January, 1901, when Mr. Angell was removed to Columbus, as superintendent of the entire line, and Mr. Franz was given the position of train master. His promotions have come to him as the reward of close application, earnest and indefatigable labor and excellent ability, and the fact that he has been for so long retained in the service of one road is an unmistakable evidence of his fidelity.

On the 18th of December, 1895, Mr. Franz was united in marriage, in Marion, Ohio, to Miss Josephine Harsberger, a daughter of the late Jacob H. Harsberger, who was a merchant of Marion. He served as a soldier in the Civil war and was a well-known resident of Marion county. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Franz has been blessed with one son, James N. In his political affiliations Mr. Franz is a Democrat, and is an attendant on the services of the Presbyterian church. At the present time he is serving as city clerk, to which position he was elected, entering upon the duties of the office on the 1st of May, 1900, for a term of two years. In the Masonic fraternity he is well known as an exemplary member, has passed all of the chairs in the lodge, and in 1899 and 1900 filled the position of master of Trinity Lodge, of Bucyrus. He is also identified with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and was exalted ruler for one year. He is a worthy representative of an honored pioneer family, his lines of life having been cast in harmony with the records left by his father and grandfather. He has many warm friends throughout Crawford county, where the family has been so long widely and prominently known, and no history of the community would be complete without mention of Mr. Franz and his ancestors.

### JONATHAN CARMEAN.

Jonathan Carmean, who follows farming in Crawford county, was born in what is now Bucyrus township, December 6, 1834, his parents being Matthew and Rachel (De Long) Carmean. His grandfather was a native of the south and became a pioneer settler of Pickaway county, Ohio, where the father of our subject spent the greater part of his youth. The Carmean family is of French descent, while the mother of our subject represented a family of Pennsylvania Dutch lineage. Matthew Carmean and Rachel De Long were married in Pickaway county, Ohio, and soon afterward came to Crawford county, where he entered eighty acres of land in what was then Bucyrus township. Soon afterward, however, he traded this for property on section 11





*Jonathan Cornean*



in what is now Dallas township. In his undertakings he prospered and became a large land-owner, having about twelve hundred acres at one time. He made judicious investments in real estate and the rise in land values augmented his capital. Both he and his wife died in Dallas township. They were the parents of six children: Mrs. Mary Ann Coulter, a widow residing in Toledo; Martha E., deceased; Jonathan; Elizabeth, who died in girlhood; Nelson, who died at the age of sixteen years; and Matthew L., a farmer of Dallas township.

Mr. Carmean, of this review, was reared in Dallas township and pursued his education in the common schools. He remained with his parents until twenty-three years of age, at which time he married Sarah Jane Goodman, who died about 1890, leaving three children. The daughter, Dilla, however, passed away when twenty-five years of age, and Irvin died at the age of twenty-two. The surviving children are: Alonzo, a farmer of Bucyrus township; Arizona, a farmer of Dallas township; and Eva, the wife of Peter Metzker, of Bucyrus township.

During the year after his marriage Mr. Carmean located upon a farm, remaining there for about twelve months, when he removed to his present farm in Bucyrus township. He to-day owns eight hundred and thirty acres of valuable land, of which five hundred and seventy acres is comprised in the home place, which is known as the Elm Tree Farm. The latest improved machinery, well kept fences and substantial buildings are among the leading features of this model farm. Mr. Carmean has engaged in raising and dealing in cattle and now buys and sells stock, being well known in this line of business throughout his portion of Ohio. He has one hundred and fifty head of cattle, twenty brood sows and high grades of sheep and hogs. He is recognized as one of the leading agriculturists of the community. Systematic and methodical, enterprising and progressive, and his carefully directed business interests have brought to him a splendid financial return. In his political views he is a Republican.

#### GEORGE J. EBERHART.

A prominent farmer and highly esteemed citizen of Crawford county is George J. Eberhart, who was born in Cranberry township, this county, on June 30, 1843. He was a son of George F. and Catherine (Humm) Eberhart. His father was born in Germany and his mother in Stark county, Ohio. When George J. was four years old his father died, and at the age of fifteen the son was apprenticed to John Myers, a blacksmith, for a period of three years.

After finishing his course in this trade he worked as a journeyman for one year, and then with his mother and two brothers took passage for America. The voyage consumed forty-two days and no doubt they were glad to enter safely the harbor of New York.

They knew that many of their countrymen had settled in Bucyrus, Ohio, and hither they came, arriving on September 14, 1832. Employment was soon given Mr. Eberhart as a chain-carrier for John Schliever, in laying out the village of Schlievertown, later Annapolis, now Sulphur Springs, and afterward he easily secured work of Mr. Frederick Beard, at his trade. Later he went to Harrisburg, Stark county, Ohio, thence to Louisville, in the same county, and there conducted a blacksmith shop for himself, remaining in business there until his marriage on February 14, 1834, to Miss Catherine Humm. To this union seven children were born, the four survivors being: Mary, the wife of John Ulmer, of Cranberry township; Elizabeth, the wife of Frederick Yieter, of Kent county, Michigan; our subject; and Christina, the wife of Adam Keplinger, of Chatfield township.

Following his marriage Mr. Eberhart purchased a small tract of land, but two years later he sold this and removed to Liberty township, in Crawford county, where he bought a small farm and immediately began its improvement. For some years he continued to operate this farm, and to also work at his trade, but then returned to Stark county and purchased a fine farm of one hundred acres. Two years later found him back in Crawford county, and at this time he located on a farm in Cranberry township, on which he remained for thirty-four years. During this time he dealt extensively in real estate in Cranberry township, but later he removed to Holmes township and became the owner of one of the best improved farms in the county. He died in May, 1901, in Chatfield township, at the home of his daughter. He was an active member of the Albright church for many years, but in later life advancing age prevented his attendance upon the services. In early life he was for several years a "local preacher" in the German Lutheran church.

George J. Eberhart grew to manhood on the farm, but had few educational advantages. In 1865 occurred his marriage to Miss Elizabeth Schieber, who was born in Liberty township, and was a daughter of Gottlieb Schieber, who was one of the old pioneers of this county and of Liberty township. Five children were born to our subject and wife, these being: John B., at home; Matilda, the wife of Rev. Joseph Mack, of Oshkosh, Wisconsin; Mary, the wife of Adam Bittikoffer, of Liberty township; and Oma and Orlando

F., at home. Mrs. Eberhart died September 4, 1900, at the age of fifty-two years.

During the two years following our subject's marriage he cultivated a tract of land for his father, which comprised eighty acres, in Cranberry township, and then came to Holmes township and rented the farm which is now owned by George Orthwein. Here our subject and family lived but one year, removing then to his most desirable home property at the expiration of that time. This farm is considered one of the most valuable ones in the county and has received most intelligent cultivation. It consists of one hundred and ten acres and is well improved.

Mr. Eberhart is a Republican, believing firmly in the principles of that party, and is a member and liberal supporter of the German Methodist church, to which his wife also belonged. Few men in the county enjoy more fully the esteem of the community than does George J. Eberhart.

#### HARRISON SMITH.

Few employes of the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railroad have been longer in the service of the company than Harrison Smith, a well-known and popular conductor living in Crestline. He was born in Holmes county, Ohio, December 20, 1841. His father, Jonathan Smith, also a native of the Buckeye state, was a farmer by occupation, born in 1815. He is still living, his home being now on Turman's creek, in Sullivan county, Indiana. He married Miss Sarah Slagle, a native of Ohio, born in 1817, and she is also living. This worthy couple became the parents of eleven children, of whom ten reached years of maturity, while eight still survive.

Harrison Smith, of this review, was the third child and was reared upon the old homestead farm in his native county, his time being devoted to the work of the field and meadow and in mastering the branches of English learning, as taught in the schools near his home. He assisted his father on the farm during the summer time until twenty years of age, but not desiring to follow the plow as a life work, he then made other arrangements, becoming a brakeman on the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railroad, running between Crestline and Alliance. He was upon that train from 1865 until 1869, when he was promoted to the position of conductor, and thus served until 1885. His run was then changed from Crestline to Conway, Pennsylvania, and on that route he remained for four years, when he was sent through to the outer depot in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. However, he was afterward re-



turned to the Conway run and since that time has been continued upon the road between Crestline and Pittsburg. He is the oldest conductor on the road, having been in the employ of the company for forty years.

In 1867 occurred the marriage of Harrison Smith and Miss Emma Wiggins, who was born near Loudonville, Ashland county, Ohio. They had eight children, of whom seven are yet living, namely: Mattie, wife of G. O. Davis, of Crestline, Ohio; Roy, who married Laura Smetzer and is living in Crestline; Nettie; Archie; Lewis; Otto; and May. Of this number Otto is a clerk in the railway office. Archie is a boilermaker for the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railroad Company. Lewis is a fireman in the employ of the same company; and Roy is airbrake inspector on the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne & Chicago road.

Mr. Smith has made Crestline his home since 1861, the year in which he entered the railway service. He is a Republican in politics and carried Major McKinley in his caboose from Alliance to Canton when the Major was governor of this state. Mr. Smith tells how the president took his razor and shaved himself when the train was running at twenty miles an hour. Mr. Smith is a member of the Volunteer Relief Association and the Order of Railway Conductors. In all of his long and varied experience on the road he has never had a collision. He has run on one caboose for twenty-one years and is still in charge. He is most painstaking and reliable in the performance of his duties and enjoys the unqualified confidence and trust of his superiors. All who know him entertain for him high regard, for he possesses many excellent characteristics and is truly worthy of the friendship and esteem of his fellow men.

#### PHILIP SCHULER.

Philip Schuler, who is a well-known representative of various reliable insurance companies and is regarded as one of the enterprising citizens of Galion, was born in Kenzingen, Baden, Germany, in 1853, his parents being Philip and Mary Anna (Vogt) Schüler. The father was born in Ebringen, near Freiburg, Baden, in 1809, and the mother's birth occurred in Dorsenheim, near Heidelberg, in 1821. Their eldest son, William Schüler, is now a professor in the University of Bavaria. Another son, Edward Schüler, is a prominent railroad official in Carlsruhe in Baden. Mannheim, Baden, is the residence of Carl Schüler, a third brother, who is a manager in the transportation department of foreign shipping for that district. Emil is in Saratow,

Russia, where he is extensively engaged in the manufacture of agricultural implements and motors and has a large plant there, employing two hundred men. At a former date he was a civil engineer on a Russian railroad. One of the brothers, Gustave Schüler, was engaged in the brewing business in Chicago, Illinois, and died in 1874, leaving a widow, Mrs. Johanna Schüler. One of the daughters of the family, Anna, became the wife of Carl Schreiber, of Donaueschingen, Baden, where he is engaged in the confectionery business. Louisa is the wife of R. F. Kleeman, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin; and Rosa is the wife of Fred Amann, a grocer of Galion, Ohio. The parents of this family have both passed away, the father having died in 1882, at the age of seventy-three years, while the mother's death occurred in 1898, when she was seventy-eight years of age.

Mr. Schuler, whose name introduces this record, attended the schools of the fatherland until thirteen years of age and then crossed the Atlantic to America, where he continued his education for two years. On the expiration of that period he went to Indianapolis, Indiana, where he was engaged in the confectionery business, and in 1873 he came to Galion, being then a young man of twenty years. Here he conducted a hotel until 1877, when he opened a grocery store, carrying on that enterprise until 1893, when he became agent for several well-known and reliable life, fire and accident insurance companies. As a representative of those firms he is now carrying on business, annually writing many policies. He has also been quite prominent in public affairs and his worth and ability have frequently led to his selection for office. In 1883 he was elected to the council of Galion, and was president of the council from 1885 until 1887. In the latter year he was elected to the state legislature, where he served his district so acceptably that he was re-elected in 1889. He was one of the active working members of the house, laboring earnestly to secure the passage of those measures and bills which were introduced and which he believed would prove of benefit to the commonwealth. He himself introduced several important measures and left the impress of his individuality upon the state during the term of his service. At the present time he is a member of the Galion city board of equalization. He still takes an active interest in politics and is heartily in sympathy with Democratic principles, believing that they contain the best elements of good government.

In Galion Mr. Schuler was united in marriage to Miss Anna M. Amann, a daughter of George Amann, a retired farmer living in Galion. They now have seven children: R. F. is the manager and a stockholder in the Emil Schüler Manufacturing Company, of Saratow, Russia. In the spring of

1901 R. F. bought out the Emil Schüler Manufacturing Company. He acquired his education in Galion and there learned the machinist's trade. In October, 1900, he married Eliza Ehrt. The second son, H. R. Schüler, was educated in Galion, is now a law student in Leyton University and acting as clerk in the census department at Washington, D. C. W. J. is employed as a machinist by the Erie Railroad Company at Galion. Laura, Estella, Marie and Catherine, the daughters of the family, are all at home. Mr. Schuler and his family are communicants of the German Catholic church and he belongs to the Catholic Knights of Ohio and the Catholic Knights of America, being president of the Galion branch of the latter.

#### HENRY LEIMENSTOLL.

Competence comes to the industrious and thrifty, and there is no element in the American nation in which these traits are more conspicuous than the German. Among the highly esteemed citizens of Holmes township, of German birth, is Henry Leimenstoll, who was born in Baden, Germany, on February 21, 1831, a son of Christian and Catherine (Silmen) Leimenstoll. There were two children of his parents, but our subject is the only survivor. The birth of Christian Leimenstoll was in Baden, Germany, in 1800, and he was there taught the trade of shoemaker. In Germany he married, and there both of his children were born. About 1834 he emigrated to America with his family, the hope of a more comfortable life, with its compensations, urging the breaking of old ties. No loitering was done in New York City, the family coming immediately to Sandusky, Ohio. There the mother and children remained for six weeks, while Mr. Leimenstoll looked for a suitable location.

With his brother-in-law, George Silmen, who came in the same vessel, he finally bought a farm of sixty acres, on the site of Scudder's Station, and here they lived until the following spring, when he sold his interest to Mr. Silmen and came on into Crawford county. He located one and one-fourth miles southeast of Chatfield, in Chatfield township, where he purchased forty acres of land, and here he built a hewed-log house in the forest. Rude and rough it was, but in it was the comfort of a home. In subsequent years he purchased a farm of eighty acres some four miles southwest of his home farm, but continued to make his home on his pioneer land until his death, in his sixty-fourth year. The mother survived until December 29, 1887, and died in her eighty-ninth year. Mr. Leimenstoll was a consistent member of a religious body, and was an industrious and worthy man.

Henry Leimenstoll passed his boyhood and youth on the farm, always finding something to do and cheerfully performing the duties which fell upon him, as the only boy of the family. On January 28, 1858, he was united in marriage with Sophia Linn, a native of Holmes township, the daughter of William and Sophia (Veivle) Linn.

After marriage the young couple settled down to domestic life on the home farm, and the parents lived with them until they passed out of life. In 1866 Henry purchased his present home farm of one hundred and twenty acres, and exchanged the old parental home farm for the eighty acres located across the road from the new purchase. Later he bought forty acres and now owns two hundred and forty acres, on each side of the road, some of the best farming land in the county. Fourteen children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Leimenstoll, and twelve of these survive, viz.: Mary A., the wife of Henry Geissman, of Cranberry township, this county; Christian, of Whetstone township; Sophia, the wife of Charles Geissman, of Chatfield township; John and Jacob, of this township; Sarah, the wife of Wesley Krauter, of Liberty township; and Anna, Lydia, Daniel, Reuben, Martha and Louisa, all at home. The deceased children, Caroline and Catherine, died in childhood. Like his father, he inclines toward the Democratic party in politics. He is a member of the Pietist church, and is one of the thoroughly trusted and esteemed citizens of this section of the county.

#### HIRAM E. SMITH.

Hiram E. Smith, the subject of this sketch, was born in Erie county, Ohio, on the 21st day of February, 1866. His parents were Welding E. Smith and Charlotte (Ashton) Smith. On the paternal side we find his ancestors on one side expelled from north France on account of religious differences among the people at that time, and emigrating to America in the year 1743 and settling in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania. On the other side his father's ancestors were English. They settled in and around Norwalk and Derby, Connecticut, early in the country's history. Here we find them fighting Indians and later doing good service against the British during the war for independence. On the maternal side his ancestors were all English. His grandparents, Thomas Ashton and Mary (Edgar) Ashton, emigrated to this country as children from England with their parents early in the nineteenth century and settled in Huron county, Ohio. On both sides his ancestors were prosperous and enterprising people.

In the spring of 1866 his parents removed to Monroeville, Ohio, where his father engaged in the manufacture of agricultural implements. At the age of six he entered the public school at Monroeville, graduating from that institution in the spring of 1885. After teaching school for two years he decided to try his fortune in the west, and on the 4th of July, 1887, landed at Oberlin, Decatur county, Kansas. During the following September he settled on a quarter section of government land, when there was no house within sight of his. The wolves and coyotes were plentiful and made the nights hideous around his sod house. Antelopes were seen occasionally, and jack rabbits were common. Here he lived alone, boarded himself and taught school, riding from fifteen to twenty miles daily to and from school. During that winter the thermometer registered lower than twenty-seven degrees below zero, Fahr., for six straight weeks. During the following March he proved up on his claim, and by paying one dollar and a quarter per acre received a government patent for one hundred and sixty acres of land.

In October, 1889, he returned to Ohio and went into business with his brother at Monroeville, Ohio, manufacturing bent wood and hardwood lumber. Here he remained until May, 1893, when he came to Galion, Crawford county, Ohio, bought out the stockholders of the Weaver Bending Company, manufacturers of bent felloes, spokes and hardwood lumber, and has successfully carried on the above business for the past eight years.

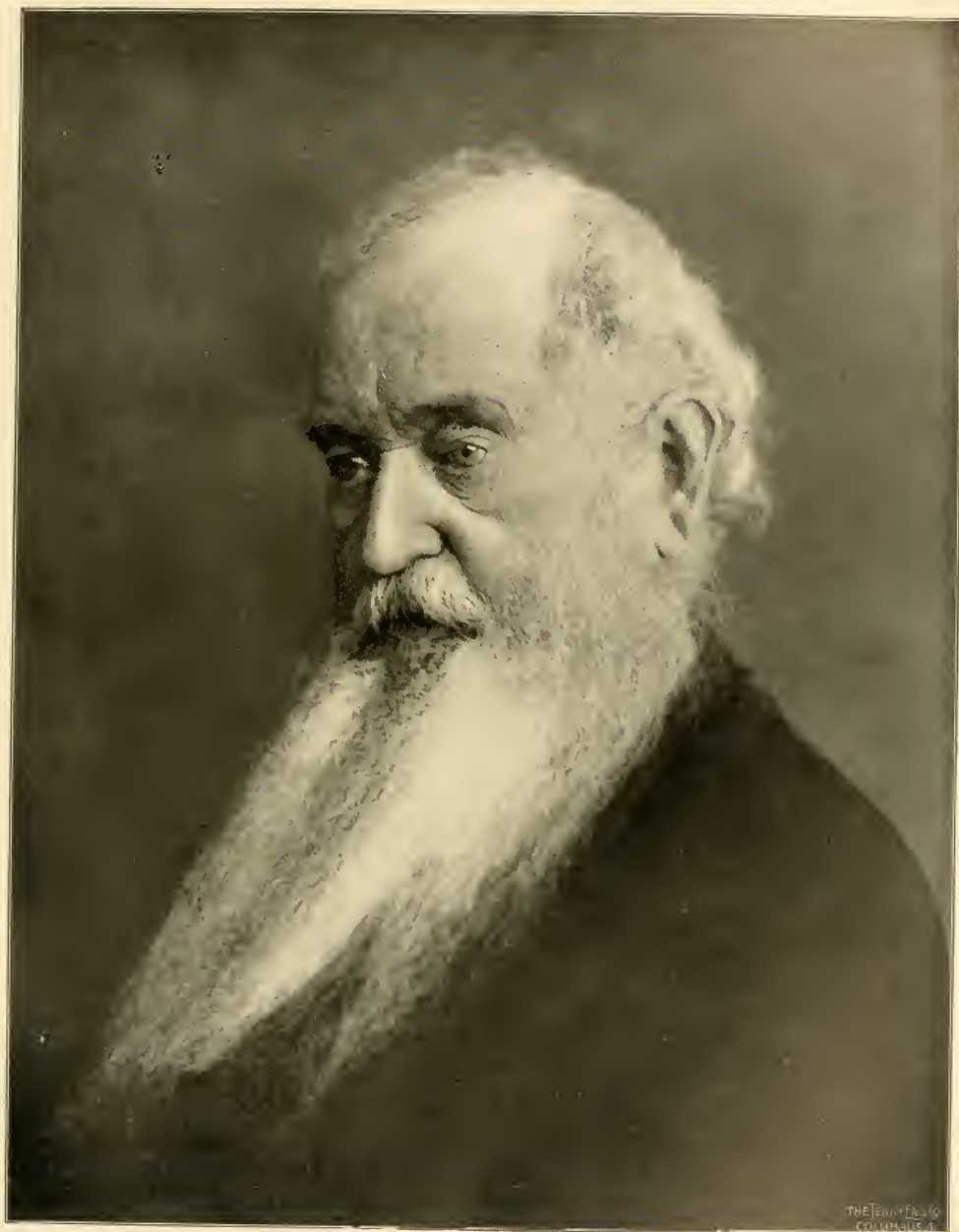
On the 14th day of June, 1894, he was united in marriage to Miss Harriet G. Fish, daughter of George S. and Frances (Buckingham) Fish, of Monroeville, Ohio. Two children bless the union, a boy and a girl, Walter and Dorothy.

He is a Republican in politics, a member of the Episcopal church, a thirty-second degree Mason and an upright, honorable and respected citizen.

#### MAJOR EDMUND ROBERTS KEARSLEY.

The history of a state, as well as that of a nation, is chiefly the chronicle of the lives and deeds of those who have conferred honor and dignity upon society. The world judges the character of a community by that of its representative citizens, and yields its tribute of admiration and respect for the genius, learning or virtues of those whose works and actions constitute the record of a state's prosperity and pride; and it is in their character, as exemplified in probity and benevolence, kindly virtues and integrity in the affairs of life, are ever affording worthy examples for emulation and valuable lessons





E. R. Mearns



of incentive. Major E. Roberts Kearsley was long recognized as one of the most distinguished and honored citizens of Bucyrus and Crawford county, and maintaining deep interest in the affairs of life until called away in death. He led a long, honorable and useful career, which was an aid and inspiration to which occurred February 21, 1901, at the advanced age of eighty-five years. his fellow men and well worthy of emulation.

Fortunate is the man who has back of him an ancestry honorable and distinguished, and to be praised is he who has cast his lines of life in harmony therewith. In person, in character and in talents Major Edmund Roberts Kearsley was a worthy scion of his race. Though his life was one rather of modest reserve than of ambitious self-seeking, he was a peer of many of the most prominent men in the state, and in his adopted county he was a leading figure in promoting the interests calculated to advance the material, intellectual and moral advancement of the community.

Major Kearsley was a native of Pennsylvania, his birth having occurred in Harrisburg, on the 18th of May, 1816, his parents being Jonathan and Margaret (Hetich) Kearsley. His mother died in 1821 and he then went to live with his grandfather, Samuel Kearsley, at Paxton, Pennsylvania. The latter had served as a captain in the Revolutionary war, under the immediate command of General Washington, of whom he was a great favorite, and in the possession of our subject's family is a sword, which was worn by Washington at General Braddock's defeat, in 1755. It is a three-edged flint rapier, on which is engraved:

"Draw me not without reason;  
Sheathe me not without honor."

At Valley Forge, during the war of the Revolution, while the American soldiers were suffering for food and clothing during the severe and memorable winter there, Captain Kearsley and his wife presented the troops with all the flour and meat they could possibly spare from their own larder. Washington was deeply touched by this and ordered the troops paraded at headquarters, and, calling Captain Kearsley from the ranks, personally thanked him, commended his past bravery and his late generous act, and unbuckling the sword which he wore, presented it to the Captain. This weapon passed into the possession of Major Kearsley and was highly prized by him.

Jonathan Kearsley, the father of our subject, was born in Middletown, Pennsylvania, August 20, 1786, and at the age of twenty-five was graduated in Washington College, now Washington and Jefferson College, of Wash-

ington, Pennsylvania. He was a man of superior intellectual attainments and for a time was professor of languages in his alma mater. In the war of 1812 he served as a captain, becoming a member of the staff of General Winfield Scott and participated in the engagements around Lake Erie. August 20, 1814, he was commissioned assistant adjutant general, with the rank of major. The loss of a leg caused his retirement in September, 1814. He was appointed, in 1817, collector of inland revenues in Pennsylvania, holding the position until 1820, when he went to Detroit as receiver of public moneys and as a member of the land board, serving in those capacities until 1849, when he retired to private life. As a citizen he contributed in large measure to the improvement and upbuilding of Detroit and at one time filled the position of mayor. His name is inseparably connected with the history of the early development and progress of Detroit and he won for himself a high place in the esteem and regard of his fellow men.

Major Kearsley remained with his paternal grandfather at Paxton, Pennsylvania, until 1825, when he joined his father in Detroit and there entered the public school, which in those days was held in the officers' quarters inside the stockade. At recess the students extracted much amusement from climbing over the pickets. The Major also pursued his education in Utica, New York, and from 1829 until 1832 was a student in Kenyon College, Ohio. He then went to Detroit as assistant receiver in the Michigan land office, under his father. He was so efficient that Major John Biddle, register of the land office, requested his removal to his department and made him chief clerk, in which service the Major continued until 1840, when failing health caused his retirement. Believing that he would be benefited by outdoor life, he then took up his abode upon a farm of six hundred acres in Oakland county, Michigan, where he remained until 1847. His health being fully restored, he returned to Detroit and among other things superintended the construction of the Biddle house. Descended from military ancestry, he possessed the same spirit of loyalty and patriotism that prompted his grandfather's service in the war of the Revolution, and his father's aid in the war of 1812. He was active in organizing the Brady Guards and became captain of his company. The organization was named in honor of General Hugh Brady, commander of the United States forces, and General Scott pronounced the guards the best drilled company under his inspection. During the Canadian rebellion of 1837-8 the guards were called into active service, which continued a year and a half. The company was composed of the best young men of Detroit, and during the severe winter campaign in protecting the border their services were so thor-

oughly performed and hardships so well borne as to elicit the highest praise from General Brady. Many years later this general, while driving in Detroit, was thrown from a carriage and sustained injuries from which he died. Major Kearsley, who in the meantime had left the city, on hearing of the General's death, returned, and, calling the old Brady Guards together again for the last time, now composed of the solid business men of the city, commanded them as a guard of honor in escorting the remains of the brave General to his last resting place in Elwood cemetery.

Major Kearsley was for many years secretary of the Detroit fire department and was also appointed quartermaster of the state. In that capacity he served with Captain U. S. Grant, then stationed in Detroit. He remembered the future president and brilliant military commander as a mild and unassuming officer. In his younger days Major Kearsley was a thorough sportsman and Crawford county, Ohio, was his favorite hunting ground. During those expeditions he formed many pleasant acquaintances in the then newly settled country about Bucyrus, and in 1851 he took up his residence in the city, entering the office of his uncle, Charles Hetich, who was then county treasurer. In 1852 the Major became deputy auditor under A. M. Jackson. The following year he was elected county auditor and was re-elected for a second term. At the end of that time he was nominated by both parties for a third term, a compliment never before or since conferred upon a single official in Crawford county. During his service in the office the court house and jail were erected. It is needless to say that he was most faithful and capable, as his re-elections indicate this. In 1861 Major Kearsley retired from office, but ever afterward retained an active interest in public affairs, often assisting county officials in the settlement of questions requiring a ripe experience. Through a long period he was a member of the board of education and did much to advance the interests of the schools. In 1862 he was appointed draft officer for this county, where the draft was somewhat bitterly opposed and trouble was feared, but Major Kearsley took personal charge and the confidence of the people in his integrity quieted the bitter feeling. In later years much of his time was given to business interests in Detroit and elsewhere. Often he was called upon to preside at public meetings, which were held in the interests of the city and all improvements found in him a cordial supporter and generous contributor. In his quiet acts of Christian charity he had a faithful assistant in his wife and their acts of benevolence were many, yet performed in true unostentation. The Major was a veteran of the Kearsley Cadets, a well drilled company composed of the best young men of the



county seat. The Bucyrus Memorial Library, to perpetuate the memory of the soldiers and sailors of the Civil war, received his moral and financial support, and it was largely through his instrumentality that the library was placed on a safe financial footing. It stands to-day among the last of his many successful acts for the benefit of the citizens.

On the 27th of June, 1857, Major Kearsley was united in marriage to Miss Martha C. Sweney, a daughter of the Hon. George Sweney, a member of congress. They had one child, a daughter, who became the wife of Elmer L. White, and her only daughter is Margaret Sarah. Mrs. Kearsley died February 25, 1874, and on the 7th of September, 1875, Major Kearsley was again married, his second union being with Miss Susan I. Phillips, then of Geneseo, Illinois, but formerly of Bucyrus. He was connected with various fraternal and social organization. He was a member of the Sons of the American Revolution and took great interest in its work. Prominent in Masonic circles, he was for several years master of Bucyrus Lodge and was a member of the chapter and commandery. He was also identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and passed all the chairs of the subordinate lodge, and Kearsley Encampment, of Bucyrus, was named in his honor. A man of strong integrity and honesty of purpose, he despised all unworthy or questionable means to secure success in any undertaking or for any purpose, or to promote his own advancement in any direction, whether politically or otherwise. Not even the tongue of calumny ever uttered a word to the contrary, nor did the malevolence of detraction dare to assail his private reputation. He was an earnest and consistent Christian, a member of the Presbyterian church, and of the same faith as were his father, grandfather and many generations before them. It is our duty to mark our appreciation of such a man—a man true in every relation of life, faithful to every trust, a citizen diligent in the service of his country and seeking only the public good.

#### NATHAN LUST.

Nathan Lust, who resides in Liberty township, was born in Lykens township, on the 30th of September, 1861. His father, Frederick Lust, was a native of Wurtemberg, Germany, born December 24, 1813, and during his childhood he came to America with his parents. After a short stay in Pennsylvania the family removed to Marion county, Ohio, where the grandparents took up their abode, and as the sons, Caleb, Conrad and Frederick, attained sufficient age and strength, they secured work on the Columbus & Sandusky

turnpike. In this way they earned the capital which they later invested in land, each securing a farm of one hundred and sixty acres early in the '30s. Caleb, who was married, and Frederick Lust came to Crawford county with their household effects loaded in a wagon, and on reaching Chatfield township, they located on a farm in the forest. Caleb there entered one hundred and sixty acres of land and erected a cabin as quickly and as cheaply as possible, while Frederick Lust, who was preparing for the ministry, boarded with his brother and sister-in-law. He adopted the ministry as his life work and for thirty years engaged in preaching the gospel. Although he was not a member of any organized church, he gained many followers through his teachings, his wonderful personality and his clear presentation of the truths of Christianity, and erected what was known as the Lust church. In recent years the old house of worship was torn down and a substantial brick church was erected, which is still known by the old name. Rev. Lust was a man of wonderful memory, of strong mentality and of unquestioned fidelity to the principles in which he believed and which he taught. He labored among his fellow men for their own good and upbuilding of the cause and never sought remuneration for his work in the church. Some time after his arrival in Crawford county he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land of Robert Knott, who was the original settler of the place. The farm was located in Lykens township and there he resided up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1883. In his political views he was a Democrat and he gave his hearty co-operation to every movement or measure which he believed would prove of public benefit. In early manhood he married Miss Sophia Beal, who was born in Lycoming county, Pennsylvania, June 1, 1821, a daughter of Michael and Sophia Beal, both of whom were natives of Germany, but became early settlers of Crawford county. Mrs. Lust passed away December 23, 1864, when our subject was only four years of age, and the father afterward married Miss Dorothy Gross, who still survives him, and is now the widow of Ernest Wilhelm. Unto the parents of Nathan Lust were born nine children, five of whom are yet living, namely: Lydia, the wife of Frederick Hieber, of Liberty township; Sophia, the widow of Martin Durr, of Chatfield township; Louisa, wife of Charles Lindner, of Valparaiso, Indiana; Emanuel, who is living in Holmes township; and Nathan.

In taking up the personal history of Nathan Lust we learn that his boyhood days were spent under the refining influences of a good Christian home and there was received the foundation for his upright character and his useful career. His literary education was obtained in the common schools. On

the 25th of September, 1884, he married Miss Catherine S. Klopfenstein, a daughter of Isaac Klopfenstein, a prominent merchant and stock man of Sulphur Springs. The young couple began their domestic life upon his father's farm, which Mr. Lust rented until 1889, when he removed to Sulphur Springs, and, in partnership with his father-in-law, purchased the flouring mill at that place, carrying on the enterprise for three years, after which they exchanged the mill for one hundred and sixty acres of land, known as the "Old Fry" farm, just north of the town. To this place Mr. Lust removed, making it his home, and after the death of his father-in-law in 1898, he purchased it in partnership with the Keller brothers, cultivating the place for one year. On the expiration of that period he sold his interest in the farm and purchased his present home of forty-one acres in Liberty township. He also owns forty-eight acres in Sandusky township, which has been his property for the past ten years.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Lust has been blessed with four children, of whom three are yet living, namely: Wilbert Lee, Frederick I. and Lloyd E. The daughter, Lulu L., who was the third in order of birth, is now deceased. Mr. Lust keeps well informed on the political issues of the day and votes with the Democracy, but he has never been a politician in the sense of an office-seeker, although he served for twelve years as school director. He belongs to the German Reformed church, in which he has held the office of deacon and elder for several years, and for five years he served as superintendent of the Sunday-school. By all who know him he is highly esteemed as one of the representative men of his community, honored for his sterling worth and respected for his social and friendly nature.

#### JOSEPH W. QUAINANCE.

A highly esteemed farmer of Holmes township, Crawford county, is Joseph W. Quaintance, who was born in Steubenville, Jefferson county, Ohio, on August 31, 1828, a son of Fisher and Sarah (Irey) Quaintance, and was a member of a family of ten children, viz: Ann, who, as the widow of Henry Peasely, recently died at Ada, Ohio; Eli P., who was a respected citizen and prosperous farmer of Holmes township, is also deceased; Susanna, who married John Talbott, is also dead; Hannah died in childhood; Ira died at Newton, Iowa; Dawson is a resident of Putnam county, Ohio; Joseph W., our subject; Charles and George, twins, the latter being deceased and the former a resident of Bluffton, Allen county, Ohio; and the last of the children, Sarah

Jane, is also deceased. Fisher Quaintance was born in Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, on October 12, 1793, a son of Joseph and Susanna Quaintance, of German ancestry, who removed to Jefferson county, Ohio, when their son Fisher was a young man. Here the latter married and six of his children were born. In 1829, with his family and his parents, he removed to Crawford county, Ohio, settling in Holmes township. The grandfather entered forty acres of land, the father one hundred and sixty acres, and his brothers Eli and Samuel each one hundred and sixty acres, and his brother William eighty acres, all of these tracts in mutual contiguity, forming a settlement of the name of Quaintance, and here all of the original members of that settlement lived and died on their farms. On each tract was erected the pioneer log cabin, in the forest, the father of our subject finishing his in one week, although he was obliged to work through rain and snow. The little settlement prospered, and from it came men and women who have been identified with much of the development and progress of this county.

Fisher Quaintance was a cooper by trade and pursued it in connection with his farming for some years in Crawford county. The mother was a most worthy helpmate in those pioneer days, and while all praise should be given those courageous men who faced hardship and toil for the sake of their descendants, how sympathetic should grow the heart over the pioneer mothers! It was not alone the industry of Fisher Quaintance which produced such excellent results and furnished not only the necessities but also the comforts of life to a large family, for every hour was spent by the busy mother, if not in household tasks, in the spinning and weaving which provided the family clothing and the bedding needed through the long winters. Until his fifteenth year our subject never had any clothing that had not been made by her untiring hands. Fisher Quaintance died in 1866, having been a Whig in early days but later a Republican. His religious belief was that of the Quaker, and his honest, upright and peaceful life was a practical illustration of his religion. His testimony was against war, but he cheerfully contributed to provide substitutes during the Rebellion for Holmes township. The mother, a native of Loudoun county, Virginia, was born on January 25, 1792, a daughter of Philip and Hannah Ireby, and on the maternal side was a second cousin to the famous John Brown.

Our subject grew to manhood in his home and obtained his education in the schools of his locality. After reaching his majority he began to engage in farming on the home place, on shares, but that year agricultural conditions were poor, resulting in bad crops. In 1852 Mr. Quaintance purchased two

hundred sheep and put them on the farm. For the first shearing he received fifty cents a pound, and with this money he bought his present farm of one hundred and three acres, and since then has continually prospered.

Mr. Quaintance was married on March 17, 1853, to Lucina L. Gidley, a native of Dartmouth, Bristol county, Massachusetts, the daughter of Charles and Bathsheba (O'Kelly) Gidley, both of them natives of Massachusetts and prominent members of the sect of Quakers. The mother died in Massachusetts, and then the father removed to Crawford county, Ohio, in 1850, married again, and fifteen years later removed to Henry county, Ohio, where he died.

The children born to Mr. Quaintance and wife were: Bathsheba G., who married John Eaton, of Kansas City, Missouri, once a prominent member of the Kansas legislature; Isadore B., the widow of William P. Brown, who resides with her parents; Edith M., who married and is now the widow of Dr. E. B. Simmons, of Los Angeles, California; Ira E., a prominent farmer of Dallas township, this county; Lemert, a miller in Toledo, Ohio; Cora E., who is the wife of W. A. Sherer, of the Provident Loan Company, of Toledo; and Howard J., who also resides in Toledo.

Mr. Quaintance is one of the leading Republicans of this section of the county, and for several years has been a member of the election board. His religious belief is that taught him by his beloved mother, but he attends and assists in supporting the Lutheran church with his estimable wife.

#### HENRY ALTSTAETTER.

Henry Altstaetter, for years one of the most public-spirited citizens and prominent business men of Galion, died in 1900, mourned by a very large circle of friends. He was born in Germany, July 9, 1843, and was a son of Frederick and Susannah Altstaetter. His parents came to this country in 1851, and his father, who was a minister of the gospel, located with his family in Allen county, Ohio. He was not dependent upon his ministerial labors, however, for the support of his family of eleven children, as is shown by his purchase of a quarter section of school land near West Cairo. There the family resided for nearly a decade, when they removed to Delphos, Allen county, which was their home until the death of the father, which occurred in 1883, when he was eighty-one years of age. A few years later the mother died.

Henry Altstaetter received only such educational advantages as were





*Henry Altstatter*



afforded by the common schools near his home, and then was enabled to pursue his studies only through the winter season, for throughout the remainder of the year his services were needed in the cultivation and improvement of the farm. After the inauguration of the Civil war he offered his services to the government, enlisting in Company K, Sixty-sixth Illinois Infantry, and with his regiment he participated in some of the most hotly-contested battles of that sanguinary conflict. During his three years' service Mr. Altstaetter never lost a day from sickness or wounds. He took part with his regiment in the siege of Corinth, the battles of Iuka and Chattanooga, the Atlanta campaign and Sherman's march to the sea, and at Pulaski he veteranized, continuing with his command until the cessation of hostilities. He was one of the most popular "boys" of the regiment and was most loyal and true, being ever found at his post of duty, whether it was on the picket line or the firing line. The patriotic spirit and good fellowship which distinguished him in the great civil conflict seems to have fallen on the shoulders of his son Frederick, now a lieutenant with the regular troops in the Philippines.

Mr. Altstaetter was married September 25, 1865, to Hedwig Jettinger, of Delphos, and to them were born the following children: Henrietta A., now the wife of Frederick Berry; Louisa F.; Lina; Carolina M.; Emma C.; Frederick W.; Hedwig and Ida H. W.

Mr. Altstaetter conducted a brewery at Delphos until 1877, when he removed to Upper Sandusky. A few years later he assumed charge of the Galion brewery, which he successfully managed until his death. When he took control of the enterprise it was in the hands of an assignee and trustees. From the first his wise business judgment enabled him to put it on a firm basis, and in a brief period he had absolute control of the plant. He also became identified with many other business interests of Galion, including the Citizens' National Bank. Quiet and unassuming in manner, he was, nevertheless, a power in the business community, and no project of any importance to the city's prosperity was discussed without the counsel and advice of Mr. Altstaetter, while no subscription paper was circulated, either to help a new enterprise or a deserved charity, that secured a larger contributor than he. Modest, quiet and retiring, he nevertheless exerted a strong influence for good along many lines, and he enjoyed the friendship and regard of young and old, rich and poor. His death, which occurred in 1900, came as a shock to the entire community, and his funeral was attended

by a large concourse of people, many of whom came from Allen and Wyandot counties, where he had previously lived, to pay their last tribute of respect to one whom they had loved and honored.

### JOHN MICHELFELDER.

There is no element which has entered into our composite national fabric that has been of more practical strength, value and utility than that furnished by the sturdy, persevering and honorable sons of Germany; and in the progress of our Union this element has played an important part. Intensely practical and ever having a clear comprehension of the ethics of life, the German contingent has wielded a powerful influence, and this service cannot be held in light estimation by those who appreciate true civilization and true advancement.

The subject of this review comes from stanch German stock. He was born, however, in New Washington, September 6, 1847, and is a son of John and Frederica (Utz) Michelfelder. His father was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, October 5, 1818, and there spent his youth, during which period he learned the trade of a shoemaker. In the spring of 1846 he came to the United States, landing in New York, whence he proceeded by boat to Albany, thence by canal to Buffalo and on to Sandusky by way of lake Erie. At the last named place he worked at his trade as a journeyman until the spring of 1847, when he came to New Washington, Crawford county, and soon afterward opened a shop of his own. In 1863 he put in a general line of manufactured shoes, and in 1870 admitted his son John to a partnership in the business. In 1873 the father withdrew, being succeeded by his son Jacob, and in 1881 the father retired altogether from active business life, enjoying a quiet rest up to the time of his death, which occurred September 14, 1891. He was a stanch Democrat, but never an office seeker. He held membership in the Lutheran church, and his upright Christian life commended him to the high regard of all with whom he was associated. His wife was also a native of Wurtemberg, born January 23, 1823. She came to America with the party of which her future husband was a member. After remaining in Sandusky for a time she came to New Washington, where she gave her hand in marriage to Mr. Michelfelder. Her death occurred May 18, 1898. This worthy couple were the parents of five children, namely: John, of this review; Frederica, wife of George Hildebrand, of New Washington; Jacob, who is with his

brother in business; Catherine, of New Washington; and Frederick, also of New Washington.

John Michelfelder, whose name forms the caption of this review, has spent his entire life in the locality of his birth. His educational privileges were limited, for at the age of fourteen he was taken from school by his father and placed on the shoemaker's bench to assist in providing for the family. When he had attained his majority his father paid him a salary and he remained as an employe in the shop and the store until 1870, when he purchased a half interest in the business. In 1873, however, he withdrew from the firm and established a store of his own. In 1880 his brother Jacob purchased the father's business and the two stores were then merged into one, and the store has since been conducted under the firm style of J. Michelfelder & Brother. They carry a large and well-selected stock of goods manufactured by reliable houses, and their trade is extensive and profitable. Their business methods commend them to the confidence and support of the public, for they are energetic, persevering and trustworthy.

On the 1st of December, 1873, Mr. Michelfelder was united in marriage to Miss Matilda C. High, a native of Cranberry township and a daughter of Michael High. Her paternal grandfather, Valentine A. High, was one of the first settlers of Cranberry township, coming to this county from Germany. Mr. Michelfelder exercises his right of franchise in support of the measures of Democracy, and in the '80s he was elected a member of the board of councilmen of New Washington, in which capacity he served for eight years. During the four succeeding years he was township trustee, and for ten years was a member of the school board, while for three years during that period he served as its chairman and for six years as its treasurer. He has also been justice of the peace for three years; for four years was treasurer of Cranberry township, and for fourteen years was deputy county collector, collecting the taxes for Cranberry township, and for two years served as a member of the Democratic central committee. Thus again and again called to public office, his long retention in official service indicates his strict fidelity to duty and his unquestioned probity in public affairs. He is a zealous advocate and consistent member of the Lutheran church, and in that organization has been honored with various offices, having acted as deacon for ten years, as church treasurer for seventeen years and was chairman of the building committee at the time the present house of worship was erected. This is one of the finest church buildings in the country in a town of its size, the church and grounds costing twenty-two thousand dollars. Our subject is a representative citizen of New Washington.



His is a well-rounded character, in which he has given due attention to physical, mental and moral development. He is justly regarded as one of the leading business men of the community, and as a financier his ability is widely recognized and his integrity is above question. Public spirited and progressive, he withholds not his support from any movement calculated to prove of benefit to the community.

#### FREDERICK SCHIFER.

Although Frederick Schifer is one of the largest farmers and stock-raisers and substantial men in Crawford county, he began life as a poor boy, coming alone to the United States at the age of sixteen and climbing the ladder of success totally unaided.

Mr. Schifer was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, April 7, 1857, a son of George and Barbara (Heinle) Schifer, also natives of Germany, who lived and died in their native land. They had four children, of whom two are dead, and our subject is the only one who came to America. Mr. Schifer was reared in the town of Pfullingen and was given a good common-school education, later learning the butcher trade. At the age of sixteen he decided to emigrate to this country, several causes inducing him to leave his native land. According to German law he would have been obliged to serve in the army for four years, and this was distasteful to him, as he felt he could better use his youth and strength in bettering his condition. At that time his country was involved in no war and he felt that his services were not really needed by it. Another reason that his decision was made at that time was that his maternal relatives were prospering in Crawford county, Ohio, and he knew he could reach them and he felt sure enough of his own ability and energy to enable him also to prosper in the new land.

With a few dollars, Mr. Schifer reached New York in the fall of 1873, and made his way to Bucyrus township, immediately securing employment as a butcher, continuing in that line for the following two years and then engaged as a farm hand. For five or six years he labored hard, and then married, immediately after forming a partnership with George Kramer in the butcher business, this connection lasting for eight years. Mr. Schifer displayed most excellent business judgment in the buying and shipping of cattle, handling a great amount of live stock, and operating at the same time one of the best meat markets the residents of Bucyrus ever had. Two or three years previous to his withdrawal from the butcher business he bought a farm, consisting of one hundred and twenty acres, and to that he finally removed, adding later two

tracts, one of twenty acres and another of eighty acres, and started into farming and stock-raising on an extensive scale. Mr. Schifer has almost all of this land under cultivation or prepared for it, having improved its drainage by tiling, and here he has made a number of most desirable improvements. A fine barn with stone foundation, and a commodious and comfortable residence have been erected, and also a power windmill, which is utilized not only for water but also for the grinding of feed. Mr. Schifer is modern and progressive and has all the comforts and conveniences which in these days make an ideal country home. He is engaged in buying, feeding and selling much stock, principally cattle, and is regarded as one of the best judges of the same in the township.

Mr. Schifer was married in 1881 to Miss Lizzie Leitzzy, and the four children born to this union are: William, Emma, Elsie and George. He has been an ardent and influential Democrat, and for six years, from 1894 to 1900, he was township trustee, serving with great acceptability to the people of both parties. Both he and wife are members of the German Lutheran church, where they are highly esteemed for their many excellent traits of character. Mr. Schifer, by his honest and exemplary life, has become one of the most highly considered citizens of Bucyrus, and well represents the grand old country of his birth.

#### SAMUEL MYERS.

Samuel Myers is now living a retired life in Galion. The rest which should ever crown years of active connection with business has been vouchsafed to him, and with a handsome competence acquired by former toil he is now spending the evening of life in the enjoyment of a well-earned ease. For forty-five years he has been a resident of the city, and his career throughout that period has been as an open book, capable of bearing the closest scrutiny. A native of Switzerland, Mr. Myers was born in the land of the Alps, in the year 1837, his parents being Samuel and Mary (Hildbold) Myers, who came from canton Aargau, Switzerland, to the United States in the year 1838. After landing on the American seaboard they proceeded across the country to Crawford county, Ohio, and took up their abode in Vernon township.

There upon a farm Samuel Myers spent the days of his boyhood, for he was only but a year old at the time of the arrival of the family here. He worked in the fields in his youth, and in the schools of the neighborhood became familiar with the common branches of English learning. In Vernon he mas-

tered the trade of wagon-making under the direction of his two brothers, Jacob and John Myers, who established and conducted business along that line in Vernon township. The first mentioned of these brothers is now deceased, but the latter is still living. Mr. Myers, of this review, with the exception of Adam Howard, Sr., was the first to engage in the manufacture of buggies and carriages in Galion. He took up his abode in the city in 1856 and opened his factory, which he conducted with signal success until 1882. As the years passed his patronage increased, his force of workmen was enlarged and the manufactured articles of his factory were sent widely over the country. In 1882, after twenty-six years' connection with the business, Mr. Myers retired, putting aside the more arduous duties and cares of an industrial life. In the meantime he had become prominent in public affairs, and was ever a citizen who gave his earnest support and co-operation to every measure and movement calculated for the general good. In 1872 he was elected mayor of Galion and filled the office for two years. His service in the city council covers a period of eight years altogether, his last term being in 1893. He filled the office of justice of the peace for two years, occupying that position at the same time when acting as mayor. He has been city marshal, and was constable of Polk township for four years. Over the record of his official career there falls no shadow of wrong, for he gave earnest and careful consideration to the performance of his duty and to the settlement of questions affecting the weal or woe of the people whom he represented. At the present writing, in the spring of 1901, he is again a candidate for the office of mayor.

Mr. Myers was united in marriage, on January 28, 1858, to Miss Catherine Hess, a daughter of Phillip and Philipina (Lautenslager) Hess, residents of Jackson township, Richland county. They were natives, however, of Germany, coming from Hesse-Darmstadt to the new world. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Myers has been blessed with three children, Charles Franklin being the only one living, and is now a resident of San Francisco, California. Nettie, the eldest child, was born March 31, 1859, and died August 4, 1872; William, the youngest child, was born in December, 1863, and died November 25, 1864. Charles Franklin was born August 23, 1861, attended school in Galion, and in 1888 removed to the west. He married Miss Anna Archibald, of this city, and they have two children,—Archibald, who is now a student in a military school in San Francisco, and Marleteta.

For a quarter of a century Mr. Myers has been an exemplary representative of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, belonging to the lodge in Galion. He closely follows the beneficent teachings of the society, has several times

passed all of the chairs and is regarded as one of the most loyal exponents of the principles. His political support has ever been given to the Democracy and he does everything in his power to secure the success of the party at both the state and county elections. He belongs to the Reformed church and his life record is consistent with his profession. In an analyzation of his character and life work we note many of the characteristics which have marked the Swiss nation for many centuries, the perseverance, reliability, energy and unconquerable determination to pursue a course which has been marked out. It is these sterling qualities which have gained Mr. Myers success in life and made him one of the substantial and valued residents of Galion.

#### ALEXANDER HALL.

For half a century Mr. Hall has resided in Crestline and is now a worthy railroad employe. He was born in Columbiana county, Ohio, July 4, 1826, and is a son of Joseph Hall, whose birth occurred in County Antrim, Ireland, in 1790. When a young man the father sought a home in the new world, and in 1821 took up his abode in Columbiana county, where he purchased a tract of land and carried on farming for a number of years. While in Ireland he was married to Miss Connor, and they had a son and daughter, who are both deceased. Mrs. Hall died in Ireland. He then began merchandising in New Alexander, following the latter business until his death, which occurred in 1832. Ere leaving the Emerald Isle he married Miss Jane McCormick, who was born in Ireland in 1800 and died in Ohio in 1871. By this union there were five children—three boys and two girls. Our subject and the youngest daughter, Isabella Gaff, of Wayne county, Ohio, are the only survivors of the family. After the death of Mr. Hall she was a second time married.

In taking up the personal history of our subject we present to our readers the life record of one whose days form a connecting link between the primitive past and the progressive present, for he lived in Ohio during the period of its early development. He pursued his studies in a log school house in Columbiana county, Ohio, and afterward continued his studies in Hanoverton. He remained in that place for ten years and then went to New Lisbon, where he was engaged in clerking for two years. He afterward spent two and a half years as a salesman in a hardware store in Mansfield, and on the expiration of that period went to Stark county, spending six months in selling books and stationery upon the road. He afterward located in Richland county and was employed as a clerk in a grocery store, while for five years he occupied the

position of postmaster, serving in that capacity during the administrations of Presidents Taylor and Fillmore and under Lincoln's first term. In the year 1852 he came to Crestline, where he opened a general mercantile establishment, which he conducted for three years, after which he entered the service of what is now the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, as chief clerk in the warehouse. He is connected with the company for forty years and was then retired with a pension. Great corporations never retain any one in their employ who cannot show a clean record for faithfulness, ability and trustworthiness, and the fact that Mr. Hall was so long connected with the company is unmistakable evidence of his commendable qualities.

In 1849 occurred the marriage of Mr. Hall to Miss Sarah E. Gardner, who was born in Lycoming county, Pennsylvania, in 1829, and was taken to Wayne county, Ohio, when ten years of age. She afterward removed to Richland county, where she was married. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hall have been born six children, of whom four are yet living, namely: Mary R., Frank, Rose and Charles. Lawrence, the second child, and Elsworth, the youngest, have now passed away. Mr. Hall has spent some time in public office. In addition to four years as postmaster, he was postal clerk for two years. He has been a member of the board of education and was trustee of the water works of Crestline for two years. In early life he was a Whig in his political affiliations, and since the organization of the Republican party he has been one of its stalwart advocates, never failing to cast his ballot for governor or president at each election. Having resided in Crestline for almost a half century, he is very well known here, and his life record is as an open book, which all may read.

### JONATHAN F. KIMERLINE.

In no other phase of life can a man better demonstrate his fealty to his country and his loyalty to its interests than in the political arena, for therein is invested the vitality of the nation's power, the mainspring of its internal machinery and the keynote to its progress and prosperity. Among the patriotic citizens of Crawford county who have been closely identified with the Democracy none is better known or more highly appreciated than Jonathan Frederick Kimerline, who is now occupying the position of county auditor. He believes that it is the duty and privilege of every American citizen to give his time and attention to some measure or party interest and to carry out this principle in life by taking an energetic part in political





*J. H. Kuerline*



canvasses, and is a firm believer in the trite saying, that "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty."

Mr. Kimerline was born in Wooster, Ohio, December 6, 1855, and is a son of John and Maria (Derr) Kimerline, both of whom were natives of Germany, the father having been born in Wurtemberg, while the mother's birth occurred in Baden. They were married in that country and came to America in 1854, locating in Wooster, Ohio, whence they removed to a small farm in Wayne county, upon which they spent their last days.

Mr. Kimerline, of this review, pursued his education in the public schools of Wayne county until fifteen years of age and afterward spent one year as a teacher in Smithville Academy. He then became identified with educational interests as an instructor, following the teacher's profession for five or six years during the winter months, while in the summer season he continued his own studies in the Ohio Normal, at Ada, Ohio, where he was graduated with the class of 1882. He has had to depend entirely upon his own efforts, not only for his advancement, but for the educational privileges which he received beyond those of the common schools. His labors enabled him to pursue a college course and thus prepare for his chosen profession. In 1874 he was employed as a teacher in the schools of Chatfield, Ohio, and the following year was made superintendent of the public schools of New Washington, where he remained for a period of twenty years, retiring from the office in 1895 with the confidence and good will of the people, for he had labored untiringly and effectively for the improvement and promotion of the schools of that town. In 1895 he was elected to the office of auditor of Crawford county, and after serving through his first term was re-elected in 1898, so that he is the present incumbent. This is, however, not the extent of his public service, for he was a member of the county board of school examiners from 1880 until 1888.

In Wayne county, Ohio, Mr. Kimerline was united in marriage to Miss Ida May Breneman, a daughter of Dr. J. H. and Lydia (McNary) Breneman. His wife was a very successful and prominent teacher in Wayne county for ten or twelve years, a part of which time she had charge of the Congress schools. She also taught in the New Washington schools. Their marriage is blessed with two living children,—Harry Breneman and Louise Marie. Mr. Kimerline is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, an active worker in its interests and has served as trustee and a member of the official board. For three years he was a member of the Northwestern Ohio Teachers' Association. In 1899 he was elected secretary of the State

Auditors' Association, a position which he held for two years. He is also identified with the Knights of Pythias fraternity and the Order of Ben Hur. In November, 1895, he took up his abode in Bucyrus and he and his wife there enjoy the hospitality of many of the best homes of the city.

#### FRANKLIN HOLBROOK.

Franklin Holbrook, of Bucyrus, was one of the editors and proprietors of the daily and weekly *Forum* until October, 1901, when that paper was sold to the Bucyrus Publishing Company, just then organized. He has had undoubted influence on public thought and opinion through his connection with the paper, which is the oldest journal in the county and which has done much to mold the public policy of city, county and district, having ever been a supporter of all movements and measures calculated to promote the general good and advance progress along substantial lines. Mr. Holbrook was born in Wapakoneta, Auglaize county, Ohio, in 1854, and is a son of George W. and Mary Virginia (Nichols) Holbrook. The ancestry of the family may be traced through many generations to Thomas Holbrooke, who, with his brother John and a number of other emigrants, left Weymouth, in Dorsetshire, England, in 1624, landing on the coast of Massachusetts in the same year. There the party founded the town of Weymouth and Thomas Holbrooke served for many years as selectman. He died there in 1676, and his widow, Joanna Holbrooke, passed away the following year.

George W. Holbrook, the father of Franklin, was born in Palmyra, New York, September 12, 1808. He studied medicine and was graduated in the University of New York. In 1834 he settled in Wapakoneta, Ohio, and became a well-to-do and public-spirited citizen. In the affairs which had marked influence on the development and progress of Auglaize county he took an active interest, laboring earnestly for their promotion. His name is inseparably connected with the history of that community. He mapped out the county, spent three winters in Columbus in attendance on the state legislature and finally secured the passage of a bill establishing the county, practically at his own expense. He owned several thousand acres of land in the vicinity of Wapakoneta and was afterward instrumental in having the county seat established there. He was one of the first judges in the county under the old constitution and was always a prominent politician. In 1881 he was elected to the state legislature, where he served through four consecutive years. He studied closely the needs of his district and of the state and labored untiringly

to secure such legislative enactments as would prove of general good. On the 30th of November, 1836, he married Lydia M. Nichols, who died December 28, 1843, and on the 14th of May, 1845, he wedded Mary Virginia Nichols, who died November 20, 1893. His death occurred June 1, 1890, and all are buried at Wapakoneta. Her father, Isaac Nichols, was a captain in the war of 1812. He represented a Virginia family, who removed from Loudoun county, that state, to Ohio, locating in Lebanon, Warren county, after the second war with England.

Franklin Holbrook pursued his education in the schools of Wapakoneta and was a member of the first class ever graduated in the high school—the year being 1871. He afterward learned the printer's trade in the office of the Auglaize County Democrat, becoming familiar with the business in all its departments. He was there employed until 1876, when he established a paper called the Wapakoneta Bee, continuing the same until 1883, during which time he had made it a representative journal that received a liberal patronage. In its columns he took an active part in public affairs and labored earnestly for the benefit of the community. In 1885 he came to Bucyrus and purchased of Major Williston a half interest in the Forum, of which he was one of the editors and proprietors until October, 1901, as stated at the beginning of this sketch. The year after his purchase the Major sold his interest to Horace Holbrook, a brother of our subject, and to G. A. Nait. A few years later the last named purchased the fourth interest of Horace Holbrook, and in 1894 Albert M. Ensminger became a partner in the enterprise. Mr. Holbrook devoted his time and attention successfully to the paper after coming to Bucyrus, and during this period its circulation was more than doubled, while its plant increased two or three fold in volume, owing to the purchase of new and improved machinery and materials. The firm did, and still does, a large job printing business, and the circulation of the paper is extensive and constantly increasing. This makes it a good advertising medium, and its patronage in various lines is large and profitable.

Mr. Holbrook was married at Wapakoneta, on the 7th of January, 1879, to Miss Mary F. Keuthan, a daughter of F. H. and Mary W. Keuthan, the father having come from Germany to America in early life, while the mother was a native of this country. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Holbrook has been blessed with three children: George Frederick, who was born October 11, 1879; Beatrice, born July 27, 1881; and Horace Rollin, born May 17, 1884. Mr. Holbrook is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Royal Arcanum, the National Union and the Maccabees. He and his wife



have a pleasant home in Bucyrus, where hospitality abounds and where their many friends desire to gather. In the office Mr. Holbrook is a practical man of affairs, busy and energetic, and has attained a success that is the merited reward of his earnest labor and persistency of purpose. In his home he is a pleasant and agreeable companion, and in whatever place or relation found he is a thorough gentleman in the highest sense of the term.

#### DANIEL BRINKMAN.

Prominent among the successful, progressive and substantial farmers of Holmes township is Daniel Brinkman, who comes of fine old German ancestry. His birth was in Bucyrus, Ohio, on January 7, 1840, a son of Christopher and Mary (Heinle) Brinkman, who reared nine children. The three survivors are: Henry, who lives retired in Holgate, Henry county, Ohio; Frederick, who resides in Putnam county, Ohio; and Daniel, who is the subject. The names of those who passed away are: John, Louis, Christian, Jacob, Mary and Elizabeth. The father of our subject was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, in 1804, and while still a young man came to America and located in Pennsylvania. There he learned the wheelwright trade and also the trade of chair-maker, coming to Bucyrus to follow these lines. Some years later he purchased an eighty-acre tract of land, this being the same upon which his son resides, and with a team of oxen and one horse hauled logs from the forest to Bucyrus, where he found a market for them, and in 1841 purchased a portion of the home farm, across the road from his former purchase. The former resident had left a modest frame house, and into this Mr. Brinkman moved, utilizing it as both a residence and shop, and here he carried on his work of chair-making. In 1858 he was able to erect the substantial brick residence which was his comfortable home until his death, in 1878. Mr. Brinkman had made a success of his life through his own efforts. At one time he owned four hundred acres of land, and was regarded as one of the most substantial farmers of his locality. His political leaning was toward the Democratic party. In the German Reformed church he was known for his liberality and display of Christian characteristics.

Daniel Brinkman gained a thorough knowledge of life on a farm during his early years, and has followed the pursuit of agriculture all his life. His education was received in the common schools. When he decided to set up a home of his own he married Miss Sarah A. Layman, a native of this county and a daughter of Mathias Layman, who was one of the early settlers of Craw-

ford county, from Pennsylvania. After marriage Mr. Daniel Brinkman took charge of a portion of his father's land, and engaged in farming on shares for some four years, and then purchased his present desirable farm, consisting of one hundred and thirty-five acres, and here he erected a comfortable but plain residence. He wished to clear off the debt of his farm before he made any extensive improvements, but in 1885 he felt justified in building the commodious and attractive country home which now adorns his estate. In his farming he has been successful, and, like his father, is regarded as a very solid member of the farming community.

Mr. Brinkman has two of his five children and his estimable wife with him, the former being Charles and Alvin. Martha, Anna and Emma, three beloved daughters, have passed out of life. In his political views Mr. Brinkman follows the example of his father and votes with the Democratic party, and is interested in its success, but he is no seeker for office. The religious connection of the family is with the Disciples church, where he is known for his charitable and benevolent actions. Mr. Brinkman is held in high esteem in the township and deserves the good feeling that is generally felt for him.

#### EDWARD FLICKINGER.

The day of small undertakings, especially in cities, seems to have passed and the era of gigantic enterprises is upon us. In control of mammoth concerns are men of master minds, of almost limitless ability to guide, of sound judgment and keen discrimination. Their progressiveness must not only reach the bounds that others have attained, but must even pass beyond into new and broader, untried fields of operation; but an unerring foresight and sagacity must make no mistake by venturing upon uncertain ground. Thus continually growing, a business takes leadership in its special line and the men who are at its head are deservedly eminent in the world of commerce, occupying a position which commands the respect while it excites the admiration of all. At the head of some of the leading industries of Galion stands Edward Flickinger, who is president of the Flickinger Wheel Works and of the Galion Wagon and Gear Company. These enterprises are not only of great benefit to the stockholders but have also materially promoted the interests of the city, for the upbuilding and growth of the community depends upon the industrial and commercial activity.

Mr. Flickinger is a native of Ohio, his birth having occurred in Hamilton, Butler county, on the 12th of August, 1847. The family is of Swiss lineage

and was founded in America by the great-grandfather of our subject, John Flickinger, who came from the land of the Alps in 1752 to the new world, and settled in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania. He erected the first building in that place, and it is still standing. His son, Jacob Flickinger, the grandfather of our subject, was born in 1784, in Lancaster county, soon after the close of the Revolutionary war, and became a minister of the United Brethren church. In 1810 he removed to Ohio, locating in Hamilton, Butler county. He was active in establishing the church there, and his work along lines of good citizenship and Christian character is still manifest in the lives of all who knew him. His example was a source of help to all with whom he was associated, and his memory remains as a blessed benediction to those among whom he lived and labored. He died in 1849. He married Miss Hannah Kumler, a daughter of Bishop Henry Kumler, of the United Brethren church. She was actively associated with her husband in all his pioneer ministerial work in Butler county. She was widely loved by all with whom she came in contact. Her death occurred in 1892, when she had attained the advanced age of ninety-three years. Through a long period she took an active interest in the reunions of her relatives, which were held in Butler county.

Henry Flickinger, the father of our subject, was born in Butler county, Ohio, in 1819, and there became a prominent farmer and a recognized representative of agricultural pursuits. He was also a leading and influential member of the United Brethren church, doing all in his power to promote the cause of Christianity among his fellow men. He was considered a generous, kindly-dispositioned man, and no worthy object or needy person sought his aid in vain. His political support was first given to the Whig party, and on its dissolution he joined the ranks of the Republican party. His wife bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Farlow and was born in Berks county, Pennsylvania, in 1819, coming with her parents to Butler county, Ohio, during her childhood. Her father, John Farlow, was a native of Berks county, Pennsylvania, and died in Butler county, Ohio, at the age of eighty years. In religious belief he was a Lutheran, and in his political faith a Democrat. Mr. Henry Flickinger died in 1891, when seventy years of age, and the mother passed away in 1896, at the age of eighty years. The members of their family are as follows: Amos, who was killed in the battle of Stone River in the Civil war; Matilda and Noah, both now deceased; Mrs. Anna Hone; Enoch; Landis; Susan; and Edward, the subject of this sketch.

The last named was only sixteen years of age when, in response to the president's call, he enlisted in Company F, of the One Hundred and Sixty-

seventh Ohio Volunteer Infantry, serving until the close of hostilities. He participated in the campaigns of Virginia and West Virginia and was ever loyal to the starry banner. After his return to the north he became identified with the industrial interests of Ohio in 1868 as a manufacturer of buggy wheels in Sandusky. The business steadily increased in volume and importance and was carried on until 1880, when Mr. Flickinger removed to Kalamazoo, Michigan. Success attended his industry in that place and he was in control of an extensive business, which he afterward reorganized under the management of a joint stock company, of which he was chosen president. In 1890 the business was sold to the Buggy Wheel Trust Company, and in 1892 our subject erected a large factory in Galion, Ohio. In the same year he removed to Galion. In his wheel manufactory he is now employing two hundred and fifty men. He is also president of the Galion Wagon and Gear Company, and his employes altogether number more than four hundred men. His output is very large, but can hardly keep up with the demands. The warehouses of the company are filled with the best seasoned stock, and both factories are now equipped with the latest and most approved machinery that money can buy and that will turn out a high grade of work. The goods sold by these factories are so favorably known over the country that almost daily purchasers of wheels and bodies and spring wagons come to Galion from all parts of the United States. The growth of his factories has been continuous and healthful, and the enterprise is now one of considerable magnitude. Much of the success which has attended these two undertakings is due to the capable business management, keen discrimination and resolute purpose of Edward Flickinger, who has the business affairs of the two factories well in hand, and whose knowledge of every detail is the result of a lifetime of study. Another enterprise with which he is actively connected is conducted under the name of the Flickinger Company, the partners being our subject, Fred Unckrich and Frank Flickinger. The enterprise was established for the purpose of manufacturing a special line of wheel machinery, consisting of the Unckrich patent spoke polishing machine, a wheel riveting machine and several other machines which are now in process of construction. The company controls the patents on these machines, which are sold to wheel manufacturers all over the United States, and are spoken of in terms of highest praise wherever used. Edward Flickinger also has another branch of business which is equally successful, though of an entirely different nature. In 1890 he purchased a large stock farm at Bellefontaine, Ohio, comprising two hundred and fifty acres. The

place is called the Pleasant Grove Stock Farm, and on it he is extensively engaged in breeding fine draft and French coach horses.

Mr. Flickinger has been twice married. In 1872 he married Miss Emma McCullough, a daughter of Judge McCullough, of Logan county, Ohio. They became the parents of two children, Frank, who has charge of one of the departments of the factory, and Edna. In 1882 the mother died, and in 1884 Mr. Flickinger was again married, his second union being with Miss Elizabeth Colley, of Sandusky, a daughter of Edward Colley, deceased. Their children are Edward, Hazel and Russell. In his political views Mr. Flickinger is a Republican, and socially he is a Mason, having attained the Knight Templar degree in that order. To the subject of this review has come the attainment of a distinguished position in connection with the great material industries of Crawford county, and his efforts have been so discerningly directed along well-defined lines that he seems to have reached at any one point of progress the full measure of his possibilities for accomplishment at that point. A man of distinctive and forceful individuality, of broad mentality and most mature judgment, he has left and is leaving his impress upon the industrial world, and he certainly deserves the splendid success which he has attained, for it has been the result of his ability to recognize and improve opportunities and to control intricate business affairs. Kindness, amiability and courtesy not only characterize his social relations but are the marked features in his business life, and his employes never see a trace of the overbearing taskmaster in him.

### JAMES F. McMAHON.

James F. McMahon is the editor and proprietor of the News-Democrat, of Crestline, and has for a number of years been closely identified with the journalistic interest of Crawford county. He was born in Wooster, Ohio, June 1, 1877, and is the youngest son of John J. and Rose (Cullivan) McMahon, both of whom were natives of Ireland, but in early pioneer days crossed the Atlantic to the new world, and were married in Norwalk, Ohio. Through a long period the father was foreman in the blacksmith shop of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, at Wooster, Ohio, and after a useful and honorable career he passed away on the 5th of May, 1890, at the age of fifty-four years. His widow still survives him and is now a resident of Crestline. In the family of this worthy couple were four children: James F.; John, who is a car-builder of Toledo, Ohio; Katie, who is now associated with our



subject in the publication of his paper; and Mary, the wife of H. A. Schill, of Crestline.

Mr. McMahon, of this review, spent the days of his youth in his native city and is indebted to its public-school system for the educational privileges which he enjoyed. He is now in a line of work which is continually increasing his fund of information. He became connected with the printing business in Wooster, Ohio, in 1894, and in 1895 he came to Crestline, where he was associated with the *Vidette* until the establishment of the *News-Democrat* in 1898. This journal now has a circulation of about a thousand copies. It is published in the interest of the Democratic party and of local advancement, and through its columns Mr. McMahon treats in a fair and impartial manner the questions of local and general importance, at the same time giving an unswerving support to the principles of Democracy. He also conducts a job printing department, and in that branch of the business is securing a liberal patronage, which materially increases his income.

#### WILLIAM SNYDER.

William Snyder, who is living in Crestline, Ohio, was born in Middletown, Crawford county, July 12, 1841. His grandfather, Cristley Snyder, was born in Pennsylvania, and was one of the early settlers of Ashland, Richland and Crawford counties. He took up his abode in the midst of the deep forest where he erected a log cabin and owned a farm. He lived to the very advanced age of ninety-nine years and nine months and then died from the effects of a fall, while his wife, Mary Magdaline Snyder, lived to the venerable age of one hundred and eight years. The father, Peter Snyder, was a native of Ashland county, born in 1803, and in 1808 he became a resident of Crawford county, which at that time was a part of Richland county. Here he was reared upon the farm, and in a log school house, such as was common at that day, he pursued his education. When he had attained adult age he married Miss Lavina Gilland, who was born in this county before its separation from Crawford county. In this part of Ohio she spent her entire life, dying at the age of seventy-one years. After his marriage the father of our subject took up his abode in Jefferson township, near Middletown, but spent the last twenty years of his life in Crestline. He passed the ninety-second milestone and was then called to his final rest. He took an active part in Christian work as a member of the Presbyterian church, and held several offices in the congregation with which he was identified. A life-long Democrat, he also filled some minor

political positions. He took an active part in everything connected with the good of the county and was one of its best known and highly respected citizens, having for eighty-eight years lived within its borders. He was identified with its development and progress and was a witness of its transformation from an unbroken wilderness to its present state of cultivation and improvement. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Snyder were born ten children, six sons and four daughters, all of whom reached mature years, while two of the sons and three of the daughters are yet living.

William Snyder was the eighth in order of birth in the parents' family. He first opened his eyes to the light of day in a log cabin in Jefferson township, and remained upon the old home farm until ten years of age, when the family removed to an adjoining farm. He pursued his studies in the log school house in the primitive manner of the times, and assisted his father in the clearing and cultivation of the fields until 1861, when his patriotic spirit was aroused by the attempt at secession of the south and he offered his services to the government, enlisting among the "boys in blue" as a member of Company K, Sixty-fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He served for about sixteen months and was then honorably discharged on account of disability. Immediately afterward he returned home and has since been identified with the interests of Crawford county.

In 1860 Mr. Snyder was united in marriage to Miss Mary Burnison, a native of Monroe county, Ohio, born May 4, 1844, and is a daughter of John and Mary (Myers) Burnison, who were early settlers of that county. Her father was a native of Stark county, Ohio, but her mother was born in Germany. They became the parents of ten children, Mrs. Snyder being the second in order of birth. She was reared and educated in her native county, and to her husband has been a faithful companion and helpmeet on the journey of life. They began their domestic life in Jefferson township, where they remained for about four years, when they took up their abode in Crestline, Mr. Snyder engaging in the railway service. He was first employed as a brakeman and was soon after promoted to the position of conductor on the Pittsburg, Ft. Wayne & Chicago road. He acted in that capacity for eighteen years, running from Crestline to Ft. Wayne, Indiana, and to Chicago. During the greater part of the time he was a passenger conductor, and was one of the most reliable and trustworthy employes in the service. On leaving the road in 1885 he engaged in the grocery business in Crestline, and for some time has lived retired, enjoying a well-merited rest, his wants being supplied by the competence which he had gained in former years of activity.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Snyder was blessed with two daughters and a son, but the latter, Frank, is now deceased. Minnie Belle, the elder daughter, is the wife of W. D. Cover, and Alice May, the younger, is still with her parents. In his political affiliations Mr. Snyder is a Democrat, and on that ticket he was elected a member of the town council and of the school board. He belongs to Snyder Post, No. 101, G. A. R. and to the Methodist Episcopal church. He has always lived in Crawford county, so that his history is well known and his fellow townsmen have ever held him in the highest respect and regard, owing to his life-long fidelity to manly principle, his social characteristics being those which in every land and every clime command respect.

### JAMES W. COULTER.

In the last half of the past century the lawyer has been a pre-eminent factor in all affairs of private concern and national importance. The man versed in the laws of the country, as distinguished from business men or politicians, has been a recognized power. He has been depended upon to conserve the best and permanent interests of the whole people, and without him and the approval of his practical judgment the efforts of the statesman and the industry of the business man and mechanic would have proved futile. The reason is not far to seek. The professional lawyer is never the creature of circumstance. The profession is open to talent, and eminence or success cannot be obtained except by indomitable energy, perseverance and strong mentality. Such qualities are manifest in the career of Mr. Coulter, now a well-known and successful attorney of Galion, who was born July 4, 1846, in West Bedford, Coshocton county, Ohio. His father, Richard Montgomery Coulter, died in that county when about sixty years of age. He was a native of Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, and a son of William Coulter, a surveyor, who became one of the pioneer settlers of Coshocton county. He erected the first brick house built west of the city of Coshocton, and for many years he was an employe of the United States government. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Phoebe Greer, and was reared in Belfast, Ireland, whence she came to America, and here gave her hand in marriage to Richard M. Coulter.

The subject of this review pursued his education at Spring Mountain, Coshocton county, Ohio, and after completing his literary course he commenced preparation for professional life as a student in the law office of Frank H.

Hurd, of Mount Vernon. He afterward continued his studies under the direction of Hon. A. Jackson and Hon. Thomas Beer, of Bucyrus, and in 1866 was admitted to the bar. He at once located at Galion, where he has since engaged in practice, having long ago won a position of distinction among the leading representatives of the fraternity in this place. Along with those qualities, indispensable to the lawyer,—a keen, rapid, logical mind plus the business sense and ready capacity for hard work,—our subject brought to the starting point of his legal career gifts,—eloquence of language and a strong personality. An excellent presence, an earnest, dignified manner, marked strength of character, a thorough grasp of the law and the ability accurately to apply its principles are factors in Mr. Coulter's effectiveness as an advocate.

For six years Mr. Coulter served as prosecuting attorney of Crawford county. He was also a member of the board of county school examiners for four years, and through a long period was a member of the school board of Galion, acting as its president for some time. Since his retirement from that office his attention has been given strictly to the private practice of law, for he has a large and distinctively representative clientage. However, he is known as a leading and influential member of the Democratic party, has served on the county committee and has done considerable campaign work, attending various political meetings and conventions throughout the state. He is a director and vice-president of the First National Bank of Galion, and was attorney of the New York, Pennsylvania & Ohio Railroad and the New York, Lake Erie & Western road, now known as the Erie line, continuing in that position for thirty years, throughout all the changes made in ownership. For twenty years he has managed two farms, located two miles west of Galion, and is one of the largest real estate owners in the county.

Mr. Coulter married Miss Flora Hetrick, of Galion, a daughter of Samuel Hetrick, one of the old pioneers of the county, and his married life is an exceptionally happy one, his wife being one of the most hospitable and generous women in Galion. Socially he is identified with the Masonic fraternity, and religiously he is connected with the Methodist Episcopal church. He began his business career without capital, save his laudable ambition and unfaltering determination, and the fact that he stands among the wealthy men of the county is due entirely to his own efforts. He has been quick to note opportunities and to improve them, has made judicious investments and throughout his career has transacted his business in harmony with the strictest professional ethics. With him success in life has been reached by sterling qualities of mind and a heart true to every manly principle. He has never deviated from what

his judgment would indicate to be right and honorable between his fellow men and himself and he has gained not only wealth, but the respect and good will of the entire community in which he lives.

#### NICHOLAS FETTER.

Nicholas Fetter is a retired farmer and miller living in Crestline. An excellent example of the self-made American citizen whose life illustrates the progress that an ambitious foreigner can make in this country of unbounded opportunity is shown in the case of Mr. Fetter, one of the leading German-American citizens of Crawford county. His signal success is due to his own energy and the high ideal which his laudable ambition placed before him. Success in any walk in life is an indication of earnest endeavor and painstaking effort,—characteristics that he possesses in an eminent degree.

Mr. Fetter was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, December 28, 1832. His father, George Fetter, was a native of the same locality, was a millwright by trade, and in 1848, when about fifty years of age, came to America, settling in Pennsylvania. There he carried on farming and also engaged in the manufacture of oak shingles. About 1853 he came to Crawford county, Ohio, where he spent his remaining days, passing away in 1886. He married, in the Fatherland, Miss Catherine Beach, and they became the parents of six children, five sons and a daughter, namely: Nicholas, Adam, George, Jacob, Catherine and Henry. All were born in Germany, with the exception of Henry, whose birth occurred in the Keystone state.

Nicholas Fetter is the oldest, and was reared in his native country until fifteen years of age, when he accompanied his parents on their voyage to the new world, locating in Blair county, Pennsylvania, where he remained for about five years. In 1853 he came to Crawford county and began work in a sawmill, also followed farming in the employ of others. In 1860 he began business on his own account, and was so engaged until 1895, when, having acquired a comfortable competence, he retired to private life and has since enjoyed a well-merited rest.

In the year 1860 Mr. Fetter was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary Heckler, who was born in Germany, June 20, 1837, and came to the new world when about twenty-one years of age, taking up her abode in Crawford county. Their marriage has been blessed with two sons and a daughter, namely: Caroline, wife of Nicholas Amos, who is proprietor of the Continental Hotel at Crestline; Frances, wife of Frank Nicely, of Galion; and John, who married



Miss Ludwig and resides in Crestline. Mr. Fetter has served as a member of the board of education of the city and is deeply interested in everything that pertains to the substantial improvement of the community. He votes with the Democracy and is a member of the German Reformed church. He has ever conducted his business affairs so that he has won the confidence and good will of all who know him. As a man and citizen he enjoys the added prosperity which comes to those genial spirits who have a hearty shake of the hand for all those with whom they come in contact from day to day and who seem to throw around them in consequence so much of the sunshine of life.

### ISAAC C. GUINTHER.

The world instinctively pays deference to the man whose success has been worthily achieved, who has acquired high reputation along the line toward which his energies have been directed and whose social prominence is not less the result of an irreproachable life than of recognized natural gifts. It is a pleasing indulgence to write the biography of a man of this character. The country has produced many brilliant men, who in military or civil life have won prominence and honor; most of our noblest and best men are self-made, and Mr. Guinther is a representative of this class, for his life has been devoted to labors where wealth or influence availed little or naught, the measure of success depending upon the mentality, intellectual acquirements and broad culture of the individual. Mr. Guinther has left the imprint of his individuality on each place in which, for any length of time, he has resided, and has opened to many the portals of knowledge, wherein memory's casket may be filled with the choicest gems,—the only treasures which we may safely call our own. As an educator Professor Guinther is widely known and is now occupying the responsible position of city superintendent of the schools of Galion. Familiarity through the medium of books and study with the most gifted minds of every nation and of every clime has well qualified him for the incumbency. He has served in this capacity since 1896, during which period the schools have made marked progress.

Professor Guinther is numbered among the native sons of Crawford county, his birth having occurred in Whetstone township, December 25, 1856, and his parents being Jacob and Catherine (Schallenmiller) Guinther. His father was a native of Germany, born in Wurtemberg, near Stuttgart, in 1814, but when fourteen years of age he came to the new world, taking up his abode in Philadelphia, where he remained until he had attained his majority. He

then came to Ohio, acting as clerk for William Miller in one of the first hotels in Bucyrus. Subsequently he located upon a farm in Tully township, Marion county. A few years afterward he took up his abode in Whetstone township, Crawford county, a location joining the one in Tully township, where he spent his remaining days, his death occurring in 1884, when he was about seventy years of age. His wife represents one of the pioneer families of Pennsylvania, her people having located in the Keystone state prior to the war of the Revolution. From Lycoming county, Pennsylvania, representatives of the name came to Ohio, and Mrs. Guinther was one of the first settlers on the plains south of Bucyrus. She is still living at the old homestead in Whetstone township, south of New Winchester, at the age of eighty years. Her children were as follows: Mrs. Mary Ulmer, who is living in Whetstone township; George J., a resident of the old homestead in Tully township, Marion county; Sophia, at home; Catherine, the wife of S. Rexroth, of Polk township, Crawford county; Isaac C., of this review; Charlotta, wife of S. Stump, of Whetstone township; and J. F., who is living on the old homestead in Whetstone township. Jacob Guinther was, as is still his surviving widow, well known for honesty and integrity, and for devotion to the welfare of the family, and held in the highest esteem by all.

Professor Guinther, who forms the immediate subject of this review, pursued his preliminary education in the public schools of Whetstone township and later entered the Northwestern Ohio Normal University, at Ada, where he pursued the scientific and classical courses, being graduated in 1883, with the degree of bachelor of science and master of arts. He determined to devote his life to educational work, and some time before his graduation he began teaching, his first school being at New Winchester, in Whetstone township, taking charge thereof in the year 1876. For several years his time was devoted to teaching and to study. After graduation he continued teaching, having been employed at Nevada, Galena, and Utica, all in Ohio. At Nevada, one year; Galena, three years and Utica, four years. Throughout his teaching he has never been obliged to change positions, but did so as better fields opened up for his service. In 1891 he accepted a position as teacher in the grammar grades at Galion, since which time he has been identified with the schools of this place. In 1892 he became principal of the high school, and for four years served in that capacity, and was then, in 1896, chosen to the position of superintendent of the Galion schools. In this position he has direction and supervision of all the pupils of the public schools, and at present thirty-two teachers. There are four school buildings in the city,

The high school course now covers four years and is most thorough and efficient, as is the work done in the grades. Professor Guinther is continually studying, striving to improve the school work and introduce new methods, as they seem of practical value and benefit, and his own interest in the work is an inspiration and aid to the teachers.

In 1885 occurred the marriage of Professor Guinther and Miss Mary M. Rexroth, a daughter of John and Anna (Reimhert) Rexroth, who came from Germany to this country in 1840 or '41, and are now deceased. The marriage of our subject and his wife has been blessed with five children, namely: Paul Emerson, a youth of fourteen, who is now in the high school; Fred Ernest, Robert I. and Lawrence Oliver, aged, respectively, twelve, ten and seven years; and Mildred Lucile, the only daughter, now a little maiden of four summers.

In his political affiliations the Professor is a Democrat, but has no time for active political work. He holds membership in the Presbyterian church and is deeply interested in its growth and progress. He is a man of broad, scholarly attainments, who has had marked influence upon the intellectual development of the city and whose labors have been of incalculable and of far-reaching benefit.

#### L. M. SMITH.

L. M. Smith, the well-known business manager of the Crawford County News, was born in Lykens township, Crawford county, September 1, 1868, his parents being Frederick and Lucy Ann (Shupp) Smith. The father located in this county when a young man, in 1840. He was a native of Saxony, Germany, and on coming to America first took up his abode in Columbus, Ohio, whence he came to this county. He did contract work on the national pike and afterward purchased a quarter section of land in Lykens township, which he brought under a high state of cultivation. He first married Christiana Tipman, of Saxony, Germany, who died in 1846, leaving four children, namely: Louis F., of Lykens township, who has served as justice of the peace and notary public; John F., a resident farmer of the same township; Adolph G., a contractor living in Aurora, Illinois; and Clara, now the wife of Joseph Laipply, of Lykens township. After the death of his first wife the father married Lucy Ann Shupp, a daughter of Michael Shupp, a native of Pennsylvania and a pioneer of Crawford county. She was born June 3, 1830, and the children born of this marriage are: Cornelius, who



*L. M. Smith.*





is living in Bucyrus; Matilda, deceased; Catherine, the wife of Jacob Meek, of Holmes township; Frederick, who is engaged in business at Lemert, Ohio; Henry, a farmer of that place; Lucy Ann, deceased; Jefferson L., of whom mention is made elsewhere in this volume; Emma J., wife of Abraham Scheifer, of Lykens township; L. Melancthon; and Serepta, wife of C. H. Flickinger, of Holmes township. The father of this family was a very prominent and influential citizen of Crawford county, and from 1862 until the time of his death served as justice of the peace. His rulings were strictly fair and impartial and his counsel was sought far and wide in law matters. He was also township clerk for many years and during a greater part of the time was a member of the school board and actively promoted the educational interests of his community. He was also a leading member of the Grange and was an active and progressive citizen. He died December 3, 1877, at the age of sixty-one years, and his wife passed away in 1891, when also sixty-one years of age.

L. M. Smith, of this sketch, spent the days of his childhood upon the home farm and in the district schools of the neighborhood acquired the rudiments of his education. He was only nine years of age at the time of his father's death, and at the age of sixteen he was forced to start in life on his own account. For several years he acted as a salesman in a general store belonging to his brother Lemert, and the practical business training which he there received has proven of value to him in his later career. Realizing the importance of education and feeling its lack in his own life he determined to add to the knowledge he had previously acquired and therefore entered the high school at Bucyrus. At a later date he also pursued a commercial course in the Ohio Business College, at Mansfield, and was graduated in that institution in 1888.

After leaving school Mr. Smith filled important positions with a large manufacturing establishment and with the Adams Express Company until 1891, when he became connected with the journalistic interests, becoming an equal partner in the New Washington Herald in conjunction with his brother, J. I. Smith, deputy county auditor. He successfully managed the Herald until September, 1898, when, being desirous of locating in the county seat, he purchased a half interest in the Crawford County News, of which he is the business manager. He is a conscientious and far-sighted business man and his executive ability is manifest in his capable control of the business affairs of the News office. Prosperity has attended the undertaking, owing in no small degree to the efforts of Mr. Smith.

In New Washington, Ohio, in 1892, was celebrated the marriage of L. M. Smith and Miss Bessie Sexauer, a daughter of C. Frederick and Mary (Zeigler) Sexauer. Her paternal grandparents were Christian and Caroline (Schindler) Zeigler, both of whom were natives of Baden, Germany. They came to America in 1827, locating in Sulphur Springs. After the death of her first husband Mrs. Sexauer married J. G. Kinniger, who opened a wagon shop at Sulphur Springs, Ohio. He was joined in the industry by his stepson, C. F. Sexauer. Together they carried on business for a number of years. The wife of C. F. Sexauer is a daughter of Dr. G. L. Zeigler, who was a prominent physician in pioneer times. Mr. Smith is a member of the Knights of Pythias lodge and he and his wife hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church.

P. S.—Since the foregoing sketch of Mr. Smith was penned, the Bucyrus Publishing Company, a stock company, was organized. The new organization purchased the Daily and Weekly Forum and the Semi-Weekly News, and combined the two newspapers. Stock in the new company was offered for sale to the public, many leading Democrats of the county taking stock. Such was the popularity of Mr. Smith that he, also being a stockholder, was, upon the organization of the company, elected a director and the treasurer and business manager, a position he is ably filling at this writing.

### JOSEPH W. HOLMES.

As the prosperity or progress of a nation is the result of the aggregate endeavor of its individual citizens, so the history of a nation is the record of the aggregate achievements of its people. Biography thus becomes the very foundation upon which must rest all general history of mankind. The importance of making permanent record of the life work of men who are worthy such distinction cannot be overestimated. Colonel Joseph William Holmes is one who has attained distinction in connection with public affairs in Crawford county and in the military service of his country, where he won the title by which he is now known. At present he is living retired, enjoying a well merited rest. His life history closely associates him with the progress and advancement in this portion of Ohio, and therefore he well deserves honorable mention in this volume.

Colonel Holmes is a native of Massachusetts, his birth having occurred in Dalton, in September, 1821, his parents being Joseph and Ruth Ann

(Renne) Holmes. The father was a native of England, his birth occurring near the city of Boston, in Yorkshire. When a young man he crossed the Atlantic to the new world, and here met and married Miss Renne, who was a native of the Empire state. The wedding was celebrated, however, in the old Bay state, where they resided for a few years, after which the father started on a return trip to England to settle up an estate there, and on his homeward journey was lost at sea. The mother had one brother who served in the war of 1812 and afterward became a pioneer settler of Springfield, Illinois, where many of his descendants are still living.

Colonel Holmes pursued his education in the schools of his native city and spent much of his youth upon a farm, but, not desiring to follow agricultural pursuits as a life work, he learned the trade of cabinet-making. After attaining his majority he made his way to Albany, New York, and at different times resided at New Lebanon Springs, Chatham Four Corners, where he was engaged in business as a cabinet-maker and undertaker. While residing at Lebanon Springs he was united in marriage to Miss Mary Lord, a daughter of Joseph Lord, but she did not long survive their marriage. She died leaving one daughter, Mary Josephine, who is now the wife of Ernest S. Cooper, a merchant traveler residing in Toronto, Canada.

Colonel Holmes continued his residence in the Empire state until 1862, when, the country having become involved in war over the slavery question and the right of the southern states to secede from the Union, he enlisted in response to the president's call for troops, joining the One Hundred and Twenty-ninth New York Infantry at Niagara Falls, in 1862. This was afterward changed to the Eighth New York Heavy Artillery and was commanded by Colonel Peter A. Porter. Mr. Holmes was mustered into the service as captain of Company E, Eighth Regiment of New York Heavy Artillery, for three years, on the 22d of August, 1862; was appointed major on the 19th of June, 1864, and became lieutenant colonel on the 14th of January, 1865. He served in the Second Brigade, Second Army Corps, of the Army of the Potomac, and acted as commander of the regiment and also of the battalion, much of the time, for Colonel Porter was killed at Cold Harbor while making a charge upon a masked battery and the senior major was there wounded, so that Colonel Holmes was left to command the battalion. When the start was made for the James he also commanded the battalion. The regiment numbered nineteen hundred men. On the 18th of June, 1864, in front of Petersburg, his promotion first came to him on the field of battle, in recognition of his coolness and bravery under fire and in return for his services in

preventing a panic in the line in front of his command. With fixed bayonet he ordered his troops to gather the panic-stricken line into place until their officer could get the men once more under control. This prevented a great disaster to the Union troops. The aide at division headquarters praised this as one of the most prompt acts he had ever witnessed in an emergency. Colonel Holmes participated in the battles of Spottsylvania Court House from the 17th to the 21st of May, 1864; Harris House, May 19; North Anna, May 22 to 26; Totopotomy, May 27 to 31; Cold Harbor, June 3; the movement before Petersburg from the 15th of June until April, 1865; the assault on Petersburg, continuing from the 15th to the 19th of June, 1864; Weldon Railroad, June 21 to 23; Deep Bottom, July 27 to 29; Strawberry Plains, August 14 to 18; Reams' Station, August 25; Boyington Plank Road, October 27 to 28; Dabney Mills, February 25 to 27; the attack on the works at Petersburg, March 25; Appomattox, from the 28th of March to the 9th of April; White Oak Road, March 29 to 31; the fall of Petersburg, on the 2d of April; the battle of High Bridge, April 7; the engagement at Appomattox, on the 9th of April; and many others of lesser importance. On account of the close of the war Colonel Holmes was mustered out of service on the 5th of June, 1865. In 1863 he had been made provost marshal at Fort McHenry, serving there until the month of May, 1864. The Colonel was ever found at his post of duty as a faithful defender of the old flag, and his own bravery and loyalty inspired his men to deeds of valor in many an attack upon the Rebel works or the troops in the field.

When hostilities had ceased Colonel Holmes returned to Niagara Falls and entered the railway service. He was afterward at Meadville, Pennsylvania, and Kent, Ohio, and in 1865 entered the service of the Atlantic & Great Western Railroad, at Galion, Ohio, with which he remained for nineteen years in charge of the car department. In 1884 he went to Peru, Indiana, in the service of the Wabash Railroad Company, and afterward to Big Springs, Texas, on the Gould railroad. Subsequently he returned to Peru, Indiana, and was later transferred to Butler, Indiana, having charge of the car department. When the shops were destroyed by fire he went to Allegheny, on the Pittsburg & Western Railroad, where he was made general foreman in the car department, acting in that capacity most acceptably until ill health forced his retirement in 1890. Mr. Holmes then returned to Galion, where he has since resided, one of the valued and honored residents of this place. His long continuance in the railroad service is a proof of his fidelity to duty and his faithful performance of all work entrusted to his care.

Colonel Holmes was united in marriage, in 1862, in Niagara Falls, New York, to Miss Emily Parsons, a native of that place. They now have one son, Charles Parsons, who pursued his education in the public schools of Galion and afterward entered the railroad service, being foreman in the machine shops of the Big Four Railroad at Lindale, Ohio, and at the present time is employed in the Erie Railroad at Cleveland, this state. The family are Presbyterians in religious belief, and the Colonel is a stanch Republican, having supported that party since attaining his majority. Since 1846 he has been a valued and loyal representative of the Masonic fraternity, having joined the order at Chatham Four Corners, New York. He now belongs to the blue lodge, chapter, council and commandery, and has attained the Thirty-second degree of the Scottish Rite. He passed all the chairs in the subordinate lodge and was one of the organizers of Galion Lodge, No. 414, F. & A. M. He also belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic, and in 1884 served as commander of the post in this place. His life has been open to his fellow citizens, and no suspicion of any doubtful practice in business has ever been attached to it. It has been clean in every way, and his influence has ever been for what is honest, for everything that is elevating, for everything that conserves the interests of the city, for everything that is sound in finance, for everything that is true and everything that is right.

#### JACOB H. PETRI.

For more than a quarter of century Jacob Henry Petri has been numbered among the merchants of Galion and is to-day the leading dealer in men's furnishing goods and clothing. He also conducts a general merchant tailoring establishment, and through the long period of his association with commercial interests in the city he has enjoyed a large and constantly increasing patronage. A native of Germany, he was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, and is a son of John and Elizabeth (Yeater) Petri, the former a farmer by occupation. In the year 1866 the subject of this review bade adieu to the fatherland, and, with a determination to seek his fortune in the new world, crossed the Atlantic to the United States. He had pursued his education in the public schools of Germany, but aside from his education had little to aid him in starting out in life on his own account.

Ohio became the scene of his labors, and he took up his abode in the city of Akron, whence he came to Galion in 1872. Here for two and a half years he was employed as a cutter in a merchant tailoring establishment and



then, with the capital he had acquired through his industry and economy in former years, he began business on his own account, opening a merchant tailoring establishment. Success crowned his efforts and in about three years he increased his business by adding a line of ready-made clothing, hats and caps; and so successfully has been his adventure that to-day he has one of the finest and best stocked gents' furnishing stores in Galion. As the years have passed he has enjoyed an excellent trade, for his workmanship in the one department is reliable and the line of ready-made clothing which he carries is just what it is represented to be. His business methods are in harmony with the strictest ethics of commercial life, and his well known honesty and fair dealing have gained for him a liberal share of the public patronage.

Mr. Petri was united in marriage to Miss Margaret B. Byrider, of Akron, Ohio, and unto them have been born the following named: Edward W., who is engaged in business with his father; Otto G., who is also in the store; Laura, Estella and Florence, who are at home. Mr. Petri is a valued and consistent member of the German Lutheran church of Galion, in which he has served as trustee through the past twenty years.

He takes quite an active interest in public affairs, doing all in his power to promote the substantial development and upbuilding of the community. For four years he was a member of the city council and for six years was trustee of Polk township, while for three years he occupied a position on the board of equalization. In 1901 he received the nomination for county commissioner on the Democratic ticket. In the positions which he has filled his fidelity to duty has been most marked and commendable and has been the salient feature which has caused his retention in office. He is public spirited in an eminent degree: national progress and local advancement are causes both dear to the heart of this adopted and thoroughly loyal son of the republic. His devotion to the country is above question, and no native son of America is more true to her institutions or more faithful to his duties of citizenship.

#### WILLIAM LINN.

It is generally conceded that the state of Ohio has a type of citizenship which is not surpassed by that of any other state in the Union. From its farming communities have come men of world-wide fame. Crawford county is particularly favored and among the representatives of old and honored families is William Linn, whose ancestors were among the early settlers.

William Linn was born in Holmes township, Crawford county, on July 17, 1835, a son of William and Sophia (Veivle) Linn, who reared a family of eight children, four of whom still survive, these being: William, of this sketch; Caroline, the wife of Augustus Cronenbaugh, of Ada, Ohio; Julia, the wife of Louis Holker, of Kansas City, Missouri; and Louis, of Williams county, Ohio. The father and mother were born in Bavaria, Germany, and married there, where two children were born. In the spring of 1834 they emigrated to America, landing in New York City, after a voyage of thirty-five days, and coming then to Ohio, spending six months in Massillon, where Mr. Linn worked at his trade of shoemaker. They then came to Crawford county and settled on thirty acres of land, nearly all of which was covered with timber, on the Sandusky pike road, in Holmes township. Mr. Linn immediately set to work clearing his land and built a log cabin and settled down to hard and laborious work. Later he purchased eighty acres, which is now owned by our subject, and an additional eighty acres, which is now the property of Henry Leimenstoll. The father lived and died on the thirty-acre farm, on March 30, 1895, at the advanced age of ninety-one years. His political choice of party had been that of Democracy. A faithful member of the German Lutheran church, he was valued for his many excellent qualities.

Our subject was reared on the farm and found much to do while still a lad. His school facilities were limited, but his natural ability enabled him to learn quickly when he had the opportunity. In 1856 he married Miss Leah Fralick, a native of Holmes township, in this county, the daughter of Jacob Fralick, one of the early settlers of this county. Then Mr. Linn located on his present home farm, which was covered with timber except some fifteen acres, upon which was erected a log cabin. Game was plentiful, squirrels, wild pigeons and wild turkeys were abundant. Mr. Linn set about industriously to clear his land and paid his father a stipulated sum yearly up to the time of his death. A number of additions have been made to the original tract, and now Mr. Linn owns five hundred acres of some of the very choicest land in Crawford county.

A family of seven children, two boys and five girls, blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Linn, these being: Washington G., a farmer of this township; Lafayette, a farmer of this township; Allie J., the wife of T. W. James, of Holmes township; Lucy A., the wife of Charles S. Spore, of Holmes township; Melissa, at home; Laura J., the wife of George Heilerman, of Marion county; and Clara D., the wife of Welmer Sawyer, a manufacturer of soft drinks in Bucyrus, Ohio.

Mr. Linn is a staunch Republican, although he was born and bred a Democrat. Slavery in the old party caused him to join the Republicans. For many years he has been a consistent member of the German Lutheran church, and is one of the most highly esteemed men of the county.

#### DANIEL BABST.

Daniel Babst was born at Elkirch, a little village near Strasburg, France, March 11, 1810, and at the time of his death had reached the advanced age of eighty-three years, one month and nine days. His father, Jacob Babst, was an officer in the French army, holding a commission from Napoleon I. His mother was of a wealthy and distinguished family of Great Hoffstaater, near the city of Berne, Switzerland. Her father was one of two *staatsrath* representing the canton of Berne in the *st nde-rath* of Switzerland, an elective body corresponding to our United States senate.

The youth of Daniel Babst was passed amid the stirring events following the time of Napoleon I, a vivid impression of which he ever retained, especially the return of Napoleon's straggling army from Waterloo. His home being broken up by the death of his mother he resolved to come to America, and landed in New York city in the summer of 1832. Some years later he was followed by the members of his immediate family. In his later years he was fond of relating to his grandchildren his hunting experiences on the present site of Central Park; Hoboken, New York's populous suburb, comprising only truck farms. During his three years' residence in the city he was a frequent witness of the heartless persecution of the embryo Abolition Association, a fact which accounts for his subsequent anti-slavery activity. In 1835 he removed to Massillon, and from there to Canal Fulton, one of the most considerable towns on the Ohio canal, then the only direct connection between the lakes and the Ohio river. At Canal Fulton he was married to Margaret Yost in 1841, which union was blessed by seven children, five of whom, and the aged mother, survive him; the children being Mrs. C. F. Frank, Jacob Babst and Daniel Babst, Jr., of this city, Mrs. William Ritter, of Mansfield, and Thomas P. Babst, of Topeka, Kansas.

Previous to his removal to Crestline, he made an extended prospecting tour through the west and northwest, spending several days at the present site of Chicago, then a mere hamlet, presenting no very attractive inducements to a prospective citizen. Crestline was one of the most important railroad towns in the State and presented advantages to Mr. Babst, which resulted in his re-



*Samuel Baboș*





removal here in 1852, coming on the first passenger train of the old Pennsylvania & Ohio Railroad, the present Pennsylvania main line. Possessing considerable wealth he made extensive purchases in real estate, building and opening the American House, the present Billow block. In 1858 he built his beautiful home south of town, where he resided with his aged wife until the time of his death. In 1871 he founded Babst Banking House with his son, Jacob Babst, cashier. In 1878 he retired from all active business in favor of his sons Jacob and Daniel Babst, Jr. In the business life of Crestline there has been no important enterprise which has not felt the influence of his energy and vigorous business ability.

Never seeking political advantage, he always adhered to the principles represented by the Whig and later by the Republican parties, his single political service being that of delegate to the national Whig convention of 1848. His outspoken and strong convictions on the slavery controversy are matters of local history well known to many of our citizens active in those violent times. In his retirement no picture of family love could be brighter than that presented by this aged couple, living in their beautiful home, surrounded by children and grandchildren. Fifty-two years of constant companionship had taught them the joys of love and contentment, easing life's cares by the confidence of mutual steadfastness, and to the immediate friends and family the fading outline of this happy devotion will ever be of blessed memory and a perpetual inspiration to fidelity and love.

#### FRANK C. McGAUGHY, D. D. S.

Among the younger representatives of the dental fraternity in Crawford county is Dr. Frank Cloud McGaughy, of Galion, who has already attained a success which many an older practitioner might well envy. He is a native of Chesterville, Ohio, and a son of Hugh P. McGaughy, one of the early settlers of the state, who was born at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, March 24, 1838. His paternal grandfather was William McGaughy, of Gettysburg, who in pioneer days came with his family to Ohio, casting in his lot with the early settlers of Morrow county. Hugh P. McGaughy was only fifteen years of age at the time of the removal. The family located upon a farm, and there he was reared to manhood. After attaining his majority he was joined in wedlock to Miss Hannah Bonar, a native of Morrow county, Ohio, and a daughter of John and Clarissa (Lewis) Bonar, the latter of Knox county, Ohio.

The Doctor spent his youth in Chesterville and at the usual age entered the schools of that city, pursuing his studies there until he had completed the high-school course. Wishing to devote his life to professional labors he resolved to join the dental fraternity and became a student in the dental department of the Ohio Medical College, in which he was graduated with the class of 1897. On the 1st of July, 1898, he took up his abode in Galion, where he has since remained, and already he has won an enviable place among the representatives of his chosen calling, having a large patronage, which is constantly increasing. His methods are modern, his workmanship excellent and his knowledge of the principles of the science of dentistry is comprehensive and exact. Socially the Doctor is connected with the Knights of Pythias lodge. He is a young man of genial disposition, unfailing courtesy and genuine worth, and these qualities have rendered him very popular.

#### CHRISTIAN F. EISE.

Christian Frederick Eise, a well-known resident of Galion, was born in the city which is still his home, his natal day being July 30, 1859. His parents, Frederick and Catherine (Poister) Eise, are both now deceased. The father was a railroad carpenter and was a well known and highly respected citizen of his community, giving special aid to the work of advancement and the moral interests of his county. He labored earnestly in the church and Sunday-school and his life was a potent influence for good. Both he and his wife were natives of Germany, becoming residents of Galion in 1856, and there remaining until called to their final rest.

In the public schools of his native city Christian F. Eise pursued his education, becoming familiar with both the German and English languages. His desire for newspaper work led him to serve an apprenticeship in a newspaper office in Indianapolis before his graduation at school, which event occurred in 1874. Throughout his entire business career he has been identified with journalistic work. In 1879 he began the publication of a paper in West Milton, Ohio. A year later he was appointed a historian of county histories and in 1881 he established the Bainbridge Courier, at Bainbridge, Ohio, continuing as its editor and publisher until 1885. He was then employed in the government printing office at Washington, D. C., for a year, and afterward about eight years in the office of the Galion Inquirer. In 1891 he established the Galion Daily Leader, with which he is still connected. This is a wide-awake and enterprising journal and now has a good circulation, which

makes it an excellent advertising medium. It is devoted to local interests and to the dissemination of general news, and is a journal which would prove creditable in almost any city. In the year 1887 Mr. Eise was elected city clerk of Galion and his faithfulness and ability, as well as the confidence reposed in him by his fellow men, is indicated by the fact that he held the office continuously for eight years. He also served as health officer, has been a member of the county election board and has held other important political positions.

Mr. Eise was united in marriage to Miss Zetta Lois Norton, a resident of Yellow Springs, Ohio, the wedding being celebrated in 1881. They now have one child, Florence Norton, a young lady of eighteen years. Socially Mr. Eise is connected with the Independent Order of Foresters, with the Junior Order of United American Mechanics and with the Daughters of America. He is likewise connected with Galion Tent, Knights of the Macabees, and has served as a delegate to the great camp. Both as a public citizen and as the publisher of one of the leading papers of the county Mr. Eise contributes in large measure to the general welfare by supporting all movements calculated to prove of public benefit.

#### JACOB D. FIRSTENBERGER.

Throughout the greater part of his life Jacob D. Firstenberger was a resident of Galion and was long an active and honorable factor in the business interests of the city. His death occurred on the 4th of December, 1900, and the community thereby lost a valued resident, whom they had learned to respect and honor for his upright career and fidelity to principle. He was born in this city in 1851, and was a son of Christopher Firstenberger, a native of Germany, who believing that he might find better opportunities for advancement in the new world crossed the Atlantic and took up his abode in Galion. Here in the public schools our subject acquired his education, gaining a good practical knowledge which served him well in his business career. His first independent venture was as a clerk in a grocery store in Marion, and later he was employed in Pittsburg, but in 1874 he returned to Galion, establishing a grocery store on his own account and successfully conducting the same until his life's labors were ended. He carried a carefully selected stock of staple and fancy groceries and his business methods commended him to the public patronage. He was fair in his dealings and in his career demonstrated the truth of the old adage "honesty is the best policy."

In Marion county, in 1876, Mr. Firstenberger was united in marriage to Miss Lydia Dutt, a native of that county and a daughter of Michael and Catherine (Meily) Dutt. Her father was a grocer and took up his abode in Marion county at an early day, coming to this country from Germany in his youth. Mrs. Dutt was a daughter of William Meily, of Marion, a brother of Henry Meily, father of Mrs. Senator Brice and Mrs. General Orr. Mrs. Firstenberger still survives her husband and is yet living in Galion, where she has made her home since her marriage and where she has many warm friends.

In public affairs Mr. Firstenberger always took a very active and unselfish interest, doing everything in his power to promote the measures and movements which he believed would prove of general good. In politics he was a Democrat, served as assessor for about six years, was a member of the board of equalization for three years, was elected to the office of trustee of Polk township in 1895, was re-elected in 1898, and during the last three years of his service in that capacity he served as the president of the board. When sixteen years of age he was confirmed in the German Reformed church and was ever afterward a consistent member. He enjoyed the uniform confidence and esteem of all throughout the county by reason of his irreproachable official career and as a business man and citizen.

#### WILLIAM H. SHECKLER.

William H. Sheckler is a well-known resident of Bucyrus, where he has served as pension attorney for fourteen years, while since 1896 he has occupied the position of justice of the peace. He is a native of the city which is yet his home, his birth having occurred July 13, 1847. The family is of German lineage, the grandfather of our subject having been born in Baden, Germany, near Heidelberg. Hugh Sheckler, the father, was born in Bedford county, Pennsylvania, in the year 1818, and there resided until 1847, when he came to Bucyrus and engaged in business as a wagon-maker. He was thus identified with the industrial interests of the city for a number of years, and later in life he located on a farm one mile north of the town, where he engaged in the dairy business, meeting with creditable success in the undertaking. He was a well-known and respected citizen, faithful to the obligations of both public and private life. His death occurred in 1888, when he had reached the psalmist's span of three score years and ten. His wife bore the maiden name of Susan Cheney and was also a native of Pennsylvania, although her parents were born in Holland.

William H. Sheckler is indebted to the public school system of Bucyrus for the educational privileges which he enjoyed. He was about sixteen years of age when he entered the military service of his country, enlisting in February, 1864, as a member of Company E, Thirty-fourth Ohio Infantry (known as the First Ohio Piatt Zouaves), in which he remained until the close of the war. The regiment was assigned to the Army of West Virginia, and he participated in the campaign of the Shenandoah valley under General Phil Sheridan. January 11, 1865, he was captured, with the balance of his regiment, at Beverly, West Virginia, and in Libby prison spent two months and was then exchanged. When hostilities had ceased and the stars and stripes were planted in the capital of the southern Confederacy he returned to his home in Bucyrus, where he has remained continuously since. For fourteen years he has been notary public and for a similar period has been pension attorney, representing the interests of the soldiers who fought for the preservation of the Union and were thereby somewhat unfitted for the duties of a business career. In 1896 he was elected justice of the peace on the Republican ticket for a term of three years. In the meantime his political views changed and became an adherent of the Democracy, so that in 1899 he was made the candidate of that party for the same office, in which he was re-elected. He is strictly fair and impartial in the discharge of his duties, his decisions being based upon the facts in the case and the law applicable thereto. In 1870 Mr. Sheckler married Ida Reed, who died in 1873, leaving one child, a daughter, Fairy.

In 1877 Mr. Sheckler was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Steele, a daughter of William Steele, who came from Pennsylvania to Bucyrus. She died in 1883, leaving no children. Mr. Sheckler holds membership in the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Grand Army Post, of Bucyrus, in which he is serving as commander. The high esteem in which he is held, not only in official circles, but among all his acquaintances, speaks better than words can do concerning his character as a man and a citizen, one in whom his town and county have a just pride.

#### G. W. BURT.

G. W. Burt, who fills the important position of station agent for the Big Four Railroad Company at Galion, and for the American Express Company, has occupied these positions for more than a quarter of a century. He is a native of what at the time of his birth was Marion county, Ohio, but is now



Morrow county. His father, Ebenezer Burt, took up his abode in Marion county in 1820, removing to Ohio from Greene county, Pennsylvania. There he died when our subject was only two and a half years of age, passing away in 1835. His wife bore the maiden name of Sarah Hearnard and resided in Greene county, Pennsylvania.

During his youth, Mr. Burt of this review, pursued his education in the public schools. He entered the railroad service in 1852, and has since been one of its representatives. In 1855 he secured a situation as telegraph operator and clerk at Shelby, Richland county, Ohio, and was there located during the period of the Civil war. After various removals he came to Galion in 1874 and has remained here continuously since, covering a period of twenty-seven consecutive years. He is one of the most trusted and reliable employes of the company, very careful and painstaking in the discharge of his duties and loyal to the trusts reposed in him. Socially he is identified with the Masonic Order and has attained the Thirty-second degree in the Scottish Rite, belonging to Cleveland Consistory. In his political affiliations he is a Republican.

#### JOHN C. SCHIEBER.

Among the old and highly esteemed farmers of Holmes township is John Christian Schieber, who came here when this locality was still covered with its native growth of timber. His birth was in Germany, a country which has contributed many excellent citizens to America, and he was born September 27, 1828. He was a son of Gottlieb and Magdalena (Brosie) Schieber, the former of whom was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, in 1794, and the latter in the same place, in 1802. In 1832, with their five children and a large party of neighbors and friends, they emigrated to the United States. They had some section in the state of Ohio as their destination, and came by way of the lakes as far as Sandusky. A former neighbor by the name of Fred Feichtner had located some years previously in Crawford county, and the Germans determined to find him, if possible, and follow his advice in the matter of locating homes of their own in this county. With this end in view, Gottlieb Schieber, with several of his fellow emigrants, left their families in Sandusky and set out on foot to find their friend, although their knowledge of his whereabouts was very vague. However, after a long and wearisome trip, they found him, most comfortably located in Liberty township near Broken Sword. The appearance of the surrounding country pleased them, and after a short visit they started back, on foot, as they came. At Sandusky they procured teams and

brought their effects to this locality and then turned their industrious efforts to clearing and improving the land.

Mr. Schieber bought a tract of forty acres from J. Caris, and soon after this he entered forty acres and gradually added more until his farm consisted of one hundred and ten acres. This constituted the homestead where the children were born and where they grew to maturity. The children numbered nine in all, their names being: Christopher, Gottleib, Fredericka, Christian, Jacob, Catherine, John, Abraham and Mary, the survivors being our subject; Catherine, the widow of Christian Brown, of Sandusky township; and Mary, the wife of Solomon Shupp, of Nebraska. The father of our subject died in 1870, but the mother survived until 1893, when she had reached her ninety-first year. In early life he was a Democrat, but the issues of the Civil war made him a Republican, though in his later years he returned to the Democratic party. For many years he was a leading member of the Lutheran church, and was one of the highly esteemed citizens of the county.

John Christian Schieber, the subject of this sketch, was reared in the pioneer home and received but few educational advantages because good school privileges were not obtainable at that time and place. He possessed an abundance of natural intelligence, was energetic and industrious, and by the time he had reached his majority understood all of the demands of an agricultural life. In February, 1852, he was married to Miss Leah Hershberger, who was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, and was the daughter of Jacob Hershberger, who came to Crawford county about 1848. A family of children grew up around our subject and wife, viz.: Samuel, of Oklahoma; Amanda, the wife of Emanuel Haller, of this township; Jacob, of this township; Joseph, of Chicago, Illinois; Elizabeth, the wife of Samuel Mack, of this township; Matilda, at home; Charles, the farmer on the home farm; and Ida, at home.

After marriage our subject settled on a farm of eighty acres located in Liberty township, which he purchased of his father, and here he erected a hewed-log house and a round-log barn, some six years later replacing the latter with a substantial frame barn. This land was all heavily covered with a native growth of timber with the exception of nine acres, and it required fourteen years of industry to redeem the whole tract from the forest. In 1866 our subject sold this farm and purchased the farm which he now occupies. At one time he owned three hundred and twenty acres, but has retained but one hundred and sixty, which is admirably managed by his son Charles.

In politics Mr. Schieber is a member of the Republican party and one of

the leading members of the Methodist church, to which his estimable wife also belongs. During his long life in the township he has seen many changes and has done his share in the development of the county, and now enjoys the esteem of the whole community.

#### CHARLES E. KIMERLINE.

The medical profession is ably represented in Crawford county, Ohio, and one of the best known members there is Charles Edward Kimerline, of Lykens village, who as a physician of wide and accurate knowledge has won an enviable professional success and stands deservedly high in the esteem of his fellow citizens.

Charles E. Kimerline, M. D., was born at New Washington, Ohio, July 4, 1871, a son of Lewis J. Kimerline, a well known citizen of that town. He was graduated at the public schools of New Washington, in 1889, and received the degree of bachelor of science at the Ohio Normal University, in 1892. From 1893 to 1896, he was a student in the medical department of the Western Reserve University. After his graduation from that institution with the degree of medical doctor, he located at Lykens village, where he entered upon the practice of his profession to which he has since given his undivided attention. He has become favorably known throughout the surrounding country and has a satisfactory and constantly increasing practice. In politics he is a Democrat and wields a recognized influence in local affairs, but he is not an office-seeker nor in the ordinary sense of the term a practical politician, but his public spirit is such that he is a useful and helpful citizen ready at all times to further all worthy objects. He was married June 24, 1897, to Miss Fairy Scott and they have a daughter whom they have named Mary Scott. He is a member of the German Lutheran church.

#### C. P. FRANK.

Among the representatives of railroad interests residing in Crestline is Mr. Frank, who occupies the position of foreman of the copper shops for the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railroad Company. He was born in Butler county, Pennsylvania, January 21, 1839. His father, John G. Frank, was a native of Muelhausen, Germany, was there reared and learned the tanner's trade. In 1835 he came to America, locating in Butler county, Pennsylvania, at the little town of Saxonburg, where he carried on tanning and



*C. E. Kinsman M. D.*





farming. There he died in 1870, at the age of seventy years, his birth having occurred in 1800. He was a member of the German Lutheran church and a man of the highest respectability. He wedded Mary Schneider, also a native of the fatherland. She had previously been married and was the widow of Carl Hauhn. By her first husband she had five children, and by the second marriage she became the mother of five children.

C. P. Frank, the eldest son and the second number of the family, was reared in his native county until seventeen years of age and acquired his education in the common schools, which he attended for about three months each year. When a youth of seventeen he began learning the coppersmith's trade at Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, serving an apprenticeship of four years, after which he entered the employ of the firm of Prior, Harbeck & Company, of Cleveland, Ohio, where he continued for nine months. On the expiration of that period he went to Galion, becoming an employe of the old Bee Line Company, with which he continued for four years. The year 1863 witnessed his arrival in Crestline, where he has since made his home. Here he engaged with the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railroad, working at his trade as a journeyman. The business at that time was small but has continually increased in volume and importance, and he has remained steadily with the company in the position which he now occupies with the exception of one year when he was granted a leave of absence. He has been foreman of the company for thirty-six years and is one of its oldest and most reliable employes, carefully superintending the department of which he has charge, the workmanship being of a high grade.

On the 4th of February, 1862, Mr. Frank was united in marriage to Miss Ellen A. Keen, a native of Germany, but when three years of age was brought to America by her parents, the family locating in Crawford county, where they were early settlers. There her girlhood days were passed and the common schools afforded her her educational privileges. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Frank have been born six children: John E., who resides at Mt. Pleasant, Jefferson county, Ohio, is agent for the Lake Erie & Western Railroad Company; Mary M. is the wife of Dr. I. W. Larkworthy, of Ottawa, Ohio; Willard A. is a machinist employed by the Erie Company at Galion; and Frederick G. is with his father, working at the trade of coppersmith. Nellie C. and Alice J., two daughters of the family, died in early childhood. In his political views Mr. Frank is an earnest Republican, giving an unfaltering support to the principles of his party. Fraternally he is identified with the Masonic Order and for a number of years has affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fel-

lows. He and his family belong to the Presbyterian church, in which he has long been a trustee. Faithful to duty and the trusts reposed in him in business life, he is also recognized as a public spirited citizen and a man of true worth of character.

#### WILLIAM HOOD CRITZER.

Many people give music the highest rank among the fine arts. It has not the limitations of sculpturing or painting, it is not bounded by form, color or size, and therefore leaves much greater play to the imagination. It reaches man only through the sense of hearing and exercises over him an intangible power the more strongly felt because indescribable. From the remotest ages it has administered to man pleasure, has given enthusiasm to the soldier on the field of battle, brought comfort to the sorrowing and heightened the happiness of the joyful. It appeals to and touches all classes of people as no other art does, and, in fact, is the only universal language. The musical taste and culture of Crawford county has largely been promoted through the efforts of Professor William Hood Critzer, who is director of music in the public schools of Galion, Mount Gilead and Crestline, having thus been connected with the esthetic education of three towns since 1891.

Professor Critzer is numbered among Ohio's native sons, his birth having occurred in Pike township, Fulton county, in 1857, and his parents being William and Amelia (Mathews) Critzer. His father was a native of Frederick, Maryland, being born July 17, 1810; the mother, of Wheeling, West Virginia, was born August 4, 1824. The grandfather of our subject was Jacob Critzer, who was born in Maryland, October 10, 1780. He was a stone-mason and followed contracting throughout his life. He was married to Elizabeth Beckenbough, October 9, 1803. His good wife died August 20, 1821, and he passed away January 20, 1831. On the maternal side Mr. Critzer's ancestry can be traced back to Charles Hood, his great-grandfather, who erected the first of the Ellicot mills in Maryland just after the close of the Revolution and was a very prominent factor in the substantial upbuilding of that portion of the state. The maternal grandfather of our subject, Elze Mathews, was a resident of West Virginia, but at an early day came to Ohio, locating in Franklin county, near Columbus. He brought with him his slaves whom he had owned in the south, and here gave them their freedom. The father of our subject was reared at Frederick, Maryland, and early in life began teaching school, which he followed for several years, and after his

marriage, accompanied by his young bride, emigrated to Fulton county, Ohio, where they shared the trials and hardships of frontier life. Here he cleared his land and followed farming for many years, when eventually he sold his farm and moved to Delta, Fulton county, where he engaged in the milling business as buyer and seller of grains. While here he was elected mayor, and had the honor of being the first mayor of Delta. Subsequently he removed to Ai, Fulton county, where he purchased a drug store, which he successfully conducted throughout the remainder of his life, dying October 29, 1874. In his political views he was a Republican.

Professor Critzer's love of music was early manifest. From his boyhood he displayed exceptional fondness for the art, and when a youth of twelve, after much coaxing, he persuaded his father to buy him a flute, which he learned to play unaided. When sixteen years of age he began his preliminary training in vocal culture, under the direction of W. H. Leibe, of Kansas City, Missouri, and afterward studied under the direction of Dr. George A. Veazie, of Chelsea, Massachusetts, and his later preceptors were James M. McLaughlin, of Boston, and Dr. Lowell Mason, of the same city. He completed his studies in the Detroit Conservatory, where he was graduated in 1890. He had made possible the continuation of his musical education through the work which he had done as a teacher. He was conductor of music in the Northwestern Normal Collegiate Institute, in Wauseon, Ohio, in 1887, but previous to this time he spent from 1885 to 1887 as musical director in the Fayette Normal Music and Business College. He gave private instructions as opportunity offered, and while in Detroit he conducted the St. George's boy choir and was preceptor in the Central Methodist Episcopal Sabbath-school. In 1891 he accepted the position of musical director in the public schools of Galion, Mount Gilead and Crestline. In the first named he has charge of four school buildings, giving instruction to the pupils of the various departments ten days each month. He spends four days in Mount Gilead and four days in Crestline, and under his leadership the schools have made rapid and commendable advancement in music, the high school of Galion having a reputation unexcelled by any similar institution in the state. Professor Critzer is also choir master of four choirs, that of the Methodist Episcopal church, the German Reformed church, the English Lutheran church and the United Brethren church. He is also conductor of the Galion Choral Society, of seventy-five voices. The work undertaken by the high school of Galion is of a very high and classical order. In the year 1900 they gave a rendition of Haydn's "Creation," with

two hundred voices, assisted by the Choral Society, and in 1901 they gave a most excellent production of Handel's "Messiah."

Professor Critzer was united in marriage to Miss Cora M. Nobbs, of Fulton county, a daughter of James and Ann (Fetterman) Nobbs, her parents being among the pioneer settlers of Fulton county, coming from England to this state. The Professor and his wife now have five children,—Edna, Ruth, Walter Eugene, Paul and Marjorie May. The family is one of prominence in the community, occupying a leading position in social circles, where culture and intelligence are received as the passport into good society. The Professor is a member of Masonic Lodge No. 414, in Galion, the Order of Foresters and the Tribe of Ben Hur. His influence in the two cities of Crawford county and the county seat of Morrow county with which he is connected is incalculable, but is certainly very far-reaching and very beneficial. To no other citizen is the advancement of musical taste so justly accredited, and through his dissemination of the knowledge of the art he has added greatly to the enjoyment and happiness which should form no small part of life.

#### R. C. TRACHT.

Among the leading attorneys of Galion is R. C. Tracht, who, though a young man, has gained distinction as a member of the bar by reason of qualifications that always insure success. Endowed by nature with strong mentality and developing his powers through study and close application, he is now occupying a position in the legal fraternity that many an older lawyer might well envy.

He is numbered among the native sons of Crawford county, his birth having occurred in Jefferson township in 1866. He is of German-English lineage, and his family is one of a group of pioneers who have made Crawford one of the foremost counties in the great northwest. In his boyhood he attended the public schools in his native township and later became a student in the Roanoke Seminary, in Roanoke, Indiana, his studies there being supplemented by a course in the United Brethren Normal Academy at Fostoria, Ohio. In 1883 he began teaching school, and for five years successfully followed that profession, being recognized as a teacher of exceptional ability. In the fall of 1888 he matriculated in the Ohio Normal University at Ada, Ohio, where he was graduated in July, 1892, with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. On the 7th of December, 1893, he was admitted to the bar, and his progress has been marked and rapid in his professional career. He is a stu-

dent, earnest and discriminating, and his knowledge of legal principles is profound and comprehensive. Thorough preparation well fits him for the contests of the courtroom, where he has won many victories for his clients. A careful and conscientious counselor and an able advocate, he holds his professional integrity as a sacred trust.

Mr. Tracht was married to Miss Myrtle Gledhill, a daughter of Joseph Gledhill, of Jefferson township. Our subject and his wife hold membership in the English Lutheran church, and in his political views he is a stalwart Democrat. He possesses exceptional oratorical ability and power, and through the past five years has delivered many political addresses which in their effective eloquence have wrought good for the party. He has been honored with a number of local offices, and in 1898 he was a prominent candidate for nomination for prosecuting attorney, but was defeated by a small vote. His education and his success are due to his own efforts. His own labor provided him with the means of continuing his more advanced study, and since entering upon his professional career his thorough understanding of legal principles, combined with the utmost fidelity to his clients' interest, have insured him continued advancement.

#### CHARLES W. McCracken.

The name of McCracken has been so long closely connected with the history of Crawford county that representatives of the family need no special introduction to the readers of this volume. James McCracken, the father of him whose name introduces this review, was the first mayor of Bucyrus, and through many years took a leading part in the work of public progress along the lines of material, intellectual and moral advancement.

He was born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, July 16, 1800, a son of James and Rachel (Kelly) McCracken, both of whom were natives of Ireland. After arriving at man's estate the former came to the new world, the date of his emigration being about 1790. The Kellys, however, came to the United States before the Revolution, and the great-grandfather of our subject served as a quartermaster in the American army during the struggle for independence. Being captured, he was placed on an English prison ship in New York harbor, where he was incarcerated for some time. James McCracken, Sr., located in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, upon a farm seven miles from Greensburg. He was married in that state to Miss Kelly, and in 1807 removed to Columbiana county, Ohio, where he made his home



for about nine years. In 1816 he went to Wayne county, taking up his abode near Wooster. In that year his wife was drowned in Killbuck creek. The children of their family were: James, the father of our subject; Thomas and Nathaniel, who lived and died in Columbiana county; John, who became a resident of Crawford county; Mrs. John Moderwell, who died in Crawford county, where her husband served as sheriff; Mrs. Josiah Scott, who also died in this county and whose husband was a judge of the supreme court of Ohio and for twenty years practiced law in Bucyrus and in Hamilton; and Mrs. Hattie Adair, of Wayne county, Ohio.

James McCracken, the father of our subject, accompanied his parents on their removal to this state, residing first in Columbiana and afterward in Wayne county. From Wooster, Ohio, he came to Bucyrus, in 1825. He was a wheelwright by trade, and for some years engaged in the manufacture of spinning-wheels at this place. A recognized leader in public thought and action, he took a very prominent part in public affairs and had marked influence in shaping the policy of the county and promoting its interests. On the incorporation of Bucyrus, in 1832, he was elected its mayor. For many years he served as justice of the peace, discharging his duties in a strictly fair and impartial manner, and from 1840 until 1844 he served as postmaster of the county seat. He married Miss Ruth Marquis, a daughter of William V. Marquis, who came to Crawford county in 1829, settling on a farm two miles south of Bucyrus. Her mother bore the maiden name of Mary Park and was a native of Washington county, Pennsylvania. Her father was killed by the Indians soon after the close of the Revolutionary war. From Belmont county, Ohio, the Marquis family came to Crawford county, but the father of Mrs. McCracken was a native of Virginia, born in Winchester, where his people lived during the Revolutionary days. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. McCracken was blessed with eight children, who attained to years of maturity. Portia A., the eldest, died in Bucyrus. William V., who married Juliet Mason, of Tiffin, Ohio, died in New York City. He was a soldier in the Civil war, serving as captain of a company in the One Hundred and Twenty-third Ohio Infantry and remaining at the front for two and a half years. Joseph Kelly, who was orderly sergeant in the Eighty-sixth Regiment of Ohio Volunteers, married Miss Ella A. Davis and is living in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Alexander McBride, a resident of Louisville, Kentucky, married Miss Augusta F. Van Fleet, of Pennsylvania. Augusta N. is librarian of the Memorial Library, of Bucyrus. Harvey Marquis, who married Catherine Freeman, of Fort Wayne, Indiana, is now living in Louisville, Kentucky.

Charles W., the youngest of the family, is yet a resident of Bucyrus. The children were all educated in the schools of this city. The sons are mostly connected with railway business, and in politics are Republicans. The father of the family died in Bucyrus in 1875, at the age of seventy-five years, and in his death the community lost one of its most valued and reliable citizens.

Charles Wallace McCracken, whose name introduces this review, is a civil engineer, and has followed his profession all over the county. His marked skill and ability in that line and his efficiency have won him a liberal patronage. From 1886 until 1890 he was state canal commissioner, having been appointed to that office by Governor Bushnell.

### E. M. FREESE.

The subject of this notice, the senior member of E. M. Freese & Company, manufacturers of clay-working machinery and appliances at Galion, Ohio, was born in Medina county, this state, September 23, 1845, a son of Harlow and Almira (Morton) Freese, the former a native of Lee, Massachusetts, and the latter of Pittsfield, that state. Harlow Freese was a son of B. W. and Clarrissa (Beaumont) Freese, who removed from Lee, Massachusetts, when Harlow was eight years of age, in 1818, and located in Brunswick, Medina county, Ohio, becoming the owner of about one thousand acres of land, then an unbroken wilderness, and engaged extensively in farming.

Harlow Freese grew to manhood in Brunswick and there married Almira Morton, continuing his residence there during his life and following the occupation of a farmer, and was an exemplary man and an estimable citizen. To Harlow and Almira (Morton) Freese were born two children (sons), E. M. and M. L. Freese. The last mentioned died about twenty years ago. Harlow Freese died in 1890, at the age of eighty years, and Almira, his wife, in 1887, at the age of seventy years.

E. M. Freese obtained a practical education in the public schools near his home. Early in life he developed a decided love of mechanics, and following his inclinations he became, at the age of twenty, a machinist's apprentice at the works of Turner Parks & Company, manufacturers of grain-cleaning and sewer-pipe machinery at Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, where during the succeeding four years he gained much proficiency in mechanical work. He then entered the shops of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company at Crestline, Ohio, where he was employed until 1881. Here, by the exercise of industry and economy, he accumulated the means with which to engage in a small way in the manu-

facture of clay-working machinery at Plymouth, Ohio. Beginning with two partners, he successively purchased the interests of each and became sole owner of the business in 1890, and has continued the same up to the present time. By the advantage of natural mechanical genius and persistent and industrious effort, he was able to greatly improve the machinery used for the manufacture of building, street-paving and fire brick, and for terra-cotta, fire-proofing and drain tile, and was largely instrumental in this way in revolutionizing these industries, which have had a wonderful growth in the United States, the value of clay products now (1901) amounting to about one hundred million dollars yearly. Conservative methods soon placed the venture upon a firm footing and the business was constantly increased in extent and larger facilities became necessary, and in 1891 the works were removed to Galion, Ohio, where they are permanently located, occupying extensive and commodious buildings erected for the purpose and equipped with modern machinery and appliances especially suited to this class of manufacture and with many conveniences not usually found in other works of this kind. The machinery manufactured here is sold in all parts of the United States and in some foreign countries, and is noted for originality of design, the economy of its operation and the superiority of the wares it produces.

Familiarity with all details of the manufacture and sale of the variety of machinery in this class now manufactured, and painstaking and conscientious attention to the demands of the trade, on the part of the subject of this sketch, have developed a large and prosperous business which is destined to continue to flourish.

In 1882 E. M. Freese was married to Miss Rosina Berger, of Galion. They have three children,—Herbert H., Arthur J. and Horace E. Freese.

### JOHN REXROTH.

There is much in the life history of John Rexroth that is worthy of emulation. He possessed a determined, resolute character that was well balanced by sound judgment and upright principles, and throughout his business career he not only won prosperity but also gained for himself that good name which is rather to be chosen than great riches, thus leaving to his family a priceless heritage.

Mr. Rexroth was born in Bucyrus, on the 10th of May, 1835, and died on his farm two miles south of the city, May 8, 1895, when sixty years of age, lacking two days. He was the son of John N. and Anna M. (Wirtman)



*John Rescrotto*





Rexroth. The father was born in the village of Erbach, Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, November 6, 1800, and in his native land attended school between the ages of six and fourteen years, after which he learned the trade of blacksmithing, following that pursuit in his native country until thirty years of age, when he came to the United States. He landed at Baltimore after a voyage of six months, being shipwrecked twice on the way. In Baltimore he met and married Anna M. Wirtman, the wedding being celebrated on the 1st of March, 1831. The lady was born near Carlsruhe, Baden, and came to America about the same time her husband made the voyage—the only one of her family to seek a home in this country. Immediately after their marriage they removed to Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, where they remained for a little more than a year, and in 1833 they came to Bucyrus. The father followed his trade until 1855. In the meantime he resided in Winchester from 1839 until 1849. He accumulated property rapidly, but by going security for others he lost nearly all that he had made with the exception of his home. He was reared a Lutheran but when he came to Bucyrus he united with the Evangelical Association—a society which did not prosper, however, and he afterward joined the German Methodist Episcopal church. He remained a devoted Christian up to the time of his death, which occurred on the 15th of June, 1867. He was the father of ten children, nine of whom reached years of maturity, namely: Adam, deceased; Catherine; John, deceased; Daniel; Elizabeth, deceased; Sarah; David; Margaret; and Lydia, deceased.

John Rexroth was only three years of age when his parents removed from Bucyrus to Winchester, where ten years of his youth were passed. He attended school there for three months each year, and in 1849 he again became a resident of Bucyrus, where he continued his studies in the winter season until 1854, and throughout the remainder of the year he assisted his father in the blacksmith shop. About this time, however, his father met with reverses in financial life and our subject and his brother rented farming land and by farming and teaming supported the family. In 1857 the family exchanged town property for eighty acres of land lying just south of Bucyrus, to which they removed, remaining there for some time, after which they took up their abode upon another farm near by. That continued to be their home until after the death of the father in 1867, when they returned to Bucyrus.

Thus far John Rexroth had been a member of his father's family, but on the 18th of December, 1867, he was united in marriage to Miss Maggie S. Frey, a daughter of John Martin and Magdaline (Lininger) Frey, who

were natives of Germany and came to America in 1853, settling in Plymouth, Ohio, whence they removed to Bucyrus. They spent their last days, however, in the home of their daughter, Mrs. Rexroth. She was born in Germany and was a little maiden of six summers when her parents came to the United States. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Rexroth were born the following children: Charles F., a farmer of Bucyrus township, who was born October 1, 1868, and married Catherine Keiffer; John Jay, who died when about three years of age; Lillian Iona, born July 5, 1875; Royal A., born December 8, 1877; Clyde N., born September 15, 1879; and Elva May, born July 8, 1881.

After his marriage Mr. Rexroth removed to the farm upon which his widow yet resides and began the cultivation of the land. He became one of the largest agriculturists and stock raisers of the county and his landed possessions were extensive. For years his flock of sheep outnumbered almost every other in the county and this branch of his business proved to him a profitable industry. For a number of years he successfully conducted his business affairs and year by year his capital increased, but one cold night a few months before his death his home was destroyed by fire, and the exposure which he endured brought on a severe cold, which eventually terminated his life. His was a useful career, and in business affairs steady advancement attended his earnest and well directed efforts, so that he left his family in comfortable circumstances. In politics he was always a Republican, and in religious belief he was a Methodist, belonging to the church in Bucyrus. A straightforward business man, a faithful friend, a devoted husband and father and an earnest Christian, in his death the community lost one of its valued representatives.

#### BURTON R. MILLER, M. D.

Dr. Miller, who occupies an enviable position as a member of the medical fraternity in New Washington, was born November 16, 1864, in what was known as the Half Way House, located midway between Tiffin and Republic, in Clinton township, Seneca county, Ohio. His parents were Peter and Lovina (Robenalt) Miller. The father was born September 16, 1833, in Ontario county, New York, and was a son of Daniel and Anna (Bergstresser) Miller, both of whom were of German descent and were probably natives of the Empire state. With their family they removed to Seneca county, Ohio, in 1837, locating in Scipio township. Subsequently they removed to Lincoln township, where they spent their remaining days. The father of our subject

was reared under the parental roof and in early life learned the trade of a cooper. As the family located in the midst of the vast wilderness, he also did his share in the work of reclaiming the wild lands for purposes of civilization, cutting away the trees and preparing the fields for the plow. On the 2d of March, 1854, he was united in marriage to Miss Lovina Robenalt, a native of Clinton township, Seneca county, and a daughter of Solomon and Catherine (Powell) Robenalt, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania, but were of German descent. Coming to Ohio in 1829, they took up their abode in Seneca county, where they remained until called to the home beyond. The grandfather of our subject died in 1863, at the age of sixty-two years, and his wife, long surviving him, passed away in 1881, at the age of eighty years.

After his marriage Peter Miller and his wife began their domestic life upon a small farm in the eastern part of Clinton township. He there built a log cabin and a log shop, and of evenings and on rainy days when he could not work in the fields he followed coopering, but in good weather he worked upon farms, and thus in two years he was enabled to pay for his property. He purchased the Half Way House, which he used as a residence. He continued his coopering business and resided there until 1865, when he exchanged his property for a dwelling in Tiffin, and in that city he followed his chosen trade for three years. On the expiration of that period he purchased the old Robenalt homestead and removed to the farm, which is located four miles east of Tiffin. For five years he resided in the old pioneer log house and then purchased an adjoining farm, upon which he erected a modern and commodious brick dwelling, making one of the handsomest homes in the county. He continued coopering until within the past ten years, but now gives his entire attention to the management of his extensive farming interests. He is a Democrat in his political affiliations, and for twelve years he served as trustee of his township, called again and again to that office by his fellow townsmen, who recognize his worth and ability. He is one of the influential men in his district, and wherever known is held in high regard. Socially he is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, belonging to Seneca Lodge, No. 35, of Tiffin.

In 1887 Mr. Miller was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died on the 28th of February of that year. She was an active and earnest member of the Lutheran church, to which Mr. Miller also belongs, being one of its liberal supporters and zealous advocates. This worthy couple were the parents of seven children, of whom six are yet living, namely: Franklin P., of Morris, Ohio; Orlando A., who is living near Lawton, Michigan; Daniel

W., who makes his home in Clinton township, Seneca county, Ohio; Alice V., wife of Otto F. Swander, of West Lodi, Ohio; Burton R., of this review; and Anna May, wife of N. R. Heaton, of Clinton township, Seneca county.

Dr. Miller pursued his education in the country schools until he had mastered the common English branches of learning and later became a student in the Milan Normal, the Festoria Normal and in Heidelberg University, at Tiffin, Ohio. He attended the country schools, however, until he was twenty years of age, and then successfully passed an examination entitling him to teach in the country schools. On his twenty-first birthday he began educational work, and followed teaching for five terms, during which period his salary was steadily increased, and when called to the Tiffin schools he received twenty-five cents more per day than any other teacher in the township. In the autumn of 1890 he began teaching as principal of the fourth school district in Tiffin, where he remained for four years. Determining to make the practice of medicine his life work, he began reading under the direction of Dr. H. K. Hershisser in the summer of 1894, and during the two succeeding vacations he was a student in the office of Dr. H. B. Gibbon. He entered the Starling Medical College, at Columbus, in the fall of 1894, and in the autumn of 1895 matriculated in the Ohio Medical University, where he was graduated on the 6th of April, 1897. Immediately afterward he took up the practice of medicine, which he has since followed with good success.

Soon after his graduation Dr. Miller was married, on the 21st of July, 1897, near Lawton, Michigan, to Miss Myrtle M. Hooper, a daughter of George and Jennie E. (Laughlin) Hooper. Her father was born May 20, 1842, in Brooklyn, New York, and was of English parentage, and on the 1st of November, 1865, he was united in marriage to Jennie E. Laughlin, whose birth occurred in Berlin township, Erie county, Ohio. She was a daughter of Milton Laughlin, whose grandparents were natives of Ireland and came to America with their family of eleven sons, settling in Georgetown, Pennsylvania. The date of their emigration is unknown, but it must have been over a century ago.

John Laughlin, one of the eldest children of this family, married Elizabeth Hoak, and after a few years joined the party of adventurers who left Walnut Creek, Pennsylvania, for the Huron river. Subsequently he removed from the bottom lands of the river to Milan, then an Indian village, where he resided for two years. He became greatly attached to the Indians and they to him. He was an excellent hunter and they admired his dexterity. His children played with the Indian children, and when his little son Benjamin

was taken ill he was doctored by the Indian medicine man, and when he died was buried by the Indians after their custom. In 1810 Mr. Laughlin built a small log house on lot 8, which has since been known as the Laughlin place, and there he removed with his family. One of his six children, Henry, succumbed to fever and was buried on the high bank of Huron river. The family had a desperate struggle to get along, owing to the unhealthful climate and pioneer conditions. While living there news of Hull's surrender was received, and the settlers, expecting the Indians to rush down upon them, fled for safety. Mr. Laughlin and his family started for the old home in Pennsylvania, and on horseback and on foot made their way through the almost interminable forests. Soon after reaching their destination Milton Laughlin was born, the date of his birth being Christmas of 1813. After two years, however, the family returned to Ohio, and in 1814 a log cabin was erected, in which the grandfather resided until his death. The family experienced all the hardships and difficulties of pioneer life. Corn was pounded into meal in a mortar made in a stump hollowed out by fire. Milton Laughlin was reared amid such surroundings and became a hard-working, persevering and determined man, yet rather silent and of undemonstrative habits. The other members of the family were Katy, Henry, John, Nancy, Benjamin, Anna, Betsey and Belinda.

On the 28th of November, 1837, Milton Laughlin married Mary B. Krom, of Wilkesbarre, Luzerne county, Pennsylvania, but formerly of New York city. He arranged with his father to pay some of the latter's debts, and in return he was to receive a part of the old homestead. He worked on his farm during the summer and in the winter season was employed in the ship-yard at Milan. He aided in sawing the timber for the docks on the canal and often made four dollars and forty cents per day, although the average wages paid were only one dollar and a half per day. His efforts were admirably seconded by his wife, and by perseverance, industry and attention to business he accumulated a handsome competence and gained the title of West Berlin banker. The children born of his marriage are as follows: Ransom E., who was born June 9, 1839, married Sarah Springer on the 8th of August, 1860, and now resides in Milan township; Nancy L., born June 16, 1842, was married April 14, 1868, to William Squire, of Milan, and died April 19, 1875; Jane E., born January 23, 1843, married George Hooper on the 1st of November, 1865, and resides in Ohio, near Tiffin; Frank W., born February 5, 1849, enlisted in the Union army and died in the service in South Carolina, March 2, 1865; Willis M., born June 29, 1859, was married August 8, 1880, and resides on the old homestead; Bertha E., born March 14, 1868, was married June 24,



1890. In the spring of 1883 Mr. Laughlin removed with his family to Milan, where he resided until his death, which occurred October 16, 1884, when he was seventy-two years of age. In early life he united with the Methodist church and was ever a consistent Christian.

After the marriage of George Hooper and Jennie E. Laughlin they removed to Milan, in 1866, and on the 19th of August, 1873, went to Van Buren county, Michigan. Subsequently they became residents of Allegan county, that state, and in the spring of 1875 returned to Ohio, locating in Berlin township, Erie county. In 1877, however, they again went to Michigan, spending the winter in Lawton, and in the spring took up their abode upon a farm in that state, where they continued until the fall of 1900, when they located in Seneca county, Ohio. Mr. Hooper was a member of the Thirteenth Michigan Infantry during the Civil war and served for three years and eight months. He was taken prisoner November 14, 1864, when on the march of Sherman to the sea, and was incarcerated in the prison at Florence, South Carolina, but after three months was paroled at Goldsboro, North Carolina. On the 26th of February, 1865, he was sent to Camp Chase and there discharged. He now owns and operates an eighty-acre farm, which is highly improved. For five years he served as a justice of the peace and was also school director for several years. In politics he is a Republican. He belongs to the Methodist Protestant church, has served as class-leader and has been quite prominent in church work.

Dr. Miller, whose name begins this review, is a stanch Democrat, and in the spring of 1893 was elected treasurer of Clinton township, receiving the highest vote of any candidate on the ticket. In 1895 he was re-elected with an increased majority of over one hundred votes. He was vice-president of the Seneca County Teachers' Institute in the term of 1894, and was unanimously chosen president in the terms of 1895-6. In 1896-7 he was city school examiner, but resigned in order to remove to New Washington, and on the 5th of August, 1897, he began practice in this place. In 1894, before bidding final adieu to the profession of teacher, Dr. Miller succeeded in bringing about the adoption of township supervision of the schools in Clinton, his native township, the first to adopt such in Seneca county, four other townships of the county having adopted the same plan of supervision. He is the present health officer for New Washington. He also enjoys a large private practice, and his business is steadily increasing. He has been correspondent for the Tiffin Advertiser, the Tiffin News, the Tiffin Tribune, the Tiffin Times, the Bloomville Independent, the Crawford County News, the Crawford County

Forum, and at the present time sends his communications to the last named. In 1893 Dr. Miller visited the World's Fair in Chicago. Socially he is connected with Pickwick Lodge, No. 175, K. P., of Tiffin; Cranberry Lodge, No. 441, I. O. O. F.; and Rex Tent, No. 229, K. O. T. M., while he and his wife are active members of the Methodist Episcopal church and take a leading part in Sunday-school work. Both are members of Horace Mann Commandery, No. 14, and the order of the Red Cross. The Doctor and his wife are ardent supporters of educational and other means of advancing intellectual and moral development. He is president of the New Washington Lecture Association.

### JACOB F. SCHAFER.

Not many of the older citizens of Chatfield township, Crawford county, Ohio, were born at their present places of residence. Jacob Schafer has this distinction. He is a son of Jacob Schafer, Sr., and was born February 21, 1862, in his father's house on the farm on which he now lives.

Jacob Schafer, Sr., the son of Adam Schafer, was born in Hoheinod, Germany, and was brought to America by his father. The elder Schafer settled in Bloom township, Seneca county, Ohio, and from there removed to Chatfield township, Crawford county, with his son, Jacob Schafer, the father of the subject of this sketch. About the time of their arrival they bought about forty acres of wild land, and later they bought forty acres more, on which stands the residence of the subject of this sketch. Adam Schafer died on this property, at the age of seventy-nine years. His wife was Catharine Fox, also a native of Germany.

Jacob F. Schafer, who is the immediate subject of this sketch, was the tenth in order of birth of a family of eleven children. Mary, the eldest, became the wife of Gottlieb Knecht. Valentine lives in Chatfield township, Crawford county, Ohio. Lucy married Philip Schemp and lives in Seneca county. Catharine is the wife of Peter Regula, of Carothers, this state. Gertrand married Emanuel Lutz. Caroline is the wife of Peter Reidle. Adam lives at Chatfield, Crawford county, Ohio. Martha married William Lutz, of Chatfield, Crawford county, Ohio. Lizzie married William Seafort, of Cranberry township. Sophia died in infancy. At one time the father of these children owned three hundred and forty-six acres of land. At his death, which occurred December 23, 1898, he owned one hundred and ninety-nine acres. He was a man of influence in his township and a member of the Lutheran church.

The subject of this sketch was reared to the life of a farmer boy of all work, and received as good an education as the common schools afforded. He was married, in 1885, to Miss Caroline Lanehart, and they have seven children, named as follows: Erna, Albert, William, Loretta, Clara, Marie (who died October 27, 1898) and Delverta.

Mr. Schafer owns seventy-nine acres of land in his home farm and another farm of forty acres, and is a successful general farmer. He and all the members of his family are identified with the Lutheran church. Politically he is a Democrat, and while he is influential in public affairs he has never been a seeker of public office. His public spirit has impelled him to ally himself with many movements which he has believed promised to improve the condition of his fellow citizens.

### MOSES PUGH.

When the tocsin of war sounded and it was known that rebellion in the South had threatened the disruption of the Union men from all walks of life offered their service to the government. From the work shop, the fields, the school-room and the offices they flocked to the standard of the nation and followed the stars and stripes to the battle-fields of the South. Among the number was Moses Pugh, and well may he be proud of the military record he gained when wearing the blue uniform: he fought for the principles of liberty, justice and an undivided country.

Crawford county may well be proud to number him among her native sons, for he has ever been a man worthy of the respect and confidence of all. His birth occurred in Lykens township, April 6, 1843, and he represents one of the pioneer families of this portion of the state. His great-grandfather was one of the leading citizens of Mansfield, Ohio, and erected the first brick chimney built in that place. For several years he conducted a hotel there. His grandparents, Moses and Christina Pugh, were both natives of Virginia and the former was a farmer by occupation. When the country became involved in the second war with England he joined the service and loyally aided in its defense. His father, Aaron Pugh, was born near Wheeling, in a little hamlet known as Pughtown, in Hancock county, West Virginia, on the 13th of April, 1813. At that time, however, the district was a part of the Old Dominion, the division into two states having not yet been made. Upon the home farm the days of his boyhood and youth were spent and in 1837 he came to Ohio, entering from the government forty acres of



Moses Rugh





wild land in Lykens township, Crawford county, and in the midst of the forest he built a log cabin. On his arrival here his personal property consisted of an ax and with this he cleared a small patch of ground. After some months he returned to Virginia and brought his parents, his brothers and sisters to the new Ohio home. On his second arrival he entered one hundred and sixty acres of land in Lykens township, upon which the grandfather settled and made his home until his death, while the father of our subject took up his abode upon his forty-acre farm, there residing until the spring of 1862, when he sold that property and came to Cranberry township, purchasing three hundred and twenty acres of land, where his son Moses is now living. He also owns a hundred and twenty acres and a farm of fifty acres in Huron county, which he had purchased a year previous, and later he bought one hundred and sixty acres near Crestline. He died December 22, 1888, and then was ended a long and useful business career, wherein he won success as the result of his energy and enterprise. His grandfather was a Virginian slaveholder, but freed his slaves prior to the war. His father was a stalwart Democrat, but Aaron Pugh became an ardent Republican and gave to the party his earnest support. He held membership in the Christian church and while residing in Lykens township served as trustee.

He married Miss Mary Jackson, who was born in Hancock county, Virginia, January 13, 1817, and was a daughter of William and Sarah Jackson, who took up their abode in Crawford county about the time the Pugh family was founded within its borders. Mrs. Pugh, the mother of our subject, died January 7, 1885. She had been a member of the Presbyterian church in early life and afterward joined the Freewill Baptist church. By her marriage she became the mother of eight children, six of whom are yet living, namely: Elizabeth, the widow of J. W. King, of Chicago Junction, Huron county, Ohio; Moses, of this review; Alanson and Anson, twins, the former living in Columbus Grove, Putnam county, Ohio, while the latter lives in Cranberry township, Crawford county; Albert B., of New Washington, Ohio; and John C., who is living in Deshler, Ohio.

The duties of the school-room, the pleasures of the playground and the work of the home farm occupied the attention and energies of Moses Pugh prior to his eighteenth year. But the war spirit of his grandfather asserted itself when the country called for troops and he responded to her need of loyal soldiers, enlisting on the 14th of September, 1861, as a member of Company H, Fifty-fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He was in the Army of the Potomac until October 14, 1863, and at the time of Rosecrans' defeat was transferred

to the Army of the Cumberland and participated in the engagements of Cross Keys, Cedar Mountain, Burnt Hickory, second battle of Bull Run, Chancellorsville, Antietam, Gettysburg, Lookout Mountain, Mission Ridge, Rocky Face Gap, Kenesaw Mountain, Resaca and the siege of Atlanta. He was also with Sherman on the march to the sea, aided in the capture of Bentonville, the siege of Savannah, and took part in the grand review in Washington, where the loyal troops who had accomplished their task of preserving the Union, marched in victorious battle array before the stand upon which stood the president of the nation. He was then mustered out July 11, 1865, in Louisville, Kentucky. Mr. Pugh had been three times wounded in the battle of Bull Run, and was wounded in the right leg at Stephenson, Alabama, after which he lay in the convalescent hospital for three weeks and four days. This injury caused the amputation of the limb in 1893. He entered the service as a private and was mustered out a second lieutenant, being commissioned by Governor Brough. He participated in every engagement of his command, and was never absent from his regiment, save the time he lay in the hospital.

When the war was over and the country no longer needed his services Mr. Pugh returned to his home and resumed the duties of civil life. On the 26th of July, 1866, he was united in marriage to Miss Martha Johnston, a native of Cranberry township, Crawford county, and a daughter of Jacob and Mary (Reed) Johnston, the former born in Lycoming county, Pennsylvania, October 20, 1819, and the latter born in Stark county, Ohio, April 10, 1817. The Johnstons originally came from Albany, New York. The Johnston and Reed families both came to Crawford county about 1836, and her father entered from the government one hundred and sixty acres of land. He died March 4, 1882, and his wife died May 8, 1853.

Jacob Johnston was for years a prominent man in public affairs, ever supporting all measures for the general good. He was a strong Republican in politics, and an ardent and active member of the Protestant Methodist church. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Pugh was blessed with six children, as follows: Gertrude L., who is now the wife of H. H. Carpenter, of Richmond township, Huron county; Effie L., Mary Jane, Senate A., Logan H. and Burdett W., all at home.

After his marriage Mr. Pugh took his bride to a farm of eighty acres about one mile north of his present home, and which he had purchased of his father with money saved during his army service. There he erected a plank house and began clearing and improving his land, but after seven years he sold that property and purchased eighty acres one mile west of his present

residence. There he lived for two years, when he traded that property to his father for one hundred and sixty acres of the old homestead and took up his abode thereon, his father removing to the town. This he sold in 1899. Mr. Pugh now owns seventy-four acres in his home farm and is a well known and energetic agriculturist. He and his wife hold membership in the Freewill Baptist church, in which he has served as clerk and trustee and has also held other offices. In politics he is a stanch Republican and is a member of the New Washington Grange, No. 1485, Patrons of Husbandry, and of Creglow Post, No. 178, G. A. R., of Attica. In manner he is very genial and jovial and his many excellent qualities have gained him many friends among those with whom he is associated.

#### P. F. LANTZ.

P. F. Lantz is prominently connected with the journalistic interests of Crawford county, and though a young man, he has manifested a marked ability in the business control as well as in connection with the literary work of the Herald, which he is now editing and publishing at New Washington.

He was born in this town February 9, 1878, and at the usual age entered the public schools, where he pursued his studies until graduation, in June, 1895. He then began earning his own living, spending the following year as a salesman in a grocery store. Not content, however, with the educational advantages which he had already enjoyed, he spent the spring of 1896 as a student of the Ohio Normal University, at Ada, Ohio. In 1897 and 1898 he was employed as a drug clerk in Dayton, Kentucky, and on the expiration of that period he returned to his home in the fall of 1898 and entered the office of the New Washington Herald as a typographer. In September of the following year he purchased the paper, which he has since successfully conducted, and under his management the circulation has increased and its influence has been extended. He is a wide-awake, progressive and enterprising young man, and his labors in behalf of the best interests of the city are effective and beneficial.

#### JOHN KEIL.

John Keil is now living a retired life in Bucyrus. A fact of which due recognition is not usually accorded in connection with the development of the west is that to no foreign element is progress due in so large a measure as to

those who have had their nativity in and trace their lineage to the great empire of Germany. Among those who left the Fatherland and identified themselves with American life and institutions, who have pushed their way to the front and are a credit alike to the land of their birth and that of their adoption is John Keil. He came to Bucyrus in 1854 from the country of his birth.

He first opened his eyes to the light of day in Hesse Darmstadt, in 1836, a son of Henry and Margaret (Yakley) Keil. He was reared in the place of his nativity, pursued his education in the public schools and at the age of eighteen resolved to try his fortune in America, believing that he would have better opportunities for advancement in the new world. Accordingly, he crossed the briny deep to this country and made his way across the country to Bucyrus, where he established a blacksmith shop for himself in 1856. He continued business there for twelve years and then began dealing extensively in stock. He also purchased and operated a farm, and through the successful management of his business he acquired a handsome competence, the sales of his farm products and his stock annually augmenting his income. He also engaged in the purchase and shipment of hay on quite an extensive scale, and has owned much valuable real estate in the business portion of Bucyrus. Mr. Keil has lost much property through going security to oblige friends who have proved unworthy of the trust reposed in them, but is still in possession of a good capital, which enables him to live in practical retirement from business cares.

In public affairs Mr. Keil has taken a very active and commendable interest, supporting all measures for the general good. In 1882 he was elected to the office of county sheriff and served for four years, retiring from the position as he had entered it,—with the confidence and good will of the people. That he was a capable officer is shown by the fact that in 1894 he was again chosen to the position and served until 1898. Prompt and fearless in the discharge of his duties, his course created confidence in the law-abiding citizens and dread in those who were law-breakers. He has long been known as a leading and influential member of the Democracy of Crawford county, and has several times served on the county central committee, doing all in his power to promote the political interests in which he firmly believes.

Mr. Keil was united in marriage to Miss Minnie Hocker, who emigrated from Baden, Germany, to the United States. She was to him a faithful companion and helpmate on life's journey for a number of years, and her death occurred in 1899, at the age of sixty-two years. In their family were the following named: John C. married Miss Bella Mathews, and unto them were

born two children, Edwin and Florence. He served as deputy sheriff under his father and died in 1897, at the age of thirty-eight years, his loss being greatly deplored, for he was an extremely popular man, his pleasant manner, genial disposition and many sterling characteristics winning him the highest regard of all with whom he was associated. Harry is now engaged in the stock business in the Stock Yards of Chicago. Charles is married and is engaged in dealing in hay in Bucyrus. Kate is the wife of Calvin Holmes, a resident of Bucyrus. Mary is the wife of William Larkin, of Toledo, Ohio. Fanny is the wife of Clem Rozer, a well-known photographer of Bucyrus. Minnie, Mattie and Amelia are all under the paternal roof and are students in the public school. Mr. Keil and family attend the Methodist Episcopal church.

The subject of this sketch has been the architect of his own fortune and has builded wisely and well. Coming to America without capital, he depended upon industry and energy to enable him to gain a start and upon persistent purpose and resolute will in order to maintain a creditable position in the business world. His labors brought to him a merited financial reward, and to-day he is numbered among the substantial and highly esteemed residents of Bucyrus.

#### ADAM J. LICHTY.

Adam J. Lichty, who occupies the position of city marshal, was born in Cranberry township, Crawford county, upon his father's farm, November 12, 1848. He is of French lineage, for his father, Peter Lichty, was born in Lorraine, France, April 15, 1811, and in 1838 emigrated to America, accompanied by his parents. He located in Delaware, Ohio, where he worked at his trade of wagon-making, which he had learned in his native country. Subsequently he removed to New Washington, Crawford county, where he followed wagon-making until he purchased a farm, about 1847. Taking up his abode upon his new property, he there carried on agricultural pursuits until 1858, when he removed to Bucyrus, where he resided until 1879, in which year he became a resident of Sac county, Iowa. He lived with a son in that county until his death, which occurred March 3, 1884. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Barbara Beer, was born in Lorraine, France, September 23, 1810, and died on the 12th of May, 1883, in Sac county.

Adam J. Lichty, of this review, remained upon the home farm only until January, 1858, when he was taken to Bucyrus, and in the public schools of the city pursued his education. He was but a boy when he enlisted in his



country's service, joining Company C of the One Hundred and Eighty-sixth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, commanded by Captain Brifogel and Colonel Wilds. The regiment was mustered in at Camp Chase, Columbus, on the 25th of February, 1865, and was sent to Nashville, Tennessee. From that place they marched to Murfreesboro and thence proceeded by train to Cleveland, Tennessee, where they were placed in the rear of Fort Steadman. Later they were transferred to Dalton, Georgia, and Mr. Lichty was detailed with twenty-five others from the regiment to go to New Orleans on special duty. He afterward rejoined his command at Dalton, Georgia, and from there was sent to Chattanooga, Tennessee, but afterward returned to Nashville, where he was mustered out. He then proceeded to Camp Chase, where, with his regiment, he was honorably discharged. During all the time which he spent in the south he was engaged in fighting guerrillas.

After his military experience was ended Mr. Lichty came again to Bucyrus and was employed with his father as a carriage wood-worker, which pursuit he followed until 1868, when he went to Toledo, Iowa, and there worked at his trade for about eighteen months. He then removed to Lima, Ohio, where he was employed in the railroad shops of the Dayton & Michigan Railroad, and then returned to Bucyrus. After visiting for a time in this city he went to Sandusky, Ohio, where he followed his trade until his removal to Vandalia, Illinois, where he was employed in a similar capacity until he went to St. Louis, Missouri. In that city he again found work at his trade, but the carriage factory in which he was employed was destroyed by fire and in the conflagration he lost his tools. Subsequently he entered the employ of a Chicago soap house as a local collector in St. Louis, and from there went to Chicago to act as city collector for the same firm. His next change in business life took him to a lumber camp at Big Rapids, Michigan, but after a short period he returned to Bucyrus and accepted a position as traveling salesman for the Bucyrus Reaper and Mower Works, remaining upon the road for about two years. He then entered into partnership with his father, under the firm name of P. Lichty & Son, carriage manufacturers, a connection that was maintained for about three years, when they sold out, our subject opening an agricultural store, which he conducted successfully during the following decade. He then disposed of that property, and in the year 1889 was appointed city marshal of Bucyrus, serving for two years, when he resigned. He afterward worked in the line of his trade until 1898, when he was elected city marshal, and has since filled the office with credit to himself and satisfaction to his constituents.

On the 7th of December, 1876, Mr. Lichty was united in marriage with Miss Anna Streib, a daughter of Conrad Streib, who was born at Messinger, Wurtemberg, Germany, March 8, 1821, and crossed the Atlantic to the new world in August, 1855. He became a resident of Bucyrus, and his death occurred in this city in January, 1886. His wife was born at Weisenstein, Wurtemberg, May 19, 1823, and died December 25, 1873. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Lichty have been born three children: George Raymond, whose birth occurred August 24, 1879; Marcus Henry, born July 7, 1883; and Robert Curtis, born November 12, 1885.

#### THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF BUCYRUS.

This is one of the strong religious organizations of Crawford county. The Methodists were the first religious body to enter this county, and have had a potent influence in Christian work here. Only two years after the first settlers came to what is now Bucyrus the Methodist ministers began their work. The first sermon was preached in the city in 1821 by Jacob Hooper and he was soon afterward followed by the Rev. Bacon. In the fall of 1821 the Rev. Hooper was appointed pastor in charge, and as his circuit was seven hundred miles around, he preached in Bucyrus but once in eight weeks. In 1822 Rev. Thomas McCleary was the preacher in charge, and in 1823 the circuit was made smaller and James Row was appointed junior preacher, so the people heard the gospel every two weeks. The same year John O. and William Blowers, brothers, began active work in the county. The Rev. Bacon, who was pastor, was a man full of tact and popular with the people. In 1824 Jacob Dixon was in charge, and in 1825 James Gilruth was appointed pastor, while James McMahan was presiding elder from 1825 until 1828. In 1826 Abner Goff accepted the pastorate and, a new brick school-house having been erected in Bucyrus, the Methodist people worshiped therein until they built a church of their own in 1832. Previous to that time their services were held in groves, cabins and barns. In 1828 James Gilruth and William Runnels occupied the pulpit, and in 1829 David Lewis and Samuel Shaw. In 1830 a great revival was held and the membership of the church was largely increased. From 1829 until 1831 Russell Biglow was presiding elder, and in 1831 Alfred M. Lorain and David Cadwallader. Between 1832 and 1849, in the order mentioned, the following acted as pastors: Erastus Felton, Harvey Camp, John Kinnear, James Wilson, Adam Poe, Thomas Thompson, George W. Breckenridge, Samuel B. Garberson, Liberty Prentiss, Samuel

P. Shaw, Peter Sharp, John Conway, Oren Mitchell, John Hazzard, Hibbard B. Ward, Henry Warner, Hubert Dubois and a few others whose names have not been secured.

In 1850 a two-story brick church was begun on the site of the old house of worship and was dedicated the following year by Adam Poe. Few churches have had as many changes made in their district and conference relations as the Bucyrus church. In 1850 Bucyrus circuit was in Tiffin district of the North Ohio conference. Various earnest and energetic men acted as pastors of the church from time to time. The year 1877 was a memorable one in the history of the church. J. J. Henry was appointed pastor. Young, earnest, devout, zealous and winning all hearts, he labored for the salvation of souls and gave up his life as a sacrifice to his Master. Holding a great revival in the winter of 1877-78, with over two hundred conversions and one hundred and eighty accessions to the church, from overwork he took brain fever, and after three weeks of suffering passed to his rest on March 16, 1878. His death was mourned by thousands of people, and his name is held in precious memory. Rev. J. H. Barron came to fill the unexpired time of Brother Henry. In 1884 a large and commodious parsonage was built on the corner of East and Warren streets. The present pastor, M. J. Keys, has been in charge since 1896 and has been successful in lifting the heavy debt that was upon the church.

The work is now thoroughly organized in its various departments and is having great influence in public affairs. In addition to the regular work of the church there is a growing Epworth League, a Sunday-school, a Ladies' Aid Society and Pastors' Union, together with the missionary societies. The Epworth League supports a school in India. The church has sent two of its young ladies into the mission field, while some of its young men have become ministers of the gospel. The people of Bucyrus are progressive and the church has in it many public-spirited men who bring into the church the same energy and resolution which characterizes their work in business life. As a result of this the membership has nearly doubled itself and the work is being carried on in a most commendable manner.

#### JOHN H. TRAGO.

A substantial and representative farmer of Crawford county, Ohio, is John H. Trago, of Auburn township, who was born here on May 31, 1840. He was a son of Daniel and Sarah (Waters) Trago, who reared a family of

ten children, the two survivors being our subject and his sister, Mary, who is the wife of William N. Keller, a resident of Allen county, Indiana.

Daniel Trago was born in Chester county, Pennsylvania, on May 8, 1796, of Quaker ancestry, and grew to manhood in his native state, where he learned the trade of millwright. This trade he followed for a number of years, but in 1832 he decided to become a farmer, and with his family he emigrated to Columbiana county, Ohio. Five years later he came to Crawford county, then Richland county, and bought the farm of one hundred and sixty acres of land in Auburn township, which lies on the corner of our subject's present farm. At different times in later years he purchased other property and became the owner of three farms beside the one mentioned, one of which consisted of one hundred and twenty acres, another of eighty, and still another of eighty acres.

The death of Mr. Trago occurred on January 3, 1876. He was formerly a Whig in his political faith, but later identified himself with the Republican party, which, in fact, has conserved Whig principles. He had been reared in the quiet and peaceful religious belief of the Quakers, and never departed from it. The mother of our subject was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, on January 1, 1806, and died in May, 1871. She had been reared in the Episcopal church, but found no congregation of that kind in the neighborhood of her home, therefore she associated herself with the Baptist church and became a willing and consistent worker therein as long as she lived.

Our subject grew up in a good home, under the training of a most estimable father and mother. His education was acquired in the common schools, and his recollections are very vivid of the old pioneer log school house, with its slab benches, etc. He continued to work on the farm with his father until the date of his marriage, October 21, 1866, at which time he was married to Miss Nancy A. Mount. She was a native of Cass township, Richland county, and she was the daughter of James Mount, who was a native of Ireland. To this union four children were born, viz.: Fannie, who is a teacher in the New Washington schools, filling her sixth term in this school; Justus J., who is a civil engineer, in the employ of the chief engineer's office of the Richland & Mahoning Railroad at Akron, Ohio; Andrew E., who has passed away; and John Henry, who met his death in a sawmill by being thrown against the saw.

Following his marriage Mr. Trago rented the farm which he occupies from his father, and at the latter's death he purchased the property from the other heirs and since that time this has been the pleasant and comfortable

family home. In politics Mr. Trago is a Republican, but he has never sought office. His mother brought him up in the Baptist church, but he has never become a member of any religious denomination, attending the Lutheran church with his wife, and teaching in their Sunday-school, exerting thus an influence in the direction of morality that but adds to the high esteem in which he is held in the community. On February 9, 1892, Mrs. Trago passed out of life and left behind a deeply bereaved family and a wide circle of sorrowing friends.

### JOSEPH GLEDHILL.

Joseph Gledhill, of Jefferson township, Crawford county, Ohio, a plain, unassuming man and a wealthy and progressive farmer, whose neighbors say that his farm is in many respects the best in that township, was born near Little Beaver, Trumbull county, Ohio, a son of Joseph and Mary (Mitchell) Gledhill, April 2, 1832. His father was a native of the north of England, and his good wife bore him eleven children, eight of whom grew to manhood and womanhood. Elizabeth, the first born, married David Snyder and she and her husband are both dead. Mary is the wife of Perry Russell, of Middletown, Ohio. Esther, who was the wife of John Shoemaker, is dead. Martha, who married Colonel Calvin Burwell, is dead. Sarah is the wife of Henry Castle, of Jefferson township, Crawford county, Ohio. Joseph, the subject of this sketch, was the fourth in order of birth. John is dead. William lives on his father's old homestead in Jefferson township. The father of these children came to America in 1826 and located in Trumbull county, Ohio, where he put a woolen mill in operation. He had brought quite a sum of money with him to America from England, but because of over-confidence in some people with whom he dealt he failed in business in Trumbull county, in 1832. By means of a one-horse wagon he removed to Crawford county, where he bought eighty acres of land, upon which some improvements had been made, for eighty dollars. He lived in a small house of round logs, which stood on the place, and not knowing anything about farming he busied himself at cutting down trees and chopping them up into cordwood, which he piled up on his land and sold, when occasion offered, to such advantage as was possible, and thus he was employed mostly for several years. He died there in 1868, at the age of sixty-eight years, and his wife lived on the homestead farm until 1886, when she died, aged eighty-four years.

When his parents removed to Jefferson township, Crawford county,



Ohio, the subject of this sketch was about six months old. He grew up amid the most primitive surroundings, helping to clear land and raise crops and availing himself of such scanty educational facilities as the locality afforded. In 1858, when he was twenty-six years old, he married Elizabeth Herslmer. The following items of information concerning their children will add to the interest of this sketch: William and Edward are both dead. The eldest daughter, Della, is the wife of J. Stough, of Galion, Ohio. Minnie is the wife of J. G. Brown, of Covington, Kentucky. Myrtie married R. C. Tracht, a lawyer, and lives at Galion, Ohio. Matie is the wife of James Morton, ticket agent for the Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago & St. Louis Railroad Company, at Mt. Gilead, Ohio. Kittie is the wife of J. C. Schaber, of Henry county, Ohio. Arthur married Alma Farrell and lives in Jefferson township, Crawford county, Ohio. Mack married Verna Beck and is a farmer in Jefferson township, Crawford county, Ohio.

After his marriage Mr. Gledhill bought and moved upon the place in Jefferson township, Crawford county, which is now his home farm. He now owns four hundred acres of land, most of it well improved and very productive, well equipped with all necessary buildings, appliances and utensils, a farm which by common consent is conceded to be for all practical purposes the finest in the township. Mr. Gledhill is a Republican and has held the office of township trustee for seven years.

#### DAVID M. PEPPARD.

One of the prominent railroad engineers on the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railroad, now living in Crestline, Ohio, has been in the service of that company through a very long period and is one of its most faithful and trustworthy employes. He was born near Mansfield, Richland county, Ohio, December 25, 1834. His father, Francis Peppard, was a native of Beaver county, Pennsylvania, and when about twelve years of age became a resident of Wayne county, Ohio, whither he went with his parents. There he was reared, and from an early age he followed the plasterer's trade. Removing to Mansfield, he carried on business along that line through a lengthy period. There he married Miss Mary Ann Morrison, a native of Crawford county, Pennsylvania. Her parents, however, were born in Ireland, and, crossing the Atlantic to the new world, settled on French creek, Crawford county, Pennsylvania, whence they afterward removed to Richland county, Ohio, casting in their lot with the early settlers there. Mr. and Mrs. Peppard began their

domestic life in Mansfield, Ohio, but after a short time the father purchased land where our subject now resides. The place was then a part of Richland county, but this portion of the state has since been placed in Crawford county. After carrying on agricultural pursuits for a number of years the father sold the farm and removed to Crestline, where he died when more than seventy-eight years of age. He was one of the pioneers of the county and cleared and improved ninety acres of land where the son now makes his home. In politics he was first a Freesoiler, and when James G. Birney became a candidate of the Abolition party for the office of president he gave him his support. Later, when the Republican party was formed to prevent the further extension of slavery, he joined its ranks. He held membership in the Methodist Episcopal church, although reared in the Presbyterian faith. His wife also belonged to the Methodist Episcopal church. She lived to be only thirty-six years of age. Their children, two sons and three daughters, all reached mature years and all are yet living. David M., of this review, being the eldest. The others are Margaret Ann, wife of J. J. Talbott; Eliza Jane, the wife of E. L. McLaughlin, engineer on the Great Northern railroad; William, who is engineer on the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne & Chicago road; and Lydia A., the wife of Jerome Brokar, a laundryman of Elyria, Ohio.

David M. Peppard was only about a year old when his parents removed to Crawford county, where he pursued his education in the district schools. He worked on the home farm until seventeen years of age, and then took up railroad work, being first employed at shoveling dirt on the Sandusky, Mansfield & Newark line. After thirteen and a half days spent in that way he was made brakeman on the same road. This was in the year 1852. He afterward became a fireman, and on the 15th of August, 1853, he entered the service of the Pennsylvania & Ohio Railroad Company as car inspector, and in April, 1854, was made brakeman on a passenger train running between Crestline and Pittsburg. The following year he was transferred to the position of fireman on the same road, and acted in that capacity until November, 1859, when he was promoted to engineer on a freight train running from Crestline to Alliance, Ohio. On the 15th of August, 1873, he took charge of a roundhouse as foreman, and was thus engaged until April 18, 1882, when he became master mechanic in the Crestline shops, thus serving until February, 1890, when he again went upon the road as engineer on a passenger train running between Crestline and Alliance. He worked in that way until November, 1897, since which time he has run a shifting engine in the Crestline yard. He is one of the oldest employes of the Pennsylvania road, and his long con-

nection therewith indicates in an unmistakable manner the trust reposed in him as well as his fidelity and close application to duty.

In February, 1856, Mr. Peppard was united in marriage to Miss Maria A. Hoffman, a native of Richland county, Ohio, and a daughter of Nathan and Electa (Parrott) Hoffman. They have become the parents of eight children: Mary, now the wife of G. P. Welshons, a farmer of Crawford county; Kate, who married J. P. Brown, formerly an engineer in Crestline; Frank, deceased; William, who is married and lives in Crestline; Grant, a machinist in the tube works at Shelby, Ohio; Edwin, who follows the painter's trade in Crestline; and Harry and Samuel, at home. Mr. Peppard is a member of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to lodge No. 272, of Crestline. He also holds membership relations with the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and with the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he has served as trustee for some time, filling the office in a commendable manner and doing everything in his power to promote the best interests of the church and the cause it represents. His father voted for William Henry Harrison in 1840 and Mr. Peppard has ever since been a stanch Republican. He began voting in Crestline when only fifty Republican votes were cast in the town. His first presidential ballot supported John C. Fremont; twice he voted for Lincoln and twice for Grant, and never has he failed to indicate his political preferences at a presidential election by casting a ballot for the candidates of his choice. He owns and occupies a little farm of fourteen acres near Crestline, and it is cultivated under his supervision. He has long resided in the city and is well known as a capable and prominent representative of railway interests.

#### CHARLES A. BROWN.

One of the most substantial, intelligent and highly respected citizens of Crawford county, Ohio, who owns a large acreage of valuable land in Sandusky township, where he is also a leader in political and social circles, is Charles A. Brown, who was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, on November 13, 1831. He was a son of John and Rosanna (Gruber) Brown, who became the parents of a family of seven children, of whom our subject is the only survivor.

Both John and Rosanna Brown, the parents of our subject, were born in Wurtemberg, the former in 1790 and the latter in 1795, and there they grew to maturity and were united in marriage. The father was a soldier

in the Russian war, under King Frederic, of Wittenberg, and was, in fact, one of his body-guard. In 1832 John Brown decided to emigrate to America, in the hope of being able to secure lands for his children, and preparations were made for the long journey, and landing was finally made in New York City, after a long and stormy voyage of sixty-two days. With his wife and six children, our subject then being a child of six months, Mr. Brown started westward, making the trip from New York to Albany by the river, thence by canal to Buffalo and thence to Cleveland via the lakes. Here they secured teams and proceeded to Columbiana county, where they passed their first winter. Determining to proceed farther west, the father bought three yoke of cattle and a wagon, and thus the family came, as did many another, into Crawford county. When the party reached the Wyandot Indian reservation it then turned back, locating in Sandusky township, where Mr. Brown purchased a farm of eighty acres, in section 13, that being the same farm now occupied by the widow of Christian Brown. Upon this land Mr. Brown settled and made it his home until his death, in 1856. After locating on this land he entered three tracts of eighty acres each, in Chatfield township, with the idea of thus providing for his children, but shortly afterward he sold those tracts and bought extensive lands in Mercer county, which in course of time he divided among his children, whose welfare he always had at heart. Mr. Brown was a most worthy and consistent member of the German Lutheran church and contributed largely to its spread and support. The mother of our subject died in 1886, at the age of ninety-one years.

Charles A. Brown, of this biography, was reared on the home farm and attended school in the little log school house of pioneer times. Although he was handicapped at first by his inability to either speak or understand anything but the German tongue, he was very apt and soon improved and later became well educated, and is now one of the intelligent and leading men of the county. When he was about twenty years of age, by the marriage of his brother, Christian, the charge of the farm was given into his hands, and our subject began his own career outside the home limits. Farm work in the neighborhood was easy to find, and other occupations presented themselves, so that he was kept quite busy, until he was given his farm in Mercer county. This consisted of eighty acres of unimproved land and our subject decided to wait until a favorable opportunity came to make an exchange, and in 1856 he was able to trade his Mercer county farm for eighty acres in Lykens township. This land he retained until 1860, and then sold it advantageously and bought the one hundred and twenty acres in Sandusky township where he now

resides. Until 1871 he rented his farm, since which time it has been the family home.

In 1871 Mr. Brown was united in marriage to Miss Lovina Easterday, a native of Chatfield township and a daughter of Jacob Easterday, who was one of the early settlers of this county, coming here from Germany. After his marriage our subject and wife settled on his farm, to which he has since made many additions, until now it comprises three hundred and ten acres and is finely improved. Mr. Brown has engaged extensively in the breeding of Shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs, and is just making a trial of the new breed of cattle known as the Aberdeen, there being but few of these yet in the county. His operations both in cattle and stock-raising, as well as in farming, have proved very successful, and he is regarded as one of the most substantial citizens of Crawford county.

A family of twelve children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Brown, and nine of these still survive, several of them located in this or neighboring townships, while the others still remain under the home roof. Their names are as follows: Willis L., a farmer of this township; Charles Elburtis, of Broken Sword, in Holmes township; Milton F., at home; Waldo F., a teacher and pursuing a course in Heidelberg University, Tiffin, Ohio; and Carl A., Floyd E., Dora G., Edson J. and Samuel E. are all at home.

Mr. Brown is a staunch Republican at present, having become so within the past few years, and has efficiently served four years as township trustee. His fellow citizens desired to honor him with the offices of justice of the peace and assessor, but met with his refusal to fill these, the only other office that he accepted being that of treasurer. He is a consistent member of the Reformed church and is one of the most influential men in this part of Crawford county, and well represents its best interests.

### FREDERICK LUST.

Among the settlers who came to Crawford county in pioneer days and were long identified with the upbuilding and development of this portion of the state, and none have been more highly respected or more worthy of high regard than the Rev. Frederick Lust, who not only gave his attention to agricultural pursuits, but also devoted much of his time through forty years to the work of preaching the gospel as a minister of the Pietist church. He was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, in 1815, and with his father, John David Lust, he came to America in 1820, crossing the ocean on one of the old-time



sailing vessels, which required weeks to make the passage. On reaching the shores of the new world the father brought his family to Ohio, and first located in Marion county, and ten years later coming to Crawford county. From that time forward until his death Frederick Lust was a resident of this county. He lived in Lykens township and there he purchased a tract of wild land, which he transformed into a productive farm.

As a companion and helpmate for the journey of life Mr. Lust chose Sophia Beal, and unto them were born nine children: Samuel, now deceased; Lydia, the wife of Frederick Heiber, of Liberty township; Sophia, the wife of Martin Durr, by whom she had three children; Benjamin, deceased; Louisa, who married Charles Lindner, of Valparaiso, Indiana; Susan, deceased; Emanuel, who is living in Holmes township; Isaac, who has passed away; and Nathaniel, who resides at Sulphur Springs, Ohio. For his second wife Rev. Mr. Lust chose Dorothy Gross.

Throughout his active business career he carried on farming, and at the time of his death was the owner of two hundred and fifty acres of valuable land, for as time passed he made judicious investments of his earnings and thus gained a valuable property. He was also the first minister of the Pietist church in this locality and for forty years gave much time, energy and consecrated thought to the work of helping his fellow men to walk in the path pointed out by the Savior. In politics he was a Democrat, and served as school director and trustee of his township. He took an active interest in educational affairs and in all movements tending to benefit the community. By precept and example he labored for the cause of the church, and his influence was very marked. His memory remains as a benediction to all who knew this worthy and upright pioneer.

### JOHN LEONHART.

Enterprise and determination have formed the foundation upon which the success of Mr. Leonhart has been builded. He is to-day numbered among the leading agriculturists of the county, wide-awake, progressive and enterprising, and his farm of three hundred and twenty acres, with its many **excellent improvements**, is a monument to his labor and resolution.

Mr. Leonhart is a native of Stark county, Ohio, his birth having occurred near Canton, on the 4th of October, 1834, his parents being George and Margaret (Capst) Leonhart. Both were natives of Alsace, Germany. They be-



WILLIAM A.      GEORGE W.      FRANKLIN E.      GUSTAVUS A.      JEFFERSON  
CAROLINE E.      MATILDA      CATHERINE M.      EMMA  
MR. AND MRS. JOHN LEONHART AND CHILDREN.



came the parents of six children, the eldest being the subject of this review. The others are Catherine, the widow of Conrod Hammer; Elizabeth, the wife of Adam Reichard, of Chatfield township; George, who is living in Kansas; Adam, also of Chatfield township; and Adolph, who makes his home in Virginia. In the year 1832 George Leonhart, the father of this family, came to America, landing on the shores of the new world after a voyage of forty days. He settled in Stark county, Ohio, where he purchased eighty acres of land, upon which he made his home until March, 1837, when he came to Crawford county, taking up his abode in Chatfield township. Here he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, of which only five acres had been cleared, while a log cabin constituted the improvements that had been made in the shape of buildings. He cleared and improved that farm and as the years passed added to his property until at one time he owned seven hundred acres of valuable land. He died in 1886, in the seventy-seventh year of his age, respected by all who knew him. He was a member of the German Evangelical Lutheran church, served as one of its trustees and took an active interest in its work. His widow still survives him and is now eighty-seven years of age.

John Leonhart was not quite four years of age when brought by his parents to Chatfield township and here he has since resided. His boyhood and youth were passed in the usual manner of farmer lads of the period, working in the fields through the summer months, while in the winter season he pursued his education in the public schools. When twenty-four years of age he rented land from his father and continued its cultivation for ten years. He then purchased forty acres of his present farm, to which he has added from time to time until he is now the owner of three hundred and twenty acres. He has made many fine improvements upon the place, and all modern conveniences and accessories are there found, including the latest improved machinery, substantial buildings and high grades of stock, while his fields return to him good crops.

In October, 1857, Mr. Leonhart was married to Miss Elizabeth Ackerman, and unto them have been born eight children: Catherine M., Jefferson, George W., William A., Matilda, Gustavus A., Caroline E., and Emma. Tillie is the wife of Charles Foster; Callie married George Marquart, and Emma is the wife of William Gangluff. The family is one widely and favorably known in the community and the members of the household have a large circle of friends. In his political views Mr. Leonhart is a stalwart Democrat and for ten years he has served as trustee of his township, dis-

charging his duties in a most prompt and efficient manner. He belongs to the German Evangelical Lutheran church and his straightforward life is in harmony with his professions.

#### THEODORE F. POPE.

The well-known farmer of Lykens township, Crawford county, Ohio, whose name is the title of this sketch, is a worthy example of that class so numerous in America, that of the self-made men, and it is the aim of the writer to include in this work a brief account of his career not alone because it is due to Mr. Pope that he should be properly represented in these pages but also in the hope that others, reading of his success, may be encouraged to surmount obstacles and press forward more bravely along the hard but promising path-way of life.

Theodore F. Pope was born in Delaware, Ohio, March 30, 1845. At the age of five years he was taken to Williams county, Ohio, where he lived until he was fifteen years old, when his mother died. He then went to Mansfield, Ohio, and found a home with his uncle, J. H. Barron, with whom he lived two years. Then, in 1862, at the age of seventeen years, he enlisted as a private in the Tenth Ohio Cavalry and entered upon a career as a soldier under the gallant General Kilpatrick. His first experience of battle was at Snow Hill. He afterward fought at Shelbyville, and under Sherman participated in that distinguished officer's celebrated march to the sea, enduring many hardships and taking part in many desperate sorties and hotly-contested engagements. He was honorably discharged from the service August 9, 1865.

After the war Mr. Pope went to Lykens, Crawford county, Ohio, where for three years he was a clerk in a store. He left that position to assume the management of a sawmill, which he retained for one year. He then engaged in farming, which he has continued successfully to the present time. In 1884 he removed to his present farm, which he worked under lease one year and which he bought in 1885. It contains one hundred and ten acres of well-improved and well-cultivated land and is provided with a good residence, ample barns and all necessary outbuildings. He gives his attention to general farming.

Mr. Pope was married April 23, 1868, to Miss Amy B. Yingling, who has borne him six children. Their daughter Esther is the wife of H. B. Tippin, of Lykens, Ohio. Their daughter Rena married Daniel Augeny, also of Lykens. Their daughter Ada is the wife of Michael Geiger, of Chat-



field. Their daughter Sanoma married H. E. Valentine, of Logan county, Ohio. Their son Clifford J. and their son Judson K. are members of their household.

Mr. Pope is a Republican in political affiliation, and he is not without influence in the local councils of his party. He has never been an office-seeker, but has been prevailed upon to serve his fellow townsmen as assessor of Lykens township, to which office he has been twice elected. His interest in the welfare of his township and county has been manifested in many ways, and he never withholds his support from any measure which he believes tends to the advancement of worthy local interests. He is a member of Lykens Lodge, No. 506, Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

#### MATTHIAS M. SPRINGER.

Matthias M. Springer is an honored veteran of the Civil war who has made a great sacrifice for his country. He stands to-day among those to whom the nation owes a debt of gratitude which can never be repaid. His loyalty and valor was displayed on many southern battlefields and throughout his entire life he has been a supporter of every interest which he believed would prove of general good to his county, state and nation. No history of Crawford county would be complete without the record of his life, which we, therefore, gladly present to our readers, according to him the honor which is his just due.

Mr. Springer was born in Weller township, Richland county, on the 15th of January, 1837, and is a son of George W. and Elizabeth (Mahon) Springer. The family is of Swedish origin and was founded in America by four brothers, Michael, Peter, William and Daniel, who crossed the Atlantic from Sweden in an early day and settled in New Jersey. The first named was the great-grandfather of our subject, and from New Jersey he removed to Pennsylvania. His son, Matthias Springer, the grandfather of our subject, was born, according to tradition, in the red stone country of New Jersey, May 15, 1758, and died in June, 1822. He was a personal acquaintance of George Washington, but it is not known with certainty whether or not he served in the Revolutionary war. George W. Springer, the father of our subject, was born in Allegheny county, Pennsylvania, October 22, 1811, and in his parents' home spent the days of his childhood and youth. He acquired a good common-school education, and soon after attaining his majority emigrated to Ohio, locating in Weller township, Richland county, becoming one of its pioneer

settlers. The Indians were very numerous in that portion of the state but were always friendly. In Pennsylvania Mr. Springer had learned the trade of a tanner and shoemaker, and after coming to Ohio he purchased a tan-yard, which he conducted for a number of years. He devoted some time to farming soon after his arrival in the Buckeye state, but rheumatism forced him to abandon this and he then actively engaged in the tanning business, which he followed the greater part of his active life. About a year after taking up his abode in Richland county, he was married on the 19th of September, 1833, to Miss Elizabeth Mahon, who was born in Jefferson county, Ohio, October 25, 1814, and was a daughter of James and Millie (Hitchcock) Mahon, both of whom were of Irish extraction. They emigrated to Richland county in 1818, settling in Weller township, where their remaining days were spent in the midst of pioneer scenes, the red men being almost their only neighbors. At the time of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Springer his wife received as her patrimony forty acres of forest land, which the father of our subject cleared and improved. Later, he purchased an adjoining tract of forty acres and the development of this largely devolved upon his sons, owing to the father's ill health. After selling his Richland county farm, George W. Springer removed to Crawford county on the 1st of April, 1865, and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Cranberry township, one mile southeast of New Washington, and here he and his wife resided up to the time of her death. He passed away on the 22d of November, 1889, and she was called to her final rest on the 5th of May, 1888. They were life-long members of the Methodist Episcopal church, earnest and consistent Christian people, who reared their children in that faith and taught them habits of industry and integrity, thus well fitting them for the duties and obligations of life. They had ten children, seven of whom are yet living, namely: Matthias M.; Elizabeth, the wife of John Tooker, of Michigan; Amelia, Athaliah and George W., triplets, the first named the wife of a Mr. Hilton, of Tiffin, Ohio, the second of the widow of Henry Bender, of Marion, Ohio, while George resides with his brother Matthias; Nancy M., who married William Corrathers, of Ohio City, Ohio; and Mary M., the wife of Sheridan Spencer, of Seneca county, Ohio.

Matthias M. Springer began his mastery of the branches of English learning in the common schools near his home and during the period of his childhood and youth remained with his parents, assisting in the farm work as he grew old and strong enough to manage the plow and the other agricultural implements. On attaining his majority he started out to fight the battle of

life, and whatever success he has achieved since that time is due entirely to his own efforts. For two years he was employed in a stone quarry, and as opportunity offered he secured work as a journeyman at the brick and stone mason's trade, his time being thus passed for a year. On the expiration of that period he began doing contract work in putting up post and rail fences and executing various jobs in carpentering, in which he was very successful, receiving good salaries. On the 11th of August, 1861, however, he sacrificed all business opportunities in order to aid his country in her struggle to preserve the Union intact. He joined Company M, of the Second Ohio Cavalry, and after recruiting for five months at Cleveland the regiment was sent to Camp Dennison and soon afterward to Fort Leavenworth. After a short stay at that place the troops were sent to Kansas City, and in that vicinity had a sharp skirmish with Quantrell, the guerrilla chief. Next the regiment was sent to Fort Scott, but Mr. Springer remained behind as an inmate of the general hospital with a severe case of inflamed eyes, caused by vaccination, which had been administered while he was at Camp Dennison. It was slow to take, however, and on encountering the severe winters of the western country he contracted a cold which inflamed his eyes. Through a scare at Fort Scott on the expected advance of the Confederate troops, he was taken to that place with others ere he had fully recovered, being at the time under the medical supervision of the regimental surgeon. While at that place the regiment of twelve companies, finding it impossible to recruit, formed into a battalion of eight companies and Mr. Springer was transferred to Company G. The troops then returned to headquarters at Fort Scott for some time, and in the interval went on an Indian expedition to Fort Gibbs and Fort Smith for two months, during which time there occurred a two-days' fight at Cain Hill. Mr. Springer was also one of a company of one hundred and fifty men chosen as a detachment to go on an expedition to Humboldt to suppress the Indian insurrections at that place. There they met in council with seventeen different tribes of Indians and matters were peaceably settled.

In December, 1862, as the regiment were almost entirely dismounted, it was called back to Camp Chase to recruit and there was remounted. In the following spring it was transferred to the Army of the Cumberland, and going to Somerset, Kentucky, were encamped at that place for several weeks, during which time the Union men had several skirmishes with the troops of General Pegrim. After some weeks passed at Danville and at Camp Nelson, they moved to Lexington, but there remained only a brief period, after which they spent a few weeks at Stanford and thence took up the line of march into

eastern Tennessee, where they were constantly on the move, either advancing, driving the enemy before them, or retreating for some weeks up to the siege of Knoxville, in which Mr. Springer took part. Following this he went with his regiment to Strawberry Plains, where they went into winter quarters, and during the winter season the engineer corps repaired the bridge at that place. On the 1st of January, 1864, while at Strawberry Plains, Mr. Springer enlisted as a veteran and shortly afterward began the journey home, arriving at Camp Chase, where the regiment was again mustered into the service and then granted a thirty-day furlough. On the expiration of his leave of absence he rejoined his regiment at Cleveland and was transferred with Burnside to the Ninth Corps of the Army of the Potomac. After rendezvousing for two weeks at Annapolis, they took part in the battle of the Wilderness, and subsequently the Second Ohio Cavalry was transferred to Sheridan's Cavalry Corps and took part in Wilson's second raid, in which they tore up seventy-two miles of the Petersburg and Lynchburg Railroad. This movement was followed by the mine explosion at Petersburg. Soon afterward Mr. Springer was sent to the hospital at City Point, trouble with his eyes incapacitating him for service. The same afternoon the regiment received orders to move to Washington city, and he was placed on a boat and sent through with his command. Immediately on his arrival he was committed to Camp Stoneman hospital, and after two days was sent to the Emory general hospital, at Washington, D. C., where he remained for over eleven months. After about six months there passed he was appointed general superintendent of the cooking department, and by the war department was made a member of the Veteran Reserve Corps so that he might be retained in this position. After the hospital was broken up he rejoined his regiment at Camp Cadwalader, in Philadelphia, and was made superintendent of the cooking department there, acting in that capacity until September 18, 1865, when he was honorably discharged from the service.

At the close of four long years spent at the front Mr. Springer gladly returned to his home and on the 1st of March, 1866, he was united in marriage to Miss Ferena Easly, a native of Cranberry township, and a daughter of Jacob Easly. Her father was a native of Switzerland and originally spelled the name Iseli. In 1834 he came to America, accompanied by his second wife, mother of Mrs. Springer, who bore the maiden name of Barbara Strauchen. They were also accompanied by his five children, born of his first marriage.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Springer has been blessed with fourteen children, of whom twelve are yet living, namely: George W., who follows

carpentering in Cleveland; Elizabeth, the wife of W. H. Smith, of Fostoria, Ohio; Samuel M., a painter and plasterer in Cranberry township; Charles A., a carpenter in Cleveland, Ohio; Anna A., wife of A. S. Nye, of Cranberry township; Lela F., wife of Joseph Wolfert, of Cleveland; Arthur J., and Elmira M., at home; Walter R., who follows carpentering in Cleveland; Martha I., Lucy V. and Effie L., all of whom are still with their parents.

After his marriage Mr. Springer took up his abode in a log cabin, about one and a half miles west of the present home, where he resided for eighteen months, during which period he followed any respectable employment that he could secure. He then went to Ottawa county, Ohio, where he purchased eighty acres of timber land and erected a log house and a log barn, making his home upon that place for six years. Again he had trouble with his eyes, which prevented him from working, and in consequence he sold his farm and returned to Crawford county. Here he purchased the south half of the old homestead and lived there for six years. In 1881, however, he sold that property and purchased his present home farm of eighty acres, upon which he has resided through two decades. About 1880 his eyesight began failing so that at times of a period of several weeks he would be totally blind, and soon after his removal to his present home he lost the entire use of his eyes. It was certainly a great sacrifice he made to his country, for it was during his service as a defender of the Union that the trouble was incurred which ultimately resulted in blindness.

In his political views Mr. Springer is a staunch Republican and for some years after his return from the war he served as supervisor and as school director, but his blindness compelled him to give up active participation in such work. He and his wife were consistent and prominent members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and the family is one of prominence in the community. Mr. Springer is one of the most highly esteemed citizens of this part of the state.

#### JACOB C. MILLIMITER.

Although Switzerland is one of the smallest of the countries of Europe, it has furnished some valuable citizens to the new world. Of that country Mr. Millimiter is a native, his birth having there occurred on the 7th of May, 1849. His education was obtained in its public schools, and the first nineteen years of his life were passed in his native land, after which he bade adieu to friends and home and sailed for the United States. Having arrived on the Atlantic seaboard he started westward and first took up his abode in Van Wert



county, Ohio, where he began working with his father, with whom he remained until he had attained his majority, when he started out in life for himself. He was employed as a farm hand by the month and thus obtained a start in the business world. The year 1876 witnessed his arrival in Crawford county, and for three years thereafter he worked on a farm.

Mr. Millimeter was then married, the lady of his choice being Miss Mary Smith, by whom he has one child, William, who is yet at home with his parents. At the time of their marriage Mr. Millimeter began operating land on the shares. He went to Cranberry township, where he remained for eight years, and then came to the farm upon which he now resides and which has been his home continuously since 1896. He now owns one hundred and six acres of land. This is an arable tract and the well tilled fields bring forth good harvests, for he raises the grains best adapted to this climate and carefully cultivates his land. He is a member of the German Reformed church, and his life is consistent with his religious faith. Whatever success he has achieved is due entirely to his own efforts and his enterprise and energy will enable him to gain still greater prosperity in the future.

#### FREDERICK W. MAY.

One of the leading and representative citizens of Tiro, Ohio, is Frederick W. May, who is the subject of this biography. He was born in Liberty township, Crawford county, on June 11, 1862, and is one of a family of seven children born to Louis and Sophia (Krebs) May.

Louis May, the father of our subject, was born in Bavaria, Germany, on May 8, 1828, a son of Louis and Fredericka (Schaeffer) May, and was one of a family of ten children, four of whom still survive, these being: Louis, the father of our subject; William, who operates the home farm in Bavaria; George and Rinehart, both of whom are residents of Boston, Massachusetts. The grandparents of our subject were born and spent their whole lives in Bavaria, where the grandfather died at the age of sixty-four and the grandmother at the age of seventy-seven years. Louis May grew to manhood on his father's farm and obtained an excellent education in the German schools, and still retains the language of the Fatherland.

In 1853 Mr. Louis May started for America, in company with many others from his own land, among these being the lady who later became his wife. After a voyage of thirty-five days the party landed in New York, about the middle of October. Mr. May went immediately to Boston, Massachusetts,

where his brother-in-law resided. He was the well-known Daniel Shales, who carried on a large cabinet-making business, employing seventy-five men, and under his instruction Mr. May in time became a finished workman in that trade, serving a full apprenticeship and later working with him as a journeyman.

In 1850 Mr. May married Miss Sophia Krebs, who was born in Bavaria also, and who was a daughter of Frederick and Christiana (Weibel) Krebs, who followed her to America in the following year, locating with their son in Osceola, in Crawford county, where their last years were spent. A family of seven children was born to Louis May and wife, the six survivors being: Anna, who is the wife of Henry Ulmer, of Sandusky township, in this county; Louis, who conducts the home farm; George, who is also at home; Frederick W., who resides in Tiro; Elizabeth, who is the wife of Philip Bender, of Sandusky township; and Emma, who is at home.

In the spring of 1861 Mr. May, with his wife and three children, came to Crawford county and settled on a farm of forty acres which he had purchased in Liberty township, near Sulphur Springs, prior to his removal to the county. More land was added to the farm, making it contain fifty-five acres, and here Mr. May and his family resided until 1877, when he sold that place and bought his present fine farm of one hundred and six acres in Vernon township, which has been his home ever since.

In political matters Mr. May has always been a Democrat, and both he and his wife have been active members of the Lutheran church, and are among the most highly esteemed citizens of the county.

Frederick W. May was sent to school and grew up on the farm, acquiring an education both mentally and physically, and remained under the parental roof until his marriage, on December 25, 1894, to Miss Sidney Carmichael. She was a native of Richland county, Ohio, and was a daughter of Franklin Carmichael, one of the early settlers of Richland county.

After marriage our subject located in Tiro, where for many years his capable wife had conducted a successful millinery business, and in the following year he engaged in the grocery line. On account of his business qualifications as well as his pleasant and courteous manner, Mr. May soon built up a large trade and is now one of the leading men in his line in the city. In politics he has always been a Democrat and at present is faithfully filling the office of town treasurer. Socially he is connected with the order K. of P., Lodge No. 592, of Tiro, in which he takes an active interest. Mrs. May has long been one of the consistent members of the Lutheran church, which he also attends and

most cheerfully assists in supporting. They occupy one of the most comfortable and attractive residences of the place and there dispense a liberal hospitality to their many friends. Mr. May is known as one of the broad-minded, progressive men of the community and as one ever ready to do his part in advancing the interests of the town.

#### FRANK WECHTER.

Men of strong purpose, marked individuality, enterprise and diligence have no need to complain of life, for to such success always vouchsafes a reward, and from humble position to a place of affluence they rise through their own efforts. Of this class is Frank Wechter a representative, and among the more prominent citizens of Crawford county he well deserves mention.

A native of Rochester, New York, he was born May 17, 1838. His father George Wechter, was born in France in 1806, and there learned the blacksmith's trade. Ere leaving his native country he wedded Frances Heartrick, and after the birth of their eldest child they came to the United States, locating in Rochester, where the father worked at various occupations until he had accumulated a few hundred dollars, when he purchased a small place near Rochester—a tract of seven acres, upon which he made his home until 1853, when he came to Ohio and bought eighty acres of land in Chatfield township. Here he lived for some years, when he sold that property and became the owner of a quarter section of land in Cranberry township, that is now occupied by his son Frank. He was a member of the Catholic church, a Democrat in political faith, and died in 1884, respected by all who knew him. Unto him and his wife were born seven children, the surviving members of the family being: George; Mary A., the wife of Peter Miller, of Grand Rapids, Michigan; Jacob, of Allen county, Indiana; Joseph, a florist of Rochester, New York; and Frank, of this review. Frances and Henry are now deceased.

When fifteen years of age Frank Wechter accompanied his parents on their removal to Crawford county. Prior to this time he had attended the German school of Rochester, with the exception of one winter, and after coming to this locality he resumed his studies in the English schools. When he had arrived at man's estate he began cultivating the home farm on the shares and throughout the period of his active business career has carried on agricultural pursuits.

On the 7th of May, 1862, Mr. Wechter led to the marriage altar Miss Mary Heydinger, a native of Loraine, France, and a daughter of Mr. and Mrs.

John Adam Heydinger, who came to Crawford county in 1850, settling in Cranberry township, where he remained until his death. In 1867, with his family and parents, Mr. Wechter came to Cranberry township, buying in partnership one hundred and sixty acres of land, which he managed and conducted until 1875, when he purchased his father's interest in the farm, his parents, however, continuing to reside with him until they departed this life.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Wechter was blessed with nine children: August and John, who are living in Cranberry township; Mary, Barnett and Julia, at home; Francis, deceased; Joseph, who is attending St. Mary's Seminary, in Cleveland, Ohio, preparing for the priesthood; Marcus, who has also passed away; and Henry, who is a student in St. Francis College, at Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Mrs. Wechter, the mother of these children, passed to the other world March 9, 1883, since which time Mr. Wechter has remained a widower. At the time of her death their youngest son, Henry, was but two and a half years old.

About ten years ago Mr. Wechter sold one hundred and sixty acres of valuable land at Big Rapids, Michigan, and divided the money among his two oldest sons, thus giving them a start in life. He became the sole owner of his present property in 1875, and the place is now being cultivated by his son Barney. Mr. Wechter manifests his political views by the unfaltering support he gives the Democracy, but has never sought office, his attention being occupied with his business affairs, which in the course of years have brought to him a good financial return, so that he is now numbered among the substantial and well-to-do agriculturists of his adopted county.

#### NELSON CLOSE.

Nelson Close, who in his time was one of the prominent citizens of Texas township, Crawford county, Ohio, was born in the state of New York in 1818, and died at his home in Texas township April 25, 1874. He emigrated to Ohio in 1844 and located on the farm on which he passed the remainder of his life. He was married in 1845 to Elizabeth Bender, who was born in Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, February 15, 1820, a daughter of George and Mary (Fohler) Bender. Mrs. Close came with her father and other members of his family to Ohio in 1824. They made the journey from Pennsylvania by horse team and stopped for about a year at Bucyrus, the site of which was at that time marked by only a few primitive log cabins. In 1825 they went on to Benton, in Crawford county, where Mr. Bender entered a claim

to government land, on which he erected a small log house. The forests round about abounded with wild game and Indians often came to his cabin, but never showed aught but a friendly disposition. He hunted some and burned a good deal of lime, which he hauled to Bucyrus. He was a very progressive and enterprising man, who was a member of the Lutheran church and took an active interest in evangelical and Sunday-school work. He was the first incumbent of the office of trustee of Texas township and platted the village of Benton, and was the first postmaster at that point. He died February 10, 1851, aged fifty-four years. His daughter, Mrs. Close, taught a subscription school in a log building at Benton when she was about twenty years old. She was the oldest of eight children of her parents and she was early orphaned by the death of her mother at the early age of thirty-two years.

Mr. Bender's house was noted for its hospitality, and its roof sheltered not only white men, but from time to time Indians remained there over night. The Indians trusted him and he wielded considerable influence over them, and it was their custom to come to him for advice concerning their troubles with each other and with whites. Mr. Bender's advent in Texas township was followed by some discouraging incidents. Nearly all of his money was stolen and one of his horses died, but he did not permit these troubles to daunt his courage, though he and his family endured many hardships and often were put to great inconvenience to secure the necessities of life. He was obliged to carry his wheat on horseback to Upper Sandusky to mill, and after waiting for it to be ground brought his share of the flour home, the miller retaining the customary toll for grinding it. The only windows in their first house were holes in the wall covered with greased paper, and while they admitted a certain amount of light nothing was visible through them. They had no stove in their cabin, and they ate from old-fashioned pewter dishes which they had brought with them from the east. Mr. Bender was an industrious man, the sounds of whose ax strokes could be heard early and late, and he cleared most of his land of the dense forest, and eventually even of the stumps, fenced it and put it under a good state of cultivation.

Nelson and Elizabeth (Bender) Close had children as follows: Their daughter Mary is the wife of Michael Davis, of Nebraska. Their son George owns a part of his father's homestead on which his father made his original settlement, which consisted of one hundred and twenty acres. Their daughter Hannah is dead. Their daughter Ella lives at the homestead in Texas township. A biographical sketch of their son Harvey appears elsewhere in this work. Their son Adelbert is dead. Their daughter Alta lives in Holmes



county, Ohio. Mr. Close was a member of the Lutheran church, and his widow, who since his death has lived on the farm home, is also devotedly attached to the belief of that religious organization

George Close, son of Nelson and Elizabeth (Bender) Close, who since his father's death has farmed the old homestead, has won a good business success and is regarded as an enterprising, progressive citizen of much public spirit.

### S. WILLIAM GEISSMANN.

S. William Geissmann, who is successfully engaged in farming in Chatfield township, where he has resided for almost half a century, was born in Saxony, Germany, March 8, 1835, his parents being Christian and Dorothy (Hetzer) Geissmann, in whose family were three children: Charley, a resident of Iowa county, Iowa; S. William, of this review; and Mary, who died in infancy. The father was a nailmaker by trade and followed that pursuit in Germany until 1872, when he came with his family to the new world, making the voyage across the Atlantic in a sailing vessel, which was seventy-seven days in reaching the American port. There were three hundred emigrants on board, the food supply ran short and the passengers experienced considerable discomfort. At length they reached the harbor of Quebec, and from that point Mr. Geissmann and his family proceeded to Chatfield township, Crawford county, Ohio, where the parents spent their remaining days, the father passing away at the age of seventy-seven, the mother when seventy-five years of age

In his native land S. William Geissmann acquired a good German education and at the age of twelve years began working at the nailmaker's trade under the direction of his father. He was seventeen years of age when he arrived in this country, and soon afterward he secured employment in a foundry in Bucyrus, receiving ten dollars per month for his services and paying a dollar per week for his board, which left him a surplus of six dollars per month. He was there employed for three months, after which he learned the cooper's trade, receiving seventy-five dollars and his board for his services during the two years of his apprenticeship. After completing the term he worked on the section for two months and then began coopering in Bucyrus, where he remained for two years. On the expiration of that period, in connection with his brother, he purchased sixty acres of land in Chatfield township, of which twenty-five acres had been cleared, and on this built a cooper shop, our subject

working at his trade during the day, while at night he continued the task of clearing the land. He followed the dual occupation of farming and coopering until 1896, when he removed to the farm upon which he now resides. He had previously rented the place, beginning in 1860, and for eleven years thereafter he had been the occupant. He now owns one hundred and sixty-four acres of valuable land, of which one hundred and thirty acres have been cleared, and of this he cleared sixty-five acres. He has brought his farm under a high state of cultivation and has made valuable improvements on the place, transforming it into a very desirable property. The fields return to him good harvests, and everything is neat and thrifty in appearance, showing the owner to be a progressive agriculturist.

In 1860 Mr. Geissmann was married to Miss Caroline Balthaser, and unto them have been born thirteen children, of whom ten are living: Henry, Charley, Augustus, Edward, Albert, Emma, Anna, Clara, Minnie and Callie. Three of the children died in infancy. The family is well known in Chatfield township and Crawford county, and the sterling qualities of its members have gained them uniform respect. Mr. Geissmann exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the Democracy, and his fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, have called him to office. He served for six years as trustee of Chatfield township, and for twelve years was school director, laboring earnestly for the benefit of the school system in his neighborhood. His life has been one of honest toil, and his enterprise and indefatigable labor have enabled him to win a desirable prosperity.

### JOHN MORROW.

From his boyhood until the present time the subject of this review has been connected with agricultural interests, and is thoroughly acquainted with that line of work in every detail. Since his birth he has been a resident of Crawford county, and during the intervening years he has become known as one of the enterprising business men of the locality, devoting his time and energies to the conduct of his farm. So ably has he managed his interests that he has met with most gratifying success, and at the same time has gained the public confidence and good will by his honorable business methods.

The Morrow family is an old and honored one in the history of Crawford county. A native of Auburn township, this county, our subject first opened his eyes to the light of day on the 13th of July, 1851, and is a son of James and Margaret (Ake) Morrow, a sketch of whom will be found in this volume.

He remained under the parental roof until after his marriage. In the spring following that event his father died, and after the estate was divided our subject received as his share the original homestead entered by his grandfather Morrow, and there he located with his bride and began his career as a farmer. In the spring of 1891 he purchased eighty-five acres of land adjoining the homestead, and in the fall of that year took up his abode thereon, but he still continues the cultivation of both farms.

The marriage of Mr. Morrow was celebrated on the 10th of December, 1874, when Miss Susan N. Cory became his wife. She is a native of Crawford county, Ohio. Two children have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Morrow, namely: Harry Burton, who is at home with his parents; and Charlie James, who holds the responsible position under the government as meat inspector in St. Joe, Missouri. Mr. Morrow is liberal in his political views, but his preference is given to the Democracy. He has always taken a deep interest in the development and growth of his locality, and has been foremost in all local improvements and enterprises calculated to permanently benefit his county.

#### REV. JOHN BEAL.

The Rev. John Beal, whose life has been devoted to agricultural pursuits and to spiritual work among his fellow men, is a gentleman of wide influence, teaching by example as well as precept of the development of one's higher nature through the influences of Christianity. He was born in Holmes township, this county, on the 9th of June, 1857, and is a son of Conrad Beal, a native of Lycoming county, Pennsylvania, who, after arriving at years of maturity, married Elizabeth Wagner, and unto them were born the following children: Daniel, of Bucyrus township; Magdeline, wife of J. D. Durr; Solomon, of Chatfield township; Lydia, wife of Samuel Shawl, of Liberty township; Sophia, who married Jacob Berger, of Holmes township; and John, of this review. It was in the year 1848 that Conrad Beal left his home in the Keystone state and came to Crawford county, taking up his abode upon a farm in Whetstone township, where he remained until 1854, when he settled in Holmes township upon a farm of eighty acres now owned by Jacob Meck. There he lived until 1869, when he went to Chatfield township, purchasing two hundred and forty acres of land, constituting the farm which is now owned by Emanuel Kalb. There Mr. Beal continued to carry on agricultural pursuits until his life's labors were ended in death and he was called to the home beyond. He passed away in October, 1895, at the age of seventy-one years, his birth having oc-

curred in 1824, and his wife died in 1900, at the age of seventy-four. They were consistent Christian people, holding membership with the Pietist church.

Rev. Beal, of this review, was a lad of twelve summers when the family removed to Chatfield township. At the age of eleven years he began working as a farm hand, and was thus employed for two years, while throughout the remainder of his minority he assisted his father in the work of the home farm. His educational privileges were those afforded by the common schools, but subsequent reading, study, experience and investigation have broadened his mind, added to his store of knowledge and made him a well-informed man.

On the 8th of August, 1880, Mr. Beal was united in the holy bonds of matrimony to Miss Elizabeth Lust, a daughter of Conrad Lust, and their marriage has been blessed with the following children: Mattie, Laura E., John W., Frederick N., Reuben E., Jessie D. and Edna N.

Soon after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Beal began their domestic life upon her father's farm, where they remained for five years, and in 1885 they came to their present home in Chatfield township, where Mr. Beal has made splendid improvements. He is carrying on general farming and stock-raising with good success, his labors bringing to him a desired financial reward. His progressive methods are indicated in the attractive appearance of the place. During the past eleven years he has also served as the minister of the Pietist church, and his labors have been productive of great good, as he has put forth strong efforts for the spiritual advancement of the neighborhood. He votes with the Democracy, and is known as a public-spirited citizen, deeply interested in everything pertaining to the welfare of his native county and contributing to its advancement along material, social, intellectual or moral lines.

#### MICHAEL LUTZ.

The German element in our national commonwealth is one of much importance. No country has furnished so many valuable citizens to the United States as the fatherland. They are men of diligence, determined and self-reliant, and of this class Mr. Lutz is a representative. He was born in Wurttemberg, Germany, February 7, 1821, and spent his early youth upon a farm. In 1833 he came with his stepfather, George Schemly, and the family to America, the voyage being made in a sailing vessel which reached the American harbor in ninety-five days after leaving the German port.

In the spring of 1834 Mr. Lutz came to Crawford county, taking up his







*D. E. Lutz.*

abode in Chatfield township. The next year he went to Pennsylvania and began carrying water for the men working on the canal. In the fall he returned to this county and the next summer worked on the Miami canal. Subsequently he began working by the day, and when nineteen years of age he learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed until 1861, being actively identified with the building interests of the county throughout that period. He was a skillful mechanic and was thus enabled to secure employment easily. In the meantime, however, in 1849, he had invested his earnings in one hundred and forty acres of land, which he cleared and improved, transforming the wild tract which came into his possession into a valuable farm. As the years have passed he extended the boundaries of his property and now has two hundred and ninety-two acres of valuable land, constituting a very fine and attractive farm, supplied with all modern accessories and improvements.

In 1848 Mr. Lutz was united in marriage to Miss Sabina Kalb, and unto them have been born eleven children, all of whom are yet living. Mr. Lutz is a member of the German Evangelical Lutheran church, in which he has held the offices of trustee and deacon, having been identified with the society of that denomination in Chatfield since its organization. He has ever taken a deep interest in the growth and progress of the society and the extension of its influence. In his political affiliations he is a Democrat and has filled the position of trustee and school director, discharging his duties with promptness and fidelity. His life has been crowned with success, and though he started out for himself empty-handed, he is now the owner of a valuable farm. For two-thirds of a century he has resided in the county and has therefore witnessed the greater part of its development and upbuilding and has borne his part in its progress. His life, honorable and upright, has commended him to the respect of his fellow men and no one is more worthy of representation in this volume than Michael Lutz.

#### DAVID E. LUTZ.

Among the successful business men of Chatfield is the subject of this review, a well-known representative of the industrial interests of his community. He is a man of keen discrimination and sound judgment, and his excellent management and executive ability have brought to the concern with which he is connected a high degree of success. Brooking no obstacles, which honest effort can overcome, he has steadily advanced on the high road

to prosperity and today he occupies an enviable position among the men of worth in his native county.

Mr. Lutz was born on the old home farm in Chatfield township, January 18, 1866, and the common schools afforded him the educational privileges which he enjoyed in his early youth, while later he attended the high school in New Washington and the Ohio Normal University at Ada. His time, not given to the duties of the school-room, was devoted to work upon the home farm, where he remained until 1885, when he began teaching school through the winter months. At the age of twenty-two he became connected with the operation of a sawmill, but continued his labors as an instructor in the public schools until twenty-five years of age. Since that time he has engaged in general farming and stock-raising, but his efforts have been by no means confined to this line, for throughout the entire period he has also engaged in the lumber business, operating a sawmill and conducting a lumber yard. In 1897 he erected the plant of the Chatfield Bending Company, in which enterprise he is associated with James McCormick. They engaged in the manufacture of bent-wood material for carriages, wagons and sleds, and theirs is one of the leading industrial interests in this part of the county. Employment is furnished to twenty men in the shops, and the pay roll and expenses for timber amount to from thirty-five to forty hundred dollars per month. Their patronage is large and is constantly growing, and the firm has an unassailable reputation in business circles. On account of the excellence and durability of the workmanship, as well as the straightforward business methods of the partners, the Chatfield Bending Company has a large trade, and the income of the partners is thus annually augmented.

In May, 1889, Mr. Lutz was joined in wedlock to Miss Elizabeth Kibler, and unto them have been born four children: Lester E., O. Ward, S. Vida and P. Verna. The wife and mother died in February, 1898, and her loss was widely felt throughout the community, for her many estimable qualities had endeared her to a large circle of friends. Mr. Lutz is regarded as a leading and influential citizen and one whose force of character is felt in the control of public affairs. He was elected the first mayor of Chatfield after its incorporation and still holds the position, and has splendidly performed the difficult task of placing the new machinery of government in good working order. In politics he is a stalwart Democrat and for several years has served on the Democratic central committee, while for three years he was township treasurer. He belongs to the German Evangelical Lutheran church and is in hearty sympathy with every movement for the general good and progress.

Every public duty and private obligation are discharged by him willingly and faithfully. He is yet a young man, full of determination and laudable ambition, combined with business ability, and while he has already won prosperity still further success undoubtedly awaits him.

### JAMES M. DICKSON.

One of the prominent and representative citizens of Crawford county, Ohio, is James Madison Dickson, whose name carries with it an assurance of great financial stability as well as business prominence, as he is the president of the Bank of Tiro. The birth of Mr. Dickson was in Vernon township, in this county, on February 4, 1851, and he was a son of James and Nancy (Morrow) Dickson, and a member of a family of seven children, four of whom still survive, these being: Charles M., who was born on June 16, 1833, and is a farmer and large landowner in Johnson county, Kansas; Mary, who was born on April 6, 1836, a maiden lady who resides on her farm east of Tiro; Nancy, who was born on November 19, 1838, and is the widow of John Dallas and resides with her children; James Madison, who is the subject of this sketch; and those who have passed away but are not forgotten were: Sarah, who was born on January 27, 1831, married William Wilson and died on August 27, 1893, at Edgerton, Kansas; Rebecca, who was born on November 15, 1844, and died on November 24, 1888; and Harriet S., who was born on August 8, 1847, first married William Nagle, and later J. P. Johnston, and died on March 21, 1890.

George Dickson, who was the great-grandfather of our subject, emigrated from Ireland to America, in 1778, bringing his family with him. He settled in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, but later removed to Indiana county. His son, Andrew Dickson, who was the grandfather of our subject, was born in Ireland on May 27, 1776, and was two years old when the family came to the United States. He grew to manhood in Indiana county, Pennsylvania, and had, with the rest of his family, many thrilling adventures. At one time, while still a lad, he was taken by his intrepid mother and carried on horseback over the mountains in flight from pursuing Indians. Grandfather had three brothers and three sisters, their names being Samuel, George, William, Rachel, Leah and Hannah. About the time he reached his maturity the trouble known in the history of Pennsylvania as the "whisky insurrection" broke out. Our subject's great-grandfather was a member of the regular army, and, of course, it was his duty to suppress the riots, but the family owned much property which

had been won by hard labor; therefore, it was decided that the family, for the sake of discretion, should divide, one part of it seeming to aid the insurrectionists. However, the unlawful element was soon conquered and the rioters disbanded. The grandmother's name had been Sarah Frazee, and they reared these children: Andrew, George, Jonathan, Mollie, James, Rachel, Leah, Sarah, William, Hannah, John, Elizabeth and Margaret, all growing to maturity and founding homes of their own, and all now deceased. In later life they could recall that their father was called to dinner by the blowing of the horn. The death of the grandfather was on January 28, 1859, at the age of eighty-three years, eight months and one day, the death of the grandmother being on October 8, 1850, at the age of fifty-two years.

George Dickson, who was a brother of the father of our subject, came to Crawford county, Ohio, in 1823, and settled in Vernon township, and in 1825 he planted the first orchard of the township. His son Andrew was the second white child born in the township. In 1829 James Dickson, who was the father of our subject, followed his brother to Ohio. He purchased two hundred and seventy-six acres of land which had been entered by his father some years prior, and here James Dickson built a cabin and immediately began the clearing of the land. He was a leader in Democratic politics, and efficiently served several terms as township trustee and was a prominent member of the United Presbyterian church. His death occurred on March 7, 1889. For fifty-one years he and his devoted wife lived in close affection before the angel of death visited the family. The mother of our subject was born in Auburn township, and she was a daughter of Charles and Mary (Cummings) Morrow, who were among the early settlers who came to Crawford county from Indiana county, Pennsylvania. Her marriage to Mr. Dickson was on October 29, 1829, and her death took place on December 14, 1879.

James Madison Dickson, of this biography, passed his boyhood days on his father's farm and attended the common schools, and at the age of twenty-one years assumed the management of the home farm. He first cultivated it on shares, but after his father's death he was made administrator. When the estate was finally settled our subject purchased one hundred and seventy acres, which included the residence and the farm buildings, but in 1892 he removed to Tiro and rented his farm, although he still retains its management. During this same year the Tiro Building & Loan Association was formed and Mr. Dickson became the treasurer for two years, later the president, serving in that capacity ever since. In the spring of 1899 A. C. Robinson, who was the presi-



dent of the Bank of Tiro, died, and Mr. Dickson purchased his interest and later was made the president of this reliable and substantial institution.

For many years Mr. Dickson has been a prominent politician, a leader in the Democratic party, and in 1893 he was made a member of the central committee of the township, and in the spring of 1901 he was elected township treasurer, entering upon his duties in September of the current year. He was a charter member of Tiro Lodge, No. 592, K. of P., and was the representative to the grand lodge both in 1899 and 1900, has passed all of the chairs in the order and at present is keeper of record and seals, serving for three years. Mr. Dickson is well known not only in this community but also through the county, and his social, political and business prominence makes him a thoroughly representative citizen of Crawford county.

### SAMUEL GEE.

Samuel Gee was formerly express agent at Crestline, but is now living a retired life. A brilliant example of the self-made American citizen and an excellent exemplification of the progress that an ambitious foreigner can make in this country of unbounded opportunity is shown in the case of Samuel Gee, one of the leading English-American residents of Ohio. His increasing success is due to his own energy and the high ideals which his lofty and laudable ambition places before him. Success in any walk of life is an indication of earnest endeavor and persevering effort,—characteristics that Mr. Gee possesses in an eminent degree.

He was born in Nottinghamshire, England, July 21, 1816, and his ancestors for many generations had been farming people of that country. His father, Samuel Gee, was a native of the same locality and was an agriculturist by occupation. In 1843 he came to America, taking up his abode in Townsend, Ohio, where he followed farming for a short time. He was not long permitted to enjoy his new home, however, for death soon came to him and he passed away at the age of fifty-five years. His wife bore the maiden name of Hannah Willoughby, and was born in a parish adjoining her husband's birthplace. After his death she was again married, and removed to Michigan, where she died about 1855. By her first marriage she had two sons and two daughters, but the latter died in early childhood. The sons are: Samuel and Peter, the latter being a resident of Cleveland, Ohio, a moulder by trade. He is eight years his brother's junior.

Samuel Gee, who was the eldest of the children, was reared and educated

in the place of his nativity, pursuing his studies mostly in a private school. He gave his attention to mastering the principles of English learning through the winter months and in the summer season assisted his father in the work of the farm. He and Queen Victoria were about the same age, and Mr. Gee saw the lovely English monarch many times, both prior to her coronation and after her marriage to Prince Albert. He witnessed the celebration there in honor of George IV, William IV and Queen Victoria in 1837. He was twenty-one years of age when she was crowned. He has lived during the reign of three English kings and one queen, as has his wife.

Mr. Gee was married in England, June 22, 1842, to Miss Mary Ann Radmall, who was born in Nottinghamshire, England, August 21, 1816, and there spent the days of her girlhood, acquiring her education in that locality. She was the eldest daughter in her father's family. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Gee located in Sheffield, England. He had been educated for the ministry and there engaged in preaching as a representative of the Methodist church, devoting his life to that work until 1845, when he came to America. His first appointment in this country was to the church in Youngstown, Ohio, where he remained for two years. He afterward spent one year as pastor of the church in Portsmouth, Ohio, then going to Brownsville, Licking county, Ohio, where he remained six years. On the expiration of that period he went to Tiffin, Ohio, where he continued for four years, serving also as pastor of the church at Fostoria during a part of the time. He then came to Crestline and secured a situation with the American Express Company, in which he continued from 1860 until 1893, covering a period of thirty-three years in the service of that corporation, at which time the company retired him upon a pension.

Mr. and Mrs. Gee became the parents of six children: William H., who died at the age of five years; Samuel W., who is assistant manager of the Lake Huron steamboat lines; William A., who for many years has been a traveling salesman and is now living in Cleveland, Ohio; Lauretta, wife of Isaac B. Carlisle, of Buffalo, New York, where he is engaged in manufacturing; Cynthia E., deceased; Frank B., who for twelve years was train dispatcher for the Big Four Railroad Company, on the Cleveland and Columbus division, and is now with the C. L. & W. Railroad.

Mr. and Mrs. Gee are living in quiet retirement in their home in Crestline, Ohio, having traveled life's journey together for fifty-nine years, during which time their mutual love and confidence have increased as they have shared together the joys and sorrows, the adversity and prosperity which checker the lives of all. It is supposed that he was with the American Express Company

longer than any other employe, for he entered its service only ten years after the organization of the company. He has taken considerable interest in local affairs, and for some time was a member of the school board. Mr. Gee has now reached the very venerable age of eighty-five years. He can look back over the past without regret and forward to the future without fear, for his has been a useful, honorable and upright life, true to his duties to his fellow men.

### LUDWIG DURR.

Ludwig Durr was born in Chatfield township, June 7, 1845, a son of Henry and Cathirine (Green) Durr. In his early youth he attended the common schools, and at the age of sixteen he began working for Adam Klink, receiving eight dollars per month in compensation for his services. He was thus employed for two years, and at the age of eighteen he began operating his father's threshing machine and also ran a wood-saw until his marriage, since which time he has given his attention to agricultural pursuits. He removed to Sandusky township, where he rented land for two years and then went to Chatfield township, where he also operated a rented farm for two years. On the expiration of that period he bought ninety acres of land in Chatfield township and afterward purchased two additional tracts of fifty and eighty acres respectively. In 1883 he removed to the farm upon which he now resides—a tract of one hundred and sixty acres in Lykens township. He also owns another farm of one hundred and eight acres, his landed possessions amounting altogether to two hundred and sixty-six acres. He carried on general farming and stock-raising until 1900, but is now practically living a retired life, the active work of the farm being performed by others, while he is enjoying a well-merited rest.

In the year 1869 Mr. Durr was united in marriage to Miss Mary Brown, a daughter of Caleb Brown, and they became the parents of four children: Eliza, the wife of William Fick, of Lykens township; Katie, who married Jacob Kellar, of the same township; and two who died in infancy. The eldest daughter was a music teacher and Katie engaged in teaching school. Mr. and Mrs. Durr took into their home in 1874 John Baumgardner, of Columbus, who remained at their home until the age of twenty-one, when he began the manufacturing of tiles. They also reared Alpha Bardner, who resided with them between the ages of six and seventeen years.

In his political views Mr. Durr is a Democrat, and keeps well informed on

the issues of the day, thus being able to support his position by intelligent argument. For two years he served as assessor. Starting out in life empty-handed at the age of sixteen years, he has been the architect of his own fortunes and has builded wisely and well, acquiring through determined and honorable effort a comfortable competence.

### JOHN P. SHECKLER.

John P. Sheckler, who is the subject of this sketch, has been a life-long resident of a state which has become one of the most prominent in the great union of states, born in Richland county, on March 3, 1829. His parents were John and Rachel (Pettit) Sheckler, pioneers of the county and for a number of years among the most highly esteemed residents.

John Sheckler was born in Huntingdon county, Pennsylvania, in November, 1790, and he was a son of Frederick and Catherine (Monroe) Sheckler. He grew to manhood in his native place and in 1812 made a trip to Ohio, where settlement was being made. However, after looking over the unsettled country, he returned to his home until the spring of 1819, when he returned to Ohio and entered one hundred and sixty acres of land in Auburn township, and this same farm is now the property of our subject. Two years later he returned to establish a home on this land, building a log cabin in the great woods, and soon after he brought his wife thither. At this time game was abundant in this locality, and, as Mr. Sheckler was a fine hunter, the larder was well supplied with venison and other game. In this pioneer home eight children were born, the four survivors being: Thomas, a farmer of Whitley county, Indiana; John P., the subject of this sketch; George, of Whitley county; and Christina, the wife of William Willett, of Richland county, Ohio. When his eldest daughter was about thirteen years of age Mr. Sheckler was bereaved of his faithful wife, a blow from which he never recovered. This capable young daughter took charge of the housekeeping and cared for her father until his death, on August 15, 1859. In early life he voted with the Democratic party, but later he became a Republican, and he was a consistent member of the Baptist church, having lived a worthy and upright life.

John P. Sheckler is a worthy representative of this honorable and honest man. His early life was passed among pioneer surroundings and his education was acquired in the log school house of those days, with its puncheon floor and slab benches. When he was twenty-three years old, with his brother George, he began farming, on shares, and for two years the brothers managed

the farm; then our subject decided to see something of the outside world, and made a trip to Indiana. For one year he worked as a farm hand in Whitley county, but decided to return to his heritage in Ohio, and there, with his brother George, again carried on farming operations. After the death of his father our subject purchased fifty acres of the home farm, and also a tract of sixty-two acres, which was desirable, as it lay immediately across the highway from his land. The owner, a Mr. Carlisle, was willing to dispose of it, and thus our subject soon had a farm of one hundred and twelve acres. In 1899 our subject's brother James and his two sisters died, and our subject then bought the remainder of the farm, making his holdings two hundred and twenty-two acres.

In 1862 Mr. Sheckler was married to Miss Lenora Ashley, who was born in Crawford county, a daughter of Ebenezer Ashley, who was a native of the state of New York and was one of the early settlers of Crawford county. Three children were born to our subject and wife, viz.: Mary, single, at home; Blanche, the wife of D. F. Grove, of this township; and one who died young.

In politics Mr. Sheckler is an active Republican and takes a deep interest in the success of his party. For many years he has been a leading member of the Baptist church, in which he is a deacon, and he is fraternally connected with the Auburn Grange, No. 956, and the Patrons of Husbandry. Probably no man in the township is more highly esteemed. He is one of the leading farmers and a thoroughly good citizen, interested in every movement for the advancement of the various enterprises which promise to be of benefit to his neighborhood.

### JAMES MORROW, SR.

James Morrow, a leading and representative citizen of Crawford county, owns and operates a fine farm in Auburn township. He is a native son of this township, his birth having occurred on the 30th of April, 1844, a son of James and Margaret (Ake) Morrow. At the early age of sixteen years our subject began operating on shares the old home farm, which was entered from the government by his grandfather, there continuing to make his home until the time of his marriage, which occurred on the 17th of December, 1868, Miss Mary E. Cory becoming his wife. She is a daughter of Thomas and Esther G. (Brown) Cory. In the following spring Mr. Morrow located on seventy-four acres of his father's farm, which he operated for one year, when his pres-



ent home farm of one hundred and sixty acres was deeded to him by his father and he took up his abode upon his new possession. For the past fifteen or twenty years, however, he has rented most of his land, and, being a natural mechanic, has devoted much of his time to the work in his shop, where he does all kinds of wood and iron work. When he located upon his present farm it was covered with the native timber, with the exception of twenty acres which had been partially cleared and improved, and their first residence was a primitive log cabin which had been built by a former owner. Mr. Morrow, however, immediately began the arduous labor of clearing and developing his land, and although the task was a stern and hard one, he succeeded in placing his fields under a fine state of cultivation and made all other necessary improvements. His present commodious and comfortable residence was erected in 1871, and in the following year his large barn was built.

Mr. and Mrs. Morrow have had no children of their own, but they have an adopted daughter, Bernice C., whom they have reared from the age of two years. J. B. Finney, now a young man of nineteen years, has also found a pleasant home with this worthy couple for the past eight years. He is a bright and promising student in telegraphy in the Pennsylvania Railroad office in Tiro, Ohio, and expects soon to enter the employ of that company. In his political affiliations Mr. Morrow is a Democrat, and on that ticket he was elected for one term as land appraiser, and has also held many other minor offices, including those of supervisor and school director. He is uniformly honored and esteemed, and his record is one which reflects credit upon himself and does honor to the commonwealth in whose progress and welfare he is so deeply concerned.

#### GEORGE O. BLAIR, M. D.

Although Tiro, Ohio, is fond of boasting of its desirable location and its healthful breezes, it welcomes among its citizens a physician who comes with good credentials, who displays the requisites which go toward making not only an addition to the professional circles but also to those of society and business. Among those who have found a congenial home and an encouraging and increasing practice in this prosperous town is Dr. George O. Blair, who has been a resident since 1896.

The birth of Dr. Blair was in Cardington, Morrow county, Ohio, on February 12, 1865, and he was a son of James and Amy (Carr) Blair, who were the parents of eight children, the seven survivors being: Eva, who is the

widow of Zenas Worthington, of Cardington, Ohio; Mary and Robert, who are at home; George O., the subject of this sketch; Addie, the wife of George Crane, of Columbus; Amy, the wife of Roy Quay, of Iberia; and Kate, with her sister in Columbus.

James Blair was born in Richland county, Ohio, in 1816, and grew to maturity there, acquiring but a limited education. In his young manhood he read medicine for a short time, but circumstances caused him to give up the study and he devoted his time thereafter to farming. After leaving home he remained a short time in Knox county, Ohio, and then went to Morrow county, where he married Miss Ensign and had a family of six children, the three survivors being: Alex, of Cardington, Ohio; Daniel, of Mansfield, Ohio; and Anna, the wife of James Duncan, of Chicago, Illinois. After the death of the mother of these children Mr. Blair married our subject's mother, who still survives. When he left his parents' roof it was as a poor boy, but his life was one of energy and industry, and he left to his family, at his death, a fine, well-improved farm of one hundred and three acres, securing to his wife a comfortable competency. In political life he advocated the principles of the Republican party, and was prominently identified with the Masonic order. Mr. Blair was very successful in both his farming and stock-raising, and possessed excellent judgment in regard to real estate.

The mother of our subject was born in 1837, and she was a daughter of Daniel Carr, both parents belonging to old New England stock. During her childhood she was bereft of her mother, and she was reared by a family of the name of Robinson, of Knox county, and grew into a most estimable woman, respected and valued in the Presbyterian church and beloved by her old neighbors, among whom she still resides, on the old farm at Iberia.

Dr. Blair was reared in a pleasant home and acquired the foundations of his education in the common schools. Later he became a student at the Ohio Central College and at Muskingum College, at New Concord, Ohio, and after passing a most satisfactory examination, prepared to teach school. Perhaps, however, he inherited from his honored father the inclination toward the medical profession, which had been subdued in the latter, and instead of becoming a pedagogue he entered upon a course of medical reading in the office of Dr. W. C. Bennett, at Iberia. After one year of study, on September 15, 1889, he entered the Starling Medical College, of Columbus, where he attended lectures during that and the following winter, again entering Dr. Bennett's office, returning to the college during the winter of 1891-2, in March, 1892, entering

the Kentucky Medical College, at Louisville, at which he graduated with honor, on June 20, 1892.

Upon his return to Iberia, Dr. Blair entered into practice in association with his former preceptor, and remained with him until the following January, when he located in Louisville, Ohio, where he opened an office and for three years enjoyed a lucrative practice. In April, 1896, Dr. Blair decided to make Tiro his home, and since that time he has built up a growing practice and has won the esteem and confidence of the whole community.

The marriage of Dr. Blair was on March 28, 1894, to Miss Pearl Macintosh, a native of Williamsport, Pennsylvania, and who is a daughter of George Macintosh, who was a prominent lumber dealer of Williamsport, Pennsylvania. To our subject and his estimable wife one child has been born,—Mary Gladys, on February 9, 1895.

Dr. Blair is a member of Tiro Lodge, No. 592, K. of P., and also of the American Medical Society. He is still a student, for, like the leading members of his noble profession, he is not willing to allow any modern specific for disease or new method of treatment to escape his notice. Outside of his professional duties the Doctor has proven himself a useful and desirable member of both social and business circles.

#### GEORGE W. HOOD.

George W. Hood, who through many years has been an engineer in the service of the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railroad Company, and makes his home at Crestline, was born in Carroll county, Maryland, June 7, 1837. His father, Thomas Hood, was a native of the same locality, born in 1809, and there he carried on agricultural pursuits throughout his active business career, making his home in his native county until his death, which occurred in 1895, when he had attained the ripe old age of eighty-six years. In his early political affiliations he was a Whig and voted for Henry Clay, and later he joined the ranks of the Republican party. He married Catherine Grimes, who was born in 1807 and spent her early life in Carroll county, Maryland.

George W. Hood was the fourth in order of birth in a family of nine children born unto this worthy couple, all of whom are now deceased with the exception of George W. Hood and his youngest brother. He acquired his education in the common schools of his native county, and in early boyhood began work on his father's farm, assisting in the cultivation of the fields until eighteen years of age, when, not wishing to follow the plow throughout his

entire life, he determined to enter the railway service, and therefore he secured a position as brakeman on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, and was afterward promoted to engineer on that line in 1859, acting in that capacity until 1862, when he entered the service of the Northern Central Railroad Company, which is now part of the Pennsylvania system. He has continued with the road from that time to the present, and is, therefore, one of its oldest representatives. His first run was from Baltimore to Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. He then went to Pittsburg, and has been running between Pittsburg and Crestline from 1862 until the present time. For thirty years he has been a passenger engineer, and during that time has been in only two small wrecks, one being a head-end collision, which occurred June 2, 1864, between Salem and Lattona. At that time he was carrying a train load of mules for the government and the train was checked in time to avoid any serious damage, not one being injured. The other collision was with a freight train that was trying to clear the track for him but failed to get the engine off the main track, when Mr. Hood's engine struck the freight and he sustained a broken arm. With these two exceptions, however, he has never had any accidents, and is known for his watchful care and close attention to duty.

Mr. Hood has been twice married. In 1870 he wedded Lucy Ann Gray, and after her death he was again married, in 1893, his second union being with Effie E. Grim, who was born in Beaver county, Pennsylvania, in 1863. They now have one daughter, Georgia M., who was born in Crestline, February 11, 1897. Mr. Hood is a Republican in his political affiliations, and has never failed to cast his vote at the presidential elections since 1860, when with his first ballot he supported Abraham Lincoln. He holds membership in the Methodist Episcopal church and is a very courteous gentleman, of even temperament, agreeable manners and kindly nature.

### SAMUEL LUDWIG.

Samuel Ludwig was a son of Michael and Sarah (Hanks) Ludwig, and the latter was descended from a family of English Quakers, or Friends. The first representative of the name in America crossed the Atlantic just after the edict of Nantes was revoked and took up their abode in Pennsylvania. Michael Ludwig died in early manhood, leaving a family of six children. His widow afterward became the wife of Nicholas Yocom, a wealthy farmer of Berks county, Pennsylvania, whose sons, Nicholas and Moses, became the largest iron masters in east Pennsylvania. Samuel Ludwig and his half-brothers

performed almost all of the work upon his stepfather's farm of four hundred acres, yet through industry and close application he acquired a good education, his intellectual training being largely directed by his mother, a lady of superior education and intelligence. After his marriage Samuel Ludwig removed to Reading, Pennsylvania, and became an active factor in the manufacturing interests of that city. He conducted a wagon and plow factory for twenty-three years, carrying on business on an extensive scale and amassing a fortune. He had the ability to formulate his plans readily and was determined in their execution. His business judgment was rarely at fault and he seldom made a mistake in even the slightest detail. He was a man of strong individuality, and one of his most marked characteristics was his great thirst for knowledge. His leisure hours were almost entirely given to reading, and he thus mastered to a marked degree subjects on chemistry, geology, natural philosophy and history, and his information on those subjects was only surpassed by professors in such lines. He was often offered positions of public trust, and his fellow townsmen greatly desired that he should represent them in the state legislature, but he preferred the quiet of his home and of his study to the turmoil of public life, and passed his most pleasant hours in the companionship of his books. In 1831 he visited Bucyrus and purchased one hundred acres of land adjoining the town on the east. He then returned home, and the same year brought his family to Crawford county. In 1832 he purchased an additional tract of eighty acres, bordering the east corporation limits of the city, and thereon he made his home for thirty-eight years. In 1840 the father was the owner of three thousand acres of land in Crawford, Seneca and Sandusky counties, Ohio, and was one of the richest men in this portion of the state. In 1849, at the age of sixty-two years, he successfully piloted a party of young men to California, then the scene of great mining excitement, and after seeing them landed on the Pacific coast in the Golden state he returned by steamer to New Orleans and then home to Ohio.

Samuel Ludwig was united in marriage to Elizabeth Redca, a daughter of Hon. John Redca, a member of the Democratic legislature from Berks county. They became the parents of eleven children, namely: Isaac, Jeremiah, Samuel, Mary, Hanna, Mary, William, Michael, Henry, Solomon and Jane L. The last named is the only survivor of the family. Mr. Ludwig spent the closing years of his life in the home of his daughter, Mrs. H. D. E. Johnston, now Mrs. Abraham Monnett, his wife having previously passed away. He closed his eyes in death December 20, 1876, at the age of eighty-eight years and eleven months. His career was ever such as to warrant the



trust and confidence of the business world, for he ever conducted all transactions on the strictest principles of honor and integrity. His devotion to the public good was unquestioned and arose from a sincere interest in the welfare of his fellow men.

### SEBASTIAN BROWN.

The prominent and influential citizen of Jefferson township, Crawford county, Ohio, whose name is the title of this article, was born in Sandusky township, Crawford county, Ohio, December 16, 1832, a son of Joseph Brown, who was an early settler in Ohio.

Joseph Brown was born near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and early in life learned the carpenter's trade. In company with his brother-in-law, Nicholas Tustison, he came to Ohio with an ox team and located within the present borders of Jefferson township, Crawford county, where he took up eighty acres of government land on the usual contract of one dollar and a quarter an acre. He married Elizabeth Swarty, daughter of Sebastian Swarty, a Revolutionary soldier who was with Washington when he made his perilous crossing of the Delaware. After his marriage he built a log cabin on his land and pushed forward the work of clearing and improving the farm as rapidly as possible.

After a brief absence from his native township, Sebastian Brown returned to Jefferson, where from the age of nine years he attended the common schools, and afterward worked on his father's farm until he married and began life for himself. Margaret Fox became his wife March 15, 1859, and bore him six children, the following facts concerning whom will be found interesting in this connection. Their daughter Emma died at the age of eighteen months. Their son Joseph M. lives at Crestline, Ohio. Their son James A. lives on the family homestead with his father. Their son Willard is a farmer in Clinton county, Michigan. Their son Homer K. lives at Crestline, Ohio. Their daughter Laura B. is a member of their household. For a year after his marriage Mr. Brown lived in Richland county, Ohio. From there he removed to Defiance county, Ohio, on eighty acres of wild land which he bought of his father and on which he lived two years.

In 1864 Mr. Brown enlisted as a private in Company I, Forty-seventh Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He was in battle at Stone River, Cumberland, Kenesaw Mountain, Mission Ridge and Marietta, Georgia, and started with Sherman on his march to the sea. At Burford, Georgia, he was taken

sick and was sent to Chattanooga and afterward to a hospital at Nashville. He soon recovered and rejoined his regiment, but was again taken ill and was eventually sent back to his home in Jefferson township. In 1865 he returned to Defiance county, Ohio, where he lived until 1870. In the year last mentioned he moved on his eighty-acre farm in Jefferson township, which he has improved into a valuable property. While he is not a politician in the ordinary sense of the term, he is active in township affairs, and for six years he has held the office of township trustee and has come to be known for a liberal public spirit which impels him to give his support to every measure which promises to promote the general good. He has kept alive memories of the Civil war through his membership of Snyder Post, Grand Army of the Republic, of Cresline, Ohio.

#### AARON RADER.

Through industry and enterprising efforts Aaron Rader advanced to a leading position among the substantial farmers of Crawford county, and was regarded as one of the most reliable citizens—a man who in all life's relations commanded the respect and confidence of his fellow men. His birth occurred in Northampton county, Pennsylvania, May 29, 1817, his parents being Peter and Catherine (Fried) Rader. His youth was spent in the state of his nativity and as he grew to manhood he learned the miller's trade, which he followed as a source of livelihood for a number of years. Later he turned his attention to farming and throughout the greater part of his residence in Crawford county he carried on agricultural pursuits.

Believing that he might better his financial condition further west, Mr. Rader removed from Pennsylvania to Crawford county, Ohio, in 1856, and took up his abode in Sandusky township, where he secured a tract of land. With characteristic energy he began its further development and improvement and in course of time made it a very valuable property, adding thereto all modern accessories and conveniences. His buildings were substantial and modern, his machinery of the latest improved kinds and he was widely known as a progressive farmer. His business affairs were so well managed that he yearly added to his income, and in the later years of his life he was enabled to live in quiet retirement in the village of Sulphur Springs.

On the 8th of September, 1840, was celebrated the marriage of Aaron Rader and Miss Sabina Bauer, and unto them were born nine children, seven of whom are yet living, namely: Owen Henry, Enos George, Maria Cath-



AARON RADER.



erine, Jacob, Thomas, John David, William Benjamin and Francis Aaron. Two have passed away, James Peter and Franklin. The latter died in Elsinore Springs, California, March 28, 1897. In early life he engaged in teaching school in this state and afterward was connected with journalistic work for a time. He next established a hardware store in Clyde, Ohio, and in 1883 he went to Los Angeles, California. He soon rose to prominence there and taking an active interest in politics became a recognized leader of his party in that city. His fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, elected him to the high office of mayor in 1894 and his administration was so just, so practical and progressive that it won the commendation of all parties. He was one of the most popular and honored residents of Los Angeles, and when he passed away young and old, rich and poor came to pay their last tribute of respect him whom they had so highly esteemed. He was prominent in Masonic circles and was laid to rest with the beautiful Masonic service for the dead.

Mr. and Mrs. Rader reared a family of children of whom they had every reason to be proud. Three of their sons were gallant soldiers in the Civil war,—Owen H., James P. and Enos G.—all being members of the Fortyninth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. In his political views Mr. Rader was a stalwart Republican, unswerving in his advocacy of the principles of the party in which he so firmly believed, yet he never sought or desired office as a reward for party fealty, preferring to give his entire time and attention to his business affairs, in which he met with signal success. After a residence of thirty-six years in Crawford county he passed away at his home in Sulphur Springs, on the 30th of April, 1892. His life was ever honorable and he left to his family the priceless heritage of an untarnished name. His widow, now in her seventy-eighth year, is still a resident of Sulphur Springs and has many friends there, as well as in her old home neighborhood in Liberty township.

#### JAMES PETER RADER.

A loyal soldier during the Civil war and for many years a faithful public official, the life history of James Peter Rader well deserves a place in the annals of Crawford county, whither he came in his boyhood with his parents, Aaron and Sabina (Bauer) Rader. He was born in Northampton county, Pennsylvania, April 1, 1843, and was reared upon his father's farm, early becoming familiar with all the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist, as he assisted his father in the work of the fields. He acquired a fair



education and greatly broadened his knowledge through reading, experience and observation in later life.

When the troubles over the slavery question had precipitated the country into civil war his patriotic spirit was aroused and he resolved to strike a blow in defense of the Union. Accordingly he offered his services to the government and became a member of Company B, Forty-ninth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He took part in many of the important engagements of his regiment and finally received an honorable discharge, after which he returned to his home in Crawford county.

Mr. Rader was married to Miss Julia Musgrave, a daughter of Robert Wallace Musgrave, one of the pioneers and distinguished citizens of Crawford county. Since her husband's death Mrs. Rader makes her home in Sulphur Springs. She has a very wide acquaintance throughout the county and is most highly esteemed for her many excellencies of character. Mr. Rader rose to prominence in political circles and was a stanch Republican, giving an unfaltering allegiance to the Republican party, in whose principles he so firmly believed. He was appointed and served as postmaster of Bucyrus and was afterward a government clerk in the treasury department at Washington, a position which he held continuously up to the time of his death, which occurred in Bucyrus, January 7, 1880, when he was in the very prime of manhood, being then thirty-seven years of age. Methodical and exact he performed his work in a most capable manner and was a most trustworthy representative of the department. He was a man of many sterling traits of character, genial and popular and wherever he went made friends.

#### WILLIS A. BROWN.

One of the leading business men of Crawford county, Ohio, who is financially interested in many of its prominent industries and who is cashier of the Farmers' & Citizens' Bank of Tiro, is Willis A. Brown, who also owns and manages the leading mercantile business of this prosperous town. Willis A. Brown was born in Liberty Corners, in Vernon township, Crawford county, on July 22, 1859, and he was a son of Joseph D. and Sarah J. (Dickson) Brown, and a grandson of William Brown, who was a pioneer in Richland county in 1830. Seven children were born to the parents of Willis A. Brown, and our subject is one of the four survivors, the others being: Mary A., who is the wife of John Brown, Jr., of Vernon township;

Josie S., who is the wife of J. M. Van Tilburg, the postmaster of Tiro; and John E., who is a resident of Pasadena, California.

Willis A. Brown grew to manhood under the parental roof, and finished the common-school course before entering upon a business career, for which he has seemed peculiarly well fitted. In March, 1879, he entered the store of Brown & Davis, the former representing his father, in the capacity of a salesman. One year later the senior Mr. Brown purchased the interest of Mr. Davis and during the two succeeding years Willis proved to his father's satisfaction that he possessed the attributes which would enable him to become a successful man of business. In 1881 our subject and his brother-in-law, J. M. Van Tilburg, succeeded Mr. Joseph D. Brown in the business, the firm name being Brown and Van Tilburg, but two years later Mr. M. L. Callin purchased the interest of Mr. Van Tilburg and the firm name changed to Brown & Callin. This connection continued for two years at the end of which period our subject became the sole proprietor and successfully managed the growing interests by himself until in 1893, when his father-in-law, J. H. Stevens, was admitted into partnership, the latter purchasing a one-half interest, and the firm name was changed to Brown & Stevens. Three years later our subject again became the sole owner and since that time has most judiciously managed the affairs of the old and established house, with which his family name has been so long connected.

Mr. Brown is one of the progressive and energetic young men of the county, and his mind has long been exercised concerning other business enterprises. One result was his organization, in April, 1896, of the Farmer's & Citizens' Bank of Tiro, with Mr. A. C. Robinson as president, Joseph D. Brown as vice-president and our subject as cashier, with Mr. C. L. Morton as assistant cashier. In April, 1899, Mr. Robinson died and Mr. J. M. Dickson purchased the interest of Mr. Robinson and was made president of the bank, since which time the officers of the institution have remained the same, with the exception of the withdrawal of Mr. Morton. This bank is recognized as one of the sound financial institutions of the county and its organizers and officers are men of the highest financial responsibility and of unimpeachable integrity.

The marriage of Mr. Brown was on September 5, 1883, when he was united in marriage to Miss Nora Stevens, who was the daughter of J. H. Stevens, the latter now making his home with our subject. Four children have been born to this union, these being: Stevens W.; Sherman J., deceased; Sadie E.; and Edna A. Fraternally he is connected with Tiro Lodge, No. 592,

K. of P., of which he was a charter member. In political life he has been prominently identified with the Democratic party, and was made a member of the first board of election in the county, but he resigned that office to become postmaster, under the administration of President Cleveland, serving in that official capacity during both presidential terms. For some ten years Mr. Brown was the very satisfactory township treasurer and for two years he served with efficiency on the school board. All of his family are members of the Lutheran church and to this religious body he is liberal in his support of all Christian work.

Few men in the county have displayed more business ability in the same length of time than Mr. Brown. His mind is fertile in resource and quick to seize opportunity, while his judgment is calm and trustworthy. It was through his efforts that the Auburn Milling Company was organized, with John W. Hahn as president, who is also president of the Ohio Millers' Insurance Company, and our subject is one of the stockholders and is its secretary and treasurer. In 1896, when the Bell Spice Cabinet Company was organized, our subject became a member and for two years was president of this company, since that time filling the position of vice-president, and he is also a member of the Tiro Building & Loan Association, a very important business enterprise of this city, and acts as treasurer of this company also. The confidence he has inspired by his honorable business methods and his exemplary life place him in the front rank of the worthy representative men of Crawford county. He is practical and self-reliant and is of that mental fiber that enables him to seize business opportunity and to convince others of the wisdom of his decisions.

#### JAMES E. HARROP.

James E. Harrop and William A. Stine are the proprietors of the Keil & Harrop livery and sales stables of Bucyrus.

Mr. Harrop was born in Crestline, Crawford county, Ohio, October 11, 1862, his parents being Hugh and Catherine (Cover) Harrop. His grandparents, James and Ann Harrop, came from England to America in the year 1866 and located in Crestline. The grandfather was a weaver by trade and while in England followed that pursuit, but after arriving in America worked in the Pennsylvania Railroad shops with his son, Hugh, throughout the remaining years of his active, busy career. He died in 1878, at the age of sixty-seven years, and his wife passed away in 1872, when aged sixty-three years.

Hugh Harrop was born in Ashton, Lancashire county, England, March 27, 1832, and died September 9, 1889. He was reared under the parental roof and in his youth he learned the machinist's trade. In 1857 he emigrated to America, landing in New York City, whence he made his way to Philadelphia. For a short time he worked at his trade there, but soon went to Niagara Falls, New York, where he remained until the 1st of January, 1860. He then came to Crestline and here found employment in the shops of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, and soon was promoted as foreman, which position he held for more than a quarter of a century, or until the time of his death. He was an active worker in the Methodist Episcopal church and was a prominent Mason, having taken the Knight Templar degree of the York rite and the thirty-second degree of the Scottish rite. He was one of the well known and highly esteemed citizens of Crestline and was a staunch Republican in politics, but never sought or desired office.

In early manhood Hugh Harrop was married to Miss Catherine Cover, and unto them were born five children, of whom four are yet living, namely: James E.; George, who is the manager for the Central Union Telegraph Company, at South Bend, Indiana; Frank, who is one of the owners of the Crestline Machine Shop, at Crestline, this county; and Bertha, the wife of R. U. Miller, an attorney of Crestline.

James E. Harrop spent his boyhood days under the parental roof and obtained his education in the public schools of Crestline. In 1887 he and William A. Stine formed a partnership and embarked in the livery business at Crestline. In 1890 Mr. Harrop sold his interest to Mr. Stine and came to Bucyrus, where he has since been engaged in the livery business. Mr. Stine continued in that business at Crestline continuously from 1887 to the spring of 1901, and then came to Bucyrus, becoming again the partner of Mr. Harrop. They are proprietors of what is known as "the old John Keil livery stables," and do the largest livery business in Bucyrus, having a fine line of carriages and a goodly number of excellent livery horses. They are large buyers and sellers of horses, doing a greater business along this line than any other dealer in the county. They handle a high grade of horses and do a straightforward, legitimate business. Carloads after carloads of horses are annually sold at their stables by auction, and thus many a pleased customer has purchased of them driving and draft horses of the best quality.

In 1886 Mr. Harrop married Miss Emma Zink, daughter of David L. Zink, who has been ticket and freight agent for the Pennsylvania Railroad at Crestline for over forty years, being for many years joint agent for this

railroad and the Big Four Railroad. Mr. and Mrs. Harrop have two interesting sons, namely: Hugh J. and Spencer. He is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and also of the Masonic order, being a Master Mason. In business he has been successful and among men he is regarded as enterprising and public spirited.

### GEORGE A. BRAUSE.

One of the few middle-aged residents of Lykens township, Crawford county, Ohio, who was born on the farm on which he now lives, is George Brause, who first saw the light of day May 29, 1855. Mr. Brause is a son of Rudolph Brause, who was born at Kenesa, Germany, in 1826, and was brought to America in 1832 by his parents, John and Hannah Brause. The family from the fatherland and settled on the Bower farm, or, at least, on forty acres of it, which the elder Brause took up as government land and on which he erected a log cabin. The old German emigrant died in Iowa, at the age of ninety-three years. Rudolph Brause married Catharine Klink, a daughter of John Klink, originally from Germany, who came to Crawford county from Columbian county and located in Liberty township.

Rudolph and Catharine (Klink) Brause had eight children. Their daughter Elizabeth married Jacob Fike, of Lykens township. Catharine, who became the wife of Joshua Miller, is dead. Caroline died at the age of twenty years. The subject of this sketch was the fourth in order of birth. John lives in Chatfield township, Crawford county. Fidelia is the wife of Jacob Seigler, of Seneca county. Willis lives in Lykens township. Emma died young. Rudolph Brause learned the carpenter's trade in his youth and was employed as a carpenter until he was married, when he engaged in farming, and for some years ran a threshing machine in season. He moved upon the farm where the subject of this sketch was born and where he now lives, about 1847, shortly after he was married. His first purchase of land there was of forty acres, on which was a log house in the midst of a small clearing. At the time of his death, in 1892, he owned three hundred and sixty acres of land in Lykens township. His good wife died in November, 1896, aged seventy-two years.

George A. Brause was born and reared on the old family homestead in Lykens township, Crawford county, Ohio, and lived there until he was twenty-five years old. He gained his education in the public schools near his home, and under his father's special direction was inducted into all the mysteries of successful farming. When he branched out for himself he bought eighty acres



of land, which he partly cleared and on which he lived eight years." He then sold that property and bought one hundred and sixty acres, which he still owns, and on which he lived until 1897, when, after the death of his mother, he returned to the old homestead. He was married February 12, 1889, to Miss Mary A. Green, daughter of Jacob Green, of Chatfield township, who has borne him five children: Edward Rudolph, George Walter, Clarence Albert, Rosa Mary and Hattie Magdaline Catherine.

Mr. Brause's home farm consists of two hundred and thirty-nine acres. Adding to this his other farm of one hundred and sixty acres, it will be seen that he is the owner of three hundred and ninety-nine acres of good and well-improved land. He devotes himself to general farming and stock-raising. In politics he is a Democrat, and he and his family are members and attendants upon the services of the German Lutheran church. Neither an office seeker nor a practical politician, Mr. Brause yet exerts a well-defined influence in shaping the destinies of the township and county, and his excellent judgment in all the affairs of every-day life encourages his fellow citizens to seek his advice in matters of public moment. A man of intense patriotism and much public spirit, he has the weal of the people of his township and county very close to his heart and is generous in his aid of all movements for the general good.

### SAMUEL ESTERLINE.

A noted writer has said, "The present is the child of all the past, the mother of all the future." If this be true, where will the generations of the future find a more impressive lesson or faithful guide than in the study of the lives of those men who have achieved a successful prominence in the busy walks of life? There is in the intensified energy of the business man, fighting the every-day battle of life, but little to attract the attention of the careful observer; but to the mind fully awake to the stern realities of life there are noble and important lessons in the life of the man, who, without other aid than a clear head, a strong arm and a true heart, conquers adversity and wins for himself honor and distinction among his fellow men. Among such men we may mention Samuel Esterline, one of the representative farmers and stock-raisers of Crawford county.

Mr. Esterline is a native son of the Buckeye state, his birth having occurred in Sandusky township, Crawford county, on the 13th of March, 1844. He is a son of John and Elizabeth (Kaler) Esterline, who were the parents of four

children, three now living, namely: Henry, a resident of Crestline, Ohio; Franklin, of this township; and Samuel, the subject of this review. The latter was reared on the home farm, acquiring his education in the common schools of the neighborhood. After his marriage he purchased a threshing machine and began its operation, having been identified with that work at intervals since his fifteenth year, but after one season he sold his machine and located on his father-in-law's farm, where he remained for one year. On the expiration of that period he removed to the farm now owned by Jacob Glower, which he also operated for one year and then returned to his father's farm, remaining there for two years. His father-in-law having died, Mr. Esterline then purchased his farm of one hundred acres, where he has ever since made his home. He is very progressive in his farming methods, his fields having been brought to a high state of cultivation, and the place is now one of the model country seats in Crawford county. In addition to the raising of the cereals best adapted to this soil and climate he is also extensively engaged in the stock business, and his farm now contains the best grades of stock to be found in the county. He has met with excellent success in this line of his business, and has been largely instrumental in improving the grade of stock raised in this section. For seventeen seasons Mr. Esterline has also been engaged in threshing.

The year 1865 witnessed his marriage with Miss Sarah E. Humphrey, a native of Vernon township, Crawford county, having been born on the farm on which she now resides. Five children have graced their union, namely: Charles B., deceased; Nora D., the wife of James Brubaker, of Shelby, Ohio; Jefferson, a resident of Shelby, Ohio; Ada G., at home; and Amy, who is also at home and is a popular and successful teacher. In political matters Mr. Esterline casts his ballot in favor of Democratic principles, and for six years he has served as trustee of his township. He is a member of the Church of God, in which he is an active and zealous worker, and in all the relations of life he is true and loyal to the duties of citizenship. He takes a prominent part in all public affairs calculated to benefit his community, and is one of the wide-awake and progressive citizens of the county.

#### WILLIAM A. STINE.

William A. Stine was born in Crestline, Ohio, January 21, 1858, his parents being Adam W. and Hannah (Wentz) Stine, and is the fourth in order of birth of seven children. The father was a native of Berks county,

Pennsylvania, and the mother was born in Perry county, that state. Coming to Crawford county they settled in Crestline, where the father became a prosperous contractor and builder, and proprietor of a saw and planing mill. In the public schools of Crestline our subject obtained a limited education. His business career has been mentioned in the biography of James E. Harrop, which appears above. He has met with fair success in business and is a gentleman of honor and integrity. In 1895 Mr. Stine married Lizzie Hoover, and their home is brightened by two children, namely: Martha and Harriet. They have resided in Bucyrus since the spring of 1901.

### JOHN B. CAMPBELL.

A landmark in Crawford county, Ohio, is the fine farm of John B. Campbell, on the Galion and Bucyrus pike, four and a half miles from Bucyrus, in Whetstone township. There Mr. Campbell was born April 4, 1849, a son of Edward Campbell, who was born and reared in Wayne county, Ohio, and a grandson of John Campbell, who was an early settler in that county. In 1823 John Campbell brought his family to Crawford county, Ohio, and settled in Whetstone township, where his son, Edward, is still living, and where he took up government land. He built a log cabin and applied himself to the task of clearing and improving a farm. He was a man of ability and influence and lived a useful life and died at the age of seventy-six. Edward Campbell was brought up amid the vicissitudes of backwoods farming and acquired such an education as was available to him. He married Amanda Tupps, who bore him four children. Their daughter, Catharine, married Frank Keiffer and is dead. Their son, Samuel K., is managing his father's homestead farm. Their son, John B., who is the immediate subject of this sketch, was their third child in order of birth. Their daughter, Lettie J., married Andrew H. Gibson and lives on Grandfather Campbell's old homestead, in Whetstone township, which in the days of its founder was the center, not only of a generous hospitality, but of an influence which extended in many directions, for that honored pioneer served for many years in the office of justice of the peace at one time represented his district in the legislature, and he was an active member of the Disciple church. His son Edward has been devotedly attached to the same church and during all his active life was prominently identified with township and county affairs. He is the owner of eight hundred and forty acres of land, all of which lies within the borders of Whetstone township, and he has been one of the leading sheep raisers in his

part of the state. His wife died in 1889, aged sixty-nine years. He attained to the advanced age of eighty-five years, becoming quite feeble, having been the victim of a paralytic stroke in March, 1901. He died November 5, following.

John B. Campbell was born and reared on the farm on which he now lives, was educated in the public schools near his home and at Lebanon, Ohio, and at the age of nineteen began teaching winter terms of school, giving his attention to home interests during the remainder of the year. In 1872 he married Miss Jennie Shanks, a daughter of David Shanks, and they have two children—Mabel Campbell, who was educated at the State Normal School at Ada, Ohio, and is a teacher, and Urias Edward. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Campbell settled on Grandfather Campbell's old home farm, where they lived ten years, then located on their present farm of one hundred and sixty acres, all the fine improvements on which have been planned and carried out by Mr. Campbell. He has given his attention to general farming and has come to be known as a successful breeder of Shorthorn cattle and is a very prominent sheep raiser, and in 1892 he was in fair competition awarded a premium for large yield of scoured wool per fleece grown in the United States, during the year 1892, which was conferred upon him at Boston, Massachusetts. He is a Republican in politics and like his father and grandfather has made his influence felt in local affairs, though he is not an active politician and has never sought public office, but his public spirit has impelled him to ally himself with many movements having for their object the enhancement of the general weal.

#### JOSEPH D. BROWN.

Among the men of hardy enterprise and undaunted courage, who made for his family a home in Richland county, Ohio, in the days while still the wild beasts of the forest roamed at will and howled at night around his pioneer cabin, was William Brown, who was the father of Joseph D. Brown, the subject of this biography. In 1830 William Brown came to Richland county from his native state, bringing with him his bride and settling upon lands which his far-seeing father had previously purchased in this then almost unsettled portion of the state. William Brown was born in Indiana county, Pennsylvania, in 1808, and he was a son of Jeremiah and Elizabeth (Cummings) Brown, both of whom were natives of Ireland. Jeremiah Brown was a successful farmer and distiller and exerted influence in his locality, and when

the desirable farming land in Richland county, in the neighboring state, came upon the market he hastened to buy farms there for his growing sons, although William was the only one to settle there.

When he came to Richland county, as it was then called, William Brown located with his young wife on a vast tract of timbered land, consisting of two hundred and forty acres, in Vernon township. The site of the home farm is now owned by David Weaver. Here the new settler built his log cabin and for some thirty years engaged in clearing and cultivating his land. In 1869 he sold this property and then purchased a farm of three hundred acres in Auburn township and resided there some ten years, and then disposed of that property to purchase another tract of three hundred and four acres, in Springfield township, near Crestline, and here he lived until the time of his death, on August 9, 1890. Mr. Brown was a man of intellect and was conspicuous for his strong sense of justice. If his employes worked even but one hour over the stipulated time they received a compensation for it. In politics he was a Democrat and was one of the leaders in his party, efficiently serving in almost all of the local offices. Both he and his wife were consistent members of the Methodist church, where they were held in the highest esteem.

The mother of our subject was born near Steubenville, Ohio, in 1808, and passed out of life on June 30, 1889. Her parents died while she was a child and she was reared in a neighbor's family. The family born to William Brown and wife consisted of ten children, six of these still surviving, as follows: Joseph D., who is the subject of this sketch; Elizabeth, who is the widow of Norman Martin, of Richland county; George C., of Crestline; Martha J., who is the wife of Rev. H. B. Miller, of Wooster, Ohio; Mary, who is the widow of A. D. Seibert, of La Grange county, Indiana; and Amanda, who is the widow of Joseph Lewis, of Monroeville, Indiana.

Joseph D. Brown, who is the subject of this sketch, was born in Richland county, Ohio, on May 27, 1832, and he was a son of William and Sarah (Ellis) Brown. His rearing was in the pioneer home and his education was acquired in the common schools of his neighborhood. On March 1, 1855, he was united in marriage to Miss Sarah J. Dickson, who was a native of Auburn township, in Crawford county, and who was a daughter of Andrew Dickson. In 1852 Mr. Brown made preparations to make a trip to California, but his mother opposed the project and he delayed starting until the following spring. Then he prepared to go to the far west and open up a hotel, in association with another man, but the latter failed him at the last moment, and our sub-



ject decided to abandon the idea. Hence he purchased eighty acres of land near Liberty Corners, in Vernon township, and settled upon it after his marriage, engaging extensively in the raising of cattle and sheep, being especially successful in the management of the latter. As time went on Mr. Brown was able to purchase more land and improve it, increasing his farm to two hundred and fifty acres, and finally, in 1883, sold two hundred acres for seventeen thousand dollars.

In 1878 our subject rented his farm to his son-in-law and moved into Tiro and built the residence now occupied and owned by Mr. George Owens, and established the general store, after erecting the building, which is now conducted by W. A. Brown, his son. In 1883 he sold his farm and purchased one hundred and seventy acres of George Carrothers, which was located immediately south of the town, and resided there until 1896, when, on account of an accident to Mrs. Brown, by which she broke a limb, he decided to remove to Tiro, where both he and wife have resided in comfortable retirement ever since.

Mr. and Mrs. Brown have had seven children, their names being as follows: David C., Georgiana and Martha E., all deceased; Mary A., the wife of John Brown, Jr.; Willis A., of whom a biography appears in this volume; Josephine, the wife of J. M. Van Tilburg; and John E., of Pasadena, California. These children were all given the best possible educational advantages and reflect credit upon their careful rearing, and have become representative citizens in the various localities where they have made their homes.

In politics Mr. Brown is liberal, with a tendency toward Democratic doctrine, while in voting he selects from the various tickets. He has efficiently served several terms as township treasurer, and is one of the reliable and esteemed residents of the county. Both he and wife are among the leading members of the Presbyterian church in Tiro, and Mr. Brown is a liberal supporter of every charitable and benevolent enterprise connected with the church or that promises to benefit the community.

#### SHERMAN H. STEVENS.

Sherman H. Stevens, who is one of the substantial, reliable and highly esteemed citizens of Cranberry township, Crawford county, Ohio, was born in the house which he now occupies, on May 24, 1858. He is a worthy son of one of the well known and respected pioneers of this county, Jacob H. Stevens,

who has the distinction of being the oldest living resident of Auburn township. The mother of the subject of this sketch was formerly Miss Sarah J. Wallace, who was a native of Pennsylvania and was a daughter of Jefferson Wallace, who located in Richland county at an early day, later removing to Cranberry township, in Crawford county.

Until his twenty-first year Sherman H. Stevens remained at home, assisting on the farm and acquiring an education in the common schools. At that period he took charge of the home farm, consisting of two hundred and thirty acres, and worked on the share plan, remaining thus engaged for two years, and then went to Sandusky township and took charge of what was known as the Kuntz farm, which had passed into the possession of the father of our subject. One year was spent by Mr. Stevens on this farm, as a bachelor, but on April 27, 1882, he was united in marriage to Miss Clara R. Siefert, and he was thus provided with a most admirable companion, an estimable lady and an excellent housekeeper, trained in all domestic ways. She was a native of this county, and she was a daughter of Jacob Siefert (a sketch of the Siefert family can be found in the biography of John E. Siefert, who is a brother to Mrs. Stevens). Upon this farm our subject and wife resided until the fall of 1894. During the ensuing years our subject was extensively engaged in the manufacture and shipping of maple syrup, his trade extending to all parts of the United States, his shipments aggregating thousands of gallons of this delicacy. His opinion was that he could realize more financial returns from two months' work in the sugar camp in the spring than from an entire summer's work in general farming.

In the fall of 1894 Mr. Stevens removed to the home farm and in the following winter he acquired the homestead, with one hundred and fifty acres of land, which he yet owns. He also efficiently manages his father's farm of eighty acres. Although he has the management of a large extent of land he has practically given up active work on the farm and has his farm under rental at present, his time and attention being required to enable him to look after his large interests in the buying and selling of stock. Mr. Stevens owns a large herd of valuable cattle, known as Aberdeen, and is the only citizen of the county, with one exception, who owns any of these high-priced animals.

Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Stevens, the survivor being Freeman W. S., who was born on June 12, 1892, a bright, intelligent lad, who bears promise of worthily upholding a name which his father and grandfather have made respected through Crawford county. Politically Mr.

Stevens is a staunch Republican and takes an active interest in public affairs, and is fraternally connected with Hyperion Lodge, No. 651, K. of P., of New Washington, and was a charter member of this lodge. The social and business standing of Mr. Stevens is very high in this locality and his name is a leading one among the representative men.

### JOHN OUTHWAITE.

Among the public-spirited and leading farmers of Crawford county is John Outhwaite. He was born in Bedford, now Fulton county, Pennsylvania, on the 10th of November, 1820, a son of William and Elizabeth (Thompson) Outhwaite. The father was born in Yorkshire, England, in 1794, a son of Francis and Elizabeth (Robinson) Outhwaite. Francis Outhwaite was a well-to-do farmer and miner, and also conducted what was known as a raft yard, where lumber was sawed by hand, one man standing above and the other below the log. The father of our subject grew to manhood under the parental roof, receiving the advantages of a thorough education. When about seventeen years of age he entered a wholesale and retail grocery store in the town of Richmond, where he served an apprenticeship of four years. He then went to the city of London and secured a clerkship with Petty & Wood, wholesale grocery, tea and liquor merchants, where he remained for about two years, and then engaged in business on his own account. He was there married to Elizabeth Thompson, of East Witten, Yorkshire, England. Her father was a well-to-do farmer under Lord Essix. He had four sons, namely: John, Richard, Thomas and William, and two daughters, Elizabeth and Hannah, of whom the eldest was the mother of our subject. Thomas, the third son, united with the Methodist Episcopal church, and at the age of seventeen became a minister of the same. In the year 1821 he was married, and in 1823 he emigrated to Bedford county, Pennsylvania, where he remained until 1828, when he removed to Upper Sandusky, Ohio, where he took charge of the Wyandot mission,—the first mission in the world,—where he was minister and teacher among the Wyandot Indians for seven years, under whose supervision the Stone mission church of Upper Sandusky was erected and stands as a memorial for the beginning of mission work. In 1835, for fear of his children marrying among the Indians, he moved to his farm near Republic, Seneca county, Ohio. He was then appointed by conference as the preacher in charge of the Mexico circuit, where he had twenty-

eight appointments. He was afterward appointed presiding elder of the district embracing Berea, where he received a donation of forty thousand dollars for the beginning of the Baldwin University

In 1818 William Outhwaite, the father of our subject, bade farewell to the home and friends of his native land and sailed for the United States, much against his parents' wishes, and for this he was disinherited. The first half of the journey was made in twelve days, but they then encountered adverse winds and fifty-four days had passed ere they reached the shores of the new world. On his arrival Mr. Outhwaite purchased a farm of one hundred and twenty acres, for which he paid seven hundred dollars in gold, and after residing there for seventeen years, during which time he cleared eighty-acres and also made other improvements, he sold the tract for seven hundred dollars, the purchase price, with payments of one hundred dollars, to be made yearly. In the spring of 1836 he removed to Seneca county, Ohio, purchasing eighty acres of land at Rockaway, to which he afterward added fifty acres, and there he resided until a short time before his death, when he moved into the town of Republic, where he passed away in 1858. Mr. and Mrs. Outhwaite became the parents of five children, three of whom still survive, namely: John, of this review; William, who resides at Red Cloud, Nebraska; and Francis, of Rockaway, Seneca county, Ohio. After the death of the mother of these children the father was again married, choosing for his second wife Miss Mary Bell. Mr. Outhwaite was a staunch old-line Whig, and was a worthy member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

John Outhwaite, whose name introduces this review, acquired his early education in the common schools of the neighborhood. On reaching his twenty-fourth year he began working on his own account, and for one year operated a thrasher, after which he worked at farm labor and at carpentering, becoming an expert joiner, although he never served an apprenticeship to that trade. He did considerable building for the following seven years, and in 1847 purchased his present home farm of one hundred and sixty acres. The land was then in its primitive condition, but he erected a log cabin in the midst of the forest, although he did not make this his permanent home until after his marriage, which occurred in 1855, Miss Drucilla Brown becoming his wife. She is a native of Seneca county, Ohio, and a daughter of William Brown, who removed to that county from Canada, his native place. This union has been blessed with five children, two now living,—Susan B., the wife of W. A. Tucker, of Todd township, Crawford county, and John, of Wyandot county, Ohio. After a happy married life of fourteen years Mrs.

Outhwaite was called to her final rest, and in 1872 our subject married Miss Susanna Brown, a sister of his first wife.

After his first marriage Mr. Outhwaite located on his farm in Todd township, Crawford county, and in 1870 he erected one of the finest residences in the locality. His place is under an excellent state of cultivation, and a glance at its neat and attractive appearance would indicate to the passer-by the supervision of a thrifty and progressive owner. In political matters Mr. Outhwaite casts his ballot in favor of the men and measures of the Republican party. He is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he has held the office of trustee for many years, and all movements intended for the public good of the community receive his hearty support and co-operation.

#### ANTHONY HERMAN.

Mr. Anthony Herman is a self-made man, who, without an extraordinary family or pecuniary advantages at the commencement of life, has battled earnestly and energetically, and by indomitable courage and integrity has achieved both character and fortune. By sheer force of will and untiring effort he has worked his way upward. The vast forests of Ohio afford excellent business opportunities to the manufacturer of lumber and Mr. Herman is among those now extensively and successfully engaged in this line of business, being a member of the well-known firm of Herman & Mahon. He was born in the province of Alsace, which was then under French rule, on the 13th of May, 1848, his parents being Joseph and Catherine (Swartz) Herman. The father was born about 1796, the mother about 1802, and both are natives of Alsace, where they were reared and married. The father followed farming as a life occupation, carrying on that work at the place of nativity until 1851, when, with his family, he emigrated to America, spending three months in Canton, Ohio, after which he located in Seneca county. He purchased a farm of one hundred and thirty acres and thereon made his home until 1870, when he sold the property and removed to New Washington, Crawford county. There his remaining days were spent in quiet retirement from toil, as he had acquired a competence sufficient to meet all his wants without recourse to further work. He passed away in 1874, and his wife died in 1872. In political views he was a stalwart Democrat and in religious faith was a Catholic.

Anthony Herman, whose name begins this sketch, was only about three years of age when brought by his parents to the new world. He acquired



his education in the common schools of Ohio, and after coming to New Washington entered upon an independent business career, being employed during the first year as a farm hand. In 1871 he apprenticed himself to the carpenter's trade and after the completion of his term of service he followed that pursuit until 1876. He was then married and after his marriage he purchased fifty acres of land in Seneca county, four miles north of New Washington, and with his bride he removed to his new home, where he began farming, continuing to cultivate the fields for three years, after which he sold the place and returned to the town. He then purchased his present sawmill business and began operations on a small scale and by his indefatigable industry and business ability soon was enabled to build up an industry of considerable magnitude. After three years he admitted his brother John to a partnership in the business. They put a new engine into the sawmill and it was in that department that the brother was interested, Mr. Herman owning the planing mill alone. After a time, however, our subject purchased his brother's interest and carried on operations alone until 1888, when he formed the present partnership with Charles Mahon. This relationship has since been maintained and the firm is recognized as one of the leading business concerns in this line in this part of the county. They have their mills well equipped with the latest improved machinery and the best facilities for carrying forward their work, their patronage constantly increasing and bringing to them a very satisfactory financial return. In connection with his other interests Mr. Herman is proprietor of a millinery establishment in New Washington, which is conducted by his daughters.

In January, 1876, Mr. Herman was united in marriage to Miss Mary Steiert, a native of Erie county and a daughter of Ferdinand Steiert, who was born in Germany. Their union has been blessed with nine children, eight of whom are yet living, namely: Josephine, now the wife of Jacob Promenshenkel, of Crestline; Ida and Emma, who are engaged in the millinery business; Nellie, Catherine, Marie, Pauline and Margaret, who are still under the parental roof.

Mr. Herman exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the Democratic party and has served for seven and a half years as township treasurer. He is also a member of the city council of New Washington and has acted in that capacity for eight years, discharging his official duties with promptness and fidelity. He holds membership in the Catholic church and for six years he has served as a member of the church council. He withholds his support from no movement or measure that is

calculated to prove of general good and has steadily advanced along the highroad to success. He is a man of steadfast purpose, unflinching integrity and upright principles,—virtues to which the splendid civilization of America is indebted for its wonderful development and its glorious progress.

#### JOHN E. SIEFERT:

John E. Siefert is a telegraph operator and station agent at New Washington and is a popular and obliging representative of the railroad and telegraph corporations. He has made many friends through his unfailing courtesy, as well as through his prompt and faithful execution of his business duties.

Mr. Siefert was born in Whetstone township, Crawford county, December 26, 1862, his parents being Jacob and Catherine (Whitcum) Siefert. The father was born in Stark county, Ohio, about 1835, and was a son of John and Solemena (Lantz) Siefert. He remained at home until about eighteen years of age, when he went to Ashland, Ohio, to learn the blacksmith's trade. After completing his apprenticeship he worked for several years as a journeyman, and during his residence in Ashland he was married. Soon afterward he located in Whetstone township, Crawford county, settling on the original site of the old town of Olentangy, where he conducted a blacksmith shop. In 1862 he removed to New Washington, where he opened and operated the blacksmith shop now owned and carried on by Fred Carle. He also built and conducted a carriage factory, employing five workmen in the blacksmithing department and four in the other departments of the business. He became one of the leading merchants and representatives of the industrial interests in the town. Many of the buggies and spring wagons built by him are still in use in and around New Washington. He was an expert workman, energetic and reliable, and his business integrity was above question. He died in 1871, at the comparatively early age of thirty-six years. An active member of the Lutheran church, he had held church offices for a number of years and was ever faithful to the teachings of that denomination. In politics he voted with the Democracy, but his business interests claimed too much of his attention to allow him to become an active factor in political affairs. He was a lover of fine horses and could handle any horse, always owning some fine specimens of the noble steed. The mother of our subject was a native of Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, born in 1835, and was a daughter of John and Mary Whitcum, both of whom were natives of that

state. They went to Ashland county, Ohio, at an early date and in later years removed to Crawford county, settling in Cranberry township, where they remained until called to the home beyond. Mrs. Siefert survived her husband until March, 1899. She was the mother of six children, but only two are now living, the sister, who is older than our subject, being Mrs. Clara R. Stevens, the wife of S. H. Stevens, of Cranberry township.

From an early age John E. Siefert has depended upon his own resources, and whatever success he has achieved in life is due to his earnest efforts. At the age of thirteen he began earning his own livelihood as a farm hand. He spent the summer of 1881 as an employe in a brick yard in New Washington and the following year he entered the telegraph office of the Pennsylvania Company at this place, taking up the study of telegraphy. In the spring of 1883, having mastered the business, he was placed in charge of the office at Vernon Junction, where he continued for eight years, and in 1891 he was promoted to the office at New Washington, where he has since remained as telegraph operator and railroad and express agent. His genial disposition and obliging manner have made him very popular with the patrons of the road, and he is highly esteemed in the town and throughout the surrounding country.

On the 25th of November, 1888, Mr. Siefert was united in marriage to Miss Sarah J. Bair, a native of Whetstone township and a daughter of John and Rebecca (Shearer) Bair, who came to Crawford county from Stark county among its early settlers, taking up their abode in Whetstone township. Three children graced the union of our subject and his wife: Florene M., Hazel R. and Chauncey J. The mother died October 31, 1893, mourned by a large circle of friends. Mr. Siefert was married, on October 23, 1901, to Miss Amanda L. High, of New Washington, Ohio. She is a daughter of Adam and Matilda L. (Hesse) High, who were of German birth. Both were born in Germany and emigrated to this country with their parents in early childhood, settling in New Washington, and always resided in and around this village. Mrs. Siefert was born in New Washington, Ohio, February 2, 1866. Her early girlhood days were spent in attending school, and she is a graduate of the New Washington high school, being a member of the class of 1886. In September, the same year, she entered the New Washington public schools as a primary teacher, which position she successfully filled for four years, when the board of education promoted her to the intermediate department for one year, thence to the grammar department, which position she ably filled for two years. During these years at vacation time she attended school at

Ada, Ohio, two terms and at Valparaiso, Indiana, one term. Her health failing, she abandoned the work for some time. After again taking up the work she taught twelve successful terms in the district schools of Cranberry and Chatfield townships. She is a member of the New Washington Methodist Episcopal church and has always been an active member in all church work.

Mr. Siefert belongs to Hyperion Lodge, No. 651, K. P., and to the Uniform Rank, and in the former he has filled all of the offices. In politics he is a stanch Democrat. Although his life has been quietly passed it is worthy of emulation in many respects, showing the power of a strong force of character, energy and determination in the practical affairs of life.

### JACOB H. STEVENS.

A deep interest in the pioneer days through which many of the older residents of our enlightened country have passed, with honor to themselves and benefit to the younger generation, is but a natural feeling; and those who still remain to show the honest, sturdy and manly stock of which pioneers were made, receive but their just tribute of gratitude. Among the old settlers of Auburn township, Crawford county, Ohio, no one is more highly esteemed than Jacob H. Stevens, who is the subject of this biography.

Jacob H. Stevens was born in Columbiana county, Ohio, on October 31, 1817, and he was a son of Amos and Hannah (Cunning) Stevens, who reared a family of eleven children, five daughters and six sons, but of these only two survive, these being Jacob H., of this sketch, and his brother Amos, of Arkansas.

Amos H. Stevens was born near Allicott's Mills, Maryland, on October 16, 1778, and he was a son of Augustus and Sophia (Young) Stevens, these parents being of English and Welsh extraction. Later Grandfather Augustus Stevens moved to Washington county, Pennsylvania, and there made his home on a farm, but finally came to Columbiana county, Ohio, and spent his last days with his son Amos. Amos Stevens was given as good school opportunities as were then possible, but books were scarce and even the rich could secure for their children what we would now regard as only the outlines of an education. Some brothers of the father of our subject resided in Beaver county, Pennsylvania, and it is probable that Amos Stevens also resided there a time, but after his marriage he and his young wife came to Geauga county, Ohio, prior to 1802, when it was admitted as a state. At that time the country was a vast wilderness, with no highways and

no means of communication with civilization except by long and toilsome journeys through the forest, and with the wild beasts of the woods still in their accustomed haunts and the equally savage Indian a frequent visitor. Within three miles of another intrepid pioneer, Amos Stevens erected his log cabin and became a resident of the "Buckeye state," although at that time the name had not yet been bestowed upon it.

The causes which induced Mr. Stevens to leave this section are not known to the family, but he later removed to Columbiana county and there entered a one-quarter section of land, and again built a pioneer cabin of logs, and once more began the clearing and then cultivating a farm. Here he soon made many improvements, erected a more modern residence, added sixty more acres of land and made this a pleasant home, where the family lived until 1834, when he sold this property and came to Crawford county. Here Mr. Stevens located in Cranberry township, where he purchased two hundred and forty acres of land from Isaac Mathews, this property having been entered some ten years previously. But a small tract of this land had been cleared and upon it stood a small log cabin, which served through one winter as a shelter to the family of Mr. Stevens, in the following spring a more commodious one being erected. Here Amos Stevens lived and labored and here he died. In his later years he accumulated much more property, buying and entering different tracts, until he owned at one time fully six hundred acres of Ohio soil. Physically he was a typical pioneer, strong, energetic and courageous, a man who dared every danger and feared no hardship. In his religious life he was a strict Methodist and was, in fact, a local preacher of that faith, going many miles to perform the sacred duties of that calling. In his political belief he was a Whig and from principle became a great abolitionist.

The mother of our subject was born in Washington county, Pennsylvania, on July 2, 1784, and she was a daughter of Robert and Nancy (Young) Cunningham, the former of whom was born in Ireland. The latter was a native of England, and the maiden name of her mother was the same as that of G. M. Stevens, also born in England, but of no kindred. G. F. Cunningham came to America prior to or about the time of the Revolutionary war, and was a member of the patriot army. Mrs. Stevens lived until in her ninety-second year, dying on June 8, 1876.

Jacob H. Stevens, who is the subject of this sketch, remained at home until his twenty-sixth year, attending school in his early youth in the old school house, in the clearing, where he well recalls the puncheon floor, the



slab benches and the greased paper for windows. He was the strongest of his father's sons, and probably was the most willing, and he assumed much of the most laborious part of the clearing and cultivation; as must be remembered, this was done with no machinery and very little apparatus. About his twenty-sixth year he and his father came to an agreement as to his future. Three of his brothers and several of his sisters had been given assistance by the father, when they left home, and our subject felt that some like provision should be made for as faithful a son as he had been. The father intended, doubtless to be just, but he imposed hard conditions. A tract of heavily timbered forest land, covered with underbrush, one hundred and fifty acres of the home farm, should be his for the sum of eight hundred dollars, which was to be paid to his father, in installments. He had no money to start a career in any other place, and he accepted his father's proposition and began with energy to clear his land.

In 1849 our subject was married to Miss Sarah J. Wallace, who was a native of Pennsylvania and was the daughter of Jefferson Wallace, who came to Richland county, Ohio, at an early day, later removing to Cranberry township, in Crawford county. Ten children were born to our subject and wife, the five survivors being among the best and most reliable citizens of this county, and they are as follows: Amos W., of Auburn township; Almira, the wife of Frank Albright, of Whetstone township; Sherman H., of Cranberry township; Julia M., the wife of Freeman Brown, of Shelby, Ohio; and Nora, the wife of Willis A. Brown, of Tiro, Ohio.

After subject had succeeded in paying for his farm and in placing it in a prosperous condition, he began the purchase of other land, the first tract being one of eighty acres adjoining his own land, which belonged to his brother. Late in the '50s he bought one hundred and twenty acres in Sandusky township, another of one hundred acres in the same township, this being followed by a purchase of one hundred and twenty acres in Liberty township, and his last purchase being in 1882, when he became the owner of one hundred and forty-seven acres in Auburn township. This land Mr. Stevens acquired for his children, and after he had become satisfied that he could do well for all of them he bought a small tract of sixty-four acres, a part of which is within the corporate limits of Tiro, and removed to it. There he and his most estimable wife resided until her death, on December 26, 1893, when he deeded this land to his daughter, Mrs. Brown, and went to live with her.

In his political life Mr. Stevens has been a Republican for many years, although his strong temperance principles induced him to vote with the Pro-

hibition party for a time. He is distinguished as being the oldest living resident of Auburn township. His years have reached eighty-four, but his mind is clear and his memory of past events is vivid. Many of his years have been spent in the most laborious toil, but he has always possessed both energy and ambition, and stands to-day as a worthy representative of the perseverance, courage and zeal, which has made the extraordinary progress possible, which has given Crawford county its prominence in this state, which latter has become known as the "New Mother of Presidents," well deserving the title.

#### REV. ISRAEL LUST.

Probably there is no better known or more highly esteemed citizen in Crawford county, Ohio, than Rev. Israel Lust, the subject of this biography, who has traveled at least twelve thousand miles, back and forth through the country, laboring in the interests of Christianity. Not only is he a preacher of power and convincing argument, but he is an author of considerable note, especially in the religious world, and has also successfully carried on large agricultural operations.

The birth of Mr. Lust was in Chatfield township, in this county, on December 11, 1839, and he was a son of Conrad and Magdalena (Myers) Lust. They reared nine children to maturity, and our subject is the eldest of the family, the others being: Susan, the wife of Christian Klink, of Chatfield township; John, of Cranberry township; David, of Dallas township; Catherine, the wife of William Hunsicker, of Lykens township; Sophia, the wife of Emanuel Yeiter, of Liberty township; Solomon, of Chatfield township; Daniel, of Chatfield township; and Elizabeth, the wife of John Biel, of Chatfield township.

The father of this family of prominent and highly respected children was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, in 1812, and in 1819 accompanied his parents, who were John David and Elizabeth Lust, to America. Grandfather Lust brought with him his wife and eight children, all of whom were in great danger, during the long voyage of ninety days, of never landing in the new country, upon which their hopes were set. The captain of the slow sailing vessel lost his bearings, and even touched the shore of Greenland before he made the harbor of Philadelphia!

Grandfather Lust settled on a small farm in Lebanon county, Pennsylvania, for the welfare of his children. One of his sons, quite a young boy, died crossing the ocean and was buried in the grave of the Atlantic sea, which

was the most heartfelt trial of his and the grandmother's life. He lived six years in Lebanon county, Pennsylvania, quite poor, working hard to support a family of small children. He and another man by the name of Jacob Buck thrashed in one winter with a flail, forty-five hundred bushels of wheat, at three cents per bushel!

After living six years in Pennsylvania he came to Richland township, Marion county, Ohio, among the Delaware Indians, and bought ninety-three acres of wild woodland, at the government price. Grandfather Lust there, with his sons, soon succeeded in clearing away quite a tract of land, by living mostly on hominy and boiled wheat, as then, in 1826, there were no grist-mills nearer than from thirty to sixty miles distant. The wild woods were everywhere inhabited by Indians, wolves and bears. Bears made raids upon his hogs right beside his log cabin! In order to get wheat flour and corn meal he dressed a common boulder to the thickness of one-sixteenth of an inch, and three feet in diameter, through which he drilled a hole four inches in diameter, and through this he put a stout pole, one end of which he ran into a stump, into which there was made an auger hole, a large flat stone lying beside the stump, over which the dressed stone was rolled to and fro to crack the corn or wheat. The broken grain was then sifted through a sieve made of home-tanned groundhog leather. Most truly, "Necessity is the mother of invention." This historic stone is still remaining on the farm.

Now, in the years 1828 to 1830 Grandfather Lust had more wheat raised than was needed by his family. He sent the father of our subject, Conrad Lust, to Sandusky City over the old state road, from Marion to Little Sandusky, thence to Upper Sandusky and to Fort Ball or Tiffin, then to Fremont and then to Sandusky City, with a yoke of young oxen and about twenty-two bushels of wheat, the price of which ran from fifty cents to a dollar. This he exchanged mostly for clothing goods. It required eleven days and nights to return again, over a distance of about sixty miles of wild-woods road.

On or about the year of 1832 a road was constructed by a company from Columbus to Sandusky City, called the Columbus & Sandusky Pike, which was running directly through the farm of Grandfather Lust, of which pike his three sons—Gottlieb, Conrad and Frederic Lust—constructed a mile and a quarter, all along their home in Marion county, for which services they secured a section of real wild land of the pike company in Chatfield township, Crawford county, and on this they settled in the year 1837. Over the above pike were sometimes from thirty to forty-five teams in one train hauling wheat to Sandusky City from Marion and Delaware counties. Grandmother Lust died in

the year 1839, in September, and Grandfather Lust died in the year 1840, in February, at the age of sixty-six years.

Conrad Lust, who was the father of the subject of this sketch, was married to Magdalena Myers, who was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, in May, 1820. He had eight hundred acres of land, in different places of the county and state. In politics he had been in sympathy with the Democratic party, but was never a politician, and through all his life he was a member of the Evangelical Pietist church. He died in February, 1876, at the age of sixty-four years, and his wife Magdalena died in September, 1893, aged seventy-three years. Frederig Lust, the uncle of our subject, was a most powerful preacher, with but a rare equal, in spite of all his very limited education. He also was the founder of the so called Lust church in Chatfield. He departed this life in December, 1882, at the age of sixty-nine years.

Who would not look down with a flood of tears, as tears trickle down from the children's eyes, upon the graves of their grandparents, so beloved:—fathers and mothers who are now mingled with the dust of the earth, in the silent shade of death, after so many struggles, with hardship, penury and so many thousands of evils full of trials? Grandfather John David Lust, Gottleib, Conrad, and Rev. Frederig Lust, and Elizabeth (Jacoby) Lust, are all at rest in the Lust cemetery in Chatfield township.

Rev. Israel Lust, who is the highly esteemed subject of this review, was reared amid pioneer surroundings. His educational advantages were limited, having only about three hundred and fifty days of schooling, scattered over ten years, introducing him only to primary studies and fostering a love for books, which he has never outgrown. In May, 1865, he was married to Miss Magdalena Crum, who was a native of Chatfield township. After this event Mr. and Mrs. Lust located on the farm now owned in Todd township which was given him by his father, and cleared about one hundred acres of dense timber, and this is cultivated by our subject. The estate now comprises one hundred and forty-six acres, as Mr. Lust has added other land by later purchases. He also became the owner of five hundred acres of land in Allen county, Kansas, which he mostly deeded to his children,—Jessias, Magdalena, Frank and Wesley. To the first marriage of our subject one child was born, Jessias, now a resident of Allen county, Kansas. Mrs. Lust departed this life in January, 1867.

In the following year our subject was united in marriage to Mrs. Mary Linn, who was the widow of William Linn, formerly a Miss Seibert, who died on September 8, 1881. Seven children were born to this union, these being:

Magdalena, deceased; Benjamin Franklin, of Allen county, Kansas; Samuel Wesley, of Allen county, Kansas; Catherine E., at home; Sarah, the wife of George Cooper, of Shelby, Ohio; Clements, at home; and Mary, the wife of Roassle Winger, of Marion county.

Mr. Lust has been one of the successful and prosperous farmers of the county. He was reared in the Democratic party, but in late years has taken no active interest in politics. For nineteen years he has been a preacher in the Evangelical Pietist church and also nine years in the Crawford County Infirmary, and during this time he has covered fully twelve thousand miles, driving to and fro over the country, answering the calls of duty, ministering to the sick in body and mind and working faithfully in the Master's vineyard. His faithful horse Cole, which has carried him so far, often through storm and cold, still stands in his stable, cared for with the affection its long service has occasioned. Mr. Lust is known to the religious-reading public, especially in his own church, through three published volumes of his writings, under the title of "Exhortations and Edifications of Israel Lust," and the fourth volume is ready for the press. Mr. Lust has bound over two thousand volumes of these books himself, the latter work reflecting great credit upon his artistic skill, as he never served any apprenticeship in it. They are filled with good advice, moral teachings, and no reader could doubt that they came from the pen of a deeply and truly religious man. In arranging all the writings of Rev. Israel Lust up to this date, 1901, in a line it would make a continuous line of not less than ten miles.

#### DAVID LUST.

The career of no man in Crawford county, Ohio, more forcibly illustrates the value of industry and integrity than that of David Lust, of Lykens township. Mr. Lust is a native of Ohio, and was born in Marion county, October 26, 1828, a son of Jacob and Mary (Stoneman) Lust. Jacob Lust and his wife both died in 1829, and their son Jacob, their only other child except the subject of this sketch, is also dead. David was reared by his grandfather Lust and began active life by working on farms in Chatfield township, Crawford county. After working by the month for four years he located on his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres. He now owns another farm of one hundred and forty-two acres and another of eighty acres, his land aggregating three hundred and eighty-two acres. He has acquired this fine property by industry and good business management, and those who know him best



rejoice with him most in his worldly success. Politically he is a Democrat. A friend of public education, he has devoted himself to the development of good schools in the township, and has filled the office of school director for thirty years. Ohio's present admirable school system had not been developed when he was in his youth, and, remembering that he was obliged to be satisfied with a scanty education obtained in subscription schools taught in a log school house, he has done everything in his power to give improved educational facilities to each successive generation of children in his township. He is a member of the German Methodist church, in which he has for many years held the office of trustee and in which he was treasurer when its house of worship was erected in Liberty township.

April 6, 1854, Mr. Lust married Catherine Yeiter, who has borne him ten children, all of whom are living, and they have twenty-two grandchildren. Their son Jacob lives in Holmes township, Crawford county. Their daughter Elizabeth married William Heaver, of Liberty township, Crawford county. Their son Simon lives in Liberty township. Their daughter Marian married Philip Cook and lives in Whetstone township, Crawford county. Their son Noah lives in the township last mentioned. Sarah is the wife of William Hayden, of Morrow county, Ohio. Wesley lives in Holmes township, Crawford county. Lydia married Isaac Stump and is a member of her father's household. Their son Abraham is a farmer in Holmes township, Crawford county. Their son Amos lives in Lykens township.

#### HARVEY CLOSE.

Harvey Close, of Texas township, Crawford county, Ohio, is a son of Nelson and Elizabeth (Bender) Close, and was born at the old home of the family in Texas township, March 31, 1858. Nelson Close, who was a prominent citizen of Texas township, was born in the Empire state in 1818, and died at his Ohio home April 25, 1874. By his wife, Elizabeth Bender, who is still living, he had children as follows: Mary, who married Michael Davis and lives in Nebraska; George, who owns a part of his father's old homestead; Hannah, who is dead; Ella, who lives in Texas township; Harvey, who is the immediate subject of this sketch; Adelbert, who is dead; and Alta, who married Robert Torbet and lives in Holmes county, Ohio. Mr. Close was a member of the Lutheran church, in which his widow is also a communicant. The latter taught a subscription school in a log building at Benton in her young womanhood.

The subject of this sketch was educated in the common schools near his home and for a time was a student at the Normal School at Fostoria, Seneca county, Ohio, and finished his studies at Ada, Hardin county, this state. He began active life as a school-teacher at the age of eighteen years, and from that time on for twelve years he taught school every winter, giving his attention to farming during the spring, summer and fall months. Since 1888 he has devoted himself exclusively to farming. He is the owner of ninety acres of fertile land, which he has improved and placed under cultivation and which he has furnished with a good house, large barns and graneries and all essential out-houses. He gives his attention to general farming and stock-raising and makes a specialty of strawberries, to which he devotes about three acres of land and of which he sold four hundred and seventy-five bushels in 1901.

Mr. Close was married March 21, 1883, to Miss Lizzie Fleming, and they have two children: Iva, aged seventeen; and Charles, aged eleven years. Mr. Close is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he fills the office of steward. In politics he is a Democrat, and he exerts a recognized influence upon local affairs. He circulated the petition for the postoffice of the village of Plankton and conferred upon the locality the name by which it has become known. He was first elected to the office of justice of the peace in 1880, and by repeated re-election he has served in that office since except during four years. In 1890 he was elected to the office of land appraiser. The public schools of the township have always been very close to his heart, and he has, by suggestion and otherwise, been instrumental in broadening their scope and in increasing their efficiency. His long experience in the school-room gave him a practical and technical knowledge necessary to such service, and he has been an adviser both to teachers and directors, whose opinion has been often sought and has always been held valuable.

#### WILLIAM C. SEELE.

Among the progressive, energetic and successful young farmer-citizens of Holmes township, Crawford county, is William C. Seele, who has been prominently identified with the public affairs of the county for some years. The birth of Mr Seele occurred August 6, 1863, on the farm which he now occupies. His parents were Emil and Catherine (Spade) Seele, the former of whom was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, on March 31, 1823. He came to America with his parents in 1840. They located in Lykens township and remained there all their lives. Emil Seele learned the trade of shoemaker and followed it for some

years, in connection with his farming operations. After several years of residence in this county, he purchased our subject's present farm, then consisting of sixty-three and one-fourth acres, and there he lived until within a short time of his death, when he went to reside with his son Albert. Emil Seele was well known through Crawford county, and held the offices of constable and supervisor. In politics he was a Democrat. Eight children were born to him and wife, and all of these survive, viz.: Melinda, the wife of Charles Gerstenberger, of Chatfield township; Edward, of this township; Matilda, the wife of Abraham Ditty, of this township; Dellmor, of Broken Sword; Albert, of Bucyrus township; Celesta, the wife of Daniel Smith, of Bucyrus; William C.; and Charles Wesly, of Cleveland, Ohio.

William C. Steele grew up and attended the common schools in his district, supplementing his primary education by attendance upon the sessions of both the Normal College at Ada, and at New Washington, in 1882, beginning his successful career as a teacher. For twelve terms he efficiently taught in the public schools through Lykens and Holmes townships, becoming well and favorably known through the county thus early in life. In 1893 he was united in marriage of Miss Metta Margraff, who was a native of Lykens township and was the daughter of Charles and Leah (Miller) Margraff. Mr. Margraff was a German and came with his family to Ohio from Pennsylvania.

While still a teacher, our subject occupied his summers in Cleveland, Ohio, working in the ice business, and thus earned enough to enable him to purchase a farm from his father in the year prior to his marriage, and he located upon it at that time. Although he is interested in agricultural matters, he has taken a very active part in public affairs. For two years he was township clerk on the Democratic ticket, and was re-elected for a second term, declining then to serve longer. His next position of trust was that of township treasurer, and as such he is now serving his second term. During the administration of President Cleveland he was appointed postmaster of Broken Sword, and served faithfully for two years. Although something of a politician and a man of influence, he has never sought the offices he has so honorably held, they having been secured for him by his friends. He is one of the progressive men who are invaluable in a community, has been a member of the school board and is a friend of all educational advancement in the county. Fraternally he is connected with the Court Broken Sword, No. 859, Independent Order of Foresters, of which he has been recording secretary for the past two years; also is a member of Broken Sword Tent, No. 123, Knights of the Maccabees, and is keeper of the records and finances; and is a member of Broken Sword.

Grange, No. 1487, P. of H., in which he has been secretary, then overseer and at present is the master of the lodge. His ability is recognized in this community and he is justly regarded as one of the representative men of Crawford county.

### JACOB RANCK.

Crawford county, Ohio, has many citizens of Pennsylvanian descent who as farmers and in business life have ably demonstrated the potency of the Pennsylvania Dutch blood in the work of enlightenment and progress. Prominent among such citizens is Jacob Ranck, who was born in Texas township, in 1843, and is at this time a prosperous citizen there.

Jacob Ranck is a son of David Ranck, a native of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, who settled in Wyandot county, Ohio, in 1829, whence he removed in 1836 to Texas township, Crawford county, on government land upon which he had filed a claim two years previously. The tract consisted of one hundred and ninety-four acres and was heavily timbered. He erected a log cabin, containing one room, into which he moved his family, then began in earnest the work of clearing and improving his land. He died there in 1865, at the age of sixty-three years. He married Frances Betzer, and they had three sons and eight daughters, and ten of their eleven children are now living.

All three of their sons fought for the flag of their country in the Civil war, Jacob and Lewis C. in Company H, One Hundred and Twenty-third Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, from August 19, 1862, until the close of the war, and Ephraim in the One Hundred and Thirty-sixth Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, in the one hundred days' service. Jacob and Lewis saw their first experience of battle at Winchester, June 15th, 1863, where they were made prisoners of war and taken to Libby prison. After two days' confinement they were transferred to the Belle Isle prison. Nineteen days later Jacob Ranck was paroled and went to Annapolis, Maryland, whence after a short time he went home on parole. Eventually he rejoined his regiment at Martinsburg, West Virginia. The regiment did guard duty for several months. Its next fighting was at Newmarket, and after that engagement it retreated to Cedar Creek, where General David Hunter was put in command, and on the 26th of May they again advanced through Newmarket and on to Piedmont, June 5, where they again had a severe engagement with the enemy, under command of General W. E. Jones. June 6 they took possession of Staunton without further opposition; and after destroying thousands of dollars' worth of Confederate govern-

ment property, they again advanced to Lexington, where they defeated McCausland, and after destroying considerable Confederate property and Governor Letcher's residence, they again moved on to Lynchburg, where they again met the enemy, under Early, June 18. Finding the enemy too strong, they began their retreat during the night of June 18, by the way of Salem through Buford's Gap, and on to Gauley Bridge, arriving at Parkersburg, July 5, and at Martinsburg July 10, having marched eight hundred miles from the 2d day of May, 1864, till the 10th day of July, following. During July, 1864, it had a number of engagements at Snicker's Gay, July 17, at Kernstown, July 23, and at Winchester, July 24. September 2d the regiment fought at Berryville; at Opequan under General Sheridan, September 19; at the battle of Fisher's Hill, September 22; and at the battle of Cedar Creek, October 19, all in 1864. It was then transferred to the Army of the James, under the command of General Grant, and was for some time stationed at Camp Holley, at Deep Bottom. After that, under the command of General Ord it assisted in the capture of Petersburg and Richmond. After the fall of Richmond, with the Fifty-fourth Pennsylvania, it was detailed to burn the bridge across the river over which it was believed Lee intended to escape. The movement was not successful, and Mr. Ranck was made a prisoner of war April 6, and was so held with Lee's command at the time of Lee's surrender. His faithful service was recognized by promotion to the office of corporal. He received only one wound during the entire term of his service, and that was a slight one, occasioned by the concussion of a spent ball.

At the end of his memorable experience as a soldier, Mr. Ranck returned to Texas township, Crawford county, Ohio, and soon afterward went to Wyandot county, Ohio, where for five years he farmed on rented land. At the expiration of that time he bought eighty acres there, on which he lived two years. He then bought one hundred and thirty-six acres of land in Antrim township, Wyandot county, where he followed agriculture until 1885, when he moved to his present farm in Texas township. He owns seventy-eight acres of well improved land and gives his attention to general farming.

He affiliates with the Republican party and has held the office of township clerk in Texas township for one year, and while a resident of Wyandot county he filled the office of assessor of Antrim township for four years.

He was married February 27, 1868, to Miss Caroline Gottier, and they have three children,—Jesse G., a farmer in Texas township; Ida B., who was married to Melville C. Hudle; and Clara L., who is the wife of Howard J. Miller.



Mr. and Mrs. Ranck are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, careful in their adherence to all its requirements, and are liberal supporters of its various interests; and Mr. Ranck is a man of decided public spirit who aids to the extent of his ability any movement which in his good judgment promises to benefit any considerable number of his fellow citizens. He is a quiet and unostentatious man, who speaks little of his own good deeds, but who is known as a good neighbor of most generous sympathies, who has more than once proven himself a friend in the hour of need. Mrs. Ranck is a woman of many virtues, who is known as a model wife and mother and who has been a most worthy helpmeet to her husband and a power for good among those with whom she has associated.

#### FRANK McVAY VIRTUE, M. D.

No history of Crawford county would be complete without the mention, in connection with professional interests, of Dr. F. M. Virtue, who has gained a very creditable standing as a representative of the medical fraternity. He engages in practice in Sulphur Springs and the surrounding country, and his marked ability and the confidence reposed in his skill are indicated by the liberal and constantly increasing patronage which is accorded him.

The Doctor was born in Morrow county, Ohio, September 5, 1863, and comes from sturdy Irish ancestry. His paternal great-grandfather, Robert Virtue, was a weaver by trade, learning that pursuit on the Emerald Isle, where his birth occurred. On coming to America he located near Wheeling, Virginia, where he took up his abode upon a farm and remained there for several years. He then removed to Guernsey county, Ohio, where he spent his last days. His son, Robert Virtue, Jr., the grandfather, was also born in Ireland, and was a little lad when with his parents he came to the new world. He was largely reared in Guernsey county, Ohio, and after his marriage he removed to Morrow county, where he carried on agricultural pursuits until his life's labors were ended in death. His son, Samuel Virtue, the Doctor's father, was reared on the old homestead in Morrow county, but was born in Guernsey county, Ohio, October 3, 1841. The work of the farm became familiar to him in his youth, and the occupation to which he was reared he followed for a period of several years. After he had arrived at years of maturity he married Miss Jane McVay, who was born in Morrow county, in 1844, and was of Scotch descent, her grandparents on both sides of the family having come to the new world from Scotland. After his marriage Samuel



*L. M. Virtue M.D.*



Virtue purchased a farm near Chesterville. Particularly successful in curing diseases of horses, his neighbors frequently seeking his services in that regard, he determined to buy a library and inform himself thoroughly concerning veterinary surgery and enter that profession, which he practiced for many years, while still on the farm. His business, however, became so extensive that he removed to Iberia, where he practiced his profession for ten years and then went to Mt. Gilead, where he has engaged in the practice of veterinary surgery during the past twelve years, and for four years his son, Charles E., has been in partnership with him. Samuel and Jane Virtue became the parents of four children, namely: Frank M.; Charles E., a veterinary surgeon of Mt. Gilead; Delphus B., a medical practitioner of Iberia; and Maggie, the wife of David Douglas, of Iberia.

Dr. Virtue, whose name introduces this record, spent the first thirteen years of his life at home on a farm and then began earning his own living as a farm hand, working for six consecutive summers on three adjoining farms. In the winter he attended school, and at the age of eighteen, having acquired a broad general knowledge, he began teaching. Desiring to still further perfect his education, he afterward entered the Ohio Central College, at Iberia. He followed teaching through four school years, and in the spring of 1883 he began the study of medicine in the office of Dr. W. C. Bennett, of Iberia. In the fall of 1884 he entered the Western Reserve University, of Cleveland, Ohio, where he was graduated on the 9th of March, 1887. On the 18th of April, following, he located in Sulphur Springs, in the office vacated by Dr. M. M. Carrothers, and in the fourteen years which have come and gone he has built up a remunerative and greatly increasing practice. His time is occupied by his professional duties almost day and night, showing the wide-felt confidence which the public has in his ability.

On the 20th of October, 1887, the Doctor was united in marriage to Miss Lue Hall, a native of Iberia, Morrow county, and a daughter of Isaac and Eliza Hall. Five children have been born of this union, all sons, namely: Vance McVay, Cecil R., Ivan V., Samuel F. and Robert M.

The Doctor is unfaltering in his support of Republican principles and does all in his power to promote the growth and insure the success of his party. For the past nine years he has been a member of the school board, and has also been treasurer of his district. The cause of education finds in him a warm friend, true in his allegiance to its best interests. He and his wife are members of the Hope Reformed church, with which they united in 1888, and for four years he held the office of elder. He likewise belongs to Liberty

Lodge, No. 845, Knights of Honor, in which he is past dictator, and is also a member of Sulphur Springs Tent, No 298, K O. T. M. Of both societies he is examining physician. He belongs to the Northwestern Ohio Medical Society, and through his connection therewith, as well as by constant reading and study, he keeps himself in touch with the progress that is constantly being made in the medical fraternity.

#### LYSANDER M. WALLER.

Lysander Milton Waller was a man of prominence and influence. He was born in Chautauqua county, New York, July 20, 1827, and died at his farm residence in Lykens township, Crawford county, Ohio, on the 17th of April, 1892. He was a leading factor in agricultural circles in the county for many years, and was respected and honored by a wide circle of acquaintances.

His father, Milton Waller, was a native of Washington county, New York, and a cooper by trade. His mother's maiden name was Polly Coon. These parents had six children, as follows: Lysander Milton, our subject; Helen, deceased; Stephen, farmer of Lykens township; Comfort B., of Bowling Green, Ohio; Sarah A., deceased; and Sophia, wife of Cornelius Swalley, of Lykens township. In 1833 the father came by team to Ohio and for fifteen months resided in Seneca county, but in the year of his arrival in the state he entered eighty acres of land, constituting a part of the farm which was the home of our subject and took up his abode thereon in 1834. Of round logs he built a little cabin of one room in the midst of the heavy timber, and there began the difficult task of clearing the fields and preparing them for the plow. He continued farming throughout his active business career and died on the old family homestead in Lykens township, in February, 1880, when seventy-three years of age. He served as clerk and trustee of his township and was an active factor in public affairs, leaving the impress on his individuality for good upon the substantial development of the state. He aided in laying out roads, building schools and materially assisted in the work of progress and improvement. In politics he was a Democrat. His wife was called to her final rest in 1872.

Mr. Waller, of this review, was a lad of six years of age when brought by his parents to the home farm in Crawford county. He aided his father in clearing the land and cultivating the fields, and throughout life followed the occupation to which he had been reared. He was an energetic and enterprising farmer and good crops rewarded his industry.



As a companion and helpmate for the journey of life Mr. Waller chose, in 1848, Miss Arletta Cory, who died in 1851, leaving a daughter named Ardella, now the wife of Frank La Rue, of Lykens township. In 1859 Mr. Waller again married, Miss Anna Jane Yingling, a daughter of Jonas and Mary (Thomas) Yingling, becoming his wife. She was born in Chatfield township, Crawford county, Ohio, and her father was a native of Pennsylvania, of German descent, while the mother was a native of Wales. Her parents were married in Pennsylvania and became early settlers of Chatfield township. Unto the second marriage of our subject one child was born—a daughter, Amy Sophia, who died in infancy. Mr. Waller was a Democrat in politics, served as county commissioner two terms, and also as township clerk. He was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and was a most excellent citizen, an enterprising and successful farmer, a true friend, a faithful husband and kind father.

#### AUGUST MARQUART.

August Marquart, who owns and operates one hundred and sixty acres of land in Cranberry township, was born on the 31st of July, 1856, on the farm in this township, which is now occupied by his father, Michael Marquart, one of the honored pioneer settlers and representative men of the community. The days of his childhood and youth were passed in a manner similar to that in which most farmer boys spend their time. He attended the public schools, worked in the fields and at the age of nineteen entered upon an independent business career, renting and cultivating the Kline farm of one hundred and fourteen acres.

On the 23d of September, 1880, August Marquart led to the marriage altar Miss Mary J. Tilton, a native of Cranberry township and a daughter of Arthur Tilton and thus he secured for the journey of life a faithful companion and helpmeet. Her father was one of the early settlers of Crawford county, Ohio, having come to this state from Pennsylvania, where his birth occurred. After his marriage Mr. Marquart engaged in farming upon the old homestead for two years and then assumed the management of the farm upon which he now resides, a tract of eighty acres. In addition to this he and his brother Jefferson two years later began cultivating the home farm on the shares. Subsequently they dissolved partnership and Mr. Marquart, of this review, engaged in the further development of his eighty-acre farm and also carried on the greater portion of the home farm. About 1888, however, he abandoned

his work upon the home place and rented the Kappus farm of one hundred and forty-five acres, continuing on that place for two years. During the succeeding two years he cultivated his eighty-acre place and also rented some fields of the home farm. In early life, beginning in his nineteenth year, he operated a threshing machine, continuing that business for three years. In 1892 he invested his earnings in forty acres of the old William Anderson farm and three years later he purchased another forty-acre tract of the same farm. In 1900 he bought eighty acres adjoining so that he now has a quarter section of land. His place is a desirable one, for the soil is rich and alluvial and yields good crops in return for his labor. Upon the place is seen substantial buildings and the latest improved machinery and all modern accessories and the owner is regarded as one of the enterprising agriculturists of his community.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Marquart has been blessed with seven children: Ida, now the wife of Perry Musselman, of Cranberry township; Minnie, Elmer, Ora, Emma, Arthur and Lillie, all at home. The parents hold membership in the Lutheran church and for six years Mr. Marquart has served as one of its trustees. In politics he is not bound by party ties. He believes, however, in clean politics and supports the men whom he thinks will most honorably and ably discharge the duties of office. He is one of the progressive and enterprising agriculturists of Crawford county, is a public-spirited man who supports all church and charitable work and co-operates in every movement for the general good.

#### WILLIAM S. NICHOLLS.

In the parish of St. Teath, County of Cornwall, England, William S. Nicholls was born, on the 25th day of December, 1855. His parents were William and Hannah (Lobb) Nicholls. His mother and also an infant brother (John Francis) died when William S. was eighteen months old, and thus very early in life he was deprived of the tender care and nurture of a mother. When six years of age he went to live with his maternal grandparents, Francis and Mary Lobb, and with them made his home until he was twelve years of age; then (1867) his father removed to Plymouth, Devonshire, taking his son with him. Here our subject completed a common school education in the public schools of the city. In 1871 he was bound as an apprentice to the woolen drapery or clothing business, for a term of three years. This contract was afterward cancelled, for a consideration, in lieu of removal. In April, 1873, Mr. Nicholls, then seventeen years of age, left Plymouth and his native land in com-

pany with friends with whom he had lived for six years, embarking from Liverpool in the "S. S. Batavia," Cunard Line, for New York, in which city he landed on May 12th. Thence he proceeded to Cleveland, Ohio, the place of destination, arriving there May 15th.

Soon after landing in the land of his adoption Mr. Nicholls engaged as a salesman in the clothing and merchant tailoring business of Henry Beckman, of Cleveland, and was thus employed for several years, subsequently accepting a position with E. R. Hull & Company, clothiers and furnishers, of Cleveland.

In 1888 he removed from that city to Bucyrus, accepting a position as store keeper and shipping clerk for the Steam Shovel & Dredge Company at the latter city. With this concern he remained until it removed from Bucyrus to South Milwaukee, in 1893. In 1894 Mr. Nicholls accepted a position with The Hopley Printing Company, taking charge of the circulation of the Bucyrus Evening Telegraph, a position which he has since held.

Soon after his arrival in this country Mr. Nicholls united, in 1874, with the Congregational church of Cleveland, and soon after coming to Bucyrus united by letter with the First Presbyterian church. He has long been an active worker for the church, and is now the official superintendent of the Sunday-school of his church.

He was united in marriage to Miss Emma L. Aumiller, September 30, 1891. Mr. and Mrs. Nicholls have a bright and entertaining little daughter, Nellie Mabel, now six years of age. Mrs. Nicholls is a daughter of Daniel and Sarah (Boyer) Aumiller, and was born and reared in Crawford county. She, too, is a member of the First Presbyterian church, and is reckoned among the active and leading church workers. Mr. and Mrs. Nicholls enjoy most pleasant social relations, and their home is well known because of its generous hospitality. Her father was a worthy and well known pioneer of the county, and resided within its borders for over fifty-four years. He was a native of Union county, Pennsylvania, born October 16, 1809, and when nineteen years of age, in 1828, came by way of wagon with an elder brother and the brother's family to Crawford county. His brother settled on a farm one mile northwest of Bucyrus, and they cut through the dense forest a road to the farm, this road being the first one in that direction from Bucyrus. In 1836 Daniel Aumiller married Sarah Boyer, and immediately afterward entered from the general government a tract of land lying about two miles west of Bucyrus. On the land he built a rude log house in the woods, haunted by the wild beasts and the scarcely less wild Indians. On this farm Mr. Aumiller continued to reside the rest of his days; and farming was his life pursuit. He and his wife, in an early

day, were members of the Evangelical church, which was weak numerically and died not flourish. He was noted for his strict integrity and probity of character. His death occurred February 8, 1882. His good wife survived him many years, dying February 26, 1898, in Bucyrus, to which city she removed about six years prior to her death. She, too, was a native of Union county, Pennsylvania, born February 18, 1817, and was a daughter of John and Barbara Boyer. She came to Crawford county in 1828 with her mother and stepfather, and ever afterward made her home in the county, and so was a resident of the county for a period of seventy years. She bore her husband eleven children, four sons and seven daughters, all of whom lived to years of maturity, four now being deceased. The father was of French Huguenot descent, while the mother was of German lineage. The farm on which they settled, as stated, had already been entered by Mr. Aumiller from the government, and it has never passed out of the hands of the family, now being owned by Mrs. Nicholls and a sister. For many years Mrs. Miller was a consistent Christian, a member of the Lutheran church. She possessed many sterling qualities of heart and mind and was universally beloved.

#### MADISON PRICE.

Madison Price, a pioneer conductor of the Pittsburg, Ft. Wayne & Chicago Railroad residing at Crestline, was born in Holmes county, Ohio, March 21, 1845. His father, William Price, was also a native of that county, born in 1817, and was a farmer by occupation. In 1849, accompanied by four of his brothers, he joined the California Argonauts, who, in search of the gold fields, traveled across the plains to the Pacific coast. In 1852 he returned eastward and died the same year in Holmes county, Ohio. His wife was Catherine De Belle Woods, the widow of Hugh Woods. She was born in Virginia, in 1820, and at an early age was brought by her parents to Ohio. Her death occurred at Shreve, Holmes county, this state, in January, 1901. This worthy couple were the parents of five children, two sons and three daughters, namely: Winifred, Louisa, Madison, Joseph D. and Adelia, all natives of Holmes county.

The subject of this review was the eldest son and third child. He was born in a log cabin and pursued his education in a log schoolhouse. At the age of twelve years he went to Wayne county to live with his uncle, the Rev. Hugh Price, a minister of the Disciple church, who resided upon a farm. At the age of eighteen years he enlisted in response to the country's call for aid,

becoming a member of the Eighty-sixth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, with which he remained for six months and was then honorably discharged. In 1863, however, he re-enlisted, becoming a member of the One Hundred and Sixty-sixth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. His regiment participated in the capture of Morgan and aided in the taking of Cumberland Gap. For about six months Mr. Price was with the One Hundred and Sixty-sixth Ohio and then returned to his uncle's farm in Wayne county, this state. The following year he accepted a position as brakeman on the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railroad, was thus employed for about a year, after which he again took up his abode upon the farm and devoted his time to agricultural pursuits for four years, but in 1869 he again entered the railroad service as a brakeman on the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne & Chicago railroad, serving in that capacity until 1873, when he was promoted to conductor. His service with the road covers many years and indicates his close application and his faithfulness to his work. He is a very reliable railroad employe, enjoying the unqualified confidence and respect of his superiors and the warm regard of many of the patrons of the road.

In 1868 Mr. Price was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Sigourney Mower, who was born near Mansfield, Richland county, Ohio, November 9, 1848. Her father, John Mower, was born near Lancaster, Pennsylvania, but in his young manhood removed to Richland county, Ohio, where he engaged in teaching and farming. Later he was a justice of the peace. He was a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal church, though one of his grandfathers, the Rev. Abram Crider, was one of the founders of the United Brethren church. He married Elizabeth Hartuppee, who also was born in Pennsylvania, of parents of French Huguenot descent. One of her ancestors was an officer of the Revolution, and many of the family served in that war. Both of Mrs. Price's parents died when she was a child and she was reared and educated by her grandparents. After attaining womanhood she gave her hand in marriage to Madison Price, the ceremony being performed by the Rev. T. K. Disette. Three children graced their marriage: a daughter, who died in infancy; William Mower Price, born in Galion, Ohio, June 19, 1871; and Frank Carl Price, born in Crestline, Ohio, August 6, 1873. Both are graduates of the Crestline high school. The former is an engineer on the Pennsylvania Railroad, and the latter is a machinist in the employ of the Big Four Railroad Company.

Mr. Price is a member of the Order of Railway Conductors, with which he has been connected for about seventeen years. In his political faith he has



been a Republican since casting his first presidential vote for General Grant. Mr. and Mrs. Price belong to the Methodist Episcopal church of Crestline, Ohio, where they reside in their own pleasant home.

### JOSEPH E. HALL.

Joseph Edward Hall is numbered among the native sons of the Buckeye state now actively connected with the business interests of Bucyrus and thus contributing to its welfare and growth while promoting his individual prosperity. He was born in Ganges, Richland county, Ohio, and is a son of T. C. and Julia Hall. His father was born in Columbiana county, Ohio, June 13, 1822, near New Garden, and in 1838 removed to Stark county, where he engaged in business as a dealer in harness and saddlery. He was there married and subsequently removed by wagon to Ganges, Richland county, where he was engaged in the dry-goods business in connection with Horace Lybarger, the partnership being maintained until about 1852, when Mr. Hall disposed of his interest and removed to Crestline, where he took a contract for grading on the line of the Ohio & Indiana Railroad in connection with a Mr. Conover. This road is now known as the Pittsburg & Fort Wayne Railway. On the completion of the contract Mr. Hall erected the first brick house in Crestline, now known as the Olive house, and into that he moved, keeping boarders there for some time. He was also proprietor of a dry-goods store and was prominent in public affairs, serving as postmaster and also filling the positions of township trustee and road supervisor. Soon afterward he became the proprietor of the Crestline House, which was the main hotel of the place. Later he sold that property but continued the dry-goods business for two or three years, when he came to Bucyrus and in connection with C. L. and A. D. Juilliards he purchased the dry-goods business of Rupp, Fisher & Hall. The new firm was organized under the name of Hall & Juilliards, and this continued for some time. They built the west end of what is now known as the Quimby block, into which they removed their stock of goods. At a later date C. L. Juilliards sold his interest in the business to T. C. Hall and A. D. Juilliards, and the new firm carried on business for several years, when Mr. Juilliards sold out and P. Lewis and J. J. Fisher became partners of Mr. Hall, under the firm style of Lewis, Fisher & Hall. Mr. Hall did not give much of his attention to merchandising, his time being devoted to farming, but ultimately he returned to Bucyrus and took charge of a mercantile enterprise under the firm name of T. C. Hall & Sons. He remained in the dry-goods

business until 1874, when he engaged in contract work to construct the Atlantic & Lake Erie Railroad, which is now known as the Toledo & Ohio Central Road. The contracting firm was composed of B. B. McDonald, T. C. Hall, Horace Rouse, W. C. Lemert and J. G. Frayer. In his later years Mr. Hall retired from active business, merely supervising his farming interests while living in Bucyrus.

Mr. Hall was united in marriage to Julia Juilliard, who was born near the city of Montpelier, France, May 24, 1822, and came with her parents to this country when about fourteen years of age, the family locating in Stark county, Ohio, upon a farm where the daughter remained until she gave her hand in marriage to T. C. Hall. For many years they traveled life's journey together but were separated by the death of her husband on the 6th of March, 1896. He had contributed in large measure to the improvement, upbuilding and advancement of Ohio, leaving the impress of his forceful individuality upon many lines of progress.

Joseph Edward Hall, whose name begins this review, acquired his early education in the schools of Bucyrus and afterward entered his father's store as a clerk, being employed in that capacity for six years, when he removed to Wyandot county, locating upon a farm. There he resided for three years, after which he took up his abode on the old Reed farm, near Bucyrus, where he remained until his removal to the city three years later. Again he entered the store, then conducted under the firm name of Louis Fisher & Hall, continuing with the firm for three or four years, when a change was made in the ownership, the new firm being Hall & Juilliard. After two years another change occurred, our subject becoming a partner in the enterprise under the firm name of T. C. Hall & Sons. He acted as buyer for the house and carried on the business under that style for three years, when Mr Hall sold out to Fisher Brothers and began the business of railroad contracting. His first contract was on the construction of the Atlantic & Erie Railroad, now the Toledo & Ohio Central Railroad, and for three years he devoted his energies to that work.

On once more returning to Bucyrus, Mr. Hall again entered the mercantile field, purchasing the dry-goods business of William Rouse & Son, which he conducted under his own name and under his personal supervision for two and a half years, when he disposed of the store to J. M. Black & Company. He next accepted a position at Moxahala, Ohio, as manager of a company store and after acting in that capacity for two years he purchased the store, which he conducted for some time and then sold to the Moxahala Iron Company. He then took a contract for the construction of a part of the exten-

sion of the Toledo & Ohio Central Railroad Company, known as the Buckingham branch, and later returned to Bucyrus, where, in company with his brothers, L. C. and J. S. Hall, he purchased the dry-goods and grocery business of C. G. Malic, conducting the same for seven or eight years, when Mr. Hall, of this review, became the sole proprietor by purchasing his brothers' interests. He was then alone for three years, on the expiration of which period official duties claimed his attention, for he was specially appointed postmaster August 8, 1898, by President McKinley and was regularly reappointed on the 24th of January, 1899, for a term of four years, so that he is the present incumbent.

Mr. Hall was united in marriage to Emma Caldwell, a daughter of William and Lizzie Caldwell. She was born near Bucyrus, acquired her education in the common schools of Crawford county, and on the 15th of December, 1870, became the wife of Joseph E. Hall. They now have one daughter, Nellie, who was born January 19, 1872, and has completed the educational course in the schools of this city, and is now the wife of W. A. Blicke, of Bucyrus. Mr. Hall holds membership in the Knights of Pythias, Royal Arcanum and Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He has a wide acquaintance in this portion of Ohio, where his worth and ability are widely recognized, winning him the warm regard of his friends.

#### HENRY BERG.

Henry Berg is the superintendent of the Leesville Stone Company of Leesville Crossroads, and was born in Mansfield, Richland county, Ohio, January 26, 1856. His father, Valentine Berg, was a native of Germany and, believing that he might improve his financial condition in the new world, he crossed the Atlantic to America when a young man, taking up his abode in Mansfield, where he died when his son Henry was but six years of age. His wife bore the maiden name of Mary Heis and she, too, was born in the fatherland, coming to the United States when a maiden of six summers. She died when her son Henry was but three years old. He was the second child and eldest son born to his parents, and after his mother's death he was reared by his maternal grandfather, Henry Heis, who was one of the early settlers of Leesville. Henry Berg went to his home in 1862 and there he remained for about four years, after which he lived with his uncle for about three years. He attended school at intervals until he was fourteen years of age, when he entered upon an apprenticeship to the shoemaker's trade under the direction of Hon. D. O. Castle, now representative from the thirteenth district in congress. Mr. Berg

served for three years and one month as an apprentice to the firm of Castle & Beach, and as a journeyman continued in their employ for two more years. He was afterward employed as a salesman in the store of Castle & Heckert, at Leesville, after which he began business on his own account. About a year later he entered into partnership with D. O. Castle, which connection was maintained for about one year, when Mr. Castle was elected county recorder. He then worked in the recorder's office for fourteen months, after which he returned to Leesville and purchased the old Castle shop and homestead and again engaged in the shoe business, which he continued until the 11th of June, 1883. On that day he accepted the position of bookkeeper with the Leesville Stone Company. Recently he was appointed superintendent of the same, which position he has held since.

In 1878 Mr. Berg was united in marriage to Miss Henrietta, daughter of Christian and Magdalena Huhn, early settlers of Crawford county, Ohio. Her father served in the army in America from 1861 to 1865. Mrs. Berg is the second of a family of three daughters and was reared and educated in Leesville. Both our subject and his wife hold membership in the English Lutheran church, and in politics he is a stalwart Democrat, being recognized as one of the leaders of his party. He has served as township clerk for five years, has been treasurer for ten years and is now the incumbent of that office. For about eight years he has been a member of the school board, and in all these positions has shown that the trust reposed in him is fully merited. Whatever success he has achieved in life is due to his own efforts, resulting from his economy, industry and integrity. His career forcibly illustrates what may be accomplished by determination and energy in a land where all avenues are open and excellence is rewarded.

#### FRANKLIN P. DICK.

Among the best-known citizens of Crawford county, a leader in Democratic political circles and prominent in township affairs, is the substantial farmer and stock-raiser, Franklin P. Dick, whose fine farm is located in Dallas township.

The birth of Mr. Dick occurred in Cass township, Richland county, Ohio, on November 18, 1855, and he is a son of Jacob and Ann (Bushey) Dick, coming of old Dutch ancestry. Jacob Dick was born in Wayne county, Ohio, a son of George Dick, who settled in Richland county in 1832 and lived and died there. The father of our subject became a successful farmer, but died at

the age of forty years in Hancock county, his wife having died previously, in 1862, in Richland county, when only twenty-four years old. The six children left by these parents are all living, namely: Franklin; Mary Adam, of Shelby, Ohio; Minnie De Witt, of Auburn township, this county; Olive; Jennie Kime, of Blooming Grove township, Richland county; and Maggie Hassenger, of Auburn township, this county.

From the age of fourteen years Mr. Dick has shaped his own career. He became motherless at the age of seven, and as his father kept the home intact by a second marriage, he remained until the death of this parent also, and then started out, his capital being his country-school education and his experience of farm life. For thirteen years he found employment and a home with his uncle, Levi Dick, in Richland county. At the age of twenty-seven he married Miss Lovenia Noecker, a native of Richland county, and a daughter of Benjamin and Lavina (Vanhorn) Noecker, early settlers of that county.

After his marriage Mr. Dick settled on a farm near that upon which he now lives, in Dallas township, and for ten years he rented land. At the end of this period he had so prospered that he was prepared to purchase the one-hundred-acre farm he now occupies, and immediately set about its improvement. Mr. Dick is a progressive and enterprising farmer, and all of these improvements are in the best of style. He rebuilt his barn with an L-shaped basement, ninety by forty-two and thirty-two feet. Mr. Dick has made a success of general farming and usually feeds a large number of hogs.

The four children born to Mr. and Mrs. Dick are Jesse J., Sarah May, Francis Alwilda and Ruth Columbia. Both he and wife are consistent members of the United Brethren church and are well and favorably known for their many kind and neighborly actions. As one of the leading Democrats in the county Mr. Dick has been identified with many party affairs, and for six years served as township trustee, being elected to the office again in 1901. As an energetic, liberal and enterprising citizen he is highly esteemed, and is a truly representative resident of Dallas township.

#### JACOB H. SCHAEFFER.

A splendid commentary on the desirability of residence in Crawford county is the fact that so many of its native sons have continued their residence from birth to the present time within its borders, becoming prominent as representatives of its business interests and carrying forward the work of improvement and advancement along many lines of progress. Such a one is Jacob H.



Schaeffer, who was born in Chatfield township, February 1, 1843, his parents being George and Anna (Capst) Schaeffer, both natives of Neabronn, Uhr-wirller, Alsace, France, the former born December 15, 1815, and the latter October 12, 1809. The paternal grandparents of our subject were John and Catherine (Zeider) Schaeffer. The grandfather was a tailor by trade, following that pursuit throughout the greater part of his business career. The maternal grandparents were John and Margaret (Liever) Capst, who emigrated to America at an early day, settling in Cranberry township, Crawford county.

George Schaeffer learned the tailor's trade with his father, but the work was distasteful to him and he never followed it as a vocation. Having heard excellent reports of the opportunities America afforded to her citizens, he determined to seek a home in the land of promise, and when eighteen years of age sailed for the new world. Upon landing in New York he at once resumed his journey, crossing the country, and on reaching Ohio took up his abode in Stark county, where he remained for two years, working by the day and month. He had saved about fifty dollars, when, in 1835, he came to Crawford county and located forty acres of land in Chatfield township, which he had entered from the government the year previous while making a prospecting trip through this portion of the state. The land was covered with dense timber, but with characteristic energy he began to clear the place, and after cutting down some trees he erected a log cabin, in which he and his worthy wife began life in true pioneer style. They had to endure the hardships and difficulties which usually fall to the lot of frontier settlers. Their home, however, was for many years the best in the neighborhood. During the first year Mr. Schaeffer cleared and sowed three acres with wheat. The wolves and other wild beasts were very numerous in the neighborhood and were frequently in close proximity to the cabin. Money was an almost unknown medium of exchange in this part of the country, for the farmers received goods instead of coin for their products. Their wants, however, were few, and when money became an absolute necessity Mr. Schaeffer would go many miles to obtain work on the canal or on other public works, and thus receive the money with which to purchase furniture or other equipments for the house. They lived frugally, but though their meals were of simple fare they were heartily relished, for labor gave a good appetite to those early settlers. The table was a rude one of his own construction and the chairs were merely slab stools. But this pioneer family was happy and murmured not over the hardships of their lot, hoping that in course of time they would be able to have better advantages and enjoy more of the comforts of life. This hope was at length realized, and Mr. Schaeffer became one of

the well-to-do farmers of Chatfield township, where he continued the operation of his eighty acres of land, making his home thereon until 1893, when he took up his abode with his son Jacob, there spending the last few years of his life. He also owned the farm of seventy acres upon which our subject now resides. He was a consistent member of the Lutheran church from his fifteenth year, and his integrity, fidelity and uprightness won him the confidence and good will of many warm friends. He died July 27, 1895, and his wife passed away March 21, 1877. They were the parents of seven children, and all are yet living, namely: George, a resident of Perry county, Michigan; John A., who is living in Huntington county, Indiana; Elizabeth, the wife of Adam Donnenwirth, of Cranberry township; Jacob H., of this review; Adam B., who is living on the old homestead in Chatfield township; Catherine A., wife of John C. Conklin, of Plymouth, Ohio; and Anna, wife of Henry Reichart, of New Washington.

Amid the wild scenes of frontier life in the pioneer home Jacob H. Schaeffer spent the days of his youth. His education was obtained in a log school house, where the teaching was rather of a primitive order. He and his brothers could attend school only when the work of the farm was at low ebb, for their services were needed in reclaiming the wild land for the purposes of civilization. On reaching his majority Mr. Schaeffer went to Huntington county, Indiana, where for three years he worked as a farm hand, and on returning home he and his brother Adam began the operation of his father's two farms, which they cultivated on the shares. After his marriage, which occurred in 1867, he settled with his bride upon one of his father's farms in Cranberry township,—the place upon which he is now living and which has since been his home. After his father's death he purchased this tract of land, and with marked energy and diligence has carried on the work of improvement and cultivation. His fields are well tilled, his buildings kept in good repair and everything about the place is neat and thrifty in appearance.

On the 17th of September, 1867, Mr. Schaeffer was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Kieffer, a native of Lykens township and a daughter of Daniel and Barbara (Breitenbach) Kieffer, both of whom were natives of Germany. Two children were born of this marriage: Frank A., who operates the old homestead; and Lovina E., who is with her father. On the 2d of July, 1891, a cloud darkened the sunshine of this home, for the wife and mother was called to her final rest upon that day. Mr. Schaeffer is a worthy follower of the teachings of the German Lutheran church, in which he holds membership. He votes with the Democracy and keeps well informed on the issues of the

day, but has refused to accept all offices, save that he served for six years as school director. The cause of education finds in him a warm friend, and he is deeply interested in everything pertaining to the progress and improvement of his native county, in which he is uniformly regarded as a valued and enterprising citizen.

#### CHARLES A. LAUBACH.

If all those qualities which constitute good character are essential to the man who would succeed in the city where to a considerable extent he is a stranger to those with whom he deals, how much more necessary are they to the man who would succeed in a country community where nearly every important act of his life is known to every one with whom he associates. A city man may have a good reputation and not deserve it, but any man living in a country township or village who is known as a man of honor, with whom it is not only safe but desirable to have business relations, may be set down as richly deserving all the good things that are said about him. Such a man is Charles A. Laubach, of Lykens township, Crawford county, Ohio, some account of whose in every way creditable career it is the intention of the editors to include in this work.

Charles A. Laubach was born near Allentown, Lehigh county, Pennsylvania, November 20, 1843, and was educated in the public schools and reared to the hard but healthful and useful labors of the farm, which at the age of seventeen years he forsook to become a carpenter. A year later, when he was about eighteen years old, he went to Lykens township, Crawford county, Ohio, where for three years he worked as a carpenter as opportunity afforded. Being of an enterprising turn of mind and not wishing to pass his entire life as a hired hand, he then entered upon a career as contractor and builder, which, with few intervals, he has continued successfully to the present time. In 1877 he assumed the management of a sawmill, which he soon purchased and has since owned. This business he has run in connection with his building operations, and for the past ten years in connection with building and farming, with considerable success. In 1891 he moved onto his farm of one hundred acres, where he has lived since that time. He does miscellaneous farming, and has shown himself to be as well informed and as resourceful as many older farmers in his community.

June 1, 1861, Mr. Laubach married Rebecca Shook, who has borne him five children, who will be mentioned here in the order of their nativity. Their

daughter Sarah married David Shock, of Seneca county, Ohio. Their daughter Laura is the wife of John King, of the same county. Their son Alfred T. married Loretta Armitage and has managed his father's farm during recent years. Their daughter Celestia is a member of her parents' household. Their daughter Almata is dead.

Mr. Laubach is a Democrat in politics, but is not an active politician in the ordinary sense of the term; but while he is not an office seeker and has refused most of the offices that have been offered to him, he served his fellow townsmen as justice of the peace for three years and as township trustee for six years, and his public spirit is so well developed that he aids to the extent of his ability every movement tending to the public good. He is a member of the German Reformed church and a liberal contributor toward the maintenance of all its interests.

#### JAMES H. MALCOLM.

Honored and respected by all, there is no man in Bucyrus who occupies a more enviable position than did James Harvey Malcolm in industrial and financial circles, not alone on account of the brilliant success he achieved, but also on account of the honorable, straightforward business policy he ever followed. He possessed untiring energy, was quick of perception, formed his plans readily and was determined in their execution, and his close application to business and his excellent management brought to him a high degree of prosperity, so that he left his family in very comfortable circumstances.

Mr. Malcolm was born in Marlboro, Ulster county, New York, October 18, 1827, and was a son of James and Elizabeth (Hayne) Malcolm, who had four sons and seven daughters. The father died when our subject was only eight years of age. The Malcolm family is of Scotch origin and was founded in America by James Malcolm, Sr., the grandfather, who was born in Scotland, November 30, 1786, and was married there. While on the ocean en route for America their only child died, but during their residence in New York three other children were born to them. James Malcolm, Sr., served in the war of 1812 and was aid-de-camp to General Winfield Scott at the battle of Lundy's Lane, while his son, James, was also a soldier in the same contest with Great Britain. There were a series of honorable titles in the old Scotch family and the Malcolms of America have ever been distinguished for the sterling traits of their ancestors.



*J. H. Malcolm*





Owing to his father's death James Harvey Malcolm, of this review, was early thrown upon his own resources. His youth was spent upon a farm and he attended the district schools as he had opportunity, working in a mill mornings and evenings in order to pay his board. The persistence and determination of his Scotch ancestry were thus shown forth, and in later life enabled him to triumph over many obstacles. When he was sixteen years of age he began buying cattle for his brother, who was one of the first to slaughter cattle and send quartered beef down the Hudson river to the New York markets. After three years spent in that way he went to New York city and worked in the Washington market, engaging in selling beef by the quarter, and continuing in that business for five years, during which time he formed the acquaintance of some leading stock-dealers of the Sandusky Plains, including the Monnetts. In 1851 he went to California by the water route, being thirty-six days on the way, which was then considered a very quick trip. He purchased a tract of land in the Santa Clara valley and for one year devoted his attention to the organization and conduct of a ranch, which he then sold for a fair profit. His next venture was on the great Vine ranch, twenty miles below Sacramento, where he gave his attention to the raising and marketing of vegetables. Frequent overflows, however, made the business too uncertain to suit him, and, disposing of his interests, he returned to New York in the winter of 1854.

Again Mr. Malcolm engaged in the cattle business in his native county, but since the time when he had made the acquaintance of Crawford county men several years before, he had been interested in this section of the country and in 1856 he carried out a long cherished desire of casting in his lot with the residents of this part of Ohio. He soon engaged in buying and feeding cattle, in partnership with George Roberts, which connection was maintained for three years. He next rented one of the Monnett farms, and later purchased three hundred and sixty acres, to which he afterward added three hundred acres. He engaged in farming on an extensive scale and his stock interests were equally important. He owned altogether eighteen hundred acres of land, having, as his financial resources increased, made judicious investments in real estate until his holdings were among the most extensive in this part of the state. He also was interested in the cattle business in Kansas, with his son-in-law. In all of his work he was progressive and energetic and his labors brought to him an excellent return. He always followed the most honorable and straightforward business methods, and over the record of his career there has never fallen the suspicion or shadow of wrong.

In 1878 he purchased a home on North Sandusky avenue, in Bucyrus, and located in the city for the convenience of his family, but continued his personal supervision of his farms, driving out nearly every day in all kinds of weather. After some years' residence in the county he became the president of the Monnett Bank, and therein displayed his excellent business ability and keen discernment in his control of financial interests. He gained for the institution a high reputation, which largely increased his patronage and made it one of the most reliable institutions in this part of the state.

On the 4th of November, 1862, Mr. Malcolm was married to Miss Elsie M. Monnett, a daughter of Abraham Monnett, who was the president of the Second National Bank of Bucyrus, in which position he continued up to the time of his death. He was also president of the Farmers' Bank at Marion. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm were born the following children: Catherine E., is the wife of William Mitchell Aye, who formerly resided in Morrow county, but is now a resident of Manhattan, Kansas, in the vicinity of which city he owns a very large ranch. They have one son, Malcolm. Gilbert Farris Malcolm, the second of the family, is residing upon a farm six miles south of Bucyrus. He married Miss Elizabeth Hineman, of Marion and they have two children—James Harvey and Catherine E. The third and youngest of the family is Elmira May, a graduate of the high school, now at home with her mother. The children were all provided with good educational advantages, and the son and both daughters attended the high school in Bucyrus. Mr. Malcolm died June 1, 1900, and thus the community lost a valuable citizen, but the greatest loss was in his home, where he was ever a loving, considerate and devoted husband and father. In early life he was a member of the Methodist church, but after coming to Crawford county united with the Presbyterian church, of which his wife was a member. He took an active part in Christian work, contributed liberally to the support of various churches and was in earnest sympathy with all movements for Christian development. He took an active interest in public affairs pertaining to the general welfare, and co-operated in many movements for the public good. His success was the result of honest effort in the line of honorable and manly dealing. His aim was always to attain to the best, and he carried forward to successful completion whatever he undertook. His life marked a steady growth in material, intellectual and moral development, and he left to his family a handsome fortune and an untarnished name, for his record is one above reproach.

## JACOB MILLER.

The well-known citizen of Lykens township, Crawford county, Ohio, whose name appears above and some account of whose busy career it will be attempted here to give, traces his ancestry to Germany. His father, Christian Miller, was born in the fatherland, in 1824, and acquired the usual public-school education given to youths in his native land. As soon as he left school he began an apprenticeship at the shoemaker's trade. Later he served four years in the German army. In 1849 he came to America, making the voyage on a sailing vessel, which landed in New York City fifty-five days after its departure from its German port.

Going west as far as Ohio, Mr. Miller located at Republic, Seneca county, where he worked a year as a shoemaker. Removing then to Lykens township, Crawford county, he bought an acre of land, upon which he established a home and for five years carried on a shoemaking business. After that he bought eighty acres of land near Lykens, where he farmed and worked at his trade for six years, until he bought his farm on which he died, October 13, 1879. His wife died February 28, 1889, at the age of sixty-six years. They were members of the German Reformed church, and in politics Mr. Miller was a Democrat. When he arrived in Ohio his cash capital consisted of fifty cents, but for some time before he died he was the owner of a fine farm of two hundred acres. In the best sense of that often-abused term he was a self-made man, and his character was such that he commanded the respect of all who knew him. He was the father of nine children, as follows: Jacob, who is the immediate subject of this sketch; Catharine, who is the widow of Richard Dewalt, of Chatfield township; Christian, who lives in Texas township; John and Mary, who died in infancy; Lucy, who married Otto Weisenaure, of Lykens township; Sarah, who is the wife of William Kirges, of Seneca county; Henry D., of Lykens township; and one who died in infancy.

Jacob Miller was born in Bloom township, Seneca county, August 9, 1849, and was a year old when his parents brought him to Lykens township. He remained in his father's household assisting his father on his farm until he was twenty-two years old, when he married Elizabeth Stuckey, daughter of Daniel Stuckey, by whom he has had four children, Charles F.; Lola E., who married Loren Hufford, of Seneca county; Cora, who is at home; and Catharine E., who died in infancy. His wife died December 13, 1884, and he was married October 12, 1893, to Catharine Schaffer, who has borne him a daughter named Mabel L. Miller.

After his first marriage Mr. Miller removed to the farm on which he now lives, and for ten years he and his family lived in a building which he now uses as a cow stable. He owns one hundred and nineteen acres of good land, one hundred acres of which is cleared, and he has improved the farm until it is one of the best in the vicinity. He is a member of the German Reformed church, which he has served faithfully in the office of trustee. Though not a politician in the accepted sense of the term, he is not without authority in the councils of the Democratic party, and has come to be known as a man of much public spirit.

### JACOB SEERY.

Although he has passed the Psalmist's span of three score years and ten, Jacob Seery is yet actively connected with agricultural pursuits, still managing his farming interests which throughout many years have brought to him a good return for his labor, making him one of the well-to-do citizens of Lykens township. He needs no introduction to the readers of this volume, for no representatives of the farming class in this county are more widely or favorably known than the Seery family, that was founded here in 1833, at which time Solomon Seery, Sr., brought his wife and children to Lykens township. The subject of this sketch, then a youth of eight summers, was born in Ross county, Ohio, November 19, 1825, but was reared on the old family homestead here and pursued his education in a log school house, such as was common at that time. To his father he gave the benefit of his services until his marriage, when he began farming on his own account.

On the 22d of January, 1852, Jacob Seery was united in marriage to Miss Lavina A. Coon, and their home was blessed with the presence of four children: Alvaro E., now deceased; De Forrest B., a resident farmer of Lykens township; Lorenzo M. D., deceased; and Reno R., who is with his father and assists him in the operation of the home farm.

After his marriage Mr. Seery removed to the farm upon which he now resides, and it has, therefore, been his home for almost half a century. He has here one hundred and fifty-six acres of good land and owns elsewhere a valuable farm of eighty acres. He has cleared fifty acres of the home place and has made excellent improvements thereon, all of which stand as monuments to the enterprise and thrift of the owner. He is still managing the operation of his fields and the raising of stock, and his activity in business affairs at the age of seventy-six years should put to shame many a man who, grown



weary of the burdens and responsibilities which he should bear, would relegate them to others.

In his political views Mr. Seery is a stalwart Republican, and for three years he served as township trustee. During the Civil war he enlisted in the home guards for five years. In 1864 his regiment was called out, and as a private he went to the scene of conflict. He was mustered in at Camp Chase for one hundred days' service, and with his command went to the defense of Washington, being stationed at Fort Worth, near Alexandria. He is now a member of Roberts Post, No. 672, G. A. R., of Poplar, and has served as senior vice commander. He has always been loyal to the best interests of citizenship, and has taken a deep and active interest in the upbuilding and progress of the county, in which almost his entire life has been passed.

#### CHARLES F. MARGRAFF.

Charles F. Margraff, a well-known and highly esteemed resident of Lykens township, was born in Bucyrus, January 4, 1843, his parents being William H. and Wilhelmina (Reidel) Margraff. The father was a native of Saxony, Germany. In the family were nine children, as follows: Augusta, the widow of the Rev. Robert Graetz, of Bucyrus; Caroline, the widow of the Rev. August Michlalis, of Bucyrus; Emeline, deceased wife of John Linn; Bertha, the wife of John A. Schaber, of Bucyrus; Julia, who married Adam Eugene, of Lykens township; Charles F.; Lottie, the deceased wife of August Brause; Sophia, the wife of Hiram Smith, of Bucyrus; and William H., of Fayette county, Iowa. The father was a shoemaker by trade, and in 1836 came to America on a sailing vessel, arriving at New York City after a voyage of seven weeks. He thence made his way by water to Sandusky, and from there drove across the country with ox-teams to Bucyrus. Establishing a shoemaking shop, he carried on business along that line with good success from 1836 until 1850, when he removed to Lykens township, purchasing the farm upon which Henry Fralick now resides. He purchased land in the Indian reserve and eighty acres near his home, making one hundred and sixty acres in the home farm. He traveled quite extensively in Europe, and while in this county gave his attention to agricultural pursuits, whereby he gained a comfortable competence. He died in January, 1889, at the ripe old age of eighty-three years, while his wife passed away in 1884, when seventy-three years of age. They were members of the Lutheran church, active in its work and deeply interested in the extension of its influence.

Charles F. Margraff was a little lad of seven years when he came with his parents to Lykens township, and in the common schools he acquired his education, which, however, has been largely supplemented by reading, observation and experience, until he is now a well-informed man. He assisted in the work of the home farm until his marriage, when he began farming on his own account. He rented land from 1868 until 1874, and then with the capital he had acquired purchased eighty acres of the old homestead, upon which he resided for four years. On the expiration of that period he removed to the farm upon which he now resides, and the many excellent improvements here stand as monuments to his enterprise, being the visible proof of an energetic, active and honorable career. He owns here one hundred and thirty acres of fine land, of which one hundred acres have been cleared, and he has elsewhere one hundred and sixty-four acres in Lykens township. He carries on general farming and stock-raising, and in both branches of his business is meeting with creditable prosperity. Honesty he regards as the best policy in all trade transactions, and his business career is one unassailable.

On the 19th of December, 1867, Mr. Margraff was married to Miss Leah Miller, and unto them have been born five children: Armetta, the wife of William C. Seele, of Holmes township; Mary Ellen, the wife of O. J. Cory, of Tiffin, Ohio; Ida Irene, wife of Henry D. Miller; Edwin S., deceased; and Charles Clarence, a carpenter by trade, living in Lykens township. The family is one of prominence in the neighborhood, and the hospitality of the best homes of this part of the county is extended to the members of the household. In politics Mr. Margraff is a Democrat, but not strongly partisan. For two terms he served as township trustee, giving excellent satisfaction by his faithful discharge of duties. He is a member of the Evangelical church and a worthy representative of an honored pioneer family whose history has been interwoven with that of Crawford county through many decades.

#### SAMUEL SHUPP.

Among the highly esteemed citizens of Crawford county who have been particularly well known for many years, is Samuel Shupp, a successful agriculturist, a worthy member of a leading religious denomination and an intelligent and progressive citizen. Mr. Shupp was born in Dauphin county, Pennsylvania, August 2, 1828, a son of John and Maria (Yaeger) Shupp, and was one in a family of twelve children, all of whom have passed to the other shore

except Samuel and his sister Mary, the widow of Daniel Fralick, of Lemert, Ohio.

John Shupp was born in Dauphin county, Pennsylvania, while his great-grandfather was born on the sea during the passage of his parents from Germany to America. The father of our subject grew to manhood in the Keystone state and followed the trade of shoemaking. In the fall of 1830, with his wife and a son-in-law, he started from the Pennsylvania home in a one-horse wagon, and finally reached Crawford county, Ohio. They were looking for a suitable location, and before returning Mr. Shupp purchased eighty acres of the farm upon which our subject now resides. He then went back to perfect arrangements for the removal of the family in the following spring. As soon as traveling could be undertaken with safety and comfort, Mr. Shupp, with his wife and children, save the oldest son, who came about one year later, started for Crawford county. They were accompanied by one son-in-law and his two children. They had two wagons, one being a prairie schooner, hauled by a four-horse team. Many of the older members of the family made almost all of the long journey on foot, and finally arrived at the little cabin erected by the former settlers. This was found too small to hold the whole family, but with great cheerfulness beds were made in the corn crib, and when the cabin was full the overflow found peaceful rest after the hard labor of the day within the improvised house. So many hands soon made light the work of erecting a new house of hewn logs, and before long they were all very comfortable. Soon the father entered for his children three farms, of eighty acres each, in Lykens township, and two others, of eighty acres each, in Holmes township, and also entered one eighty-acre tract for a nephew, who shortly followed them to Crawford county. This nephew gave a year of work to Mr. Shupp in pay for the land. Mr. Shupp also purchased twenty-five acres adjoining his land, in this township, and an additional thirty-two acres in Lykens township. His death came in 1863, when he had reached his eighty-first year. During all his life he had actively supported the Democratic party. For many years he was an earnest worker in the German Reformed church, while his wife was just as devoted to the Lutheran faith. Services in all religious denominations were held in those days in the school houses and both parents attended together. The mother survived her husband three or four years, living to be seventy-eight.

Our subject was reared at home, but had few educational advantages on account of the unsettled state of the locality. This lack has long since been remedied. In 1849 he married Miss Mary Young, but a year later the young

wife died, and soon after her infant child also passed away. After his marriage Mr. Shupp settled on a portion of his father's property, which he farmed on shares until he was bereft of his wife and child, when he returned home and soon after began making preparations for a western trip. However, his parents dissuaded him from carrying out this plan, as they were advanced in years, and to gratify them he settled down at home again and took up his old occupations. Later he married Miss Rosanna Schaal, a native of Germany, and then purchased the home farm and had his beloved parents take up their residence with him, giving them filial care and loving attention until their death.

The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Shupp were: John L., of Sandusky, Ohio; Mary A., the wife of Rev. Isaiah Laipply, an Evangelical minister in Nebraska; Simon F., of Marion, Ohio; Sarah J., the widow of Elias Candel, of Lykens township; Rebecca, the wife of C. P. Deervester, of Broken Sword, this county; and Emma, E., the wife of Samuel Cover. Mrs. Shupp died in February, 1863, and on March 31, 1864, Mr. Shupp was married to Miss Elizabeth Gerhart, a native of Lykens township, the daughter of Martin and Eve E. (Lehman) Gerhart, both natives of Germany. They came to Crawford county early in the '30s. Three children were born to this last marriage: Edwin, of Holmes township; Rolandus, a farmer on his father's land in Holmes township; and Bessie B., at home.

Mr. Shupp retains only one hundred acres of land, although he has owned much more. His political belief is in the principles of the Republican party, although prior to the Civil war he was a Democrat. For more than forty years he has been an active and prominent member of the Evangelical church and has faithfully served it as trustee, class-leader, local preacher and in the minor offices, contributing generously to all of its charitable and benevolent enterprises.

#### ANTHONY SMITH.

Anthony Smith is a retired farmer living in New Washington, and his position of financial ease has been won by years of indefatigable labor in the earlier period of his manhood. He was born in Hardin county, Virginia, February 24, 1831, his parents being John and Rebecca (Davis) Smith, of whose family of eight children our subject is the only survivor. The father was born in Virginia, about 1785, and in the Old Dominion was reared to manhood, early becoming familiar with farm work in its various departments.

He married Miss Rebecca Davis, also a native of Virginia, and upon a farm they began their domestic life. In the fall of 1833 they removed to Crawford county, Ohio, and the father entered three hundred acres of land in Chatfield township from the government. At that time there were only two houses in New Washington and no roads had been made through this section of the country, so that the pioneer settlers blazed the trees in order to mark a path through the forest. Mr. Smith erected a hewed-log house in the midst of the wilderness and then began the arduous task of clearing his land and preparing it for the plow. He was a frugal, energetic man, and had placed much of his farm under cultivation at the time of his death, which occurred in 1845.

Anthony Smith, of this review, was then only fourteen years of age. His childhood and youth were passed at home and he received but a limited education, owing to the inadequate school facilities found in the pioneer settlement. After his death our subject and his brothers operated the home place until the time of our subject's marriage, in 1866. He then purchased the interest of the other heirs, becoming the owner of two hundred and twenty-five acres of the old homestead, and from that time until his retirement to private life he was successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits. In the fall of 1867, however, he sold the old home farm and purchased a better improved property comprising one hundred and sixty acres in Cranberry township, where he cultivated the fields until 1878. He then rented his farm and removed to New Washington, purchasing the present home property in which he yet resides.

On the 30th of January, 1866, Mr. Smith was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Koehler, a native of Cranberry township and a daughter of Herman and Martha (Guiss) Koehler. Her father was a native of Helserberg, Germany, born August 2, 1817, and when a lad of twelve years he came to America with his parents, the family settling in Cranberry township, Crawford county, in 1833, being among the first residents of this locality. His wife was born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, February 1, 1825, and on the 12th of November, 1842, she gave her hand in marriage to Mr. Koehler. Her death occurred June 22, 1893. Both were consistent members of the Evangelical Lutheran church and were beloved by all who knew them. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Smith have been born three children, namely: John H., a resident of New Washington; Margaret M., wife of George Longyear, of New Washington; and William H., who is living with his parents.

Mr. Smith exercises his right of franchise in support of Democratic principles. He, too, belongs to the Lutheran church, and is a man of genuine worth, highly regarded for his sterling traits of character. He has made his



home in Crawford county since pioneer days and has witnessed the wonderful changes which have transformed this region from a wild tract into cultivated farms and comfortable homes. He has seen the forests cut away, to be replaced by fields of waving grain, and has watched the introduction of the railroad, the telegraph, the telephone, the business enterprises and industries and all improvements known to the older east. He takes just pride in what his county has accomplished, and is a loyal and public-spirited citizen.

#### FRANK O. SEARS.

Frank O. Sears, a son of Benjamin Sears, a well-known resident of Crawford county, was born on the homestead farm in Bucyrus township, on the 24th of April, 1863, and has always resided in this portion of the state. The first four years of his life were spent on the farm, at the end of which time his parents removed with their family to the city of Bucyrus, where his youthful days were passed. In the public schools there he acquired a fair literary education, and at the age of seventeen years, in partnership with his brother, Rufus V. Sears, he began farming and stock-raising upon his father's land, a short distance west of the city. This partnership continued for five years from the spring of 1880, but since 1885 our subject has operated the farm alone, and is now accounted one of the leading agriculturists and stock-raisers of the county.

On the 20th of May, 1891, Mr. Sears wedded Miss Elizabeth Walker, a daughter of L. L. Walker, and four children have been born unto them, namely: Sallie M., Melissa M., Benjamin and Annie B. In politics Mr. Sears is a Republican. His life is a busy and useful one, and the capable manner in which he manages his farm has brought to him a good financial reward for his labor.

#### PETER SEERY.

In pioneer days Peter Seery came to Crawford county and has been an interested witness of the growth and development of this portion of the state since that time. He has borne his part in the work of upbuilding and progress, and has aided in transforming the wild land into beautiful homes and farms. He well deserves mention among the pioneer settlers, and gladly we present the record of his life to our readers.

Mr. Seery was born in Ross county, Ohio, near Chillicothe, October 5,

1818, his parents being Solomon and Magdeline (Vangundy) Seery. The father was born in Pennsylvania, and when young went to Ross county. After arriving at years of maturity he married Miss Vangundy, and unto them were born twelve children: Mary, John, David, Peter, Samuel, Ann, Solomon, Magdeline, Jacob, Francis, Jeremiah and one that died in infancy. The only ones now living are Peter, Solomon, Jacob and Francis.

In the spring of 1833, accompanied by his two oldest children, the father came to Crawford county, making the journey by ox team. He located in Lykens township, entering eighty acres of land from the government, and erected thereon a log cabin, built of split logs and containing but one room. He spent the summer in clearing his land and in the fall returned to Ross county for his wife and the other members of the family. Again the journey was made with ox teams, and here in true pioneer style the Seery family began life, sharing in the trials and experiences of the frontier. Later the father entered a quarter section of land from the government, and throughout the remainder of his life successfully carried on agricultural pursuits. He was a progressive and public-spirited citizen, who aided in laying out the roads, organizing the school districts and otherwise promoting the work of public progress and improvement. He served as township trustee and in other local offices, and his labors in behalf of the community proved of great value. He was a member of, and active worker in, the United Brethren church until his death, which occurred in 1861, when he was seventy-two years of age. His wife, who survived him thirteen years, was also a consistent member of the United Brethren church.

The subject of this review was a youth of fourteen when he came with his parents to this county. He aided in the work of clearing and developing the land and in an early day engaged in hauling grain. He remained on the farm with his father until twenty-seven years of age, when he was married and removed to the farm upon which he now resides. Only a few acres had been cleared at that time and the home was a primitive log cabin. To-day he owns one hundred and thirty acres of valuable land, constituting a fine farm, splendidly improved.

Mr. Seery first wedded Margaret Pennington, and unto them were born five children, namely: Mary F., now deceased; William H., a carpenter residing in Kansas; Williard W., of Polk county, Wisconsin; Rhoda M., wife of James Delinger, a stock-buyer of Lykens township; and Phoebe J., wife of John Kannel.

Mr. Seery married Sarah Livensparger, a native of Richland county,

Ohio. The family attended the United Brethren church, of which Mr. Seery is an earnest and active member, having served therein as steward and trustee and aided in every possible way in advancing its growth and extending its influence.

### GEORGE SHROLL.

The time has gone by when the life of a farmer was one of toil with discouraging and depressing surroundings. At present no class of citizens are so independent or so comfortably fixed as are the farmers of a county like that of Crawford, Ohio. Among the well-improved and productive farms and commodious and attractive residences is that owned by George Sholl, farmer and stock-raiser, in Bucyrus township. His birth was in this county, October 18, 1855, and his parents were Levi and Barbara (Wisman) Shroll, both of German descent.

Levi Shroll was born in Pennsylvania and came to Crawford county with his parents, and later married Barbara Wisman, whose family has notice in another part of this volume. Five children were born of this union, two of whom died in childhood, and one, Sarah, died at the age of twenty-one. Maria is the wife of Frederick Trisk, of Todd township, our subject being the only other survivor. The mother died when George was but an infant of one and one-half years. After marriage the father had settled on our subject's present farm, and here he died in 1876, having been a successful farmer and respected citizen.

Reared on the farm and educated in the public schools, George Shroll grew to self-respecting manhood, and by the time he was prepared to set up a household of his own he most thoroughly understood the science of farming from practical experience. In 1881 he married Leatie Conkle, the only daughter of Nicholas and Susan Conkle, a pioneer and one of the most successful farmers of this county, who was born in Bucyrus township. In 1879 he moved to Sedalia, Missouri, and died January 11, 1885. The mother and five brothers of Mrs. Shroll all live in Missouri. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Shroll: Clarence C., Jesse E. and Raymond.

The land owned by Mr. Shroll shows its fine cultivation on every side, and his flocks cover many fields, as he is largely interested in the raising of sheep. The stranger is immediately impressed with the air of neatness and thrift which pervades the surroundings of Mr. Shroll, his buildings being modern in style and finish and models of their kind. For many years he has been

a leading member and willing supporter of the United Brethren church and is deservedly popular among his acquaintances, and through the township is known as honest, upright and industrious.

### THOMAS TOBIN.

The name of Tobin is a familiar one in Crawford county, for through many years its representatives have been actively connected with its agricultural interests and have been promoters of the progress and development of this portion of the state. Thomas Tobin, of this review, was born in Letter Kenny county, Donegal, Ireland, about 1822. Little is known concerning the ancestral history of the family, for during his early boyhood his parents died within one week of typhoid fever.

After the death of his parents Thomas Tobin found a home with his uncle, John Gibson, where he remained until his twentieth year. Then, in connection with his brother William, he rented a field and raised a crop of flax. With the sale of this crop and through other means the brothers acquired enough money to enable one of them to come to America, and as William was the elder our subject turned over his money to him, with the agreement that William was to send for Thomas when he had earned the sum sufficient to pay the latter's passage to the new world. In 1844 our subject started for the United States, landing in Philadelphia on the 3d of July, after seven weeks spent on the bosom of the Atlantic. Two weeks later he came to Ohio, making the trip by rail to Johnstown, thence by canal to Pittsburg and on to Wooster, Ohio, by stage. From that place to Rome he continued the journey on foot. During the succeeding autumn he went to work for a Mr. Haymaker, in Franklin township, Richland county, by whom his brother William was employed, and for a year continued in that service, receiving the meager compensation of three dollars per month for his services. He next went to Mansfield, where he engaged in carpentering for two years, and in the spring of 1847 he returned to Franklin township, entering into partnership with his former employer, Mr. Haymaker, the connection being maintained until late in the succeeding autumn. Their relation being then severed, Mr. Tobin continued carpentering and building on his own account until after his marriage, when he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits.

On the 6th of April, 1849, was celebrated the marriage of our subject and Miss Elizabeth Shilling, a native of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, and a daughter of David and Anna (Hollister) Shilling, both of whom were natives

of Germany and came from Pennsylvania to Crawford county, Ohio, about 1847. During the years of a happy married life eight children have come to bless the home of Mr. and Mrs. Tobin, and the family circle yet remains unbroken by the hand of death. The children are: Anna Mary, widow of Samuel Springer, of Cranberry township; William James, who conducts a blacksmith shop in New Washington; David Elmer, a resident farmer of Cranberry township; John Franklin, who is proprietor of a grocery store in New Washington; Margorie E., wife of Allison Bittikoffer, of Bucyrus; Thomas G., of Canyon City, Colorado; Eva E., at home; and Clement L., who is living in Denver, Colorado.

For a year after his marriage Mr. Tobin resided upon the farm which adjoins his present home place, and then purchased the eighty acres which he has since improved and cultivated. He first erected a log cabin in the midst of the forest and removed to his home, the family experiencing many of the trials and hardships of pioneer life during the early days in which he was gaining a start. After some years he erected his present substantial residence and other farm buildings and has since carried on the work of development and improvement, until the property is now very valuable. In politics he is a Democrat and in religious faith is an English Lutheran. Strong purpose and indefatigable energy have been the means of bringing to him success in life, and he is now numbered among the men of affluence and among the leading and influential citizens of Cranberry township.

#### HUGH M. CORY.

Hugh M. Cory has a wide acquaintance in Crawford county and enjoys the highest esteem of his fellow townsmen. He makes his home in New Washington and is one of its representative citizens, well deserving representation in this volume.

Mr. Cory was born in Cranberry township, Crawford county, December 28, 1845, and comes of one of the old New England families of Scotch descent. Early in the seventeenth century three brothers of Scotch birth emigrated from the land of hills and heather, and braving the danger incident to an ocean voyage in that early period of trans-Atlantic navigation, came to America. Aaron Cory, one of these brothers, soon after settling in the Massachusetts colony, was married and for many years continued his residence in Massachusetts. One of his descendants, though in what generation is not known, was Nathan Cory and his eldest son was Joseph Cory. An-



other link in the family history is missing, but we have record of John Cory, who about 1725 removed to Trenton, New Jersey. He married Elizabeth Brown, who was also of Scotch descent, and the eldest of their large family of children was Thomas Cory, who was born in New Jersey, in 1734, and when thirty-six years of age was united in marriage to Miss Mary Wallace, by whom he had three sons and three daughters. One of these sons was Aaron Cory, the paternal grandfather of our subject.

Aaron Cory was born in New Jersey, in the year 1773, and near the close of the eighteenth century located in Washington county, Pennsylvania. In that state he was married to Elizabeth McGuire in 1798. In 1802 he emigrated westward to Ohio, settling in Tuscarawas county, where he remained for a number of years, or until about 1819, when he took up his abode in Ashland county. There he remained for seven years and in 1826 came to Crawford county, casting in his lot among its pioneer settlers. He made his home in Cranberry township, entering a tract of land from the government and there he began the development of a farm. In addition to his farming operations Aaron Cory labored earnestly for the spiritual uplifting of his fellow men. He was an ordained minister of the Methodist Episcopal church, possessed great personal magnetism and an undaunted will and did a vast amount of good in founding and encouraging the church and Sunday-school organizations. He died in 1834, in the sixty-first year of his age.

Since 1826 the Corys have been among the most distinguished and leading citizens in the northeastern part of Crawford county. Thomas Cory, a son of Aaron Cory and the father of our subject, was a man of great natural ability and served with marked fidelity in various positions of honor and trust. He was born in New Jersey, in 1810, was reared under the parental roof, and when about twenty-five years of age married Esther G. Brown, who was born in Nescopeck, Luzerne county, Pennsylvania, in 1808, her parents being James and Mary Brown, natives of Pennsylvania and representatives of Dutch ancestry. They came to Ohio at an early period in its development, locating in Auburn township, Crawford county, whence they afterward removed to Van Wert county, where the maternal grandfather of our subject was accidentally killed while hauling logs. At the time of his marriage Thomas Cory began his career as a farmer on a little tract of land of twenty acres in Auburn township. After some time his success enabled him to increase his landed possessions, and, selling his first property, he purchased the farm now owned by T. B. Carson, comprising one hundred and sixty acres in Cranberry township. Thereon he made his home until his death, which

occurred in 1854. Six years previous his constitution had been broken down by the suffering caused from milk sickness. He was a stanch member of the Methodist Episcopal church and was a Democrat in his political affiliations, but was never an office seeker. Unto Thomas and Esther Cory were born seven children, of whom six are yet living, namely: Mary E. is now the wife of James Morrow, of Auburn township. James E. is a dealer in oil and gas lands in Marion, Indiana, and was for four years representative from his county in the state legislature. He was the author of several important enactments, which passed both the house and the senate. Robert W. is a veteran of the Civil war, serving for three years as a member of Company C, Sixty-fifth Ohio Infantry, and is now a farmer living at Galena, Missouri. Hugh M. is the next younger. Sarah E. is the wife of Henry C. Martin, a farmer of Montgomery county, Kansas. Susan N. is the wife of John Morrow, an agriculturist of Auburn township. The second member of the family was Thomas C. Cory, a veteran of the Civil war, who afterward became a prominent attorney of Kansas, but died in that state, as the result of his wounds, in 1888.

Hugh M. Cory spent his childhood days under the parental roof and acquired his education in the district schools. On the return of his brothers from the army the burden of the farm work and management was taken from his shoulders and he was then able to acquire a better education, so that in 1864 he entered Lexington Seminary, where he pursued his studies during the summer months for four years. In the winter season he engaged in teaching in order to pay his tuition. He was also a student for one term in the Delaware University. In April, 1870, he went to Kansas, and shortly afterward, on account of the building of the two branches of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railroad, he went to Parsons, Kansas, which was at the junction of the two railroads and there the company purchased four sections of land, laying out the town of Parsons. Believing that the new town would prove a desirable place Mr. Cory and his brother hastened thither, acquiring some property, and for eight years Mr. Cory, of this review, was engaged in the real-estate business at that point, while his brother practiced law. Our subject read law with his brother in his leisure hours, but never applied for admission to the bar. However, during that time he argued many cases before the justice court and was very successful in law work. In August, 1878, he sold his real estate in Kansas and returned to Ohio, soon afterward locating in New Washington, where he engaged in the real-estate and fire insurance business. In 1882 he was elected justice of the peace, and

with but two or three terms intermission has continuously filled the position since that time. In 1885 he was elected mayor of New Washington and served for fourteen consecutive years in that office. He has a record for public service that is scarcely paralleled and no comment need be made concerning his ability and fidelity, for this is indicated by his long continuance in office. Mr. Cory was one of the founders of the Settlers' Advocate, a weekly publication in the interests of the settlers, as well as real-estate men.

In 1886 occurred the marriage of our subject and Miss Carrie F. Baker, a native of Crawford county and a daughter of George W. Baker, a prominent farmer of Vernon township. Six children have been born unto them: Hazel, now deceased; Minnie M., who born in 1888; a son who died in infancy; Thomas, born in 1894; Lois, born in 1898; and Mary E., born on the 1st of May, 1899. The parents hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church and Mr. Cory is one of the well known and highly esteemed residents of New Washington.

#### GEORGE STUCKEY.

While Germans and men of German extraction have won success in nearly every walk of life, they have been especially successful as farmers, a fact that has been amply demonstrated by farmers of German blood in Crawford county, Ohio, notably in Lykens township, where George Stuckey and others have made records which distinguish them above many other well-to-do farmers in the county.

George Stuckey was born in Lykens township, Crawford county, Ohio, on the same farm which is now his home, August 19, 1867, a son of Carl Stuckey, a native of Bavaria, Germany, born in 1821. Carl Stuckey, who was a blacksmith by trade, came to America in 1847 and landed in New York City, after forty days' voyage on an old-fashioned sailing vessel. From New York he went to Sandusky, Ohio, where for a time he was employed at railway construction. Removing to Bloom township, Seneca county, he worked as a farm hand for several years by the month until he was able to buy eighty acres of land in Lykens township, Crawford county. The land was heavily timbered and he made a clearing on it and built a log house, in which he lived until 1864, when he removed to the farm on which he died, January 22, 1899. He was twice married. His first wife, Mary Keiffer, bore him two children: Henry, who lives in Seneca county, and Mary, who married John Ohl. His second wife was Laura Kellar, and they had eight

children, as follows: Lena, who is the wife of Frank Dennis, of Seneca county, Ohio; Charles, who is a well-known citizen of Texas township, Crawford county; Elizabeth, the wife of Lewis Young, of Lykens township; Hattie, who married Charles Mohr, of Lykens township; George, who is the immediate subject of this sketch and the next in order of birth; William J., a respected citizen of Texas township; Laura, who married Cyrus Ohl, of Seneca county; and Nellie, who makes her home with George and is a student at Heidelberg College, at Tiffin, Ohio. The mother of these children died in September, 1893.

George Stuckey was brought up to work on the farm and received a practical education in the common schools near his home. In 1890 he rented his father's homestead, which has been his home to the present time. He owns one hundred and sixty acres of good land and gives his attention to general farming and stock-raising. He is a member of the German Reformed church and in politics he is a Democrat. He has never been active as a politician and has never sought any public office, but he exerts a good influence in a political way and his public spirit has led him to identify himself with many movements, which he believed promised to benefit his fellow citizens.

Mr. Stuckey was married February 28, 1896, to Miss Etta Boomershine, and has a boy named Glenn.

### SAMUEL SNYDER.

Samuel Snyder, who resides on one of the fine farms of Todd township, and is one of the highly esteemed and useful citizens of Crawford county, Ohio, was born in Holmes township, on November 17, 1836. He was a son of Rudolph and Anna (Schlabach) Snyder, who had six children, our subject and his brother John, of Henry county, Ohio, being the only ones remaining.

Born in Berne, Germany, about 1800, Rudolph Snyder grew up in his native land and was thoroughly instructed in the trade of carpenter, and married an estimable lady in his neighborhood. Starting with his wife and three children for the United States, in 1836, he reached this country with his wife and only one of the children, as two of the little ones died on the voyage and were buried at sea. Not only did Mr. Snyder and his wife have to suffer from this double bereavement, but the voyage was one of storm and danger, after sixty-four days being towed into New York harbor by a passing vessel, their own sails having been washed away.

Mr. and Mrs. Snyder made their way to Bucyrus, Ohio, where many of their countrymen resided, and with them found sympathy and remained there for six months. Their means were limited and Mr. Snyder was able to buy but nine acres of land. This was covered with timber, but on it Mr. Snyder dug a cave, improvised a roof and lived here for the following two years, and then built a substantial and comfortable hewed-log house, in which he resided until 1856, when he removed to what was known as the Hall farm, which he rented for three years. That Mr. Snyder was frugal, energetic and industrious may be inferred from the fact that about this time he was financially able to purchase eighty acres of timber land, in Todd township, this being the farm upon which our subject now resides. During these succeeding three years, by working on moonlight nights and taking advantage of every holiday, receiving some assistance from his little sons, Mr. Snyder succeeded in clearing up ten acres, and in 1859 he built a portion of the present handsome farm residence and here he lived until his death, in 1879. His faithful wife, who has endured all his trials and cheered him through the years of their companionship, survived him only eight days. They were most worthy people and were members of the Lutheran church, while in politics he was in sympathy with the Democratic party, although he never took any active interest in public affairs.

The subject of this sketch, Samuel Snyder, grew to sturdy manhood, strengthened by the hardships of pioneer life, and became a most important factor in the clearing of the farm, and in 1860 bought twenty acres, which adjoined his father's purchase. Two years later he was married to Miss Catherine Spiegel, who was a native of Germany and a daughter of Christopher Spiegel, who came to Ohio from his German home and settled in Todd township about 1860. After marriage our subject began housekeeping on his little farm and worked also at the carpenter's trade and built many of the largest barns in this section of the township, although he never served any apprenticeship, having inherited the capacity for mechanical skill from his father.

In 1879, when the parents of Mr. Snyder died, the home farm, which had been acquired with so much industry and economy by his father, and upon which he had worked through many a year, came into his possession, while his brother John took a farm in Henry county, in which our subject also had an interest. Since that time Mr. Snyder and family have lived on the old homestead, now one of the most valuable properties in this part of the township. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Snyder, namely:



Hygeia, the wife of Joseph Hilborn, of Bucyrus; Hattie, the wife of George Allbright, of Todd township; Charles, at home; and Bertha, the wife of Benjamin Beall, of Bucyrus township, in this county.

Mr. Snyder is inclined to favor the Democratic party in politics, but he is liberal-minded, and frequently votes for the man instead of the party. He is one of the highly respected citizens of this township, and a most worthy representative of the honest and persevering parents who so bravely battled through poverty and misfortune and won the esteem of all with whom they came in contact.

### WILLIAM GLEDHILL.

There are few farmers in Jefferson township, Crawford county, Ohio, who are better or more favorably known than William Gledhill, who was born March 12, 1838, in Jefferson township, Crawford county (then Richland county), Ohio, a son of Joseph and Mary (Mitchell) Gledhill.

Joseph Gledhill was born September 11, 1799, at Browbridge, Othersfield, Yorkshire, England; married at Leicester, England, in the year 1824, Mary Mitchell; moved to America in 1826, and located in Trumbull county, Ohio. Being a carder by trade, he ran a woolen factory for five years, then removed to Youngstown and engaged again at his trade, and from Youngstown he came to Crawford county, in 1832, and bought a farm, where he resided until his death, at the age of sixty-eight years. His wife, who bore him eleven children, attained the advanced age of eighty-four years. The following facts concerning the children of Joseph and Mary (Mitchell) Gledhill are pertinent to the purpose of this sketch. Eight of them grew to manhood and womanhood. Elizabeth, the eldest, married David Snyder and they have both passed away. Mary married Perry Russell and lives at Midletown, Ohio. Esther married John Shoemaker and is dead. Martha, who became the wife of Colonel Calvin Burwell, is also dead. Sarah married Henry Castle and lives in Jefferson township. John married Susan Burgin and died in 1883. Joseph is a prominent citizen of Jefferson township. William is the immediate subject of this sketch.

William Gledhill was born and reared on his father's old homestead in Jefferson township, of which he took charge at the age of nineteen years, of which he is now the owner and on which he has lived all his life. He owns one hundred and seventy acres of well improved and very productive land and gives his attention to general farming and stock-raising. A Republican

in politics, he has taken an active interest in local affairs and has held the office of township trustee for eleven years, with some intervals, and is its incumbent at this time, and his interest in good roads has been such that he has for many years been kept in the office of road supervisor. He is a member of the Junior Order of American Mechanics.

Mr. Gledhill was married April 10, 1873, to Miss Rebecca Gilliland and they have five children, named Olive, Esther, Edward, Tacy and Cleo Hazel. Edward married Miss Idessa Deam and lives in Jefferson township.

### JOHN KELLER.

One of the fertile and valuable farms of Crawford county is the property of John Keller, one of the leading agriculturists of his locality. He is a native of Ashland county, Ohio, born on the 3d of April, 1843, a son of Henry and Maria (Geip) Keller. The father was born in Northampton county, Pennsylvania, in 1816, and when fourteen years of age came with his parents to Ashland county, Ohio. In 1847 he took up his residence in Crawford county, settling in Todd township, where he purchased eighty acres of land, but seven years later he sold that tract and purchased one hundred and thirty-three and a third acres north of Osceola, also in Todd township, where he spent the remainder of his life, passing away on the 1st of June, 1899. He was a Democrat in his political views and was a member of the German Baptist church. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Keller were born seven children, five of whom still survive: Hettie, the wife of W. V. Fagin, of Sycamore, Ohio; John, of this review; Sarah, the wife of J. A. Welsh, of Wyandot county, Ohio; Nancy, the wife of Samuel Keifer, of Osceola; and Elias, a resident of Todd township. After the death of the mother of these children the father was again married, Miss Mary Baker becoming his wife, and they had one son, William, who resides at Lemert, Todd township.

John Keller, whose name introduces this review, acquired a limited education in the old log school house of his district. In February, 1864, he enlisted for service in the Civil war, becoming a member of Company E, Thirty-fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He took part in the Lynchburg raid, was with Sheridan in the second engagement at Winchester, and took part in the battles of Berryville, Cedar Creek, Fisher's Hill and many other engagements of the war. He was captured at Beverly, Virginia, on the 8th of January, 1865, and was sent to Libby prison, where, after forty days, he was paroled and exchanged, after which he returned to his home on a thirty

days furlough. On the expiration of that period he returned to his command, and on the 31st of July, 1865, received his honorable discharge at Columbus and returned to his home. Mr. Keller then worked for his father until the following December, when he went to Michigan and worked as a farm hand there for one year. Again returning to his home, he then took charge of the old homestead, which he worked on the shares, and in August, 1872, he purchased his present farm of sixty acres, where he has since resided.

In 1866 Mr. Keller was united in marriage with Miss Sarah L. McCreary, a native of Lorain county, Ohio, and a daughter of John McCreary. They have had two children, but only one is now living, Eva L., the wife of J. C. Frost, who is serving as postmaster of Osceola. Our subject is liberal in his political views, but gives his preference to the Democracy. He is one of the most successful men of his community and is regarded as one of its well-to-do citizens.

#### ALBERT HAMMOND.

Albert Hammond was one of the honored pioneers of this portion of Ohio, and for many years was identified with agricultural interests here. He was a native of Cayuga county, New York, born February 25, 1813, and was a son of George and Sarah (White) Hammond. His father, at a very early period in the development of Crawford county, emigrated westward, settling near Tiro, where he entered one hundred and sixty acres of land from the government and began the arduous task of developing a new farm, and there lived and died.

Mr. Hammond, the subject of this sketch, married Miss Catherine Groesbeck, who was born October 4, 1813, and they became the parents of six children: Almira; Alvira; Philora, deceased; Orlando, deceased; Ellen Delora; and Lucy. In 1834 our subject removed to Lykens township and settled where Jacob Breode now lives. He entered the land from the government, built a log cabin and began to clear and improve the farm, which he transformed into a desirable property, the fields yielding to him good harvests. There he resided until 1875, when he removed to the farm upon which he spent his remaining days, his death occurring when he was seventy-two years of age. He was actively concerned in the work of public progress and improvement. Indians were still to be seen in this part of the state when he came to the county and the work of progress and improvement seemed scarcely begun. He helped to lay out roads, build school houses and assisted

in building the Baptist church. No work calculated to advance the general welfare sought his aid in vain and he was widely known as a most valuable citizen. He held various township offices, ever discharging his duties most faithfully, and wherever he was known he was held in the highest regard by reason of his upright life and fidelity to principle.

Almira, the eldest child of Albert Hammond, was born in Lykens township, Crawford county, Ohio, May 12, 1835, and has spent her entire life in the county. She has been twice married. She first wedded James Miller, and they had four children: Albert, a merchant of Plankton, Ohio; Izora A., wife of Elbridge Tippin, of Kansas; Elbert P. and Francis M. The last two learned blacksmithing and located in Tiffin, Ohio, where the younger was killed by a kick from a horse in July, 1901. After the death of her first husband Mrs. Miller gave her hand in marriage to Jacob Johnston, and they had two sons, one dying in infancy, and the surviving one is Corma E., at home with his mother.

Mrs. Johnston owns eighty-two acres, which is cultivated by her youngest son, and the farm is now in good condition. The mother and son are both members of the Baptist church. Mrs. Johnston is a milliner by trade and has engaged in business along that line to a considerable extent. She is one of the worthy and honored pioneer ladies of the county, representing a prominent family, and is held in high regard for her many estimable characteristics.

#### HENRY R. LINN.

As one of the largest land-owners and most substantial citizens of Crawford county, Henry R. Linn occupies a prominent position, although there are many who can recall the day when his only capital was an abundance of energy, an industrious and willing nature and an honesty, which his worthy parents had taught him while still a child.

Mr. Linn was born in Holmes township, in Crawford county, on April 12, 1840, and was a son of Philip and Christina (Holcher) Linn. They were born in Wurtemberg, Germany, and were married in their native land, and there their oldest son, John, was born. John Linn is now a prosperous farmer of Chatfield township. In 1833, when John was but three years old, Mr. and Mrs. Linn came to America and settled on a farm in Holmes township, where the rest of the children were born, these being: William, who died in 1862; Mary, who married Andrew Green, of Liberty township; Henry R.; Philip, who resides in Marion county, Ohio; Jacob, who also resides in Marion

county; Charles, who lives in Bucyrus; and Elizabeth, who is unmarried. The mother died in 1870, at the age of sixty-five, the father surviving until he was eighty-two. These worthy and pious parents reared their children in the German Lutheran church and did their best to give them a common-school education.

Until he was fifteen years old Henry Linn remained at home, but the family was large and he early decided to look out for himself, and for five or six years he worked by the month and then bought a team and as a renter engaged in farming. For about eight years he rented farms and finally bought a tract of one hundred and thirty acres in Holmes township, but never located on that land. After owning it for some three or four years he sold it and bought one hundred and fifty-six acres in Dallas township, upon which he moved, and there he lived for two years, erecting a house and barns, with other outbuildings and putting it into perfect repair. This enabled him to sell at a good profit and then he bought a fine estate, consisting of three hundred and twenty acres in Dallas township, where he now lives. Here he has built one of the most attractive residences in this locality, and one of those barns so necessary upon a farm where large operations are successfully carried on, and has made other improvements, both to beautify and increase the value of his property. Since this purchase he has added ninety acres and now owns four hundred and ten acres of some of the finest land in the county.

In 1877 Mr. Linn married Miss Alice Martin, the daughter of Henry and Elizabeth (Miller) Martin, pioneers of Crawford county. To Mr. and Mrs. Linn three daughters and one son have been born: Grace E., who has taught several terms of school; Gertie, who has also proved herself a fine teacher; Helen and Ora. With his wife and children he belongs to the Methodist church, where all are highly valued. Mr. Linn has been a life-long Democrat and has efficiently served for two years as township treasurer.

Henry Martin, the father of Mrs. Linn, was born in Richland county, Ohio, on January 12, 1826, and was a son of Charles Martin, a pioneer of Richland county, who later lived in Crawford county and then removed to Huron county, where he died. His ancestry was German.

Mr. Martin was married to Elizabeth Miller, in 1853, in Marion county, Ohio, where Mrs. Martin's parents were then living. She was born there. Her parents, also of German descent, were early settlers of Marion county. To Mr. and Mrs. Martin ten children were born, all of whom survive and are George W., Alice J., Mary J., Effie A., Sarah Ellen, Ida May, Viola I.,



Charles E., Harry J. and Blanche I. The lamented death of Mr. Martin occurred on August 19, 1891, and his widow lives on the old home place.

In 1857 Mr. Martin moved to Dallas township, Crawford county, and established the home upon which his widow now resides. By trade he was a carpenter, but he worked at it very little after coming to this county. In business he was fairly successful. He took a great interest in the Democratic party and for several years was justice of the peace and township treasurer. He was held in high esteem in the Methodist church, of which he was a worthy member.

### JEFFERSON MARQUART.

Jefferson Marquart is a representative of a well-known family of Crawford county, whose members have ever been people of sterling worth, well meriting the high regard in which they are uniformly held. Throughout his entire life he has been identified with agricultural pursuits in his native county. His birth occurred on the old family homestead, where his father now resides, his natal day being October 4, 1858. He is a son of Michael Marquart, of whom extended mention is made on another page of this work. During his youth he had the influences of a good home and was enabled to acquire a practical English education in the common schools. He received training in the work of the fields and meadows and was thus fitted for carrying on business on his own account. On the 23d of May, 1882, he was united in marriage to Miss Margaret Riedel, a native of Chatfield township, and a daughter of Conrad Riedel, one of the pioneer settlers of Crawford county, now residing in New Washington.

After his marriage Mr. Marquart and his bride located upon his father's land in Seneca county and operated that farm, while he and his brother August also carried on the home farm, the partnership continuing for one year. In the succeeding autumn Jefferson Marquart removed to his present home of eighty acres, which his father had purchased only a short time previous. Here he has since resided, his time and attention being given to agricultural pursuits. Everything about his place is neat and thrifty in appearance and in his farming operations he is meeting with creditable prosperity. For eight years he ran a thresher, but in 1899 disposed of his interests in that business. The many excellent improvements which he has made upon his farm have transformed it into one of the valuable farm properties in this portion of the county.

In 1884 Mr. Marquart was called upon to mourn the loss of his first wife, who died on the 22d of May, and their only child is also deceased. On the 2d of January, 1887, he was again married, his second union being with Miss Mary E. Shade, a native of Seneca county, Ohio, and a daughter of William and Anna (Deisler) Shade, both of whom were natives of Seneca county, Ohio. Her paternal grandfather, Samuel Shade, was born in Pennsylvania and came to Seneca county, Ohio, among the first of its pioneer settlers. Her maternal grandfather, Charles Deisler, also cast in his lot with the early residents of that community when it was a frontier region, he having emigrated to the new world from Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Marquart now have one child, Rosa A. C., who was born December 20, 1887. In his political views Mr. Marquart is liberal, although he usually supports the Democracy. He and his family are very highly esteemed people and are consistent members of the Lutheran church. Their circle of friends is extensive and their own home is well known for its cordial and sincere hospitality.

#### ROYAL R. ROSS.

The Ross family, to which our subject, Royal Resolved Ross, who is a leading citizen of Crawford county, Ohio, traces his ancestry, originated in Scotland, from which country his great-grandfather came generations ago, settling in Pomfret, Connecticut, among the early settlers. The grandfather was a well known physician there who later removed with his family to Otsego county, New York, where the father of our subject grew to manhood and married; in 1825 he came to Crawford county. The parents of our subject, Abel C. and Celia (Emmons) Ross, had a family of four children, but our subject is the only survivor. Two died in infancy and one daughter, Phoebe Alzina married William Cuykendall, who at death left four children, viz.: Ross, Dorr, Edessa and William R.

Abel Ross was born in Pomfret, Connecticut, in 1800, and was a son of Royal Ross. After his marriage in the state of New York he came to Crawford county, Ohio, and settled on the farm in Auburn township, which is now the property of Alfred C. Ross, and here he entered eighty acres of land, and in later years added thirty-two and one-half acres to the original purchase. At that time it was virgin forest, but he worked hard and succeeded in clearing it up, and lived in the log cabin, which he built upon it, until our subject was eighteen years of age. Then Mr. Ross built a commodious and comfortable frame residence, and lived here until his death.

The mother of Mr. Ross, of this sketch, died when he was only four years old. By a later marriage, to Miss Laura A. Carlisle, three more children were added to the family,—Byron H., Celia A. and Alfred C., the last named residing on the home farm. In his early years Mr. Ross was a Whig, and later naturally connected himself with the Republican party. Although not a member, he was a supporter of the Baptist church, and was known as a man of probity and Christian life and character.

Royal R. Ross was born in Auburn township, Crawford county, Ohio, on November 25, 1832, and he was a son of Abel C. and Celia (Emmons) Ross, as mentioned above. He grew up on the home farm and acquired his education in the common schools, all of his attendance, with two years' exception, being in the pioneer log hut, with slabs for benches and with a puncheon floor, over which the little barefooted children had to walk with circumspection, always being in danger of splinters. When he had reached the age of nineteen years our subject began to work for neighboring farmers, assisting in the haying and harvesting, and was a welcome hand for the following four years, being strong and willing.

About 1855, desiring to see something of the world, Mr. Ross went to Charlotte, Michigan, and worked through one year in a sawmill there, going then to Marion, in Linn county, Iowa, where he was employed during the next year on a farm. A party of friends desired Mr. Ross to accompany them to Kansas, and he bought a horse and made his way to Independence, Missouri, where he joined them, but the party was detained some weeks and our subject in the meantime found temporary employment. They all reached Neosho Falls, Kansas, but finally decided to turn back. Mr. Ross returned with them to Ohio, and found business conditions better in his native place than in other sections of the country. In 1858 he entered into a partnership with Samuel Hilborn and Samuel Wynn and they built a steam sawmill in this township, and this enterprise was successfully conducted for seven years. During this time Mr. Ross bought a farm of one hundred acres, known as the Williams farm, later trading this for one of eighty acres, located near the mill. Two years later he sold this property to advantage and bought eighty acres, where he now resides, selling the mill at this time and removing to his present property, where he now owns one hundred and twenty acres of well-improved and highly cultivated land. Forty acres of desirable land our subject gave to his sons.

The marriage of Mr. Ross was in 1860, to Miss Mary A. Aumena, and to this union five children were born, their names being as follows:

Emmons W., who is a farmer in this township; William B., who is a farmer of Richland county, Ohio; Fred R., who is a resident of Bloomville, Ohio; and Amelia A. and Howard, who have passed away.

In politics Mr. Ross is a Republican and has filled a number of the local offices with credit to himself, notably those of justice of the peace for two terms and some five terms as township trustee. He is a member of the Methodist church, in which he is both trustee and class-leader and to which he contributes most liberally. Mr. Ross is highly respected as a self-made man and as one of sterling character, upright and honorable in his citizenship and esteemed in every relation of life.

#### GILBERT F. MALCOLM.

A busy, useful and successful career has been that of Gilbert Ferris Malcolm, who is one of Crawford county's native sons and who has throughout his entire life been connected with the agricultural and stock-raising interests of this locality. He stands to-day as one of the leading representatives of this department of labor and in his business affairs he is meeting with splendid success.

A son of James Harvey and Elsie M. (Monnett) Malcolm, he was born on a farm in the southeastern portion of Bucyrus township, April 29, 1865, and there the days of his youth were passed. His father was an extensive farmer and stock-raiser and early he became familiar with the best methods of caring for stock and cultivating the fields. He pursued his education in the public schools, acquiring a good knowledge of the English branches of learning usually taught in such institutions. He was a stout and hearty youth and even at the early age of twelve years he was able to perform the labors usually assigned to a man. Between that time and his majority no man of the many employed on his father's farm ever did more hard labor than our subject. In fact, he has experienced many hardships and has done much difficult work. Learning in early life the value of industry and perseverance, he has made them salient features in his career and they have contributed in large measure to his prosperity. He continued to work and labor in the interests of his father with no salary or any agreement about the work until he was twenty-nine years of age, at which time he was given a fourth interest in the profits of his father's stock business and was also given two hundred and eighty acres of land. In the stock business he was associated with his father until the latter's death.

Mr. Malcolm remained under the parental roof until his marriage and just after the celebration of that event he removed with his young bride to their present residence, situated on section 33, Bucyrus township, the place being known as the Ed Monnett homestead. Upon the death of his father, in June, 1900, he assumed the business control of the estate and now superintends the operation of nineteen hundred acres of land, of which he leases and cultivates six hundred and sixty-eight acres, all in one body and constituting one of the finest farms in the entire county. In addition to this he operates his farm of two hundred and eighty acres, given him by his father on the twenty-ninth anniversary of his birth, and a tract of four hundred acres, which he owns in Dallas township and which adjoins his Bucyrus township land on the south. He is one of the largest, if not the largest, cattle feeders of the county, having at this time about two hundred and fifty head upon his farm. He buys all of the cattle which he feeds, and in addition he raises horses, mules and hogs on quite an extensive scale. He has a large frame barn with stone foundation and basement, a modern and convenient frame residence and other good improvements upon his place.

On the 18th of February, 1897, Mr. Malcolm was married to Miss Elizabeth Hinamon, a daughter of Fred Hinamon, of Marion county, Ohio, where occurred the birth of Mrs. Malcolm. Two children grace their union: Catherine Elsie and James Harvey. Their home is celebrated for its pleasing hospitality and their friends throughout the community are many and the circle is constantly increasing. In his political views Mr. Malcolm is a Republican and is a firm believer in the principles and policy of the party, but has never sought office as a reward for party allegiance. He prefers to give his time and attention to his business interests, which are extensive and important, demanding capable management and keen business discernment in their control. He is widely regarded as a most enterprising farmer and stock-raiser, reliable in business and in all trade transactions, conducting his interests along the lines of the strictest commercial honor.

### JOHN SHALTER.

The once prominent citizen of Lykens township, Crawford county, Ohio, whose name is above, was born in Stark county, Ohio, December 30, 1815, and died at his home in Lykens township, August 3, 1880. His parents died when he was three years of age and he lived with different families until he was able to begin the battle of life for himself. He passed his early life in



working at whatever he could find to do and in 1832 moved to Crawford county and took up eighty acres of government land in Lykens township, on which he built a log cabin, which a few years later he replaced by a more commodious log house, which in turn was superseded by the modern house which is the home of his daughters. At the time of his death he owned one hundred and fifty-five acres, which had been cleared and improved by his own industry. His wife died August 30, 1892, aged eighty-two years and six months. They were active workers in the church and useful citizens in the community. Mrs. Shalter was Miss Elizabeth Albaugh, of Jefferson county, Ohio, and she bore her husband thirteen children, the following information concerning whom will be of interest in this connection. Hiram, the first born, is a farmer in Texas township, Crawford county. John lives in Putnam county, Ohio. Abraham lives in Seneca county, Ohio. Saloma is the wife of Daniel C. Savage and lives at Cripple Creek, Colorado. Mary A., Levi, Catharine, Susannah, Emma and David are dead. Nancy, Lizzie and Della live on their father's homestead. For several years the three were the proprietors of millinery stores at Bloomville and at other places in Ohio, and before that, for several years, Della was a successful teacher.

#### ROBERT E. CROWLEY.

Robert E. Crowley, who is a passenger conductor on the Big Four Railroad, was born in Schuylkill county, Pennsylvania, in 1849, and is a son of Robert Crowley, a native of Scotland. Having arrived at years of maturity, the father married Miss Agnes J. McCullough, also a native of the land of hills and heather, their wedding being celebrated in Edinburg. Crossing the Atlantic to America, they became residents of Schuylkill county, Pennsylvania, where occurred the birth of our subject. He spent his boyhood days under the parental roof until fifteen years of age, when he ran away from home in order to aid his country in preserving the Union. On account of his extreme youth his parents withheld their consent for him to become a soldier, but his spirit of loyalty could not be checked and he therefore quietly left the parental abode in 1864 and was enrolled as a member of the Sixth Pennsylvania Cavalry. Five other boys of the neighborhood enlisted at the same time, but four of the number were killed or died in the service. Mr. Crowley was with Sheridan in the Shenandoah valley and did dispatch duty for a long time. This service was particularly arduous and

dangerous, but he never faltered, although so young, and was ever found true to the trusts reposed in him and to the important work given into his charge. He was twice slightly wounded, and at the close of the war was mustered out at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, receiving an honorable discharge.

Throughout the greater part of his business career Mr. Crowley has been connected with railroad service, having been for twenty-eight years in the employ of the Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago & St. Louis Railway Company. He was on the road when it was known as the Bee line, and since 1873 he has been a conductor on what is now the Big Four Railroad, a part of the Vanderbilt system. For some years he acted as freight conductor between Galion and Union City, Indiana, but since 1880 has been a passenger conductor, running to Indianapolis. During all of the years of his connection with the road he has never had an accident, never been suspended and has never been reprimanded by railway authorities. It is a record of which he has every reason to be proud and one indicating close application and unquestioned fidelity.

Mr. Crowley was united in marriage to Miss Margaret Carrothers, a daughter of George Carrothers, who came from county Fermnagh, Ireland, to the new world when a lad of ten summers, accompanied by his parents, who located in Guernsey county, Ohio. This family of Carrothers were heirs to the Abercrombie castle and estates in Scotland. After some time spent in Guernsey county, George Carrothers removed to Noble county, from there to Morrow county, where his last days were passed. His widow is still living on a farm in that county, her home being seven miles from Galion. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Crowley have been born five children: Agness Jane and Clyde W., twins, who died in infancy, at the ages of eight months and two years, respectively; Margaret, who is in Little Rock, Arkansas, acting as private secretary to Bishop Brown, of the Episcopal church. She was educated in St. Mary's Episcopal school, at Knoxville, Illinois, being graduated with the class of 1898, in which she won class and valedictorian honors. She learned stenography and typewriting in three months, after which she accepted her present position. Bishop Brown was residing in Galion during her infancy and acted as her godfather and Mrs. Brown as godmother. There are also two sons in Mr. Crowley's family,—Forest Glenn and Robert Garfield,—both of Galion, the latter now a student in the high school.

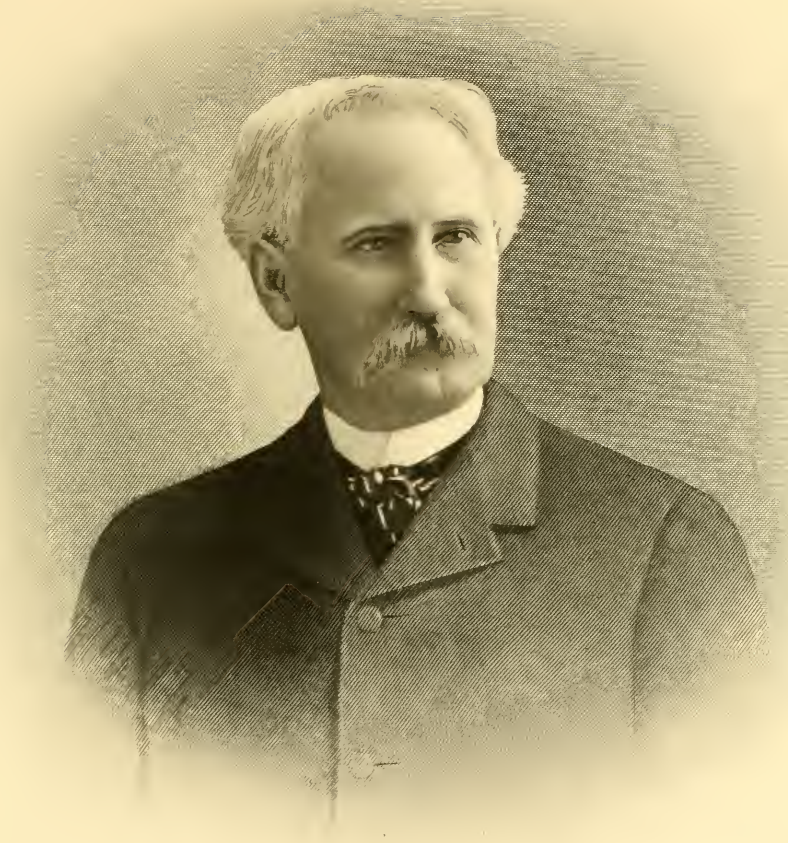
Mr. Crowley is a Republican in his political views, and, though he takes no active part in campaign work, he believes firmly in the principles of the party and keeps well informed on the issues of the day. He was reared in

the Episcopal church and he and his family attend its services. Although his life has been quietly passed it contains many lessons worthy of emulation, as does that of every man, who, like Mr. Crowley, is true to his duties, to himself, to his neighbors and to his country.

#### WILSON C. LEMERT.

No adequate memorial of Colonel Wilson C. Lemert can be written until many of the useful enterprises with which he has been connected have completed their full measure of good in the world and until his personal influence and example shall have ceased their fruitage in the lives of those with whom he has been associated while an actor in the busy places of the world. Yet there is much concerning him that may with profit be set down here as an illustration of what can be done if a man with a clear brain and willing hands but seriously undertakes the real labors and responsibilities of life.

Colonel Lemert is numbered among the native sons of Crawford county who have attained distinction and honor in connection with commercial and industrial interests. He was born upon a farm in Texas township, in 1837. His father, Louis Lemert, was born in Loudoun county, Virginia, August 5, 1802, and was a son of Joshua Lemert, who was also a native of the Old Dominion, but whose parents were of German birth. Joshua Lemert was united in marriage, in Virginia, to Miss Mary Wright, and in 1808 emigrated to Ohio, settling on a farm in Coshocton county, Ohio. He served as an officer in the war of 1812 and is said to have been the strongest man in the regiment. He died in Muskingum county, Ohio, in 1858. Lewis Lemert, the father of the Colonel, acquired a fair education in his youth, and on the 2d of January, 1823, was united in marriage to Miss Ruth Perdew, who was born in Bedford county, Pennsylvania, April 4, 1802, a daughter of William and Rachel Perdew, who removed to Coshocton county, Ohio, in 1816. In 1826 Lewis Lemert came with his young wife to Crawford county and took up his abode on a farm in Texas township, where he won prosperity through the tilling of the soil. Both he and his wife were active members and liberal supporters of the Methodist church in an early day and they lived exemplary Christian lives. The father held various positions of public trust and ever merited the honor and confidence reposed in him. Their son, Joshua, was for three years a member of the Seventh Ohio Volunteer Infantry at the time of the Civil war and for one year commanded his company, with the rank of captain.



W. C. Lement





Wilson C. Lemert pursued his preliminary education in the schools of Crawford county, later entered the Republic Academy, in Seneca county, Ohio, subsequently was a student in Heidelberg College, of Tiffin, Ohio, and was graduated in the Ohio Wesleyan University, in Delaware, with the class of 1858. In the following year he was graduated in the Cleveland Law College, and in 1860 began the practice of his chosen profession in Greensburg, Indiana, but about a year later he put aside all personal considerations that he might aid his country, then engaged in civil war.

During the first year of hostilities between the north and the south Wilson C. Lemert joined the Seventh Indiana Infantry, was chosen second lieutenant of his company, and during the first year of his services was promoted to first lieutenant and afterward to captain, receiving the latter promotion in recognition of meritorious conduct on the battlefield of Winchester. In 1862 Governor Tod tendered him a major's commission in the Eighty-sixth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and in 1863, on the reorganization of that regiment, he became its colonel. The regiment was assigned to the command of General Burnside, with the Ninth Army Corps and was active in the historical campaign of eastern Tennessee. Colonel Lemert was given command of the Third Brigade, Second Division, Ninth Army Corps, consisting of over seven thousand soldiers, including infantry, cavalry and artillery troops, which constituted the Federal forces in the department of Clinch river. His headquarters were at Cumberland Gap, the strategic gateway of east Tennessee. Colonel Lemert continued in command of this brigade and a part of the time was acting commander of the division, until the expiration of his services in 1865. The movement of his troops formed an important chapter in the history of the war. He was a gallant officer, with a comprehensive and practical knowledge of military tactics. Ever fearless himself, he inspired his men with his own bravery, yet he was never reckless in exposing them to needless danger. His loyalty was above question and he enjoyed the confidence of his superior officers and those who served under him.

On his return from the war the Colonel entered upon a business career requiring generalship no less marked than that needed in commanding troops on the field of battle. It requires a master mind to plan, formulate and execute gigantic business enterprises, and this the Colonel has done. No citizen of Crawford county has been connected to a greater degree with important commercial and industrial concerns. In 1865 he was president and general manager of the Bellefontaine Cotton Company, engaged in raising and trading in cotton in Mississippi and Alabama. From 1867 until 1877 he was a part-

ner and manager in the business of A. M. Jones & Company, extensive manufacturers of wagons, carriages and sleighs. In 1877 he became manager of the firm of McDonald & Company, railroad builders, who constructed and operated the Toledo & Ohio Central Railroad. In 1878 he became president and manager of the Moxahala Furnace Company, of Perry county, Ohio, constructed and operated the plant and opened coal, iron-ore and fire-clay mines at Moxahala. During the same time he superintended the construction of the Toledo & Ohio Central Railroad from Moxahala to Corning. He purchased the land, platted and built the town of Corning and there developed other coal mines, with a daily capacity of three thousand tons. In 1880 he completed the Corning mines and built the railroad from Corning to Buckingham, and raised by subscription along the line to Toledo one hundred thousand dollars to complete the line to Toledo and enlarge its equipment. He was appointed manager of the entire mining and railroad properties and conducted the "Corning war" which resulted satisfactorily to miners and operators. During the same year he secured a location of the railroad machine shops at Bucyrus and purchased and reorganized the Bucyrus Manufacturing Company, which became large producers of mining and railway equipments, steam shovels and dredges. In 1881 he built an extension to the Ohio Central Railroad from Corning to the Ohio river, a distance of fifty-one miles. He also successfully operated extensive draft-horse ranches in Iowa and Colorado for ten years. He was appointed chief engineer on the staff of Governor Foster. In 1882 he built the St. Louis & Emporia Railroad, afterward a part of the Missouri Pacific system, and in 1883 began the construction of a railroad from Findlay, Ohio, to Columbus, which was sold to the Ohio Central Railroad Company. He was also interested in the Nickel Plate enterprise, which was sold at a good profit to the Vanderbilts.

Colonel Lemert organized the Northwestern Natural Gas Company, which supplied Toledo, Sandusky, Tiffin, Fostoria, Fremont, Clyde, Bellville and Detroit with natural gas. Colonel Lemert then assumed the general supervision of the Brice & Thomas natural gas plants in Ohio and Indiana, —at Springfield, Dayton, Piqua, Sidney, Troy and Lima, Ohio, and Fort Wayne, Logansport and Lafayette, Indiana. In 1887 he purchased, rebuilt and consolidated the gas and electric light properties at Bucyrus and in 1889 purchased the brick machinery factory of Frey, Sheckler & Hoover, organizing the Frey-Sheckler Company, which he later consolidated with the Penfield & Son plant, at Willoughby, Ohio, the new organization being known

as the American Clay Working Machinery Company. This company has enlarged its business until it now has the most extensive plant in the world in the manufacture of clay-working machinery. In 1894 Mr. Lemert purchased, combined and rebuilt the gas and electric light plant and the electric railroad at Fort Smith, Arkansas, so that the different concerns are now under one management. In addition to all his other interests the Colonel is a director in the First National Bank at Bucyrus. In his manifold undertakings he has prospered and is now able to retire with a comfortable fortune acquired through good management, close attention to business and careful economy. His relations with his employes have ever been of the most desirable character. His bearing is entirely free from ostentation and there is a kindly interest manifest in his intercourse with those who serve him. He is generous in helping the needy and distressed, is quick to reward merit and is ever prompt in payment.

Colonel Lemert was united in marriage to Miss Mary L. Jones, a daughter of Dr. A. M. and Elizabeth Jones, of Bucyrus, and unto them were born two daughters, Katie E. and Blanche, but the former died on the 11th of March, 1896. The Colonel has traveled extensively, visiting many points of interest in Europe, continuing his travels to Palestine and looking upon the evidences of the ancient civilization of Africa. He has always preferred to control gigantic business enterprises rather than to enter politics and has declined many responsible positions of honor and trust. He has never held office, save when in 1866-7 he was postmaster of Bucyrus. The career of Colonel W. C. Lemert has ever been such as to warrant the trust and confidence of the business world, for he has ever conducted all transactions on the strictest principles of honor and integrity. His devotion to the public good is unquestioned and arises from a sincere interest in the welfare of his fellow men. What the world needs is such men—men capable of managing extensive, gigantic mercantile concerns, and conducting business on terms that are fair alike to employer and employe—men of genuine worth, of unquestioned integrity and honor,—and then the questions of oppression by capitalists and resistance and violence by laborers will be forever at rest.

#### HENRY D. MILLER.

Henry D. Miller, who is engaged in general farming, was born May 25, 1869, on the farm in Lykens township, Crawford county, upon which he now resides. He is a son of Christian Miller, deceased. He attended the

common schools in his youth and also assisted in the cultivation of the fields upon the old homestead, thus early becoming familiar with farm work in its various branches. When eighteen years of age he took charge of the old homestead, practical experience having well qualified him for the work. Since that time he has managed the farm, and its well cultivated fields and neat appearance indicate his careful supervision. He is an industrious, progressive farmer, and he annually harvests good crops. He now owns one hundred and seventeen acres of the old home place in Lykens township and is therefore numbered among the substantial young farmers of the community.

On the 28th of November, 1895, Mr. Miller was united in marriage to Miss Ida Margraff, a daughter of Charles and Leah (Miller) Margraff, and they now have one child, Donna Blanche, who is a most interesting member of the household. Mr. Miller is well known in Crawford county and his fellow citizens of Lykens township have honored him with office. He served as assessor in 1894 and 1895, and in his political affiliations he is a Democrat. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Reformed church, and he holds social relations with the Knights of Pythias lodge of Lykens. He is a charter member of the organization and has filled all of its offices. A wide-awake and progressive farmer, he well deserves mention in the history of his native county.

#### ABRAHAM MONNETT.

Abraham Monnett was for many years a prominent resident of Crawford county, but the boundaries of the locality in which he made his home were too limited for the capabilities of such a man. He was a typical representative of the American spirit, which within the past century has achieved a work which arouses at once the astonishment and admiration of the world. Crawford county was fortunate in that he allied his interests with hers, for his labors proved of benefit to the entire community, as well as resulting to his individual prosperity. The marvelous development of the middle west is due to such men, whose indomitable energy and progressive spirit have overcome all obstacles and reached the goal of success. He was not so abnormally developed as to be called a genius, but was one of the strongest because one of the best balanced, the most even and self-masterful of men, and he acted so well his part in both public and private life that Ohio as well as Bucyrus has been enriched by his example, his character and his labor. When he was

called from this life the community mourned the loss of one of its most valued and honored citizens.

Abraham Monnett was born October 12, 1811, in Virginia, near the Maryland line, and was a son of the Rev. Jeremiah and Aley (Slagle) Monnett, who, in 1814, left the south and with their family came to Ohio, locating in Pickaway county, where Abraham Monnett grew to manhood, early displaying his active and energetic disposition, his strong will and decisive character. With few local advantages he yet obtained a good education, reading, observation and experience continually supplementing his knowledge until he became a well informed man. He took an active interest in local affairs and was made first lieutenant of a militia company commanded by Captain Berkley. He aided in everything pertaining to the public progress and development, and his worth to the community was widely acknowledged. In early life he purchased forty acres of land in Scott township, Marion county, Ohio, where he began farming on his own account. On the 9th of June, 1836, in Pickaway county, Ohio, he was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Braucher, who in her fourth year was left an orphan and inherited three thousand dollars, which helped to lay the foundation of his financial success. This, together with a small sum received from his father, was the only part of his large fortune which Mr. Monnett did not accumulate through his own industry, energy and economy. In 1838 he began buying stock in Illinois and driving the cattle to his farm in Crawford and Marion counties, Ohio. His operations in this line of business proved very successful and he continually added to his income until he became one of the wealthiest men in this portion of the state. He assisted in organizing the Marion County Bank, and was its president from 1864 until 1881. In 1879, in connection with Mr. Hall, he organized the Crawford County Bank, of Bucyrus, was made its chief officer and acted in that capacity until his death. The successful conduct of the enterprise was due to his efforts, his capable management and his keen business discernment, and he made the institution one of the most reliable financial concerns in this part of the state. As the years passed he also increased his landed possessions by making judicious investments in farm property and became the owner of over eight thousand acres of land in Marion and Crawford counties.

By his first marriage Mr. Monnett became the father of twelve children, namely: Ephraim B., who is now living in Bucyrus, Crawford county; Martha, wife of G. H. Wright, a resident of Marion, Ohio; Oliver, who also is living in Marion; John T., who makes his home in Marion county; Elsie,



widow of James H. Malcolm, of Bucyrus; Augustus E., who is living in Colorado; Mervin J., who makes his home near Central City, Nebraska; Mary J., wife of J. G. Hull, of Findlay, Ohio; Madison W., of Michigan; Melvin H., who resides in Marion county; Amina J., wife of Judge J. C. Tobias, of Bucyrus; and Kate, wife of Linus H. Ross, of Delaware, Ohio. The mother of this family was called to her final rest February 8, 1875. She was a woman of sterling qualities of mind and heart, a worthy and faithful wife, and a most kind, just and affectionate mother. On the 30th of May, 1877, Mr. Monnett was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Jane L. Johnston, a most estimable lady, whose family history is given elsewhere in this volume. Mr. Monnett was a supporter of the Republican party, but the honors and emoluments of office had no attraction for him. He belonged to the Methodist Episcopal church, and his life was ever in harmony with its teachings and principles. His history contains many valuable lessons. It is impossible to keep a man of merit in the background, although his early surroundings were not such as to win him prominence. A progressive spirit knows no bounds, and ability has no limitations of time, place or space. The man who has no opportunities makes them and molds adverse conditions to his own ends. Such characteristics won for Mr. Monnett a place among the most prominent, successful and reliable business men of his portion of the state. As a man his business ability was constantly manifest, and his operations in land as well as the banking business became extensive. His advancement resulted from determined purpose, resolute will and keen sagacity, combined with unfaltering industry, and he won a place among the most prosperous residents of Crawford county. His affairs were ever conducted along the line of legitimate trade, and over the record of his career there falls no shadow of wrong or suspicion of evil. He passed away March 19, 1881, and the community mourned the loss of one whom they had learned to respect and honor.

#### JAMES H. ROBINSON.

There are no rules for building character; there is no rule for achieving success. A man who can rise to a position of eminence is he who can see and utilize the opportunities that surround his path. The essential conditions of human life are ever the same and the surroundings of individuals differ but little, so that when one man passes another on the highway of life, reaching the goal of prosperity before those who, perhaps, started out ahead of him, it is because he has the power to use advantages which probably encompass the

whole human race. To-day among the most prominent business men of Crawford county stands James Henry Robinson, the vice-president of the Bucyrus State Bank and a man whose influence in business and political circles has been far-reaching. The history of such a man cannot fail to be of widespread interest, for he ranks high among the representative citizens of this portion of the state.

Mr. Robinson was born on the home farm in Chatfield township, Crawford county, February 22, 1839, and manifests in his life many of the sterling characteristics of his Scotch ancestry,—for the family is of Scotch lineage. The great-grandfather, John Robinson, was born in the land of hills and heather, and when a young man crossed the Atlantic to America, locating in Virginia, where he met and married Miss Stout, whose parents came to the new world from the Emerald isle. Mr. Robinson was at one time captured by the Indians in Virginia and brought by them to Ohio. They intended to burn him at the stake, but for some reason changed this decision, and he finally escaped, but four of his companions were killed. John Robinson, Jr., the grandfather of our subject, was a native of Virginia, and on leaving the Old Dominion emigrated westward to Coshocton county, Ohio, casting in his lot among its early settlers. In 1825 he came to Crawford county, bringing with him his family. James M. Robinson, the father of our subject, was born in 1807, near Wheeling, West Virginia. He wedded Mary E. Cooper, and in 1825 came to Crawford county, taking up his abode on a farm in Chatfield township, where the birth of our subject afterward occurred. He died in 1874, at the age of sixty-seven years, and his wife passed away May 15, 1852, at the age of forty-two years. They had two sons who served in the Civil war, both having been members of the Third Ohio Cavalry. They are now deceased, having passed away in Michigan in 1883. One daughter of the family, Melvina J., became the wife of E. Clady, of Chatfield township, and died in 1872; Nathan J. died in Crawford county in 1874; and Alpheus D. is now living in Paulding county, Ohio.

James Henry Robinson, whose name introduces this record, was the second of the family. He pursued his education in Chatfield and in the Otterbein University at Westerville. He was a student for two years. Subsequently he engaged in teaching eight terms of school in Chatfield, giving excellent satisfaction through his ability to maintain discipline and to impart with readiness and clearness to others the knowledge he had acquired. He has many times been called to public office, where he has served with ability and fidelity. He was township clerk of Chatfield township, and for two terms held

the office of county surveyor. In the meantime he had engaged in merchandising at Chatfield for ten years, and in 1876 he became identified with industrial interests in Bucyrus as the secretary and treasurer of the Franz & Pope Knitting Machine Company, in which capacity he served for one year. In 1876 he also became county auditor, and filled that position for six consecutive years, or until 1882. On the 1st of January, 1886, he became cashier of the Bucyrus City Bank, acting in that capacity for fifteen years, or until the 1st of January, 1900, when he was elected vice-president. The success and growth of this institution is largely due to his efforts. He has been untiring in promoting its welfare, and his genial manner and unfailing courtesy have made him a popular officer of the institution, while his well-known reliability has added to its high standing in financial circles.

Mr. Robinson was married in Crawford county, to Miss Louisa Hipp, a daughter of Frederick and Catherine (Kunzi) Hipp, of Bucyrus. Her father is a director of the Bucyrus City Bank and ex-probate judge of the county. Their marriage has been blessed with two children: Francis Marion, who died in 1871, at the age of five years, and Minnie M., now the wife of F. B. Lauck, of Bucyrus. In his political affiliations Mr. Robinson is a Democrat, and socially he is connected with the Masonic fraternity, belonging to the blue lodge, chapter and commandery. He also has membership relations with the Odd Fellows society, in which he has passed all the chairs, and in the Knights of Pythias lodge, of Bucyrus, he was the first past chancellor. He holds membership relations in the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and also the English Lutheran church. In all life's relations he has commanded the respect and confidence of those with whom he has been associated. Regarded as a citizen, he belongs to that public-spirited, useful and helpful type of men whose ambitions and desires are directed in those channels through which flow the greatest and most permanent good to the greatest number, and it is, therefore, consistent with the purpose and plan of this work that his record be given among those of the representative men of the state.

#### CHARLES R. SHECKLER, M. D.

The family physician sustains a peculiarly confidential relation to his fellow citizens, and if he be a man of tact and honor comes in time to be their confidant and adviser in many matters of importance. Such a well-established, useful citizen is Dr. Charles R. Sheckler, of Brokensword, Crawford county, Ohio.

Dr. Sheckler was born at Bucyrus, Ohio, March 7, 1856, a son of Edward Scheckler, a native of Bedford county, Pennsylvania, and a tailor by trade, who located early at Bucyrus and there married Adaline G. Shawk, who bore him four children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the first born. Their daughter Nettie became the wife of E. J. Williams, of Holmes township, Crawford county. Their sons Thompson and Edward became farmers. Their son Charles R. received his primary education in the public schools at Bucyrus, and when about fifteen years of age began reading medicine under the preceptorship of Dr. A. Cuykendall, of that town. He was graduated in the Columbus Medical College in 1877, at the age of twenty-one years. After practicing his profession five years at North Robinson, Crawford county, he located at Brokensword, where he has met with gratifying success. He affiliates with the Democratic party, but is not a practical politician, preferring to give his time entirely to his profession. He was married in 1881 to Miss Catharine Bogan, and they have three children, named Ralph, Ada and Archibald.

#### JOHN F. SMITH.

The subject of this sketch is of that sturdy German stock which in all parts of our country has developed good citizenship and done its full share in bringing about general progress and prosperity. Mr. Smith was born in Lykens township, Crawford county, Ohio, June 22, 1840, a son of Frederick Smith, a native of Germany, who married Christina Lipman, who bore him six children: Lewis lives in Lykens township; Hiram is dead; John F. was the next in order of birth; Adolphus lives at Aurora, Illinois; and Clara is the wife of Joseph Laippy, of Chatfield township, Crawford county, Ohio. A sixth child died in infancy.

Frederick Smith came to America in 1832 and located at Columbus, Ohio, where he worked as a stone and brick mason until 1840, when he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in Lykens township, Crawford county, and engaged in farming. The land had no improvements and was practically wild and cost him six hundred dollars. He lost no time in erecting a hewn-log house and in beginning the work of improvement and cultivation. His wife died at the age of thirty-four years and he married Lucy A. Shupp, who bore him the following children: Cornelius, Frederick T., Henry, Jefferson, L. M., Matilda, Catherine, Lucy, Emma and Sarepta. He became a prominent man in the township and died at the age of sixty-two years.

The subject of this sketch was born and reared on his father's homestead

in Lykens township and was brought up to farm work and received his education in the public schools. At the age of twenty-two years he began a practical apprenticeship to the carpenter's trade. After working as a journeyman carpenter for eight years he engaged in contracting and building, which he followed successfully until 1881, when he bought his father's old home farm of one hundred and sixty acres, on which he lived until 1895, when he retired from active life and removed to Brokensword, Lykens township, where he has made his home to the present time.

In 1865 Mr. Smith married Melinda Shupp, and of their children we observe that Lulu married Edward Pfetzer; Laura married Wesley Lust; Horace J. married Ida Fralick and lives in Lykens township; Lucy Edith and Hiram are dead; Learra married George Lecrove, a farmer of Lykens township; Lottie L. and Lestie B. are members of their father's household; and Linna is dead. The mother of these children died April 22, 1887, at the age of forty years. She was a woman of many virtues, who was dearly beloved by all who knew her, and, like her husband, was a consistent member of the Evangelical church. Mr. Smith has been prominent in township affairs and has in many ways shown his public spirit. At one time he held the office of township trustee. In politics he is identified with the Democratic party. He has always been a hard-working man and has achieved success by means of industry and a good name by fair and upright living.

#### DAVID CRUM.

David Crum is now living a retired life, and his rest is well merited, for through a long period he was an active and energetic factor in agricultural circles in Crawford county. His industry, perseverance and energy were the means of bringing to him success, enabling him to overcome many obstacles and difficulties in the path to prosperity. Over the record of his business and private life there falls no shadow of wrong, and thus he enjoys the warm regard of many friends.

Mr. Crum is a native of the Keystone state, his birth having occurred in Dauphin county, Pennsylvania, on the 8th of July, 1829. The family is of German lineage and was founded in America by the grandfather of our subject. Our subject's father, Leonard Crum, was born in the same state, in 1786, and there grew to manhood, learning the wagonmaker's trade in his youth. For a short time he followed that business and also conducted a small



distillery, but this covered a period of only a few years, after which he retired from the distillery business and located upon a farm in Dauphin county, where he resided throughout the residue of his days, his death occurring in 1869. He was twice married, his first wife having been a Miss Hain, by whom he had four children, all of whom are now deceased. He afterward wedded Catherine Stiné, and unto them were born twelve children, but only five are now living: Jonas L., a retired farmer of Decatur, Illinois; David; Sarah E., wife of Samuel Crum, of Dauphin county, Pennsylvania; Rebecca, wife of Samuel Swartz, also of Dauphin county; and Benjamin, who is living in Progress, that county. Mr. Crum was enabled to provide comfortably for his family, for in his farming operations he prospered, acquiring possession of three hundred and nine acres of valuable land in Dauphin county. He was also one of the influential and representative residents of his locality, and until his fortieth year he was a member of the Lutheran church, but about that time he became converted to the Evangelical faith and remained a consistent member of that denomination up to the time of his death, serving through a long period as deacon and elder in the church. His early political views were in harmony with the principles of the Whig party, and on its dissolution he joined the ranks of the Republican party. The mother of our subject was born in Dauphin county, Pennsylvania, in 1795, and, like her husband, was of German lineage. She, too, was an active member of the Evangelical church, and died in 1887, at the age of eighty-two years.

David Crum mastered the branches of English learning and taught in the common schools and received his training at farm labor on the old homestead. He was married October 4, 1849, the lady of his choice being Miss Mary Crall, a native of Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, and a daughter of Christian and Elizabeth (Hanshaw) Crall. Her father was a native of Dauphin county, Pennsylvania, born November 13, 1805; and her mother was born in Cumberland county, November 27, 1804. In 1855 they emigrated to Crawford county, Ohio, purchasing the old Conkle farm in Liberty township, where Mr. Crall carried on agricultural pursuits until within thirteen years of his death. His wife died August 29, 1884, and he then made his home among his children until his demise, on the 27th of September, 1892. Both were members of the United Brethren church and were people of the highest respectability. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Crum were born thirteen children, of whom eight yet survive, namely: Mary A., the wife of William Caris, of Bucyrus; Elmira, wife of F. M. Lash, a farmer of Auburn township; Ellen, the wife of Joseph Bucher, of Liberty township; Sarah, who married C. C. Heller, of Liberty town-

ship; Willis A., a practicing physician of Carey, Ohio; Myrtle, wife of W. C. McCullough, of Bucyrus; and Cora E. and Hayes C., at home.

After his marriage Mr. Crum took his bride to a farm belonging to his father in Dauphin county, Pennsylvania, and there carried on agricultural pursuits for six years. He also engaged in the butchering business to some extent during the winter months, erecting a stall in the Harrisburg market house. In the spring of 1856 he came to Crawford county, Ohio, and purchased the Samuel Smalley farm of ninety-eight and a half acres in Liberty township. This he still owns. With the exception of three years, during which time he was engaged in the butchering business in Bucyrus, he resided upon his farm continuously until 1888, when he purchased four lots in Sulphur Springs. Upon this land stands his present residence, and it has been his home continuously since. While living in Bucyrus he engaged in the live-stock business, continuing in that line of trade for fifteen or twenty years, and thus he added materially to his income derived from his farming operations. At the present time, however, he is living retired, having acquired a handsome competence, which enables him to put aside the more arduous duties of business life and spend his remaining days in ease and quiet. His political support is given the Republican party, and on that ticket he was elected a member of the township board of trustees for several terms. He and his wife are consistent and faithful members of the United Brethren church, of which he served as trustee, class-leader and superintendent for a number of years. His life has ever been in harmony with his professions, being guided by sound judgment, honesty and integrity.

### JOHN MOORE.

For more than half a century John Moore has resided upon the farm which is now his place of residence and is therefore to be numbered among the early settlers of Crawford county. Through many decades he has been identified with agricultural interests in the Buckeye state and is still interested in farming, giving his personal supervision to the cultivation of his land. He was born near Hagerstown, in Harrison county, Ohio, July 7, 1823, and is a son of Morris Moore, whose birth occurred in New Jersey, where he was reared and married Hannah Davis. They became the parents of thirteen children, of whom seven are now living. The record is: Mary A., now deceased; George, who died in infancy; John, our subject; George Davis, deceased; Elizabeth, the wife of Thomas Kemp, of Seneca county, Ohio; Morris, who

died in hospital while in the Civil war; Margaret, who married Finley Leonard and is living near Attica, Ohio; Martha and Hannah, both deceased; Louisa, the widow of Josiah Haughman, of Attica; David Bennett, of Franklin county, Ohio, who served during the Civil war with the One Hundred and Twenty-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry; Frank, who is living in Kansas; and Theodore, who makes his home in Indiana.

In 1823 the father moved from New Jersey to Ohio and entered a tract of land from the government in Harrison county, where he remained until the fall of 1833, when he went on horseback to Seneca county and there entered one hundred and sixty acres of government land, near Caroline. The following year he removed his family to the new place and there he built a double log cabin of two rooms. The land was covered with heavy timber and it was an arduous task to develop the farm. In 1850 he took up his abode in Attica, Ohio, where he lived retired until his death, which occurred when he was eighty-seven years of age. He aided in laying out roads, building school houses and in other work of progress and improvement which resulted to the benefit of the community, and he was an active member and earnest worker in the Methodist Episcopal church.

When eleven years of age Mr. Moore, of this review, accompanied his parents to Seneca county and there he began to assist in the difficult task of cutting away the timber and preparing the fields for cultivation. He remained at home until his marriage, which occurred in 1845, the lady of his choice being Miss Sarah R. McLaughlin, a daughter of Joseph McLaughlin, a native of Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania. He was a son of James McLaughlin, who was one of the heroes of the Revolutionary war, as was also Mr. James Fisher, the maternal grandfather of Mrs. Moore. Her paternal grandmother was Mary Mackey, and her maternal grandmother was Mary Kiester. Mr. Fisher spent the winter at Valley Forge and participated in many important battles, and, coming to this state, he ran the first boat on the Ohio river. Joseph McLaughlin served in the war of 1812. Mrs. Moore became a resident of Seneca county when seventeen years of age and attended a subscription school, held in a log school-house in Columbiana county, to which she walked a distance of three and a half miles. She is a member of the Presbyterian church and a most estimable lady, who has been to her husband a faithful companion and helpmate on the journey of life. They have become the parents of four children: Eliza J., deceased, who married Charles Meeker; Hannah A., deceased, who married John Melroy; Sarah, who became the wife of John P. Yingling; and Della, who died at the age of nine years.

After his marriage Mr. Moore rented land in the vicinity of Bucyrus for two years and in 1848 purchased the farm which he now owns and operates and which has been his place of abode since 1849. He paid four hundred dollars for eighty acres of land, upon which he erected a hewed-log house of one room in the yard where his present residence is located. Oak, beech, basswood and maple trees stood upon the place, which was heavily timbered. Mr. Moore has cleared sixty acres of his land and has made excellent improvements. When he came here he owned no horses and worked out for others until he could get the money with which to purchase a team. He has since carried on general farming and all that he possesses has come to him as the direct result of his own labor. His life has indeed been a busy and useful one and prosperity has rewarded his efforts.

In his political views Mr. Moore is a Republican and he has served as school director and supervisor. As a citizen he has ever been public-spirited and progressive, manifesting an earnest interest in everything pertaining to the welfare of the community and to progress along material, social, educational and moral lines. His has been an upright life, worthy of emulation.

#### EDWARD FRALICK.

Among the pioneer families who came to Crawford county when this portion of the state was largely an undeveloped region and aided in laying broad and deep the foundations for the present prosperity and progress of the county were the Fralicks, and since 1839 the name has been honorably and inseparably interwoven with the history of the community. The subject of this review was born in Dauphin county, Pennsylvania, December 22, 1834. His father, David Fralick, also a native of that state, was there married to Elizabeth Garrett and they became the parents of four children, of whom Edward is the eldest. David, the second, is now a farmer of Lykens township. Levina, the third, married Joseph Rank, and after his death became the wife of Benjamin Witnire, her death occurring in 1897. Henry, the youngest of the family, is living in Lykens township. It was in 1839 that the father, with his wife and children, left his old home in the Keystone state and with a one-horse wagon traveled to Ohio, settling first in Richland county, where he purchased four acres of land. He was a weaver by trade and followed that pursuit in Richland county for a few years, after which he came to Crawford county and bought a forty-acre tract of wild land in Holmes township. Upon the place he erected a log cabin, and into this the family moved before there were doors

or windows in the structure. After three years, however, David Fralick, Sr., returned to Richland county, where he rented land for a time and then returned to Crawford county and purchased one hundred acres in Lykens township. The home here was also a log house, in poor condition, but soon he erected a substantial log house, which is still standing, and in which he made his home until his death, which occurred in 1876, when he was seventy-eight years of age. His wife, surviving him several years, died in 1888, past the age of seventy. She was a consistent member of the Reformed church and a most estimable lady, sharing with her husband in the high regard in which he was uniformly held.

Reared to farm life, Edward Fralick soon became familiar with the work of clearing and cultivating the fields and harvesting the crops, and on the old homestead he remained until his marriage, which occurred March 19, 1861, the lady of his choice being Miss Sarah Porter, a native of Lykens township and a daughter of Edward and Rachel (Shupp) Porter. Her father was a school teacher in Crawford county in an early day and also served as justice of the peace. He came to Crawford county at a period of its primitive development and from the government entered eighty acres of wild land, upon which Henry Fralick now resides. There he developed his farm, reared his family of nine children and made his home until his death, in 1849. His wife died in June, 1897, at the age of eighty-three years, and thus passed away one of the honored pioneer couples. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Fralick has been blessed with four children: Jerome E., who resides in Fremont, Indiana; Clara; William Porter, a farmer of Holmes township; and Hattie A. The daughters are unmarried and at home.

The first year after his marriage Mr. Fralick resided upon his father's farm, and on the expiration of that period he and his brother David purchased ninety-three acres of land in Holmes township, where they made many improvements, developing an excellent farm, upon which our subject resided until 1896, when he came to his present home in Lykens township. He owns thirty-eight acres of land here and one hundred and thirty-eight acres in Holmes township, and his property has all been acquired through his own exertions. It is fertile land, highly cultivated, and the fields return to him a golden harvest. His business ability and untiring energy are the foundation stones upon which he has reared the structure of his success, and his example in this regard, as well as in many other ways, is well worthy of emulation.

In his political preference Mr. Fralick is a Democrat, and keeps well informed regarding the political questions of the time, but has never sought or



desired public office. His wife and family are identified with the Protestant faith, and in the community they are well known and highly esteemed, the possession of many admirable characteristics winning for Mr. Fralick the enviable regard of those with whom he has come in contact through the long residence in Crawford county, which classes him among its early settlers.

### THOMAS J. MONNETT.

The influence which Thomas J. Monnett had upon the material and moral development of Crawford county was very great. As a minister of the gospel he labored for the spiritual welfare of the people, and at the same time he was an active factor in many movements and enterprises which contributed to the prosperity and happiness of the people among whom he lived and by whom he was ever held in the highest esteem. He departed this life in Crawford county, in May, 1901, and the community thereby lost one of its most valued citizens.

“His life was noble and the elements  
So mixed in him that Nature might stand up  
And say to all the world ‘This was a man.’”

Thomas J. Monnett was born in Pickaway county, Ohio, January 26, 1826, a son of the Rev. Jeremiah and Alcy (Slagle) Monnett. When he was nine years of age his parents removed to Crawford county and settled on “the plains” south of Bucyrus. They were among the pioneers of the county and aided in its primitive development, assisting to lay broad and deep the foundation upon which its present prosperity and progress rests. In the country schools such as were common at that time the son Thomas pursued his studies, mastering the branches of learning which were taught in such institutions. He afterward attended the Ohio Wesleyan University, at Delaware, in 1845, and subsequent to his return home engaged in teaching school. He studied medicine to some extent, but under the direction of his father, who was a Methodist minister, he prepared for that holy calling and was at length licensed to preach for the same denomination. For many years he proclaimed the “glad tidings of great joy” among the people of Ohio, acting as pastor of the Methodist churches at Fostoria, Kenton, Upper Sandusky and other places. At Fostoria he was associated with G. W. Collier, now chaplain in the United States army, located at Columbus, Ohio. In 1861 he be-

came superannuated and thereafter, not being in good health, his ministerial labors were not consecutive, although he never lost his deep interest in Christian work and did much to advance the cause of the church.

In 1861 Mr. Monnett located upon his farm in Bucyrus township and became a successful and extensive agriculturist and stock-raiser, but his efforts were not confined alone to this line. He was interested in the Bucyrus Woolen Mills, the Bucyrus Gas works, together with other enterprises, and his business and executive ability made his advice and management of value in the successful control of such industrial concerns.

Mr. Monnett was married, in 1848, to Miss Henrietta Johnston, of Crawford county, and unto them were born the following named children: Webster, who died in childhood; Orwin Bruce; William A.; Francis S.; John G., who died at the age of nineteen years; Effie, who was the wife of Hon. S. W. Bemalt and died November 20, 1898; and Agnes, who died in childhood. The mother departed this life November 22, 1871, at the age of forty-two years, and on the 4th of September, 1873, Mr. Monnett was joined in wedlock to Sarah Rexroth, who was one of the early school teachers of the county. In politics he was always a stalwart Republican and supported his position by intelligent argument, always keeping well informed on the issues of the day. During his work in the ministry he was an earnest, forceful and convincing speaker and his influence was widely felt. In business he was industrious, determined and straightforward and thereby won prosperity. During the last few years of his life he lived retired in Bucyrus. He was a man whom to know was to respect and honor, and his career furnishes an example well worthy of emulation.

#### WILLIAM M. GEIGER.

William M. Geiger was born in Bloom township, Seneca county, Ohio, February 1, 1846, a son of Henry and Christina (Zuderoem) Geiger. Henry Geiger, a native of Germany, was brought to America by his father, Jacob Geiger, when he was thirteen years old. The family located in Stark county, Ohio, where Jacob Geiger lived out his days and died. Henry Geiger began his active life in Stark county as a farm hand, doing work by the month. In 1835 he located in Bloom township, Seneca county, where, after filing his claim to one hundred and sixty acres of government land, he began a fight for fortune with one dollar in money and an ax, and little else,—without a team, which would have made his labors easier. He managed to erect a log cabin,

but having no stove was obliged during the first two years of his residence there to cook beside a convenient stump. For a time he had no neighbors except George Weickley and Jacob Hosler and a Mr. Troxel. The three were the first settlers in Bloom township. At his death Mr. Geiger owned two hundred and forty-seven acres of improved land, which was regarded as one of the best farms in Seneca county. He died in 1882, in his seventieth year. He was a member of the Dutch Reformed church and was influential in all public affairs. The following brief mention of each of his eight children will be found interesting in this connection: Conrad lives in Fulton county, Ohio. Catharine is dead. Jacob lives in Bloomville, Ohio. Maria is the wife of Nelson Shaffner, of Bloom township, Seneca county, Ohio. Of William M., who is the immediate subject of this sketch, more will be said hereafter. Henry lives in Indiana. Madison is a resident of Wyandot county, Ohio. Jacob, who is the owner of his father's homestead, is one of the prominent men in Seneca county and is president of the Sycamore Bank and of the Bloomville Bank.

William M. Geiger was reared on his father's homestead in Seneca county, Ohio, and remained there until 1869, when, at the age of about twenty-five years, he married Miss Maria Lebold, and moved upon an eighty-acre farm in Bloom township. He remained there a year and then he removed to his present home farm in Lykens township, Crawford county, which he purchased of William Hanks, and which contains one hundred and forty acres; and this, added to fifty acres which is comprised in another farm that he owns, gives him an aggregate of one hundred and ninety acres. He carries on general farming and stock-raising on a large scale and with a satisfactory percentage of profit.

Though he has persistently refused to accept any public office, he is, as a Democrat, interested in all public questions and his public spirit is such that he is at all times ready to assist to the extent of his ability any movement for the general good. He was a charter member of Wren Lodge, No. 530, Knights of Pythias, of Lykens Ohio, has filled every chair in that body and has been a representative of the order in the grand lodge.

Mr. Geiger was educated in the common schools in vogue during his boyhood and has many interesting reminiscences of days spent beneath the low roof of the log school-house. For some time after his father came into the neighborhood wild game was plenty and at times wild turkeys roosted on the roof of his cabin. Mr. Geiger still owns two of the first set of chairs in use in his father's house. His father was a man of good character and good business ability and expert knowledge, and these qualities constituted the founda-

tion stone upon which William M. Geiger, our subject, built the success which has made him well known in his part of the state.

Mr. and Mrs. Geiger have had four children. Their daughter Bertha D. is a member of their household. Their son Nelson E. was graduated at the Ada Commercial College, at Ada, Hardin county, Ohio, and married Margaret Johnston and lives on the old Gingling homestead, a fine farm of one hundred acres. Miss Emma Geiger died at the age of nineteen years; and Mr. and Mrs. Geiger lost a son named Edward, who died when he was thirteen years old.

### JOHN A. SMITH.

Throughout his entire life John A. Smith has resided in Crawford county and therefore his record is well known to many of its citizens, by whom he is regarded as a man of sterling worth, his industry, energy and reliability having won for him the merited regard of his fellow men. He was born in Jackson, now Jefferson, township, July 24, 1837, his parents being George and Hannah (Chisholm) Smith. His paternal great-grandfather, John Joseph Smith, was born in Baden, Germany, November 8, 1736, and there resided until late in life, when he came to America, but he was not long permitted to enjoy his new home, his death occurring soon afterward, on the 16th of November, 1813, when he had attained the age of seventy-seven years. His wife, Mrs. Catherine Smith, was born August 8, 1736, and died November 11, 1819. Their son, John Joseph Smith, grandfather of our subject, was born in Baden, Germany, July 25, 1767, and just before attaining his twenty-first year of was married. To avoid military service he came to America in the spring of 1788 and purchased a small farm in Perry county, Pennsylvania. To this he added in later years until his landed possessions were quite extensive. By occupation he was a weaver. His death occurred July 9, 1836. He was an ardent member and a local preacher of the United Brethren church and was a man highly respected for his many virtues.

The father of our subject was born in Perry county, Pennsylvania, January 10, 1803, and was a son of John Jacob and Elizabeth (Fisher) Smith. In his native county he was reared and there learned the shoemaker's trade, which he followed through the winter months while in the summer season he assisted in the cultivation and improvement of his father's farm. In his native county he married Miss Hannah Chisholm, who was born in that county, September 28, 1806, her parents being John and Margaret (McBride) Chisholm. Her father was born near Glasgow, Scotland, while her mother was a native of

Perry county, Pennsylvania. Three children were born unto Mr. and Mrs. Smith in Perry county, and in the spring of 1836 the family came to Crawford county, Ohio, the father entering from the government forty acres of land in Jackson, now Jefferson township. He soon afterward purchased an adjoining tract of ten acres. All was wild, his farm being covered with a dense growth of forest trees, in the midst of which he erected a log cabin. When he had thus provided shelter for his family he at once began clearing away the trees, the woodman's ax awakening the echos in the forest. His labors in this direction were followed by the track of the shining plow, and he continued the work of developing the fields up to the time of his death, which occurred April 23, 1852. In the winter months he also worked at the shoemaker's trade until about 1850. He was a Whig in his political affiliations and served for a number of years as township trustee, while for a considerable period he filled the office of a member of the school board and did all in his power to promote the cause of education in the community. He was an ardent worker and consistent member of the United Brethren church, taking a leading part in its work, was one of its officers and was a liberal contributor to all charitable and benevolent purposes. His wife died in February, 1864. Her many excellent qualities and true womanly character had won her the esteem and friendship of all with whom she had been associated. She had seven children, but only two are living, John A. and George B., the latter a resident of North Baltimore, Wood county, Ohio.

John A. Smith spent his boyhood days on the home farm and in the common schools he mastered the English branches of learning usually taught in such institutions. He was only fifteen years of age at the time of his father's death and three years later took charge of the home farm, which he operated for his mother until the spring of 1864. On the 28th of May, 1863, he won as a companion on life's journey Miss Jemima Modderwell, a native of Liberty township, Crawford county, who was born on the farm which is now her home and where she has resided continuously since her birth, with the exception of one year. Her parents were James W. and Mary (Peterman) Modderwell, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of Cumberland county, Pennsylvania. With their respective families they came to Crawford county, Ohio, becoming its first settlers. In the spring of 1864 Mr. Smith removed to his father-in-law's farm, which he operated as a renter until 1875. He then purchased the farm of eighty acres in Liberty township and twenty acres in Sandusky township and in later years he has added twenty-one acres to the tract in Sandusky township. He is diligent, persevering and energetic in his farm



work and the well tilled fields return to him abundant harvests for his labor. In 1864 he purchased a thresher and for twenty-four consecutive years he carried on the threshing business and also operated a wood-saw. He became one of the expert threshers of the county and secured a very liberal patronage, his services being in demand throughout the harvest season.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Smith have been born two children: Anna W., now the wife of J. S. Keller, a hardware merchant of Sulphur Springs; and Nessie F. S., who married W. C. Charlton, who operates her father's farm. The parents have a wide acquaintance in the county and the hospitality of many of the best homes is extended to them. In political views Mr. Smith is a stalwart Republican. For thirteen consecutive years he served on the school board and is at present acting in that capacity. He has also served repeatedly as supervisor and in 1900 he was appointed census enumerator. He is now secretary of the Crawford County Pioneers' Society, and is one of the most highly respected men of the county. For more than sixty-three years he has resided in Crawford county, and his memory forms the connecting link between the primitive past and the progressive present. Where are now seen richly cultivated fields once stood the forest trees and the intersecting roads had not been laid out. The pioneer homes were widely scattered and the work of progress and improvement was in its primitive condition. He belongs to that class of substantial citizens who have aided in the work of improvement, and well does he deserve mention among the honored pioneers.

#### MATTHIAS SHEIBLEY.

Matthias Sheibley, who carries on general farming in Cranberry township and has served as township trustee, is a native resident of Ohio, for his birth occurred in Shelby, Richland county, January 25, 1863, his parents being Albert and Elizabeth (Karl) Sheibley. Their children were provided with loving care and attention in youth and were afforded good education privileges that they might be fitted for the arduous duties and the responsibilities of life. Our subject acquired his elementary education in the district schools, which was supplemented by study in the high school of New Washington. He was trained to farm work on the old homestead and remained with his father until he had attained his majority, when he started out upon an independent business career. During the following year he was an employe of the Crawford county infirmary and in the succeeding year was employed by a Mr.

Gibson, a prominent farmer living east of Bucyrus. He then returned to the infirmary, where he remained for two years and afterward he was engaged in tile ditching and threshing. He also followed various other occupations through a period of four years and then rented land of a Mrs. Hamilton—a tract of sixty acres in Cranberry township. Thereon he began farming for himself, and during five years cultivated that land. Mrs. Hamilton then died and the farm passed into the possession of her sister, Mrs. William Jolly, but during these years Mr. Sheibley had displayed business ability of such an order that he was retained to manage the property, which he has since cultivated. The farm now comprises eighty-six acres. In 1892 he increased his responsibilities by taking charge of his father's farm of eighty acres, and on the old homestead he now resides.

On the 10th of April, 1894, occurred the marriage of Mr. Sheibley and Miss Catherine McMahon, a daughter of Thomas McMahon, a prominent agriculturist of Vernon township. The young couple began their domestic life in the old Sheibley residence, where he had resided for two years prior to his marriage. Unto them have been born three lovely children, but Frank J., the eldest is now deceased. The others are Edward W. and Gertrude E.

Mr. Sheibley is a very energetic man, indolence and idleness being utterly foreign to his nature. During the year 1896-7 he had the management of the farm belonging to Mrs. Bloom, formerly a portion of the Volney Powers farm, and in 1900 he also assumed the responsibility of cultivating his father's land, comprising forty acres, one mile east and a quarter of a mile south of New Washington. He is operating altogether two hundred and six acres of land and is one of the prosperous and progressive agriculturists of the community. He carries on his work along advanced lines, basing his labor upon scientific principles, close observation and practical experience. He is a recognized factor in political circles, being a leader in Democratic ranks. In 1892 he was elected justice of the peace, filling the office for three years, and in 1899 he was chosen a member of the board of township trustees, in which capacity he is now serving in a most commendable manner. He and his wife are consistent members of the Catholic church and for four years he served as one of its trustees. Mrs. Sheibley is a charming and accomplished wife, who presides with gracious hospitality over their pleasant home. They contribute to the support of all charitable work and public interests calculated to promote the general welfare, and the circle of their friends is almost co-extensive with the circle of their acquaintances.

## NICHOLAS SCHEERER.

Mr. Scheerer was born in the village of Kleinbundenbach, county of Homburg, Rhine province, Bavaria, Germany May 7, 1825, and his early childhood was spent upon a farm in the fatherland, but when a youth of fourteen he began learning the carpenter's trade, depending entirely upon his own resources for advancement in life, and well may he be proud of his success, as his close application and industry made him a good workman, and his unaided labor brought to him a comfortable competence. He followed this pursuit in the land of his birth until 1847, when, at the age of twenty-two, he resolved to try his fortune in America, and upon a sailing vessel embarked for the new world. After fifty-two days spent upon the water anchor was dropped in the harbor of New York and he found himself a stranger in a strange country, unfamiliar with the language and customs of the people. He started out upon his new life with determined heart, however, resolved to make the most of his opportunities.

Coming to Chatfield township, Crawford county, Mr. Scheerer was employed as a journeyman carpenter for four years and then began contracting and building on his own account, which pursuit he followed with good success for seven years. The money he saved enabled him, in 1853, to purchase sixty acres of land, upon which he located, giving his time to the development of his farm and his building operations. He had cleared almost the entire tract, when, in 1863, he removed to the farm upon which he now resides, and which has been his home for thirty-eight years. Today he owns a quarter section of rich land, well improved, and his valuable farm is attractive with its many improvements, including a fine residence, which he planned and erected.

In 1850 Mr. Scheerer was married to Miss Elizabeth Schaaek, who was born November 8, 1828, in Schmittshausen, county of Zweibruecken, Rhine province, Bavaria, Germany. She came to America in 1849 and in 1850 was married to Mr. Scheerer. This union was blessed with seven children, of whom six are living, their names being as follows: Henry, of Seneca county; Jacob and John, farmers of Chatfield township, Crawford county; Sarah, the wife of Solomon Klink, of Liberty township; Elizabeth, the wife of Emanuel Pfeiderer; and Louisa, the wife of George Pfeiderer, also of the same township. These are residing on farms near Ridgeton and Sulphur Springs.

Mr. and Mrs. Scheerer are members of the German Reformed church, and in politics he is a Democrat. He has never had occasion to regret his

determination to make America his home, for in this land, where ambition and energy are not hampered by caste or class, he has worked his way steadily upward and has not only gained prosperity, but has also made many warm friends.

#### WILLIAM H. MILLER.

William H. Miller is now living a retired life in Bucyrus, after long connection with stock dealing interests, whereby he won a handsome competence that now enables him to put aside the more arduous duties of business. He was born September 4, 1844, in Winchester, Ohio, and is a son of John Miller, who died during the early boyhood of our subject. The father was a native of Germany and emigrated to this country about 1830, settling at Winchester, Crawford county, about 1837. The mother, Mrs. Catherine Miller, is still living.

William Henry Miller acquired his education in the common schools of his native county and subsequently resided with his brother-in-law, Jacob Yeaagly, whom he assisted in farm work, receiving as compensation for his services his board and clothing. He was thus employed until about seventeen or eighteen years of age, after which he worked for Ephraim Monnett and G. H. Wright. He afterward entered the service of William Kinear, with whom he remained until February, 1864, when he responded to the country's call for aid, enlisting as a member of Company E, Thirty-fourth Ohio Mounted Infantry. He was then only nineteen years of age. His command was known as Captain Shaw's Company, and after the promotion of Captain Shaw, Captain Helwig was in charge. Mr. Miller participated in the battle of Lynchburg and of Staunton and in the movement in western Virginia. He was wounded on the 24th of July, at the battle of Winchester, being shot through the hips. He was then taken from the field by two comrades, being supported by placing his arms around their necks, and in this way he was dragged along until late in the evening, when he was placed on a horse and rode until about ten or eleven o'clock at night. He was then put in an ambulance, in which he remained until the next afternoon, when he was transferred to a freight car with many other wounded comrades and thus taken to Sandy Hook, Maryland, where his wounds were dressed in the field hospital. He there remained for several days, and he and his comrades were again placed in box cars and sent to Baltimore. While in the hospital in that city gangrene set in and he also suffered from fever. Many

of his comrades died of flesh wounds, from the effects of gangrene and blood poisoning, but the best possible care and attention was given the wounded soldiers. From Baltimore Mr. Miller was afterward transferred to Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia, where he remained until the surrender of General Lee, when he received an honorable discharge and returned to Bucyrus.

Here Mr. Miller worked at various employments for a time, after which he returned to the service of Mr. Monnett. After a time he was married and began farming upon rented land in Marion county, Ohio, which he operated on the shares, continuing to make that place his home for five years. He then rented a farm in Crawford county, of Robert Kerr, giving part cash for the use of the land, and paying the remainder of the rental in farm products. In a few years he was able to rent the entire farm of six hundred and forty acres, for which he gave fifteen hundred dollars a year. He then began dealing in stock-buying, feeding and selling cattle, and for about thirteen years he remained upon the Kerr farm. He then purchased a farm of one hundred and twenty acres south of Bucyrus, for which he paid nine thousand dollars. After a year or two there passed he engaged in buying and shipping stock, in partnership with Samuel Shriber. After leaving the farm he continued in that business for three years. He rented the place and took up his abode in Bucyrus, however, continuing the stock business until the spring of 1900, when he retired to private life. In 1887 he purchased of Charles Raymer a farm of eighty acres, for the sum of three thousand seven hundred and fifty dollars, and in 1896 he purchased another tract of eighty acres on the east, known as the Morris farm, for which he gave thirty-four hundred dollars. His business affairs as a stock dealer were prosecuted so diligently and managed with such keen discrimination that he was annually enabled to add to his income and is now the possessor of a handsome competence.

In August, 1866, Mr. Miller was united in marriage to Miss Lucinda Weirick, a daughter of Aaron and Margaret Weirick. Her father was born in Weiricktown, Pennsylvania, June 6, 1814, and about 1834 emigrated to Crawford county, Ohio, where he purchased and operated a farm. His wife bore the maiden name of Margaret A. Clark, and was a daughter of Archibald and Ann Clark. Her birth occurred April 5, 1819. The mother of Mrs. Weirick's paternal grandmother lived to the very advanced age of one hundred and three years. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Miller have been born four daughters and a son, namely: Josephine, born April 29, 1867, Ellamina, born March 6, 1869; Margaret, born February 6, 1871, and died on the



same day; Florence, born February 11, 1872; and Sanford Aaron, who was born April 22, 1874, and died August 9, 1882. Mr. Miller is a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church, of Bucyrus, contributes liberally to its support and is deeply interested in all that pertains to its upbuilding and advancement.

#### GEORGE WECHTER.

George Wechter was born in Monroe county, New York, October 1, 1829, and is to-day one of the wide-awake and progressive farmers of Cranberry township, Crawford county. He is the eldest child of George and Frances (Hertrich) Wechter, and the family is of French lineage. His father was born in France, in 1806, and learned the blacksmith's trade, after which he crossed the Atlantic to the new world, making the voyage in 1828. He was accompanied by his wife and one child. Locating in Rochester, New York, he there followed various occupations until he had acquired a few hundred dollars, when he purchased a small place of seven acres near the city, residing thereon until 1853, when he came to Ohio. Here he purchased eighty acres of land in Chatfield township, Crawford county, and successfully carried on agricultural pursuits for some time, when he sold that property and bought a quarter section of land in Cranberry township, upon which his son Frank now resides. Throughout his remaining days he carried on farming, his life's labors being ended in death in 1884. His study of American politics led to his support of Democratic principles. In religious faith he was a Catholic, and in the community where he took up his abode he was well known and highly respected for his possession of many sterling characteristics. His children were George; Mary A., the wife of Peter Miller, of Grand Rapids, Michigan; Jacob, of Allen county, Indiana; Joseph, a florist of Rochester, New York; and Franklin, who is living in Cranberry township.

George Wechter had the usual experiences of farmer boys in youth, enjoying the pleasures of the play-ground, attending to the duties of the school-room and assisting in the work of the home farm. In 1850 he was united in wedlock to Miss Mary A. Brinderman, of Rochester, New York, but a native of Prussia, having come to the United States with her parents when a young lady of eighteen years. Mr. Wechter and his bride began their domestic life in the suburbs of Rochester and during the four succeeding years he was employed in a nursery or along other lines of labor that would yield him an honest living. Thinking to better his financial condition further

west, he came to Crawford county, Ohio, in 1854, and was employed as a farm hand in Cranberry township until 1860, when, with the capital he had acquired through his industry and economy, he purchased his present home place, comprising twenty-six and three-fourths acres. It has been his residence for forty-one years, and his labors have been given to its cultivation and improvement.

On the 1st of October, 1862, Mr. Wechter was drafted into the service of his country, and leaving his wife to care for the family of five children in their forest home, he shouldered his musket and started with his comrades for the front. He was mustered in as a member of Company F, Sixty-fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. The regiment was assigned to the Army of the Cumberland, under General Rosecrans, and was stationed for some time at Bowling Green, Kentucky, and at Murfreesboro, Tennessee. The troops were also ordered to Chattanooga, but the order was countermanded. They reached Stone River three days after the battle at that point, and after doing guard duty at the places mentioned Mr. Wechter was mustered out of the service at Hillsboro, Tennessee, on the 1st of August, 1863. He then returned to his family and resumed the responsibilities and burden of their support, having since devoted his attention assiduously to farm work.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Wechter have been born five children: George and David, who are residents of Cranberry township; Jacob, who operates the home place; Agnes, the wife of Peter Maas, a resident farmer of Cranberry township; and Mary, deceased. The family hold membership in the Catholic church, and in his political views Mr. Wechter is a Democrat, but has never sought or desired the emoluments of public office, his time being fully occupied by his business duties.

#### BERNARD YOUNG.

Bernard Young owns and operates one hundred acres of land in Cranberry township and the well developed farm gives every evidence of the careful supervision of an owner at once practical and progressive. He was born on the 1st of January, 1855, in Crawford county, his parents being Peter and Mary (Stein) Young. The father was a native of Alsace, France, now a part of Germany. His birth occurred in 1815 and when he was eighteen years of age he crossed the Atlantic to the new world with his parents. His father was Louis Young, who came to this country in 1833 and on his arrival here took up his abode in Crawford county and entered land in both

Auburn and Cranberry townships, the former then a part of Richland county. Subsequently he became an extensive land owner, his possessions aggregating several hundred acres. After the death of his wife he returned to the fatherland on a visit and while there was taken ill and died.

Peter Young, the father of our subject, lived with his parents until his marriage, which occurred in 1839, Miss Mary Stein becoming his wife. He then located on a tract of land in Auburn township, belonging to his father, and then cultivated the same on the shares for a number of years. Later he acquired a farm of his own, where his son Bernard now resides. It then comprised two hundred acres, and upon the place he remained until called to the home beyond. In 1865 he purchased a farm of one hundred and fifty-two acres on the corporation line of New Washington, now owned by Thomas Nedolus. In his political views he was a stanch Democrat. For some years he served as trustee of Cranberry township, called to that office by the vote of his neighbors, who recognized his worth and ability. Of the Catholic church he is an ardent and zealous member and through a long period served as church trustee and in other ecclesiastical offices. His wife was born in Luterling, Alsace, about 1819, and made the journey across the Atlantic about the time of the emigration of the Young family, taking up their abode in that portion of Crawford county which was then included in Richland county. Her death occurred in the year 1886. Mr. and Mrs. Young were the parents of ten children, but only four are now living, namely: Catherine, wife of Bernard Alt, of Auburn township; Margaret, who is engaged in teaching school in Buffalo, New York; Barbara, who resides in Putnam county, Ohio; and Bernard, of this review.

At the usual age our subject entered the school-room and therein mastered the principles of English learning. He was married June 24, 1884, to Miss Catherine Kastner, a native of Crawford county and a daughter of Andrew and Cecelia (Horning) Kastner, both natives of Baden, Germany. In early manhood the father came to the United States and the mother was brought to America by her parents when a little maiden of only three years. Both became residents of Crawford county. Unto our subject and his wife were born four children: Charles, Frank, Cecelia and Joseph.

Mr. and Mrs. Young began their domestic life on the farm where they yet reside, our subject there owning one hundred acres of land, which had been given him by his father. The place is divided into fields of convenient size by well-kept fences. The cereals best adapted to the climate are raised, the buildings are kept in good repair and the farm in all its appointments is

modern and well improved. Mr. Young votes with the Democracy and in religious belief is a Catholic. He now serves as one of the trustees of the church and contributes in large measure to the promotion of the cause. His entire life has been passed in Crawford county and the fact that many of his best friends are numbered among those who have known him from boyhood, is an indication of an honorable career.

### J. P. SHEEHAND.

J. P. Sheehand, who is one of the early settlers of Crawford county and for many years was a well-known railroad engineer, was born on a canal boat near Cincinnati, November 20, 1834, his parents being William and Mary (Patten) Sheehand. His father was a native of Ireland and on coming to this country became a canal boat captain on the Dayton & Pickaway canal. His wife was born in Kentucky and is now living, at the age of seventy-eight years, in Loudonville, Ashland county, Ohio. This worthy couple became the parents of nine children, but only three are now living, namely: William P., who is a passenger conductor on the St. Louis & Alton Railroad; Margaret, the wife of John Davis, of Loudonville, Ohio; and J. P., of this review.

Our subject is the eldest of the surviving children. His parents removed to Ashland county, locating on a farm, where he was reared, early becoming familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. In his youth he attended the district schools of the neighborhood and afterward began working on the railroad, driving a cart at the time of the building of the Pennsylvania road through Ashland county. He was afterward employed on a construction train, carrying water and oiling cars. His next service was in the capacity of brakeman. He worked in that way on the first local freight train on the Pennsylvania road, running between Crestline and Alliance, Ohio, and for three years he acted in that capacity, after which he was employed as fireman for two years and eight months on the same line. He was next promoted to the position of engineer and for thirty-eight years he acted in that capacity on the Pennsylvania Railroad, running most of the time between Crestline and Alliance. For eighteen years he was passenger engineer on one of the fast trains. He is the oldest employe of the Pennsylvania Railroad at this place, being continuously in their service since 1853, during which time he was never suspended from duty. He has, however, suffered from injuries from railroad wrecks, having at one

time been incapacitated for work for three months. The company, however, recognize him as a most careful, expert and reliable engineer, and no higher testimonial of faithful service can be given than the statement of the fact of his long continuance with one occupation.

In the year 1856, Mr. Sheehand was united in marriage to Miss Sidna Van Gill, and unto them have been born four children who are yet living, namely: Frank, who is a passenger engineer on the Pennsylvania Railroad; William L., a master mechanic at Massillon, Ohio; Clyde, who is engaged in the telephone business in Crestline; and Laura, the wife of W. K. Scott, of Galion. Mr. Sheehand belongs to the Masonic lodge and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Crestline, and is one of the pioneers of the place, having long been identified with its interests, and his co-operation is heartily given to every movement and measure for the general good. He has a very wide acquaintance here, the circle constantly increasing with the passing years and the number of his friends is almost co-extensive with the number of his acquaintances.

#### JACOB J. PFLEIDERER.

Prominently identified with the farming and stock interests of Crawford county is Jacob J. Pfeiderer, a resident of Liberty township. The birth of Mr. Pfeiderer was in this township, on August 4, 1860, and he was the son of David and Mary (Heckenlively) Pfeiderer.

In 1831 the grandparents of Jacob J. Pfeiderer, who were Christian and Barbara (Auberly) Pfeiderer, emigrated from their native country, Germany, to America, and stopped for a few months in Columbiana county, Ohio, en route to Crawford county, arriving in the latter in the spring of 1831. Christian Pfeiderer located on a tract of eighty acres of land in Liberty township, which at that time was still virgin forest. After entering this tract of land from the government, Christian here built a pioneer cabin of logs, a part of which still stands. Those were busy days, but gradually the land was cleared and from time to time other tracts were added to it, until finally it became one of the largest, as well as the best, farms in Crawford county.

David Pfeiderer, the son of Christian and Barbara Pfeiderer, came to this country and to this county with his parents when they emigrated from Germany. He grew to manhood here and on November 13, 1842, was united in marriage to Miss Mary Heckenlively, of Chatfield township. She was born in Columbiana county, Ohio, on September 15, 1826, and was a daugh-



ter of John and Margaret (Lefler) Heckenlively, both of whom were natives of Wurtemberg, Germany, and came to the United States in the same vessel, and were married in Baltimore three weeks after landing, and went then to Columbiana county, Ohio. In 1832, with friends, they went to Phillipsburg, Ohio, where they remained some eighteen months, and in 1833 they emigrated to Crawford county, where the grandfather entered eighty acres of land in Chatfield township, a mile west of the town of Chatfield, built a log cabin in the big woods, and began the clearing of the land. Here he lived until about 1843. His first wife died in 1839, and in 1843 he married a second time and removed to Liberty township. After coming to Crawford county he began his gospel ministry, in the English Lutheran church, and for several years traveled in Iowa as one of its efficient missionaries. To the marriage of David and Mary Pfeiderer fourteen children were born, and eleven of these still survive, viz.: Magdalena, the wife of Christian Harmon, of Warsaw, Indiana; Mary A., the wife of Gottlieb Lindharth, of Liberty township; Abraham, of Kosciusko county, Indiana; Margaret, at home; Barbara, the wife of Reuben Crall, of Liberty township; Lydia, the wife of Samuel Ulmer, who conducts a sawmill at Sulphur Springs; Isaac, of Liberty township; Jacob, of this sketch, a twin brother of Isaac; Leonora, the wife of Jacob Ulmer, of Liberty township; Caroline, the wife of S. Light, of Liberty township; and Clara, the wife of Henry Sheiber, of Liberty township.

After marriage Mr. Pfeiderer located on a farm of eighty acres adjoining the home place and still later, when given the opportunity, purchased the home farm from the other heirs, and thus became one of the large landholders of the county. He took an intelligent interest in public affairs and was particularly prominent in the Evangelical church, where for twenty-five years he did all he could to advance the cause of religion. He was very liberal and assisted in the building of two churches and was a man who possessed the confidence and esteem of every member of the community. In September, 1898, he was stricken with paralysis of the left side, this affliction causing him to grow very nervous, and the end came on January 17, 1901, at the age of seventy-eight years, one month and fifteen days. His widow survives and resides on the old homestead.

Jacob J. Pfeiderer grew to manhood on the home farm and obtained his education in the common schools. At the age of twenty years he began the business of buying and selling stock and was very successful in this line. On December 11, 1883, he was united in marriage with Miss Mary A. Chambers, who was a native of this township, having been born on the farm which

adjoins her home. Her parents were William and Elizabeth (Heller) Chambers, the former of whom was a native of Crawford county. His father, Elias Chambers, was one of the early pioneers of Crawford county, while his mother, Elizabeth Heller, was a native of Dauphin county, Pennsylvania, and had been brought to Crawford county when but seven years of age, by her parents, Jacob and Catherine (Hay) Heller. To our subject and wife six children have been born: V. Blanche, Elgar J., Florence E., Mary Elizabeth, Ernest Merl and Lois M. The three eldest of these children have displayed unusual intelligence and have passed the Boxwell examination, and all are being thoroughly educated and give every promise of becoming an honor to their estimable parents, as well as useful citizens of Crawford county.

The first year following our subject's marriage he spent in farming on the home farm and then rented a farm belonging to his wife's grandfather, which was located across the road from his present farm, and in 1890 he purchased it, the tract containing one hundred and fifteen acres. Here the family resided until 1895, when Mr. Pfeiderer bought forty acres of the farm he now occupies and removed to it, across the road, and rented his large farm to a tenant. In 1899 he purchased an additional ten acres, which was adjoining land, and now this home place consists of fifty acres and is one of the most attractive places in the vicinity. In 1900 he rebuilt the family residence, introducing all modern improvements, and he now possesses an ideal country home. Since 1893 he has done little farming, having then sold his agricultural implements, and now devotes his time to the buying and shipping of stock, and is known as one of the most successful dealers through the state.

Mr. Pfeiderer has been a life-long Democrat and has been very active in party affairs. From 1893 to 1899 he served most efficiently in the office of township trustee and has exerted considerable influence in this section. Both he and wife are leading members of the Evangelical church.

#### HENRY N. OBERLANDER.

The gentleman whose name is mentioned above and who is a well-known farmer of Lykens township, Crawford county, Ohio, is descended from old and honorable trans-Atlantic stock, which was transplanted to one of our eastern colonies, whence his father, Emanuel Oberlander, emigrated to Ohio at a period early enough to be counted among the pioneers of this great state.



*H. K. Oberlander.*



All those qualities of mind and heart, all those characteristics which make for personal success and good citizenship, have been conspicuous in nearly every generation of his family.

Henry N. Oberlander is a native of Lykens township, Crawford county, and was born on the 14th day of March, 1863. He received his early education in such crude public schools near his home as were in vogue at that time and was early initiated into the mysteries of practical farming. According to his father what was his father's due, he remained with him, assisting him in every way possible, until he was twenty-one years old, then with willing hands and active brain and a clean record he took up the battle of life on his own account. He began his independent business career by renting the farm which he now owns, which became his by purchase in 1895. The farm consists of one hundred and twenty acres of well improved and very productive land, in connection with which for the past ten years he has cultivated the Shalter farm. He has made many improvements on his place and gives his attention to general farming, in which he has been satisfactorily successful. Mr. Oberlander also owns and operates the grain elevator at Lykens, and in partnership with G. B. Quaintance owns and operates a grain elevator at Ridgeton, Ohio.

July 10, 1884, Mr. Oberlander married Lily M. Dillinger, a daughter of David Dillinger, deceased, and they have two children, named Wynona and Chalmers, who are now gaining an education. The daughter is especially promising, having obtained a teacher's license at the age of fifteen.

Politically Mr. Oberlander affiliates with the Democratic party and he exerts a not uncertain influence on local affairs. While he has never been an office seeker, a considerable number of responsible offices have sought him and in the interests of good government he has accepted them. He has twice filled the office of assessor in his township, and for five years has been a member of the board of education. During this time he has done everything in his power to improve the efficiency of the schools, and in the fall of 1900 was elected to the office of county commissioner, which he is filling with great ability and credit. It may be said of him that he is a man of pronounced public spirit, and his admiring fellow citizens bear testimony to the fact that he may safely be depended upon to advance to the extent of his ability any movement, which in his good judgment promises to benefit the people of his township or county. He is a member of Lykens Lodge, No. 530, Knights of Pythias.



## JOHN PFLEIDERER.

Prominent among the public-spirited, progressive and successful farmers of Liberty township, Crawford county, Ohio, is John Pfeleiderer, one of the most highly esteemed citizens of this locality. He is a product of this township, born here on November 14, 1833, a son of Christian and Barbara Pfeleiderer, who were natives of Germany and became early settlers in this part of the state. Seven children were born to these worthy pioneer parents, the three survivors being Christian, of this township; John, of this biography, and Daniel, also of this township.

John Pfeleiderer grew up in his father's house, a sturdy, healthy lad, noted for his strength and manliness, and at the age of twelve years was able to take his place with the grown laborers in the harvest field. He has seen the wonderful changes which have taken place in Liberty township, as his services were required to assist in the clearing of the fertile fields he now owns of the virgin forest growth. Well he remembers the hardships of those early days and recalls many interesting events of men and localities of which the world never tires of hearing, because of the prominence the Buckeye state has so long held in public regard.

After the marriage of his brother David, young John went to make his home with him, as he was his guardian, and worked for him until his marriage, on June 16, 1859, to Miss Mary A. Kafer, a native of Liberty township, and a daughter of Frederick Kafer, a native of Germany, who was an early settler of the county. Previous to his marriage he had made preparations for it by purchasing sixty acres of land, which is included in his present farm. In later years, as prosperity smiled upon him, on account of his persevering efforts, he gradually added until he now owns one hundred and sixty-one and one-half acres in the home place, and also owns a most desirable tract of eighty acres, located one and one-half miles south of Sulphur Springs, and also a section of land in Texas, which promises to be very valuable.

The eight surviving children of Mr. and Mrs. Pfeleiderer are: Franklin, Samuel, and Emanuel, of this township; Joseph, the farmer on the home place; Lizzie, the wife of George Abendroth, of this township; Amanda, the wife of Louis Witter, of Bucyrus; and Emma and Ida, at home.

Mr. Pfeleiderer is one of the most progressive farmers of this locality. His investments are undertaken with good judgment and are universally remunerative, while aside from his personal matters he is interested in any-

thing which promises to be of benefit to the locality. In politics he has always been a Democrat. For the past fourteen years he has faithfully served in the offices of the Lutheran church and contributes to it largely, ever being ready to promote its charitable and benevolent enterprises.

### JOHN GORDON.

The farming interests of Bucyrus township are in the hands of capable agriculturists, and one of these, who has shown a thorough understanding of the principles of modern farming, is John Gordon, a native of South Wales, born there, in county of Glamorgan, on March 3, 1849, being the only representative of his family in America. The parents of Mr. Gordon were Thomas and Catherine (Morris) Gordon, and they reared a family of seven children: Mary, Thomas, Eliza, John, Ann, Richard and George, Ann and Richard having passed away. Both parents have also passed out of life, while the others of the family still reside in the old home in South Wales.

John Gordon was reared on his father's farm and received a common-school education, remaining at home until he attained his majority, although he had long cherished a desire to see the country across the Atlantic. On the 20th day of May, 1870, he set sail for America, landing at Quebec, Canada, from which point he took a train to Toronto, a schoolmate living in that city. Later he made his way to Trumbull county, Ohio, where he secured lucrative employment on a dairy farm, and remained there for three years, in the employ of Noble Thompson. During the year 1874 he worked in the Pennsylvania oil regions, and then another year for Mr. Thompson, leaving him when Mr. Thompson sold his farm, but later again returned to this kind employer when he resided in Painesville.

It was during his association with Mr. Thompson that he had the good fortune of meeting the lady who later became his wife. She was the amiable daughter of Henry Flock, a prominent farmer of Bucyrus township, a visitor in the home of Mr. Thompson. The marriage of Mr. Gordon to Miss Callie F. Flock took place February 24, 1875, following which was their removal to Crewford county, where the home has ever since remained. For two years Mr. Gordon remained with his father-in-law and then bought land in Todd township, where he owns one hundred and sixty-eight acres of land. In 1888 Mr. Gordon returned to the farm of his father-in-law, where he now resides, the former, who lives retired, enjoying the care of his children and grandchildren. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Gordon were: Florence, Luella,

Henry, Elva, Alice and Letty, of whom Luella, Henry, and Alice survive. Mr. Gordon enjoys the respect and esteem of the neighborhood in the highest degree, and is known as one of the most intelligent and progressive farmers of the township.

Henry Flock, the father of Mrs. Gordon, is the eldest son of Stephen and Catherine Flock, and was born in the Rhine province of Bavaria, Germany, December 14, 1815, and there was thoroughly educated. While still a youth he went to work in order to contribute to the support of the family, but then wages were very low and many days he worked for twenty cents a day. In the locality of his home wood was scarce and it was necessary for him to haul fuel, or fagots, a distance of almost ten miles, on a wheelbarrow; consequently the stoves were seldom very hot. The law did not permit the peasants to cut green timber, and their way of obtaining fuel was to break off the dead limbs, it frequently being necessary for them to climb the trees in order to secure these branches. Upon one occasion young Henry became so benumbed with the cold, while in a tree, that he almost fell to the ground, and this, with other severe trials, led him to a determination to try his fortune in America.

When he became of military age he was too short to enter the service, and the officials put him back one year, expecting him to grow, but he failed to do so, and thus was rejected altogether. Although his inclinations were toward matrimony, circumstances were not promising, in Bavaria, and in 1839 he put into practice his resolve to leave the fatherland. Settling in Bucyrus, Ohio, he worked in a hotel for Abraham Hahn, remaining with him three years, receiving for his services seven dollars and fifty cents per month, and during this period, although sick for six months, he managed to save one hundred and fifty-eight dollars. Of this amount he sent forty-five dollars to Germany to pay the passage of Miss Catherine Slicker to America. Some two years later she reached the United States, and upon her arrival in Bucyrus she and Mr. Flock were married.

After severing his business connection with Mr. Hahn, Mr. Flock worked for three years for other parties, keeping continually busy, finally entering the employ of Dr. Willis Merriman, where he remained as a faithful clerk for seven years. In March, 1853, he removed to Wyandot and formed a partnership with James H. Reinicker in the mercantile business, and later Mr. Flock bought his partner's interest and continued the business until 1870, when he transferred it to his son. While residing in Wyandot, Mr. Flock served the village as postmaster for seven years, and while a clerk for Dr.

Merriman he was made treasurer of Bucyrus corporation, possessing the esteem and confidence of his fellow citizens. In 1870 he located on his present farm.

The first marriage of Mr. Flock was on September 22, 1842, to Catherine Slicker, born January 20, 1820, in Bavaria, who emigrated to America with the family of Peter Geiger. These children were born of this marriage: Mary, who married William Welsh; Daniel; Kate, who married Peter Bair; Louisa, who married John B. Welsh; Caroline, who married John Gordon. The mother died October 11, 1862, and the second marriage of Mr. Flock was on November 6, 1864, to Mary Jane Clark, who was a teacher in the schools of Bucyrus for several years. Her death occurred January 25, 1875. On October 11, 1877, occurred his marriage to Lena Hooker, who also passed away, his last wife having been Mary Stoll, who died in 1901.

When but thirteen years of age, Mr. Flock united with the Evangelical church, in Germany. When he settled in Bucyrus, he joined the German Lutheran church, and later in life the English Lutheran church.

#### ELI MILLER.

A thoroughly representative citizen and successful farmer of Holmes township, Crawford county, is Eli Miller, who was born in Richland county, Ohio, on March 13, 1850, a son of Joseph and Louisa (Hacker) Miller, and belonged to a family of ten children, nine of whom are living, viz.: Eli, of this biography; John S., residing on a part of the home farm; Ceno P., residing with his mother on the home place; Alva M., of Putnam county; Josiah, of Putnam county; Joseph F., of Wyandot county; Barbara, the wife of George Grau, of Whitley county, Indiana; Dora, the wife of Frank Muchling, of Putnam county; and Ellen, the wife of Joseph Nickler, of Liberty township. The parents of Mr. Miller were married in 1848, and they then located in Crawford county, purchasing the eighty acres of land which now is included in the Miller home, and as prosperity came the father purchased much more land, eighty acres lying to the north of his farm, eighty on the south and fifty a short distance east, making a large estate of two hundred and ninety acres in all. The father died January 28, 1897, and there passed away one of the most highly esteemed citizens of Holmes township.

Eli Miller, a worthy descendant of most excellent parents, was carefully reared by them through childhood, and attended the common schools. He was taught to be industrious and honest and those lessons have never been

forgotten. On February 20, 1873, he was married to Miss Julia A. Spahr, a native of this township, a daughter of George A. Spahr (a sketch of whom appears in another part of this volume), one of the prominent farmers of this county. Following his marriage, Mr. Miller purchased fifty acres of land in the vicinity of the home farm, but finding the payments too heavy for a beginner he sold the property to his father and rented land until the spring of 1888, when he removed to his present home farm, which he had acquired in the fall of 1883. Here Mr. Miller has given his attention most successfully to general farming and stock-raising, becoming, as the years have passed, one of the reliable and substantial farmers of Holmes township.

Five children came to Mr. and Mrs. Miller, the survivors being: Elmer M., Dennis E., Harvey L., and Alfred E., Clarence J. being the name of the little son that passed early out of life. With the exception of Dennis, who is engaged in teaming in Bucyrus, these manly, intelligent sons still remain under the parental roof. In politics Mr. Miller is a Democrat, and has taken a great interest in public affairs. For the past seven years he has been a trustee in the United Brethren church, of which he has long been a worthy member and to which his contributions are most substantial. Holmes township is fortunate in having among its citizens such honest, energetic and progressive men as Eli Miller.

#### ORWIN B. MONNETT.

Agriculture forms the basis of all commercial and industrial prosperity. It is the corner stone of the business structure and has led to the upbuilding of many nations. The rich and fertile lands of Ohio have become the place of residence for a prosperous and contented people who have established a commonwealth of which they have every reason to be proud. Among the successful agriculturists and stock-raisers now identified with the interests of Crawford county is the gentleman whose name introduces this review and who was born on one of the old and valuable farms of this portion of the state—the Monnett homestead, in Bucyrus township. The date of his birth was September 29, 1850. His father, the Rev. T. J. Monnett, was a Methodist minister, and, in accordance with the laws of that denomination, he was removed from one pastorate to another, so that our subject spent his youth in various places, including Fostoria, Kenton and Upper Sandusky. When he was ten years of age his father retired from the ministry and the family took up their abode on the old homestead in Bucyrus township where his birth had occurred and



where he remained until nineteen years of age. In the fall of 1869 he was sent to the Ohio Wesleyan University, at Delaware, there to supplement his preliminary scholastic training with more advanced education. After a year, however, his health failed him and he had to abandon the course. He next took a course in J. W. Sharp's Commercial School, at Delaware, and was graduated with the highest honors of his class. He then became bookkeeper for the Bucyrus Woolen Mill Company, and after a year spent in that position he became a partner in a grocery store, the connection being maintained for a little more than two years.

Mr. Monnett then returned to the farm, but in a short time became an employe of the American Express Company and assistant ticket agent for the Big Four Railroad Company at Galion, which service continued for about seven months. In 1876 he returned to the farm and was engaged in its cultivation until 1882, when he removed to Bucyrus, where he filled the position of superintendent for the Bucyrus Gas Light & Fuel Company for four and a half years. His father was interested in the company, and when he sold out Mr. Monnett, of this review, again resumed farming on the old home place, where he has since remained, being ranked among the leading farmers and stock-raisers of the county. He has been especially interested in sheep-growing for a number of years, and keeps on hand several hundred head of sheep. He has four hundred acres of rich land, divided into highly cultivated fields and rich meadows, and the work carried on within the boundaries of his farm brings a good financial return.

In 1877 Mr. Monnett was united in marriage to Miss Annie Hoffman, a daughter of Charles F. Hoffman, who many years ago was a well-known business man of Bucyrus, and is now living a retired life in Houston, Texas. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Monnett have been born two children, Ethel and Bessie, both of whom are at home. The family attend the Methodist Episcopal church, of which Mr. and Mrs. Monnett are members. He has taken quite an active interest in politics as an advocate of the Republican party, and was its candidate for county treasurer in 1899. He made a good race, running ahead of the state ticket, but as his party is in the minority in the county he was defeated. He was the candidate for county sheriff in 1901. He is a member of the Republican executive committee of Crawford county, and belongs to the Farmers' Institute. For a number of years he has been a correspondent for the home papers and for the Ohio State Journal, also the Pittsburg National Stockman and Farmers' Journal. Under the nom de plume of Tim Frinx he has written much of a humorous character for the Forum. His articles are

entertaining, fluently written and many of them are of great value, especially those pertaining to agricultural and stock-raising subjects, for his wide experience in these departments of labor and his excellent success have made his opinions worthy of adoption. Well known in his native county as a citizen of worth, as a reliable business man, as a trustworthy friend and as a considerate husband and father, these qualities have gained him admiration and esteem.

### JOHN HOFFMANN.

Nature has certainly intended that the last years of man shall be spent in retirement. He loses the vigor and strength of former years, and the fitting crown of an active career is rest from labor. This has been vouchsafed to Mr. Hoffmann as the reward of a busy and useful life. He was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, September 13, 1842. His father, Andrew Hoffmann, was a native of the same locality, and the grandfather was born, lived and died in that portion of Germany. Andrew Hoffmann was born in 1817, and in 1854 came to America, bringing with him his family. He had married Margaret Schaeffer, also a native of Hesse-Darmstadt, born in the year 1822. They became the parents of thirteen children, of whom six are yet living: Adam, who married Lovina Coyer and is now deceased; George, who is married and resides in California; John, of this review; Andrew, who married Carry Kauaram; Margaret, now the widow of David Blum; Catherine, wife of John Mathias; Elizabeth, the widow of John Esinger; and six who died in infancy. The mother of this family passed away in 1893. John Hoffmann pursued his education in the schools of Germany for five years and then accompanied his parents on their emigration to America when a lad of eleven summers. His father died the second day after they arrived in Ohio. The family made their way direct to Crestline and John continued his education in the schools of this city for a short time, but soon began to earn his own livelihood, working at any employment which would yield to him an honest living. Later, however, he began learning the shoemaker's trade, which he followed for two years, and subsequently learned the baker's trade. He was then engaged in the baking and grocery business in Crestline for thirty-three years, one of the oldest merchants in years of continuous connection with commercial circles in the city. He had a well-conducted establishment, supplied with everything in his line, and his trade was a large and profitable one. Thus year by year he increased his income, for his moderate prices, honorable deal-

ing and earnest desire to please his patrons enabled him to have a liberal patronage.

Mr. Hoffmann was united in marriage to Miss Johanna Frank, who was born in Germany, May 24, 1844, and in early life came to the United States with her parents, first locating in Erie, Pennsylvania. Her father, George Frank, was born in Germany, in 1804, and in 1845 bade adieu to the fatherland, crossing the briny deep to the new world. He afterward became a farmer in Morrow county, Ohio, where he died about 1875. His wife bore the maiden name of Margaret Heigle, and she, too, was born in Germany. After the death of her husband she came to Crawford county, where her remaining days were passed. Mrs. Hoffmann accompanied her parents from Pennsylvania to Morrow county, Ohio, and thence came to Crawford county. The marriage of our subject and his wife was celebrated in Morrow county and has been blessed with six children, but the first two, Matilda and Emma, are now deceased, and Charles, the fourth member of the family, has also passed away. The others are: Elizabeth; Anna, the wife of A. Fabor; and Frances. Mr. Hoffmann gives his political support to the Democracy, and is a member of the German Reformed church. Entering upon his business career at a very early age, with no friends or influence to aid him, he has advanced steadily through the strength of his own merit and as the result of close application and untiring industry. Such a career should serve as a source of inspiration to others to whom fate seems unkind. Success can always be gained by determined purpose and honorable dealing when guided by sound judgment, and it is such qualities that won for Mr. Hoffmann his place among the representative men and leading merchants of Crestline. Although he is not yet sixty years of age, he has a competence sufficient to enable him to live without further labor and to enjoy the fruits of his former toil.

#### FRANK P. WARNER.

One of the public-spirited and progressive citizens of Crawford county, Ohio, who is prominent in his locality both in political and religious circles, is Frank Warner, who was born on the farm where he now resides, on October 8, 1852, and was a son of John and Rebecca J. (French) Warner, who had six children, four of whom survive, these being as follows: William, a resident of Hicksville, Defiance county; Julia, the widow of J. H. Fry, of Sulphur Springs, this state; Frank, the subject of this sketch; and Thomas J., a resident of this township.

John Warner, the father of our subject and one of the most highly esteemed citizens of Liberty township, was born in York county, Pennsylvania, on June 9, 1817, and was a son of Charles and Catherine (Boblets) Warner, who, with their family, removed from their native state and settled in Harrison county, Ohio, where they remained nine years, removing at the end of that time to Vernon township, Crawford county, where John has since resided. John Warner assisted his father in clearing up his land and learned the carpenter trade. Soon after beginning business for himself his shop was burned and he lost all of his tools, but he soon earned more, and in the course of time accumulated a considerable fortune, owning two farms, comprising in the aggregate two hundred and forty acres of land. In politics he was a Democrat and for some sixteen or eighteen years held the office of justice of the peace and also served his township in other positions. For many years he was a leading member of the Lutheran church, and for a long period was an official member. His death occurred on September 17, 1896, when he had reached his eightieth year, passing away with the respect of his fellow citizens and lamented by a large circle of friends.

The mother of our subject was born in Cumberland, Maryland, a daughter of Judge French, who was one of the first settlers of the county. Mrs. Warner died in 1892, one of the most esteemed residents of Vernon township, where she was beloved for her many acts of neighborly kindness.

Frank P. Warner, who is the subject of this biography, was reared at his paternal home and acquired his education in the common schools, where he was an apt and ambitious student. By his marriage, on December 24, 1874, to Miss Isabelle Maxwell, he became connected with one of the prominent families of Defiance county, Ohio. Mrs. Warner was a daughter of William R. Maxwell, who occupied a number of important positions in his county, where for twenty-four years he was a justice of the peace, during which time he performed eighty-four marriage ceremonies. For eight years Mr. Maxwell was county commissioner, and regret was expressed very universally throughout Defiance county on the occasion of his death, in 1899, at the age of seventy-seven years.

After marriage our subject and his estimable wife established their home on the farm, where Mr. Warner engaged in farming on shares for a time. At the death of his father a portion of the estate came into his possession, by will, and later he purchased the interests of the other heirs, and is now the owner of the whole one hundred and fifty-three acres, this land having been earned by his father by work at his trade of carpenter during his earlier years. It is

a very valuable and highly improved property and makes one of the most agreeable homes in the township. The one son born to our subject and wife, Charles Ray, was reared and educated in this locality and later married Miss Maud Weaver, and now the hospitable old home roof shelters the two families, the son assisting his father in the management of the property.

Mr. Warner comes of a Democratic family and is a staunch supporter of Democratic men and measures. Like his father, he has long been a leading member of the Lutheran church, belonging to the church council, while fraternally he is connected with Tiro Lodge, No. 592, K. of P., and is recognized as one of the best farmers of Vernon township.

### PHILIP BENDER.

Honored and respected by all, there is no man in Crawford county who occupies a more enviable position in business circles than Philip Bender, who for many years has devoted his energies to the tilling of the soil and to the raising of a high grade of stock. A native of Richland county, Ohio, his birth occurred on the 5th of April, 1857, a son of Jacob Bender, also of this county. Our subject received his education in the primitive schools of his locality, and on his father's farm he was early inured to the work of field and meadow. In 1881, in company with his brother John, he assumed the management of the homestead farm, which they continued for about ten years. On the 18th of December, 1891, he was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth May, a daughter of Lewis May, of Vernon township. For one year after his marriage our subject continued farming the old home farm in partnership with his brother, although he maintained his residence in Tiro. In March, 1893, he removed to the farm which he now owns and occupies, he and his father purchasing of William Hanley one hundred and sixteen acres, our subject becoming the owner of forty-six acres, while his father took possession of the remaining seventy acres. Subsequently Mr. Bender purchased his father's interest in the tract, thus becoming the owner of the entire one hundred and sixteen acres. In 1900 he rebuilt his barn, and has improved his place in many other ways until it is now one of the valuable and attractive homesteads of the township. In addition to the raising of the cereals best adapted to this soil and climate he is also extensively engaged in the breeding of Aberdeen cattle, and in both branches of his business he has met with a high and well-merited degree of success.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Bender has been brightened and blessed by the



presence of two children.—Carrie M. and Clarence T. The family is one of prominence in their locality, and are attendants and liberal supporters of the Lutheran church. Mr. Bender gives his political support to the Democratic party. He is an energetic business man of marked ability, a progressive citizen and justly popular in his wide circle of acquaintances.

#### WILLIAM S. TUTTLE.

Wherever they have found residence in the United States, Canadians have been model citizens, and their descendants have followed in their footsteps. Prominent among Canadians who have settled in Crawford county, Ohio, was the late Alvin F. Tuttle, whose son, William S. Tuttle, is a well-known farmer of Texas township.

Alvin F. Tuttle was born near Elizabethtown, Canada, May 26, 1818, and was reared to manhood there. In 1839 he settled in Lykens township, Crawford county, Ohio. In 1841 he was joined by his parents, and they bought eighty acres of land where John Tuttle now lives. Later Alvin F. Tuttle removed to Texas township and bought eighty acres of land where his son, William S. Tuttle, now resides. He added to his original purchase until he owned one hundred and ninety acres, which he cleared and improved until it was a valuable agricultural property. He was a Republican in politics from the organization of that party until his death, and took much interest in township affairs, serving his fellow citizens as township clerk and filling the office of assessor of taxes for more than fifteen years. He was for more than sixty years a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, devout in his worship, regular in his attendance at stated services and generous in his contributions toward the support of its material interests. When he came to the county he began his career in a log cabin which he erected in the wilderness. The woods were alive with game of all kinds and the Indians were frequent visitors at his humble abode. He was married October 1, 1844, to Eliza Thompson, who died May 26, 1893. He died May 26, 1901, and they are buried in Poplar cemetery near their old home. They had five children, the following information concerning four of whom will be found interesting: Norsicy A. died in infancy; George T. lives at Bucyrus, Ohio; V. O., who was a butcher, died in Nevada; and Dow J. is a merchant at Sycamore, Ohio.

William S. Tuttle, youngest child of Alvin F. and Eliza (Thompson) Tuttle, was born on the farm in Texas township, Crawford county, Ohio, on which he now lives, September 17, 1856. He was reared to farm labor and

educated in the district school. He farmed in association with his father until the latter's death, and is one of the most successful general farmers in the township. He is now the owner of his father's old homestead. In politics he is a Republican, and he has held the office of trustee of Texas township for five years. He is a Knight of Pythias and is widely known as a popular, enterprising and public-spirited man. January 1, 1880, he married Miss Jennie Dunlap.

### JOSEPH M. SHELL.

A brilliant example of a self-made American citizen and a grand exemplification of the progress that an ambitious foreigner can make in this country of unbounded opportunities is shown in the case of Joseph M. Shell, one of the leading Austrian-American residents of Ohio. His singular success is due to his own energy and the high ideal which his lofty and laudable ambition placed before him. Success in any walk of life is an indication of earnest endeavor and persevering effort,—characteristics that Mr. Shell possesses in an eminent degree.

He was born in Austria, on the 17th of September, 1845, and his parents, Joseph and Catherine (Lautner) Shell, were also natives of the same country. The father was born in 1824 and was a son of Frank Shell, a potter by trade. He, too, learned the potter's trade and followed that occupation in the town of Staab. In 1872 he came to America, locating in Venice township, Seneca county, Ohio, where he purchased a small tract of land of twenty-six and two-thirds acres and turned his attention to farming, engaging in that pursuit up to the time of his death, which occurred on the 1st of April, 1877. He was a member of the Catholic church and died in that faith. His wife, who was born in 1825, was a daughter of John Lautner, also a potter by trade, and her death occurred in the year 1896. This worthy couple were the parents of eleven children, but only four are now living, namely: Joseph M.; Barbara, wife of Wenzl Muhr, a resident farmer of Cranberry township; Amelia, wife of Andrew Schott, an agriculturist of Chatfield township; and Charlie, who is engaged in the cultivation of a tract of land in Huron county, Ohio.

In the schools of his native land Joseph M. Shell pursued a thorough education in the German tongue, and after coming to America he was through one winter a student in the English school near his home. He also attended night school, and thus became a well-informed man, whose knowledge is continually being supplemented by reading, experience and observation. In early

manhood he entered his father's pottery and mastered the business. Believing that better opportunities were afforded for advancement in the new world, he bade adieu to home and friends in 1865 and sailed for the United States, landing in New York City on the 12th of November, after a voyage of forty-nine days on the sailing vessel *Louis Henry*. The day after his arrival he proceeded to Cleveland, where he arrived with a cash capital of only two dollars, and of this sum he paid one dollar and fifty-six cents for a comfort. For two years he worked at his trade in that city and then went to Shenandoah, Richland county, where he engaged in the pottery business for a year. It was during his residence there that he supplemented his education by one term's attendance in the district school. In the spring of 1868 he came to New Washington, Crawford county, erected a residence and a shop and embarked in the pottery business on his own account. But the new enterprise did not prove profitable, and after a year he closed his shop and secured a situation in connection with the building of the Mansfield, Coldwater & Lake Michigan Railroad, which was then being constructed through New Washington. He was employed in that capacity for about a year and also worked in a water house. Later he followed any labor that would yield him a living, and in the fall of 1874, having through his diligence, perseverance and economy acquired some capital, he purchased forty acres of land one mile west of his present home. In the following spring he removed to his farm, which was partially cleared, and with characteristic energy began its further development and improvement, transforming it into a comfortable home and richly cultivated fields. He soon remodeled the house and in 1881 he built a bank barn. Two years later he sold the property for one hundred and ten dollars per acre, and through the succeeding year he engaged in the cultivation of a farm belonging to his brother-in-law, Mr. Mulr. In 1884 he purchased his present property, comprising a tract of eighty acres in Cranberry township, and has to-day one of the most attractive and desirable farms in the county. His life has been one of marked industry and enterprise, and upon this sure foundation he has builded the superstructure of his success.

Mr. Shell was married November 12, 1868, to Miss Catherine Kreim, a native of the same town in which occurred the birth of her husband. She was brought to America by her parents when only four years of age, and by her marriage she has become the mother of ten children, of whom seven are yet living, namely: Rosa, the wife of Edward Alt, of New Washington; Edward, who is a graduate and now a teacher in the Catholic school of North

Auburn; Mary, the wife of George Uhl, of Cranberry township; Katharina, Amelia, Frank and Leon, all of whom are still with their parents.

Careful consideration of the political issues and questions of the day has led Mr. Shell to identify himself with the Democracy, and upon that ticket in 1887 he was elected township trustee, in which position he served for six years. He was also a member of the election board of Cranberry township for nine years, and during the greater part of that period served as presiding judge of the board. In 1900 he was elected land appraiser of the township and filled the office of a member of the school board for several years. In every political position in which he has been called to serve he has discharged his duties with promptness and reliability, displaying marked loyalty to the trusts reposed in him. He is a zealous member of the Catholic church and was one of the liberal contributors toward the erection of its house of worship in New Washington. He came to America a poor young man, empty-handed, yet with strong will and determined purpose, and these stood him in stead of fortune. They served as a starting point on the highway of prosperity, and steadily has he advanced, gaining as the result of his energetic labors a favorable and well-merited confidence.

#### WESLEY GRUBB.

Among the respected, well-known and popular residents of Crawford county, Ohio, is Wesley Grubb, who owns a fine farm in Todd township, but who for the past sixteen years has been engaged in the blacksmithing business in this locality. The birth of Mr. Grubb was in Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, on September 5, 1845, and he was a son of John and Margaret (Emminger) Grubb, who reared a family of eight children; four of these still survive, namely: Catherine, who is Mrs. Russell, of Wichita, Kansas; Agnes, who is Mrs. James Cordell, of Boone, Iowa; Mary, who is Mrs. Luther Minich, of Paola, Kansas; and Wesley, who is the subject of this biography.

John Grubb was born in Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, in June, 1813, and grew up on the farm, married and rented land until 1854, at which time he emigrated to Ohio, with his family, coming first to Richland county and spending a short time in Mansfield. After looking over the country he found a tract of land consisting of one hundred and sixty acres, located on the Ashland road, which suited his fancy, and this he bought, and it remained the family home until 1859, when he sold it and came to Crawford county, where he purchased a farm of eighty-three acres east of Osceola, in Todd town-

ship. However, in 1864, as his two sons had left home, one going to Iowa and our subject entering the army, Mr. Grubb rented his farm and removed into Osceola and was engaged there for several years in the sawmill and mercantile business. In 1887 he removed to Kansas and has since that time made his home with his daughter Mary. The mother of our subject, *nee* Margaret Emminger, died when her children were grown, and Mr. Grubb was later united in marriage to Miss Emily Poole, there being no issue from this marriage, and she has been dead for the past fifteen years. Mr. Grubb is now in his eighty-ninth year and is still in possession of all of his faculties, still takes and active and intelligent interest in the doings of the Republican party and is revered in the Methodist church, in which his membership has covered more than fifty years.

Wesley Grubb, who is the subject of this biography, was the youngest of his parents' children, and he received a good common-school education. He was but eighteen years old when he offered his services to his country, enlisting in Company A, Twelfth Ohio Cavalry, on October 23, 1863, as a private, and one year later he was made an officer, although still so youthful. He continued in the service until the expiration of his enlistment, and was mustered out on November 14, 1865, after taking part in some of the most serious engagements of the Civil war, these being: Mt. Sterling, Kentucky; Marion, Virginia; Cynthia, Kentucky; Salt Works, Virginia; Salisbury, North Carolina; and various minor engagements.

After his return from the army Mr. Grubb went to work for his father in the sawmill, later for Judd & Decker, in the Osceola gristmill, but after his marriage he located on a farm, managing his father's property for two years. His wife then inherited the farm upon which our subject now resides from her father's estate, and upon this property our subject erected a handsome residence, which has been the family home ever since, although Mr. Grubb does not actively engage in farming. He has a predisposition for working in iron, and although he never served an apprenticeship he has conducted a very successful smithy for the past sixteen years, his work comparing favorably with that of those who learned the trade in the old style.

In 1868 our subject was married to Miss Rhoda A. Williams, who was born in Ashland county, Ohio, a daughter of Reason Williams, who was a member of Company C, One Hundred and Twenty-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and gave his life for his country. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Grubbs,—Emmett, deceased, and Ethel, at home. Mrs. Grubbs died October 11, 1901.



Mr. Grubb is an ardent Republican and possesses considerable influence in public affairs, but is no seeker after official favor. Fraternally he is a Mason and is connected with Nevada Lodge, No. 343, A. F. & A. M., of which he served as worshipful master for five years, and with Leith Post, G. A. R., of Nevada, Ohio, holding the offices of past commander, quartermaster and adjutant, and is aide-de-camp of the Department of Ohio, G. A. R., at the present time. Rhoda, wife of Wesley, died October 11, 1901. Mr. Grubb is one of the highly esteemed citizens of this county, and enjoys the friendship and respect of all who have come into fellowship with him. He was a brave soldier, and since that time he has been a useful citizen, upholding the laws and exerting an influence through his locality in favor of all measures looking to the material interests of his county, township, neighborhood and home.

#### ISAAC SNAVELY.

Isaac Snavely has resided in Ohio for more than half a century and is a representative of one of the honored pioneer families. People of the present end-of-the-century period can scarcely realize the struggles and dangers which attended the early settlers, the heroism and self-sacrifice of lives passed upon the borders of civilization, the hardships endured, the difficulties overcome. These tales of the early days read almost like a romance to those who have known only the modern prosperity and conveniences. To the pioneer of the early days, far removed from the privileges and conveniences of city or town, the struggle for existence was a stern and hard one, and these men and women must have possessed indomitable energies and sterling worth of character, as well as marked physical courage, when they thus voluntarily selected such a life and successfully fought its battles under such circumstances as prevailed in the northwest. The grandparents of our subject were Isaac and Anna (Baum) Snavely. The father of our subject was Michael Snavely, who was born in Lebanon county, Pennsylvania, August 17, 1818, and when a young man he became a resident of Richland county, Ohio. There he was united in marriage to Miss Barbara Whistler, who was born in Bucks county, Pennsylvania, February 19, 1829, and was a daughter of Jacob and Nancy A. (Funk) Whistler. Her father was born in Bucks county, Pennsylvania, March 3, 1801, and there spent his youth, learning the trade of wagon-making. Through following that occupation he accumulated some money, and in 1833 he emigrated to Ohio, making the journey by wagon with his family and bringing with him

his few household effects. He located in Franklin township, Richland county. They had intended to travel further, but the birth of a child, now Mrs. Sarah Smith, on the night of their arrival in Franklin township, caused them to locate there, and Mr. Whistler entered land, eventually becoming one of the well-to-do farmers of the community. He first secured from the government a tract of one hundred and sixty acres, on which he built his cabin and began the task of clearing away the trees and preparing the soil for the plow. As his financial resources increased he added to his property until he had some four hundred acres. He also purchased extensive landed interests in Wood and Hancock counties and gave to each of his sons three hundred and fifty acres of land and to each of his daughters one hundred and sixty acres. He was a member of the Dunkard church and earnest Christian principles permeated his life, making him a man whose example was well worthy of emulation. He died August 13, 1883.

Michael and Barbara (Whistler) Snavelly established their home in Richland county, Ohio, where they remained until about six months after the birth of our subject, when they removed to Crawford county, the father entering one hundred and sixty acres of the farm whereon he now resides. This was then a tract of virgin forest, only a small portion of the farm having been cleared, while upon the little patch of land had been erected a log cabin inhabited by an earlier settler. Mr. Snavelly was a man of energy and strong determination and at once began the task of cutting away the trees and putting the land under cultivation. There he carried on farming until his death. About 1874 he purchased an additional tract of eighty acres, so that his farm comprised altogether two hundred and forty acres. His political support was given to the Democracy, and he was a life-long and earnest member of the German Baptist church. His death occurred November 25, 1884, and his wife died in 1887. They had five children, but only two are living: Isaac and Mary A., the latter now the wife of Adam B. Wolf, of Cranberry township.

Isaac Snavelly, being but an infant when brought to Crawford county, may be said to have passed his entire life within its borders, and is, therefore, closely identified with its interests. He attended the common schools in his youth and was trained to farm work, so that he was well prepared to carry on agricultural pursuits on his own account when, after his marriage, he began the improvement of a farm. He erected a set of buildings on the west half of the old homestead and took up his abode there with his young bride, operating eighty acres of land. Thereon he made his home until his father's death, when he exchanged his farm for the property of his brother, who was culti-

vating the east half of the home place. He thereby acquired the old home residence and cared for his mother until she, too, passed away.

Mr. Snavelly has been twice married. In October, 1872, he wedded Miss Sarah E. Resh, a native of Huron county, Ohio, and a daughter of Henry Resh, a prominent agriculturist. They had three children, of whom two are living: Clara, now the wife of Albert Musselman, of Cranberry township; and Barbara, at home. The mother died in September, 1881, and on the 25th of August, 1882, Mr. Snavelly was joined in wedlock to Mrs. Harvey Swartz, who bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Musselman. They now have five children,—Ray W., Arthur G., Florence A., Samuel A. and John W., and the family circle has never been broken by the hand of death.

Mr. Snavelly has never been an aspirant for public office, but when election day comes round he manifests his political preference by casting his ballot for the adherents of the Democracy. He belongs to the German Baptist church and was one of the leaders in the erection of Cranberry Chapel in 1879, it being used as the union church by the German Baptists, the Church of God, the Free-Will Baptists and the Methodists.

Such, in brief, is the life record of Isaac Snavelly, whose progressive spirit has enabled him to achieve success in business affairs and whose upright life has been the means of gaining for him the warm regard of many friends.

### JOSEPH MOLLENKOP.

Joseph Mollenkop was born on a farm in Bucyrus township, Crawford county, Ohio, November 4, 1865, and is a son of Samuel and Eliza (Deppler) Mollenkop, both parents being natives of Ohio. They were married in Crawford county and settled on a farm in Bucyrus township. In after years they removed to Sandusky township, and there the father died in 1876, aged forty-seven years. Subsequently the mother married William G. Kalb, with whom she now lives in the town of Chatfield.

Our subject was reared on the farm. Upon his own resources he was thrown at the age of eleven years, at the death of his father. At the age of eighteen years he came to Chatfield, where he has since made his home, being engaged as a clerk in a general store. For the past sixteen years he has clerked for A. Muth, general merchant. In 1892 he married Mary Muth, a daughter of his employer, and unto the marriage two children have been born, namely: Pearl and Raymond.

In politics Mr. Mollenkop is a Republican, and he has been postmaster of

Chatfield since 1898. In 1896 he was elected justice of the peace, which office he held for one term. His education was obtained in the public schools. He is a self-made man, and is esteemed and respected for his many sterling qualities.

E. M. NEFF.

When determined purpose and unflagging perseverance are lacking effort is rendered futile and resolution unavailing. Well-formulated plans and a close adherence thereto, these are the necessary concomitants of success, and as exemplified in the career of Mr. Neff, have brought to him a richly merited degree of prosperity. He is now in control of one of the leading dry goods stores of Crestline, his native city, and occupies an enviable position in commercial circles.

Mr. Neff was born November 10, 1863. His father, John Neff, was a native of Germany, and after arriving at years of maturity was there married. He afterward crossed the Atlantic to "the land of the free," and located in Galion, Ohio, where he followed his chosen occupation of carpentering, being employed in the railroad shops. Some time in the '60s he removed to Crestline and became proprietor of a hotel, which he conducted up to the time of his death, which occurred when he was about fifty-nine years of age. He was a member of the German Lutheran church, lived in harmony with his Christian belief, and his fair name in business was never tarnished by unscrupulous dealings. By his first marriage he had three children. When their mother had passed away he was again married, in this country, to Mrs. Catherine (Burkhardt) Henge, a widow. She, too, is a native of the fatherland, and is still living. She first married Anthony Henge, and by that union had one son. The parents of our subject had five sons and one daughter of the second marriage, of whom three are still living.

E. M. Neff, their youngest child, was reared in Crestline and acquired his education in the schools of the town, but at the age of fifteen years he started out in life on his own account, securing a clerkship in the employ of the firm of McKean & Thoman, with whom he remained for twelve years, mastering the business in principle and detail and giving the fullest satisfaction to employers and patrons, as shown by his long continuation with the house. For about five years of the time he was chief clerk. In 1891 he embarked in business on his own account, opening a small "Rackett" store with a very limited stock. From that humble beginning, however, has grown his present excellent establishment with its large stock and modern appointments. In

1896 he erected a two-story brick building on Setzer street, and now has one of the largest dry goods establishments in the town. He enjoys a large and constantly increasing patronage and has a very enviable reputation for straightforward dealing. In addition to his store he has other business interests, being a stockholder in the Schill Brothers Manufacturing Company and in the First National Bank.

In 1884 occurred the marriage of Mr. Neff and Miss Emma Lampert, a native of Crestline and a daughter of William and Jamima Lampert. Their marriage has been blessed with eight children: Stella J., Arthur J., Theodor M., Norma E., Millita, Edward G., Catherine and Marthia. The parents hold membership in the German Lutheran church, in which Mr. Neff has held several offices, including that of treasurer for six years and trustee for two years. He has taken a very active part in its work and is a generous contributor to all measures calculated to prove of general good along lines of reform and progress. In politics he is a Democrat, and, as every true American should do, feels an interest in the success of the principles in which he believes, but has never been an office seeker, preferring to devote his energies to his business affairs, in which he is meeting with very creditable prosperity.

#### ROBERT T. JOHNSTON.

Among the worthy pioneers of Crawford county was Robert Thompson Johnston. More than a half century of his useful and exemplary life was spent in Bucyrus, and to the upbuilding of the city he contributed in no small degree, so that no compendium of the county would be complete without the record of his career. He was born on the 30th of October, 1822, in Wooster, Ohio, his parents being Thomas and Abigail (Powell) Johnston. In tracing the family genealogy it is found that the first of the name in America was the father of our subject. He was born in County Down, Ireland, in 1782, and probably left the Emerald Isle when about seventeen years of age, for he became a naturalized citizen of the United States in 1808, in Fayette county, Pennsylvania, where his naturalization certificate was issued, stating that he had been a resident of the country for five years. Hence the probable date of his emigration was 1802. He was a tailor by trade, and in the early part of the century he settled in Columbiana county, Ohio, where in 1816 he took an apprentice. The paper of indenture is now in possession of his grandson, and is a contract between Thomas Johnston and a youth who desired to learn tailoring. We infer that Mr. Johnston was married at the time, for according to



the terms of the contract he agreed to clothe and board the youth, for in those days apprenticeship nearly always carried with it the agreement that the pupil should be taken into the home of the "master." Thomas Johnston died at Wooster, Ohio, in the year 1853, his wife preceding him in death, passing away in the year 1841, aged fifty-seven years.

Unto Thomas and Abigail (Powell) Johnston five children were born, namely: Thomas Powell, Mary, Eliza, Rebecca and Robert Thompson. With their family the parents removed from Columbian county to Wooster, Wayne county, and there they continued to reside until Robert T. Johnston, their second son, was eight years of age, when they removed to a farm in the same county, making it their home for seven successive years. This while, the early childhood of Robert T. Johnston was spent in the town of his nativity. His youth, up to the age of fifteen, was passed upon the farm, where his lot was not unlike that of other farmer lads, whose privilege it is while developing into manhood to enjoy the wholesomeness of rural life and there learn lessons of industry and perseverance. His educational privileges were necessarily limited, for the schools of Ohio at that time were quite unlike those of to-day, which have reached a high standard of excellence. For the purpose of educating their children the parents returned to Wooster, where Robert attended school for a year and then entered a printing office, where he was employed for a little more than two years. Owing to failing health he decided to give up the printing business and turn his attention to the study of medicine. For three and a half years he was a student in the office of Dr. S. Bissell, of Wooster, teaching school in winter, and for two years he attended medical lectures at Willoughby College. He then practiced for one year in association with his preceptor at Wooster.

Dr. Johnston came to Bucyrus in November, 1845,—a poor young man. His chosen profession did not prove congenial and he engaged in the drug business shortly after arriving in the city, opening the first drug store here in 1845, with Jabez B. Larwill as a partner. This relationship was maintained for about three years. While Dr. Johnston remained a member of the medical fraternity for only a brief period, he was always called by the title. Upon the close of the partnership with Mr. Larwill, Dr. Johnston sought to continue in the drug business, but having no capital of his own, and it being the custom of wholesale druggists in the east to lend a helping hand to worthy and reliable young men in the rapidly growing west, he was aided by the firm of J. M. Maris & Company, of Philadelphia, which house, at its own risk, in 1848 supplied him with a stock of goods. This was a strong testimonial of the busi-

ness reputation which he bore. The confidence thus reposed in him he ever merited, and the firm of J. M. Maris & Company remained his friends for years afterward, even until his demise. It was at the beginning of his career as a druggist that Jabez B. Larwell became associated with him. The store was located in a frame building on the east side of Sandusky avenue, but after the dissolution of the partnership in 1848 Dr. Johnston removed into the building still occupied by the Johnston Drug Store. There he continued business until his life labors were ended in death. For more than half a century he was in the drug business in Bucyrus, and throughout the greater part of that period he occupied one building. As the years passed his trade became increasingly profitable and he amassed a very comfortable competence as the result of his close attention to business, honest dealing, steady habits and a thorough knowledge of drugs and their properties, together with a spirit of kindness and friendship toward his fellow men.

In his youth Dr. Johnston was taught that the principles of the Democratic party were for the good of all classes, but he was opposed to the institution of slavery, and as the Republican party opposed the extension of slavery he joined its ranks in 1856. During the administration of President James K. Polk he served as postmaster of Bucyrus, but other than this he held no political position of any importance. In matters religious he was of the Presbyterian faith. The records of the Bucyrus Presbyterian church show that on the 14th of August, 1846, he united with that congregation by letter from the church at Wooster, Ohio. His faithful, consistent and blameless Christian life made him not only a strong influence in behalf of Christianity at large but also a strong pillar in his immediate church. His clear comprehension and unusually strong mentality rendered him authority in all points of church doctrine and polity. For years he was a ruling elder in the church and labored earnestly and effectively for its welfare. He was one of the organizers of the Oakwood Cemetery Association and served as its treasurer for about thirty years. For several years prior to his death he was afflicted with rheumatism, and, being unable to walk, he would ride each week day to and from his place of business, and seldom did he miss divine services at the church on Sunday. He was stricken with paralysis Tuesday night, January 31, 1899, and on Sunday, February 5, he passed to the great beyond. Thus passed away a man whose life was blameless, whose example was well worthy of emulation. His life shed a helpful and beneficent influence upon all with whom he came in contact, and his memory remains as a blessed benediction to all who knew him.

Dr. Johnston was united in marriage, October 24, 1850, to Miss Pamela

F. Haskell, of Pittsburg, who survives him and still resides in Bucyrus, where she is loved and esteemed for her many sterling qualities and Christian character. She was born in Newport, Ohio, February 2, 1830, a daughter of Charles and Elizabeth (Dana) Haskell. Her father was a son of Major Jonathan and Phoebe (Green) Haskell, the former a native of Massachusetts, who served with distinction as an officer in the war of the American Revolution. Unto the marriage of Dr. and Mrs. Johnston were born three children: Belle C., who lives with her mother; Frank Thompson; and Pamela Dana, now the wife of Charles M. Hord, of Columbus, Kansas. The son was born in Bucyrus, March 23, 1857, was reared in his native city and has here spent his entire life. He pursued his preliminary education in the schools of Bucyrus and then entered Wooster University, returning home in 1878. He then became associated in business with his father, who made him a partner in the enterprise, and in 1879 he was graduated in the Cincinnati College of Pharmacy. After his return the firm style of R. T. Johnston & Son was assumed, and for a number of years before the father's death the son was the active manager of the business which he has since conducted with excellent success. In 1882 Frank T. Johnston was married to Miss Clara L. Rupp, a native of Bucyrus and a daughter of Charles G. and Margaret J. (Ruhl) Rupp. Three children, Ralph R., Bessie P. and Margaret H., have been born of this marriage.

#### ADAM LEONHART.

For almost a third of a century Adam Leonhart has resided upon the valuable and attractive farm in Chatfield township which is now his home and where he owns and operates two hundred and thirty-four acres of land. He was born on the old Leonhart homestead in the same township, September 15, 1846, and there remained until twenty-one years of age, his childhood and youth being passed in the usual manner of farmer lads of the period. The duties of the schoolroom, the pleasures of the playground and the labors of the fields on the home farm occupied his attention. Thus the years went by until he had attained his majority, when he sought as a companion for the journey of life Miss Mary Crabach, and their marriage was celebrated on the 8th of March, 1868. Mr. Leonhart then began farming as a renter, first renting a portion of his father's farm, later other lands, and for several years farmed rented lands. He owns two hundred and thirty-four acres of land, all in one body, including a tract of valuable timber land. It has been divided into fields

of convenient size for cultivation, and almost always he raises good crops, which sell at high market prices, thus bringing him a merited reward for his labor.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Leonhart has been blessed with six children, as follows: Elizabeth, the wife of William Kline, of Cranberry township, Crawford county; Ira A., who is living in New Washington; Emma; Oliver H., a veterinary surgeon; and Nora and Walter, at home. They have also lost one child, Clara B., who died at the age of seven years. The family attend the German Evangelical Lutheran church, of which Mr. Leonhart is a consistent member. He exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the Democratic party, but has never been an aspirant for the honors and emoluments of public office, preferring to give his attention to his farming operations, whereby he has gained a place among the men of affluence in his community.

Mention of his parental history is made in the biography of John Leonhart, his eldest brother.

#### ADAM REICHHARD.

For a quarter of a century Adam Reichhard has made his home upon the farm in Chatfield township which he still occupies. He is numbered among the native sons of the county, his birth having occurred in Cranberry township, November 4, 1836, his parents being Henry and Elizabeth Reichhard. The father was born in the western part of Germany and when a young man crossed the briny deep to the new world. Here he was married and six children were born of the union, namely: Elizabeth, now deceased; Adam; Annie, who has also passed away; John, a resident of Columbus, Ohio; Catherine; and Henry, who is living in New Washington. It was in the year 1834 that the father came to Crawford county, establishing his home in Cranberry township, where he died in 1848, our subject being then twelve years of age.

When a child of two years, however, Mr. Reichhard, of this review, became a member of the family of Adam Kaylor, whose wife was an aunt of Mr. Reichhard's mother, and with them our subject remained throughout his boyhood and youth and when they were old they made their home with Mr. Reichhard. Farm work occupied much of his attention in youth, and the district schools of the neighborhood afforded him his educational privileges. On the 9th of July, 1857, he wedded Miss Elizabeth Leonhart, a daughter of George Leonhart, and unto them have been born thirteen children, of whom ten are

yet living: Frank, John, William, Fred, George, Kate, Maggie, Ella, Lena, Helma and Elizabeth. Adam and Tillie are now deceased.

Soon after his marriage Mr. Reichhard began farming in Chatfield township and in 1876 took up his abode upon the farm where he now lives. For four years prior to that time he had engaged in buying and selling stock of all kinds. He owns here eighty acres of land and has six hundred and forty acres in Texas. He deals in stock and also carries on general farming and for thirty-three years engaged in the operation of a threshing machine.

His life has been a busy one, industry being one of his most marked characteristics. This forms the basis of all success, and his extensive operations and well directed business affairs have brought to Mr. Reichhard enviable prosperity. He has yet found time to devote to public interests and his fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, have frequently called him to public office. For seven years he served as constable, was road master for eighteen years and school director for twenty years, discharging the duties of all the offices in a most capable and reliable manner, so that over the record of his public career there falls no shadow of wrong. In his political views he is a Democrat, and religiously he is a member of the German Evangelical Lutheran church. Those who have known him from boyhood are numbered among his warmest friends—a fact which indicates that his has been a life worthy of high regard. Through more than six decades he has resided in the county and well does he deserve mention among her representative citizens.

#### ALEXANDER McKEAN.

There is not in Jefferson township, Crawford county, Ohio, a man who is held in higher esteem for all that constitutes good citizenship than the subject of this sketch. Alexander McKean was born in Leesville, Ohio, June 27, 1839, a son of Dr. John and Rebecca (McClaskey) McKean. Dr. John McKean, a detailed account of whose life would be very interesting reading, was born at Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania, February 10, 1810. Long before that time his father had carried the mail on horseback between Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, and Baltimore, Maryland, and in 1819, when the future physician was about nine years old, the family removed to Calcutta, Columbiana county, Ohio, where the youth gained a good common school education and a practical knowledge of business as it was transacted there at that time. When quite young he began teaching school, studying medicine in his spare moments and in that employment he earned money with which to pay for his professional ed-



ucation. In 1830, equipped with the necessary diploma and some little experience as a medical practitioner, he started out on horseback in quest of a location in which to practice his profession. He passed through Mansfield, Ohio, which did not appear promising to him, and at Galion he found only a few log cabins. While taking dinner at the last mentioned settlement he met the Rev. Robert Lee, the founder of the village of Leesville, who persuaded the young physician to locate at that point. For four years he boarded with the Rev. Mr. Lee and was practically a member of his household. Then he married Miss McClaskey, who bore him nine children, the following information concerning the most of whom will be of interest in this connection. Their daughter Margaret, who became Mrs. Robert Hall, is dead. Alexander, who is the immediate subject of this sketch, was the second in order of birth. William, Rebecca J. and John L. are dead. Eugenia is the wife of John Ludlum, superintendent of the Barnett shops at Canton, Ohio. Jacob lives in California. Emma is the wife of D. G. R. Edwards, of Los Angeles, California.

Dr. McKean lived at Leesville, Ohio, giving his entire attention to a growing medical practice, until 1866, and then removed to Crestline, Ohio, where he practiced his profession until 1879, when he retired. He died in 1890, aged eighty years. His wife died in 1886. They were consistent members of the Presbyterian church, in which he took great interest. He was a well read man who gave much attention to the world's progress in every department of human endeavor, and he was a charitable man who gave his professional services freely even when there was no hope of pecuniary reward. He rode over the country in all directions from his place of residence and had hundreds of accounts on his books, but it is said of him that he never sued on any claim or pressed any delinquent unduly.

Alexander, his oldest son, was born and reared and educated at Leesville, Ohio, and at the age of twenty-two moved upon a farm near that place, where he lived until 1872. From 1872 to 1889 he lived on a farm near Crestline, and in 1889 he located on his present farm in Jefferson township, Crawford county. He is the owner of eighty acres of good land and gives his attention to the production of miscellaneous crops. He is a Republican, and while not a practical politician he has been active in promoting all measures tending to benefit the township and county. Devoted to his church, the Lutheran, he has been liberal in the support of religious worship wherever he has lived. His life embraces not only the modern but the pioneer period of the history of this part of the country and is rich in reminiscence of the early days. Among other recollections is one concerning the advent of the first cook stove at Lees-

ville. Money as a commodity those times was scarce, and his father having secured a load of wheat from the settlers for medical services, and for the express purpose of buying a stove, hired John Clements to haul it to Sandusky City, a distance of sixty miles. Clements returned with the stove on the evening of the fifth days after leaving, when every one in the village turned out to see it.

Mr. McKean was married January 1, 1862, to Margaretta Osborn, who died August 19, 1897. To them were born ten children, nine of whom are living. Bernhard, the oldest son, is married and lives on the farm. Sherwood, a railroader, lives in Crestline, Ohio. Irene died April 4, 1880. Hall and Claude, both railroaders, reside in Pratt, Kansas. Grace is the wife of William Thoman, also a resident of Pratt, Kansas. Pearl is the wife of Elmer Courter, whose home is in Galion, Ohio, and who is a railroader. The three youngest, Ariadne, Edna and Philena, live with their father on the old homestead.

#### BENJAMIN F. LASH.

One of the highly respected farmers of Crawford county, Ohio, is Benjamin Franklin Lash, who was born in Crawford county, in Auburn township, on December 17, 1840, and he was a son of Peter and Mary (Fredline) Lash, extended notice of whom may be found in the sketch of Peter B. Lash, in another part of this volume.

Benjamin Franklin Lash was reared on the home farm and obtained his education in the common schools of the neighborhood. His father died at the age of forty-three years, and from the age of seventeen years the management of the home farm fell upon his shoulders. After his marriage he still continued on the home farm, operating it for his mother, on shares, for some five years. He then purchased a farm of fifty acres in Sharon township, in Richland county, and resided upon that property for the following two years. During this time the Mansfield, Cold Water & Michigan Railroad was built through his property, and he was made foreman of construction for four miles of the road, and after the completion of this division of the road he was made an offer of the important position of division master, but he did not accept the position, on account of the objections of his family to his becoming a railroad man.

Selling his farm at this time, Mr. Lash went to Plymouth township, in Richland county, and there bought eighty acres, but in the following summer the railway officials solicited him to accept a position in their service, but he

still declined. For four years he remained on the Plymouth farm and then purchased one hundred and twenty acres of his present home farm, in Auburn township, in Crawford county. This was in the spring of 1876, and five years later he purchased the sixty acres lying directly across the road from his home property. Both of these farms are highly improved and well represent the excellent agricultural conditions for which Crawford county has long been noted.

On January 12, 1865, Mr. Lash was united in marriage to Miss Sarah J. Kauffman, who was a native of Cranberry township and a daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth Kauffman, the latter having come to Crawford county and settled in Cranberry township early in the '40s. Three children have been born to this union, the two survivors being: Mary E., at home; and Nellie Clyde, the wife of Elias Cashman, who resides on our subject's sixty-acre farm and operates the whole farm.

The first vote Mr. Lash cast for president was for Abraham Lincoln, and he has always been active in party affairs, serving in several of the local offices, notably during one term as land appraiser and one term as township assessor. His parents were among the organizers of the United Brethren church on the Auburn circuit, and some of the family is still connected with that religious body, but our subject and family are connected with the Methodist church, and for the past forty-four years Mr. Lash has been one of its leading members and hearty and liberal supporters. For many years he has served as superintendent of the Sunday-school and has done much to awaken and keep alive an active interest in religious work in his locality. At present he is one of the class-leaders and has been the chorister ever since his earliest connection with it. Mr. Lash is a representative of an honored and esteemed ancestry, and he enjoys the position of being one of the representative men of Auburn township. With regard to his personal habits we may add that Mr. Lash has never chewed a particle of tobacco or smoked a cigar or pipe, and has never taken a drink of liquors of any kind, nor has played a game of cards or danced a jig.

### JOHN W. HUMPHREY.

A prominent and highly esteemed citizen of Crawford county, Ohio, is John W. Humphrey, of Vernon township, whose birth was in New Haven, Huron county, Ohio, on January 28, 1836. He was the eldest son of Evan and Sarah E. (Hoyt) Humphrey, who reared ten children to useful manhood and womanhood. The other members of the family are as follows: Matilda,

the wife of Peter Will, of Richland county; Franklin, who enlisted in Company H, One Hundred and Twenty-third Regiment of Ohio Volunteers, and died of wounds received in the battle of Winchester, Virginia, in 1861; James, who was in the same company and died in Salisbury prison; William, a resident of Kansas City; Sarah E., the wife of Samuel Esterline, of this township; Mary J., the wife of Ira Gloyd, of Kansas City; Jacob, a resident of Texas; Elmira, the wife of Henry Esterline, of Crestline; and Evan, a horse dealer of Kansas City.

Evan Humphrey, the father of our subject, was born in Virginia, in 1797, and grew to maturity in his native state, at which time he removed to Licking county, Ohio, where some of his brothers and sisters had located, and while in that county engaged in driving a stage for a period, later going to Huron county, where he married and took up his residence in the town of New Haven. There Mr. Humphrey opened up a butcher business. At the birth of her infant Mrs. Humphrey died, and later Mr. Humphrey married Sarah E. Hoyt, who had been born in the state of New York and came with her parents to Huron county.

In 1836 Evan Humphrey removed with his wife and two children to Crawford county, buying a farm of eighty acres of a Mr. Hagerman, this farm being now the property of Samuel Esterline, and here he spent the remainder of his life. This land, when he took possession of it, was all timber and swamp, and predictions were made that the family would starve upon it before it was ever brought to a producing state; but Mr. Humphrey was not easily dismayed and not only lived to see it all cleared, but also to have it regarded as one of the most desirable and valuable farms in the county. First he added twenty acres to the original purchase, and by ditching and tiling changed its conditions, and upon it reared a family that equaled in robustness the children of those who doubted his earlier judgment. In his earlier days he voted with the Democratic party, but later in life adopted the principles of the Republican party. For a time the township election booth was in his house. Mr. Humphrey was an active member in the religious body known as the Church of God, for a number of years belonging to its official body. He lived to more than seventy-five years, and died one of the most highly esteemed men of his neighborhood.

John W. Humphrey, of this biography, attained his manhood in his home and was given superior educational advantages. After completing the common school course he was sent to the private seminary in De Kalb, which was conducted by a local educator of note, Professor Thompson, and at the age of

twenty years he was deemed sufficiently educated to become a teacher himself. For six terms he taught in the district schools of his neighborhood, but his marriage closed this career, as then he began work as a farmer. For about five years Mr. Humphrey managed the home farm for his father and later followed the same vocation on other rented land, but in 1874 he purchased eighty-seven acres of his present home farm, and subsequently has added eleven acres, making his present holdings a fraction over ninety-eight acres. Here he has demonstrated his ability as a farmer and now owns a tract of land which compares, in cultivation and improvement, very favorably with any other in this township.

In 1858 Mr. Humphrey was married to Miss Rebecca Traub, who was a native of Galion, Ohio, and who was a daughter of Henry Traub, who came to Crawford county at an early day. To our subject and his wife have been born nine children, their names being as follows: William H., a resident of Auburn township; James B., of Stevensville, Montana; Emma, the wife of Arthur Knowles, of this township; Sadie, the wife of Charles Gribben, of Richland county; Ella, the wife of Thomas B. Branton, of Montana; Catherine, the wife of George Gutschall, the farmer on our subject's home farm; and Anna, Zoe and Ira, at home.

In politics Mr. Humphrey has always been in sympathy with the Democratic party, and has most efficiently filled a number of local offices. For the past twenty years he has been a justice of the peace, and for three successive terms he has been elected township clerk, and for two years was one of the best and most satisfactory assessors the township ever had. Both Mr. and Mrs. Humphrey are consistent members of the Church of God, in which our subject has been an honored elder for more than fifteen years. He is a man of sterling character and is justly held in the highest esteem in his locality.

#### AARON NEFF.

Among the young men who are cultivating a portion of the soil of Crawford county with gratifying success should be mentioned Aaron Neff, who is a prominent agriculturist of Sandusky township. This is indeed a beautiful farming country, and the land which our subject now cultivates is some of the best in the locality.

A native son of the Buckeye state, Mr. Neff was born on the 21st of February, 1873, in Crawford county, a son of Joseph Neff, one of the most prominent and esteemed citizens of this county. Aaron was reared to manhood under



the paternal roof, acquiring his education in the common schools of his locality. At the age of twenty-two years, in company with his brother Emanuel, he came to Sandusky township, Crawford county, and began operating the two hundred and forty-four acres of land which belongs to his father, for which he pays cash rent. He is meeting with success in his venture as an agriculturist and he now occupies a front rank among the public-spirited and progressive young farmers of his locality. In his political views he is a staunch supporter of the Republican party. He is very popular and is held in high esteem by the people of his locality for his honorable character and energetic nature.

#### PETER ROSS.

One of the fine farms in Lykens township is owned by Peter Ross, who has a valuable tract of three hundred and nineteen acres, all under a high state of cultivation and improved with all modern accessories. He has resided thereon for many years and is numbered among the leading agriculturists of Crawford county.

Mr. Ross was born in Germany, November 19, 1836, a son of Peter and Margaret (Simmermacher) Ross, whose family numbered six children, namely: Catherine, who married Chris Kibler, of Chatfield township; Peter, of this review; George, who died in 1899; Philip, who was one of the first contractors on building in Bucyrus, and now makes his home in this city; Margaret, the wife of Charles Jacobs; and William, who is connected with the planing mills in Crestline, Ohio.

During the first eighteen years of his life Peter Ross, of this review, remained in the fatherland, and during that period pursued his education in the public schools. It was in the year 1854 that he came to America as a passenger on a sailing vessel, which was twenty-eight days in reaching the harbor of New York. The following year his parents also came to the new world. Our subject spent the first year after his arrival in working as a farm hand in Vernon township, and in 1855 he came to Lykens township, where his father purchased eighty acres of land, upon which he now resides. Only fifteen acres of the land had been cleared, and a log house was almost the only improvement on the place. Mr. Ross continued to engage in agricultural pursuits upon that farm until 1866, when he went to Jackson, where he was employed for a year. Later he rented land for a year and then returned to the old homestead, where he has since remained a resident. As his financial resources have increased he has made judicious investments in property and is to-day the owner of three

hundred and nineteen acres, constituting one of the attractive and desirable farms of the county. The fields are thoroughly tilled and usually yield excellent crops. In his farming operations Mr. Ross has ever been industrious and progressive, and his place, in its neat and thrifty appearance, is proof to the passer-by of the careful supervision of the owner.

In 1867 Mr. Ross married Miss Elizabeth Schimp, and unto them have been born ten children: Emma, deceased; Philip; Jacob; Henry, deceased; Charley, Adam, Tilley, Henry, Martha, who died on the 18th of October, 1901, and Christian. The parents are members of the Lutheran church, in which Mr. Ross has served as trustee and as a township official. He contributes liberally to its support and is deeply interested in its welfare and growth. He exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the Democracy. His life has been one of honorable activity, in which his enterprise and industry have enabled him to overcome all obstacles and work his way upward to success. It was a wise decision that brought him to America, for in this land he found the opportunities he sought and has gained a comfortable competence.

#### EMANUEL NEFF.

One of the most straightforward, energetic and successful business men of Sandusky township is Emanuel Neff, who has attained a front rank in agricultural circles in his locality. He was born in Holmes township, Crawford county, Ohio, on the 9th of January, 1870, a son of Joseph Neff, whose history will be found on another page of this volume. Our subject was reared to manhood on his father's farm, his educational advantages being those afforded by the common schools of his neighborhood. On the 28th of March, 1895, he was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Krauter, a native of Cranberry township and the daughter of Jacob Krauter, who came to this locality with his parents when a child, the family locating in Liberty township. Immediately after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Neff came to Sandusky township, locating on the farm where they still reside and which belongs to his father. The place consists of two hundred and forty-four acres of rich and fertile land, and there our subject and his brother Aaron are extensively engaged in farming and stock-raising, their efforts in both branches of their business being attended with a high and gratifying success. They pay cash rent for the land.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Neff has been blessed with two children,—Lester E. and Ralph. Mr. Neff exercises his right of franchise in support of

the men and measures of the Republican party. He has made farming his life occupation, in which he has been very successful, and his record thus far in life has been such as to commend him to the respect and esteem of all with whom he has had business or social intercourse.

### JOHN BENDER.

A resident of Crawford county, John Bender has for many years been prominently identified with the agricultural interests of his locality, and has contributed materially to the advancement and progress of the county through this channel. He is a well informed man, possessed of broad general information, and in his nature there is nothing narrow or contracted. All who know him esteem him highly for his genuine worth, and it is with pleasure that we present the record of his life to our readers.

Born in Richland county, Ohio, on the 15th of December, 1852, he is a son of Jacob Bender, also a prominent agriculturist of Crawford county. Upon the homestead property our subject spent the days of his boyhood and youth, and his labors in the fields were alternated by study in the district schools of the neighborhood. After reaching mature years he and his brother Philip began farming the old homestead as renters, which they continued until the brother removed to a place of his own, and our subject then continued operating the home farm alone for a time. After his father's death he purchased eighty acres of the place, the tract containing all of the farm buildings, and two years later, by his perseverance and constant toil, he was enabled to purchase an additional forty-five acres, and his landed possessions now aggregate one hundred and twenty-five acres, all being under a high state of cultivation and improved with all the modern accessories and conveniences of a model farm of the present day. He is practical and progressive in his methods of farming, and in the management of his business affairs he displays a sound judgment that has brought to him a merited success.

In 1884 was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Bender and Miss Tracy Brady, a native of Henry county, Ohio, and a daughter of Cornelius and Anna (Keys) Brady. The father was one of the earliest pioneers and most prominent farmers of Henry county, and he now makes his home with his son, Alphonses. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Bender have been born ten children,—Edith, Ralph, Anna, Romain, Virgil, Ollie, Moodie, Oliver, Otis and Lais, all still under the parental roof. In his political faith Mr. Bender is a stanch Democrat.

The family enjoy the hospitality of many of the best homes of Crawford county, and their circle of friends is almost co-extensive with their circle of acquaintances.

### JOHN H. MULFORD.

The subject of this sketch is of that stanch old New Jersey stock which has planted the seeds of progress and of prosperity in all parts of our land. He has been known as a merchant and farmer for many years and is one of the leading citizens of Texas township, Crawford county, Ohio. His father, John Mulford, a native of New Jersey and a tanner by trade, came to Ohio in 1832 and worked at his trade in Monroeville, Huron county, until he removed to Richland county, where he bought eighty acres of land. After farming for a while, he became a general merchant at Ganges, Richland county, where he traded successfully two years. At the end of that time he removed his enterprise to Bellville, where he ran a store for one year. From 1851 to 1868 he followed mercantile business successfully at Benton, Crawford county. Then, disposing of his mercantile interests, he retired to his farm, where he died December 20, 1878, at the age of seventy years. At the time of his death he owned three hundred and sixty acres of land. Influential in local affairs, he served for many years as township trustee and treasurer. In politics he was a Republican. He was for many years a consistent and helpful member of the Methodist Episcopal church. His good wife survived him until June 2, 1892, when she died at the age of eighty-two years. Lodusky, wife of John Mulford, was the daughter of Silas Bevenstock, and came alone to Ohio about the year 1832, from Vermont. She taught school and was housekeeper for her brother, A. B. Bevenstock, after the death of his first wife. She was married to John Mulford, in 1834, and they had three children—William, Allen and John H.

John H. Mulford was born near Bellville, Richland county, Ohio, January 2, 1845, and was six years of age when his father removed to Benton, where he was reared to manhood. He gained a substantial education in the village school and had a valuable business experience as a clerk in his father's store. Later he turned his attention to farming and he was so employed until he married Julia Longwell, a daughter of Peter Longwell, February 29, 1868. For eight years after his marriage he lived in Lykens township, Crawford county, Ohio. From the spring of 1877 to 1896 he was the proprietor of a popular general store at Benton. Meantime, in 1885, he removed to his

present farm in Texas township and from that time until 1896 he was both a farmer and a merchant. Since he disposed of his store he has given his entire attention to general farming and stock-raising. He owns one hundred and sixty acres in Texas township and one hundred and eighty acres in Lykens township, making an aggregate of three hundred and forty acres. He is a Republican in politics, and has been treasurer of his township for ten years. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which for some time he has held the office of trustee. Mr. and Mrs. Mulford have six children, named Rolla, Mary, Jesse, Milo, Cora and Oland.

#### WILLIAM H. MILLER.

William Henry Miller is a passenger conductor on the Toledo & Ohio Central Railroad and makes his home in Bucyrus. He was born March 11, 1858, in Tiffin, Ohio, and is a son of Louis Miller, whose birth occurred February 6, 1829, in Scheime, Alsace, which was a province of France prior to the Franco-Prussian war of 1870-71, and came to this country with his parents in 1835, locating at Massillon, Stark county, Ohio, where he acquired his education and learned the shoemaker's trade, and in 1852 removed to Tiffin, Seneca county, this state.

He married Eva Zircher, who was born December 16, 1833, in Alsace, France, and was brought to the United States in 1836, the family locating on the boundary line between Seneca and Crawford counties. Her parents afterward removed to Tiffin, Ohio, about 1870. Mrs. Miller departed this life April 17, 1884, but the father of our subject is still living.

In the common schools of his native city William H. Miller, of this review, pursued his education, and on putting aside his text-books at the age of thirteen assisted his father in the conduct of a meat market. He was concerned with that business for about five years and then turned his attention to farming. For two years he engaged in operating a threshing machine and sawmill machine, the former being the second one brought to Seneca county. On the 5th of January, 1882, he came to Crawford county and accepted a position as brakeman on the Toledo & Ohio Central Railroad, making his first trip on the 9th of January of that year. After acting in that capacity for a year and four months he was promoted to the position of conductor, in May, 1883, and served on a through freight for three years, when he was made the first conductor on a working train on the road. He filled that position for about three months and was then transferred to a local freight train on the Corning di-



vision, running between Corning and Columbus. After six months he was transferred to a local freight train on the Bucyrus division and was on that line for about ten months. Later he was made passenger conductor, in which capacity he has served to the present time, covering a period of fourteen years.

On the 20th of April, 1882, Mr. Miller was united in marriage to Miss Margarite M. Link, a daughter of Adam and Mary Anna Link. Her father was a tailor by trade and was born in Baden, Germany, June 5, 1828. When a young man of twenty years he came to the United States and was here married to Miss Mary Anna Stundel, who was born March 19, 1828, in Bavaria, and came to the new world in 1847, landing at Baltimore. Mrs. Miller was born in Liverpool, Pennsylvania, July 27, 1858, and became a resident of Bucyrus in 1865. Unto our subject and wife have been born two children: William Edward, whose birth occurred November 28, 1882, and Annie Kathrine, born October 17, 1884. Mr. Miller and his family are all members of the Catholic church, and he is identified with various fraternal and civic societies, including the Order of Railway Conductors, the Royal Arcanum, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. His long service on the railroad indicates unmistakably his fidelity to duty and his ability in the discharge of the tasks which devolve upon him. He is most trustworthy and painstaking and has won the friendship of many patrons of the road.

#### MICHAEL WINKELFOOS.

Michael Winkelfoos, who for many years has been connected with the railway service, resides in Bucyrus where he is a well known and highly esteemed citizen. He was born in McKeesport, Allegheny county, Pennsylvania, on the 23d of October, 1852, and is a son of August Winkelfoos, who was born at Michelstadt in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, which was also the birthplace of his wife, who bore the maiden name of Barbara Reh. Both came to America prior to their marriage. In 1852 the father went to San Francisco, California, where he spent his remaining days, passing away in 1873, at the age of forty-six years. His widow, who was born in 1833, is still living and now makes her home in Mansfield, Ohio. In the family are two children who yet survive, namely: Michael, of this review and Mrs. C. Stephen, a widow, who is living in Crestline.

Mr. Michael Winkelfoos, whose name heads this record, pursued his education at Crestline, Crawford county and at Lima, attended the public schools

and on putting aside his text-books he entered upon his business career in 1867, at the age of fifteen years, as an employe on the eastern division of the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne & Chicago road. He at first ran between Crestline and Alliance. His duties were those of a fireman, but in 1872, at the age of nineteen years, he was made an engineer. Very seldom is one so young appointed to such an important position. He continued with the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne and Chicago road until 1877, and for the past thirteen years he has been a passenger engineer on the Toledo & Ohio Central road. In 1880 he took up his abode in Columbus, whence he removed to Bucyrus, where he is now permanently located. During his long railroad experience he has met with several accidents. In 1895 he was in a head-end collision, in which the fireman, Frank Doty, was killed, while Mr. Winkelfoos was badly injured. He has also been in two other wrecks, where the engine turned over, in which he has suffered some injuries, and on one occasion his engine became ditched in a tunnel. He is, however, most careful in his work, reliable and trustworthy and has the entire confidence of the company.

In 1874 Mr. Winkelfoos married Miss Caroline Ludwig, a daughter of Frederick and Elizabeth (Mager) Ludwig. Her father went to Crestline in 1842 and has there made his home ever since. He was born at Nedemdown in Hesse-Darmstadt, and for fifty years was employed by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, but for the past seventeen years he has lived retired, making his home in Crestline. His birth occurred January 9, 1825, and he is therefore now seventy-six years of age. His wife, who was also a native of Germany, was born August 19, 1828, and died January 28, 1900. Two of their daughters are yet living, namely: Mrs. Winkelfoos and Mrs. J. W. Smith, the latter a resident of Crestline. The marriage of our subject and his wife has been blessed with the following children: Fred, who is now employed as fireman on the Toledo & Ohio Central Railroad; Gustave, who died at the age of six years; Bartholomew, who was killed on the Pennsylvania road, at the age of twelve years; Delbert, who is employed by the Toledo & Ohio Central Railroad Company and makes his home with his parents; and Emma, who is now in school.

Mr. Winkelfoos is a prominent and exemplary Mason and holds membership in the blue lodge, chapter and council. Both he and his wife are also members of the Order of the Eastern Star, in which Mrs. Winkelfoos is now serving as warden. He is also a member of the Royal Arcanum and of the Deutsche Gesellschaft. In politics he is independent, preferring to support the men whom he thinks best qualified for the office, regardless of party affilia-

tions. Both he and his wife are active members of the German Lutheran church and are people held in highest esteem because of their many excellent qualities. They are earnest and efficient workers in church and lodge and wherever known have won the regard and friendship of many with whom they have been brought in contact.

#### CHARLES EDLER.

Crawford county, Ohio, has reason to congratulate itself upon having within its borders many leading citizens of German birth and extraction. Prominent among these is Charles Edler, of Jefferson township, who was born in Baden, Germany, June 24, 1830, a son of Martin and Margaret (Shrick) Edler, of whose twelve children only three survive—the subject of this sketch, his brother George and sister Elizabeth, both of whom remain in the fatherland.

Charles Edler was brought up on his father's farm in Germany and came to America in 1852, landing in New York after a voyage which consumed twenty-seven days. He went to Ohio and making his headquarters at Galion worked out as a farm hand four years. In 1856 he married Margaret Beach, a native of Crawford county, Ohio, and about that time he bought a small piece of land in Whetstone township, Crawford county, on which he began farming on his own account. He remained there until 1862, when he bought eighty acres of land across the county line in Marion county, where he lived ten years, meanwhile adding forty acres to his original purchase. In 1872 he sold his farm in Marion county, and removed to his present farm of one hundred and twenty acres in Jefferson township, Crawford county, Ohio. He has adhered closely to general farming and stock-raising and has made a notable business success. He is a staunch Republican in politics, devoted to the traditions and principles of his party and has always been influential in public affairs, but though he has helped friends to important offices he has never sought any official position for himself, and as a farmer has been too busy to give much attention to practical politics. He is a broad-minded man of much general information who has read a good deal and has traveled extensively. In 1900 he visited three months in Germany, and the Paris Exposition, and in 1901 he and his wife attended the Pan-American exposition at Buffalo, New York.

Charles and Margaret (Beach) Edler have had ten children, eight of whom survive. Their daughter Emma married William Ricker and lives at

Bucyrus, Ohio. Their daughter Mary married Samuel Eichhorn, of Galion. Their daughter Catharine became the wife of Levi Smith and lives at Galion. Their daughters Amanda and Margaret are members of their household. Their daughter Etta married Elmer Smith and also lives at Galion. Their son George is a resident of the same city. Their son Carl manages his father's farm and takes a prominent part in many township and county affairs.

### JEROME BLAND, M. D.

There is no other profession in which greater responsibility rests than is peculiar to the medical profession. Upon the skill and fidelity of the physician depends life and death in great measure. No other professional man has greater opportunity to gain the confidence and esteem of his fellow man than has the physician. The public mind, nevertheless, is sharp and piercing in criticism; the sick, too, are susceptible to change of sentiment, easily discouraged, quick to make changes of mind, so that after all the physician has not only to battle with disease but also with ever-changing temper of mind and heart so manifest in mankind. And that physician who succeeds in the art of healing and establishes and long holds for himself high rank in his profession and in the esteem and confidence of his patients and fellow men deserves no little praise from the pen of the biographer.

Among skillful, successful and esteemed physicians of Ohio the subject of this sketch holds a conspicuous place. He was an Ohio farmer's son, and made school teaching a stepping-stone into the profession of medicine; began his professional career a poor man, and not under the most promising circumstances, but more than thirty years mark the span of a successful professional career for him, and yet he is still active and promising of no limited years of usefulness in his profession.

Dr. Bland is a native of Ohio, born on a farm in Muskingum county, July 22, 1840, and spent the first twenty-three years of his life on the farm, where he was schooled in arduous labors of farm life, learning most useful lessons of industry and perseverance that have characterized his life. His parents were Ebenezer and Harriet (Lane) Bland, and of their ten children, three daughters and seven sons, the Doctor was the eldest. The father was a native of Virginia, while the mother's native state was Maryland. John Bland, the paternal grandfather of our subject, came from Virginia to Ohio as early as 1798, and settled in Muskingum county. The land which he obtained by patent from the general government is still in possession of his de-



*James Bland M.D.*





scendants, which are numerous in Muskingum county. From sturdy ancestors our subject is descended, and his father and mother were possessed of many sterling qualities.

At the age of nineteen years Dr. Bland began teaching in the country schools of his native county, and, in all, he taught nine winter terms. In 1862 he became a student in Denison College at Granville, Ohio, where he remained till 1864, after which date he taught several terms of school.

Disposition of mind, that of a student, led him into preparation for professional life. Deciding upon the profession of medicine, he began, in 1864, the study of medicine, under the preceptorship of Dr. Joseph McCann, an old and successful practitioner of Irville, Ohio. Later he attended one term of lectures in the Starling Medical College, of Columbus, this state. He then began the practice of medicine at Hanover, also in this state, where he remained two years, and then returned to the Starling Medical College, where he graduated in 1869. He then came to Crawford county and located at Benton, now Poplar, where he continued in a most active and lucrative practice for fourteen years. During this time so large was his practice that he was "on the go" almost night and day. No other physician of the county ever had larger, if as large, a country practice as had Dr. Bland while he was located at Benton, from which place he came to Bucyrus in 1883, since when he has been numbered among the most active and successful physicians and surgeons of Bucyrus, enjoying a very large and lucrative practice. He is a member of the Northwestern Ohio Medical Society, of the Ohio State Medical Society and of the American Medical Association.

In politics the Doctor is a Democrat. He has served five years as county coroner and was a member of the pension board of examiners for four years under the second administration of Grover Cleveland. He also is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and of the Masonic order, being a Knight Templar and also a "Shriner," holding membership in Alkoran Temple, at Cleveland.

He has considerable business interests, being the proprietor of the Knisely Springs stock farm, owning and breeding high-bred horses, his stock farm being noted for its high-class horses. On his farm are also most valuable mineral springs, the water from which constitute the product for the Knisely Mineral Springs Bottling Works.

In the mention of the Doctor's family history there is a peculiar item to record. He had two brothers, Charles and John Bland, who studied medicine under him, and both entered medical college and died of consumption during

the last year of their studies in college, and both at the age of twenty-eight, though their deaths occurred some eight years apart; and while a third brother died of consumption, his other brothers and himself are large and robust men.

In 1867 Dr. Bland married Lucy Coon, and they have had a son and two daughters. The son, whose name was Ebbie, died while in Cuba during the Spanish-American war, and his remains were brought back to this country and interred in Arlington cemetery, near Washington, D. C. He was a member of Company A, a company of Bucyrus soldiers. The daughters are Hattie, now Mrs. A. J. Yawger, of Bucyrus; and Alice, now in school.

Dr. Bland is in every sense of that over-used term a self-made man. Many have been his life struggles, but steadily he has worked his way up in his profession and business affairs. His success in life has been largely due to his fortitude of character, stern resolution and fidelity of purpose. Pleasant and agreeable in manner toward his fellow men, his friends are many and his name respected.

#### ELMER DEAN ROBISON.

An enterprising young farmer of Cranberry township, Elmer Dean Robison, was born at the family homestead, where he now resides, October 22, 1856, and is one of a family of six children whose parents were Robert and Esther (Robison) Robison. Only three of the children, however, survive, the eldest being Margaret J., wife of Isaac Helem, of Chicago Junction, Ohio, while the youngest is William L., a resident farmer of Cranberry township. The father was twice married, his first union being with Mary A. Robison, a daughter of William Robison, who was one of three brothers and a brother of the grandfather of our subject. There were three children by this marriage, but all are now deceased.

Many of the leading citizens of Ohio have come to this state from Pennsylvania, and among the number was the father of our subject, who was born in Perry county, of the Keystone state, on the 10th of October, 1825. His parents were John and Jennie (Baxter) Robison, who were also natives of that county and the former was of Scotch-Irish extraction, while the latter was of Scotch parentage. In 1867, when their son Robert was only twelve years of age, they traveled by wagon to Ohio, bringing with them their household effects. The journey led them through dense forests and across unbridged streams, and with the pioneer settlers of this portion of the Buckeye state they

cast in their lot. Having arrived in Crawford county, the grandfather purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Cranberry township, now owned by Adam Eckstein. He was a blacksmith by trade, and after locating here erected a shop on his farm, conducting business along that line for a number of years. In early life Robert Robison worked in the smithy with his father and in this way mastered the business, becoming quite an expert at the forge. When twenty years of age he opened a shop of his own in Waynesburg, and during the succeeding three years worked almost day and night in order to gain a start in business life. He received good pay for his labor, and on the completion of that period he had received three thousand dollars. This he invested in a farm of eighty acres, where his son, William L., now resides. It was then almost entirely forest land, and in the midst of the green woods he erected a log house, as well as a shop, giving his attention to blacksmithing. He hired some one to clear his land and develop the fields. Some time later he developed forty acres adjoining his farm, thus extending its boundaries until it comprised one hundred and twenty acres. He continued work in the smithy until 1867, when he purchased of Casper Eberly a tract of land of forty acres, on which he erected a residence, and then moved to the farm which is now the home of his son Elmer.

He then abandoned blacksmithing, except as he occasionally did a little work in that way as an accommodation for some friend or neighbor. In 1876 he purchased thirty acres of land lying just north of the home farm and in 1880 bought fifty acres of the Cory heirs, lying just across the road from his residence. This is now the property of our subject. His landed possessions after these purchases aggregated two hundred and forty acres, and he also owned a town residence, surrounded by eleven acres, in New Washington. After a useful, honorable and active career he was called to his final rest March 16, 1900. During the last eight years of his life he was blind, but he bore the affliction with Christian fortitude. He held membership in the Presbyterian church and was a stanch Democrat in politics, but would never accept office, preferring to devote his energies to his business affairs, which demanded all of his attention and which brought to him a good financial return for his labor. He possessed an iron constitution, indomitable will and unflagging energy, and his life is in many respects well worthy of emulation. His wife was born in Perry county, Pennsylvania, May 25, 1832, and was a daughter of George Robison, a native of Perry county, Pennsylvania, and of Scotch-Irish extraction, as was also her mother. The paternal and maternal grandfathers of our subject were own cousins. George Robison, the maternal grandfather, was

an officer in the war of 1812, and after the close of hostilities was recognized as a leader in military matters for many years. By trade he was a cooper and he acquired considerable land, thus becoming in comfortable circumstances. He and his wife both spent their lives in Perry county, Pennsylvania, and their daughter, Mrs. Esther Robison, passed away in Crawford county, January 5, 1900.

Elmer Dean Robison, whose name forms the caption of this article, was given the educational privileges afforded by the common and high schools of New Washington, completing the course with the first graduating class, in 1883. The same fall he entered Oberlin College, where he completed the work of the junior year. His health then failed him and he was compelled to discontinue his studies, which was a great blow to him, for he possessed literary tastes and wished to prepare for a profession or for some literary work. Leaving college, he returned home, and after a few months spent in recuperating he became a student in the Davis Business College of Toledo, where he was graduated in the fall of 1887. During the succeeding winter and summer he remained at home, his health being greatly benefitted thereby. He assisted in the work of the farm to some extent, and in the fall of 1888 he began teaching, which profession he followed through the winter months, while in the summers he aided in the labors of the field and meadow.

However, when the spring of 1890 came he found that the confinement of the school-room had again undermined his health and he went to Colorado, where during the following six months he improved rapidly. He extended his trip into Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, California, Wyoming and Nevada, and in November, 1890, returned to his home. The following year his father lost the sight of one eye through an accident. In January, 1892, Mr. Robison, of this sketch, took a trip through the south to Jacksonville, Florida, in order to recover from the effects of the grip, and spent two months in that sunny clime, after which he made his way northward to Atlanta, Georgia, where he accepted a position with the Southern Bell Telephone Company, acting as secretary to the superintendent. He served in that capacity until, in a traction accident on a Sunday excursion on the Chattanooga river, he had his legs almost cut off. For six weeks he was forced to remain in bed. He then returned home to rest and recuperate, and soon after his arrival his father entirely lost the sight of both eyes.

At the earnest solicitation of his parents Mr. Robison decided to remain at home, where he has since continued, caring for his father and managing the farm. He is a most energetic and resolute young man, of strong purpose



and marked ability, and his business management has brought to the farm good success. He votes with the Democracy and socially is identified with Hyperion Lodge, No. 651, K. P., in which he has filled all of the chairs and is now serving as keeper of the records and seals and master of finance. His life has been upright and honorable, energetic and diligent, and throughout the community he has a large circle of friends.

### JEREMIAH J. HOPPEL.

Jeremiah J. Hoppel is justly regarded by the citizens of Liberty township as one of their leading and representative men. He is a thorough farmer, a reliable township official and is thoroughly respected by his neighbors and those who know him best in private life. The birth of Mr. Hoppel was in Northampton county, Pennsylvania, on December 5, 1847, a son of Reuben and Christina (Deal) Hoppel, and is one of the surviving children of a family of four, his sister being Emma E., the wife of A. B. Charlton. The two deceased sisters were Anna, the wife of John Davidson; and Effia, the wife of Joseph Kinsley.

Reuben Hoppel was born in Northampton county, Pennsylvania, of French ancestry, on August 18, 1818. At the age of fourteen years, he with his brothers, Charles and Adam, lost the parental care of their father, and were thrown upon their own resources. Reuben worked for neighboring farmers and grew up industrious and respected and married Christina Deal in his twenty-third year, her death occurring in 1862. After marriage he bought a farm, in the timber land and settled down to the laborous task of clearing it and putting it under cultivation. By 1858 he had succeeded in clearing it and had erected substantial buildings, but his brother Charles had gone to Indiana and prospered and Reuben decided to also go as far west as Ohio. He had inherited several thousand dollars from his grandfather Kester, who owned extensive chestnut timber lands in Northampton county which sold for a fortune, after his death, and this money Reuben Hoppel brought with him to Ohio, buying with it one hundred and eighteen acres of land in section 6, Liberty township. This farm was later known as the model farm and passed into the possession of the Klunk family, by which it is still owned. After a residence of some six years upon it, Mr. Hoppel sold it and bought of Jacob Thomas, three hundred and twenty acres adjoining his former farm, on the south and here resided until 1896, having made it one of the best improved farms in the county. Here he built a handsome brick residence, in

1885. In 1896 he sold the farm, which then contained two hundred and forty acres, and removed to Holmes township, where he purchased a small home farm of sixty acres, located one mile north of Bucyrus and there he had his residence for three years, his death occurring on February 27, 1899, in his eighty-first year. He had married, after the death of his first wife, Mrs. Mary Deagle, formerly a Miss McMichael, and three children were born to this union, viz: Ida, the wife of William Dinninger, of Holmes township; Reuben, of Plymouth, Indiana; and Ada, the wife of Charles Winner, with her mother, in Holmes township. The mother of our subject was born in Northampton county, Pennsylvania, about 1820, a daughter of Frederick and Eva Teel, also of that county, where her father lived. He died in 1848, from dropsy. Eva Teel, his wife, died at the same place in 1852. In politics Mr. Hoppel supported the Democratic party, for several years was one of the trustees of Liberty township and a man much respected. He was a consistent member of the Reformed church.

Farm life has produced the greater number of the solid and responsible men of the country. In the homely duties on his father's estate, young Jeremiah Hoppel passed from childhood to youth and manhood, receiving the best available schooling in the locality. His marriage on February 5, 1873, was to Miss Martha Schieber, a native of this township, a daughter of Christopher and Lydia (Hirschberger) Schieber, the former of whom was a native of Germany, the latter of Pennsylvania. Following this event, our subject became the owner of eighty acres of land from his father, bravely and happily began domestic life in one of the old pioneer log cabins, and in three years time was able to erect an attractive and comfortable residence and in 1883 completed one of the best barns of this neighborhood. In 1894 our subject sold this farm and purchased the old Michael Charlton farm, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres, in 1900 adding eighty-three acres adjoining, and now is the owner of two hundred and forty-three acres of as excellent land as can be found in the state of Ohio.

Mr. and Mrs. Hoppel have four children: Myrtle, the wife of Ralph McCalman, of Danville, Illinois; Otis Milton, at home; Elger James, attending Heidelberg College; and Helen, at home. Mr. Hoppel's political sympathies place him in the Democratic party, and in 1900 he was elected trustee of the township, and is serving with the greatest satisfaction to the public. Several years he served on the school board and is a trustee of the library board of Sulphur Springs. His early rearing was in the Methodist church, but his family are connected with the Lutheran church, and to this denomination he

gives support. He has always taken a great interest in his home surroundings and has lately added very much to its attractiveness by the rebuilding of his commodious modern barn. His success has been attained by the exercise of honesty, energy and industry.

### ROBERT W. JOHNSTON.

Robert W. Johnston was born in Green township, Ashland county, Ohio. His father, Thomas Johnston, was born at Frederick City, Maryland, September 12, 1809, his parents, John and Christina (Johnston) Johnston, having emigrated from county Fermanagh, Ireland, about the year 1808. When eighteen years of age Thomas Johnston became a resident of that part of Richland county, Ohio, which subsequently became a part of Ashland county, where he resided continuously until his death, April 18, 1871. When but a little past his majority he became a wagoner, and for a number of years followed the occupation of conveying, by wagons drawn by six-horse teams, merchandise from Philadelphia, Baltimore and Pittsburg for the merchants in Richland and adjoining counties, and hauling the produce of the then new country to eastern markets. The advent of the railroads did away with this occupation, and his life was then wholly devoted to farming and stock-raising, in which he took special interest, being among the first to introduce Durham or short-horn cattle into Ashland county from the Blue Grass region of Kentucky. He married, in 1833, Sarah Ann Workman, who was born at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, September 16, 1813, and was brought by her parents, Joseph and Lydia (Shields) Workman, to Vermilion township, Richland, now Ashland, county in 1815. She died at Galion, January 27, 1893. Joseph Workman was born in county Monaghan, Ireland, March 12, 1786, and came to America with his parents in 1793. His father, Benjamin Workman, was educated for the ministry in the Covenanter church, but instead of carrying out his original plans devoted his life to teaching, following that occupation until he reached the age of seventy-five years. Joseph Workman was a soldier in the war of 1812, being a member of a Pennsylvania regiment, and two of his uncles, James and Hugh Workman, served with Colonel Crawford in the disastrous campaign against Sandusky. He was one of the early justices of the peace in Vermilion township, have filled that office in 1817-18, and and was a member of the first Ohio state board of agriculture.

Robert W. Johnston spent his youth on the farm in Ashland county, attending the public schools, Vermilion Institute at Hayesville, and Green Town

Academy at Perrysville. In 1876, having decided to engage in the study of law, he entered the law office of Henry C. Carhart, at Galion, and graduated at the Cincinnati Law School in the class of 1879. In the same year he was admitted to the bar and immediately formed a partnership with his preceptor, Mr. Carhart, and has practiced his profession continuously at Galion. Mr. Johnston has taken an active interest in all things pertaining to the welfare of the city of Galion, and has been concerned in the promotion of various enterprises which have contributed to its progress. Politically he has always been a Republican, and is a strong adherent of the principles of the party, and although Galion is strongly Democratic he has served both as mayor and city solicitor, having been elected to the former office in 1883 and to the latter in 1893.

### JOHN W. FRENCH.

John W. French owes his success in life to his own efforts and has gained the only title which America confers upon her citizens, that of a self-made man. He was born in Columbiana county, Ohio, November 8, 1832, his parents being Samuel and Rebecca (Welch) French. The father was a native of Pennsylvania, born about 1800, and was a son of Irish parentage. His mother died during his early childhood and he was then reared by his maternal grandfather, William McLaughlin, who came to Ohio about the time of the mother's death, settling in Columbiana county, where he took advantage of the offer made by the government to the settlers who could claim land and would develop farms. He built a log cabin and made a home for his large family numbering ten children, seven sons and three daughters. Several sons were veterans of the war of 1812. Samuel was a captain in the service and Robert loyally aided in the defense of his country, died while on his way home and was buried in the forest of Seneca county, but his grave was unmarked and therefore could never be visited by the family.

The father of our subject was reared in the pioneer home amid the wild scenes of frontier life and early became familiar with the arduous task of clearing and cultivating the fields. In 1844, after his marriage, he removed with his family to Wood county, where he leased a tract of forest land, built a log cabin home and in the succeeding four years cleared about forty acres, deriving considerable income from the sale of the wood as well as from his farming operations. In 1848 he came to Crawford county, settling in Lykens township, where he followed agricultural pursuits until 1859, when he re-

moved to Huron county, where his death occurred two years later. He was a consistent member of the Presbyterian church and the Democracy received his political support. In early manhood he married Miss Rebecca Welch, who was born in Virginia about 1808 and a daughter of James and Esther (Ada) Welch, both of whom were of Irish extraction. They went to Columbiana county, Ohio, early in the nineteenth century and there the maternal grandfather of our subject built the first double log house ever erected on the site of Wellsville. For many years he conducted a tavern there, entertaining the pioneer settlers. Both he and his wife died in that county. For over a half century he was a ruling elder of the Presbyterian church. He was the only member of the family to remove to the eastern part of the state, becoming actively connected with its upbuilding and promotion. His father was the first white settler to locate in Seneca county, Ohio, south of the Sandusky river, his nearest neighbor at the time being twenty-three miles distant. One of his sons, John Welch, served as a representative in the state legislature and another son, Hugh, was judge of the county court, while Martin was a Methodist minister. These sons had but meager educational privileges, being self-made men and exercised a strong influence for good in the community where they resided. Albert G. Welch, a brother of Mrs. French, and an uncle of our subject, could not write his own name when he left home, but the ambition, determination and energy so characteristic of the family enabled him to advance steadily in knowledge and prominence. Later he became a state senator, was also sheriff of Columbiana county, Ohio, and subsequently was deputy warden of the Ohio State Penitentiary. Mrs. French was a lady of sterling worth and ability and proved to her husband a faithful companion and helpmeet on the journey of life. Her death occurred in the year 1875. She was the mother of ten children, but only four are now living, namely: John W., Joseph, who resides in Kansas City, Missouri; Elizabeth, widow of Martin Corbet, of Chicago; and Esther, the widow of Levi Leonard, of Huron county, Ohio.

John W. French was reared to rural life and the work of the fields on the home farm. His school privileges were very limited, his only text-books being the testament and a spelling book, but through broad reading, supplemented by a retentive memory he has become a well informed man and continually increases his knowledge by keeping in touch with the advanced thought and progress of the day. At the age of twenty years he left his parents' home and removed to Putnam county, where he worked in a sawmill. After three years he returned to Crawford county, and as he possessed considerable natural



mechanical ingenuity he began working at the carpenter's trade in Lykens township. During the succeeding four years, in connection with Comfort Waller, he erected many houses and barns in the township, and thus largely promoted its improvement. In 1856 he went to Tiffin, where he entered the employ of contractor and builder, Scudder Chamberlain, with whom he remained for four years, when, in 1861, he returned to Lykens township.

On the 24th of February of that year occurred one of the most important events of his life,—his marriage to Miss Elizabeth Jane Perky, a native of Seneca county, Ohio, and a daughter of David and Mary (Seitz) Perky. Her father was a native of Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, and her mother of Fairfield county, Ohio, and during their childhood they went with their respective parents to Seneca county, this state. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. French located in Lykens township, where he continued working at his trade until the 11th of May, 1864, when he enlisted at the call for troops to serve one hundred days, joining Company E of the One Hundred and Thirty-sixth Ohio Infantry. The regiment was assigned to the Army of the Potomac and was stationed at Fort Worth, Virginia. In September of the same year Mr. French was mustered out and returned to his home. In the fall of 1866 he removed to Huron county and purchased fifty-three acres of land and continued carpentering, renting his farm. In the spring of 1873 he sold that property and came to Cranberry township, Crawford county, where he has since resided. Upon his arrival here he purchased seventy acres of land and, abandoning his trade, he has since given his attention to agricultural pursuits. After some years he added forty-one acres to his farm, so that the home place now comprises one hundred and eleven acres.

Mr. and Mrs. French became the parents of four children, of whom two are yet living, namely: Sherman L., a farmer of Cranberry township, and David P., who is operating the home farm. Imogene and Martin, the eldest and youngest of the family, are now deceased. The parents hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. French is a Democrat in his political faith. He is an example of the boys who educate themselves and secure their own start in life,—determined, self-reliant boys, willing to work for advantages which others secure through inheritance, destined by sheer force of character to succeed in the face of all opposition and to push to the front in one important branch of enterprise or another. As a man his business ability has been constantly manifested in one phase or another and he has gained an excellent success, a just reward for his meritorious and honorable effort, which commands the respect and admiration of all.

## ALBERT S. NYE.

Albert Sheridan Nye, one of the enterprising agriculturists of Cranberry township, was born July 30, 1867, in the township which is still his home, his parents being Jonathan and Lovina (Immel) Nye. The father was also a native of the Buckeye state, for he was born in Medina county, March 2, 1823, his parents being Jonathan and Sabrina (Briggs) Nye. The grandfather of our subject was born in Massachusetts, in 1770, and his father bore the name of Jonathan Nye and was a well-known resident of the Bay state. He was also a son of a Jonathan Nye, who engaged in whale fishing, following that hazardous occupation for many years.

The grandfather of our subject was reared in his parents' home and the common schools afforded him his educational privileges. After his marriage he turned his attention to farming, which he followed for a number of years, and subsequently he removed to New York, where his wife died. He was afterward married again, his second union being with the grandmother of our subject. By the first marriage there were seven children, but all are now deceased. Soon after his second marriage the grandfather came to Ohio, locating in Medina county, where he entered one hundred and sixty acres of forest land, where he erected a log cabin. Through the following years he performed the arduous task of clearing away the trees and plowing and planting the fields, operating his farm until 1825, when he sold that property and came to Crawford county. Here he entered one hundred and sixty acres in the mids of the forest, near what is now North Robinson, and built a log cabin, into which the family removed. He cleared eighty acres of his land and gave the remaining eighty acres to two of his sons. Upon this farm the grandfather died in 1849, his wife surviving until 1853. Upon her death the farm passed into possession of Jonathan Nye and his brother Lorenzo. In 1857 they sold this property and the father of our subject came to Cranberry township, where he purchased his present home, comprising a tract of eighty acres, while Lorenzo Nye bought ninety-five and a fraction acres just across the road from his brother.

Here they continued their farming work, and as Lorenzo Nye was married, Jonathan boarded with him until his own marriage, which occurred on the 21st of April, 1861, to Miss Lovina Immel, a native of Cranberry township. She was born on the farm adjoining that which belongs to her husband and was a daughter of Philip Immel, one of the early pioneers of the township, who emigrated to Ohio from Pennsylvania, his native state. His parents were of

Pennsylvania Dutch lineage. After his marriage Mr. Immel started with his bride for Ohio, making the journey by wagon, and on his arrival in Crawford county he entered eighty acres of land in Cranberry township, the deed being signed by Andrew Jackson, then president of the United States. He at once built a log house, and blankets were hung at the openings to serve as doors. In true pioneer style he began the development and cultivation of his land and throughout his active business career carried on farming with good success, maintaining his residence upon the old homestead until his death, which occurred in 1885.

After the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Nye they began their domestic life in an old log cabin on his farm. The building was in a dilapidated condition and the wind whistled through the structure and the rain and snow was blown through the apertures. In severe weather it was almost impossible to keep the room at a temperature to save them from freezing. During the five years in which they were paying for their farm they endured many hardships, but at length the indebtedness was discharged and their financial resources were increased so that they were able to erect a more commodious residence, and in 1866 the present home was built. Their marriage was blessed with six children, of whom three are now living: William Sherman, a resident farmer of Auburn township; Albert Sheridan, of this review; and Eli Liberty, at home. In his political affiliations Mr. Nye is a Republican, and in ante-bellum days was a strong Abolitionist. His religious views are in harmony with the Methodist doctrine, although he is not a member of the church, and throughout his whole life he has so lived as to win the confidence and regard of all with whom he has been brought in contact.

Albert Sheridan Nye became familiar with farm work upon the old homestead. His elementary education was acquired in the common schools and was supplemented by study in the Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware. In the fall of 1888 he left that institution and returned home, working through the following summer in the fields. He also became extensively engaged in the breeding of fine poultry and now carries on business along that line. In the fall of 1889 he began teaching, and at intervals has thus been connected with educational work through five school terms.

On the 17th of May, 1893, Mr. Nye was united in marriage to Miss Anna Springer, a native of Ottawa county and a daughter of M. M. Springer. The young couple located upon their present farm, which comprises fifty acres, a mile and a half east of New Washington, and which Mr. Nye had purchased the year previous. Here he has since engaged in agricultural pursuits

and in the raising of fine poultry, and both branches of his business prove a profitable source of income. When he was only eight years of age he was the owner of a number of thoroughbred fowls, and in his early youth he developed a fondness for the business which he now carries on and in which he has met with excellent success. His poultry has been displayed at various fairs and poultry shows among those sent by leading breeders of fancy poultry throughout the country, and he has won many premiums. In his farming work he is energetic, and the well-tilled fields indicate his careful supervision and bring to him a handsome financial return.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Nye has been blessed with three children: Charles A., Ettie L. and Hobart J. Mrs. Nye is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and to its support Mr. Nye is a liberal contributor. In fact, he gives his aid to all measures calculated to prove of public benefit. He is a member of Hyperion Lodge, No. 651, K. P., which he joined on its organization, and politically he is identified with the Republican party, being an unswerving advocate of its principles. In 1900 he was appointed census enumerator of his township, and for the past three years has been president of the school board, and has also served as a member of the election board for many years. At different times he has been the nominee on his ticket for the office of township trustee, justice of the peace and assessor. In his political service he has discharged his duties with marked prominence and fidelity, and in all life's relations he has won the confidence and good will of those with whom he has been associated. He is known as a reliable, progressive and wide-awake business man, being accounted one of the leading representatives among the younger men now engaged in agricultural pursuits in his native county.

#### LOUIS C. MARTIN.

The career of the gentleman whose name is mentioned above is one the active years of which have been devoted to the welfare of mankind and the influence of which is good and far-reaching. The Rev. Louis C. Martin, pastor of the German Reformed church of Galion, Ohio, was born in Lanesville, Indiana, in 1863. His parents were natives of Germany and his father is a minister of the gospel and of the church which his son has so well represented.

Mr. Martin's childhood was spent at Terre Haute, Indiana, and there he attended the public school and prepared to enter the theological seminary of his church at Sheboygan, Wisconsin. After a complete course at the institution just referred to, he was, in 1883, graduated from Heidelberg college at Tiffin,

Ohio, with the honors of his class. Immediately after his graduation Mr. Martin entered upon the mission work of his church at Boone City, Iowa, where he achieved a phenomenal success. From Boone City he went to Chilton, Wisconsin, and, after two years' successful work there, he was given charge of the large congregation at Huntington, Indiana. From Huntington he removed to Waukegan, Illinois, where he had charge of a congregation of his church.

Following his arduous work at the stations mentioned, he was afflicted with nervous prostration and for a year rested at Galion, Ohio. During this time he had charge of a mission in Dayton, Ohio, where in eleven weeks he had laid the foundation and plans ready for a chapel. After that he became pastor of the church of his denomination at Ironton, Ohio, where he originated and established the Protestant Deaconess hospital. His successful management of that institution brought him many congratulatory communications from those in charge of other charitable homes and led to the reorganization of some institutions along lines which he had made successful and popular. When he severed his relations with the church and the Deaconess Hospital at Ironton he returned to Galion, where he was called by family considerations and where he has since lived. He is at this time pastor of the Windfall congregation of the Peace Reformed church, just over the line in Morrow county.

Mr. Martin married, September 20, 1887, Miss Sarah Zimmerman, a daughter of John S. Zimmerman, one of the prominent citizens of Galion, and they have three children, named Carl, Aurelia and Miriam.

### JACOB UHL.

Jacob Uhl, an honored veteran of the Civil war, now engaged in farming in Cranberry township, where he owns and operates a farm of one hundred acres, was born in Offenbach, Bavaria, Germany, January 25, 1833. His father, Benedict Uhl, was a native of the same country, born in 1797, and there he learned the wheelwright's trade. In early manhood he married Miss Anna Mary Mesmer, also a native of Bavaria, and they became the parents of six children, three daughters, deceased, and three sons, who are yet living: Benedict, who makes his home in Toledo, Ohio; Jacob; and Daniel, who makes his home in Cranberry township. With his family the father came to the United States in the spring of 1836, embarking on an Italian sailing vessel at Havre, France. They landed in New York City after a voyage of forty-four days and by way of the Great Lakes came to Ohio. After spending a few days in Huron, this state, they continued on their way to Plymouth, where the



mother and children remained while the father sought a location. He finally purchased forty acres of land in Cranberry township, one mile north of New Washington, a Mr. Elias Resch purchasing the other forty acres of the eighty-acre tract. For a short time the two families lived in the log house erected by a former settler.

A few months later Benedict Uhl purchased two lots in New Washington and built a hewed-log house, which served as a residence and shop, and there he worked for two years at his trade, but the pioneer settlers had little money to pay for labor and therefore he left the town and returned to his farm, upon which he built a log cabin, which the family occupied until about 1850, when he erected a commodious frame house. After his return to the farm he began clearing and developing his land, and for twenty years, in connection with agricultural pursuits, he also followed his trade. He added a tract of fifty acres to his land and successfully carried on business along the two lines until his death, which occurred in 1863. He was a consistent member of the Catholic church, and in his political faith was a Democrat.

The wild scenes of pioneer life surrounded Jacob Uhl in his youth. He saw the dense forests, the cabin homes and shared in the arduous task of subjugating the wild land in order to make it cultivable. His education was obtained after the primitive manner of the times in a frontier district, and after attaining his majority he began to earn his own livelihood by working as a farm hand in the neighborhood. A great change in his mode of life occurred, however, when in August, 1861, he responded to the call for troops and entered the military service of his adopted country, becoming a member of Company C, Forty-ninth Ohio Infantry. The regiment was assigned to the Army of the Cumberland and he participated in all of the engagements with his command until the 27th of May, 1864, when he was shot through the neck in the battle near Dallas, Georgia. After being wounded he lay for a few days in the field hospital in Louisville, Kentucky, and was then sent to Cleveland, where he remained until the following January. Although he had not entirely recovered, he then rejoined his regiment at the camp near Huntsville, Alabama, and in January, 1866, he was discharged at Columbus, Ohio, returning home with a creditable record for loyalty and bravery.

In the following fall Mr. Uhl was united in marriage to Miss Margaret Nederlost, a native of Bohemia and a daughter of John Nederlost, who came to the United States about 1855, locating in Cranberry township, Crawford county. Mr. and Mrs. Uhl began their domestic life upon eighty acres of his present farm, which he had purchased while at home recovering from the

wounds sustained in battle. Some years afterward he bought twenty acres adjoining on the south, making his farm a valuable tract of one hundred acres, now well improved and supplied with all modern accessories and conveniences. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Uhl has been blessed with six children, namely: Anna E., the wife of John R. Miller, a merchant of New Washington; George J., a farmer of Cranberry township; Michael B., who is engaged in the poultry business and the manufacture of chicken brooders in Cranberry township; Joseph, who is attending St. Mary's College in Dayton, Ohio; Lawrence, who is operating his father's farm; and Mary, who is at home with her parents.

In his political views Mr. Uhl is a Republican and believes most firmly in the principles of the party. He is a zealous and devout member of the Catholic church and served for several years as a member of the church council. He has never sought political office, preferring to devote his time and attention to his business interests, in which he has met with creditable and gratifying success.

#### JOHN BAUMGARTNER.

One of the most prominent business men of Chatfield township is John Baumgartner, and, furthermore, he owes his success entirely to his own efforts. Starting out in business life empty-handed, he has steadily worked his way upward and his business connections are now extensive and important. He belongs, too, to that class of representative American citizens who, while promoting their own success, also contribute to the general prosperity, for the industries with which he is associated are a means of livelihood to many men of the community, furnishing employment to a large force.

Mr. Baumgartner is a native of Columbus, Franklin county, Ohio, where his birth occurred on Christmas day of 1858. His parents, John G. and Christina (Moll) Baumgartner, had four sons. His mother died when he was twelve years of age, and three years later he came to Chatfield township, Crawford county, living with Lewis Durr until he had attained the age of twenty years, when he began working for Mr. Brose in a brickyard. He there remained as an employe for four years, and then purchased a half interest in the brick and tile yard, the business being carried on under the firm name of Brose & Baumgartner until 1893, when the present style of Baumgartner & Company was assumed. Our subject is the secretary and treasurer of the company, and the success of the enterprise is largely due to his enterprise and careful, competent management. The annual sale of tile and brick amounts to

about ten thousand dollars. In 1879 a sawmill was also added to the business and the lumber manufactured and sold also adds materially to the income which the firm enjoys. Mr. Baumgartner also owns a cider mill with a capacity of one hundred and fifty barrels of cider per day. He purchased the Chatfield mill and elevator in 1900, and not long afterward sold a one-fourth interest, retaining three-fourths, the style of the firm being the Chatfield Mill and Grain Company. The mill has a capacity of fifty barrels per day. Thus Mr. Baumgartner has continually extended the field of his operations until to-day he is one of the leading business men of his township.

In 1882 occurred the marriage of our subject and Miss Elizabeth Brose, and unto them have been born seven children: Susan S., Daniel F., William H., Manette F., John J., Almenia C. and Fredeline F. The family is well known in this locality and their circle of friends is almost co-extensive with the circle of their acquaintance.

In his political affiliations Mr. Baumgartner is a Democrat, and for several years he served as president of the Chatfield township school board. He manifests a commendable interest in everything pertaining to the welfare of his town and county and co-operates in many movements for the general good. Without pecuniary help and with no special advantages of any kind, he entered upon his business career, and by close application, untiring energy and strong resolution he has steadily advanced until he now occupies an enviable position on the plane of affluence. Straightforward dealing has ever characterized his transaction of business, and his strict regard for commercial ethics has won him the confidence, while his success has gained for him the admiration, of his fellow men.

#### DAVID A. SCOTT.

David A. Scott was born January 13, 1845, on the farm where he yet resides, and represents one of the early pioneer families of Cranberry township, for the Scotts came to this section of the state during an early period in its development and have ever been important factors in its upbuilding and substantial growth. William Scott, the father of our subject, was born in Bucks county, Pennsylvania, in 1808. His father was killed in the war of 1812, and about 1817 the grandmother of our subject died, leaving a family of eight children. William Scott was then but nine years of age. With his four brothers and three sisters he went to Wayne county, Ohio, where they found homes with relatives, and in that locality William Scott was reared, learning

the trade of a cabinet-maker in his youth. In the spring of 1832 he came to Cranberry ownship, and from the government entered the south forty acres of the farm now owned by his son David. The forest trees stood in their primeval strength and in the midst of the green woods he erected a log cabin. In the succeeding autumn he returned to Wayne county and was there united in marriage to Miss Mary Ann Irvin, who was born in Wayne county about 1812, her parents being honored pioneer people of that section of the state. In the spring of 1833 he brought his bride to his new home, and after two or three years he entered another forty-acre tract of land adjoining his homestead on the north. As the years passed he made excellent improvements upon his place, and in 1861 erected a handsome and commodious frame residence on the north half of his farm. Then with his family he left the cabin home which had sheltered them during so many years of the pioneer days and took up his abode in the new dwelling, where he remained until his death, which occurred in November, 1883. His wife passed away about 1879, and only two of their nine children are yet living, the sister of our subject being Letitia, the wife of Henry Rapp, of Auburn township, Crawford county. In politics he was a stanch Democrat, and served as trustee of the township for several years. He was widely and favorably known as an influential and prominent citizen, co-operating in all movements for the general good. He did not hold membership in any religious organization, but was a God-fearing man, who supported all charitable and church work. His preference was for the Presbyterian church, of which his wife was a devoted and consistent member.

David A. Scott is familiar with the history of Crawford county from early days. He lived here at a period when the work of progress and improvement was in its incipency. He acquired his education in the district schools and worked in the fields from the time of early spring planting until crops were harvested in the autumn, thus becoming familiar with all departments of farm labor. When twenty-one years of age he took charge of the home farm, which he operated on the shares, and on the 1st of July, 1869, he secured as a companion and helpmate for the journey of life Miss Adeline Rummion, their wedding being celebrated on that date. The lady is a native of Cranberry township and a daughter of William Rummion, who came to Crawford county in pioneer days from Richland county, Ohio, which was the place of his nativity. At the time of his marriage Mr. Scott received from his father as his patrimony fifty acres of a tract of sixty acres which adjoined the home place on the east, and there he settled with his bride, remaining upon that place until his mother's death, when he removed to the old home place in order to care for his

father during his declining years. While living upon his own farm he had also continued the operation of the homestead, and in 1874 he purchased the remaining ten acres of the farm. After his mother's death he bought sixty-two acres of the old home place, on which stood the farm buildings, and his sister took possession of the remaining twenty-eight acres. Thus Mr. Scott's property was increased to one hundred and twelve acres, and in 1897 he purchased fifty-three and a half acres of the Volney Powers estate. In 1900 he bought the old Volney Powers homestead of eighty acres—one of the most valuable and best improved farms of the county, situated about a mile east of New Washington. During the years of his manhood he has been numbered among the most progressive and energetic agriculturists of his community. His diligence and his labors are directed by sound business judgment and keen sagacity, while his honesty in trade transactions is proverbial.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Scott has been blessed with thirteen children, of whom twelve are yet living: Fairy B., wife of Dr. E. C. Kimmerline, of Lykens township; Sherman, a drug clerk employed in South Bend, Indiana; Eva O., the wife of Adelbert Smith, of Seneca county, Ohio; Florence M., Dorcas, Melvin, Russell, Earl, Charles, Walter, Ralph and Mabel, at home. The family is one of prominence in the community, and Mr. Scott realizes the value of education as a preparation for life and has given his children excellent educational privileges. Five of the older members of the family have been successful teachers, and Fairy, Sherman and Dorcas are graduates of the high school of New Washington. The first named taught in the primary, intermediate and grammar departments of the New Washington schools and was recognized as a most successful and capable educator. In his political views David A. Scott is a stanch Democrat, and has served for several years as trustee of his township. He also filled the position of school director for eighteen successive years, and his labors were earnest, effective and beneficial in promoting the welfare of the schools. He is a member of Hyperion Lodge, K. of P., of New Washington, and not only in fraternal but in all walks of life he enjoys the esteem of his fellow men by reason of his diligence to the obligations and duties of both public and private life.

#### MICHAEL MARQUART.

One of the best-known representatives of agricultural pursuits in Crawford county that the fatherland has furnished to the new world is Michael Marquart, who was born in Baden, Germany, on the 27th of April, 1817. His



parents were Michael and Margaret (Fechter) Marquart. He is now the only survivor of their family of five children. His parents were also natives of Germany, where they spent their entire lives. The father was a farmer by occupation, and during the financial panic of 1817 he lost his property and afterward worked for wages as a farm hand. In his parents' home Mr. Marquart remained until eighteen years of age, when he apprenticed himself to learn the brick and stone mason's trade. Believing that he could better his financial condition in the new world and that better opportunities could be secured, he started from home accompanied by his sister. They took passage on a steamer down the river Rhine to Havre de Grace and then embarked on the sailing vessel for America, landing in New York city August 12, 1839, after a voyage of fifty-seven days. On reaching the eastern metropolis he found that he had a capital of but about two dollars. However, he gained the friendship of a fellow passenger who told Mr. Marquart that if he would go to Ohio with him he would loan him the money, which he could repay at a later day.

Accordingly our subject and his sister made their way to Tuscarawas county, where Mr. Marquart first found employment in the ore bank near New Philadelphia, and from the wages he there received he was enabled to return the money advanced for his fare to Ohio. Later he worked at his trade and at various other occupations, allowing no opportunity to pass whereby he might gain an honest dollar. In 1843 he came to Crawford county, and, with the money which he had saved from his earnings in Tuscarawas county, he purchased sixty-nine acres of the present home. This was almost entirely virgin forest, only a small portion of the land having been cleared. On this a log cabin had been erected by the original settler and it served him as a home until 1861, when he erected his present substantial farm residence. About 1862 he purchased twenty-seven acres of land adjoining the home farm, and a year or two later added another tract of eighteen acres. Since then he has purchased three other farms, one of seventy-seven acres and another of eighty acres in Cranberry township and a third of thirty-six acres in Seneca county, so that his landed possessions now aggregate three hundred and seven acres. His farm is well improved with all modern accessories and conveniences. In appearance it is neat and thrifty, and the well-tilled fields return him golden harvests.

In the year 1844 Mr. Marquart was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Streile, a native of Wurtemberg, Germany, who came to America when a young lady. They had five children, but only one is now living, Caroline, the

wife of William Longyear, of this township. The mother died in 1854, and in 1855 Mr. Marquart was again married, his second union being with Caroline W. Longyear, a native of Wurtemberg, who came to America with her father, Michael Longyear, when she was twenty-six years of age. Her father spent most of his time with his daughter and died at the home of our subject. By the second marriage there were seven children, of whom five are living, namely: August, a resident farmer of Cranberry township; Jefferson, who is also living in the same township; George, who operates the home farm; Wilhelmina, the wife of William Beckstine, of Cranberry township; and Emma, the wife of Frank Leonhart, of Chatfield township. In 1900 Mr. Marquart was again called to mourn the loss of his wife, who died on the 13th of March, six days before the seventy-second anniversary of her birth. He is a Democrat in his political affiliations and is a member of the German Evangelical Lutheran church, in which he held various offices, serving for many years as trustee, as deacon and as elder. His has been a busy, useful and active career. Starting out in life in the new world empty-handed and having the disadvantage of unfamiliarity with the language and customs of the people, he nevertheless readily adapted himself to his new surroundings and with determined purpose and unflagging industry worked his way steadily upward to a place of affluence, being now one of the substantial residents of Crawford county. He has passed the eighty-fourth milestone on the journey of life and is still a hale and hearty old man, well deserving the veneration which should ever be accorded to one of his years and also enjoys the warm regard of young and old, rich and poor.

#### ADAM ECKSTEIN.

One of the finely developed farms in Cranberry township, supplied with all modern equipments and facilities, is the property of Adam Eckstein. He was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, February 15, 1845, and is the second of the six surviving children of George and Mary (Simmermaker) Eckstein, who were the parents of six sons and two daughters. The father also was a native of Hesse-Darmstadt, and after arriving at man's estate he was there married. In the year 1848 he came with his wife and three children to the United States, landing in New York, whence he started for Ohio, going first to Albany, thence to Buffalo by way of the canal, on to Sandusky by way of the Great Lakes and from there by rail to Shelby, whence they drove across the country to Vernon township, Crawford county. When Mr. Eckstein arrived in this county his cash capital consisted of but forty dollars. With this he

purchased a team of oxen and began farming on rented land. A year later he removed to Richland county, and for three years cultivated a rented farm in Sharon township. He made all of his own furniture, which was limited in amount as well as primitive in character. The first year a chest was used as a table, this having been brought from the old country, but the other furniture was largely of his own manufacture. In 1852 he returned to Vernon township and purchased of George Dixon ninety-three acres of land, upon which his son John now resides. About one-half of this had been cleared and a log cabin erected. To the further development and improvement of his land the father devoted his energies throughout his remaining days. He was frugal and thrifty, and in later years was enabled to buy an adjoining tract of eighty acres, so that his farm comprised one hundred and seventy-three acres. In 1866 he built a large bank barn and two years later erected a commodious and substantial frame residence and added other accessories, so that his place became one of the best-improved farms in the county. The men and measures of the Democracy received his political support. He belonged to the German Reformed church and for several years was one of its trustees and held various other church offices. His labors were of benefit in the upbuilding and advancement of religious and educational work and in the material development of the community, for he assisted largely in reclaiming the wild lands for purposes of civilization. His death occurred February 7, 1885. His surviving children are: Philip, who is living in Huron county, Ohio; Adam; Peter, of Crestline; Catherine, now the wife of Urias Baublitz, a farmer of Cranberry township; George, who died, leaving six children, Lizzie, William, George, Frank, Minnie and Emma, who are residents of Vernon township; William, who died, leaving four children, Calvin, Albert, Augusta and Nettie, of Crestline; John, who makes his home in Vernon township; and Julia, the wife of Louis Fisher, of Crestline.

When only about three years of age Adam Eckstein was brought by his parents to the new world, and amid the wild scenes of frontier life in Ohio he was reared. He can remember when great forests stood where cultivated fields are now seen and when many of the thriving towns and cities were mere hamlets. In the district schools, such as the pioneer days afforded, he pursued his education, and in the summer months he took his place in the fields, aiding in the work of plowing, planting and harvesting. He remained at home until his marriage, with the exception of two summer seasons, during which he was employed by neighboring farmers. On the 6th of September, 1868, he wedded Miss Catherine E. Feick, a native of Hesse-Darmstadt and a daughter of

George and Anna E. Feick, who spent their entire lives in the fatherland. Mrs. Eckstein came to America in 1867 to join her sister Margaret, the wife of Fred Beach, of Crestline, who had come to America the year previous. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Eckstein were born six children, and five of the number are yet living, namely: Catherine, the wife of William Kessler, of Auburn township; John F., who resides on a tract of eighty acres belonging to his father; George A., a carpenter of Oberlin, Ohio; and William E. and Julia A., at home.

In the spring following his marriage Mr. Eckstein purchased eighty acres of his present farm and began agricultural pursuits on his own account. In 1878 he erected a substantial frame residence and in 1891 built one of the largest barns in the county. In 1883 he purchased an adjoining forty acres of land, and in 1897 bought an additional tract of eighty acres lying just across the road from the home place, so that his landed possessions are now two hundred acres. He carries on farming along progressive lines, and upon his place are seen not only substantial buildings but also the latest improved machinery and splendid modern equipments, while the well-tilled fields indicate to the passer-by the careful supervision of an energetic owner. His ballot supports Democratic men and measures, and for three years he served as a member of the school board, but has never been an active politician in the sense of office seeking. He holds membership in the German Evangelical Lutheran church, and for six years was one of its elders. His financial aid and labors have contributed to its upbuilding and growth, and in his life he has exemplified its teachings and belief.

#### EMANUEL L. LUTZ.

Upon the farm in Chatfield township upon which his father now resides Emanuel L. Lutz was born and reared. His birth occurred December 16, 1853. At the usual age he entered school and through the winter months pursued his studies, while in the summer season he worked in the fields, aiding in the raising of crops from the time of early spring planting until after the autumn harvests. He did not go out to work, but assisted his father until his marriage, when he began making a home of his own.

In 1874 Mr. Lutz was joined in wedlock to Gertrude Schaffer, a daughter of Jacob and Catherine Schaffer, and their home has been enlivened and brightened by the presence of five children born to them, namely: Manetta, William F., Clara M., David H. and Emma L. Soon after their marriage our

subject and his wife removed to their present farm. Here he owns one hundred and twenty-three acres of land, and, like most of Ohio's farming land, it is a richly productive tract, yielding good harvests for the care and labor bestowed upon it. Mr. Lutz also owns fifty-eight acres of land elsewhere and is a successful general farmer. He realizes the dignity of labor, and industry has been one of his chief characteristics from his youth. Upon this he has builded his success, his sound judgment and reliable dealing also assisting him in acquiring the comfortable competence and good home which are to-day his.

In his religious views Mr. Lutz is a German Evangelical Lutheran, holding membership in the church in Chatfield. His political support is given the Democratic party, and on that ticket he has been elected to public office, having served as trustee of Chatfield township from 1895 until 1899, his long retention in office well indicating his faithful performance of duty. His friends, and they are many, know him as a man of genuine worth, and as a representative citizen of his township he well deserves mention in the history of Crawford county.

#### PETER DURNWALD.

Peter Durnwald, a resident farmer of Chatfield township, was born in Bohemia, Germany, in 1841, and is one of the nine children of Wenzal and Mary Durnwald, the others being: Margaret, who died at the age of ten years; Anna, deceased; Elizabeth; Mary; Magdalena; Martin; Joseph; and Peter. It was in the year 1854 that the father brought his family to the United States, crossing the Atlantic in a sailing vessel, which was sixty-five days between port and port. Coming at once to Crawford county, they settled in Cranberry township, where the father purchased a small farm of eighteen acres and began to carve out a home for his family in the new land.

Peer Durnwald was then a youth of fifteen. His childhood was largely devoted to assisting his father, but at the age of twenty-one he began working for himself, being employed by the month as a farm hand. Thus his time was passed for several years until he had money enough to begin farming on his own account. At the age of twenty-five he purchased the farm upon which he now resides and it has since been his place of abode. A cabin stood on the place when he took possession and fifteen acres of the land had been cleared, but otherwise the place was unimproved. It comprised one hundred and forty-three acres of arable land, and the well-tilled fields now bring him golden



harvests. Everything about the farm is kept in good condition and the labor of his hands is indicated by this desirable property, all of which he has acquired through his own efforts. For many years he was agent for a harvesting machine company.

Mr. Durnwald was united in marriage to Miss Barbara Deling, and for many years they traveled life's journey happily together, but in 1886 they were separated by the hand of death, the wife being called to her final rest. They had ten children, of whom the eldest, Elizabeth, is now deceased. The others are Martin, Anna, Rosa, Frank, Peter, John, Julia, Matilda (deceased) and Edward.

Mr. Durnwald is a staunch Democrat in politics, but has never held office. He and his children are members of the Catholic church. Having improved the opportunities which America offers to her citizens, he has advanced financially, and to-day is accounted one of the substantial farmers of his community.

### JACOB BROWN.

For many years Jacob Brown has engaged in dealing in live stock, and his business has been conducted along such safe lines and in such an honorable manner that he has won a very gratifying competence. He resides in the village of Chatfield, and is there accounted not only a prosperous business man but also a progressive citizen, whose labors have contributed to the upbuilding of the town.

Mr. Brown was born in Lykens township, Crawford county, May 4, 1864, and is a son of Gottlieb Brown, a native of Germany. The son spent his childhood and youth on the family homestead in Lykens township, and in the district schools of the neighborhood pursued his education. At the early age of fourteen years he began buying and trading horses, a business with which he has since been connected. When eighteen years of age he bought one hundred and twenty acres of land, and in connection with farming continuing to deal in horses. At the age of twenty he became connected with J. T. Carbin in a mercantile venture in Lykens, but after a year disposed of his interest there and entered into partnership with G. V. Hare. They established a general store, which they conducted successfully for four years, and at the same time Mr. Brown engaged in dealing in horses and cattle. On the expiration of that period he came to Chatfield, where he has since been successfully and extensively engaged in buying stock, hogs and sheep. He is an excellent judge

of farm animals and is thus enabled to make judicious purchases and sell to advantage, thus realizing a good profit. He also owns one hundred and eight acres of desirable land in Chatfield township.

In 1891 Mr. Brown was married to Miss Hannah Kalb, a daughter of John Kalb, and unto them have been born four children: Shannon J., Milton J., Neva O. and Feltus E. The family have a wide acquaintance and their friends in the community are almost equal in number to the number of their acquaintances. Socially Mr. Brown is a member of Wren Lodge, K. of P., of Lykens, and in his political adherency he is a Democrat. He has been corporation treasurer of the village of Chatfield since its incorporation, and while residing in Lykens was for two terms assessor, treasurer for six years and postmaster for four years. His official duties have ever been discharged with the same business-like dispatch, fidelity and integrity that has marked his business career and made him one of the valued and respected residents of Chatfield.

#### AUGUST MUTH.

August Muth is a representative example of the German-American citizens of Crawford county. The fatherland has furnished to Ohio many men of worth, whose enterprise and industry have not alone promoted their own advancement but have contributed to the general prosperity, and to this class August Muth belongs. He was born in Germany, December 17, 1850, and spent the first fifteen years of his life in his native land, after which he sailed for America, for he had received favorable reports of the opportunities afforded to young men in the new world and therefore resolved to try his fortune here. For three years he was employed as a salesman in a store in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, and on the expiration of that period he embarked on an independent business venture. For seven years he ran a huckster's wagon, and then with the capital he had acquired he established a wholesale produce store in Pittsburg, successfully conducting the enterprise for five years. In 1885 he purchased his present store in Chatfield, Crawford county, Ohio, and has since carried on operations as a general merchant. He carries a large and well-selected stock of goods, and his earnest desire to please his patrons, his energy and his honorable dealing have brought to him prosperity. He also established the Clear Springs Creamery, which not only is a source of profit to the owner but is of value to the farming community by furnishing a market for the dairy products. He was likewise instrumental in securing the Short Line Railroad

through Chatfield, and is a progressive citizen deeply interested in everything pertaining to the welfare of his community.

Mr. Muth has been twice married. He first wedded Louise Voight, and they had five children: Mary, Martin, Walter and two who died in infancy. For his second wife Mr. Muth chose Miss Caroline Mohrloff, and they had seven children, namely: Clara, who died in infancy, Arnold, Bertha, Annie, Callie, Harry and Amelia. The family attend the German Evangelical Lutheran church, of which Mr. Muth has been a life member. In his political affiliations he is a Democrat, but has never sought or desired office, preferring to give his time and energies to his business interests, in which he has met with creditable and well-deserved success.

#### DAVID A. LUTZ.

Among the progressive men of Liberty township, Crawford county, who are well known and respected, none stand higher in public esteem than does David A. Lutz. Mr. Lutz was born in Chatfield township, this county, on September 9, 1867, a son of Daniel and Elizabeth (Ulmer) Lutz, and was a member of a family of four children, the two survivors being himself and his sister Catherine, the wife of W. E. Green, of Liberty township. Daniel Lutz, the father, was also a native of Chatfield township and was born on December 12, 1837, a son of Gottlieb and Gottlieben (Kibler) Lutz, both of whom were born in Wurtemberg, Germany. There they married and two of their children were born there before the family emigrated, in 1832, to America. Their voyage covered sixty days, and they came directly from New York to Lisbon, Ohio, where Gottlieb worked for one year at his trade of weaver. In 1833 he removed to Crawford county, settled in Chatfield township, entered forty acres of land and built his cabin in the forest. Later he bought additional land until his farm numbered one hundred and twenty-eight acres. His death took place on his farm when he was seventy-one years old, his faithful wife having passed away in 1850.

At the age of twenty years Daniel Lutz began to learn the carpenter's trade and worked at it for some time. In 1865 he was married to Miss Elizabeth Ulmer, and then purchased his father's farm, the latter coming to live with his son, and so continued until his death. In 1882 Mr. Lutz purchased one hundred and eight acres of land, and also the Keller farm of fifty acres which adjoined it on the east, and then removed to his new home, disposing of his Chatfield township farm some years later. Mr. Lutz is one of

the leading members of the Lutheran church, and for twelve years has been a trustee and a member of the building committee that erected the present imposing brick structure known as the St. Paul German Lutheran church of Liberty township. In his political life he has always been an uncompromising Democrat. His life and character have made him one of the most esteemed citizens of the county. The mother of our subject was born in Liberty township, July 27, 1838, a daughter of Daniel and Barbara Ulmer, both of them natives of Germany. They came to Crawford county the same year as did the Lutz family. The mother passed out of life May 11, 1898.

The early life of our subject, David A. Lutz, was spent upon his father's estate, and he was afforded the best possible opportunities for the attainment of an education. When eighteen years old his father entrusted a portion of the farm to his care, and he operated it on shares. On December 10, 1891, he was married to Miss Mary Luidhardt, a native of this township, a daughter of John and Louisa Luidhardt, the former of whom was born in this township. His father, George Luidhart, came to Crawford county at an early day. Mother Luidhardt was a native of Germany and was brought to this country when she was but a child.

In September, 1891, our subject, in partnership with his brother-in-law, W. E. Green, purchased the old Lutz farm in Chatfield township and also the old Keller farm of seventy-two acres in Liberty township, both of these having been the property of Mr. Lutz, Sr. During one summer the partners engaged in cultivating together, but in the following September they divided their interests, our subject acquiring the Keller farm, while Mr. Green took the Chatfield township farm. Mr. Lutz is one of the energetic young agriculturists of this county, and not only successfully cultivates his own land but also tills eighty-six acres of that belonging to his father. Like his father, he is a staunch member of the Democratic party. For three years he served as a trustee in the Lutheran church and is highly valued there. He has displayed great ability in his chosen occupation, and his success has been very gratifying not only in a pecuniary way but also in the position it has given him as a worthy representative of an honored and industrious family.

#### REV. DANIEL BROSE.

Rev. Daniel Brose, who for many years has been connected with agricultural and industrial interests in Crawford county, and is also laboring for the spiritual welfare of the people among whom he lives as a minister of the

Pietist church, makes his home in Chatfield township, and upon the farm where he now resides his birth occurred on the 31st of October, 1849. His father, Michael Brose, and his grandfather, Andrew Brose, were both natives of Wurtemberg, Germany, and in 1832 the latter brought his family to the new world, crossing the Atlantic in a sailing vessel, which was then the only means of navigation. He settled in Liberty township, Crawford county, but his death occurred soon afterward. His son, Michael Brose, was married in this county to Agnes Steinhilber, and soon afterward they took up their residence in Chatfield township, the father devoting his remaining days to agricultural pursuits. He was industrious, energetic and determined and provided a comfortable living for his large family. He died in 1872, at the age of sixty-five years and five months, and his wife passed away at the age of sixty years and five months. They were members of the Pietist church and were earnest Christian people, having the warm regards of all with whom they were associated. They had thirteen children: Jacob, who is living in Williams county, Ohio; Gottlieb, of Indiana; Rebecca, wife of Simon Long, of Indiana; Daniel, of Chatfield township; Fridericka, wife of Jacob Reidle, of Chatfield township; Catherine, the wife of Daniel Long, of Chatfield township; Elizabeth, wife of John Baumgartner, of Chatfield township; David, of Cranberry township; Mary A., the wife of Samuel Calb, of Chatfield township; and Lydia S., the wife of Michael Streib, of Whetstone township. Three died in their childhood.

Born and reared on the old home farm, on attaining his majority Mr. Brose, of this review, became associated with his father in the cultivation of the fields and the management of the property, and so continued until 1878, when he began the manufacture of brick and tile and also sawing lumber. In 1889 he extended the field of agricultural pursuits, and to this dual occupation he gives his attention with excellent success. He now owns one hundred acres of good land in Chatfield township and follows general farming in addition to his other pursuits. He is active, energetic and persevering, and his well-conducted business affairs have brought to him a good profit. In the manufacture of tile and brick he has been associated with his brother-in-law, J. Baumgartner, as a partner.

On the 15th of March, 1881, Rev. Brose was united in marriage to Miss Levina Bower, of Brownstown, Illinois, and nine children grace their union, of whom seven are yet living: Alice S., Ida M., Fredericka M., Lavina K., Lizzie L., Daniel F. and Michael S. The other two died in childhood.

Mr. Brose has never been an aspirant for public office. For nine years he



has been a minister of the Pietist church of his neighborhood, numbering about forty-five families, and he also acts as pastor of another church in Todd township, numbering about forty-two families. His influence is widely felt and the work which he has performed in the cause of Christianity has brought forth rich fruits.

### SIMON SHADE.

For almost a third of a century Simon Shade has resided upon the farm in Lykens township which is now his home. He was born in Columbiana county, Ohio, April 7, 1834, one of the thirteen children, five sons and eight daughters, who were born of the marriage of Samuel and Catherine Shade. Of this number ten reached years of maturity. In 1836 the father removed with his family to Seneca county, Ohio, taking up his abode in Venice township, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land that had been owned by a previous purchaser who had erected a log cabin upon the place. Mr. Shade cut away the dense forest, prepared the land for the plow and in due course of time garnered abundant harvests. For a number of years he made his home thereon, but eventually removed to Tiffin, where he spent his remaining days, passing away at the age of seventy years. His wife survived him and reached the advanced age of ninety-six years, while her father died at the extreme old age of one hundred and two years. He served with the American army in the war of the Revolution.

Upon the home farm in Seneca county Simon Shade spent the days of his boyhood and youth, early becoming familiar with all the duties and labors which fall to the lot of the agriculturist. He was married in 1859 to Miss Louisa Kniemen, and their union has been blessed with four children: Clara, the wife of R. Brown, of Bloomville; Lizzie, who married J. F. Runyon, of Van Wert, Ohio; S. Andrew, who is upon the home farm; and Willie E., at Cygnet.

After his marriage Mr. Shade located upon a farm of eighty-six acres, upon which he resided until 1869, when he came to his present home in Lykens township. He has here eighty acres of land and one hundred and sixty acres in Chatfield township. His home is a commodious and pleasant farm residence, and good barns and outbuildings furnish shelter for grain and stock. Everything about the place is kept in good condition and the well-tilled fields yield a golden return for the care and labor bestowed upon them.

In 1900 Mr. Shade was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who

was struck by lightning on the 18th of July while in the church attending a funeral. She was a most estimable lady and had many warm friends. Mr. Shade belongs to the German Reformed church, and in his political affiliations is a Democrat. He entered upon his business career without capital and the success he has achieved is, therefore, the merited reward of his own labor, for his has been a busy, active, useful and honorable life.

### JAMES DUNLAP.

The family of Dunlap in America comes of Scotch ancestry, and in all generations it has produced men and women of exceptional ability and worth. It is ably represented in Ohio, and its most prominent representative in Crawford county is James Dunlap, of Texas township, a progressive and prosperous farmer of much influence and importance in local affairs.

James Dunlap was born in Lycoming county, Pennsylvania, January 13, 1832, a son of John and Mary (Loeman) Dunlap, who had six sons and two daughters. The following data concerning different members of this family will be found interesting: James Dunlap, the subject of this sketch, was the first in order of birth. Daniel served his country as a soldier one hundred days in the Civil war and lives in Kansas. John lives in Richland county, Ohio. Samuel was during a greater portion of the Civil war a member of the Eighth Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry and is now living in Oklahoma. William fought for the flag in the Civil war as a member of the Third Ohio Cavalry and is now living in Kansas. Mary and Abbie are dead. Jacob was a member of the Twelfth Ohio Cavalry and saw much arduous and dangerous service in the war between the states.

John Dunlap settled in Texas township, Crawford county, Ohio, in 1835, and bought forty acres of land, on which there was a clearing of a few acres and a small log cabin. He improved the property and died there in 1878, at the age of eighty-two years. His wife died in 1846. When his parents went to Texas township James Dunlap was three years old. He remembers having walked a mile and a half to a school kept in a log school house and states that during his youth game was plentiful in the woods round about and Indians were frequently seen. When a mere boy he began to help his father clear land and put it under cultivation, and when he was sixteen years old he began working out by the month, but made his home with his father until 1854, when, December 23, he married Mary Livensparger, who bore him eight children. Their daughter Florence married a Mr. Dorrick, of Tiffin, Ohio. Their daugh-

ter Laura is the wife of Scott Hoyellett, of Texas township. Their daughter Jane married William Tuttle, of Crawford county. Their son Elmer lives in Bucyrus, Ohio. Their son Sidney lives at Shelby, Ohio. Their daughter Minnie is dead. Their daughter Elva is the wife of Horace Miller. Their son Ralph lives in Sycamore, Ohio.

For a time after his marriage Mr. Dunlap lived at Bloomfield, Ohio. He then moved to a small farm in Kent county, Ohio, which he had previously pre-empted. It was heavily timbered and he made a small clearing there and erected a log cabin, in which he was domiciled for two years. Then he removed to Crestline, Ohio, where for one year he was employed by a sawmill company. From there he removed to Wyandot county, where after three years he bought seventy acres of land in Eaton township, on which he lived until the spring of 1862, when he removed to Texas township, where in the September following he bought eighty acres of the farm on which he now lives.

In 1864 Mr. Dunlap enlisted as a private in Company C, Eightieth Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, which was sent to North Carolina, where it performed picket duty until the spring of 1865. Thence in succession it went to Nashville, Tennessee, Cincinnati, Ohio, Columbus, Ohio, Washington, D. C., and Alexandria, Virginia, where it was stationed until the close of the war. After he was discharged from the United States service with all due honor he returned to his farm in Texas township, Crawford county, Ohio, and has since given his attention to general farming and stock-raising with such success that he has added to his home farm until it now contains one hundred and sixteen acres, and he owns fifty acres in another tract.

In politics he is a Democrat, and he wields considerable political influence in his township and has served his fellow townsmen for many years as a school director and for six years as township trustee.

#### HENRY D. E. JOHNSTON.

Prominent among the pioneer families of Crawford county is that of Johnston, of which Henry D. E. Johnston, deceased, was a representative. His father, Thomas F. Johnston, was a pioneer settler of the county, coming here in 1826 from Lycoming county, Pennsylvania, where he was born February 3, 1800. He was a son of an Irish emigrant who settled in Lycoming county. In 1823 Thomas F. Johnston married Martha L. Walton, a daughter of David and Elizabeth (Rogers) Walton, and was born in Lycoming



H. D. E. JOHNSTON.





county, Pennsylvania, May 11, 1803; her early ancestors in America were from England. It was soon after his marriage that Thomas F. Johnston emigrated to Crawford county, coming by wagon and team.

On coming to this county it was his first intention to follow his trade, that of cabinet-making, in Bucyrus, then a village of some eight log cabins and two frame buildings. The place not promising much for him in the way of remuneration from labors at his trade, because of which he turned his attention to farming in Whetstone township until the year 1829, he removed to Findlay, Hancock county, this state, where he lived for three years, and then returned to Crawford county, settling in Dallas township. While in Hancock he served as county auditor one term. He acquired large landed possessions in Crawford county and his farming interests grew to larger proportions. He also became a large stock-raiser, especially of sheep. He was a good business man and amassed a good estate. His death occurred November 1, 1862. His wife survived him many years, dying at an advanced age in Bucyrus, to which city she removed in 1865. She bore her husband the following children: Henry D. E., the immediate subject of this sketch; S. G. Johnston, who died in 1870, aged forty-three years; Henrietta, who married Thomas J. Monnett and died in 1871; Lavina, who died at the age of fifteen years; Josiah S., who died in infancy; W. H. H. Johnston, who, as a member of the Thirty-fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, in the Civil war, served for a short time and was honorably discharged on account of failing health, and who died in 1865; James Q. Johnston, who also served a short time in the Civil war, but fell a victim of consumption in 1865; Oregon Johnston, who served also in the Civil war and died in 1876; and Agnes J. Johnston, the youngest of the family, who also is deceased. Consumption was hereditary in the family and of it nearly all the children died.

Henry D. E. Johnston was born in Lycoming county, Pennsylvania, August 8, 1825, and was reared amid the scenes of pioneer life, obtaining a limited education. He was brought up on the farm and farming and stock-raising was his life pursuit. He was a shrewd, careful and successful business man. For a few years he was associated with his brother, S. G., in the business of dealing in stock. In 1857 he married Miss Jane Ludwig, the youngest child of Samuel Ludwig, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this volume. For two years after his marriage Mr. Johnston was engaged in both farming and stock-dealing, but, removing to Bucyrus, he engaged exclusively in the stock trade for three years. He then returned to the farm and was thereafter engaged in both farming and the stock business until the time of his death,

which occurred April 19, 1870. He left three children, namely: Nora, Zua and Mary Agness. In politics Mr. Johnston was a Republican, and a short time before his death he became a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He was possessed of many sterling qualities. A creditable portrait of him appears in this volume.

### BENJAMIN F. SIMMONS.

Long prominent in agricultural life of Crawford county, Benjamin F. Simmons is one of the best known and highly esteemed citizens. His birth was in Washington county, Pennsylvania, in February, 1827, and he was a son of Lawrence and Mary (Rice) Simmons. They had a family of four children born to them, but our subject is the only survivor.

Lawrence Simmons, who was the father of our subject, was also born in the Keystone state, about 1805, and was married in that state. By vocation he was a farmer, but when operations on his land were interrupted by unfavorable weather he filled up his time in the manufacture of splint-bottomed chairs, for which he found ready sale. About 1829, when our subject was but two years of age, the family emigrated to Crawford county, Ohio, a devoted aunt, a sister to the mother of our subject, carrying the child with her all the distance on horseback. Upon arrival in Ohio Father Simmons entered eighty acres of land, which was located one and one-half miles south of Sulphur Springs, in Liberty township, and upon this land he erected a cabin in the woods and started upon the task of clearing this land. The industry of Mr. Simmons seemed to have no limit, for in addition to clearing and cultivating his land he added very materially to the income by making the comfortable chairs as above mentioned, also looms, which were needed in every household, and in working in wood generally, possessing a natural skill in this line. Naturally he prospered, and was soon able to add to his original purchase of land, buying an adjoining sixty acres, and upon this farm of one hundred and forty acres he resided until 1846, at that time selling it to advantage and moving to Todd township, where he bought the farm of one hundred and sixty acres which adjoins the present farm of our subject on the south, and shortly after he bought another farm, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres, lying just across the highway from his on the east. Some years later he sold one of these farms and removed to Bucyrus, our subject taking charge of the other farm.

After some six years of residence in Bucyrus, Mr. Simmons returned to the farm, but shortly after a fine offer was made him which resulted in the

disposal of this valuable property. Then Mr. Simmons bought a small home property near the village of Nevada, and here he lived during the remainder of his life. The mother of our subject died the year following the removal of the family to Ohio, and the second marriage of the father was to Miss Catherine Swisher, and to them six children were born, all of whom have passed away, Mrs. Simmons also passing out of life. The third marriage of Mr. Simmons was to Mrs. McIntyre, but there was no issue of this marriage, and she survived her husband for some eighteen years.

In public affairs Mr. Simmons was prominent and was a leader in the Democratic party, but he is best remembered as one of the enterprising and devoted members of the United Brethren church, to which he contributed liberally and gave much of his time and attention for a long period. He was the founder and prime mover in the building of the first church of this denomination in Osceola, which is now in course of rebuilding, and he was also the leading spirit in the erection of the church in Nevada, after his removal there, and was valued for his Christian character.

Despite the long journey from his native state Benjamin F. Simmons grew to robust manhood in his pioneer home, developing a strong body and that love for agricultural pursuits which certainly gives a healthy trend to the mind as well as to the body. His education was acquired in the pioneer school-house, and Mr. Simmons can readily recall the old slab benches and puncheon floors, as well as the lessons learned within its walls.

In 1851 our subject was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Souders, who was a native of Liberty township, in this county, and who was a daughter of William Souders, who was one of the old pioneers of Liberty township. Shortly before the marriage of Mr. Souders, the father and sons built a sawmill on the farm, on Broken Sword creek, and for the succeeding nine years Benjamin gave continued attention to the working of this mill. For some time this was only a sawmill, but later Mr. Simmons became its sole owner, with eleven acres of land, and he then added a set of buhrs and fitted it up completely as a flouring-mill. For a number of years he made as excellent flour here as was made in any other place in the state, up to 1860. At that date he exchanged this mill for a farm of forty acres and a residence property in Oceaola, later selling the latter, but he removed his family to the farm. At that time the land was heavily timbered and Mr. Simmons began the hard work of clearing, but this was given up on account of the death of his wife, at which time he broke up housekeeping.

The second marriage of Mr. Simmons was two years later, to Miss Henri-

etta Chapman, who died in 1892. Three children were born to the first union, but all of them have passed away. Two children were born to the second marriage, the only survivor being Lawrence D., who is the farmer on the home farm and is a man of prominence and stability in the township, at present being its efficient treasurer. He was married in 1894 to Miss Rice Forest, and two children have been born to this union,—Ralph and Benjamin, both bright, intelligent youths.

For some time following his second marriage our subject continued on his own farm, but later sold it and took charge of his father's farm while the latter resided in Bucyrus. Upon the return of the elder Mr. Simmons our subject purchased his present farm of eighty acres and has resided here in great comfort ever since. His son manages the operations of the farm and Mr. Simmons is enabled to take his ease after a busy and industrious life. He has always been an active Democrat in politics and enjoys the esteem of the county, through which he is regarded as one of the most highly valued of its citizens, a man whose word is as good as his bond, and as one who may always be found exerting an influence in the direction of morality as well as progress.

#### RICHARD COVER.

Richard Cover is the foreman of the roundhouse in Crestline, a responsible position which he capably fills, being well qualified by broad experience, executive force and sound judgment. He was born in Richland county, Ohio, December 24, 1846. His father, Cyrus K. Cover, was a native of Pottsville, Pennsylvania, and about 1835 emigrated to Richland county, Ohio. He became a contractor and builder and followed the business in Richland county until 1856. About 1852 he came to Crawford county and the following year took up his abode in Crestline, where he opened and conducted a hotel for about a year. He afterward gave his attention to the butchering business and was following that business at the time of his death, which occurred when he was fifty-two years of age. In politics he was a stalwart Democrat and for two terms served as constable. His wife, Margaret Pfiefer, was a native of Pennsylvania, where she remained until her marriage. She lived to be eighty-two years of age, passing away in Crestline. This worthy couple were the parents of eight children, one of whom died in infancy, while four sons are yet living.

Richard Cover, the sixth child and fourth son of the family, was about two years of age when brought to Crawford county. He was reared and edu-

cated in Crestline and worked with his father in the butchering business until 1869, when he became connected with the railway service as fireman on the Pittsburg, Ft. Wayne & Chicago road, acting in that capacity for twenty-one months. He was then promoted to the position of engineer, serving in that position for three years, running between Crestline and Alliance. Subsequently he was made foreman of the roundhouse at Crestline and for twenty-six years has thus been connected with the road, his long service indicating most clearly his faithfulness to duty and his ability in the discharge of the work devolved upon him. In 1901 he asked for a day job, which the company granted him.

Mr. Cover was united in marriage in Crestline in 1870 to Miss Amanda Richards, a native of this city and a daughter of B. O. and Mary Richards, early settlers of Crawford county, now living in Kansas. Mrs. Amanda Cover died in 1879. Unto our subject and wife were born two daughters, Viola, who is now the wife of James Reed, of Crestline, Ohio, a telegraph operator; and Ada, wife of Horace Burgett, a fireman on the Pittsburg, Ft. Wayne & Chicago Railroad at Crestline. There are also two grandchildren, Ned and Helen Reed. In political views Mr. Cover is a stanch Democrat, firmly advocating the principles of the party as set forth by its leaders and special conventions, yet he has never sought or desired office, preferring to devote his entire attention to his business interests.

#### GEORGE D. ZIMMERMAN.

The prominent citizen of Todd township, Crawford county, Ohio, whose familiar name is above, was born in Wayne county, Ohio, April 5, 1835, a son of John Zimmerman, a native of Union county, Pennsylvania, who married Eliza Davidson. The father of John Zimmerman was killed when the latter was five years old and John was brought by his mother to Columbiana county, Ohio, and thence taken to Wayne county, also in this state, where Mrs. Zimmerman and her sons bought military land from the United States government and where John was married.

John and Eliza (Davidson) Zimmerman had children as follows, all living in this state: George D.; Ephraim, who lives in Bucyrus; Israel, who lives in Wyandot county; Nathan, who lives in Defiance; Albert, of Findlay; and Hannah, who married B. H. Clendenin, of Antrim township, Wyandot county. Mr. and Mrs. Zimmerman and their family removed to Crawford county, Ohio, in 1846, settling in Todd township, and bought one hundred and sixty acres of land from Judge Swan, of Columbus, Ohio, where the village of Lem-



ert has since grown up. Thirty acres of the tract had been cleared and a log house had been built upon it. There John Zimmerman lived out the remainder of his days and died December 20, 1878, at the age of seventy-three years. From the time of the organization of the Republican party he acted with it in all questions of public policy. He served his township as trustee and filled other important offices. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and was liberal in the support of its various interests. His wife died February 25, 1887, aged about seventy-one years.

When John Zimmerman brought his family to Todd township the subject of this sketch was about eleven years old. He remained with his father until he was twenty-one years of age, assisting him about his farm work and attending the common schools near his home as opportunity afforded during the years of his youth. In 1856 he went to the far west by way of the Nicaragua route. He engaged in prospecting for minerals on the north fork of the American river and later on Bear river, but made his headquarters about sixteen miles from Sacramento, California. He remained on the coast about four years, during which time he took up several mining claims, and then returned to Ohio with the expectation of going back to California, but at the request of his father he remained and for two years was with him on his home farm. He married Phoebe Jane Caughey, of Sycamore, Ohio, and after his marriage he located on the farm in Todd township which he has since owned and operated. The place comprises one hundred and ten acres of land, well improved and very productive, much of which Mr. Zimmerman devotes to general farming. Mr. Zimmerman is a Republican.

Mrs. Zimmerman, who died January 6, 1900, bore her husband six children, as follows: Alida C., who is the wife of William Lambright, of Nevada, Ohio; Viola, who is the wife of Scott Ekleberry, of Todd township; and Clara, Amy, Annie and Daisy, who are members of their father's household. Clara is a milliner and Viola and Daisy and Annie have achieved an enviable reputation as school teachers.

### JOHN DILLINGER.

A representative of one of the honored pioneer families of Crawford county, John Dillinger has resided within its borders for more than sixty years and throughout a long period has been a most active factor in its substantial development and improvement. He was born in Stark county, Ohio, September 24, 1827, the family residing at that time near Canton. His father,

Joseph Dillinger, was a native of York county, Pennsylvania, and was of German descent. He was reared upon a farm and in early life learned the miller's trade. When a young man he emigrated westward to Stark county, Ohio, where he married Susanna Smith, and as honored pioneer people of Ohio they aided in laying the foundation for the development and upbuilding of the commonwealth. They had six children, namely: John, of this review; Hiram, who is living in Putnam county, Ohio; David, Harriet, Emeline and Manais, all now deceased.

In the year 1834 Joseph Dillinger came with his family to Crawford county and located in Lykens township, where he entered one hundred and sixty acres of land from the government—the farm upon which Henry Oblander now resides. He then contracted with Ben Huddle to build him a log cabin for thirty dollars, but on account of illness Huddle was unable to perform the work and when the Dillinger family arrived in the county there was no house awaiting their occupancy. They unloaded their goods in the woods and erected a shanty of clapboards and later built of round logs a cabin containing one room. They had to clear a place on which to build, so heavily was the timber. There were few roads in the county and everything was yet in a primitive condition. The father cleared and improved his farm and made his home thereon until his death, which occurred when he was fifty-seven years of age. His wife died a few years later.

Mr. Dillinger, of this review, was a little lad of seven summers when the family came to Lykens township. He was reared upon the pioneer farm and aided in clearing and cultivating the land. He never had the privilege of attending school until he was thirteen years of age, and his advantages were then very meager, but experience, observation and reading have added greatly to his knowledge. In 1850 he rented a farm of eighty acres, and after cultivating it for three years purchased the property upon which he resided until 1867, when he came to his present farm. His landed possessions aggregate two hundred acres, and the place is well improved with all modern accessories and conveniences. A substantial residence, with barns and good outbuildings in the rear, stands in the midst of highly cultivated fields and neatness and thrift characterize everything about the place. Mr. Dillinger carries on general stock-raising. He has been buying cattle, hogs and sheep for thirty years and has been shipping since 1872. Since 1892 he has been engaged in buying stock at Sycamore, and his business endeavors have been crowned with a gratifying degree of success.

In 1847 Mr. Dillinger was united in marriage to Miss Mariah Lister, and

unto them have been born nine children: Marilda, the wife of Enoch Watson, of Clyde, Ohio; James, a stock-buyer of Lykens; Delilah, the deceased wife of James Fenchner; Arlita, the wife of E. R. Runyon, of Van Wert, Ohio; Mary A., the wife of Moses Vance, also a stock-buyer of Lykens; David, who is engaged in buying and selling stock at Bloomville; John, who is living in the same place; Laura, the wife of Milo McClelland, their home being on her father's farm; and Leonora, the wife of William Salty, of Clyde, Ohio.

Mr. Dillinger gives his political support to the men and measures of the Union Reform party. Since 1863 he has been a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and is likewise a member of the Baptist church. He is a most enterprising and progressive citizen and no resident of Lykens township has done as much for its welfare and progress as Mr. Dillinger, who withholds his co-operation from no movement calculated for the general good. He is generous and genial in disposition and wherever known he has won many warm friends.

#### HORATIO W. MARKLEY.

Horatio W. Markley is one of the progressive and prominent men of Crawford county, and is a descendant of several of the most distinguished families of this part of Ohio. Mr. Markley was born in Liberty township, Crawford county, on July 24, 1848, and was a son of Joseph and Elizabeth (Stough) Markley. The paternal great-grandparents were Joseph and Susannah (Wigley) Markley. They came to what is now Ashland county, then Richland, Ohio, in 1815, entering about three hundred acres of land on the present site of the city of Ashland. Here he erected and later conducted an extensive distillery business, and as the years passed became one of the substantial men of the locality. Both he and wife were unusually corpulent, their accumulated weight being more than five hundred pounds. Every year, arrayed in a peculiar riding costume, one feature of which were beaver hats, they made a horseback trip to the eastern relatives, where they were expected with pleasure on account of their many admirable traits of character. They reared a family of eleven boys and two girls, all of them being of more than average weight and size. The smallest of the boys, facetiously called "the runt," weighed two hundred and fifty pounds. All of the family lived to marry and rear families of their own. The extraordinary strength of five of these sons excited general comment, as each one could take a full barrel of whis-

key up in his hands and drink from the bung. Perhaps the strongest of all was Horatio, who was born in Somerset county, Pennsylvania, in 1804, and was considered the strongest man in the county. Shortly after his marriage he came to Crawford county and entered one hundred and forty-four acres of land in Liberty township, where his daughter, Mrs. Elizabeth Teel, now resides. With the assistance of his brother Mathias, who had preceded him here some years, assisted also by the two wives, a comfortable log cabin was built and on this farm he spent his whole life. He became prosperous and was able to leave his children very well situated, giving each one a farm at the time of maturity. He was long one of the leaders in the English Lutheran church and was known through the county for his kindness and liberality. No call for help was ever disregarded, and when death came, in 1880, at the age of seventy-six, the mourners extended far beyond those of his own family. He married Nancy Link, who was the daughter of Adam Link, also a remarkable man. He was born in Wheeling, West Virginia, where he owned six hundred acres of land on the present site of the city of Wheeling. He was a veteran of the Revolutionary war. His father was killed by the Indians during the early days. Being surrounded by Indians, he and a friend bargained for their lives, and, as the Indians promised safety, they came out, only to be tomahawked by the savages, who destroyed everything they could find, tore open feather beds to see the feathers fly, killed the cattle and cut up the leather in the tan yards. Adam Link lived over a century, dying in 1864, at the advanced age of one hundred and two years, nine months and twenty-seven days.

The maternal great-grandparents of our subject were also well-known people, John Stough being a Lutheran minister, who first married Mary Hagmyer, and later Catherine Troutman. The great-grandfather, Thomas Charlton, was of English birth, and married Elizabeth Mercer. John G. Stough, the maternal grandfather, was a native of Perry county, Pennsylvania, and came to Crawford county shortly after his marriage to Sarah Charlton, a native of Washington county, Maryland. Mr. Stough settled on the farm now owned by the Widow Moderwell, entering one hundred and sixty acres of forest land, built him a log cabin in the forest and hung up a quilt for shelter in place of a door. When meat was wanted for the larder he took his gun, stepped a few paces away from his home and soon shot a deer, so plentiful were they at that time. His family went through every phase of pioneer life, but in this wilderness he reared a fine family and remained until advanced in years, when he moved to Vernon township and died there at the age of eighty-

four years. Both he and wife had been life-long members of the Lutheran church.

Joseph Markley, the father of our subject, was born on the old Horatio Markley homestead, on December 4, 1824, and grew up at home, early doing his part of work on the farm. His education was necessarily limited, but through life he was a great reader and in time became self-educated and was thoroughly informed concerning the public events of the day. His marriage was to Elizabeth Stough, in Liberty township, who was born on October 21, 1827, and she was a daughter of John G. and Sarah (Charlton) Stough. After his marriage he located on seventy-two acres of land one and one-half miles north of the Markley homestead and during the second year realized enough from the sugar maples on the farm to pay for it. Here Mr. Markley resided until his death, in May, 1858, at the age of thirty-three. His life had been a busy one and he had succeeded well. He was very active in the affairs of the English Lutheran church, and was a member of the Republican party. After the death of Mr. Markley his widow married Peter Rutan and now resides in this township. One daughter was born of this marriage: Anna, the wife of Oliver Wheaton, a pattern maker of Mansfield.

Horatio W. Markley, the bearer of an honored name, was reared on the home farm and acquired but a limited education. He was married on February 23, 1871, to Miss Maria C. Rader, who was born in Northampton county, Pennsylvania, and was a daughter of Aaron and Sabina (Bower) Rader, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania. They came to Crawford county previous to 1850. After his marriage our subject and wife went to Columbiana county and located on a farm belonging to Michael Charlton, but two years later they returned to Crawford county and purchased a farm of seventy-two acres two miles north of Sulphur Springs, where the family resided for four years. Then Mr. Markley sold that and bought eighty acres in Cranberry township, on which farm he remained for three years, later selling that also. For the following nineteen years he successfully operated a farm of one hundred and sixty acres belonging to his sister-in-law, Mrs. Julia Rader. In 1884 he bought forty acres located one-fourth mile south of his present home, and this land he retained four years and then exchanged it for the farm he now occupies. This consists of sixty-two and one-half acres and upon it he has erected a most desirable set of buildings, modern in construction and attractive in appearance. He removed to this place in 1899.

Mr. Markley has been very successful during these years of industry, has become well known and esteemed in the county and has reared a most estimable



family, viz.: Franklin A., city solicitor for the B. & O. Railroad at Toledo, Ohio; Hattie E., a millinery trimmer at Toledo; Bert W., deceased; Esther B. and Ross W., both at home. In politics our subject has always been a staunch Republican, and fraternally he is connected with Liberty Lodge, No. 845, K. of H. His wife is a member of the L. O. T. M. and of the Lutheran church. He is one of the progressive and energetic men whose example in a community is for its benefit, and all through Crawford county live those who most highly esteem Horatio W. Markley.

### ELIJAH LYONS.

Elijah Lyons, who is engaged in the cultivation of a good farm in Cranberry township, has always resided in Crawford county, his birth having occurred in the township which is still his home, on the 22d of May, 1850, his parents being Jacob and Susan (Robison) Lyons. The father was born in Perry county, Pennsylvania, in 1822, and was a son of Adam and Barbara Lyons, who came to Ohio about 1836, settling in Richland county, near Shelby, where his father leased a tract of land for several years. He was then in limited financial circumstances and on the expiration of his lease he came to Crawford county, residing in Cranberry township up to the time of his death. Adam Lyons' children were George, John B., Jacob and Susan. The father of our subject was fourteen years of age when he came to Ohio, and eight years later he purchased eighty acres of the farm upon which his son Elijah now resides. Soon afterward he further completed his arrangements for a home of his own by his marriage to Miss Susan Robison, who was born in Perry county, Pennsylvania, a daughter of William and Christina (Zeigler) Robison, who came to Ohio about the same time the Lyons family removed to this state. They took up their abode in what is now Auburn township, Crawford county, then a part of Richland county, and later removed to Cranberry township, spending their last days upon the farm where Mr. French now resides. George Robison, an uncle of Mrs. Lyons, was an officer in the war of 1812, and for many years thereafter was a leading figure in military circles. Two of her brothers, William C. and Thomas Henry, were loyal supporters of the Union cause during the Civil war, and the latter died near Arkansas Post while in the army.

At the time of their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Lyons located on the farm which he had purchased and later he added to this a tract of ten acres. To the further development and improvement of his property he devoted his energies

until his death. His study of political issues led him to give his support to the Democracy, but he was never an office seeker. In early life he held membership in the Presbyterian church, but in later years, as there was no church of that denomination in the neighborhood, he united with the Methodist Episcopal church. He was an energetic and persevering man and bravely faced the hardships of frontier life. He secured school land covered with a dense forest, built a cabin, cleared away the trees and in due course of time had a comfortable home for his family. He died in 1891, and his wife passed away in 1894. She, too, was a loyal and consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Four children were born unto them, but only two are now living, the sister of our subject being Matilda, widow of Thomas Baer, of New Washington.

Elijah Lyons enjoyed the sports in which boys of the period usually indulged, pursued his education in the district schools and assisted in the work of the home farm. His early educational advantages, however, were supplemented by study in the Plymouth high school, in the Delaware University and in a Presbyterian seminary at Lexington, Ohio. Prior to his seventeenth year he began teaching and for nine terms followed that profession through the winter months. In the spring he would then attend school in order to perfect his own education and in the summer he assisted in the work of the home farm. In the fall after he had attained his majority he went to La Salle county, Illinois, where he remained for eighteen months, after which he engaged in teaching school for one term and also worked on a farm. He then took charge of the home farm, operating it on the shares up to the time of his marriage.

In 1880 Mr. Lyons was joined in wedlock to Miss Susan J. Holtz, of Huron county, and then took his bride to Van Wert county, Ohio, settling on forty acres of land which he had purchased only a short time previous. Twenty-two months later his wife died, and after bringing the remains to Huron county for interment he returned to Van Wert county, disposed of his farm and chattel property and then again went to his old home. In the following autumn he purchased a farm of fifty acres, now owned by Albert Nye. It was then all covered with underbrush, but with characteristic energy he began to prepare it for the plow, and in due course of time abundant harvests rewarded his labors. He was again married, February 14, 1886, his second union being with Miss Susannah Smith, a native of Crawford county and a daughter of Jesse and Eva (Shoup) Smith. Their union was blessed with two children, Clarence E. and Wilbert W., but the latter is now deceased.

After his second marriage Mr. Lyons erected a residence upon his farm and there made his home until 1892. In the year previous his father had died

and Mr. Lyons then traded his farm to his sister for her share in the old home place and also handsomely provided for his mother. He is now the owner of the old home farm,—a valuable and desirable property, attractive in appearance by reason of the excellent buildings and richly cultivated fields. He usually votes the Republican ticket, but is not strongly partisan, believing, however, in clean politics and the support of men who will secure purity in government. His wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, to the support of which he contributes, also attending its services. He belongs to Hyperion Lodge, No. 651, K. P., and has passed all the chairs. As a member of the school board he has manifested his friendship for the cause of education and as a citizen he is public-spirited, heartily endorsing all movements for the general good.

#### EZEKIEL C. McNUTT.

One of the well-known and highly esteemed residents of Auburn township, Crawford county, Ohio, is Ezekiel C. McNutt, who is a representative of one of the old pioneer settlers of this county. The birth of Ezekiel McNutt, who is the subject of this biography, was on June 2, 1839, in Columbiana county, Ohio, and he was the son of Abraham and Mary J. (Craton) McNutt, and he was one of seven children born to them, the five surviving members of the family being: Alexander, a resident of Bucyrus; Abraham, a resident of Liberty township, in this county; Mary J., the wife of Aaron Darr, of Sulphur Springs; Rachael, the wife of Aaron Park, of Galion, Ohio; and Ezekiel C., the subject of this sketch.

Abraham McNutt was born in Lawrence county, Pennsylvania, in 1812, and grew to manhood on his father's farm, at the age of eighteen leaving the parental roof for the town of Petersburg, where he learned the trade of tanner and engaged in that business until 1840, at which time he became a resident of Crawford county, Ohio. Here he purchased a farm of one hundred and twenty-seven acres of land in Liberty township, near the Cranberry township line, and settled in a small log house in the woods, this cabin having been erected by the original settler. The land had not been either cleared or improved, and Mr. McNutt immediately engaged in the labor of preparing the land for cultivation. He built a comfortable hewed-log cabin, which in time gave place to a substantial brick residence that was his home until his death, which occurred in 1874, when he was sixty-two years of age. In politics Mr. McNutt was a staunch Whig, but later became identified with the

Republican party. He was a man noted for his sound judgment and deep conviction, but was of that temper that enabled him to live through the trying times of the Civil war in perfect amity with his neighbors, although he was surrounded by those of differing political opinion. So well was he known and so highly esteemed that his views were never questioned. Mr. McNutt had been reared in the faith of the Methodist church, but did not formally connect himself with any religious body, although he was a God-fearing man and a regular attendant upon church services.

Ezekiel C. McNutt was the youngest son of the family and was afforded good educational advantages. At the age of twenty-one he began to teach the district school during the winter season and spent the summer on the farm, and this quiet, useful life was suddenly changed by his enlistment for service in the Union army. On August 1, 1864, he became a member of Company G, Twenty-fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, under the command of General Hatch. The latter had charge of about ten thousand men on the coast of South Carolina, where they were stationed until April, 1865, guarding Confederate prisoners. In April of that year our subject's regiment started for Savannah and took part in the engagement at Honey Hill and Red Hill, and also some sharp skirmishes, receiving his honorable discharge at Charleston, South Carolina, on July 15, 1865.

After his war experience our subject returned home and resumed his old life, teaching and farming, as previously, continuing until 1872, at which time he and his brother-in-law erected a building in New Washington, where they opened up a grocery and provision store. For three years our subject was connected with this business, having the entire management of it, remaining one year after his marriage.

Mr. McNutt was married on July 7, 1875, to Miss Mary J. McKee, who was born in Waynesburg, Auburn township, and she was the daughter of James McKee, of Scotch-Irish extraction, who was born in Perry county, Pennsylvania. Mr. McKee came to Crawford county about 1833 and settled in Auburn township, spending his life in this and Cranberry township. One year after marriage Mr. McNutt, in 1876, removed to the farm of his father-in-law, in Cranberry township, the latter desiring the presence of his daughter, her mother having died in April of that year. For seven years our subject farmed on shares for his father-in-law, and he made his home with our subject's family, where he received devoted, filial care. In 1883 Mr. McNutt removed to a farm of forty acres in Cranberry township, which he purchased some time prior to this date, and remained on this tract for four years, at the

end of that time selling it and purchasing forty-one acres just across the line, in Auburn township, remaining here until 1895, when he also sold that farm advantageously and removed to his present one of eighty acres. This is fine farm land, and here our subject and family enjoy all the comforts of country life. Two of their three children survive, these being: Edna E., who married Levi Lash, in this township; and James Wesley, who was born on December 12, 1886, hence is only fourteen years of age, but is remarkable for intellectual gifts, as he has successfully passed the Boxwell examination and is a youth of great promise. Frederick E., the second child, has passed away.

In politics Mr. McNutt, like his honored father, is identified with the Republican party. Both he and wife were reared in the Methodist church, but as there is no organization of that kind here they attend and support the Lutheran church, where they are highly valued.

### J. J. GEARHART.

Too much cannot be said in favor of that excellent German stock which has produced some of our best citizenship in all parts of America. Industry, honesty and frugality are leading traits in the German character and they are qualities which make for success anywhere.

Jacob Gearhart was a pioneer in Jefferson township, Crawford county, Ohio, in 1834. He was born November 30, 1813, in Elshoff, Rhine province, district of Wettinsein, Germany. He was reared and educated and learned the wagonmaker's trade in his native land. April 13, the year mentioned, with his brother George, he came to America in a sailing vessel, which consumed seven weeks in making the voyage, landing at the American port June 4. He located in Jefferson township, where he entered eighty acres of government land, on which he erected a log cabin and on which he lived a bachelor life for about a year, when he married an old German sweetheart who had come out to this country. Jacob Gearhart and Mary Elizabeth Baetzel were married September 8, 1834, in Crawford county, and have had children as follows: J. J., who was born in Jefferson township, February 11, 1837; Mary, who became the wife of John Heitzman, who is now a retired farmer living at 294 Evans street, Bucyrus, Ohio; Lewis and Adam, who are dead; Lena, who is the wife of Henry Edler, of Crestline, Ohio; Emanuel, who lives on his father's old home farm; and Joseph, who died young.

Jacob Gearhart lived at his place of original settlement in Jefferson township the remainder of his life except during two years. He cleared and im-



proved the farm and established a brewery on it, which he managed successfully for several years. From time to time he was engaged in butchering. He was a citizen of influence and a member of the German Reformed church. He died September 4, 1889, aged seventy-five years, nine months and five days.

J. J. Gearhart was reared on his father's farm and assisted him in his various enterprises, and as opportunity afforded attended school in a log school house near his home. In the winter months the big boys took turns at chopping wood with which to keep the school-room warm. In 1859 he married Jacobina Iseman, and they had eight children, concerning whom we make the following observations: Henry F. lives in Jefferson township. Clara A. is the wife of Calvin Knell, of Jefferson township. Charles F. lives at Leesville, Ohio. Nettie is the wife of John Kiebler, of Jefferson township. Lena E. is the wife of Samuel Kiebler and they have a home with her father. Lewis is dead. Adolphus and Edward died in infancy.

Soon after his marriage Mr. Gearhart removed to his present farm of eighty acres, eighteen acres of which was improved, and for two years he lived in the little log cabin which stood on the place and which was superseded by a more modern residence. He now owns one hundred and ninety-seven acres of land and is a progressive and successful general farmer and stock-raiser. He and his family are members of the Lutheran church and he has always been liberal in his contributions toward its support. Politically he is of the Democratic faith, and his public spirit has led him to favor every movement for the general good of the people of his township and county. He has many times served on juries and he is the present incumbent of the office of road commissioner of Jefferson township.

#### ROBERT GREGG.

That sensible, practical, industrious and successful Pennsylvania stock which has been a factor in the development of the civilization of nearly every section of our country has been especially potent in Ohio, and among its best-known representatives in Crawford county is Robert Gregg, of Texas township.

Robert Gregg was born on the old Gregg homestead in the township above mentioned, September 23, 1839, a son of William Gregg, who was born in Washington county, Pennsylvania, in 1802, and was brought by his father, Andrew Gregg, to Jefferson county, Ohio, in 1804. There Robert Gregg's grandfather acquired government land and improved a farm on which his son William was brought up to manhood, attending such schools as were then

available to him in that then new country and doing his part in the work of clearing wild land and putting it under cultivation. He married Margaret Smith and they had ten children. Of these Catharine Achsah and Lewis died young. John lives in Sycamore township, Wyandot county, Ohio. Nancy married James McClung and lives in Iowa. James is dead. Robert was the next in order of birth. William S. and Andrew are dead, and Minerva E., the youngest, married George Tuttle and lives in Crawford county. Robert, John and William S. all served their country as soldiers in the Civil war. The parents of these children went to Crawford county in 1828 and settled in Texas township, where the father entered a claim of two hundred and forty acres of government land, on which he built a two-room house of round logs. He made the journey to the county with an ox-team and settled in the midst of a dense wilderness, in which game was plentiful and Indians were often seen, and he was so handy with his rifle that he soon achieved a reputation as an expert squirrel hunter. He was prominent in local affairs, and helped lay out roads and organize school districts, and in a general way aided in putting the wheels of civilization in motion. He gradually improved his farm in every way and died there in April, 1879. His wife died about 1854. They were members of the Methodist church, in which to the end of his days Mr. Gregg was an active worker.

Robert Gregg was brought up to farm life, was educated in the common schools and lived with his father until the spring of 1861, when he went to Minnesota, and where a few months later he enlisted as a private in Company G, First Regiment Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, to serve for three years or during the war. After the affair at Bull Run, where he had his first experience of actual warfare, he went to Alexandria, Virginia, and thence to Washington, D. C., and not long afterward he was sent to a hospital at Georgetown, and after four weeks there he was sent to another hospital at Annapolis, Maryland, where after nine weeks he was appointed to the hospital staff, on which he served two years. In the fall of 1863 he rejoined his regiment in Virginia and served in the Army of the Potomac until honorably discharged from the service in April, 1864.

Returning to Crawford county, Mr. Gregg farmed with his father for one year and then removed to the place on which he now lives. His home farm consists of one hundred and twenty acres and he owns another farm of the same size, and he is a very successful general farmer and stock-raiser. He is a prominent Republican and has served his fellow citizens as township trustee for two years. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

In 1864 he married Miss Eliza J. Magoffin, who has borne him seven children, the eldest of whom, Clarence E., is dead, and the others are named, respectively, Layton H., Willis C., Addie, Blanche, Albert C. and Walter B. Mr. Gregg is a man of much public spirit, who, having a vivid recollection of the old subscription schools taught in log school houses by incompetent teachers, has all his life done everything in his power to advance the cause of education in his township and who has been ready at all times to assist to the extent of his ability all movements which in his good judgment have promised to benefit his fellow citizens.

#### AARON CARRICK.

The prominent citizen of Chatfield township, Crawford county, Ohio, whose name is above is deserving of the honor which by common consent is accorded to veterans of the Civil war. He was born in Huron county, Ohio, June 27, 1836, the third child of Joseph and Frederica (Harklerhods) Carrick, natives of Pennsylvania. His father was born July 16, 1808, his mother September 8, 1809, in Bedford county, and they were married in Stark county, Ohio, April 6, 1829, and some time afterward removed to Columbiana county, this state. They had children named Laura A., William, Aaron and Sarah. William lives in Tiffin, Seneca county, Ohio. Sarah married R. Platt, of Michigan.

The Carrick family located in Chatfield township, Crawford county, in 1846, on the farm now owned by the subject of this sketch. Joseph Carrick had been a carpenter by occupation, but he then bought one hundred and five acres of land and devoted himself to farming, in which he was successful until his death, which occurred November 12, 1877. He left a record as a worthy and respected citizen of much enterprise and public spirit, an honest man, who loved his wife, his children and his neighbors.

Aaron Carrick passed his boyhood in attending school and in work on the farm. In August, 1862, when civil war was rife in our land and brave and stalwart men were needed to crush the spirit of rebellion, he responded to the nation's call and for three years nobly did a soldier's duty in defense of the starry banner. His regiment was the One Hundred and Twenty-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry and was included in the Army of the Potomac. He participated in the battles of Winchester, Newmarket, Fisher's Hill, Staunton, Perryville, Lynchburg, Richmond and Snicker Gap. At Perryville he drove an ambulance in which wounded soldiers were conveyed to Harper's Ferry,

and while in that service was captured by the Confederate general, Mosby, under the following interesting circumstances: While returning from Harper's Ferry and driving through a small village young Carrick noticed a fine horse that was tied to a hitching-post at the side of the street, and in a laughing way he said to the man driving the ambulance next behind him: "There's Mosby's horse. I wonder where he is?" Not long after the ambulance train had passed through the village the owner of the horse appeared on the scene, and, joining the officers in command of the party, rode with them nearly ten miles, when, in a strip of woods, Mosby's men dashed down upon them and captured the train and its escort. Mr. Carrick soon escaped, however, and, dodging through the woods, gained a cornfield, where he hid for some time. That night he slept under a pile of rails and early in the morning he set out for the Union lines. Some negroes living in a cabin gave him some cornbread for breakfast, for which he was especially grateful, considering that they had no other food in the house. When he rejoined his command he found that a detachment of Union troops had during the night, after a brisk skirmish, recaptured the entire ambulance train. He served until honorably discharged from the service in 1865, and then returned to Ohio and engaged in farming.

In 1868 Mr. Carrick married Lucy Ann Fike, a native of Venice township, Seneca county, and a daughter of Peter Fike, and she has borne him three children, only one of whom, their son, Jacob A. Carrick, survives. Mr. Carrick is a man of commendable public spirit, who to the extent of his ability aids every movement having for its object the general good, and he is known as a friend of education, a liberal supporter of religious worship and an advocate of good roads.

#### DANIEL GREEN.

For twenty years Daniel Green has resided upon the farm which is now his home. The place comprises one hundred and twelve acres of land in Chatfield township, and is highly cultivated, bringing to him a good return for his labor. Throughout his entire life he has been connected with agricultural pursuits. He was born upon his father's farm in Liberty township, Crawford county, June 25, 1846, and when eighteen years of age came to Chatfield township. He entered upon an independent business career when twenty-seven years of age, at which time he purchased his present farm, but he continued to live at home until his marriage, which occurred in 1877. Miss Elizabeth Heiby becoming his wife. Their union has been blessed with six children:

Adam, Louisa, Matilda, William, Harrison and Emma, and the family circle yet remains unbroken by the hand of death.

At the time of his marriage Mr. Green purchased a farm in Chatfield township, upon which he resided for about four years, when, in 1881, he purchased his present farm. He owns altogether one hundred and fifty-two acres of rich land, of which one hundred and twelve acres is comprised within the home place. He carries on general farming and stock-raising and has good grades of cattle, horses and hogs upon his place, while the cultivation which he bestows upon his fields leads them to return to him excellent crops. Thus he adds continually to his capital. He belongs to the Lutheran church, and in his political views he is a Democrat, voting with that party but never seeking office, preferring to give his time and energies to his farming operation, believing such labor to be a more sure source of income.

#### WILLIAM BENDER.

There are few men whose lives are crowned with the honor and respect which is universally accorded to William Bender, but through many years' connection with Crawford county's history his has been an unblemished character. With him success in life has been reached by his sterling qualities of mind and a heart true to every manly principle. He has never deviated from what his judgment would indicate to be right and honorable between his fellow men and himself, has never swerved from the path of duty, and now, after a long and useful career, he can look back over the past with pride and enjoy the remaining years of his earthly pilgrimage with a consciousness of having gained for himself by his honorable, straightforward career the confidence and respect of the entire community in which he lives.

A native son of the Buckeye state, he was born in Richland county, Ohio, on the 26th of March, 1850, a son of Jacob and Catherine (Hoffman) Bender. In his youth he enjoyed only the educational privileges afforded by the pioneer log school houses of his day, but in later life he greatly added to his knowledge by reading, study and practical experience, thus becoming a well-informed man. After his marriage he located on eighty acres of his present home farm, then the property of his father-in-law, which he rented for eleven years, and during that time he also dealt quite extensively in stock, thus greatly augmenting his income. In 1882 he purchased one hundred and four acres adjoining his present farm on the east, and in 1885 he purchased of his father-in-law his present homestead, thus making the home farm to consist of one hundred and



eighty-four acres. He also owns three other tracts of land, aggregating one hundred and fifty acres, all of which is located in Auburn township with the exception of fifteen acres in Vernon township. Mr. Bender has been very successful in his farming and stock-raising interests, and he is to-day accounted one of the substantial and leading citizens of his locality. During his many years of labor he secured a competence sufficient to enable him to lay aside the active cares of a business life and to rest in the enjoyment of the fruits of his former toil. In 1889 he erected a handsome and commodious farm residence, and in the following year he rebuilt his barn, his place being now supplied with all the accessories and conveniences known to the model farm.

On the 3d of September, 1873, Mr. Bender was united in marriage with Miss Cornelia Sawyer, a daughter of Albanus Sawyer. Three children have graced the marriage of our subject and wife, namely: Rilla May, the wife of John W. Hutt, of Richland county; Minnie Luella, who is now sixteen years of age; and Ruth Ione, a little lady of eight years. Mr. Bender gives his political support to the Democracy, and although he has never been an aspirant for political honors he has served for many years as supervisor of his district, discharging the duties of that position to the entire satisfaction of all concerned. He is not connected by membership with any religious denomination, but he has been a liberal contributor of both time and means to the Lutheran church, having assisted materially in the erection of the house of worship in Tiro. He generously co-operates with all movements or measures intended for the betterment of humanity. No trust reposed in him has ever been betrayed, and in every relation of life he is true to duty and to the right,—a loyal and patriotic citizen.

#### HIRAM SHALTER.

The name of Shalter has been well known in Crawford county, Ohio, since John Shalter settled there in 1832, taking up one hundred and sixty acres of government land in Lykens township. Hiram Shalter, John Shalter's eldest son, is a prominent farmer in Texas township, and was born on his father's homestead in Lykens township, March 23, 1834.

John Shalter, of whom a brief biographical sketch appears elsewhere in this work, married Elizabeth Albaugh, of Jefferson county, Ohio, who bore him thirteen children. The first born of these, Hiram, was reared on his father's farm, in the work of which he assisted his father until he was twenty-four years of age. He then removed to Huron county, Ohio, where he bought

eighty acres of wood land and lived a year and a half. Disposing of his interests there he moved to Texas township, Crawford county, where he bought of his father-in-law his present home farm, of which he has cleared thirty acres, which he devotes to general farming and stock-raising. He now owns altogether one hundred and sixty acres of land.

When he was twenty-four years old Mr. Shalter married Miss Mary Clark, who has borne him five children. Their son Robert is dead. Their son Frank lives at Sycamore, Ohio. Their daughter Laura is the wife of Charles Oder. Their son George is dead, as is also their daughter Minnie. In politics Mr. Shalter is a staunch Republican, but he has never sought nor consented to hold office. He and his wife are consistent members of the Baptist church. He is a man of much public spirit who takes a deep interest in the cause of education and has done whatever he has been able to do to improve the common schools of his neighborhood. In his youth he enjoyed few educational advantages, and he is largely self-educated. The first school of which he has any recollection was taught at Bulgo, as the original settlement of Lykens was called, in a little log building with no floor, all the appointments of which were of the crudest description, and on account of sickness only one day of schooling was available to him that summer. He next attended school in another log school house which was not much of an improvement on the one just referred to, and the information imparted in which was scant and somewhat vague in character. The following items concerning his brothers and sisters will be found interesting. His sister Della was formerly a successful teacher. For several years she and her sisters Nancy and Lizzie have owned millinery stores at Bloomville and at other points in Ohio. His brothers Levi and David and his sisters Mary A., Catharine, Emma and Susanna are dead. His sister Saloma married Daniel Savage. His brother John lives in Putnam county, Ohio, his brother Abraham in Seneca county, and D. Savage lives at Cripple Creek, Colorado.

#### CHARLES TOBIN.

Upon the farm where he now resides Charles Tobin first opened his eyes to the light of day on the 20th of January, 1855. He is now the only survivor of the three children born unto William J. and Margery (Stewart) Tobin. The family is of Irish lineage, and the father of our subject was born in the town of Letter Kenny, in County Donegal, Ireland, about 1820. His parents died within one week of typhoid fever, and he was thus left an

orphan at the age of eight years. He then became an inmate of the home of an uncle, Mr. John Gibson, with whom he remained until twenty years of age. Attracted by the opportunities afforded in the land of the free, he made his way to the new world in 1840, landing in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, after a voyage of four weeks upon the sailing vessel "The Lazy Hulk," so named because of her slowness in travel. When he reached the shores of the new world Mr. Tobin had but one English guinea, and this he changed into United States money, receiving four dollars and eighty-four cents. For ten days he remained in Philadelphia and then went up the Delaware river about thirty miles, where he secured employment as a farm hand, working in that capacity until the spring of 1841 and during the winter attended school. He then came to Ohio by way of the Ohio river to Pittsburg and by stage to Richland county, locating in Rome, where his uncle, Dr. Gustavus Allen, then resided. Our subject worked upon his uncle's farm during the summer months and in the winter again took up his educational work in the district schools of the neighborhood. In the spring of 1853 he entered upon an apprenticeship to the carpenter's trade under a Mr. Haymaker, of Franklin township, with whom he remained for two years. He afterward went to Mansfield, where he was employed at his trade for a similar period during the fall and winter months, while in the summer he worked at farm labor. About 1845 he entered the employ of a Mr. Barnett, a wagon-maker of Franklin township, in whose service he continued for two winters. He then obtained work with Charles Stewart as a farm hand, and in 1847 he was united in marriage to his employer's daughter, Miss Margorie Stewart, who was born in Franklin township, Richland county. Her mother was Mrs. Catherine (Sweeney) Stewart, and both of her parents were natives of County Donegal, Ireland. Immediately after their marriage they came to the United States and for a short period were residents of Pennsylvania, coming thence to Ohio. The father entered land on Black Fork, in Franklin township, Richland county, being one of the first settlers in this portion of the state. The Indians were yet numerous and the country was wild and unimproved.

After his marriage William J. Tobin remained upon his father-in-law's farm as a farm hand for three years, in connection with his brother-in-law. In the spring of 1850 he came with his young wife and one child to his present home, having purchased eighty acres of land during the previous winter. This was practically virgin forest, for only a small patch of four acres had been cleared, and upon it a log cabin had been erected. This little pioneer home furnished shelter for the Tobin family until the spring of 1861, when the resi-

dence in which our subject is now located was erected. In the following autumn he built a substantial bank barn, and in the course of time made his farm one of the best improved country seats in this portion of the state, reclaiming the land from the forest and the swamps and transforming it into richly cultivated fields, whose golden harvests returned to him a gratifying income each year. During the '50s Mr. Tobin also purchased an additional tract of forty-one acres a quarter of a mile west and a quarter of a mile south of his home. He is a stanch Democrat, but the honors and emoluments of office have not had attraction for him, as he has preferred to devote his energies to his farming interests. Of the Presbyterian church he is a consistent member, and during the past quarter of a century has faithfully served as one of its elders. Although he has traveled life's journey for more than eighty years he is yet in possession of all his faculties and enjoyed remarkably good health until the past winter, when his constitution was somewhat undermined by la grippe. Throughout the community in which he has resided he is venerated and respected and enjoys the warm friendship of young and old, rich and poor. His wife passed away in July, 1883, when fifty-five years of age.

Charles Tobin spent the days of his boyhood in the usual manner of farmer lads of that period. In the winter months he carried his text-books to the nearest school and there mastered the common branches of English learning. He worked upon his father's farm as health and strength would permit, and in the winter of 1889-90 he went to southern California for the purpose of recuperating his health. The trip proved quite beneficial and in the spring he returned home. In the same year he was united in marriage to Miss Chloris Beattie Turritin, a native of Le Seuer county, Minnesota, and a daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth (Kendall) Turritin. Her father was born in County Donegal, Ireland, and her mother was a native of Maine. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Tobin has been blessed with two children, but the son died in infancy. The daughter, Margie Elizabeth, was born May 6, 1894.

In the spring following his marriage Mr. Tobin assumed the management of the home farm, which he has since operated on the shares. He has placed the land under a high state of cultivation, and the neat and thrifty appearance of the place indicates his careful supervision. In politics he is quite prominent in Democratic circles, and in 1892 was appointed township trustee to fill the vacancy caused by the death of John Bland. In the spring of 1893 he was regularly elected to the office, and in 1896 was re-elected, so that he has served for more than two terms. He and his wife are members of the Presbyterian church, and also belong to Cranberry Grange, No. 1435, Patrons of

Husbandry. Mr. Tobin is accounted one of the progressive agriculturists of his community. His entire life has been passed within the borders of Crawford county, and the fact that many of his warmest friends are numbered among those who have known him from childhood is an indication of his upright and straightforward career.

### JOHN HILBORN.

John Hilborn, one of the highly esteemed citizens of Crawford county, Ohio, now engaged in the coal and draying business in the town of Tiro, was born in Liberty township, in this county, on November 16, 1838. He was a son of Isaac and Nancy (George) Hilborn, and was a member of a family of nine children, the two survivors being the subject of this sketch and his brother Samuel, who now resides on the old home farm in Auburn township.

Our subject grew to manhood on the home farm, which is located within one mile of his present home in Tiro. He received an excellent common-school education, and, as his father was growing old and he was the youngest son, he remained under the parental roof. When he was twenty-two years of age his father gave him forty acres of timber land and he went to work clearing this property. Into his peaceful life, as into that of many another farmer boy, sounded the call to arms in defense of his country, and our subject was quick to respond. On September 7, 1861, he enlisted for service in the Union army, entering Company I, Fifteenth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and soon they were sent from Mansfield to Camp Dennison to be trained in the arts of war. Shortly after, our subject and his companions were sent to Covington, Kentucky, and camped there for a short time, going then to Camp Nevin, where they spent the greater part of the winter. While here our subject was attacked with a serious illness which necessitated a season in the hospital, and a month later he obtained a furlough for twenty-six days' leave, on condition that some one would take charge of him. A brother-in-law came for him and brought him home. One week after his return he broke out with small-pox, but this did not prevent his reporting for duty on the day before the expiration of his furlough. However, under the circumstances his services were not needed in camp and he was sent back home with orders to remain there until he was fit for duty. About ten days later he again reported, but was then sent to what was known as Hospital No. 4, but his condition was such that he could not be received there and he was sent to Park Barracks, and here he was later detailed as assistant waiter in the officers' mess.



Some three weeks later our subject was permitted to join his regiment, which was but one day's march from Corinth, and the battle at Pittsburg Landing had been fought but a few days previously. Our subject crossed the field of carnage on his way to join his regiment, and soon after reaching it his company was detailed to guard a bridge near Huntsville. Here the regiment threw up breastworks and then returned to Louisville with the idea of preventing the Confederate General Bragg from crossing the river. A few weeks later they pursued General Bragg and broke up his plans in that locality. Our subject took part in the greater number of the battles of the Army of the Cumberland. In the one-hundred-day fight in the march from Chattanooga to Atlanta our subject was wounded at Pumpkin Vine creek, suffering both in the face and also in the left hand, but he declined to leave his company, although for several days he was totally unable to handle his gun.

Mr. Hilborn had his endurance tried again the first day following his again accepting his gun, as he was then severely wounded. He was on the picket line at what was known as Picket's Mills or New Hope church, and found it necessary to shoot an intruder, and before he had an opportunity to load his gun a party of the enemy came upon him, demanding his surrender, but he declined to do that and ran as fast as he could toward the camp, reaching there alive but with two bullets in his body. He was then sent to the division hospital, where he endured agonies from the operations necessary, and three weeks later was removed to Chattanooga, and four weeks later was passed on to the hospital in Nashville. Four weeks after he was sent home on a furlough and remained for twenty days. Returning to his company, our subject found it at Atlanta, Georgia, but before he reached there he had an encounter with Confederate scouts which almost prevented this gallant and faithful soldier from giving more service to his country.

At Atlanta the Fourth Army Corps and the Twenty-third Army Corps were left to pursue General Hood. Our subject's command belonged to the former, and they pressed on to Nashville and later the country heard of the fierce battle of Franklin, and later the battle of Nashville. Our subject received his honorable and well-earned discharge on December 24, 1865, after having been five months in camp in Texas.

After Mr. Hilborn's return from the army he resumed farming, and on July 10, 1866, he was married to Miss Emmeline Clark, and to this marriage one child was born, which died when five months old, and Mrs. Hilborn died soon after its birth. On June 29, 1869, our subject was married to Miss S. J. Davis, and the one child of this marriage died in infancy.

In 1868 Mr. Hilborn sold his farm and bought eighty acres located five miles north of his former farm, residing there for six months, then disposing of it and removing to Mechanicsburg, where he purchased two and one-half acres. This tract he also sold and then bought three acres and built upon it a good house and barn, making excellent improvements, and there he resided for four years and then sold and purchased five acres of land in Tiro. This he laid out in town lots and has sold all but his home place. Mr. Hilborn has done well in his real estate transactions and has displayed excellent judgment in every sale and purchase.

For about ten years Mr. Hilborn engaged in truck gardening, but for the past few years he has conducted a coal and draying business in Tiro, where he is well and favorably known. For many years our subject has been a leading member of the United Brethren church and is one of the trustees of the same. In political sympathy he has ever been an ardent Republican, and has efficiently served on the town council for two terms. Socially he is connected with the G. A. R. organization, and both in this community and through the county where he is well known he is universally esteemed.

### JOHN BURGER.

One of the substantial and successful farmers as well as much respected citizens of Crawford county, Ohio, is John Burger, who was born in Alsace while it was still a province of France, in the year 1845. He was one of a family of twelve children born to John and Mary (Shearer) Burger, five of whom still survive, as follows: Horace, of this township; John, the subject of this sketch; Margaret, the wife of Louis Phillips, of Norwalk, Ohio; George, a resident of this township; and Mathias, also of this township. Mr. and Mrs. John Burger were also natives of Alsace, where the former was born on May 25, 1810, and the latter was born on February 2, 1816. There they grew to maturity, in the same neighborhood, and there the father learned the trade of weaver. At the age of twenty years he entered the army and served in it for seven years, marrying soon after his discharge. During the summer months it was his custom to engage in farming, while the winter months were employed in work at his trade. In 1846 Mr. Burger brought his family, by sailing vessel, to America. The voyage consumed forty-two days and after landing in New York city they came direct to Crawford county, Ohio.

After coming to Ohio Mr. Burger bought a farm of forty acres, in Cranberry township, consisting of forest land. For this he paid two hundred and

forty dollars, and here he built a cabin and was busily engaged during the succeeding eight years in clearing and improving this land, succeeding in getting the larger portion of it ready for cultivation. In 1853 Mr. Burger exchanged this farm for one of eighty acres in Auburn township, this property adjoining the farm of our subject on the west, and here he resided until the time of his death, in 1873. Mr. Burger was a man of great energy and endurance, but was stricken with paralysis seven years prior to his death, and this entirely incapacitated him for further work. For a man of his industry this was a heavy affliction, but he bore it with Christian fortitude. His wife survived him some twenty-two years, dying in 1895, in the eightieth year of her age. Both parents had been worthy members of the Catholic church.

John Burger, of this biography, grew up at home, but received only limited educational advantages, his whole time at school being included in the eight or nine months when he was able to receive instruction in a subscription school. However, reading and association with others have done their work, and Mr. Burger is now able to take his place with the most intelligent and best informed farmer citizens in his neighborhood. He was not more than eighteen years of age when the management of the home farm of one hundred and ninety acres fell upon his youthful shoulders, but he possessed much of his father's energy and industry and managed so well that at the age of twenty-one he took entire charge of affairs and farmed the land on shares.

The marriage of our subject was on November 22, 1870, to Miss Louisa Fisher, who was a native of Erie county, Ohio, and who was a daughter of Anthony Fisher, who was born in Baden, Germany. After marriage our subject continued to manage the home farm for the three succeeding years, but in 1876 he purchased one hundred and forty acres of land where he now resides and removed to this place. With the additions he has since made, this farm now consists of some two hundred and seventeen acres, but this does not represent all the land owned by Mr. Burger. Two other farms in this township belong to him, one consisting of one hundred and twenty acres, and another of eighty acres, while in Huron county he owns one farm of one hundred and seventeen acres and another of one hundred and twenty-two acres, making his landed possessions amount to six hundred and fifty-nine acres. Mr. Burger has been very successful in his land transactions, possessing good judgment and a thorough knowledge of the value of property in the different parts of the county.

Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Burger, namely: Amelia, the wife of Adam Miller, a merchant of New Washington, Ohio; Edward, at

home; and Josephine, a student in New Washington. In his political belief Mr. Burger has always been a Democrat, and has taken a great interest in the success of his party. He is a leading member of the Catholic church, in which he is a trustee, and is one of the solid and reliable citizens of Auburn township, where he is widely known and universally respected.

#### MRS. CATHERINE B. BROWN.

Prominent among the residents of Crawford county, Ohio, in Sandusky township, is Mrs. Catherine B. Brown, the widow of the late Christian Brown, who during life was one of the highly esteemed citizens of this township. Mrs. Brown was born in Liberty township, on April 23, 1834, and she was a daughter of Caleb and Magdalena (Brosie) Schieber.

Mrs. Brown grew to womanhood under paternal care and acquired her education in the common schools of the neighborhood and became thoroughly fitted to assume the position of farmer's wife, skilled in housewifery and possessed of those estimable qualities which through life have won for her warm and appreciative friends. On January 10, 1853, she was united in marriage to Mr. Christian Brown. The latter was a native of Wurtemberg, Germany, where he was born on July 28, 1825, and he was a son of John and Rosanna Brown, who came into Sandusky township at an early day, where Mr. Brown, the father, purchased the farm upon which our subject now resides.

Mr. Brown was seven years of age when his parents came to America, and his education was pursued in the common schools. Shortly after reaching his majority Mr. Brown began farming operations on the home farm, working on shares. After his marriage in 1853 he settled with his bride on the home farm and continued to follow agricultural pursuits until the death of his parents. The father died first, passing from life as one of the esteemed men of his locality. The mother resided with her son until she also passed away. Both had been most worthy members of the German Reformed church and in that church Christian Brown was also a leading and valued member.

After coming into possession of the home farm Mr. Brown bought twenty-six acres which adjoined it, making the farm to consist of one hundred and six acres, and in addition to this he bought another farm, comprising sixty acres, upon which his son Oscar now lives. Eight children were born to Mrs. Brown and her lamented husband, these being as follows: Oscar, a farmer; Rosanna, the wife of H. J. Shupp, of Holmes township; Autillie, deceased;

Mary E., at home; Sarah, the wife of Lincoln Majors, the manager of the home farm; Charles, at home; and two infants, who died early.

The death of Mr. Brown on January 23, 1873, removed from the township one of its most worthy citizens. In politics he was a staunch Democrat, although he never sought office, and was highly regarded by all who knew him for his many fine traits of character. Mrs. Brown is surrounded by her children and is a lady well and favorably known both in the church and in the neighborhood.

### JOHN R. ECKERT.

The Eckert family has long been prominent in Germany and is ably represented in America, east and west. John Eckert and his wife, who was Annie M. Reuter, came to America in 1847, and located at Lancaster, Pennsylvania, where John R. Eckert, their only child, was born October 3, 1849. John R. Eckert, who is a well-known farmer of Jefferson township, Crawford county, Ohio, is the immediate subject of this sketch, and his career will be treated more at length further on.

In 1866 John Eckert came with his family from Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, to Jefferson township, Crawford county, Ohio, and bought fifty acres of land, which is now comprised in his son's homestead. Later he bought seventy-eight acres more. He was a thrifty and successful farmer and a good business man and he and his wife were devout members of the Lutheran church. He died in 1886, at the age of seventy years. His wife died in 1883.

John R. Eckert was in his seventeenth year when his father located on the Eckert farm in Jefferson township. He received a good education in the common schools and early became a valuable assistant to his father. He now owns one hundred and ninety-six acres of valuable farming land which he devotes to miscellaneous crops and to stock-raising. He is a man of influence in the township, who consistently votes the Democratic ticket. He was elected land appraiser in 1890 and again in 1900, and filled the office of township trustee from 1892 to 1898, and for three years has been central committeeman. His public spirit has impelled him to ally himself with many movements for the general good and he is an active and helpful member of the Lutheran church.

In 1871 Mr. Eckert married Miss Barbara Vulkmar, and they have had



nine children, named as follows: Jacob, George Henry, Annie Margaret, Elizabeth Eva, John William, Albert Carl, Ernest Paul, Maud Mae and Ruth Oleona. Elizabeth Eva is dead.

#### FREDERICK PRY.

The subject of this sketch was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, in 1803, emigrated to this country in 1828 and settled in New Lisbon, Columbiana county, Ohio. There he resided one year and was united in marriage with Rica Bowman, who, with her parents, emigrated to this country the same year. Soon after their marriage they moved to Liberty township. Mr. Pry bought a small farm of forty acres, built a log cabin in the woods and commenced to clear the ground for a farm, upon which he resided until 1840, when he removed to Sandusky township, Crawford county, and purchased a larger farm, on which he lived until his death, which occurred in 1893, in the ninetyeth year of his age.

He had thirteen children, five of whom were deceased over thirty years ago. The family Bible in which their records were kept was burned about ten years ago, at the burning of his son Lewis' house. The other children, of whom a record was preserved, are as follows: John, of Richland county; Eliza Heller, a resident of Williams county; Christ, who resided in Auburn township, Crawford county, until his death, which occurred in 1898; Jacob, who resides in Sandusky township on the old homestead; Lewis, a resident of Sandusky township; Christena, now Mrs. Lewis Dapper, who resides in Leesville, this county; William, who lives in Liberty township, this county; and Celia, the youngest, who was married to J. M. Solinger in the year 1876. They lived with her parents until their death. In the year 1894 she, with her husband, moved to a point near Crestline, on which place she resided until her death, which occurred in 1900.

The mother of our subject also was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, in 1811, and died in 1887, at the age of seventy-six. She was a daughter of Jacob and Margaret Bowman, who came to this country about the same time as did the Pry family, and they located in Vernon township, Crawford county.

John Pry acquired a common-school education and early began assisting his father on the farm, remaining with him until his marriage. On December 1, 1859, he was united in marriage to Miss Mary Cole, who was a daughter of Barnet Cole, the latter being a native of Pennsylvania. He came to Crawford county, Ohio, when he was a young man, was married in this state and

here reared his family. After marriage Mr. Pry moved to Plymouth, Ohio, and there engaged in the hotel business for one year, returning then to a farming life. His father-in-law wished him to take charge of his farm and conduct operations on shares, and this our subject consented to do for the following three years. After this period he rented a farm from James English, later one from Thomas Mickey, and followed agricultural pursuits on these tracts until 1866. At this time, in association with his brother, Jacob Pry, he purchased the farm of one hundred and twenty acres upon which he now resides, and for twelve years the brothers farmed in partnership, and then our subject bought his brother's interest, the latter removing to Sandusky township. This farm shows the care and attention which has been given it and ranks with the best in the county. Our subject's eighty-acre farm lies in Crawford county, and forty acres lie in Richland county, both tracts being highly improved and most desirable property. Mr. Pry is known as a most industrious and worthy citizen and has a wide circle of friends. In politics his vote is always given to the candidates of the Republican party and he is a staunch supporter of its principles. Socially he has long been connected with the Odd Fellows order, and both he and wife are leading members in the Methodist church.

Our subject and wife have reared a family of eight children, six of whom still survive, namely: Lewis Franklin, born September 15, 1860; Albert Wilis, born May 3, 1865; Lucy Jane, who was born October 18, 1862, and was married to Henry J. Kahil in 1884; John Crowvalia, born October 13, 1875; Charles C., January 1, 1877; Rica Maudesta, born April 18, 1880; Barnet J. C., who was born July 13, 1870, and died August 27, 1886; and Meda Belle, who was born February 18, 1868, and died August 7, following.

#### BENJAMIN STEVENS.

The Stevens family has been one of the most prominent in the development of Crawford county, Ohio, and no member of it stood higher in the esteem of the community in which his useful life was passed than did Benjamin Stevens, whose death occurred on December 4, 1893.

Benjamin Stevens was born in Columbiana county, Ohio, on April 4, 1820, and he was a son of Amos and Hannah (Cummings) Stevens, of whom a more extended mention is made in the sketch of Jacob Stevens, which may be found in another part of this volume. Mr. Stevens, of this sketch, was fourteen years of age when his parents came to Crawford county, and here

he grew to manhood and took advantage of every educational opportunity. Through life he was a reflective reader and gained thus much knowledge, while his association in later years with men of affairs widened his stock of information, rendering his education both practical and useful. During years of invalidism his books were companions.

He assumed control of the home farm when he was about twenty-five years old, his parents making their home with him, and he looked after their comfort as long as they survived. In 1850 he was united in marriage to Miss Eliza A. S. Barker, who was a native of Geauga county, Ohio, and a daughter of Asa and Roby (Adams) Barker, both of whom were natives of Connecticut, where they grew to maturity and were married, and five of their six children were born in that state prior to the birth of the late Mrs. Stevens. The Barker family came to Geauga county, Ohio, but later removed into Richland county, where they resided for a number of years, finally removing to Illinois, to which state two sons had preceded them. They continued to reside there until their lives ended, and the only member of the family still surviving is Sidney Barker, of Illinois.

Following his marriage the late Mr. Stevens farmed on the home place and took a prominent position in the county for the succeeding fifteen years. His father had passed away in 1852 and the old home place reverted to him, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres of land, with buildings and so forth. Here Mr. Stevens remained until April 4, 1865, when he celebrated his birthday by removing to the farm he last occupied, consisting of one hundred and twenty acres, he having sold the former one. This place possessed many attractions for our subject, as he had helped to clear the land and assisted in the building of the first cabin on it. The land had been entered by a Mr. Wells and was intended for his daughter at that time. This was the comfortable and attractive home in which the remainder of the life of Mr. Stevens was spent. His attention was given to this property and it is one of the best improved and most desirable estates in Crawford county.

Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Stevens, one of whom died in infancy, the other being Minelva G., who resides on the farm, a worthy representative of one of the most esteemed citizens of the community. The mother of Miss Stevens died in 1854 and some years later the father married Miss Ann McCracken, who was a native of Bucyrus, where she resided until her eighth year, at which time her parents removed to a farm that was located one mile east of Bucyrus, where her parents resided during the rest of their

lives. Mrs. Stevens survived her husband for six years, dying on September 24, 1899.

In politics Mr. Stevens was an ardent Republican, but his tastes never caused him to desire office, although he always performed his duty as a citizen. Neither was he formally connected with any church organization, having early taken the Golden Rule as his guide through life and conscientiously following its leadings. Although leading a quiet life and rarely assuming a conspicuous position even in county affairs, he was always to be found when charitable or benevolent objects were to be furthered or action taken in educational or moral movements. The sterling qualities which made him a man above his fellows have in great degree been displayed in the character of his only surviving child, and she is both highly esteemed and much respected through Sandusky township.

#### FRANKLIN D. HEINLEN.

The agricultural interests of Crawford county are well represented by Franklin D. Heinlen, one of the leading and foremost citizens of the locality. He was born on the farm where he still resides, on the 24th of June, 1858, a son of Matthias and Elizabeth (Bickle) Heinlen. The father was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, in 1815, and in 1837, in company with his brother George, he came to the United States, landing in New York city after a voyage of seventy days. On his arrival in this country his worldly possessions consisted of but one dollar, which he spent for his night's lodging, and on the following day he and his brother borrowed enough money from a friend who was coming to Crawford county to accompany him to this locality. The brother remained in Crawford county and worked out their indebtedness, while Matthias proceeded north to the Maumee canal, where he worked on the construction of the canal for a year, after which his health failed and he then returned to Crawford county and secured employment at farm labor south of Bucyrus, where he remained for eight years. He was then married and purchased a small farm of twenty acres, now known as the Nussbaum farm, in Bucyrus township, where he remained for another six years, when he sold that property and purchased forty acres near Glenville, now known as the Benjamin Simm farm, and after residing there for five years he sold that tract, and on the 1st of March, 1858, secured possession of the present Heinlen farm, then known as the McLain farm. It contained

a tract of eighty acres, and by hard work and persistent effort Mr. Heinlen was enabled to add another eighty acres thereto, making a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, and there he spent his remaining days, his death occurring on the 16th of September, 1897. The brothers deserve great credit for the success that they attained in life. They arrived in this country without money and without friends, "strangers in a strange land," and by perseverance and economy they both succeeded in acquiring a competency, and were numbered among Crawford county's most honored citizens. Matthias Heinlen was a Democrat in his political views, and was a worthy member of the Lutheran church. His wife, who was born in Germany, in 1820, came to America with her parents, Simon and Elizabeth Bickle, when a child of eight years, the family locating in the cranberry marsh in Ohio, but later removed to Bucyrus township, where they spent the remainder of their lives. Mrs. Heinlen is still living and now makes her home with our subject. Mr. and Mrs. Heinlen became the parents of nine children, eight of whom still survive, namely: Elizabeth, the wife of Absalom Bolinger, of Wyandot county, Ohio; John, of Bucyrus township, Crawford county; Simon M. and Samuel, also of Bucyrus township; Lena, wife of Byron Kent, a resident of Bucyrus township; Matilda, widow of Henry Ochse, of Nevada, Ohio; Lucinda, wife of J. S. Murphy, of Dallas township; and Franklin D., the subject of this review.

The latter was reared on the home farm, but received very limited school privileges, for at the early age of five years he began working on the farm, riding a horse in the fields for plowing corn, and as he grew older more important tasks were assigned him. Thus when most boys enter upon the active duties of life he was a leading factor in the conduct of the home farm. In 1881 he assumed full management of the old homestead, working on the shares, and in 1889, with the accumulation of his former years of hard and incessant toil, he was enabled to purchase a farm of his own, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres, in Dallas township. The land was then in its primitive condition, but he cleared and improved the tract, erected substantial farm buildings, and not only has he cleared it of all indebtedness, but has also made it one of the most desirable farms of the county. However, he has never resided on this property, it being conducted by a tenant. He has always made his home on the old Heinlen homestead, which after the father's death was divided, the mother retaining a dower interest in the original tract of eighty acres, while our subject purchased the remaining eighty acres. On the 10th of October, 1901, he purchased a farm of thirty acres of his neighbor and



friend, Frank M. Harvey, who was obliged to sell owing to the poor health of his sister, Minnie, and move to town.

On the 10th of February, 1901, Mr. Heinlen was united in marriage with Mrs. Mary Harris, a native of Antrim township, Wyandot county, Ohio, and a daughter of A. E. Miller. By her marriage to Arthur Harris she became the mother of three children, only one of whom is now living, Chester A. A.

In his political affiliations our subject exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the Democracy. For the past nineteen years he has been a correspondent for the Nevada Enterprise, one of the leading journals of the locality, and he is also a member of the school board, now serving on his second term. He is also a prominent and active member of the Knights of Pythias fraternity, No. 234, of Nevada, Ohio, in which he has filled nearly all of the chairs. He served one term as outer guard, one term as inner guard, one term as master at arms, one term as prelate, one term as vice chancellor commander, two terms as chancellor commander, one term as deputy grand chancellor, and at the present time is serving as master at arms. He is one of the well known and highly esteemed residents of Crawford county, and all measures for the public good receive his hearty support and co-operation.

### JOHN J. WEAVER.

Among the prominent and well known citizens of Crawford county, Ohio, John J. Weaver takes a leading position, having for a number of years been identified with the public affairs of Vernon township. John J. Weaver, Esq., was born in the township and county where he resides, on January 31, 1857, and he was a son of Peter and Mary (Baublitz) Weaver, and was the eldest in their family of eight children, the others of the family being: George, a resident of Jackson township in Richland county; David, of this township; Henry, of Shelby, Ohio; William, of Crestline; Samuel, of Shelby; and Anna, the wife of Clement Bodley, of Shelby, Ohio.

Peter Weaver, who is our subject's honored father, is a native of Germany, born there in the province of Hesse-Darmstadt, on August 8, 1831, and when he was a lad of eleven years accompanied his parents to America. They located in Jefferson township, in Crawford county, later removing to Vernon township. There the grandfather of our subject acquired a farm of seventy acres, this now being a part of the Knapp farm. The grandparents passed their last days on this property. Peter Weaver grew to manhood on this farm and mar-

ried while living there, but one year later he removed to Wyandot county and bought a farm of forty acres, in Eden township. At a later date he sold this and bought a farm of eighty acres which was located one mile from his former property and for six years he made this the family home. In 1869 he sold this property and returned to Crawford county, at this time buying a farm of one hundred and forty acres in section 9, in Vernon township, and here he lived until 1881, when he also sold this farm in order to purchase the one consisting of two hundred and twenty acres, this being the property upon which our subject now resides. For the following six years Mr. Weaver managed this large estate and then sold it to his sons and removed to Shelby, where he has since resided, living a somewhat retired life, enjoying the results of many years of industry. In politics Mr. Weaver is a staunch Democrat, but he has never been willing to accept any party preferment. Both he and his estimable wife have long been leading members of the German Lutheran church, and are among the most respected of the older residents of Shelby.

John J. Weaver, familiarly known as Esquire Weaver, on account of his long and honorable service as justice of the peace, was reared on the home farm and acquired an excellent common-school education, and later had the advantage of one term in the Ada Academy. He was about twenty years of age when he became a teacher in the district schools, continuing to follow this profession in districts one, four and five for some seven years.

On August 1, 1880, our subject was united in marriage to Miss Susie Esterline, who was a native of this township and who was the daughter of Eli Esterline, who was one of the early settlers of Crawford county, coming from Pennsylvania, which was his native state. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Weaver established their home on our subject's present farm, which then consisted of forty acres, but since then he has added to this until he now owns eighty-nine and one-fourth acres, all of which has been bought of his father. Mr. Weaver is an excellent farmer and owns one of the most desirable tracts in the township.

As a leading member of the Democratic party, our subject has been identified with public affairs in no small degree and has been honored by his fellow-citizens by election to many of the local offices. In the spring of 1885 he was elected assessor and efficiently served for two terms, and in 1889 he was made justice of the peace and has shown such excellent judgment and thorough knowledge of the duties of this position, that he has been called on to serve continuously ever since. In 1890 he was also elected township clerk and served in that capacity for two successive terms, and he is still serving as truant officer, to which position he was appointed in 1893. In 1900 Mr. Weaver was called

upon to serve as land appraiser of the township and his careful and just attention to the duties of this position gained for him the commendation of all concerned, his report passing both boards of equalization without a single change being made in his work. In 1893 Mr. Weaver was appointed an agent in the Crawford County Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Company, of Bucyrus, Ohio, a position in which he still serves.

Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Weaver, namely: Maud Leone, the wife of Charles R. Warner, of Vernon township; Anna Elizabeth and Estella May. They also have a son named Wilber W. Weaver, of whom they feel very proud. The Lutheran church has long had the support of our subject and family, and in it as well as in business and political circles, Mr. Weaver is regarded as a just and honest man, a useful citizen and one who well represents the leading class in Crawford county.

#### EMORY JAY DWIRE.

A leading educator and also a prominent business man of Crawford county, Ohio, is Emory J. Dwire, who is a well known and esteemed resident of Tiro. The birth of Mr. Dwire was near Clyde, Sandusky county, Ohio, on November 28, 1874, and he is a son of John S. and Lucy A. (Beard) Dwire, who reared a family of five children. Our subject is one of the three survivors, the others being: Lumetta B., the wife of William G. Setterfield, of Richland county; and Dr. Harry E., of Oceola, Ohio.

The Dwire family is one of the old and leading ones in this part of the state of Ohio. Great-grandfather William Dwire was for many years an ordained minister of the Methodist church, as well as a prominent merchant in Ashland. He was a man of sterling traits of character and was most highly esteemed. His son, Isaac Dwire, grew to manhood a worthy successor to his father. He was born near Ashland, then Richland county, Ohio, in 1808, and was thoroughly educated, his father being a man of superior intellectual qualifications. Very early in life he became a teacher. When near his twenty-first year he was married, and about 1835 he removed to Seneca county, where he entered one hundred and twenty acres of forest land, built there a cabin and labored there until his land was cleared and improved, and there his useful and blameless life ended in 1874, when sixty-six years of age. In politics Grandfather Isaac was a Whig, but later on he became a Republican, although he was never an office-seeker. At one time he was elected justice of the peace but held the position but a short time, resigning it in order to give his attention to more

congenial duties. For very many years he was a leading member of the Methodist church, where he was held in the highest esteem.

The birth of John S. Dwire, who was the father of our subject, was in Seneca county, Ohio, and he was a son of Isaac and Elizabeth (Whittington) Dwire, and was reared in Seneca county. A family of fifteen children were born to his parents, fourteen of whom grew to maturity and became prominent in many walks of life, eight of them being teachers. Their father looked carefully after their education, as the school advantages in the neighborhood were poor. At night he gathered them around him and instructed them, giving them the personal care that they would not have received in any public establishment. He was well rewarded, for they all grew to intelligent manhood or womanhood. John Dwire began to teach at the early age of sixteen years, and seemed so well fitted for the profession that he continued an instructor for twenty-six years. During this time, however, he also engaged in farming, bought and sold land, owning at different times five farms in various localities, but the last ten years of his life he spent on a farm in Jefferson township, in Crawford county, where he died on February 5, 1899. In his early years he was a member of the Republican party, but he was a man of strong temperance principles and during his later life he worked and voted in sympathy with the Prohibition party. In religion Mr. Dwire was a member of the Methodist church and the last twelve years of his life were given to Christian work. As a husband, father and friend he reached the highest point of Christian manhood. The mother of our subject was born in Seneca county in 1841, and was the daughter of David Beard, who came to Seneca county from Maryland, and was of Pennsylvania-German stock. Her death occurred on 18th of August, 1898. She had been a consistent member of the Methodist church from her youth.

Emory J. Dwire, of this biography, grew to manhood under the parental roof, and until his sixteenth year he attended the country schools. He was ambitious and found honorable methods of earning enough to permit his attendance at select school at Crestline, Ohio, where he improved his opportunities and after passing his first county examination with credit was permitted to enroll himself among the educators of his native state. After one term in the school-room he used the money thus earned in attendance at the Fostoria Academy, where he perfected himself in the higher branches, and the following winter he was one of the acceptable teachers of Richland county. After this his next educational movement was a summer spent at the National

Normal University at Lebanon, Ohio, and following this he was continually employed in the district schools until 1896.

Mr. Dwire is one of those deeply intellectual men who always remain students, and his next course was at the Ohio Normal University at Ada, Ohio, and there he graduated in the summer of 1897, although he did not take out his diploma until 1900, at which time he reviewed his studies preparatory to accepting a position in the Charleroi (Pennsylvania) high school. From 1897 he taught three more terms in the district schools, and in the fall of 1900, after making all preparations to undertake the duties of the Pennsylvania position, he was elected superintendent of the Tiro schools, and decided to remain in his native state. So satisfactory was his management of the schools of Tiro that a re-election followed in 1901, a testimonial to the scholarship and executive ability of our subject, most gratifying to his wide circle of friends.

In April, 1897, our subject purchased an interest in the old home place in Wyandot county, and in April, 1899, he bought a residence property in Clyde, Ohio. In August, 1900, in company with his brother Harry, he purchased the drug store in Tiro, and thus he is the manager of one of the leading business lines in this place.

The marriage of Professor Dwire was on July 15, 1900, to Miss Grace M. Champion, a native of Richland county and a daughter of Joseph D. Champion, who came to Tiro in 1888. In politics Professor Dwire is non-partisan, and he is fraternally connected with the Junior Order of United American Mechanics. Both he and his wife are leaders in the social circles of the village and are highly valued in the United Brethren church. Mr. Dwire has won an enviable reputation through the state as an educator, and is thoroughly representative, not only of a fine old family, but also of the most intelligent citizens of one of the leading states of the Union.

#### MARTIN V. B. WOOD.

One of the highly esteemed and honored citizens of Crawford county, Ohio, is Martin V. B. Wood, who was born in Huron county, Ohio, on April 14, 1842, and he was a son of Jotham C. and Almira (Petrie) Wood, and was one of a family of five children born to them, four of whom still survive. The names of these are as follows: John J., of this township; Susan A., the widow of Peter Blystone, of Polk county, Missouri; Nancy J., the widow of Nancy Akers, of this township; and Martin, who is the subject of this sketch.



Jotham C. Wood was born in Herkimer county, New York, about 1810, the family being an old and highly respected one in his native state. Here he grew to manhood and graduated in the study of medicine, coming to Huron county, Ohio, to engage in practice. With him came his wife and two children, and there Dr. Wood and his family resided until 1845, at which time he came to Crawford county and located in West Liberty, where he lived until his death in 1847. In religious belief he was a Methodist, while in politics he belonged to the Democratic party. Dr. Wood was widely known and universally esteemed, and was a man of broad views, well educated, and highly gifted in oratory.

The birth of the mother of our subject was in the state of New York, on January 27, 1810, and she came of Holland ancestry. After the death of her husband, the father of our subject, she was married to Enoch Baker, but of this union there was no issue.

At the age of eight years, Martin V. B. Wood, who is our immediate subject, was taken to the home and made a member of the family of Mr. Jonas Ashley, and there he remained until the breaking out of the Civil war. In October, 1861, he enlisted in Company I, Fifty-seventh Ohio Volunteer Infantry, re-enlisting at Larkinsville, Alabama, in January, 1864, then entering Company I, Ohio Volunteer Veteran Infantry, and serving faithfully until the close of hostilities, on August 15, 1865, when he was mustered out at Camp Chase. During his double service, Mr. Wood participated in many of the greatest battles of the war, among these Shiloh, siege of Vicksburg, Arkansas Post, Resaca and the Atlanta campaign, besides many minor engagements, and he was with General Sherman on his march to the sea, returning thence to Washington, by way of Richmond.

For three months following his return from the wars, our subject worked as a farm hand, but the same autumn he purchased forty acres of land in Auburn township and engaged in farming for himself. On September 6, 1866, he was united in marriage to Miss Melissa Daugherty, who was a daughter of Ezekiel Daugherty, the latter being a native of New Jersey, where he was born in 1818. On February 5, 1842, Mr. Daugherty was united in marriage with Elizabeth White, and in 1832 they removed to Auburn township, in Crawford county, where Mr. Daugherty died. The mother of Mrs. Wood died December 15, 1893, at her own home in Tiro. Her youngest daughter, Clara, lived with her. Mrs. Daugherty is a descendant of Peregrine White, of Plymouth Rock notoriety, and they are all upright and much respected people.

On the first of the month of November following the marriage of our subject the young couple went to housekeeping in a log house on Mr. Wood's farm of forty acres, but in the following April removal was made to a portion of Mr. Daugherty's land, where our subject and his brother-in-law farmed on shares for two summers and then Mr. Wood went back to the farm on which he was reared, and for three years farmed there for Mrs. Ashby, her husband having died in 1862.

In 1871 Mr. Wood bought his first sixty acres of the farm he now operates, and later he added to it until his acres now number one hundred and eight and one-half. This has been admirably improved. In 1881 he erected one of the handsomest houses in the township, and it is one of the most attractive estates in this part of Crawford county. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Wood, the eldest of whom, Sarah, is deceased. The two survivors are: Mary O., the wife of Howard Griffith, a commercial traveler, of Indianapolis, Indiana; and Irving S., a druggist. In politics Mr. Wood is a Republican and takes a deep interest in public affairs. Mrs. Wood is a member of the Lutheran church and Mr. Wood also attends services there and is liberal in his support. He is one of the leading citizens of the township, where he is highly esteemed on account of his upright and exemplary character.

#### BENJAMIN F. ALLEN.

Benjamin F. Allen, of this biography, has been one of the leading business men of Crawford county for the past twenty years, and is now one of the largest buyers and shippers of lumber in this part of the state of Ohio. The birth of Mr. Allen was in Concord, Franklin county, Pennsylvania, on September 23, 1849, and he was a son of Walter and Barbara (Emery) Allen, who had a family of ten children born to them, six of these still surviving. These are: Priscilla J., the wife of Samuel Beaston, a farmer of Perry county, Pennsylvania; Benjamin F., the subject of this sketch; John, a resident of East Waterford, Juniata county, Pennsylvania; George, on the old home farm; Walter, a resident of Cambria county, Pennsylvania; and Anna, the widow of A. A. Channing, of Plymouth, Ohio.

Walter Allen was born in Boston, Massachusetts, about 1822, and he was nine years old when he started with his parents for the frontier. Upon reaching Baltimore both parents were taken ill and died there and the father of our subject was taken to the home of a wealthy tanner named McClelland,

of Strasburg, Pennsylvania, while two other kind families furnished homes for the other two children, Benjamin and Priscilla. Mr. Allen never heard from either. He knew that his parents were people of means, but was never able to learn anything more of his family.

With Mr. McClelland Mr. Allen found a good home. He was a man of large means, owning a tannery, farms and stores and controlling much of the business then carried on in Strasburg. Mr. Allen was afforded the advantages of a good common-school education, and was taught the trade of tanner. At the age of twenty-one he left the care of his foster-father and started out for himself, well equipped, for he had an education, a trade and good health and friends. Going to Concord, Pennsylvania, he began work as a journeyman, and so well performed his duties that he was soon made foreman of the tanning yards, and continued in this line of work until 1872. Then he retired to his farm of one hundred and seventy acres near Concord, this property having belonged to his (our subject's) grandfather. Here he lived until the time of his death, in 1896. In his political convictions he was formerly a Know-nothing, then became a Whig and later a Republican, but he was never a seeker for office. During his later years he was an active member of the Methodist church and was unusually well informed on all Bible literature.

The mother of our subject was born near Concord, Pennsylvania, on April 16, 1824, and she was a daughter of William and Jane (Steward) Emery. This was one of the old and influential families of Franklin county. The honored mother still resides on the old home farm, where she was married and where she took up her residence after the death of her parents, Mr. Allen having bought the property from the heirs.

Benjamin F. Allen, of this sketch, was brought up in a good home under the care of a just father and an excellent mother. His education was acquired in the common schools, and at the age of twelve years he entered a tannery and under his father's instruction learned the trade at Spring Run. Here he worked for five years; eight months in the summer and four months in the winter were given to attendance at school. In 1866 his apprenticeship was finished and then he went to "Horse Valley," where he worked as a journeyman until 1870, going from there to Liberty Valley, Perry county, Pennsylvania, where he was employed at his trade until 1875. From there Mr. Allen went to Elmwood, Illinois, and became identified with the stock interests of J. P. Ryner, remaining with him one year. Then he returned to Perry county and formed a partnership with an uncle, James Emery, in farming,

but eighteen months later sold his interests there to his uncle and came to Shelby, Ohio. Here he was employed by B. F. Lash on a farm for some three years, leaving there to embark in the lumber business.

From the start Mr. Allen has been successful in this business, buying and selling great quantities of timber. In 1881 he came to Tiro, and since then has been one of the leading factors in industrial trade. His operations in lumber are very large, and sometimes he has as many as eleven mills engaged in cutting for him. For many years he has conducted the sawmill in this place and is one of the largest shippers in this county of ash timber.

The marriage of Mr. Allen was on October 13, 1873, to Miss Fannie E. Snyder, who was the daughter of Francis and Mary A. (Swartz) Snyder, the former of whom was a miller by trade, but later entered the mercantile business, and for twenty-two years he was postmaster of Honey Grove, Juniata county, Pennsylvania, where he died. He had given the name to Honey Grove and he was one of the well-known and highly esteemed citizens of the county. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Allen, the two survivors being,—Ray and Ethan. In his political belief he is a stanch Republican, but is better known as a business man than as a politician. His standing in the county is high and his circle of both business and personal friends is large.

#### GEORGE W. WICKHAM.

The state of New York was recruiting ground of early settlers in western Pennsylvania and Ohio and from those points descendants of early settlers from New York have gone to all parts of the great west and southwest, and wherever they have planted the banner of civilization development and prosperity have followed until literally the desert has been made to bloom like the rose. Some of the early settlers in Crawford county, Ohio, were New Yorkers, who trace their lineage to old and honorable colonial families, and one of the best known of these was Willard Wickham, father of George W. Wickham, a prominent citizen of Texas township.

George W. Wickham was born in Texas township, Crawford county, Ohio, on the farm on which Mrs. David Bouks, his sister, now lives, November 11, 1841. His father, Willard Wickham, was born in Columbia county, New York, and was taken early to Ithaca, in central New York, where he was reared to manhood. In 1837 he went with his father, David Wickham, to Ohio, and they bought an eighty-acre improvement in Texas township, Craw-



ford county, on which a few acres had been cleared and a log cabin had been erected. There David Wickham died at the age of sixty-three years. For three years after his arrival in Ohio Willard Wickham taught winter terms of school. He served his fellow citizens as justice of the peace for twelve years and held other important local offices. He was a devout member of and an active worker in the United Brethren church. He married Phebe Pennington and they had nine children. He died in Texas township, December 15, 1900, aged eighty-five years, and his good wife died in 1888.

The following facts concerning their children will be of interest in this connection: William H. Wickham, their eldest child, died at the age of three years. George W. Wickham, the immediate subject of this sketch, was the second in order of birth. Margaret married Peter Huffman, of Texas township. M. W. is well known in Texas township. Anson, a lawyer, lives at Bucyrus, Ohio. Mary F. married David Banks, of Texas township. William H., the second son of that name, is a practicing physician of Sycamore, Ohio. Wallace M. is ticket agent for the Ohio Central Railroad Company at Pemberville, Wood county, Ohio. Grant died at the age of fifteen years.

George W. Wickham was born in 1841, in Texas township, and later during that year his father removed with his family to Lykens township, where the boy grew to manhood. August 22, 1862, he enlisted as a private in Company H, One Hundred and Twenty-third Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry. The regiment was stationed for a time at Parkersburg, West Virginia. It participated in the battle of Winchester, where most of its members, Mr. Wickham among them, were made prisoners of war. After being confined in Libby prison for two days they were taken to the Belle Isle prison. After about a month's confinement there they were paroled. Mr. Wickham went to Annapolis, Maryland, where he was clerk for the adjutant of the federal camp, and thence he went home to Ohio on a furlough. He rejoined his regiment at Martinsburg, Virginia, and participated in the battle at Newmarket. Afterward he fought at Piedmont and at Lynchburg, Virginia, and after being in camp for a time at Harper's Ferry his regiment participated in the fight at Snicker's Gap, the engagement near Winchester, the battle of Berryville, and fought under Sheridan at Opequan. After that he fought at Fisher's Hill and at Cedar Creek. His regiment was transferred to the Army of the Potomac, under Grant, and was encamped at Deep Bottom, Virginia, until April, 1865. Next, under General Ord, it helped to storm and take Petersburg and Richmond. After the fall of Richmond that regiment and the Fifty-fourth Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, were detached



to cross the river and burn a bridge to prevent the escape of Lee's army. In this expedition he was again made a prisoner of war and was under guard with Lee's command when Lee surrendered. At the battle of Newmarket a minie ball penetrated his thigh, wounding him severely.

After the war Mr. Wickham returned to Ohio and attended college at Westerville. After a year as a student there he became a school-teacher. He taught three years in Ohio and then went to Cass county, Missouri, where he taught three years and a half. Then, returning to Ohio, he located on his present farm in Texas township. He owns eighty acres of good land and devotes himself to general farming. He is a member of Roberts Post, Grand Army of the Republic, of Benton, and of the Masonic lodge at Sycamore, Ohio. In politics he is a Republican and exerts a recognized influence in the councils of his party, and he has served six years as justice of the peace, three years as assessor and six years as township trustee.

He was married March 12, 1872, to Mary Coder, and they have had seven children, named: Fleta; Dock D., deceased; Elizabeth; Josie C.; Ulysses; Georgia; and Jerome G.

#### VALENTINE UNDERWOOD.

The gentleman whose name is mentioned above is a prominent citizen of Todd township, Crawford county, Ohio, and is known not only in connection with local farming interests but in connection with milling interests at Lemert and elsewhere.

Valentine Underwood was born in Crawford county, Ohio, September 6, 1844, a son of Lorenzo D. and Martha (Warner) Underwood, who had four sons and two daughters, three of whom are living. Mr. Underwood's father removed to Crawford county in the pioneer period of its history, and in 1852 he went to Illinois. Thence after a year he removed to Centerville, Iowa, where he took up government land and remained until 1859, when he started for the California gold fields, Pike's Peak being his objective point, driving a team of horses overland, but sickened and died by the way. In 1860 his widow took her family to Liberty township, Crawford county, Ohio, where her son Valentine learned the miller's trade, in the old Warner flour mill, in which he was employed continuously for seven years. After that for two years he operated the old Taylor water-power gristmill in Sycamore township, Wyandot county, Ohio, under lease. Then, in company with B. W. Warner, his brother-in-law, he built a

flouring mill at Melmore, Ohio, which he operated for six years, when, on account of failing health, he sold his interest in it to his partner and bought a farm of seventy-five acres in Todd township, Crawford county, where he has since lived, devoting himself to general farming and since his health has improved somewhat to the manufacture of flour. He leased the Oceola mills for four years, and since 1897 has operated the Lemert roller mills, which have a capacity of one hundred barrels.

April 13, 1865, Mr. Underwood married Miss Lucetta Quaintance, who has borne him two children, Tilley Edwin, who is a coal operator near Corning, Perry county, Ohio; and Benjamin F., who is an engineer in the Lemert mill for his father. In politics Mr. Underwood is a Republican, but he is not an active politician, and has always been too busy to trouble himself with office-holding, but he is not without a recognized influence in his party councils, and is known as a man of public spirit, who feels much solicitude concerning important interests of his township and county.

#### GEORGE L. JENNER.

George Lewis Jenner enjoys the distinction of being one of the most enterprising and successful farmers and stock-raisers in Crawford county. A native son of the Buckeye state, his birth occurred in Liberty township, Crawford county, in 1852, a son of John George and Mary A. (Ackerman) Jenner. The father was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, in 1816, but came with his parents to the United States when sixteen years of age, the family locating in Whetstone township, Crawford county, Ohio, but some years later removed to Liberty township, one and a half miles southwest of Sulphur Springs, where the grandfather purchased a farm of seventy acres. There he spent his remaining days. After one year spent in Sulphur Springs the father of our subject removed to a farm of forty acres south of the town, which he owned and operated for about ten years. He had learned the manufacture of spinning wheels in his young manhood, and he divided his time between that occupation and the work of clearing and improving his farm, which was covered with a native growth of timber. He subsequently sold that land and purchased ninety-four acres of the farm where our subject now resides, to which he afterward added sixty-six and a half acres, making him the possessor of one hundred and sixty and a fraction acres of land. He was a staunch Democrat in his political views, and was an active member of the Lutheran church.

The mother of our subject was also a native of Wurtemberg, Germany,

but when ten years of age she came to America with her parents, the family locating in Columbiana county, Ohio. Her father was a tanner by trade, and followed that occupation as a means of support for himself and family. He passed away in early life, his death occurring about 1840, and his wife was called to the home beyond some years prior to her husband's death. Mrs. Jenner is still living, and now makes her home with the subject of this review. By her marriage with Mr. Jenner she became the mother of eight children, only three of whom survive, and the two daughters, Mary C. and Amelia, still reside on the old homestead with their mother.

George Lewis Jenner, whose name introduces this review, was reared upon the home farm, and the educational advantages which he enjoyed in his youth were extremely limited. As he was the only son of the family the work of the farm early fell upon his young shoulders. When he was twenty-one years of age he assumed the entire management of the homestead, farming the same on shares, during the first two years receiving one-third of the crops, but the farm implements becoming badly worn he purchased new ones and from that time on received one-half of the proceeds. After the father's death, through the liberality of the children, the farm was given to the mother during her life-time, but our subject has ever since continued its management. In political matters Mr. Jenner is a stanch advocate of Democratic principles, and was the choice of his party for township treasurer, in which he served for one term, refusing to again become an incumbent in the office. Mr. Jenner is one of the practical and progressive farmers of the county, his fields being under a fine state of cultivation, the place stocked with the best grades of cattle and horses, and everything about the farm indicates its owner to be a man of wise judgment, perseverance and excellent business ability.

#### ALLEN B. MULFORD.

The name above will be recognized by readers of this work throughout Crawford county, Ohio, as that of a prominent farmer of Texas township, now living in well-earned retiracy after many years of useful and fruitful endeavor.

Allen B. Mulford was born at Monroeville, Huron county, Ohio, March 4, 1839, and came to Crawford county with his parents at the age of twelve years. He received his education in the common schools near his parents' home and early became an assistant to his father in his agricultural enterprises, and after his father's death he acquired the ownership of the old family homestead of one hundred and forty-two acres. He devoted himself to general

farming and stock-raising until 1892, and since that time has rented his farm but has retained his residence upon it.

During the Civil war Mr. Mulford offered his services to the country but they were rejected because of his physical disability. Later he became a member of the home guards, and as such performed such duties as devolved upon him, regretting that he had been unable to go to the front and participate in the more stirring and dangerous scenes of the war. He is a member of D. A. Roberts Post, Grand Army of the Republic, of Benton, Ohio. In politics he is a Republican, but he never sought nor accepted office or has been especially active in political work, but his public spirit has impelled him to further so far as has been possible all measures having for their object the enhancement of the public weal. He was married November 16, 1893, to Miss Christine Beard.

#### WILLIAM F. McCONNELL.

Crawford county, Ohio, has many public-spirited and progressive citizens who have long had her best interests at heart, and one of these is William F. McConnell, who is a native of this county, born in Auburn township, on April 23, 1858. His parents were Samuel and Charity A. (Lash) McConnell, who reared a family of three children, these being as follows: Jennie, who is the wife of Francis M. Wilford and they reside on the home farm in Auburn township; Mary M., who is the widow of Frank Stock, of Tiro, Ohio; and William F., who is the subject of this sketch.

Samuel McConnell was born in Jefferson county, near Steubenville, Ohio, on February 19, 1827, and he was the son of Charles and Nancy (Taggart) McConnell. When about twelve years of age he came with his parents to Richland county, Ohio, settling in Auburn township, and here Samuel grew to manhood. In 1850 his uncle, William Taggart, decided to go to California and proposed to take Samuel with him, the latter agreeing to pay to his uncle one-half of all he earned during the first year to reimburse him. They made the trip by way of the isthmus, and Samuel remained in California for three years, during which time he was very successful. Upon his return to Crawford county, in 1853, he purchased one hundred and six acres of land in Auburn township and engaged in farming, and lived in this same place until the time of his death, in December, 1890. In his immediate neighborhood he was regarded with esteem and was one of the leading members of the United Brethren church.

William F. McConnell, of this sketch, grew up at home and acquired his education in the common schools. After his marriage he located in Mechanicsburg and there engaged for a time in farming, but in September, 1883, he purchased a butcher shop and removed to Tiro, where he did a retail meat business for the following six years. In 1889 Mr. McConnell changed his business from a retail to a wholesale trade, and began the buying and shipping of stock, in which business he is still engaged, finding a market in Chicago. He has been the means of bringing much fine stock into Crawford county, while his shipments from the county have created a great agricultural industry. During the spring and summer of 1893 our subject was employed by Armour & Company as a traveling salesman, but being a man of family and fond of domestic life he resigned that position. In connection with his stock interests Mr. McConnell also operates a farm of eighty acres.

On August 9, 1882, our subject was united in marriage to Miss Lucy Daugherty, who was a native of Auburn township, and was the daughter of Aaron Daugherty. To this marriage six children were born, these being: Sherman C., deceased; Donna M., Claude, Blanche, George S., Glenna E. and Genevieve. The children are all attending school, as Mr. McConnell advocates a thorough education for all. For four years he was the capable marshal of the town.

In 1892 Mr. McConnell built a large grain elevator in Tiro, which he successfully operated for one year, but his other business required his attention and he sold that property. He is a valued member of Tiro Lodge, No. 592, Knights of Pythias, and is one of the progressive and truly representative men of Crawford county. His energy and his thoroughgoing business methods have opened up avenues of industry through the county and he is well known and appreciated by a large circle of both personal and business friends.

### JOHN BROWN, JR.

John Brown, one of the wealthy and influential agriculturists of Crawford county, is a native son of the Buckeye state, his birth having occurred in Vernon township, Crawford county, on the 27th of February, 1849. His father, John Brown, Sr., was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, on the 12th of March, 1819. His father died when he was but an infant, and his mother, Catherine Brown, reared her family of five children, two of whom, Gottlieb, of Ottawa county, Ohio, and John, still survive. The latter grew to manhood in his



native country, and there learned the baker's trade, which he there followed until 1847.

In that year, in company with his brother Gottlieb, he came to America, sixty-four days having been spent on the water, and they landed in New York in May of that year. Mr. Brown made his way to Ohio, settling in Vernon township, Crawford county, where he purchased ninety-three acres of land, the property being now owned by his son Philip. Shortly after his arrival here he was united in marriage with Mrs. Weidemeyer, who bore the maiden name of Catherine Kinney. She was born in Baden, Germany, in 1819, and was there married to a Mr. Weidemeyer, four children having been born unto this union after they came to the United States. Three of the number still survive,—Barbara, wife of Jacob Glower, of Vernon township; Leonard, also a resident of this township; and Catherine, wife of Emanuel Knapp, of Henry county, Ohio. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Brown were born five children, namely: John, the subject of this review; William, a farmer of Vernon township; Jacob and Philip, who also make their home in Vernon township; and Charlie, a resident of Toledo, Ohio.

After his marriage Mr. Brown, Sr., located on forty acres of land belonging to his wife, where he remained until her children reached adult age, when he purchased ninety-three acres in Vernon township, making his home thereon from 1858 until 1899. In the latter year he removed to the home of his son Philip, where he still resides. His wife was called to the home beyond on the 16th of December, 1896. Both she and her husband were active members of the German Lutheran church, in which the latter has served as a trustee and treasurer for many years. In political matters he affiliates with the Democratic party, and for six years he held the office of township treasurer. Mr. Brown has long held rank among the leading citizens of Crawford county, and in all the relations of life he has borne himself as a kind husband and father, a true friend and an honest man of business.

John Brown, the immediate subject of this sketch, was reared to manhood in his parents' home, acquiring his education in the common schools of his neighborhood. At the age of nineteen years he left the parental roof and began the active battle of life as a farm hand, continuing that occupation until after his marriage, when he located on one of his father-in-law's farms, making his home there for two years. The place was then sold and our subject took up his abode upon the Brown homestead, his father-in-law removing to Tiro, and there he resided until 1895, when he removed to his present location, this farm being also the property of his father-in-law and contains one

hundred and sixty-nine acres. Some time in the '80s Mr. Brown purchased land in Vernon township, the purchase price being seventeen thousand dollars, and this land is now operated by his brother Philip, who also has charge of their father's farm.

On the 28th of April, 1874, Mr. Brown was united in marriage with Miss Mary A. Brown, a daughter of Joseph D. Brown, whose history will be found on another page of this volume. Four children have been born unto this union, namely: Eva M., who was first married to Frank Turner, by whom she had two children, John H. and Hazel L., and she is now the wife of Ed Lucabaugh, of Crestline, Ohio; Sarah Josephine; Florence C.; and Nora Luella. Mr. Brown exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the Democratic party, and many times he has served as a delegate to county conventions, while at the present time he is serving his fourth term as treasurer of the township. In his social relations he is a member of Tiro Lodge, No. 592, K. P. He was reared in the Lutheran faith but is not a member of any religious denomination, although his wife and children hold membership in the Presbyterian church. The family is highly esteemed in the community. Mr. Brown has now reached the plane of affluence, but his possessions represent his own earnings. He is honorable and upright in all that he does, thus deserving the respect and esteem which are accorded him as one of the substantial and representative citizens of Crawford county.

### SAMUEL HILBORN.

One of the prominent farmer citizens of Crawford county, Ohio, who is well known and highly esteemed, is Samuel Hilborn, who was born in Richland county, Ohio, on June 28, 1826. His parents were Isaac and Nancy (George) Hilborn, and both of them were natives of Pennsylvania, where the former was born in 1798, and the latter on May 22, 1801. They were the parents of nine children, these being as follows: Polly, Robert, Samuel, Amos, William, Elizabeth Isabella, John and Sarah. The father died April 30, 1865, and the mother April 17, 1841. Isaac Hilborn was one of the early settlers of Auburn township.

Samuel Hilborn, who is the subject of this sketch, was reared on the home farm and received the best education possible in that locality. At the age of seventeen years he left the parental roof and apprenticed himself to the blacksmith trade, remaining three years under instruction. Then he opened a shop of his own on the cross roads in Auburn township, which was later

known as Mechanicsburg from the fact of the establishment there of a shoemaker, a wagonmaker and a blacksmith, the combination being very satisfactory to the surrounding farming region.

For ten years Mr. Hilborn conducted his blacksmith shop and then gave up his trade in order to engage in farming on his father's place on shares. In 1856 he purchased eighty acres of land in Cranberry township, removed to the same and resided there for two years. Selling that, he then bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in Auburn township, which was timber land, located one mile north of the home farm, and here, in company with two others, our subject erected a sawmill, which was operated by them for several years. When this mill was sold to other parties our subject built a log cabin on the land and resided upon it for a short period and then returned to the home farm. Later, through exchange of land and a money consideration, our subject acquired the home farm, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres, and here has been the permanent family home ever since.

In 1851 Mr. Hilborn was married to Miss Elizabeth A. Irwin, a native of Chester county, Pennsylvania, and a daughter of Israel H. Irwin, who came to Crawford county about 1834, settling in Auburn township. To our subject and wife five children were born, these being as follows: Ellsworth I., who conducts the home farm in Auburn township; Zella M., the wife of James Michener, of Tiro, Ohio; Charles M., of Massillon; and Isaac N. and Emma L., both deceased.

In politics Mr. Hilborn is a staunch and outspoken Republican, and in his religious belief he is a Lutheran and is one of the liberal supporters of that church. His reputation in Auburn township is that of a man whose word is just as good as his bond, and he well deserves the high regard in which he is held.

#### WILLIAM MORROW.

Holding marked prestige among the prominent agriculturists of Crawford county is William Morrow, who was born in Auburn township, this county, on the 13th of June, 1832, a son of James and Margaret (Kunler) Morrow. The father was born in Crawford county, Pennsylvania, in 1809, a son of Charles and Mary (Cummings) Morrow, also natives of the Keystone state. In 1817 they came to Crawford county, Ohio, locating in Auburn township, having been the third family to settle in this locality. The grandfather was a powerful man physically, and to him the word fear was unknown.

The Indians stood in constant dread of him, and on one occasion he ran six of them from his house with a wagon whip, while at another time, the Indians having stolen some of his horses, he pursued them on horseback, and when they saw him coming with his rifle in hand they abandoned the horses and fled. His death occurred in 1865, having been of Irish descent. Unto Charles and Mary (Cummings) Morrow were born the following children: Davis, who served as postmaster and justice of the peace of Tiro for many years; James, the father of our subject; Nancy, who became the wife of James Dixon; Eliza, the wife of Walter Dleen, one of the early pioneers of Crawford county; and Mary J., the wife of Barber Robinson. Unto the parents of our subject were born four children,—William, James, Charles and John. The father died in 1875. In political matters he gave his support to the Democratic party.

William Morrow, whose name introduces this review, was reared to manhood on the home farm, and his education was acquired in the pioneer log school house of the neighborhood. He remained at home until after his marriage, when he purchased and located on seventy-four acres of his present farm. He afterward purchased the eighty acres of land where William Bender now resides, where he conducted a tavern for four years, and after residing on that property for ten years he sold the tract and purchased four hundred acres of land in Auburn township. He also spent ten years on that property, on the expiration of which period he disposed of the land and returned to his original purchase of seventy-four acres, where he now makes his home.

In October, 1859, occurred the marriage of Mr. Morrow and Miss Lucy A. Trux, a daughter of Michael Trux, who emigrated to Richland county, Ohio, locating in Plymouth before a stick of the native timber had been cut from the forest there. Unto this union were born four children,—Abraham, a prominent agriculturist of Auburn township; William, who owns four hundred acres of land at Round Lake, Minnesota; Davis and James, also residents of this township. The wife and mother died, and for his second wife our subject chose Nancy Loudon, a daughter of James Loudon, who came to Auburn township, Crawford county, from Pennsylvania, in a very early day. Two children were born unto the second union, namely: Frank, who makes his home in Crawford county; and Minnie M., the wife of Hays Mallic, of Auburn township. Mr. Morrow has been a third time married, when Mary Lipsett became his wife, but after four years of happy married life she, too, was called to the home beyond. In politics Mr. Morrow supports the Demo-



cratic party, and socially he is a member of Auburn Grange, No. 556, P. of H. He has now rounded the sixty-ninth milestone on the journey of life, and during this entire time he has been identified with the interests of the Buckeye state. At all times he has endeavored to promote the best interests of this section of the country, and high on the roll of the honored men of Crawford county is found the name of this worthy pioneer.

#### CHARLES MORROW.

Charles Morrow has long been a conspicuous figure in agricultural circles in Crawford county. He was born on the farm which he still owns, in Auburn township, on the 15th of May, 1839, a son of James and Margaret (Kumler) Morrow. He was reared to manhood on the old family homestead, being early inured to the labors of field and meadow, and his educational advantages were those afforded by the pioneer schools of that day. On reaching his twenty-first year he was employed by a Mr. Hodge, of Connecticut, to assist in driving cattle to that state. He made the return trip and started on a second, but after making a portion of the journey he returned, and on the 1st of January, 1863, was united in marriage with Miss Savina Nickler, a native of Somerset county, Pennsylvania, and a daughter of Benjamin and Nancy (Nicholson) Nickler. The father, who was a native of Germany, came to America with his mother and stepfather when fourteen years of age, his father, who was of French parentage, having died in the fatherland. The family located in Fayette county, Pennsylvania, where Benjamin grew to manhood and learned the trade of a tailor. After his marriage he located in Somerset county, his wife's native place, and there divided his time between farming and working at the tailor's trade. In 1863 he emigrated to Crawford county, Ohio, locating in Liberty township, where he followed farming during the remainder of his life, passing away in death in 1864, at the age of fifty-five years. His widow survived him thirty years, dying at the advanced age of eighty years and ten days. At the time of her marriage Mrs. Morrow was residing with a sister, Mrs. Anna Eicher, in Auburn township, and by her marriage with our subject she has become the mother of three children, namely: Martha Ann, wife of W. J. Cleland, who resides on the old Arthur Cleland farm in this county; Ida E., the wife of Frank Will, who now makes his home on Mr. Morrow's farm; and Mary J., the wife of Orin Lake, a prominent agriculturist of Auburn township.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Morrow began their domestic life in



a little log cabin on one hundred and sixty acres of land which belonged to his father and where his brother William now resides, and there he followed agricultural pursuits for two years, receiving the entire profits from the farm. On the expiration of that period he returned to the old home farm on which he was born, and on his father's death he inherited the property, making his home thereon until 1885. In 1883 he purchased four and a half acres of land in the city of Tiro, and two years later he retired from the active duties of farm life and took up his abode in this city. He has since rebuilt his residence, making it one of the finest in the town, and there he and his wife are now living, surrounded by the comforts and many of the luxuries of life, the result of former toil. In political matters Mr. Morrow is identified with the Democratic party, and socially he is a member of Tiro Lodge, No. 688, I. O. O. F., of which he has been a member for twenty years. In his business affairs he has met with splendid success, and by reason of his energy, ambition and careful discrimination he has been very successful, being now regarded as one of the foremost men of his locality. A man of unswerving integrity and honor, one who has a perfect appreciation of the higher ethics of life, he has gained and retained the confidence and respect of his fellow men, and is distinctively one of the leading citizens of Crawford county, with whose interests he has been identified for so many years.

#### FRANCIS M. LASH.

Among the highly esteemed farmer citizens of Crawford county, Ohio, is Francis M. Lash, who was born in Auburn township, in this county, on the farm which he now occupies, on January 23, 1848. He was a son of Peter and Mary (Fredline) Lash, who were pioneer settlers of Crawford county, and of whom extended mention is made in the biography of Peter B. Lash in another part of this volume.

Francis M. Lash was the youngest of the family born to his parents, and when his father died, at the age of forty-three, the hard labor of the farm fell upon his sons. The older brothers of our subject first managed the farm, while the latter grew to manhood and acquired his education in the public schools, and in 1870, when his next older brother left the home roof, the responsibility fell upon him. As his circumstances warranted, our subject gradually purchased the interests of the other heirs, and by 1885 he had obtained entire control of the homestead, consisting of one hundred and three acres.

Mr. Lash is a thorough farmer and has brought his land to a fine state of cultivation, its value increasing year by year.

The marriage of Mr. Lash was on November 15, 1874, to Miss Almira Crum, a native of Pennsylvania and a daughter of David Crum, who was an old and honored resident of Liberty township, and a sketch of whom appears upon another page of this record. In politics Mr. Lash now supports the Republican party, but for several years he worked diligently for the Prohibition party and at different times was a candidate on that ticket. His interest in the cause of temperance has not diminished, but he believes that the Republican party can best adjust the issues of the people. Both Mr. Lash and wife are active and useful members of the United Brethren church, in which his parents were so deeply interested, and for many years he has been one of the trustees, and is one of its most liberal contributors to both home and foreign missions. Mr. Lash stands high in public esteem and is known to be a man of sterling character and unimpeachable integrity.

#### GEORGE WEAVER.

Among the prominent citizens of Crawford county, Ohio, George Weaver, of Auburn township, takes a leading position. The birth of Mr. Weaver was in Germany, a country which has contributed a large number of substantial citizens to America. Baden was the native city of Mr. Weaver, and there he was born on June 15, 1831, a member of a family of seven children born to his parents, Frederick and Mary M. (Brimley) Weaver. Two of this family are the only survivors, these being our subject and his sister Catherine, who is the wife of John Zabst, of Steuben county, Indiana.

Both Frederick Weaver and wife were born in Baden, and there they were reared and married, later becoming farmers. When our subject was but six months old his father died and the mother, with her family, emigrated to the United States, coming to Ohio and buying eighty acres of land in what was then a part of Richland county, but is now included in Crawford county. This land was located about one mile west of our subject's present farm, and was placed under the management of her eldest son, who had reached maturity. This son died some eight years later, perishing from foul gas in a well, the gas overcoming another young man who went to his assistance. The mother continued to reside on this farm for a number of years, finally selling it and spending her last days with her children and dying early in the '70s,

aged about eighty-five years, having been a good mother and an excellent manager.

George Weaver, of this sketch, grew to the age of fourteen years, spending his time on the farm and in attendance at the pioneer school, where the conveniences and adornments consisted in slab benches and puncheon floor. By the time our subject was fourteen his mother broke up her home and he went to make his residence with a neighbor by the name of Jacob Cruykendall, and remained with him until he had reached his majority. Then our subject began his own career, working as a farm hand until his marriage. This took place on March 19, 1857, when he was united in marriage to Miss Katy A. Aumund, who was a native of this township and was a daughter of Adam Aumund.

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Weaver located on a portion of Mr. Cruykendall's farm, where our subject carried on one summer's operations, on shares. Prior to his marriage he had purchased eighty acres of land in Indiana, but Mrs. Weaver did not feel inclined to go so far from her old home and friends, and our subject respected her desires and exchanged that land for seventy acres of his present farm, and in the fall of 1857 they removed to this new home. An earlier settler had built a log cabin and the young people soon made it cosy and comfortable, and this remained their residence for a number of years, Mr. Weaver later enlarging it. In 1874 he erected the substantial frame house where the family has since resided. The high cultivation to which Mr. Weaver has brought his land proves him a skilled farmer. It contains one hundred acres and has excellent improvements and presents a most attractive and thrifty appearance.

Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Weaver, these being: Henry, at home, and Clara B. and Royal, both deceased. In politics Mr. Weaver has been a life-long Republican, and the esteem in which he is held by his fellow citizens has been shown by his election to the office of township trustee for three terms. Both Mr. and Mrs. Weaver, as well as their son, belong to the Methodist church, where our subject is recording steward and where he is held in the highest esteem.

Mrs. Weaver was a daughter of Adam, Jr., and Susannah (Harley) Aumund, the former of whom was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, in 1799, and was a son of Adam and Christina Aumund. Soon after coming to Richland county, when a young man, he was married and located on a farm of eighty acres adjoining his father's home farm, the latter having made provision for his sons by entering four tracts of eighty acres each. Mr. Au-

mund lived on this farm all his life, adding to it until he had two hundred and thirty acres. He was a man of much influence in his district and was a power in the councils of the Democratic party, serving several years as a justice of the peace, township trustee and in other local offices, and was also an active member of the Methodist church. His death occurred in 1879, in his eightieth year. After the death of the mother of Mrs. Weaver, her father married, first, Nancy Harley, and by that marriage one son, Riley W., was born, since deceased; and Mr. Aumund's next marriage was to Mrs. Runyan, formerly Miss Prudence West, and his last marriage was to Mrs. Vincent, who was formerly Miss Mary Davidson. Seven children survive, these being: Henry; Samuel; Mary E.; Mrs. Weaver; George W.; Mary A., the wife of R. R. Ross, of this township; and Henderson P.

### SAMUEL A. STOCK.

Samuel A. Stock is one of the leading and influential men of the township in which he was born. His birth occurred on August 14, 1850, in Auburn township, Crawford county, Ohio, and he was a son of John and Christina (Schaffer) Stock, who reared a family of twelve children, six of whom still survive. These are as follows: George W., a resident of Cranberry township; Samuel A., the subject of this sketch; Jennie, the wife of George Hart, of this township; Elvira, the wife of Frank Morse, of Cincinnati, Ohio; Sabine, the wife of Abner McCane, of New Washington, Ohio; and Eva, the wife of Charles Urich, of Cranberry township.

John Stock was born in Pennsylvania and came with his parents in his youth to Richland county, Ohio, where he married and then moved to Auburn township, Crawford county, where he owned an eighty-acre farm. Some time later he sold this farm and returned to Richland county and engaged in farming on the home place. His wife purchased a farm of one hundred and ten acres in Crawford county from her brother-in-law, and some years later exchanged this farm for the one which is now owned by her son George, and there her last years were spent. John Stock was a soldier during the Civil war, and was a member of the One Hundred and Sixtieth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and was sent to the front, the privation and exposure bringing on dysentery, from which he died in Philadelphia, and there he was buried.

Our subject grew to manhood amid home surroundings, and obtained an excellent school education in the district schools. He remained at home until he was twenty-six years old, managing his mother's property, and then

was married to Miss Adelia L. Morse, who was also born in Auburn township. She was a daughter of Amos and Mehetable (Carlisle) Morse, the former of whom was one of the most influential men in the neighborhood. In his earlier years he was a teacher, but before his death followed agriculture on one hundred and sixty acres of land. In politics he was a Republican, and he held the office of justice of the peace for the last twenty years of his life. He was a member of the Baptist church and a man of more than average intelligence, and was the father of three children, viz.: Frank R., Adelia and Amanda, twins.

After marriage our subject rented a farm of one hundred and fourteen acres in Cranberry township, where he remained some two years, removing then to his father-in-law's farm, which he has managed ever since. At the death of Mr. Morse he was made executor, and his esteemed mother-in-law resides with our subject and family. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Stock, and the five survivors are: Otis M., who is a graduate of the Linwood high school and the Woodward high school, of Cincinnati; and Ira W., Charles A., Irma A. and Harold M., all of whom are at home except Ira, who is employed in the tube works in Shelby, Ohio. The one member of the family who is deceased was Olive E.

In politics our subject is a member of the Democratic party, and he has been quite active in township affairs, serving four terms as assessor. At one time he was made a candidate by his friends for the office of trustee, but he never desired the office and did not work for it, and he was defeated by just one vote. In the order of K. of P. Mr. Stock has been a valued and useful member of Tiro Lodge, No. 592. He is one of the charter members of this lodge and has done much for its advancement. In the township he occupies a position of confidence and trust, and is regarded as one of the progressive and public-spirited citizens who are ever on the alert to advance the interests of Crawford county.

### WILLIAM DAWSON.

Among the progressive and representative farmers of Crawford county, Ohio, is William Dawson, who for many years has been a very successful agriculturist of Auburn township. The birth of Mr. Dawson, of this biography, was in Lincolnshire, England, near the town of Boston, on December 13, 1835. He was a son of William and Susan (Courtright) Dawson, and is the only surviving child of his parents.



William Dawson was born also in Lincolnshire, in 1800, and after the death of his wife, some time after 1840, he came to America and located in Crawford county, Ohio, where he bought a farm of fifty acres, in Auburn township. At a later date he purchased an adjoining thirty acres, and this he improved and lived upon until his death, in 1858. Mr. Dawson was a man of high moral purpose and a most consistent member of the Primitive Methodist church. In England he had been a local preacher and exhorter in the church, and always lived an exemplary life. After coming to America he contracted a second marriage, Miss Mary Gibson becoming his second wife, and she survived her husband for some years.

After the death of the mother of our subject, when he was about seven or eight years of age, he found a comfortable home with an uncle, Samuel Dawson, and young William remained with him until his eighteenth year. This uncle was an extensive farmer and successful stock-raiser, and under his supervision our subject became well trained in all agricultural pursuits. This severe discipline served our subject well in after life, as he applied on his own land the principles which his uncle had taught, and now owns one of the best developed and valuable farms in Crawford county.

In 1853 Mr. Dawson, our subject, came to America, landing in New York City on May 11, 1853, after a tempestuous voyage, in the sailing vessel "Forest King," which lasted forty-seven days. In the furious storm they encountered the vessel was stripped of her canvas and was almost wrecked. It was with a feeling of great relief that Mr. Dawson found himself again on firm land, and he immediately made his way to his father in Crawford county. With him he engaged in farming, and on January 6, 1857, was united in marriage to Miss Rebecca J. Doty, who was a native of Ashland county, Ohio, and a daughter of a prominent farmer of Ashland county. In the following summer our subject took charge of the farm, and as his father died during the next year the property came into his possession.

In 1862 our subject purchased one hundred and fifty-one acres of land in Ashland county, with the intention of moving to that place, but just at this time came a family affliction,—the death of a dear child, and Mrs. Dawson felt unable in her trouble to leave old friends and associations. Therefore, in 1864 Mr. Dawson sold this farm and purchased his present one, which consists of one hundred and eighty acres, and resided upon it, improving and beautifying it, until about 1887, when he rented it to his son-in-law and retired to Plymouth. In 1890 Mrs. Dawson died. Five years later Mr. Dawson returned to his farm, having been married on June 28, 1896, to Miss Dora

Doty, who was a native of Ashland county, and she was a daughter of James Doty, also of that county. To his former marriage five children were born, as follows: Ada A., deceased; Elmer Lincoln, a farmer of Richland county; Effie R., the wife of Howard Clark, a farmer of Richland county; Emma R., the wife of Andrew Trobridge, of Chicago; and Ida May, who resides with her sister Effie.

In politics Mr. Dawson is numbered among the staunch Republicans of Auburn township. Socially he is a valued member of the Auburn Grange, Patrons of Husbandry, while he has long been one of the leading members of the Methodist church, in which he is a steward. His farm shows the personal care and attention that has been given it and is an example of what skilled farming can accomplish. He is one of the highly respected citizens of this locality and is well and favorably known over a wide section.

#### THOMAS B. ENDSLOW.

The history of mankind is replete with illustrations of the fact that it is only under the pressure of adversity and the stimulus of opposition that the best and strongest in men are brought out and developed. Perhaps the history of no people so forcibly impresses one with this truth as the annals of our own republic. If anything can inspire the youth of our country to persistent, honest and laudable endeavor it should be the life record of such men as he of whom we write. The example of the illustrious few of our countrymen, who have risen from obscurity to the highest positions in the gift of the nation, serves often to awe our young men rather than inspire them to emulation, because they reason that only a few can ever attain such eminence; but the history of such men as Thomas B. Endslow proves conclusively that with a reasonable amount of mental and physical power success is bound eventually to crown the endeavor of those who have the ambition to put forth their best efforts and the will and manliness to persevere therein.

Thomas B. Enslow was born in Lykens township, Crawford county, May 6, 1850, and is a son of William and Eliza (Junk) Endslow, of whose family of eight children five are yet living. The Endsloes are of English lineage. William Endslow, the paternal grandfather of our subject, was a native of the Merrie Isle, but when a young man crossed the briny deep to the new world, settling in Juniata county, Pennsylvania, where he followed farming. His wife was Mrs. Margaret Endslow, and among their children was William Endslow, Jr., whose birth occurred in Juniata county, in 1803. In his youth

he learned the trade of wagon-making, and when he had attained his majority he chose as a companion and helpmate for the journey of life Miss Eliza Junk. In 1831, accompanied by his wife and one child, who was born in the Keystone state, he made his way to Ohio, settling in Richland county, near Shelby, which was then a small hamlet of two houses and a blacksmith shop. He there erected a wagon-maker's shop, but after two or three years came to Crawford county and purchased eighty acres of land in Lykens township, turning his attention to agricultural pursuits. The journey thither was made by way of New Washington, which was also in the period of inception, containing but two dwellings. Mr. Endslow and his brother-in-law erected his first residence of poles, the house being twelve by eighteen feet. It was completed in a day and at once furnished shelter for the family. Later they covered the poles with clapboards on the front and sides and plastered the house with straw and mud. This served as the family residence for only a year or two, after which Mr. Endslow erected a substantial hewed-log house. He made his home until his death, which occurred in 1876, upon the farm which he there developed, but in the meantime he erected four other houses, the last being a commodious frame residence, erected some time in the '50s. His wild land was transformed into richly cultivated fields that brought to him golden harvests in return for his plowing and planting. In his political views he was a Democrat and in religious faith was first a Presbyterian, but afterward became a member of the Seceders church. During the many years of his residence upon his farm he devoted much of his time to his trade, and thus the care of the fields developed largely upon his children. The five surviving members of the family are: Margaret, who is now living in Crawford county, Kansas; William, a miller of Columbus, Ohio; Samuel; Eliza, now the wife of R. K. Williams, an agriculturist of Seneca county; and Thomas B.

No event of special importance occurred to change the usual routine of farm life for Thomas B. Endslow. He was a student in the district schools through the winter season and made a hand in the fields through the summer months. At the age of twenty, however, he left the parental roof and became an apprentice to the miller's trade, serving in a mill near Loudonville. After three years there passed he came to New Washington and was employed in the mill which he now operates. Two years later he acquired an interest in the business, which he retained until 1885, when he removed to Aberdeen, Brown county, where he rented a mill for a year. That property was then sold, after which Mr. Endslow worked on a salary until 1890, when he returned to New Washington and purchased the mill in which he had formerly

been employed and which he now conducts. He is doing a good business, his patronage steadily increasing, which calls for an enlarged output.

In 1876 was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Endslow and Miss Sarah Springer, of Crawford county, a daughter of George W. Springer, a prominent farmer who resided in this locality, but is now deceased. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Endslow has been blessed with four children, namely: Maud L., now the wife of Dr. H. G. Blaine, of Attica, Ohio; B. Clyde, who is in the mill with his father; W. Lloyd, an engineer in the mill; and Myrtle B. The mother of this family was called to her final rest in 1892, and in September, 1896, Mr. Endslow was again married, his second union being with Miss Lydia Evert, a native of Crawford county. In his political views he is a Democrat, and, though not an office seeker, he was elected and served for three terms, in the early '80s, as township clerk, while at the present writing he is a member of the board of councilmen of New Washington. To those who are familiar with his history it is needless to say that his duties were ever discharged with promptness and fidelity. He holds membership relations with the Methodist church and is serving as one of its trustees. Fraternally he is connected with Hyperion Lodge, No. 651, K. P., of which he became a charter member and in which he has filled all the offices. In all life's relations he has been found true to duty and to every obligation. His life record is commendable in that he owes his advancement to his unflagging energy and perseverance, and to the fact that he has ever conducted all business transactions along the lines of strict commercial ethics.

#### ISAAC HOSLER.

Isaac Hosler is now serving as mayor of New Washington, and the city has found him a capable, energetic and faithful official, having a just appreciation of the duties that devolve upon him and discharging them with promptness and ability. He was born in Seneca county, Ohio, at the old family homestead in Bloom township, May 11, 1840, his parents being Jonas and Catherine (Troxel) Hosler. The grandfather of our subject, Christian Hosler, was a native of York county, Pennsylvania, and was of Pennsylvania Dutch ancestry. In the place of his nativity he was reared and learned the trade of a cooper. He married a Miss Gensler and followed his chosen vocation in his native county until 1824, when he emigrated with his family to Ohio, settling in Stark county, where he carried on the coopering business until within the last five years of his life. His wife died and then he went to live with his son

Jonas, in whose home he remained until called to his final rest, when about seventy-five years of age.

Jonas Hosler, the father of our subject, was born in York county, Pennsylvania, March 14, 1810, and spent his boyhood days in his parents' home, learning the coopering business with his father ere the removal of the family to Ohio. As his parents were in but moderate circumstances Jonas Hosler and his elder brother worked for the neighboring farmers during the early years of their residence in the Buckeye state. The father of our subject entered the employ of Mr. Troxel, whose daughter he afterward married. Subsequently he and his brother-in-law engaged in the operation of the Troxel farm on the shares, but soon after his marriage, which occurred in 1832, he went to Seneca county in search of a home for his bride. While there he entered one hundred and sixty acres of land and two years later he removed his wife and two children to the log cabin which he had erected in the forest. There he developed an excellent farm, making it one of the best agricultural properties in the county. He continued its cultivation until 1863, when he sold and purchased a farm of one hundred and three acres in Chatfield township, Crawford county, where he died August 30, 1875. He was a very energetic man, of strong purposes and keen discrimination in business and thereby won a comfortable competence. In his political views he was a stalwart Democrat, but office holding had no attractions for him. His life was in harmony with his professions as a member of the German Lutheran church and he was one of the most highly esteemed men of his community. He married Miss Catherine Troxel and they became the parents of nine children, seven of whom are yet living, namely: Peter, a farmer of Defiance county, Ohio; Amanda, wife of Elias Miller, an agriculturist of Fulton county, Indiana; Isaac, of this review; Mathilda, wife of William Cummings, Sr., of New Washington; Malinda, wife of John Dounenwirth, a former postmaster of New Washington, and now resides in Bucyrus; Minerva, the widow of Jacob Haas, of Wyandot county, Ohio; and Elizabeth, who married Conrad Kahler, a resident of Kosciusko county, Indiana.

In taking up the personal history of Isaac Hosler we present to our reader the life record of one who is widely and favorably known in the Buckeye state, where he has always resided. His boyhood days were quietly passed on the home farm, and during that period he acquired only a limited common-school education, for his services were needed in the work of the fields. When he was twenty years of age he and his brother Peter took charge of the old homestead, which they operated on the shares for three years. In the summer of



1863 Mr. Hosler, of this review, had charge of the harvesting of the crops and worked at various other occupations, such as brick-making and threshing. In the spring of 1864, in company with five others, he started by wagon across the plains for California, leaving Bucyrus on the 1st of April. The travelers arrived in Austin, Nevada, on the 2nd of July, and there stopped for a couple of weeks. One of their number died while in that place. When the party left Austin Mr. Hosler remained behind and after two weeks' work in the silver mines took charge of some horses and mules on a stock ranch, his time being thus occupied during the fall and winter. In the spring of 1865 he began work in the salt marshes, about thirty miles from Austin, and in the fall of 1865 he went with a freight train to Colfax, California. After reaching that place he proceeded to Sacramento, over the Union Pacific Railroad, and from there, by river, to San Francisco. He spent about a week in the latter city and then took passage on a steamer going by the "Keystone" route. He crossed a lake in Central America, thence proceeded by way of the San Juan river to the Caribbean sea—the present proposed route of the Nicaraguan canal. He arrived in New York about a month after leaving San Francisco and at once continued on his way to his home. After two months spent upon the farm Mr. Hosler proceeded to Bucyrus and during the six succeeding years was employed as engineer in the Bucyrus Woolen Mills. In 1872, in connection with his brother-in-law, John Donnenwirth, Mr. Hosler came to New Washington and opened a tinshop, which they conducted for four years, when they sold their business, and through the two succeeding years our subject followed various pursuits. In 1878 he accepted a position in the tinshop, where he remained until 1900, but at the present time he is devoting his entire time and attention to his official duties.

While residing in Bucyrus Mr. Hosler was united in marriage, in 1867, to Miss Teresa Rook, a native of Alsace, Germany, a daughter of Phillip and Magdalena Rook, who came to America, locating in Ohio about 1854. In his political views the subject of this review is a stalwart Democrat and at various times has served for ten years as a member of the town council of New Washington. Entirely without his solicitation, in the spring of 1899, he was nominated and elected to the office of mayor, and in the spring of 1901 he was again nominated in a district where a Democratic nomination is equivalent to an election. He has proved a capable executive, laboring earnestly for the best interests of the people and exercises his official prerogatives in support of all measures and movements for the reform and progress of the city. He belongs to Cranberry Lodge, No. 441, I. O. O. F., has filled all its offices.

and for seventeen consecutive years was secretary, to which position he has again been re-elected. Although not a church member, he contributes liberally to religious work and withholds his support and co-operation from no movement or measure for the general good. His fidelity to principle, his earnest purpose and his unquestioned honesty have gained for him the unfaltering confidence and high regard of the people among whom his lot has been cast.

#### CHARLES MAHON.

It is the enterprise and character of the citizens that enrich and ennoble the commonwealth. From individual enterprise has sprung all the splendor and importance of this great west. The greatest merchants have developed from the humblest origins. From clerkships have emerged men who have built great enterprises. America is a self-made country, and those who have created it are self-made men. No influence of birth or fortune have favored the architects of her glory. Among those who have achieved prominence as men of marked ability and substantial worth in Crawford county is the subject of this sketch, Charles Mahon, who occupies a prominent position. He is now proprietor of a saw and planing-mill in New Washington and is accounted one of the leading representatives of industrial interests in this portion of Crawford county.

Mr. Mahon was born in Weller township, Richland county, July 24, 1843, and is a son of John and Margaret (Steward) Mahon. The family was established in Ohio during the pioneer epoch in the history of the state. The father was born in Weller township, Richland county, and was a son of James Mahon, a native of Ireland, who came to America soon after his marriage and established a home in Weller township, on Chestnut Hill, being one of the first residents of that portion of the state. Mansfield then contained but three houses and the country for miles around was in its primitive condition, the forests standing in their primeval strength, unmarked by roads made by the white man or by the habitations of early settlers. Mr. Mahon entered three hundred and twenty acres of land and built a round-log house. He began clearing his land and was connected with the work of cultivating the fields up to the time of his death. Amid the wild scenes of pioneer life on the old family homestead John Mahon was reared, and in the common schools of the neighborhood he acquired his education. He married Miss Margaret Steward, who was also born in Weller township and was a daughter of Charles Steward, whose birth occurred in the Emerald Isle. Soon after his marriage he, too, sought a home in the new world and became a resident of Weller township, tak-

ing up his abode on Black Fork. He entered one hundred and sixty acres of land from the government, cleared and improved the property and in the early days experienced all the hardships and privations which fall to the lot of the early settlers. They established a home in the wilderness and laid the foundation for the present prosperity and progress of the community. He continued in Weller township until called to the home beyond. He was a Presbyterian in religious faith and was a very active and influential member of the church.

After his marriage John Mahon located upon a portion of the old homestead, having received eighty acres of the farm as his patrimony, the grandfather having died when his son was only three years of age. Until 1859 John Mahon continued to cultivate his fields at that point and then sold the property, removing with his family to Crawford county, locating on the southeast corner of Cranberry township. He purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land, and the farm which he there improved and developed was his place of residence until his life's labors were ended in death. His political support was unswervingly given to the Democracy, and for several terms he served as township trustee, discharging his duties in a prompt and capable manner. He was quite active in church work, holding membership with the Methodist denomination. In early days he was for a number of years a member of the state militia and throughout his entire life was a man of influence and prominent in his community. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Mahon were born ten children, of whom five are yet living, namely: Charles; Millie, the widow of William Striker, of Cranberry township; Barger, of the same township; John, who is living near Bloomville, Ohio; and Jennie, the wife of David Smith, of Shelby, Ohio.

To the common-school system of Ohio Charles Mahon is indebted for the educational privileges which were afforded him in his youth. During the Civil war he was drafted for service, but owing to the objections raised by his parents he did not go to the front, although it was his desire to aid his country in her struggle to preserve the Union. As is usual with young men when they start out upon a business career he sought a companion and helpmate for the journey of life, and on the 28th of July, 1866, was united in marriage to Miss Hannah M. Shilling, a native of Cranberry township and a daughter of David Shilling, who emigrated from Pennsylvania to Ohio when Mrs. Mahon was a little child of only two years. The journey was made by wagon and often led through dense forests. In the Keystone state her father had followed teaming, but soon after his arrival in Crawford county he turned his attention to farming. The same pursuit claimed the energies of Mr. Mahon after his

marriage, and he began his labors as an agriculturist upon a tract of eighty acres, near the old homestead. About a year later, however, he sold that property and purchased another eighty-acre tract a mile to the north, residing thereon for six or seven years. After disposing of that property he became the owner of eighty acres, one mile east and a half mile north of New Washington, and there engaged in the tilling of the fields until 1885, when he once more sold his farm and in that year became a resident of the town. He purchased a half interest in a saw and planing-mill, which, in connection with his partner, Anthony Herman, he has since conducted. The business has proven a profitable one under the capable management of the owners and now furnishes employment to twelve or more workmen. They manufacture lumber, and do all kinds of planing mill work, and their business has steadily increased, both in volume and importance.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Mahon has been blessed with four children, of whom three are yet living, namely: John I., who is employed by the milling firm; Marinda M. and Lettie F., both at home. The parents hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church, and for fifteen years Mr. Mahon has served as class-leader, steward and trustee. Socially he is connected with Cranberry Lodge, No. 441, I. O. O. F., in which he has passed all of the chairs. He is likewise a member of Rex Tent, No. 229, K. O. T. M., in which he has filled all the offices, at the present time serving as commander. His political support is given the Democracy, and for nine years he has been a member of the school board. However, he is not an office seeker, and has steadily refused to allow his name to be placed on the ticket at a candidate for office. In the latter part of the '70s, however, he was elected township trustee, and popular suffrage has continued him in the position for three terms. He ranks among the progressive and representative men of the county. Of verile strength and strong purpose, he has carried forward to successful completion whatever he has undertaken, and his labors have brought to him a comfortable competence.

#### FREDERICK CARLE.

Frederick Carle is a manufacturer of and dealer in buggies and wagons in New Washington and also conducts a horse-shoeing and general repair shop. Industry is a most potent element in securing success and this principle is well exemplified in the life of Mr. Carle, who is a most energetic man, indolence and idleness being utterly foreign to his nature. He is classed among the rep-



representative German-American citizens of Crawford county, his birth having occurred in Oberheinrieth, Wurtemberg, Germany, August 16, 1860, his parents being Christian and Barbara (Loehle) Carle, of whose family of six sons four are yet living, namely: William, a carpenter of Bucyrus, Ohio; Frederick; and Henry and Ernest, both of whom are residents of Newark, New Jersey. The father was also a native of the same village in which occurred the birth of our subject. He was born May 5, 1806, and died May 16, 1888. His first wife was a Miss Weik and they became the parents of six children, four sons and two daughters, of whom one is yet living, namely, Gottlieb, of Stuttgart, Ohio. The mother died October 26, 1858, and the father afterward married Miss Barbara Loehle. He continued farm work until 1836, when he was appointed keeper of the forest, which important position he filled for a period of thirty-two years. He then retired to farm life. In 1867 Gottlieb Carle, the son of the first marriage, came to America, and in 1872 William, the eldest of the children of the second marriage, crossed the Atlantic, taking up his abode in Bucyrus, Ohio. The glowing accounts of the country tempted our subject to cast his fortunes in the golden land of promise, and in 1880, just prior to the time when he would have been forced to enter military life in the fatherland, he sailed for America. In 1881 Christian Carle, the father, and the other members of the family also came to the new world, taking up their abode in Bucyrus, and Frederick and his brother William were then single and boarded at home. After the marriage of our subject, however, the parents broke up housekeeping and made their home with him until called to their final rest. The mother, who was born September 16, 1826, in Untergruppenbach, Heilbron, Wurtemberg, died on Thanksgiving day in 1897, while the father passed away about nine years previous.

Frederick Carle, whose name introduces this record, pursued his education in the public schools of his native land until fourteen years of age, when he was apprenticed to learn the blacksmith's trade. On the completion of his three-years' term of service he worked as a journeyman until 1880, when he resolved to seek a home in the new world and, on the 29th of July, embarked on the steamer *Niederland* at Antwerpen, which, after fourteen days spent on the Atlantic, dropped anchor in the harbor of New York, on the 12th of August. Mr. Carle first set foot on American soil in the metropolis, and after visiting his sister in Newark, New Jersey, he came direct to Crawford county, taking up his abode in Bucyrus, where he worked at his trade for three years in the employ of Phillip Sager. On the 1st of October, 1883, he opened a shop of his own and did a general repair business in connection with horse-shoeing. He



also engaged in wagon manufacturing and thus continued operations until 1897, when, desiring to increase the scope of his work and being unable to secure suitable quarters where he was, he purchased the business of Charles Vollmer, in New Washington. In the intervening four years he has done a gradually increasing business and now has a large trade, which brings him a good financial return. He is numbered among the progressive business men of the town and his patronage has attained considerable magnitude, so that he now has in his employ one carriage trimmer, one carriage painter and two blacksmiths.

On the 7th of October, 1883, Mr. Carle was united in marriage to Miss Catherine R. Pfeifer, a native of Bucyrus and a daughter of Christian and Maria (Schwalb) Pfeifer, both of whom were natives of Germany, the former coming to America in 1856, the latter in 1857. The father is now one of the prominent shoe merchants of Bucyrus. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Carle has been blessed with four children, but they lost their first born, Minnie. The others are: Frederick C., born March 2, 1889; Elmer R., born July 15, 1892; and Howard E., born July 25, 1897.

Mr. Carle is one of the stalwart supporters of the Democracy, inflexible in his adherence to its principles and while in Bucyrus he served one term as a member of the city council. He is not, however, an office-seeker, preferring to devote his energies to his business affairs. He and his wife are members of the German Lutheran church, and he belongs to the Duetsche Gesllschaft Society in Bucyrus. He was president of the organization for four years, and for six years was one of its trustees. He is likewise a member of Hyperion Lodge, No. 651, K. P., of New Washington, and enjoys the high regard of his brethren of the fraternity, while in business circles he sustains an unassailable reputation and in social life he has many friends.

#### ISAAC PFLEIDERER.

A worthy representative of an old and honored Crawford county agricultural family is found in Isaac Pfeiderer, one of the progressive and successful farmers of Liberty township. Mr. Pfeiderer was born in this township on August 4, 1860, a son of David and Mary (Hickenlively) Pfeiderer. (The full ancestry of the Pfeiderer family may be found in another part of this volume.)

Our subject grew to manhood on the family homestead, acquiring his education in the public schools and adding to it by a very liberal course of

reading. His marriage was on February 21, 1883, at which time Miss Mary Alice E. Charlton became his wife. She is a native of Hardin county, Ohio, a daughter of Thomas and Matilda (Hite) Charlton and a granddaughter of Henry Charlton, who came to Crawford county from Maryland when still a young man. After his marriage Mr. Pfeiderer settled on his present farm, which was purchased at that time, in partnership with his brother Jacob and his father, and our subject conducted it as a renter until 1898, when he became its sole owner. He is one of the thorough agriculturists of this locality and understands all matters pertaining to rotation of crops, drainage and the various foods needed for the different grains he desires to cultivate, his prosperity testifying to the merit of his excellent methods. Since 1883 he has been engaged in buying and selling horses and this has proved a very successful line of business.

Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Pfeiderer, these being: Edna Belle, who is attending high school in Sulphur Springs, has passed the Boxwell examination; Gusta M., also at her studies in the high school, has likewise passed the Boxwell examination; and Fred M., who is at home.

The political affiliations of our subject have always been with the Democratic party and he has efficiently served two terms as township assessor. At present he is acting as township clerk and for sixteen years has been a valuable member of the school board and has been clerk of the district ever since his election. During five years he served as president of the board. Mr. Pfeiderer for several years was the central committeeman from his district and for six years was a member of the Crawford county agricultural board, of which he is still a member. He has been identified with the business, social and political life of the township in a greater degree than almost any other man of his years, and has shown ability in every position in which he has been placed. Both he and wife are consistent members of the English Lutheran church of Sulphur Springs. Personally he is of a genial, pleasant nature, and with his amiable wife delights to show hospitality to his friends.

#### SAMUEL B. KOONS.

Samuel B. Koons is one of the leading men of Liberty township, Crawford county, and was born in Sandusky township on November 17, 1840, on the farm which is the second one east of his own at the present time. His parents were Abraham and Jane (Mills) Koons, who reared a family of fourteen children, twelve of whom still survive, as follows: Ann E., single,

a resident of Sulphur Springs; Mary M., the widow of Rev. R. Armstrong, of Cowley county, Kansas; Sarah J., the wife of Frank Moore, of Lansing, Michigan; David, of Leipsic, Putnam county, Ohio; Martha E., the widow of Madison Roberts, of southern California; Samuel B., of this sketch; Harriet L., the widow of Joseph Stephenson, of Missouri; Benjamin F., for the last eleven years president of the State Agricultural College of Mansfield, Connecticut; Catherine, the wife of Rev. Pope, of Oberlin, Ohio; Robert P., a practicing physician of Lone Jack, Missouri; Oliver J., physician and surgeon, of Brooklyn, New York; and Francis M., of Toledo, Ohio.

Abraham Koons was born in Philadelphia about 1773 and lived to be ninety-six years old, dying in 1869. His first wife was Susan Schrader, by whom he had thirteen children, all of whom are now deceased. The father of Abraham was one of three brothers who came from Germany to America at an early day, bringing with them a sum of ten thousand dollars, with which they engaged in the brewery business in Philadelphia, during the Revolution. On the death of Grandfather Koons, the two brothers were made guardians of his children, and when Philadelphia was threatened by the British the Koons brothers converted the property into money and departed and were never located until after the death of Father Koons, and by that time all of the documents pertaining to the case were lost and the children of Abraham never received any share. The latter was but a child at the death of his father and he was bound out to work for a neighbor, but as he was not treated well there he ran away, at the age of seven years, and supported himself in unknown ways until he became a youth old enough to learn the carpenter's trade. After he had thoroughly learned the trades of carpenter and millwright, which were then combined, he worked for a number of years in and about Philadelphia, and in 1829, learning of the rich lands to be had in Ohio, he came to Richland county and purchased eighty acres, and pursued both farming and work at his trade. Seven years later he disposed of his property there to advantage, and located in Sandusky township, in Crawford county. Here he first purchased one hundred and sixty acres and later added thirty-seven acres, and resided in that township until the time of his death, in 1869. He was reared near the Pennsylvania and Maryland line, and after coming to Ohio was often heard to predict that there would be a war between the north and the south, although he might not see it. In early life he was a Democrat, but later, when he came to a thorough understanding of the slavery question from personal observation, he became an ardent Republican. For many years he was a consistent member of the United Brethren church.

Samuel B. Koons grew up on his father's farm and his school opportunities were very limited. His father had large stock interests and he was obliged to look after them, while his brothers and sisters, coming later, were educated at Oberlin College. When he was about twenty years old the Civil war broke out and with three of his brothers he entered into the service of his county. David entered Company B, of the Eighth Ohio, enlisting as a private and leaving the service as a captain; Benjamin was a corporal in Company H, One Hundred and Twenty-third Ohio; and William, now deceased, was a member of an Indiana regiment. Our subject enlisted on August 15, 1861, in Company C, Forty-ninth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and was sent from Fort Dennison to Louisville, taking part in all of the battles of the Army of the Cumberland, until the terrible struggle of Missionary Ridge, where he was wounded. The accident happened from the Union artillery, the block between the powder and the ball striking him in the back of the head, on the morning after the taking of Orchard Knob, November 24, 1863. For the succeeding eighteen days our subject lay unconscious in the hospital at Chattanooga, and after thirty days was sent home on furlough, where he remained until March 1, 1864. During this time the regiment had become veterans and they were home on furlough, and when they returned to the front one of the most determined soldiers was our subject. When he had reached Buzzards' Roost, his enlistment having expired, he was sent back to Chattanooga, later to Nashville, thence to Jeffersonville, and on September 5, 1864, was mustered out of the service at Columbus, Ohio.

On the following 24th of November our subject was married to Miss Maggie Stevenson, a native of Seneca county, Ohio, the daughter of John Stevenson, who was born in Pennsylvania. The latter came to Seneca county at an early day. Soon after marriage the young couple settled on his father's farm, in an extra house, where they lived comfortably for three years, while Samuel cultivated his father's land on shares, but in 1868 the opportunity came to purchase a desirable tract of seventy-one acres, this being the present home farm, and here the family has since resided.

To Mr. and Mrs. Koons six children have been born, all of them being well known and popular members of society, viz.: Clarence, a farmer of Richland county; Virgil, a letter carrier in Colorado Springs, Colorado; Jennie, at home; Mat, at home; Ray, a teacher in the public schools, at home; and Inez, also a teacher, living at home. Mr. Koons has always been a very ardent Republican and has been active in work for his party. He has taken an intelligent interest in educational matters and has been a valuable member

of the school board for several years, always advocating every measure which has promised to be of general benefit. He is a member of the G. A. R., and bears a fine record for gallantry during his term of service. His standing in the community is that of an honest, upright citizen, who well represents Crawford county.

CASSIUS C. HELLER.

During almost the whole of his business life Cassius C. Heller, of this biography, has been engaged in agricultural pursuits. He was born on the farm in Liberty township, Crawford county, upon which he now resides, on April 5, 1857, a son of Jonathan and Susanna (Spade) Heller. His parents had a family of seven children, and six of these still survive, these being: Byron F., a carpenter and builder in Bucyrus, Ohio; Cynthia E., the wife of A. W. Tustison, of Bucyrus; Elizabeth, the wife of Philip Thoman, of Galion, Ohio; Cassius C.; William L., a farmer of Sandusky township; and Hattie M., the wife of B. F. Robison, of Bucyrus.

Jonathan Heller, the father of our subject, was born in Dauphin county, Pennsylvania, on January 26, 1823, a son of Jacob and Elizabeth Heller, both natives of Pennsylvania. They came to Ohio when their son was but nine years old and settled on the farm now occupied by Jacob Pfeiderer, but later removed to the one now owned by Mr. Harringer, in section 33, and here the father died. When a young man he had learned the carpenter's trade and once made a walking trip back to Pennsylvania, working by the way, finally covering the four hundred miles in this way. After his marriage, on March 11, 1847, he lived for some years on one of his father's farms, but later purchased the farm now owned by his son, where he died on March 22, 1892. The mother of our subject was born in Portage county, Ohio, on November 18, 1830, a daughter of Jacob and Susanna (Hazel) Spade, both of them natives of Pennsylvania, who were among the early settlers of Portage county, where they located, in 1842 coming to Crawford county, where they lived until the time of their death, when in advanced years. Mr. Heller was a consistent and valued member of the United Brethren church and for several years was one of the trustees. In politics he was an active Democrat and in early life efficiently filled many of the minor offices. Mr. Heller was one of the highly respected old citizens of the county who left behind him an unblemished name.

Our subject grew up surrounded by excellent home influences and obtained his education in the district schools of his locality. In 1881 he was united in marriage to Miss Sarah M. Crum, the daughter of David Crum, of



Sulphur Springs, whose biography is given elsewhere. For the two years following his marriage Mr. Heller farmed for his father, but in 1883 he rented what is known as the Moderwell farm, located one mile east of the home farm, and for three years successfully operated this estate. Then he removed to his father-in-law's land and there continued farming for eight years, and then came back, in 1896, to the home farm and took charge of it for his mother. In the spring of 1900 he purchased this most desirable property and now has one of the choice farms of Crawford county.

To Mr. and Mrs. Heller two children have been born: Orpha Grace and Mary Ruth. Mr. Heller has taken a very active interest in politics, and in national affairs votes with the Democratic party, but in local affairs he votes as his judgment indicates. As an earnest and capable worker and a conscientious and worthy Christian, Mr. Heller is widely known in the United Brethren church, having been a trustee for the past four years, and for a long period has been the efficient superintendent of the Sabbath-school. He seems to possess the ability which enables him to organize, and the school connected with this church reflects great credit upon him. In all his affairs he displays an energy and thoroughness which have done much to place him in the estimation of his neighbors as one of their best representatives.

#### WEBB J. KELLY.

The world instinctively pays deference to the man whose success has been worthily achieved, who has attained wealth by honorable business methods, acquired the highest reputation in his chosen calling by merit, and whose social prominence is not less the result of an irreproachable life than of recognized natural gifts. We pay the highest tribute to the heroes who on bloody battlefields win victories and display a valor that is the admiration of the world: why should the tribute be withheld from those who wage the bloodless battles of civil life, who are conquerors in the world of business? Greater than in almost any line of work is the responsibility that rests upon the physician. The issues of life and death are in his hands. A false prescription, an unskilled operation, may take from man that which he prizes above all else—life. The physician's power must be his own; not by purchase, by gift or by influence can he gain it. He must commence at the very beginning, learn the very rudiments of medicine and surgery, continually add to his knowledge by close study and earnest application and gain reputation by merit. If he would gain the highest prominence it must come as the result of superior skill, knowledge and

ability, and those qualities are possessed in an eminent degree by Dr. Kelly. He is known throughout the country as one of the most eminent members of the profession, and his opinions are recognized as authority throughout a great portion of America. The life history of such a man is always of profit as well as interest.

Dr. Kelly was born in Galion. His father, Harmon Rockefeller Kelly, M. D., for many years a prominent and successful physician in this place, was born in Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, in 1834, and there spent his boyhood days. He pursued his education in the Ohio Wesleyan University, making his own way through college. He thus displayed the elemental strength of his character, which in later years developed into a stalwart and resolute manhood, enabling him to maintain a foremost place in the ranks of his chosen calling. He was graduated in Starling Medical College, of Columbus, in the class of 1856, and from that time until 1860 engaged in practice at West Point, in Morrow county, five miles south of Galion. For many years he performed all the important surgical work in this portion of the state. In 1870 he was appointed surgeon for the Erie Railroad Company, then the Atlantic & Great Western Railway Company, and did the active work for that corporation until 1880, when his son, Dr. Webb J. Kelly, was appointed to the position and the father became consulting surgeon. For thirty years the father and son acted as surgeons for the road. Herman R. Kelly was united in marriage to Miss Mary Keech, who was of Quaker family and was of Scotch descent. Her maternal grandfather, Mr. Bebb, was an architect in Philadelphia, and constructed the first water works there. He was also the architect for Stephen Girard and was a Welsh Quaker.

Dr. Kelley, whose name introduces this record, pursued his education in the schools of Galion and was graduated in the high school with the class of 1874. He afterward entered the Wesleyan University at Delaware, Ohio, where he completed his literary course, and then, determining to make the practice of medicine his life work, he entered Starling Medical College, where he was graduated in 1880. Desiring to still further qualify himself for his chosen calling, he then entered Bellevue Medical College, of New York, in which he was graduated in 1880, when in his twenty-first year. In March of that year he was appointed surgeon for the Cincinnati division of the Erie Railroad, from Kent to Dayton. Since 1885 he has been surgeon for the Big Four Railroad Company, being the only physician to hold that position between Delaware and Cleveland. His knowledge of anatomy is remarkably comprehensive and accurate. Added to this is a logical mind, cool nerve and steady

muscles, without which the surgeon never wins success. His ability in surgical work has advanced him far beyond mediocrity, and he is to-day recognized as one of the most capable representatives of that branch of the profession in the country. He has performed almost every surgical operation of importance in Galion county for a number of years and has treated over five thousand injured railroad men. For seven years prior to 1900 he was one of the lecturers in the Ohio Medical College, of Columbus. He is now associate editor of the New York Medical Legal Journal and is national agent of the New York Medico-Legal Society. He is a member of the American Medical Association, also of the American Medical Academy, the Railway Surgeons and the National Association of Railway Surgeons.

Mr. Kelly married Miss Kate M. Grandy, a daughter of Rev. I. B. and Julia (Lee) Grandy. Her father was a Universalist minister and a representative of a prominent and distinguished New England family, while her mother was a granddaughter of General Robert E. Lee. Unto the Doctor and his wife have been born two children,—Rufus and Dessa. The parents hold membership in the Presbyterian church, and the Doctor is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias and the Masonic fraternity. The Doctor is a social, genial gentleman, interested in all that pertains to his community, is charitable and benevolent, and worthy demands of the needy are seldom made in vain. He has a large circle of warm friends, and his friendship is best prized by those who know him best. In his professional capacity Dr. Kelly is known throughout the country, his reputation extending far beyond the limits of his state, an honor to the profession, by which he has been especially distinguished.

#### HENRY B. GREEN.

Henry B. Green, who is serving as engineer with the Pennsylvania Railroad, makes his home at Crestline, Ohio. He was born in Ashland county, on the 16th of February, 1849, and represents one of the pioneer families of that locality. His grandfather had thirteen quarter sections of land, which he divided into thirteen farms and gave them to his thirteen children. Thomas W. Green, the father of our subject, was born in Maryland, and when a young man became a resident of the Buckeye state, where he followed farming and milling. He wedded Mary Kilinger, a native of Center county, Pennsylvania, but who went to Ashland county when twelve years of age. There they were married, and their union was blessed with a family of eleven children, namely:

Noah, George and Olive, who are now deceased; William, Mary, Sarah, Anna, Henry B. and four who died in infancy. The father at the time of the Civil war offered his services to the government and remained in the army until 1865, when he died from exposure and hardships. His wife, long surviving him, passed away in 1887.

Henry B. Green is the youngest of their children. He was reared in Ashland and Wayne counties and enjoyed the educational privileges afforded by the common schools. He entered the railroad service as an employe on the Erie Railroad, working at anything he could get to do in order to support his mother. In the meantime he learned telegraphy and eventually became an operator on the Grand Trunk Railroad. In 1878 he became a fireman on the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railroad, and in 1882 was promoted to the position of engineer, in which capacity he has served continuously since with the same road. He has been in but one accident, and that was a head-end collision, in which eighteen cars were burned, the accident resulting from the fault of an operator giving wrong orders. Several of the employes were killed, but Mr. Green was not badly injured, although his clothing was largely torn from him.

On the 2d of June, 1887, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Green and Miss Ella M. Obney, a native of Indiana, born October 7, 1861. She was reared in Alliance, Ohio, and in its schools acquired her education. Her father is a native of Pennsylvania, her mother of Ohio, and they are farming people now residing in Alliance, aged eighty and seventy-five years respectively. The father served for three years in the war of the Rebellion as a defender of the Union. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Green has been blessed with five children,—Earl, Lee Briton, Ella M., Henry Wayne and Russell Clifford. Our subject is a member of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, is a Republican in his political views and is a member of the Lutheran church. His long continued service with the Pennsylvania Railroad indicates plainly his fidelity to duty and his care and precision in his work.

W. D. COVER.

There is, in the anxious and laborious struggle for an honorable competence and a solid career of the business or professional man fighting the every-day battle of life, but little to attract the idle reader in search of a sensational chapter; but for a mind thoroughly awake to the reality and meaning of human existence, there are noble and important lessons in the life of the

man, who, without other means than a clear head, a strong arm and a true heart, conquers adversity, and toiling on through the work-day years of a long career, finds that he won not only wealth, but also something far greater and higher,—the deserved respect and esteem of those with whom his years of active life placed him in contact.

Mr. Cover was born in Crestline, March 12, 1865, and is therefore one of the younger representatives of the business interests. His father, Jacob Cover, was a native of Richland county, Ohio, and came to Crestline in the '50s. About 1870 he established a meat market, and conducted the enterprise until 1890, when he retired from active business, since which time he has enjoyed a well earned rest. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and one of the respected and worthy citizens of Crestline. He married Martha Devine, who died when her son W. D. was a lad of seven summers, leaving two children, the daughter, Laura, being now the wife of David Baker, of Crestline.

W. D. Cover, the younger child, was educated in the schools of his native town, and putting aside his text-books began to work in his father's market. In 1884 he was admitted to a partnership in the business, under the firm name of J. Cover & Son, a connection that was maintained until about 1888, when he sold his interest to his father and accepted a position as clerk and yard-master with the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railroad, remaining with the corporation for two years. He then returned to mercantile life, opening a meat market, which he conducted for seven years, when he extended the field of his labors by adding a grocery stock. His place is known as the Central market. There he carries a large line of staple and fancy groceries and meats, and is enjoying a very liberal patronage. His efforts, however, have not been confined alone to the conduct of his store. He is a man of resourceful business ability, possessed of executive force and keen discernment. He became one of the organizers of the First National Bank of Crestline in the year 1897, and on the 1st of January, 1898, the institution opened its doors for business. Mr. Cover was elected vice-president and has since held the position. He is also a stockholder in the Schill Brothers Manufacturing Company, and his sound judgment and correct opinions carry weight in business circles, especially having influence over the manner of conducting the two enterprises with which he is connected.

In the year 1889 Mr. Cover was united in marriage to Miss Minnie Snyder, a daughter of John and Mary (Burnison) Snyder, residents of Crestline. The marriage has been blessed with one daughter, Marjorie. The parents



are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church, take an active part in its work and labor earnestly for its advancement. Mr. Cover is serving as one of its trustees and as church treasurer. In politics he is a Democrat and socially is connected with the Knights of Pythias fraternity. He is secretary of the Crestline water works and does everything in his power to promote the welfare and progress of his native city, in which he has a deep and abiding interest.

### JOHN ADAM WALKER.

Among the many well cultivated farms of Holmes township the one occupied by John Adam Walker attracts notice as one which demonstrates that its occupant is a most careful and excellent agriculturist.

The birth of Mr. Walker was in Chatfield township, this county, on the 18th of March, 1849, a son of John George and Elizabeth (Durr) Walker, he being one of a family of six children, three of whom survive, namely: Mary, the widow of William Pfeiderer, of Bucyrus, Ohio; John Adam; and Frederick, also of Bucyrus. John George Walker was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, where he learned the trade of shoemaker, and emigrated to America when twenty years old. For several years he traveled over the country, working at different occupations, but finally came to Crawford county and settled in Chatfield township, where he married and bought a farm of sixty acres. In 1856 or 1857 he sold this farm and removed to Holmes township, where he bought eighty acres, in section 14, upon which he lived, and died on February 5, 1892. His farming efforts had met with success, and at the time of his death he was the owner of three hundred and eighty acres of land. The mother, who also was born in Germany, died in 1853.

John Adam Walker grew up at home and attended the public schools. On February 10, 1881, he was married to Miss Mary A. Schieber, a native of Liberty township, this county, and the daughter of Gottlieb Schieber. After marriage the young couple settled down to domestic life on the eighty-acre farm owned by the father, at Spore, in this county, and there they resided for three years, when Mr. Walker located upon his present farm, which was deeded to him by his father. Since taking possession Mr. Walker has added twenty-two acres to the original tract, which makes his farm contain one hundred and two acres. In 1885 he built his present handsome residence, this improvement being followed, in 1898, by the rebuilding of his farm structures, all of which are now in a most desirable and substantial condition.

Mr. and Mrs. Walker have four children: Carrie J., Luella M., George W. and Alpha R.

A life-long Democrat, Mr. Walker has taken an active interest in political matters and possesses considerable influence through the township. His religious membership is in the German Methodist church, but as this is situated four miles distant from his home he usually attends the English Evangelical church, which is more convenient. Probably there is no more highly esteemed resident of Holmes township than Mr. Walker, who has long been considered one of the substantial citizens of the county.

#### HENRY L. SCHWENK.

Henry L. Schwenk, a leading farmer of Holmes township, Crawford county, and known both as an excellent agriculturist and as a liberal-minded and progressive citizen, was born in Liberty township, this county, on August 26, 1859, and was a son of Hironemus and Mary (Zimmers) Schwenk.

Jacob Schwenk, the grandfather of Henry L., was a native of Germany, who came to America with his family in 1835. After three months spent in New York City they came to Crawford county and settled in Liberty township, and here Grandfather Jacob bought a farm of about one hundred and ten acres, built a cabin upon it and began the hard work of clearing the tract. Here his son Hironemus attained his majority and assisted his father, and some years later purchased it, giving his parents a comfortable home with him during the remaining years of their lives.

Hironemus Schwenk was born in Bavaria, Germany, in 1818. After attaining his majority he married Mary Zimmers, and they reared a family of twelve children, seven of whom survive, as follows: Jacob, of Auglaize county, Ohio; Peter, of Hardin county, Ohio; Charles, of Hardin county, Ohio; Samuel, of Auglaize county, Ohio; Paulina, the wife of Jack Vanvoors, of Bucyrus; William, of Bucyrus; and our subject. In 1866 Hironemus Schwenk sold the home farm and removed to Holmes township, where he bought the farm he now occupies, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres. This property was formerly the farm of Jacob Lutz, and here Mr. Schwenk lived and enjoyed every comfort of life until his death, in 1887. For many years he had been connected with the Democratic party, and was an active member of the German Lutheran church, and was known through the neighborhood as a most liberal and just citizen.

Our subject grew up on the farm and when his health permitted attended

the district school. On October 9, 1887, he was married to Miss Lenora E. Fralick, who was born in Holmes township and was a daughter of Henry Fralick. Her father was a native of Pennsylvania and was one of the early settlers of Crawford county. In the month of February preceding our subject's marriage his father died, and with his bride he settled with his mother on the old home farm and managed it for the other heirs until 1895, when he purchased his farm of eighty-three acres, which he has made one of the most desirable in the township. Here he carries on general farming, and has made many improvements and is justly regarded as a model agriculturist.

To Mr. and Mrs. Schwenk three children were born, the one survivor being Ross Delvin, born October 18, 1899. Although much engaged in his farming enterprises, Mr. Schwenk has taken a great interest in township affairs. He is a stanch Democrat and is now serving his second term as township trustee. He is also a trustee of the United Brethren church, of which he has long been a consistent member, and is well and favorably known through Holmes township.

#### CHRISTOPHER G. SCHIEFER.

Prominent among the agriculturists of Holmes township, Crawford county, is Christopher G. Schiefer, one of the highly esteemed German-American citizens. The birth of Mr. Schiefer was in Wurtemberg, Germany, on July 11, 1824, and he was a son of Conrad F. and Rosina (Krauter) Schiefer, the former of whom was also born in Germany and was the son of Abraham and Sibula Schiefer. When Conrad Schiefer was called upon to select an occupation he decided to be a shepherd. After the death of his father, with his mother and his own family, in the fall of 1831, he emigrated to America. The voyage was long, covering sixty days, but they finally landed safely in New York. From there they went to Canada, locating some fifteen miles from Waterloo, where Conrad bought one hundred acres of forest land. This was a wilderness indeed, for at that time both bears and wolves were frequently seen. Many discouragements beset the emigrants, and as Mr. Schiefer learned of more desirable lands in the state of Ohio, he brought his family thither, in 1834, and left them in Cleveland while he prospected in Crawford county. He finally found what he considered a desirable locality, in Chatfield township, and before he returned to Cleveland had closed the bargain by which he became the owner of forty acres of land, two cows, one heifer, two yoke of oxen and all else on the place, for the sum of one hundred and ninety dol-

lars. This remained his home during the rest of his life, his death being caused, on October 15, 1853, by being run over by a team. Before his death he had added to his farm until it contained seventy acres, and his industry made it one of the best in the county. Mr. Schiefer was a good and pious man, highly esteemed by his neighbors and valued in the Evangelical church. His knowledge of the Bible had come from its constant study. The mother of our subject, who also was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, in 1800, was a daughter of Michael Krauter, and she survived her husband for ten years.

They had a large family, numbering fifteen members, the names of the five who still survive being: Christopher; Frederick, of Leavenworth, Kansas; Mary, the widow of a Mr. Kennedy, of Kansas City, Missouri; Abraham, of Clinton county, Iowa; and Christiana, the widow of Frederick Mack, of Chatfield township.

Christopher Schiefer passed his boyhood and youth surrounded by many strange physical features and experienced many thrilling events. At one time, when about eight years old, he was sent to look after some stock and became lost in the dense forest and spent a night of terror in the bushes, while he could hear the wild beasts prowling around him. His education was necessarily limited, the school facilities being poor, and the work which fell to his share occupied the greater part of his time. On reaching manhood he began his career as a farm hand, working by the month for the neighbors, gaining a reputation for honesty, industry and efficiency. On April 13, 1851, he was married to Miss Sarah Miller, who was born in Texas township, this county, and was a daughter of John and Maria (Wirt) Miller, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania, Grandfather Miller having emigrated to that state from Germany. Five children were born to our subject and wife, these being: Sarah A., the wife of Lewis Schiefer, of Chatfield township; Jacob F., of this township; Isaac, of this township; Abraham, of Lykens township; and Amanda, the wife of Charles Ollifelt, of this township. A very delightful circumstance of this family is that the children are all located almost within call of their parents.

Following his marriage our subject purchased a sawmill from Mr. Charles Kiplinger in Liberty township, which he operated some ten years. Some eighteen months after the purchase of the mill he bought five acres of land in the section in which he now resides and removed his mill to that land, having just enough money to pay for the deed, trusting to his success to get enough to pay for the land. The success came, and ten years later he sold his mill and bought four hundred acres of land in Iowa, but later exchanged that for

the farm upon which he now resides. His landed property at one time amounted to four hundred acres in this and Lykens township. He has retained one hundred and fifty-five acres in his home place and has divided the rest among his children.

Until the time of the Civil war Mr. Schiefer was a Democrat in politics, but the issues of that struggle made him a Republican. For many years he has given a liberal support to the Evangelical church, of which he is a member. He is well and most favorably known and respected by all through the part of the county which has so long been his home.

#### CLYDE D. SHILLING.

One of the leading business men of Tiro, Crawford county, Ohio is Clyde D. Shilling, who conducts a large lumber business in this vicinity and who is one of the most progressive citizens of Auburn township. The birth of Mr. Shilling was in this township, on February 7, 1873, and he was a son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Staley) Shilling, who reared a family of three children, all of whom survive, being: Frank F., of Ann Arbor, Michigan; Lorena, at home; and Clyde D., who is the subject of this biography. Clyde D. Shilling grew to young manhood in his home and acquired his education in attendance at the common schools of his neighborhood. At the age of eighteen years he entered upon an apprenticeship to the carpenter's trade, working in this line for four and one-half years.

At the age of twenty-three years Mr. Shilling began his lumber and timber operations, the sawing being done in his father's mill, but on May 1, 1899, this mill was destroyed by fire. His father then offered him a one-half interest in another mill if he would agree to remain in the business, as he had shown such unusual ability in this line, and later, in association with his brother Frank, the mill was rebuilt. Since that time the business, under our subject's management, has become one of the leading ones in this locality and is a very important industry in Crawford county.

The marriage of Mr. Shilling was on September 12, 1900, to Miss Minnie Wood, who was born in Tiro, and who is the accomplished daughter of Jacob Wood. Mr. Shilling is a valued member of Tiro Lodge, No. 592, K. of P., and is chancellor and commander of the lodge.

Mr. Shilling is prominently identified with many of the leading business interests of Tiro, is secretary of the Tiro Building & Loan Association; is a member of the town council; and is also a stockholder and one of the directors



in the Bell Spice Cabinet Company, of this city. He is one of the most conspicuous young business men of this city on account of his energy, ability and business integrity, and has built up a business which opens avenues for much future usefulness.

#### WILLIAM H. BRIDGEMAN.

Among the excellent citizens and successful business men of Tiro, Crawford county, Ohio, is William H. Bridgeman, who is the reliable and efficient foreman and engineer of the Bell Spice Cabinet Company, of this city. The birth of Mr. Bridgeman was in Mansfield, Richland county, Ohio, on June 8, 1855, and he was a son of William F. and Sophia (White) Bridgeman. These parents reared a family of seven children, and the five survivors are: William H., who is the subject of this sketch; Matilda M., who is the wife of C. A. McCaskey, of Shelby, Ohio; Alexander A., who lives at home; Rose, who is the wife of N. J. McBride, of Shiloh, Ohio; and Melinda, who is the wife of A. W. Lash, of Auburn township.

William F. Bridgeman, who was the father of our subject, was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, in 1833, and in 1848 came to America and settled in Mansfield, Ohio. Here he learned the trade of brickmaker and later married in this locality, and continued to follow this line of work until about 1859, when he came to Crawford county and began farming on rented land in Vernon township. Later he purchased a small farm here and resided upon it until his death, on May 7, 1883. His political affiliations were with the Democratic party and he was honored by it with almost all of the local offices, in which he served with efficiency and satisfaction. Mr. Bridgeman had long been one of the leading members of the German Reformed church, in which he was a trustee, and he was known as a public-spirited and progressive citizen as well as an honest and upright man.

The mother of our subject was born in Switzerland, in 1830, and came to America about 1848, making the journey on the same vessel that brought young William Bridgeman to these shores. She also located in Mansfield, and later married the father of our subject. She still survives and is an honored member of the home of her sons, our subject and Alexander.

William H. Bridgeman, who is the subject of this biography, was reared on his father's farm and acquired his education in the public schools of his neighborhood. In 1878 his father purchased a sawmill and gave the management of it into the hands of his son, who was permitted to retain the proceeds

for his own use. Until 1881 our subject conducted this mill, but was then married and settled on a farm belonging to the family of his wife. After three years on this place he purchased an interest in a threshing machine and for the two following years engaged in the threshing business. In 1887 he bought an interest in the Shilling sawmill, of Tiro, which interest he still retains, as good, paying property, and until 1899 he worked in the mill, later employing a man to fill his place there while he spent a year in a different line. During the next twelve months he successfully engaged in the buying and shipping of lumber, but in the spring of 1901 he accepted his present responsible position as foreman and engineer of the Bell Spice Cabinet Company, and has continued here ever since. Mr. Bridgeman is a stockholder in this company and is one of the well known and progressive young business men of the county.

In 1881 Mr. Bridgeman was married to Miss Frances J. McCaskey, who was a native of Auburn township, in this county, and who was a daughter of John and Anna J. (Furrow) McCaskey. Her father was a native of Ireland, and her mother was a native of Ohio. Two children were born to our subject and wife, Otis J., and Pearl, both of whom have passed away.

Mr. Bridgeman is prominent in the Lutheran church and is a trustee, and he is also a member of Tiro Lodge, No. 592, K. of P., and at present is filling the office of "master at work." He is also connected by membership with Lodge No. 688, I. O. O. F., of Tiro, of which he is the treasurer. In politics he is one of the prominent Democrats, and is a man highly respected in social and business circles over a great part of Crawford county.

#### WILLIAM McMANIS.

Among the residents of Crawford county, Ohio, who number their personal friends by the score and who have served their fellow citizens in various positions with integrity as well as ability, is William McManis, a long-time resident of Vernon township. The birth of our subject was in Crawford county, on September 4, 1827, and he was a son of James and Sarah (Walters) McManis, to whom five children were born. Three of these still survive, our subject being the only son, the daughters being: Sarah, the widow of Nicholas Brown, of Williams county, Ohio; and Matilda, the widow of Thomas Coutts, also of Williams county.

The father of our subject was of Scotch-Irish ancestry, but he was born in Pennsylvania and came to Liberty township, in Crawford county, when he

was a young man. Here for a time he engaged in work on the surrounding farms and gained such a reputation for sobriety and industry that he soon married and became a resident on the Crall farm, which is located just west of Sulphur Springs. Here he resided for a number of years and then removed to Fremont, Ohio, where he worked at the carpenter's trade and lived in that city until his death, in his seventy-sixth year. In his political belief he was a Democrat and took an active interest in public affairs.

The mother of our subject was born in Allegheny county, Pennsylvania, in 1800, and her parents removed to Crawford county some time prior to 1820, and settled in Liberty township, where Mr. Walters died in a few years, his widow surviving for some years after.

William McManis, who is our immediate subject, on account of domestic misfortunes, made his home from the age of ten years until he was eighteen with neighboring farmers, beginning at the latter age his personal career as a farmer, working through the succeeding three years for Mr. John Dickson.

On January 16, 1851, our subject was united in marriage to Miss Emeline Dickson, who was a native of Vernon township and who was born on the farm on which the family of our subject now resides. She was a daughter of George Dickson, who was a native of Indiana county, Pennsylvania, coming to Crawford county in 1822. He put in a crop of wheat on the land which was then in Richland county, and in 1823 removed his family to our subject's present farm, his father having entered this land some time prior to his death.

After marriage Mr. McManis and his bride located on the farm of grandfather Andrew Dickson, and here he carried on his farming operations as a renter, and then he moved to a farm of ninety-three and one-third acres which belonged to his father-in-law. Two years later removal was made to the farm adjoining his present one, lying to the west, which also was the property of Mr. Dickson, who was a large land-owner. In 1874 Mr. McManis located on his present farm, working faithfully for his esteemed father-in-law until the death of the latter. Prior to this event Mr. Dickson willed to our subject eighty acres of the homestead, and afterward the latter bought eighty additional acres from the other heirs, making his farm one of one hundred and sixty acres of finely cultivated and improved land. Mr. McManis also owned seventy-eight more acres of land in this township, but this he recently sold to his son-in-law, Jefferson Easterday. Mr. McManis has long been regarded as one of the most thorough farmers in this locality, his excellent crops and fine, sleek cattle testifying to the interest he has taken in these pursuits.

To Mr. and Mrs. McManis were born eight children, but all have passed

away except these three: Clara, who is the wife of William Brown, of Vernon township, and they have two children, Frank and John William; Emma, who is the wife of Jefferson Easterday, and they have two children, Maud and Mable; and Cora, who is the wife of John Weidemeier, of Vernon township, and they have one child, Ruth Emeline. Those who have passed out of life bore these names: Mary M.; George, who left five children, John, Bertha, Emma, William and May; John; Agnes; and Maggie, who was the wife of William Bloom, and one son, Raymond, survives her.

The argicultural interests of this section have received much attention from our subject. For some years he followed threshing in this county, and by many young farmers he is regarded as an undoubted authority in the management of agricultural operations. Mr. McManis is of that kind and neighborly nature that makes him a willing adviser and very often a substantial helper. As a leader in the Democratic party he has been honored with many offers of preferment, but aside from one term as township trustee and a long season as school director he has declined them all. He is well known and is respected and esteemed by all who have come within his genial presence, and is a representative man of Vernon township.

### JAMES B. CARROTHERS.

A prominent citizen of Crawford county, Ohio, is James B. Carrothers, who testified to his loyalty to his country during the Civil war, and since that time has become one of the most substantial farmers of this part of the state.

The birth of James B. Carrothers was in Vernon township, Crawford county, Ohio, on February 2, 1841, and he was a son of John and Elizabeth (Laird) Carrothers, and is one of the three surviving children of eight who were born to these parents. The others are: George Carrothers, who resides in Findlay, Ohio; and Dr. Morton M. Carrothers, who is a practicing physician, also in Findlay.

John Carrothers, Jr., their father, was born April 4, 1807, in Fernamagh county, Ireland, and he was a son of John, Sr. and Mary Carrothers. When a small boy six or seven years old, he emigrated with his parents to this country. The voyage was a long and perilous one. The ship was wrecked at midnight during a storm, and everything on board was lost save the lives of the crew. His father had five hundred guineas stowed away in the till of a chest which with all other valuables, including the family record, was lost. When the vessel was driven against the rock it was damaged so that it at once

began to fill with water, and at that moment it was not known by any soul on board that land was anywhere within probable reach, and, with death and desperation confronting them, the captain and first mate hastened to their cabin and drank to intoxication. The second mate ordered a detail of men to the pumps and also the life-boats to be lowered. Meanwhile he had made such observations as were possible in the darkness and discovered what was either a cloud or land. A life-boat, manned by a few trusty sailors, was sent to investigate. The distance was four miles: they returned with the news of land. The women and children were ordered to be taken first from the sinking ship, and were handed out of the window to the boats. When the subject of our narrative was handed out, the receiver did not catch him until after he had fallen into the water between the ship and the boat, when he was caught by the hair of the head and thrown into the boat! The drunken captain and first mate were the last to be rescued from the ill-fated vessel, and the life-boat was so near the ship when it sank that it was nearly drawn under by the suction of the water. When daylight came they found themselves on a barren island of four acres, poorly clad and with nothing to eat. The signal of distress—the white flag—was hoisted, and lest the white only should not attract attention, it was again lowered and to it was attached a lady's red petticoat. They were soon signaled by a British man of war and carried to Nova Scotia, and thence to Philadelphia.

The destination of the family was Guernsey county, Ohio. After residing a few years in that county the parents of John Carrothers died. He was married April 25, 1834, to Elizabeth Laird, who survives him and with whom he lived a little over fifty years. In 1836 they moved to the eastern part of Crawford county (then Richland county), where Mr. Carrothers entered a quarter section of land, on which he erected a log house and commenced the slow process of hewing a home out of the forest. At that time wild game was abundant and many a deer and turkey fell under his unerring aim and was carried home to make glad the household. From a slight injury to the ankle received in the year 1828 there developed a cancerous growth which rendered him for many years a continual sufferer. In 1853 it was removed by a surgical operation. Two years afterward it returned and he submitted to an unsuccessful attempt to remove it by caustics. Some months afterward the limb was amputated, by Drs. H. Mack, of Shelby, and Keller, of West Liberty. He submitted to the operation without chloroform. Two leading characteristics of his life were courage and energy. His family consisted of six sons and two daughters. The two daughters and one son preceded him to the



spirit world. Five sons are living, four of whom were in the late war. They were all present at his bedside during his last sickness and death. Years ago he united with the Church of God. A few days prior to his death he made his last requests and spoke of his willingness to depart. Frequently he exclaimed, "Bless the Lord, Oh my soul." Thirty days before his death he received an injury from a fall, and his last illness was one of constant suffering, ending only in the sweet repose of death, which took place at his late residence in Vernon township, Crawford county, Ohio, on Wednesday, May 21, 1884, in the seventy-seventh year of his age.

Elizabeth (Laird) Carrothers, their mother was born in Fermanagh county, Ireland, December 15, 1809. She was a woman of conviction and having found the truth she planted herself upon it with a firmness unshaken by friend or foe. She was sincere and could not bear a sham any more than she could be a sham herself. The beauty of her character was that she always seemed to be cheerful and happy when being visited by any of her host of friends. She appreciated everything natural, no matter how homely or insignificant, and would give it due value. She made choice of her funeral text, the words found recorded in Romans XIV, 8: "Whether we live, we live unto the Lord, and whether we die, we die unto the Lord, and whether we live or die, we are the Lord's." She seemed to realize that the Lord both died and rose that he might be the Lord both of the dead and living, that the Lord was just as able and willing to care for her in life as in death, in this life as in the life to come, and this has been her constant faith in all the changes and cares of this life. What she did, she did it as unto the Lord, and not as unto man. She seemed to impress her Christian character and faith upon her children and leaves to the world five sons of honor and character, two of whom are trustees of Findlay College, and three are honored members of the Church of God. Her sons can well attribute their honorable standing to the teaching of a noble, pious mother. They can well concole themselves with the knowledge that they have bestowed that reverence and affection due so worthy and kind a mother. She held her membership in the Church of God at Liberty for many years and to the time of her death, which took place at Findlay, August 31, 1891, when she was eighty-one years, eight months and sixteen days. Her funeral took place at the residence of her son, James, near Tiro, Crawford county, September 2, 1891. Her remains were followed to the grave by a large concourse of people, and they were deposited in a vault beside her husband to await the summons of her Lord unto whom she lived and unto whom she died.

James B. Carrothers was reared on his father's farm and acquired his education in the common schools. On September 29, 1862, he became a member of Company K, One Hundred and Twentieth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, for service in the Civil war, and almost immediately his regiment was sent to the front, where it took part in the battle of Vicksburg, and on December 25th they were at Big Black river. After fighting for six days here the Union officers sent a flag of truce to the Confederates asking to be permitted to bury their dead, and they were given one day, the night following being marched six miles to the river and loaded on transports. The regiment went down the Black river and then up the Arkansas river to Arkansas Post, where they captured seventy-eight hundred prisoners and ten thousand stacks of arms, after twenty-four hours of fighting. On January 16, the regiment then went down the stream to Young's Point, Louisiana, and landed in front of Vicksburg on March 9, going up the river to Milliken's, where they remained until April 2, at this time leaving this part of the army and going to Richmond, New Carthage and Grand Gulf, where they crossed the river. They were present at Thompson's Hill, Port Gibson and Rocky Springs, coming around in the rear of Vicksburg, where they engaged in fighting for five days. Then the regiment moved to Big Black river and here he succumbed to fever and was left behind. He rejoined the regiment on June 1, and was a part of it during the siege of Vicksburg and remained until July 6, two days after the surrender, when the regiment started in pursuit of Johnston. They marched to Jackson and there engaged in fighting through a whole week, routing the enemy. Marching back to Big Black creek the regiment reached it on July 23, and remained there for two weeks, but on August 8 the soldiers started on marine boats for Port Hudson landing, and went into camp until August 17, when they went on to New Orleans, remaining until the 20th of the month. On September 5, the regiment reached Brashear City, Louisiana, and our subject went to Carrollton, where late in October he was discharged on account of physical disability, and he arrived home November 8, 1863. This ended a long and trying period, the effects of which he still experiences.

In August, 1864, James Carrothers was married to Miss Sarah J. Cole, who was born in this township and who was a daughter of Barnet Cole, now deceased, who was one of the well known farmers of Vernon township. After marriage our subject remained with his father for two years and during the winter months he taught the district school. In 1866, he went to live with James Carrothers, Sr. At that time this uncle owned the farm which James now occupies and took charge of it. October 14, 1872, the uncle died. James

and his brother George had previously purchased this farm, which consists of three hundred and twenty acres. For two years they farmed this land in partnership. At the end of this period a division was made by which he retained one hundred and sixty acres, and upon this place he had erected a substantial frame house in 1870. He has been successful in real estate business.

Ten children were born in the family of James Carrothers and wife and eight of these still survive, their names and residences being as follows: Flora E., who is the wife of Isaac N. Latchaw and resides in McComb, Ohio; Emma L., who is the wife of Sherman Morris and resides in Sandusky township; Hattie M., who is the wife of Amos Keller, and also resides in Sandusky township, and E. Ida B. Weaver, Jennie M., Sadie L. B. L., Dee Ora Lee and Robert B. Carrothers, who reside at home. Mr. Carrothers has taken just pride in his intelligent family.

James Carrothers has long been connected with the religious body known as the Church of God. He is a man of high character, is an honorable and upright citizen, and fills every situation in life with dignity and in a manner to gain the respect and esteem of all who know him.

### JOHN ECKSTEIN.

John Eckstein, who is a trustee of Vernon township, and one of its leading and most progressive farmers, was born in Richland county, Ohio, on November 20, 1856. His father was George Eckstein, extended mention of whom may be found in the biography of his son, Adam Eckstein, in another part of this volume.

John Eckstein of this sketch was reared on the home farm and acquired a good common school education. After he had reached his twenty-first year he received from his father the customary wages of a farm hand, this being satisfactory to both parties. On November 24, 1882, our subject was united in marriage to Miss Louisa Minck, who was a native of Vernon township and a daughter of Conrad Minck, who was a native of Germany and one of the early settlers of Vernon township, where the remainder of his life was passed.

After the death of the father of our subject, in 1886, the latter and his brother George purchased one hundred and sixty acres of the estate, sixty acres of which our subject owned personally, which was situated across the highway from the home farm. Our subject continued to farm the land upon shares for the following seven years or until the death of his mother, when

he bought the home farm, consisting of ninety-three acres, and this made his own land aggregate one hundred and fifty-three acres. Since that time Mr. Eckstein has demonstrated that he is a practical farmer and has the satisfaction of owning and operating one of the best cultivated and most highly improved farms in the township. For a number of years he has given his attention to his land, understands its possibilities and intelligently meets its demands.

Eight children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Eckstein and seven of these still survive and make a happy home circle. These are as follows: Charles W., Mamie B., John A., Ella F., Grover A., Edna M., and Emery B., as intelligent and attractive family as Vernon township can produce. They are all being thoroughly educated in the common schools and promise to become useful members of society.

In politics Mr. Eckstein is a Democrat, but his personal popularity is so great that the whole township has been glad to place him in a position to serve as its trustee, being now in his second term, this honor having been conferred upon him without his consent. For a number of years he has been one of the leading members of the German Reformed church, and for four years was one of the deacons. He is a man who enjoys the esteem of his neighbors and is not only one of the best farmers but also one of the most useful citizens of Vernon township.

#### ARTHUR CLELAND.

Distinguished as the first white child born in Vernon township, Arthur Cleland, who is the subject of this biography, is a well-known resident of Crawford county, Ohio, through which he is also known as a substantial farmer and estimable citizen. His parents settled in Crawford county late in the fall of 1825 and his birth took place on February 6, 1826. He was a son of William and Rachel (Ramsey) Cleland, who had eight children born in their pioneer home, the brothers and sisters of our subject being as follows: William, who is a resident of Defiance county, Ohio; and Rachel, who is the wife of Hugh Dobbins and lives in Bucyrus township, while those who passed away bore the following names: Mary, who married Thomas McCullough; Margaret J., who married William Magee; Susan, who married Thomas Alemus; Eliza, who married Davidson Maddox; and John.

William Cleland, the father of our subject, was born in county Down, Ireland, May 14, 1796, and he was a son of Arthur Cleland, the latter being

of Scotch-Irish extraction. About 1816 an aunt of our subject emigrated to America and soon after wrote such glowing accounts back to the old country of the conditions and opportunities in the United States, awakening in the breasts of those left behind also an ambition to cross the sea, that resulted in the sale of the little farm and the embarkation, on a sailing vessel, of the whole family, bound for a new home across the Atlantic. Our subject's father, with his parents and his brothers and sisters, left Ireland on May 14, 1817, and after a voyage of sixty-six days were landed at Cape May, at the mouth of the Delaware river. Their destination was New York, but head winds drove the poorly managed ship out of its course, and as a major portion of the passengers wished to go to Wilmington the captain landed them all there. From Cape May the Cleland family found its way to Washington, Pennsylvania, and resided there for a time, later removing to Jefferson county, Ohio. The grandfather had been a famous weaver in his prime, but he and his wife were growing old and from this time remained with some one of their children.

In the fall of 1824 the father of our subject, with his brother John, came to Crawford county, Ohio, and entered our subject's present home farm, a fractional quarter section, consisting of one hundred and fifteen acres. Then they returned to Jefferson county and in the fall of the following year William Cleland, with his wife and his brother John, removed to the new home in the Ohio woods. The men soon cleared off a space and built a log cabin, and, in the February following, into this frontier home came the child whose biography appears in this writing. In the following spring John Cleland went to Mansfield, where plenty of work was to be found at his trade of stone mason, and it was in that year the great canal system of the state was begun. For two years he worked in stone and brick and then went back to Pennsylvania.

In the spring following the location of William Cleland in this part of the county, the township was organized, and at the spring election the ten votes were polled by William Garrison, Eli Arnold, Isaac Hitchkok, George Dickson, three of the Coles family, James Richards, James Clemens, and William Cleland. During these early days William Cleland worked as a weaver and exchanged the product of the looms for labor to assist in the clearing of land, and much of the laborious work was performed in this way. For many years he continued his work at the loom, finding ready sale or barter for all he could produce. His death occurred on September 25, 1881, in the eighty-sixth year of his age, after a life of usefulness and industry, which left his family well provided for at his decease. His many years here had covered a period that saw the forest give place to smiling, fruitful fields and orchards, and the little



log cabin, during this time, gave place to the magnificent country home which is not only complete in comfort and construction, but is also an ornament to the landscape.

Mr. Cleland was an excellent man of business and was in the habit of buying land when he found desirable tracts for sale, until he had acquired three hundred and twenty-four acres in Crawford county, and two hundred and twenty acres in Defiance county. Democratic in politics, he always ardently upheld the party of his choice, while he was equally active in the support of the Presbyterian church. The mother of our subject was a most superior woman and came from noted ancestry. She was born in Brooke county, West Virginia, on January 16, 1801, and she was a daughter of Samuel Ramsey, who was a native of Ireland. During the war of the Revolution he, in company with one hundred and thirty others, was captured by the British, and he was one of the four of those who escaped and almost starved, in hostile territory, before he reached his friends. The mother of our subject was one of the hardy pioneers who became a tower of strength to her husband in those early days, and reared a family to habits of thrift and industry.

The early school days of our subject were spent in a very primitive log building, where the instruction was not much superior to the surroundings. Mr. Cleland possessed a quick and active mind and soon absorbed all the teacher had to impart. His father needed his services and he remained on the home farm until his twenty-ninth year. On October 4, 1855, he was united in marriage to Miss Priscilla Gundrum, who was a native of Dauphin county, Pennsylvania, her birth occurring near Harrisburg, on March 2, 1833, and she was a daughter of John Gundrum. The latter belonged to a fine old Pennsylvania family, and he came to Crawford county in 1836, spending the first winter in Bucyrus, removing in the following spring to Sandusky township where his last days were spent.

After his marriage our subject located on one of his father's farms, consisting of eighty acres, in Sandusky township, making an agreement with his father to clear the land, rebuild the house and pay the taxes, for which he was to keep the proceeds of the property. During this time his father purchased an additional forty-nine acres, and our subject took charge of this also, and lived here until the spring of 1877 when he went back to the home farm, in order to extend filial care to his ageing parents. Since that time this has been our subject's home, and it is one of the best improved properties in Crawford county. Success has attended the persistent efforts of Mr. Cleland, and in 1879 he pur-

chased one hundred and sixty additional acres situated on the west of his home farm, the place now aggregating two hundred and seventy-five acres.

Three children have been born to our subject and wife, only two of these surviving, viz.: William J., who farms his father's land and is serving his second term as township trustee; Arthur B., who died October 30, 1886, aged twenty-three years and ten months; and Rachel E., who is the wife of Marion Bender, of Auburn township.

In political sentiment Mr. Cleland has clung to the Democratic doctrine in which he was reared and he has acceptably served for five years as township clerk, and was township trustee previously in Sandusky township. He is held in high esteem in Vernon township, and although his life has not been filled with exciting events, they have been replete with faithful and well-directed work, and he enjoys the consciousness of knowing that he is regarded as one of the best representative citizens of this unequalled county.

#### ANTHONY BENDER.

Among the enterprising citizens of Crawford county is Anthony Bender, who is extensively engaged in agricultural pursuits in Vernon township. His marked ability has done much to promote the business activity of the community, and in agricultural circles he enjoys an unassailable reputation. A native son of the Buckeye state, his birth occurred in Richland county, on the 20th of March, 1849. The educational advantages which our subject received in his youth were extremely limited, as his services were required in improving and cultivating his father's land, but as time has passed he has greatly added to his knowledge by constant reading and observation. He remained at home until after his marriage, when he located on what is now known as the Hanley farm, then the property of his father, located in Cranberry township, where he resided for three years. Returning to the home farm, he was there engaged in agricultural pursuits with his brother John for the following three years, on the expiration of which period he removed to Tiro, where he remained for four years, and during that time operated the homestead farm. In 1885 he removed to the place on which he now resides, the land also belonging to his father and consisting of seventy-five acres, but after a few years he was enabled to purchase a tract of eleven acres, and a few years later became the owner of another tract of twenty-four acres. After his father's death he inherited the seventy-five acres on which he resided, and his landed possessions now aggregate one hundred and ten acres. In his

farming operations Mr. Bender has ever followed the most improved methods, and as the result of unremitting toil and excellent business ability he has won for himself a name and place among the leading business men of his locality.

On the 26th of August, 1876, he was united in marriage with Miss Catherine A. Kahler, a native of New Washington, Crawford county, and a daughter of Conrad Kahler, a retired carpenter of that city. He came with his parents to Crawford county, Ohio, when a little lad of five years. On their arrival here the family erected a hut out of brush, and in this rude domicile they made their home until a more suitable log cabin could be erected. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Bender have been born four children,—Ella E., the wife of Wilson Hoover, a farmer of Sandusky township, Crawford county; and Frank B., Burton S. and William, who are still at home. In political matters Mr. Bender casts his ballot in favor of the Democracy, and in his social relations he is a member of Tiro Lodge, No. 592, K. P. Mrs. Bender is a prominent and active member of the Lutheran church. The business career of our subject is one most commendable. He is thoroughly reliable in all relations with his fellow men, has strict regard for the ethics of commercial life, and by enterprise and careful management has secured a most gratifying success.

#### DAVID C. ROBINSON.

One of the most highly esteemed residents of Crawford county, Ohio, is David C. Robinson, who resides upon a farm now included in the corporate limits of the town of Tiro, upon which he was born June 23, 1848. He was a son of Barber and Mary T. (Morrow) Robinson, who reared nine children, all of whom reached maturity. The first break in the family circle was caused by the death of C. M. Robinson, in 1899, at the age of fifty-five years, and two weeks later occurred the death of A. C. Robinson, at the age of fifty-three years. The survivors of this vigorous family are as follows: David C., who is the subject of this sketch; Mary, who is the widow of George Clawson, of Tiro; Martha E., who is the wife of Samuel Baxter, of Van Wert, Ohio; James B., who resides in California; Robert H.; William F., who is a resident of Tiro; and Florence, who is the wife of A. W. Kaufman, of Tiro.

Barber Robinson was born in Ireland, in 1818, and was the son of Robert and Jane (Barber) Robinson. His parents came to America when Barber was twelve years of age, landing in New York after a voyage of six weeks. They first settled in Virginia, but soon removed to Ohio, locating in Auburn township, in Crawford county, purchasing a farm then located one-half mile

east of what is now the village of Tiro. This property is now owned by Levi Lash and John Randabauch. When the grandparents of our subject came to Crawford county the country was a wilderness, and in order to build the log cabin for immediate use, the great forest trees had to be first cut down and a space cleared. Industry was the order of the day and hard and un-remitting toil followed, but Grandfather Robinson was one of the hardy, energetic men who was well fitted for pioneer life. His death occurred on the farm where his children were born and reared. Barber Robinson grew up amid these pioneer surroundings and did his share in the work of clearing the one hundred and sixty acres of land which his father had entered. After the death of his father he cared for his mother until her death. After the marriage of Barber Robinson to Mary, the daughter of Charles Morrow, of Ohio, they settled in Tiro until Mr. Robinson could build their log cabin and then he started into the clearing of his own land, as he bought one hundred acres located across the road from the old homestead. After the death of his father he bought the home farm also and for a time owned four hundred and twenty acres.

Mr. Robinson was a life-long Democrat and was a man who exerted a great influence in the councils of his party. For six years he efficiently served as county commissioner and was one of the best men that could have been found for that position, as he possessed excellent judgment and great executive ability. For years he was a leading member of the Lutheran church, during much of his later life being one of the elders in the same.

David C. Robinson was reared in a good, Christian home and was given every educational opportunity possible in his locality at that time. At the age of twenty-two years he began agricultural work on his father's farm, working on shares, and soon proved to be a very capable and successful farmer. On September 26, 1878, our subject was married to Miss Anna L. Bowers, of Sulphur Springs, and continued to work on his father's farm until the death of the latter. When the estate was settled our subject purchased eighty acres and the buildings on the land, and this has been the family home ever since.

Politically our subject is a Democrat. He was once elected township clerk, but as he found that in order to do justice to the duties of the office he would be obliged to neglect his farm he resigned. However, he has served several years in the town council and has also been treasurer of Tiro, where he is held in high esteem by members of both political parties and by the citizens generally.

## ELI RININGER.

One of the most substantial, prominent and highly esteemed citizens of Crawford county, Ohio, is Eli Rininger, a most worthy representative of one of the old and much respected families of Bedford county, Pennsylvania. The birth of our subject took place in Bedford county, on December 14, 1845, and he was a son of John and Sophia (Black) Rininger, who had a family of nine children, the only survivors being William H., who is a resident of Lexington, Ohio; and Eli, who is the subject of this biography.

John Rininger, who was the honored father of the subject of this record, was born in Bedford county, where for forty years he conducted a cabinet-making and undertaking establishment, in Shellsburg. He was also a successful farmer and owned a farm of one hundred and three acres of land near the above town, but the last twenty years of his life were spent in comfortable retirement. He was a life-long Democrat, and for a number of years was a justice of the peace and was identified with many public affairs. From his early youth he had been a consistent member of the Lutheran church and was a constant attendant upon its services until his death, in 1890, in his eighty-third year.

The mother of our subject belonged to one of the old and well established families of Bedford county, Pennsylvania, where she was born in 1809. She was a daughter of Joseph Black, who was a native of Maryland and located in Bedford county soon after his marriage. He was well known all through the county as a successful farmer. The mother died in 1865.

Eli Rininger was reared on the home farm and attended the nearest schools and thus acquired a good common-school education. At the age of seventeen years he enlisted in the service of his country, first entering a regiment called the Independent Cavalry, in July, 1863, for the three-months service, when each volunteer supplied his own horse. His second enlistment, which was for three years, was on January 1, 1864, in Company H, Fifty-fifth Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteer Infantry, and his regiment was assigned to the Army of the James. Mr. Rininger was a brave and daring soldier and he took part in thirteen engagements, some of these being: Old Town Creek, in Virginia; three days at Durris Bluff, in Virginia; two days at Cold Harbor, where he was wounded on June 3, 1864, when eleven thousand men fell inside of ninety minutes! Our subject was sent to a hospital at Fort Schuyler, New York, where he was confined for three months, and when he was permitted to rejoin his regiment it was in front of Petersburg, and the battle that was



fought there made the fourth one in which our subject was engaged. Then came Chippens' Farm, Signal Hill, and Hatcher's Run, all in Virginia. At the last mentioned place four thousand Confederate prisoners were captured. Next came Fort Craig, which was one of the strongholds of Petersburg; Bright's Station, Virginia; and Appomattox, when Mr. Rininger was present at the surrender of the army of Gen. Lee. This list does not include the minor engagements, during which many a brave man lost his life. Our subject was discharged on August 30, 1865, at Petersburg, Virginia.

After his return to peaceful pursuits our subject purchased his father's business, as he had learned the trade in his youth, and eight succeeding years were spent in the management of this business; but in 1873, influenced by the fervid literature of the land agents and the reports of many settlers already located there, emigrated to Douglas county, Kansas, and there purchased a farm. His experience was discouraging, as the first year the crops through his section were destroyed by the drought and the second year everything was eaten by the grasshoppers. His only remedy was to turn again eastward, leaving almost all he possessed behind. Upon reaching Ohio our subject rented a farm in Richland county, near Lexington, and there he engaged in farming for two years, and then came to Crawford county, locating in Auburn township. For two years our subject rented a farm, at the end of which period he moved to Tiro and there erected a residence and during the following year was employed in farming, teaming and other occupations.

In the spring of 1880 Mr. Rininger purchased what was known as the Rand-Nye farm, consisting of eighty acres of fine land. In 1885 he built a commodious and comfortable residence, and in 1890 erected a substantial bank barn, making other improvements which placed this estate among the best in the county. In 1891 he added twenty acres and has spared neither time nor expense in the improvement of his property, one item being the placing of twenty-one hundred rods of tile. The energy, good management and industry of our subject is worthy of note. When he came upon his farm it was with a debt of four thousand dollars, which has been cleared off; and not only does he have the proud consciousness of not owing a dollar but he has his property as mentioned, a town residence also, and in February of the current year he bought another farm, consisting of one hundred acres, which was the property of W. H. Carlisle, and is considered one of the finest farms in Auburn township. Mr. Rininger has been a very successful stock-raiser, making a specialty of hogs.

The marriage of Mr. Rininger was on October 16, 1865, to Miss Maggie

Hoover, who was a native of Indiana county Pennsylvania, and a daughter of Jacob Hoover. Eight children were born to our subject and wife, these being as follows: Elwood, deceased; Effie, deceased; Dr. Edmund, of Nome, Alaska; Dr. William, of St. Louis, Missouri; Alfred Moody; Lucy May, the wife of Rev. Michael Yeagle, of Findlay, Ohio; Olive M., at home; and Eli Roy, deceased. Dr. Edmund M. Rininger is located in Nome, Alaska. He was one of a committee of three sent to congress in the winter of 1900-1 to present the needs of the people of Alaska. Dr. William Rininger graduated at the Marion Simms Medical College in 1893, with high honors. For three years he was the president of his class and since beginning practice has rapidly won his way to the front.

For sixteen years our subject voted with the Prohibition party, but since that date has been associated with the Democratic party, and has been honored with many of the local offices, serving on the ticket at present as township trustee. Both he and wife are consistent and worthy members of the United Brethren church, in which he has long been the efficient Sunday-school superintendent. Socially our subject is connected with the G. A. R. and much enjoys talking over the days when he and his comrades defended the Union.

#### PETER B. LASH.

Since early in the '30s the name of Lash has been favorably known in Crawford county, Ohio, and Peter B. Lash, who is the subject of this biography, is a most worthy representative of that pioneer family. The birth of Mr. Lash was in Crawford county, Ohio, on July 21, 1838, and he was a son of Peter and Mary (Fredline) Lash, who became the parents of ten children, the seven surviving members of the family being among some of the most highly esteemed residents of this part of Ohio. These are: Charity, who is the widow of Samuel McConnell, of Tiro, Ohio; Matilda, who is the widow of Frederick Mead, of Paint, Ohio; Peter B., who is the subject of this sketch; Franklin, who resides in Auburn township; Phoebe, who is the wife of Henry Eller, of Cranberry township; Francis, who lives in Auburn township; and Lucinda, who is the wife of Franklin Holsapler, of Allen county, Indiana.

The father of our subject was born in New Jersey, about the year 1808, and bore the same name as our subject. While still a lad his parents removed from his native state and settled in Wayne county, Ohio, where Mr. Lash grew to manhood, later married Mary Fredline, who was the daughter of a neighboring farmer, and two children were born to them prior to their removal early

in the '30s to Crawford county, Ohio. When their canvas-covered wagon reached the new home, unbroken forest surrounded them. The fertile and well-cultivated fields which now delight the eye and fill to overflowing barns and granaries with their generous yield, were then but stretches of unknown woods and rank undergrowth, but the courage which inspired Mr. Lash and his brave wife to make the journey, in the hope of providing a future for their children, still filled their minds with hope and the strength to meet the new conditions. Here Mr. Lash entered one hundred and three acres of land, this farm now being owned and operated by his youngest son Francis. One of the most distressing features of pioneer life in almost every locality, was the prevalence of fever and chills, the disease being called ague, and Mr. Lash suffered much in this way, and to such an extent that a man of less energy and perseverance would have lost heart. However, he kept steadily at work and with amazing rapidity cleared his land, later added eighty acres to it and would doubtless been one of the largest landholders of the county had not his career been cut short by an attack of erysipelas, at the age of forty-three years. His political sympathies had always been with the Whig party, and he was one of the leading men of his neighborhood in assisting every enterprise looking toward morality and virtue.

The honored mother of our subject survived her husband for thirty-five years, making her home on the farm. She was born in Somerset county, Pennsylvania, in 1811, and her beautiful life ended on June 15, 1888, when she had reached the age of seventy-seven years, four months and twenty-two days. With her estimable husband she had really founded the Bucyrus circuit of the United Brethren church. She was a rare character, retiring, quiet, with a charity and a kindness of heart that made her life a benediction to all who knew her.

It is a lasting good fortune to grow to manhood in a pious, virtuous home, and such was the case with our subject, Peter B. Lash. His common-school education was finished early so that he could become an earning factor in the household, as his older brother, George, had left the parental roof when our subject was but fifteen years of age. Thus much of the heavy farm work fell upon the latter's shoulders, and later he and his younger brother Frank managed the farm together, until Frank was able to take entire charge. Our subject worked for three years at the carpenter's trade, but in 1864 he purchased a small place of twenty-five acres where he now resides.

Mr. Lash was married on March 30, 1865, to Miss Mary Kauffman, who was a native of Cranberry township and who was a daughter of Daniel and

Elizabeth (Kauffman) Kauffman. Mrs. Kauffman was a native of Holmes county, Ohio, while he was born in Pennsylvania, both of them coming to Richland county with their parents when they were children. They were married in that county and later moved to Crawford county, locating in Cranberry township, and Mrs. Kauffman still survives and resides in Tiro.

After his marriage our subject located with his bride on his compact little farm, beginning housekeeping in a log cabin which had been erected by a former settler, and in the course of about seven years twenty-five more acres were added to the original purchase. In 1880 the log cabin was abandoned and removal was made to the substantial and comfortable residence which Mr. Lash had erected. About this time he bought an additional nineteen acres of land and in 1891 he added twenty-one more acres, his farm now consisting of ninety acres, well improved and under a fine state of cultivation.

Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Lash, their names being as follows: Albert, the owner of the Grand F. Kauffman farm, in Cranberry township; Clara, at home; Levi, a teacher and a farmer in Auburn township; Cantwell, the farmer on the home farm; and Anna and Grace, at home.

For a number of years Mr. Lash was an ardent worker for the Prohibition party, but now is a supporter of Republican principles, believing that that party will ultimately solve the various problems which now disturb the country. The church in which his father and mother were so deeply interested is the one in which he has reared his family, and he and wife, with four of their children, are active workers in it, while he has long been one of the class-leaders. No family in the county more deserves the high esteem in which this one is held.

#### ANDREW WINGERT.

Andrew Wingert, one of the substantial and representative farmers of Crawford county, was born in Erie county, New York, on the 6th of June, 1835, a son of Godfrey and Anna (Kahler) Wingert. The father was born in Bavaria, Germany, in 1807, a son of Andrew and Catherine Wingert. He was reared in his native country, and at the age of twenty-three years, in 1830, he left the land of his birth for the United States, his parents joining him in this country about two years later. He arrived in this country with only six cents in his pocket, but with only this small sum with which to secure the necessities of life he refused a position of ten dollars a month, as the work necessitated the milking of a cow. He made his way to the vicinity of Buffalo, where he secured work at six dollars a month, and there he was married and pur-

chased a small tract of twenty acres, where he resided until 1836. In that year he came to Ohio, coming by the Great Lakes to Sandusky, where he hired a team and brought his family to Crawford county.

The grandfather of our subject after coming to the United States also located in Erie county, where he purchased a small tract of land. He had four sons, Godfrey, Jacob, Henry and Christ. The three younger sons were mechanics, and one was also a shoe-maker, one a blacksmith, and the other a cooper and brewer. Jacob, who followed blacksmithing, removed to Detroit soon after the family located in this state, and afterward came to Crawford county, where he induced his father to join him. In 1835 the latter sold his place in Erie county and came to this locality, purchasing one hundred and seventy acres of land in Liberty township, the present site of the water works reservoir. A sawmill had also been built upon the land, and it was the father's intention to have the sons conduct the mill. The land was finally divided among the sons, and there Godfrey Wingert, the father of our subject, located on his arrival in Crawford county. Henry received the land on which the mill was located for his share, which he operated for a number of years. Godfrey located on his forty-two and a half acres, and later acquired the shares originally owned by his brothers Jacob and Christ, making a tract of one hundred and twenty-eight acres, and there he passed to his final reward in March, 1879. He was a Democrat in political matters, and was an active member of the Reformed church. He was a fine old gentleman, and was highly esteemed by all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance. The mother of our subject was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, in 1807, and she came to the United States with a sister, Mrs. Schlaifley, when sixteen years of age. Her death occurred in 1887. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Wingert were born eight children, six of whom still survive, namely: Andrew, the subject of this review; George, a resident of Laclede, Missouri; Maria, widow of Jacob Kinsey, and a resident of Todd township, Crawford county; Louisa, the wife of Herman Manhardt, of Custer, Wood county, Ohio; Amos, of Fulton county, Ohio; and Leonard, who makes his home near Lincoln, Nebraska.

Andrew Wingert, the immediate subject of this sketch, was reared to manhood under the parental roof and acquired his education in an old log schoolhouse with puncheon floor and slab benches. In 1859 he was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Schifley, a native of Erie county, New York, and a daughter of John Schifley. To this union was added one child, who is now deceased. After a happy married life of only three years the wife also died, and two years later Mr. Wingert married Miss Fidelia Kinsey, a native of Erie



county, New York, and a daughter of Jacob Kinsey, who was of Pennsylvania German descent. Nine children were born unto this marriage, but only seven are now living, namely: Hattie, who resides with her sister, Mary Sharp; Jennie and Franklin, twins, who are both at home; Rufus and Ephraim, also at home; and Mary, the wife of Edward Sharp, of Bucyrus township, Crawford county; and Martha, at home. The mother of these children has also passed to the home beyond, her death occurring on the 7th of April, 1886.

After his first marriage Mr. Wingert located on his present home farm, which was then a vast wilderness, and he cut the first stick of timber upon the place with which to build his log cabin. He began his business career with an indebtedness of six hundred dollars hanging over him, but pluck and energy are numbered among his chief characteristics, and he soon placed his farm under a fine state of cultivation. His place now contains one hundred and seventy-five acres of choice land, and he now takes rank among the leading farmers of the county. In political matters he is a stanch supporter of the Democracy, his first presidential vote having been cast for James Buchanan, but although a public spirited and loyal citizen he has never been an aspirant for political honors, preferring to give his undivided attention to his business interests. He is an active worker and prominent member of the Reformed church, and all movements to uplift his fellowmen receive in him a warm friend.

#### AARON CHANCE.

Among the old settlers of Todd township, Crawford county, Ohio, no residents are more highly esteemed and universally respected than Aaron Chance and his wife, these venerable people being the oldest married couple in the township. The birth of Mr. Chance was in Harrison county, Ohio, on May 27, 1816. His father died before his birth and he was left motherless when but seven years of age. His grandparents gave him parental care and he lived with them and grew up in a farming neighborhood, remaining at home until his marriage to Miss Jane Bell, on March 26, 1840. She was born on January 16, 1817, and together they have weathered the storms and enjoyed the comforts of life for sixty-one years. The four children born to them were James, Sarah J., deceased, Nomenia and Jonas.

In 1852 Mr. and Mrs. Chance came to Crawford county and settled in Bucyrus township, first renting land for four years and then buying a tract of wild land, and building a log cabin. In 1867 they located on their present

farm of one hundred and thirty acres, in Todd township, where Mr. Chance has carried on a general line of farming.

In politics Mr. Chance has always been a Republican. Although his education was only such as could be obtained during a short period in the subscription schools, he is a well informed man and one of the most highly respected among the old settlers.

### LEONARD STARNER.

Among the highly respected citizens of Crawford county, Ohio, is Leonard Starner, who has been a resident of this county since 1841. Although Pennsylvania was the state of his birth, Mr. Starner has lived a long and successful life in Ohio, and is reckoned with her most esteemed and substantial citizens.

The parents of Leonard Starner, who is the subject of this record, were Sharick and Ann (Ensley) Starner, natives of Pennsylvania, who emigrated with their children to Ohio some time later than 1830, spending their first winter in Perry county. In the following spring Mr. Starner removed to Fairfield county, remaining there until 1841, when he came to Crawford county, attracted thither by the desirable lands of this favored portion of the state. Here he located on the Marion road, some seven miles from Bucyrus, and here he farmed for two years, on rented land, later buying eighty acres near the Scioto bridge. Seven years afterward Mr. Starner sold this farm and then purchased eighty-three acres where Jacob Duncan now lives, and upon that property he resided until the time of his death, at the age of sixty-three years. He was reared in the Democratic political faith, but after casting his vote for President Lincoln he remained in sympathy with the Republican party. To his first marriage twelve children were born, the four survivors being: Leonard, the subject of this sketch; Emily, the widow of Mr. Buchmaster, of Allen county, Ohio; Minerva, the wife of Frank Harvey, of Bucyrus; and Ensley, a resident of Missouri. Mr. Starner was married three months prior to his death, to a Miss Kile.

Leonard Starner was born in 1825 and accompanied the family when it came to Ohio and later when it located in Crawford county. He was given the best educational advantages that the time afforded, and at the age of twenty-one began life for himself. On May 13, 1852, he was united in marriage to Miss Mary M. Warner, who was a native of the state of New York, born three miles from Buffalo, and she was a daughter of Joseph Warner, who

came to this county in 1838, settling in Bucyrus township, later removing to Seneca township, where he died.

After marriage Mr. Starner began farming on a tract of eighty acres which he had purchased, and this has been the family home ever since, twenty additional acres having been since added. A family of twelve children were born to our subject and wife, the eight survivors of this family being as follows: Ranford, of Nevada, Ohio; Phoebe J., the wife of Griffin Davise, of Indiana; Joseph L., of Todd township; John, of Nevada, Ohio; Edward, of Nevada, Ohio; Alfretta, the wife of Frank Shaffstall, who is the home farmer; Eugene, of Todd township; and Luella, at home.

In politics our subject has ever been one of the stanch supporters of the Republican party and has taken an active and intelligent interest in all public affairs. Although not formally connected with any church organization, Mr. Starner contributes to the support of all; and although he has lived a comparatively quiet life it has been one of usefulness and uprightness, and he enjoys the esteem of all who know him.

#### GEORGE E. SIGLER.

One of the highly esteemed old settlers of Todd township, Crawford county, Ohio, who has been a resident of this place for more than half a century, is George E. Siger, who was born in Mifflin county, Pennsylvania, on October 23, 1826. His education was acquired in the log school-house of pioneer times, and even the instruction there received was obtained under difficulties, as he was obliged to walk more than two miles in order to reach the school-house. At the age of twenty-one years Mr. Sigler began life for himself. His father had a sawmill in the woods, in Crawford county, and our subject worked in this mill for two years and also assisted in clearing and cultivating the farm.

Mr. Sigler married Miss Harriet Hoorick and his children are named Loraine, Elliott, Rosamund and Dal. Soon after marriage Mr. Sigler began making improvements on his farm of eighty acres. It was heavily timbered and much hard work was required in order to clear and cultivate it, but finally seventy acres were in fine condition. There the family lived until 1872, when Mr. Sigler removed to the tract upon which he now resides, this consisting of one hundred and seventeen acres, and since locating upon it Mr. Sigler has given his entire attention to its improvement, the result being that he now owns one of the most desirable farms in Todd township.

In politics he has been a life-long Democrat. He is well and favorably known through all this neighborhood, and is very well posted not only on the current events but can be most entertaining concerning the pioneer days. With interest he has watched the wonderful growth of every industry and has done his part in the development of the farming interests.

#### THOMAS REGULA.

Thomas Regula, who is engaged in general farming and stock-raising in Chatfield township, has spent his entire life in the vicinity of his present home. He was born on the farm in the township where George Kibler now resides, the date of his birth being February 29, 1850. His father, Jacob Regula, was born in Rhine province of Germany, in 1811, and in 1831, when twenty years of age, crossed the Atlantic to America as a passenger on a sailing vessel, which reached the American harbor after a voyage of six weeks. He at once made his way westward to Crawford county, Ohio, and secured employment as a farm hand in Chatfield township. He thus worked for two years after which he purchased thirty acres of land, on which he erected a log cabin. He removed to his farm in 1872, and continued its cultivation and improvement until his death, which occurred in the year 1890, at the ripe old age of seventy-nine years. In early manhood he had married Catherine Reidle, and unto them were born the following children: Louisa, wife of Aaron Colb; Catherine, who is now deceased; Christina, wife of Daniel Fox, a farmer; Peter, who is living in Seneca county, Ohio; Jacob, who makes his home with his brother Thomas, who is the next in order of birth.

Thomas Regula was born and reared upon his father's farm and remained on the old home place until twenty-nine years of age. He attended the common schools until he had mastered the usual branches of learning taught in such institutions, after which he gave his attention entirely to the farm work, from the time of early spring planting until crops were gathered in the autumn. At the age of twenty-nine he was married to Catherine Brown, and they now have four children—Daniel, John, Robert and Edwin.

After his marriage Mr. Regula began operating his father's farm on the shares, and later, when his labors had brought to him some capital he purchased land of his own, and is now the owner of one hundred acres, constituting a valuable place. He carries on general farming and stock-raising, and in both departments of his business is meeting with good success. His place is well improved with modern equipments and the owner is numbered

among the substantial and industrious farmers of his neighborhood. Although his life has been a busy one he has found time to devote to the public service and for several years has served as school director. He is also one of the trustees of Chatfield township and in politics is a Democrat, believing firmly in the principles of his party. As his entire life has been passed in Chatfield township he is well known and has gained many friends among its residents and in other parts of the county.

### JACOB FAUSER.

The fine farm with its many excellent improvements which is the property of Jacob Fauser is a monument to his enterprise and labor, for all that he possesses has been acquired through his own efforts. He was born in Columbiana county, Ohio, April 27, 1837, a son of John G. Fauser, who was a native of Wurtemberg, Germany, and when a young man came to the United States, locating in Columbiana county, Ohio, where he was united in marriage to Miss Magdaline Crume. They became the parents of nine children, namely: Living; Mary, deceased; George G., now a resident of Erie county, Ohio; Elizabeth, who has passed away; Catherine, the wife of Abraham Burkey, a resident, of Lykens township; and Caroline, John, Abraham and Lena, all of whom have departed this life. The father of these children was a baker by trade, but through much of his life followed farming. About 1839 he came to Crawford county and secured one hundred and sixty acres of land in Chatfield township, upon which he erected a log cabin of one room. Therein he began life in true pioneer style, but as the years passed and his financial resources increased he was enabled to add many modern improvements to his place. He continued farming for many years, and died on the old homestead, September 19, 1892, at the age of eighty-two years. His wife passed away a year later, and thus ended the earthly career of two of the honored pioneer settlers of the county.

Jacob Fauser was only two years of age when, with his parents, he came to this county, and amid the wild scenes of the frontier he was reared, sharing with the family in the usual hardships and trials incident to the settlement of a new country. As his age and strength permitted he assisted in the work of the home farm, where he remained until his marriage, which occurred in 1868, Miss Elizabeth Riedle becoming his wife. For a third of a century she has been to him a faithful helpmate on life's journey. The home has been blessed with the following living children: Samuel, Jacob, Mary, Louisa and



William, and they have also lost three daughters,—Elizabeth, Emma and Lydia.

Soon after his marriage Mr. Fauser located on the farm which has since been his place of residence. The young couple began domestic life here in a little log building, but it has long since been replaced with a modern brick residence, and many other accessories of the model farm have been added, including substantial barns and outbuildings for the shelter of grain and stock. The farm embraces one hundred acres of rich land, and as a general farmer Mr. Fauser is meeting with desirable success, annually harvesting good crops and thereby adding to his income. He and his estimable wife are members of the Pietist church, and in his political affiliations he is a Democrat. He has served as school director and road supervisor and his faithfulness to duty has challenged uniform commendation. His worth is widely acknowledged in the county where he has made his home through more than six decades and which he has seen transformed from a wild region into one of rich fertility, enjoying commercial and agricultural prosperity.

#### JACOB RIEDLE.

Jacob Riedle, who is engaged in general farming in Chatfield township, where he owns one hundred and fifty acres of land, was born in the same township, January 2, 1846, and is a representative of one of the oldest families of the county. His father, Jacob Riedle, Sr., was born in Rhineburg, Germany, September 24, 1809, and worked in a stone quarry in that country. In 1840 he came to the United States with his father, the family establishing their home in Crawford county. There were five children in the grandfather's family: Frederick, Mary, Jacob, Catherine and Elizabeth, all now deceased. They took up their abode on a farm in Chatfield township and there the grandfather lived to an advanced age.

Jacob Riedle, Sr., the father of our subject, began working as a farm hand by the month after his arrival in Crawford county, and later he turned his attention to the manufacture of potash. As a companion and helpmate for the journey of life he chose Miss Elizabeth Ricker, and they became the parents of five children: Elizabeth, the wife of Jacob Fauser; Jacob, whose name heads this record; Peter, who is living in Chatfield township; and Catherine and Mary, who have departed this life. In the year 1859 the father purchased forty acres of the farm upon which his son and namesake now resides. There was a log cabin upon the place and a few improvements had been made.

He at once began the work of developing the property and in due course of time transformed it into a valuable farm. His death occurred July 8, 1892, at the age of eighty-three years, and his wife passed away in 1897. They were both consistent Christian people, holding membership in the Presbyterian church.

When only thirteen years of age Jacob Riedle, whose name stands at the head of this review, came to the farm upon which he now lives. He was educated in the common schools, attending through the winter season, while in the summer he worked on the farm, giving his father the benefit of his services throughout his minority. He continued to assist him in the cultivation of the place until his marriage, when he assumed the entire management and has since successfully engaged in its cultivation. He to-day owns one hundred and fifty acres of land, of which one hundred and twenty-five acres are cleared and divided into fields of convenient size for improving.

On the 9th of April, 1874, Mr. Riedle was united in marriage to Miss Fredericka Brosa, and they now have one daughter, Lena. They are well-known people of this part of the county and have a large circle of friends. Their home is a pleasant one, and Mr. Riedle has made most of the improvements upon the farm. He is industrious, determined and self-reliant, and may well be called a self-made man, for his prosperity has come as the merited reward to his efforts.

#### FRANK STUMPF.

Frank Stumpf, a well-known representative of the agricultural interests of Crawford county, is now living on section 21, Jackson township. He was born upon the farm which is yet his home, March 28, 1857, and in his life manifests many of the characteristic traits of his German ancestry. His father, Joseph Stumpf, was a native of Baden, where he followed the occupation of farming until thirty-five years of age, when he crossed the briny deep to the new world and located upon the farm which is now the home of his son Frank. He at first owned eighty acres of land, but with the passing years increased his realty possessions until at the time of his death he had a valuable tract of one hundred and fifty-six acres. His political support was of the men and measures of the Democracy. In this county he married Miss Catherine Becher, who was born in Crawford county and pursued her education in a log school house near her home. Her parents were natives of the fatherland and became early settlers of this community. The parents of our subject had the following

children, all born on the old homestead where Frank Stumpf now resides, namely: Vince, a conductor on the Ohio Central Railroad; Lawrence, now deceased; Lawrence, the second of the name, who is farming in Crawford county; Elizabeth, of Galion; Amore and Martin, who have passed away; John, who is engaged in farming with his brother Frank; Lee, who is in the employ of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad Company; and Anthony, who has also passed away.

Frank Stumpf, of this review, is the third child. His entire life has been passed in Crawford county and in his youth he engaged in the pleasures of the playground and the duties of the school-room and in the labors of the field, finding, perhaps, in the first mentioned the greatest enjoyment, but the other two proved to him a practical preparation for life's responsible duties. He and his brother John now own and operate the old homestead together and are enterprising agriculturists whose labors are bringing to them a good financial return.

Mr. Stumpf, of this review, was married to Miss Sophia Seafrety, who was born in Germany and died in 1898. Mr. Stumpf wedded Agnes Winters, a sister of his first wife. She was born in Germany, June 8, 1877, and they became the parents of twins, but one is now deceased.

In his political affiliations Mr. Stumpf is a Democrat. He and his family are members of St. Joseph's Catholic church.

#### WILLIAM BROWN.

The subject of this review is a man of much influence in his community, for he is highly respected, and is justly regarded as a man of sound judgment in public affairs as well as in matters relating to the farm. The property which he now owns is located in Vernon township, and is one of the best improved and fertile farms of the locality.

Mr. Brown is a native son of Crawford county, his birth having occurred in Vernon township, on the 24th of April, 1852, a son of John and Catherine (Kinney) Brown. He was early inured to the labors of field and meadow, and his educational advantages were those afforded by the common schools of the neighborhood. At the early age of seventeen years he began his career as a farm hand, working for neighboring farmers until after his marriage, when he located on a farm of one hundred and thirty acres belonging to his father-in-law, in Vernon township, making his home thereon for two years. In 1880 he became the owner of the farm which he now occupies, consisting of

one hundred and thirty acres, and here he has ever since made his home. He has been very successful in his farming operations, and in addition to the raising of the cereals best adapted to this soil and climate he is also extensively engaged in the breeding of Aberdeen and Durham cattle. For a number of years he was also engaged in the breeding of Shire and Norman horses, but of late years he has paid but little attention to that branch of business. In the spring of 1900 he acquired a two-thirds interest in a one-hundred-acre farm, formerly known as the Carlisle place, and his present fine residence was erected in 1893.

The marriage of Mr. Brown was celebrated in January, 1878, when Miss Clara McManus became his wife. She is a daughter of William McManus. Two children have been born unto this union,—Frank and John W., both at home. The Democracy receives Mr. Brown's hearty support and co-operation, and religiously he is a member of the German Lutheran church, in which he is an active and zealous worker. He is well known as a public-spirited citizen, and exhibits among his excellent traits of character honesty, integrity and sterling worth.

#### JACOB BROWN.

Jacob Brown is one of the thrifty and substantial farmers of Crawford county, where he has passed his entire life. Personally he bears a high reputation for honorable and upright dealing with his fellow men, and is always found in the front rank in the world of improvement and public benefit.

Mr. Brown was born in Vernon township, Crawford county, on the 28th of November, 1855, a son of John and Catherine Brown. He acquired a limited education in the common schools of his locality, and as early as nine years of age he was following the plow, making a hand at farm work, and from that time until reaching years of maturity he spent much of his time in working for neighboring farmers. After his marriage he rented one of his father-in-law's farms for three years, the place consisting of two hundred and ten acres, and was located west of the place on which he now resides. In 1881 he became the owner of eighty acres of his present homestead, which he purchased of his father-in-law, and by unremitting labor and close attention to business success has attended his efforts. In 1893 he purchased eighty acres of land adjoining his home on the west, formerly known as the Cole place, thus making him the possessor of one hundred and sixty acres of rich and fertile land. Here he is successfully engaged in general farming and in the raising of Shorthorn

cattle. His fields are under a fine state of cultivation, and in both branches of his business prosperity has abundantly rewarded his well-directed efforts.

On the 14th of October, 1875, Mr. Brown was united in marriage with Miss Mary Schwerer, also a native of Vernon township, and a daughter of George and Elizabeth (Heltman) Schwerer. The parents were born in Darmstadt, Germany, and their marriage was celebrated just prior to their embarking on their journey for the new world. After their arrival in America they spent a short time in Pennsylvania and then continued the journey to Mansfield, Ohio, where they remained for some years, when they came to Crawford county, locating in Leesville. Later they removed to the farm which adjoins our subject's place on the east, and there they are now spending the evening of life in the enjoyment of the fruits of their former toil.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Brown have been born four children, namely: William J., who operates one of his father's farms; Elsie M., wife of Aaron Cole, of Vernon township; and Ralph W. and Edmon E., who are still at home. Mr. Brown gives his political support to the Democracy, but has refused to allow his name to be used in connection with public office, as the honors or emoluments of public positions have had no attraction for him. The family are members of the German Lutheran church, and for a number of years he has held the office of steward therein. His life has been characterized by energy, perseverance and hard work, and to these principles his success is due. He began his career under adverse circumstances, having been compelled to make his own way in the world, and his success in life illustrates most forcibly the power of patient and persistent effort and self-reliance.

#### ADAM FEICK.

One of the prosperous and highly respected farmer citizens of Crawford county, Ohio, who has been and still is prominently identified with the political and religious interests of his locality, is Adam Feick, the owner of one of the best cultivated and improved farms in the county.

The birth of Mr. Feick was in Vernon township, in this county, on June 10, 1845, and he was a son of Philip and Elizabeth (Fetter) Feick, and was one of a family of ten children, five of whom still survive, these being as follows: John, of this township; Jacob, a carpenter in Crestline, Ohio; Adam, our subject; George, on the old home; and Mack, of this township.

Philip Feick, the father of our subject, was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, and grew to manhood there, where he learned the shoemaker's trade.



Immediately after his marriage he and his bride emigrated to America, locating in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, where he carried on his business for three years. When neighbors and friends began the westward movement which resulted in the settlement of this part of Ohio, Mr. Feick also decided to secure some land in order to make further provision for his family. With one horse and a spring wagon he came to Crawford county, and as his means were limited he gave the horse and wagon as part payment on a tract of forty acres of land in Vernon township. At that time little clearing and no cultivation had been done on this land, which was partly swamp and partly timber. During the spring and fall rains the struggling pioneers lost many of their cattle by their miring in the overflowed marshy grounds. However, Mr. Feick possessed the sturdy perseverance of his race and did not permit himself to be discouraged, and in time he conquered difficulties and became one of the very successful farmers of the county, owning at the time of his death about two hundred and forty acres of fine land, all of which he had placed under cultivation and improvement. His years extended to seventy-seven and he had been one of the most useful and progressive citizens of his township. In early life he had been connected with the Lutheran church, but after the division came he became a member of the German Reformed church and for years was both a trustee and an elder. A man of strong character, he was a leader among his Democratic brethren, and served in many of the local offices and was township trustee for a long period.

Although Adam Feick is now one of the most intelligent and well-informed citizens of his township, his early educational advantages were very limited. His schooling was principally in the German schools, only five weeks being afforded him in the English school; but any disadvantage of that kind has long since been forgotten, for Mr. Feick, in his public life, has mingled with the residents of his county to so great a degree that any difference is little noted. His father was an energetic and industrious man, and he required the same habits in his children, so that very little time was given in those days to books, while the work on the farm was pressing.

On June 20, 1866, our subject was married to Miss Catherine Cook, who was a native of Richland county, Ohio, and who was a daughter of George Cook, a native of Germany, who came to America after attaining manhood, and settled in Richland county, where he became one of the substantial citizens. After his marriage our subject worked for his father-in-law for some eighteen months and then removed to his present home farm of eighty acres, which had been purchased by his father, some time prior to this, with this end in view.

In 1878 this fine farm became the property of our subject, his father only requiring of him one-quarter of the crop during the former's lifetime.

Three children were born to our subject and wife, and two of these still survive, these being: Catherine, the wife of Philip Glower, of Jefferson township; and Philip, of Sandusky township. Mrs. Feick died on February 28, 1872, and on October 7, 1873, our subject was married to Miss Elizabeth Frank, who was a native of Wyandot county, Ohio, and the daughter of Peter Frank, who emigrated to Wyandot county from Hesse-Darmstadt. Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Feick, as follows: Peter, of Jefferson township; William, at home; Ida, at home; Bena, the wife of William Holcher, of Crestline, Ohio; and Lizzie, Christian and Tillie, at home.

Mr. Feick has been very prominent in Democratic political circles. For four years he served as constable and for nine years was the efficient supervisor of the township. The high esteem in which he is held in the county was shown in 1893, when he was elected to the important position of a director on the board of county infirmary, and for six years he faithfully and conscientiously performed the duties of the office.

Mr. Feick has lived a busy and useful life, but he has never neglected his duties as a consistent member of the German Reformed church, in which he has served as trustee and is now one of its faithful stewards. He has been liberal in support of all charitable and benevolent enterprises in his locality and is justly regarded as one of the leading men of the county, highly esteemed both at home and abroad.

#### SOLOMON HARLEY.

The birth of Solomon Harley, who is the subject of this biography, was in Chatfield township, in this county, on October 24, 1841, and he was the second son in the family of his parents, John and Anna (Rock) Harley. Ten children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Harley, the seven survivors being as follows: George, a merchant in Leesburg, Kosciusko county, Indiana; Solomon, the subject of this biography; Susan, the wife of John Bittikofer, of Sulphur Springs, in this county; Mary, the wife of Samuel Knecht, of Petoskey, Michigan; Caroline, the wife of Aaron Flohr, of New Washington, in this county; Alexander, the county treasurer of Kosciusko county, Indiana; and Isaac, of Shelby, Ohio.

John Harley was born in Baden, Germany, in 1815, and he was a son of John and Margaret Harley, people of limited means who came to America

after their son had become able to care for them. He nobly fulfilled this filial duty, building them a house for their comfortable residence and cared for them until their lives ended. John Harley was but seventeen years of age when he came to America and made his home soon after in Columbiana county, Ohio. There he married and lived for two more years in the same locality, coming then to Crawford county. Here he located on a farm of eighty acres, in Chatfield township, forty acres of which he had purchased prior to coming hither, the other forty acres being given him by his father-in-law. Upon this land Mr. Harley erected a log cabin, living in an old shed while he was building this residence. In time he cleared his land and in later years he purchased additional land until his farm consisted of one hundred and sixty acres. In 1864 he sold this farm and purchased the one hundred and ten acres which comprise the farm of our subject, located in Sandusky township. Before removing to this place Mr. Harley built on it one of the handsomest and most attractive residences in Crawford county, making it a home filled with comforts and conveniences. Here his useful life closed three years later, passing away surrounded by sorrowing friends. In politics he had ever been an ardent Republican, and was active in public affairs in his neighborhood. In former years he had been connected with the Methodist church, but at the time of his death he was a consistent member of the Reformed church.

The mother of our subject was born in Columbiana county, Ohio, on December 8, 1812, and she was the daughter of Henry and Maria Barbara (Reith) Rock, both of whom were natives of Berks county, Pennsylvania. They came to Crawford county from Columbiana county, having resided there some years, and located in Liberty township at an early day. Mr. Rock came into the possession of about three hundred acres of land and was one of the substantial farmers of the county. The mother of our subject died in her eighty-ninth year, on February 3, 1901, having been for many years one of the most devoted members of the Reformed church.

Solomon Harley, of this sketch, was reared on the home farm and educated in the common schools. After attaining his majority he remained at home as the farmer, receiving his share of the yield, but in 1870 he purchased an interest in a sawmill and after that period he gave the greater part of his time and attention to the management of this property, continuing to operate this mill during the larger part of twenty-five years. After his marriage he removed to a residence situated near the mill, and here his first wife died, three years later, and then he returned to the home farm, where he has since resided.

In 1875 our subject, in connection with his brother Isaac, took charge of the home farm and carried on a general line of agricultural work in the interest of the heirs, continuing until about 1887, when the whole burden was assumed by our subject, his brother Isaac marrying at that time and removing to another locality. Mr. Harley still continued on the farm and in 1900 bought the property. His long residence upon it made it doubly valuable to him, and he has now not only one of the best farms but also one of the finest residences in this vicinity.

The first marriage of Solomon Harley was in 1870, to Miss Minerva A. Stevens, who was a native of Cranberry township, in this county, and who was a daughter of Jacob Stevens, a resident of Tiro, of whom extended mention is made in another part of this work. Two children were born of this union, the survivor being Elmer J., who is in the insurance business in Kansas City. The second marriage of our subject was in 1875, to Miss Anna Immel, who was a native of Cranberry township and a daughter of Philip Immel, a native of Pennsylvania, who was one of the pioneers of Crawford county. To this marriage six children have been born, the five survivors being as follows: Nora, Charles, Homer, Clara and Leroy, all of these still residing in their beautiful home, with the exception of Charles, who lives in Tiro.

In politics Mr. Harley has been a life-long Republican and has most efficiently served for the past twelve years as justice of the peace, filling also many of the other offices, serving during one term as the careful and accurate township treasurer, and for several years served as a member of the board of school directors, and many of the excellent reforms introduced into the school system in this district have resulted from his intelligent interest. Mr. Harley is justly considered one of the leading citizens of Sandusky township, and is a man who has established a reputation through the county for unimpeachable integrity.

#### AMOS F. KELLER.

Rising above the heads of the masses are many men of sterling worth and value, who by sheer perseverance and pluck have conquered fortune, and by their own unaided efforts have risen from the ranks of commonplace to eminence and positions of respect and trust. It is to his perseverance and indomitable energy that Amos F. Keller owes his success in life, as well as to his keen and brilliant mind. He has continued through life a diligent student, being now one of the best informed men on general subjects in Crawford county, and as an orator he also stands in the front rank.

A native son of the Buckeye state, Mr. Keller was born in the house where he still resides, his parents being Phillip and Hannah (Stucker) Keller. He acquired his early education in the common schools of the neighborhood, supplementing the knowledge there gained by a scientific course under Professor Churchill, of Oberlin University, and for eight years thereafter he also pursued the Ohio teachers' reading course. At the age of nineteen years he began teaching in the district schools, which profession he followed for eighteen years during the winter months, while in the summers he worked in field and meadow. When twenty-one years of age he and his brother, John H., took charge of the home farm, which they conducted on the shares for two years, after which our subject had entire charge of the old homestead, the brother removing to another farm. On the 30th of October, 1895, Mr. Keller was united in marriage with Miss H. Maudesta Carrothers, a daughter of James B. Carrothers, of Vernon township and a sketch of whom will be found on another page of this work. This union has been blessed with three children,—Constance Rebecca, John Carrothers and Robert Warren.

In political matters Mr. Keller was reared in the faith of the Republican party, and his first vote was cast in its favor, but in later life he has identified himself with the Labor party. In 1894 he was a candidate on the People's ticket for congress, and in 1896 and again in 1900 he stumped this entire section of the country for Bryan. He has also held the position of organizer of labor under Powderly one year. Mr. Keller is a great reader, and in recent years his study has largely been confined to philosophical and historical works, while at the present time he is engaged in reading law. He has one of the largest and most complete general libraries in Crawford county. Religiously he is an active member of the German Reformed church, in which he is at the present time serving as an elder, and he is as broad-minded and liberal in his religious views as upon all other subjects. With a capacity and experience which would enable him to fulfill any trust to which he might be chosen, he has never sought to advance himself in office, but has been content to do his duty where he could and leave the self-seeking to others. Viewed in a personal light, he is a strong man, of excellent judgment, fair in his views and highly honorable in his relations with his fellow men. He is a man of very strong convictions, and his integrity stands as an unquestioned fact in his career. He has always been a student, and the scope and amplitude of his knowledge render him a charming conversationalist. He is in full sympathy with all the great movements of the world about him, and watches the progress of events with the keenest interest.



## JACOB PRY.

Jacob Pry, who is a well-known and highly esteemed resident of Crawford county, Ohio, was born in Sandusky township, in this county, in December, 1846, and he was a son of Frederick and Rickey (Bowman) Pry, the former of whom was born in Germany in 1803 and died on April 1, 1893, in his ninetieth year. After coming to the United States with his mother and brothers and sisters, the father of our subject bought a farm near Sulphur Springs, in Liberty township, Crawford county, Ohio, and later sold it and bought the fine property now owned and occupied by our subject.

Jacob Pry, of this biography, grew to manhood on his father's farm and attended the common schools. After reaching his twenty-first year he started out to make a career for himself, beginning as a farm hand, his labor bringing excellent wages. In this line he continued until his marriage, on April 28, 1870, to Miss Elizabeth Gundrum, who was a native of Sandusky township.

After marriage Mr. Pry, in association with his brother John, bought the farm now owned and occupied by the latter, and here the two brothers combined their interests together for some years. Then our subject removed from there and engaged in farming on rented land for a number of years. In the latter part of the '80s our subject and Lewis Pry bought the old Kinsley farm, consisting of ninety-six acres, and for three years they carried on extensive farming operations, at the end of which period our subject purchased his present home farm, consisting of ninety acres, to which he removed in 1896, and here he has since resided. This is one of the highly cultivated and valuable farms of the county, and Mr. Pry has the reputation of being a thorough and progressive farmer as well as a useful and most intelligent citizen.

In his political sympathies Mr. Pry is independent, although he was elected as township trustee on the Populist ticket. His term of service was most satisfactory and demonstrated the confidence and esteem in which he is held by his fellow citizens. He has long been a leading member and generous supporter of the United Brethren church, where he is highly valued for his exemplary life and high moral character.

## CALEB PFAHLER.

As an example of the usefulness and prominence to which men of character and determination may attain, it is but necessary to chronicle the life of Caleb Pfahler, one of the representative agriculturists of Crawford county.

He has spent his entire life in this locality, his birth having occurred on the farm on which he now resides, on the 10th of May, 1835. He is a son of Matthias and Barbara (Pfahler) Pfahler, who were the parents of twelve children, but our subject is now the only survivor of the family. The father was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, about 1792, and was there reared and married. In 1832 he came with his wife and four children to the United States, but one child died during the voyage and was buried at sea. After landing in New York the family made their way to Ohio, and, after leaving his wife and children in Canton, this state, the father and his brother George, who had accompanied him to the new world, proceeded on foot to Crawford county, where the father purchased eighty acres of land where our subject now resides, while the brother secured an eighty-acre tract one mile south of this place, and after completing their arrangements they returned to Canton, loaded their few household effects into wagons which they hired and came with the family to their Crawford county home. Their first residence, which was a cabin built of round logs, was erected by the original owner, and this served as their place of abode for many years, after which the father erected a larger and more commodious hewed-log house. In this residence he spent his declining years, passing away in 1855. He cleared his farm from the dense forest, experiencing all the hardships and difficulties which fall to the lot of a pioneer, and subsequently purchased eighty acres of land in Cranberry township, which is now the property of the heirs of our subject's brother, Matthias Pfahler. The father was an active and worthy member of the German Lutheran church, and in his political affiliations was a Democrat. The mother of our subject survived her husband for fourteen or fifteen years.

Caleb Pfahler, whose name introduces this review, acquired his early education in the old pioneer log school house, with its puncheon floor and slab benches to serve as seats. He supplemented the knowledge there gained with three terms in the New Washington schools, where he received superior educational advantages. When seventeen years of age he left the parental roof and apprenticed himself to the tanner's trade with Matthias Kibler, his brother-in-law, in New Washington, where he remained for three years, and then, having completed his apprenticeship, he spent some time in travel, spending the following summer in Illinois and Iowa. In the fall of 1856 he returned to his home in Ohio, and, his father having died the year previous, he took charge of the home farm, operating the same on shares. However, he purchased the interests of the other heirs, and at the time of his mother's death he became the sole owner of the old family homestead. In 1875 he purchased an ad-

joining sixty-eight acres, and his landed possessions now aggregate one hundred and forty-eight acres. Year by year prosperity has attained his efforts, and he is now numbered among the representative agriculturists of Crawford county, but his success has come to him as the result of unremitting energy, good management and close attention to business.

The marriage of Mr. Pfahler was celebrated in February, 1862, Miss Eliza Buck becoming his wife. She is a native of Licking county, Ohio, and a daughter of John N. and Anna (Swisher) Buck, natives, respectively, of Germany and of Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Pfahler have had eight children, namely: John, who resides at Liberty Corners, Crawford county; Silas, also of this county; Frank, who still resides with his parents and is engaged in threshing; Samuel and Ira, who manage the home farm for their father; Charlie, deceased; and Anna and William, who are still at home. Mr. Pfahler casts his ballot in favor of the men and measures of the Democracy. He is now passing his remaining years in his pleasant home in Sandusky township, where he enjoys all the comforts of domestic bliss and where he finds rest and quiet.

#### LEWIS PRY.

Lewis Pry, of Crawford county, Ohio, is a member of a well-known and highly respected family of this county, and is also one of its most highly esteemed citizens. The birth of Mr. Pry was in Sandusky township, in Crawford county, in 1847, and he was a son of Frederick and Rickey (Bowman) Pry, the former of whom was long a resident of Crawford county and a worthy representative of his German ancestors, a man whose word was ever equal to his bond in any business transaction. Frederick Pry was long known, as his years extended far beyond the three-score and ten of the Psalmist, his death occurring on April 1, 1893, in his ninetieth year.

Lewis Pry, the immediate subject, was reared under a good and pious father and mother, and attended the common schools in his youth, beginning at the age of twenty-one to make a career for himself. His first attempt was on the home farm, which he managed on shares. In 1873 he married Miss Catherine Heer, who was a native of Germany and a daughter of Sebastian Heer. She came to America with her parents when she was three years old. Mr. and Mrs. Heer spent a short time in Wayne county, Ohio, prior to locating in Crawford county, but later purchased the farm upon which our subject now resides, and here the last days of Mrs. Pry's parents were spent.

After marriage Mr. Pry settled upon his father-in-law's farm and continued to manage and operate this land until the death of Mr. and Mrs. Heer. This property was then sold and a brother-in-law of our subject purchased eighty acres of it, and our subject bought twenty-five acres, building upon his tract a commodious farm house, and here the family resided until 1896, when he purchased the remaining eighty acres, and he then removed his family to the old Heer homestead, and there they have since resided. Here Mr. Pry has one hundred and five acres. Formerly he owned a one-half interest in the old Kinsley homestead, of ninety-six acres, and also twenty acres south of his home farm, but this land he has disposed of.

Of the children born to Mr. and Mrs. Pry we may name Matilda, the wife of Barney Cole, of Vernon township, this county; William, a farmer on his father's land; Daniel, Charles and Franklin, at home. Mr. Pry is one of the leading Democrats of this section and actively supports his party, men and measures. Although he is not connected by membership with any religious organization, he is a regular attendant at divine services, and liberally supports all church and charitable enterprises. He stands well in the estimation of his fellow citizens and is known as a good farmer and a useful and excellent citizen.

#### ALEXANDER SMITH.

Many years have passed since Alexander Smith came to Crawford county to cast in his lot with its pioneers. People of the present day can scarcely realize the struggles and dangers which attended the early settlers, the heroism and self-sacrifice of lives passed upon the borders of civilization, the hardships endured, the difficulties overcome. To the pioneer of the early days, far removed from the privileges and conveniences of city or town, the struggle for existence was a stern and hard one, and of these men and women must have possessed indomitable energies and sterling worth of character, as well as marked physical courage, when they thus voluntarily selected such a life and successfully fought its battles under such circumstances as prevailed in this then new and undeveloped country.

Mr. Smith was born in Washington county, Pennsylvania, on the 2d of June, 1821, a son of Joseph S. and Jane (Hogan) Smith. The father was also born in Washington county of the Keystone state, his birth occurring in 1797. He was a son of Alexander and Jane (Snodgrass) Smith, both natives of the Emerald Isle. After coming to the United States the grandfather became a

well-known and prominent farmer of Washington county, Pennsylvania, where he spent his remaining days. He was a veteran of the war of 1812, and was a man highly respected and esteemed for his many estimable traits of character. His son, Joseph S., was reared and educated in the county of his nativity, and was early inured to the work of field and meadow. After his marriage he located on a portion of his father's farm, where he remained until 1825, and in the fall of that year he came with his wife and two children by wagon to Crawford county, Ohio. During a portion of the journey it was necessary for him to go ahead and clear a road ere the wagon could proceed, and on his arrival here he located on the farm on which he still resides, he having entered the land from the government in 1821 while on a prospecting tour through Ohio. The place consisted of one hundred and sixty acres, and was then covered with a dense growth of native timber, and while he erected a cabin the family were obliged to live in the wagon. Mr. Smith cleared and improved this place, and in later years erected a more modern and commodious hewed-log house, in which he spent his remaining days, passing away in 1843, in early life. He was an active church worker and a member of the Presbyterian denomination, and he aided materially in the erection of the first Presbyterian church in Crawford county. Our subject, who was then a lad of thirteen years, drove an ox-team in hauling the timber used in its construction. In his political affiliations Mr. Smith was a Democrat. He was also active in military affairs, and for a number of years served as captain of a company. The mother of our subject, who was born in Maryland, in 1797, was a daughter of William Hogan, who removed to Washington county, Pennsylvania, from Maryland, his native state, and was of Irish extraction. Mrs. Smith survived her husband about ten years, dying in 1855, and was accidentally killed by being thrown from a buggy. They were the parents of seven children, three of whom still survive,—Alexander, the subject of this review; William W., a resident of Woodson county, Kansas; and Tabitha J., the widow of James Majors.

Alexander Smith, whose name introduces this review, was reared to the quiet pursuits of the farm and received his educational advantages in the old pioneer log school house, with its puncheon floor, slab benches and greased paper windows. In 1843, after his marriage, he erected a log cabin on a portion of his father's farm, which he operated on the shares, thus continuing for about five years. In the meantime, however, the farm had been divided, and on the expiration of the five years our subject purchased the interests of the other heirs and thus became the possessor of the entire homestead. In



1857 he erected his present substantial frame residence, and his farm, which consists of one hundred and fifty-two acres, is one of the valuable places of Crawford county. For the past twenty years, however, he has lived retired, in the enjoyment of a well-earned rest, the result of unfaltering energy, wise judgment and business ability. The management of the farm is now left to his sons. In the days of the horse-power thresher Mr. Smith also devoted a part of his time to threshing, but his principal occupation has been farming, and in that vocation his efforts were attended with a high and well-merited degree of success.

The year 1843 witnessed the marriage of Mr. Smith and Miss Nancy J. Dix, a native of Columbiana county, Ohio, and a daughter of Joseph Dix. This union was blessed with seven children, four of whom still survive, namely: Joseph M., a resident of Crawford county; Porter W., of Oklahoma; Alexander, who operates the home farm; and Martha J., the wife of Oliver McKeehen, also of Sandusky township, Crawford county. The wife and mother passed away in death on the 14th of August, 1887, at the age of sixty-five years. For the past fifty-seven years Mr. Smith has been an active and zealous member of the Presbyterian church, and during all of that time has served as an elder therein, much of the time also acting as a trustee. In political matters he is a stanch supporter of the Democracy. He has been the choice of his party for a number of local offices, having served for two terms as township trustee, two terms as clerk of his township, two terms as township assessor, and for more than twenty years has held the office of township treasurer. In all of these positions he discharged his duties with the utmost fidelity and honesty, and in all relations of life he has ever been true to principle and the right.

### JOHN GUISS.

Research into the early history of Crawford county indicates the fact that the Guiss family was founded here in early pioneer days and that they became identified with agricultural interests, thus aiding in the work of reclaiming wild land for purposes of civilization. Our subject is numbered among the native sons of the county, his birth having occurred in Cranberry township, on the farm which Jacob Sheets and wife now own. His father, Abraham Guiss, was a native of Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, and was a son of Jacob Guiss. Both removed from the Keystone state to Columbiana county, Ohio, at a very early day, locating near New Lisbon, and in 1836 they came

with their respective families to Crawford county. The journey was made with ox-teams and they were twenty-one days upon the way. In addition to their household effects and other personal property they brought with them three geese, one of which is still living and is now in possession of our subject. The grandfather entered nearly one thousand acres of government land and took up his abode where Jacob Myres resides. He was the father of twelve children, namely: John, George, Abraham, Christian, Henry, Anne, Susan, Catherine, Martha and others whose names are not remembered. The grandfather, Jacob Guiss, or real name Guissinger, wandered from home when quite young, and on going to school the "inger" was omitted by the teacher and thus only Guiss remains.

The Guiss family lived in true pioneer style and endured the usual hardships and trials which fall to the lot of settlers upon the frontier. Amid such surroundings our subject was reared, and upon the old homestead he remained until twenty-one years of age. At the age of nineteen he began teaching in the district school, having thirty-five scholars, of whom thirty-one were relatives. He remained in charge of that school for two years, and for a similar period had charge of the New Washington school, after which he was engaged in photographic work in Plymouth, Ohio, for two years. Subsequently he spent one year as a bookkeeper in Cleveland, and then returning to Plymouth, he clerked in a general store for two years. The succeeding year was spent as a salesman in Shelby, Ohio, after which he bought an interest in a store in West Liberty, carrying on business at that place for two years. He was next owner of a half interest in a store in Sulphur Springs, where he carried on mercantile pursuits for fourteen years, meeting with good success in his undertakings. On the expiration of that period he removed to the farm upon which he now lives and which has been his home continuously since 1880. He is engaged in general farming, having eighty acres of rich land, which he has placed under a high state of cultivation.

On the 19th of November, 1863, Mr. Guiss was united in marriage to Miss Susan Fry, and unto them have been born six children: William H., a practicing physician residing in Tiro, Ohio; Melville, who makes his home in Cedartown, Georgia, where he is serving as treasurer and secretary of the Alabama & Georgia Iron Company; Ethie, who is engaged in school-teaching and makes her home with her parents; Charles A., who was also engaged in teaching school, but is now taking a course at the Ohio State University; Warren G., who is the principal of the Chatfield schools; and Maude R., who is attending the Heidelberg School of Oratory. The children have been pro-

vided with good educational privileges, all but one being graduates of the Washington high school.

Mr. Guiss has frequently been called to public office by his fellow townsmen, who, recognizing his worth and ability, have chosen him for public honors. For nine years he served as justice of the peace and discharged his duties with strict fairness and impartiality. He was also township clerk of Liberty township, was assessor, notary public for six years, and for ten years was assistant postmaster at Sulphur Springs. In politics he is a stalwart Democrat, and in every position in which he has served he has discharged his duties in a most able and energetic manner, winning the commendation of all concerned. In religious faith he is a Lutheran. He was a charter member of the Knights of Pythias lodge at New Washington, has filled all the chairs and is now a past chancellor. His life exemplifies the beneficent spirit of the fraternity. He is widely and favorably known and is held in the highest regard where he is best known.

#### JACOB CRUM.

One of the old and highly respected farmers of Crawford county is Jacob Crum, who has established a reputation as a thorough farmer and estimable and useful citizen during a residence here which covers more than a half century. Mr. Crum was born in Adams county, Pennsylvania, on April 10, 1825, and he was a son of Moses and Margaret (Rex) Crum, and was one of a family of six children which was born to his parents. Of this family our subject and his brother Michael, who is a resident of Richland county, are the only living representatives.

Moses Crum was a farmer in Pennsylvania, where he was born in 1792, and from that state he emigrated to Ohio, about 1838, locating in Sharon township, Richland county. Here he lived until 1877, at which time he passed away, at the age of eighty-five years and two months. His most worthy widow survived him for about ten years, her age reaching ninety-five years. Mr. Crum possessed at the time of his decease about two hundred and forty acres of land, and provided well for his children, ever taking a deep interest in their welfare.

Jacob Crum was reared to farm work and was about thirteen years old when his parents removed to Ohio. His educational advantages were limited, his only opportunity being during the few winter months when he could be spared from the farm, the school house being such as the pioneer locality pro-

vided, as at that time the advantages of education were not always appreciated by those who were obliged to provide houses and teachers.

Our subject remained at home until his marriage, in 1855, to Miss Susan Naser, who was a native of Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, and who was a daughter of Samuel Naser, who came to Richland county in 1834. Mr. Naser located in Sharon township and lived there his remaining years. After marriage our subject and his young wife began housekeeping on the farm which he now occupies, in Vernon township. This property was a present from his honored father and comprised one hundred and sixty-six acres, to which our subject has since added other lands. In 1880 he purchased a tract of forty acres, which is located one-fourth of a mile south of his home place, and in 1885 he bought another farm, the location of the latter being in Auburn township, across the highway from his residence farm, and consists of one hundred and seventy acres. With these additions our subject owns three hundred and seventy-six acres of land, and carries on extensive farming and stock-raising operations.

Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Crum, as follows: Samuel, residing on the Auburn township farm; Elzina, the wife of Warren Turtle, of Shelby; Jeremiah, of the state of Washington; Curtis, of Shelby, Ohio; John, residing at home; Catherine, the wife of Edward Johnson, of Shelby; and Luella, deceased. In politics Mr. Crum has been a life-long Democrat, and has been of service to his locality in several offices, notably as school director, for several years. He has been long one of the leading members of the Reformed church, as was his wife until her death, in 1888. During his long life in this locality Mr. Crum has witnessed many changes, and has done his part in developing the agricultural section in his vicinity, and is held in high esteem and is one of the most substantial citizens of the county.

### JOHN BURGBACHER.

The pioneer history of Crawford county would be incomplete without mention of this gentleman, who for more than sixty-five years has made his home within her borders, his time and attention being given largely to agricultural pursuits. He has assisted in reclaiming the wild land for purposes of civilization and in many ways has contributed to the substantial development and growth of the county. He has always been an interested witness of its improvement, from the time when the region was dotted here and there

with rude log cabins, down to the present, when fine farms and thriving villages indicate the prosperous condition of a contented and happy people.

Mr. Burgbacher was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, June 23, 1824, a son of Johannes and Rosina (Bypus) Burgbacher. In 1835 the father brought his wife and children to America, sailing in June of that year and reaching New York after a voyage of sixty-two days. From the eastern metropolis they proceeded by lake and canal to Sandusky and thence by team to Crawford county. He was a wagon-maker by trade, but after coming to this country he located on the farm where our subject now resides, purchasing eighty acres of land, of which four acres had been cleared, while a log cabin had been builded. The land was covered with heavy timber, beech, oak, elm and ash, but the father and his sons at once began to clear away the trees and prepare the fields for cultivation. For four years after their arrival the father and his son John tilled what corn they planted with a hoe. The deer were so numerous that they would often come to the hay stack and feed with the cows. Everything was wild, the land was in its primitive condition and the work of progress and improvement seemed scarcely begun, but in course of time all this was changed and the farm is now one of the most valuable farming properties in the county. The father died in 1842, at the age of sixty-seven years, while his wife passed away December 14, 1850. They were the parents of five children.

Mr. Burgbacher, of this review, was eighteen years of age at the time of his father's death. He then assumed the management of the home farm, which he has since operated and which has continuously been his place of residence since 1835. He to-day owns one hundred and seventy acres of rich land, all under a high state of cultivation, and his farm is one of the best improved in this portion of the county. He is energetic and progressive in his methods and his earnest labor has brought to him success as the years have gone by.

On the 3d of July, 1849, Mr. Burgbacher was united in marriage to Miss Susan M. Koenig, a native of Germany and a daughter of William and Marie L. (Fay) Koenig, who came to America in 1833 and located in Chatfield township, Crawford county. He secured eighty acres of wild land, where Gottlieb Knicht is now living, and erected thereon a log cabin of one room. This contained besides a stove, a table and chairs, three beds, and in that room the father, who was a cooper by trade, also engaged in the manufacture of barrels. Both he and his wife spent their last days in the home of our subject and both died when eighty-two years of age. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Burgbacher have been born nine children: Otto P., who died in childhood; Mary, wife of Will-



iam Hohl, of Lima, Ohio; John, a resident farmer of Defiance county, Ohio; William, of Chatfield township; Rosa, the wife of Jacob Bringle, of Chatfield township; Henry and Jacob, who are deceased; Elizabeth, the wife of F. E. Hiser, who is engaged in the operation of a sawmill and tile factory in Carrothers; and Hannon, a merchant of Seneca, Ohio.

Mr. Burgbacher has been a prominent factor in public affairs for many years and has been called upon to serve in many positions of honor and trust. In 1862 he was elected county commissioner and served for two terms of three years each, being chosen to the office as the Democratic candidate. In 1853 he was elected justice of the peace and since that time has continuously served in the office, with the exception of nine years. He has also been trustee for many years and school director for forty years, and in every office in which he has been called to serve he has discharged his duties in a manner winning him the highest commendation of all concerned. He and his wife hold membership in the Lutheran church and are earnest, consistent Christian people, everywhere honored and esteemed for their sterling worth. Mr. Burgbacher aided in laying out some of the roads of the county and has ever borne his part in the work of public progress as a citizen who has the general good deeply at heart.

#### SOLOMON SEERY.

Solomon Seery has resided upon the farm in Lykens township which is now his home for more than two-thirds of a century, taking up his abode there when a boy of ten years. He was born in Ross county, Ohio, September 22, 1823, a son of Solomon Seery, one of the honored pioneers of Crawford county, who aided in its substantial development in early days. In the fall of 1833 the father brought his family to Crawford county, where our subject has since made his home. He began his education in a log school-house, seated with slab benches and supplied with other primitive furniture, and the methods of instruction were almost equally crude. Although a youth of only ten summers when he came to this county, he aided his father in the work of clearing the fields for cultivation and assisted in the plowing, planting and harvesting.

In 1855 occurred the marriage of Solomon Seery and Miss Elizabeth Park, and unto them have been born three children, namely: Independence, a hoop manufacturer of St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin; John W., a resident farmer of Lykens township; and Russell O. The wife and mother died April

20, 1890, at the age of fifty-four years, respected by all who knew her, so that her loss was deeply mourned by her many friends, as well as her immediate family.

Throughout his entire life Mr. Seery has carried on general farming, and to-day he owns three hundred and twenty-five acres of rich land, all in Lykens township. The well tilled fields yield to him golden harvest and everything about the place is kept in good condition. In the early days he was celebrated as a coon hunter. For a half century he has been a member of the United Brethren church and throughout the greater part of the time has served as trustee, while for a long period he was class-leader and superintendent of the Sunday-school. His first presidential vote was cast for Henry Clay, the Whig candidate, and at the present time he is a Prohibitionist. He gives his support to all movements calculated to promulgate temperance, morality and intellectuality and has aided in many interests for the general good. His life has ever been honorable and upright and all who know him esteem him for his genuine worth.

#### HENRY J. OBERLANDER.

On the farm in Lykens township which is yet his home Henry J. Oberlander first opened his eyes to the light of day on the 31st of May, 1847, and throughout his entire life he has been connected with the agricultural interests of Crawford county. He is now numbered among its leading and representative farmers, and wherever he is known is held in high regard.

His father, Jacob Oberlander, was born and reared in York county, Pennsylvania, and there he married Elizabeth Allbright. They began their domestic life upon a farm in that county and also lived for a time in Adams county, Pennsylvania, but determined to try his fortune farther west. In 1832 Mr. Oberlander made his way to Richland county, Ohio, hiring a horse team with which to accomplish the journey. There he resided until 1835, when he came to Crawford county and entered a tract of land of eighty acres in Lykens township, from the government. The following year he brought his family to the new home and soon they were living in true pioneer style in a little log cabin containing but one room. The farm was covered with a heavy growth of timber and it required many long years of arduous toil to clear and improve the place. Throughout the remainder of his days Jacob Oberlander carried on farming here, and at one time was the owner of four hundred and twenty acres of valuable land. He made many excellent im-

provements upon his place and his property became one of the most attractive and desirable farms of the county. He was a member of the Pietist church and an earnest Christian gentleman, who commanded the respect and confidence of all with whom he was associated in the active affairs of life. He died January 21, 1887, at the ripe old age of eighty-three years.

On the old homestead Henry Oberlander has spent his entire life. The common schools afforded him his educational privileges and under his father's direction he early became familiar with all the duties that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. Together they carried on their farming operations until the father's death, and Mr. Oberlander of this review has since resided on the old home place, devoting his energies to the cultivation of his farm, comprising one hundred acres, of which ninety acres is cleared and the greater part divided into fields, which are highly improved. He carries on general farming and his well directed labors bring to him a good financial return.

On the 25th of June, 1874, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Oberlander and Miss Sarah J. Feltis, of Wyandot county, Ohio, and unto them have been born four children: Irvin J., who married Florence Bogart and is living at home; Lawrence E., who married Ida Spade and is a farmer of Lykens township; Iona B., the wife of John Wisenhour, of Lykens township; and Cora M., the wife of Noah Meek, by whom she has one child, Lena L. Mr. Oberlander and his family are well known people of the community and enjoy the warm regard of a large circle of friends and acquaintances. In politics he is a Democrat, but has never sought or desired office, preferring to give his time and attention to his business interests, in which he is meeting with creditable success.

#### JACOB BROEDE.

Jacob Broede, who is carrying on general farming and stock-raising in Lykens township, where he owns and operates two hundred and forty acres of land, is one of the worthy German-American citizens of Crawford county. His birth occurred in Bavaria, Germany, August 25, 1832, his parents being Adam and Catherine (Blinn) Broede. Upon his father's farm he was reared and in the schools of his native land he acquired a good education. At length he determined to try his fortune in the new world, believing that better advantages were here afforded young men. Accordingly he crossed the Atlantic in 1851 and after a voyage of twenty-two days upon a sailing vessel he made his way to Utica, New York, where he worked as a farm hand, by the

month, for two and a half years. On the expiration of that period he returned to Germany, on account of his father's death, and assumed the management of the home farm, which he operated for six years. He then again came to America, spending three months in the Empire state and in the fall of 1860 he arrived in Seneca county, Ohio, where he remained for seven months. On the expiration of that period he purchased eighty acres of land in Chatfield township and for three years made his home thereon, buying his present farm in 1864. He purchased one hundred and twelve acres of Albert Hammond and a few years later added to this a tract of fifty-six acres. His landed possessions now aggregate two hundred and forty-eight acres, and thereon he is successfully engaged in general farming and stock-raising, his business ability, careful management and enterprise enabling him to overcome all obstacles and work his way upward to prosperity.

Mr. Broede has been twice married. He first wedded Jacobina Poth, and unto them was born a son, August, who is now overseer of the brewery owned by the firm of Poth & Sons, of Philadelphia, the senior partner being his uncle. For his second wife Mr. Broede chose Eva Ehresmann, and they have eight children: Jacob J., of Seneca county; Adam, who is now living in Iowa; Emma, the wife of Albert Angeny; Albert, a resident farmer of Seneca county; Malinda, the wife of Henry Kurgis; Henry, Lizzie and Charley, all at home.

Mr. Broede exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the Democracy and, while he keeps well informed on the issues of the day, has never sought office. He belongs to the German Reformed church and is a man of genuine worth. He has never had occasion to regret his determination to come to America, for in this land of the free he has found the opportunity he sought for advancement in the business world and has not only gained a comfortable competence, but has won many friends.

#### ABRAHAM HAAS.

Old and honorable families of Germany have given to America many citizens of exceptional worth. Crawford county, Ohio, has its share of such and Abraham Haas is one of the best known of this class in Lykens township. Mr. Haas was born near Columbiana, Columbiana county, Ohio, November 3, 1834, a son of Conrad Haas, a native of Germany, who was brought to America by his parents when he was ten years old. The family settled in Pennsylvania and thence Conrad Haas came to Ohio, locating in Columbiana county, where he married Catharine Meyer, who bore him eleven children,

of whom the subject of this sketch was the second in order of nativity. John, their first born child, died at the age of sixteen years. Their daughter Lydia is the widow of Solomon Rupert. Their daughter Sarah married Philip Hogert and is dead. Their son Benjamin lives at Aurora, Illinois. Their daughter Catharine is the wife of D. Y. Ditty, of Lykens township, Crawford county, Ohio. Their son Henry lives in Holmes township, in the same county. Their daughter Elizabeth is the wife of David Faileck, of Lykens township. Their daughter Susan is the wife of John Meyers, of Lykens township.

In the spring of 1835 Conrad Haas brought his family to Crawford county, making the journey from Columbiana county with ox-teams, and settled in Lykens township, where he homesteaded one hundred and twenty acres of government land, which he developed into the farm on which the subject of this sketch now lives. At that time the land was heavily timbered and he was obliged to make a small clearing on which to erect a log cabin of round logs. He carried the work of improvement forward as rapidly as possible and became prominent in his neighborhood. He died in 1848, at the age of forty-one years. His death was most untimely, for he was a useful man in the township, where he built the first school house, helped to organize several schools and laid out roads. He was a devout member of the Baptist church and contributed liberally to all its interests. His wife died at about the age of sixty years.

When the subject of this sketch was brought to Lykens township, he was about six months old. He was educated in the common schools and reared to farm work and by the death of his father, when he was fourteen years old, was thrown upon his own resources at a comparatively early age. For three years after his father's death the home farm was leased. Young Haas worked in the neighborhood for a year and afterwards worked near Columbiana until his mother got her family together and came back to the farm. Then, at the age of seventeen years, he took charge of the place which he has managed successfully since, except during a year and a half when he lived in Wood county. He now owns eighty acres of the old homestead, and the good house and other improvements on the place were placed there by himself. He has done general farming and has dealt extensively in horses, and during the days of horse-power threshers, he ran threshing machines in season for many years. In politics he is a Democrat and he is not without influence in the councils of his party, but he has never sought nor accepted public office. He was married in 1857 to Miss Martha Schupp, a woman of many good qualities, who has



been to him a most worthy helpmeet. The recollections of his school days include vivid memories of crude, old-fashioned schools, taught in log school houses with puncheon floors and slab seats and desks, and he has during all his active life done everything in his power to advance the cause of public education.

### SAMUEL DEWALT.

The well-known citizen of Lykens township, Crawford county, Ohio, whose name is mentioned above, is of that sturdy Pennsylvania stock, which, transplanted to all parts of the United States, has been fruitful in enterprise, progressiveness and enlightenment.

Samuel Dewalt was born on the farm on which he now lives October 18, 1855, a son of Robert Dewalt, who was born in Lehigh county, Pennsylvania, in 1818, and was married there to Elizabeth Broder, who bore him six children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the fifth in order of birth. Their daughter Isabella married Owen Olds, of Texas township, Crawford county, Ohio. Their daughters Henrietta and Savannah and their son Alexander are dead. The fifth in order of birth was the subject of this sketch. Their youngest son, Richard, is dead. In 1850 Robert Dewalt removed from Lehigh county, Pennsylvania, to Crawford county, Ohio, and settled on the farm on which his son Samuel now lives. His first purchase of land there was two hundred and twenty acres, thirty acres of which were cleared, and on which a log cabin had been erected. He died there February 17, 1894, aged seventy-seven years, and his wife died October 10, 1877. They were members of the German Reformed church and Mr. Dewalt took a great interest in all its work, serving in the offices of deacon and elder and as a member of the building committee which had charge of the erection of its house of worship.

Samuel Dewalt was interested with his father in agricultural enterprises until 1876, when he took charge of the farm on which he now lives. He owns one hundred acres of the old Dewalt homestead, which, together with eighty acres in another tract, makes his real estate holdings aggregate one hundred and eighty acres. These two pieces of land adjoin and constitute one of the best farms in the vicinity. Mr. Dewalt is a Democrat in politics and is a member of the German Reformed church. He was married in 1876 to Mahala Shawk, of Seneca county, Ohio, and they have four children, Dora; Delora, who is the wife of J. W. Swalley; Alta and Ralph. Mr. Dewalt is a

man of much recognized public spirit, who remembers with pride the fact that he was educated in the public schools of his native township and has always taken an interest in their development and improvement. There is no question affecting the public welfare in which he does not take an intelligent interest and there is no movement for the general good which he is not ready to assist to the extent of his ability. He naturally takes an interest in the church, toward the upbuilding of which his good father labored so zealously, and he is liberal in his assistance of all its varied interests.

#### ANDREW MOORE.

Any adequate account of the life of a self-made man is necessarily both interesting and instructive. It is always a story of human ambition, struggles and triumph and as such must claim the attention of every student of human nature and of the progress of the people at large; and as an example of what may be done by industry and perseverance by one actuated by worthy motives, it is worthy the emulation of all young men who have their way in the world to make. Such a career as is here indicated has been that of Andrew Moore, of Benton, Lykens township, Crawford county, Ohio.

Andrew Moore was born in Erie county, Pennsylvania, February 2, 1847, and when he was six years old, in 1853, his father died. Not long afterward his mother took her family to Crawford county, Ohio, and settled in Texas township, where, at the early age of twelve years, the boy began working on farms by the month. This was necessary from the fact that his mother was very poor and that as soon as they were old enough her four sons were obliged to earn money to be expended toward her support and the maintenance of their home. The names of these sons were William, Joseph P., Andrew and Henry. Soon after the Civil war began Mrs. Moore, who was a devout Christian woman of much education and refinement and of great patriotism, made the following declaration, which her son remembers word for word: "I know that this is to be a terrible war and we must make sacrifices to save the Union and I am willing that my sons should go to the front, and may God protect them and bring them back to me." The sons whom she thus devoted to the service of her country were her only support. Joseph P., the second son, was the first to avail himself of this permission. He enlisted in 1861 as a private in Company H, Forty-ninth Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and was killed at the battle of Stone River, on New Year's morning, 1862. William, the eldest son, was the next to enlist and he was color-bearer

in the One Hundred and First Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and was killed while carrying the flag in the front line of battle at Chickamauga, in August, 1863. At that time Andrew was only little more than sixteen years old, but without serious objection on the part of his mother, who believed that it was her duty, if necessary, to sacrifice her last son old enough to be of any assistance to the cause of freedom, enlisted in the One Hundred and Twenty-third Regiment of Infantry at Martinsburg, West Virginia. His first experience of battle was at Newmarket, where he was dangerously wounded in the left thigh by a minie ball. After lying for two days in a field hospital he was taken to Clairsville hospital, in the mountains near Cumberland, Maryland. After he had been under treatment there three months he was able to go home on a furlough. He rejoined his regiment at Kernstown and after that fought at Winchester, Cedar Creek, and in other engagements and participated in the fighting which resulted in the fall of Petersburg and Richmond. After the evacuation of Richmond the One Hundred and Twenty-third Ohio and the Fifty-fourth Pennsylvania Regiments were detached to burn the bridge across the river to keep Lee's army from crossing. When they arrived at the bridge Lee's cavalry was on the point of crossing the river, and not only succeeded in doing so, but took about five hundred prisoners of war from the two federal regiments mentioned, Mr. Moore among them, who were under guard with the Confederates when Lee surrendered.

After the war Mr. Moore returned to Benton, Lykens township, Crawford county, Ohio, where he remained only a short time, however, before going to Oil City, Pennsylvania, where he was employed for three years. Returning to Texas township, he farmed four years and after that sold agricultural implements for twelve years. After that he was for five years a buyer for Young & Brother, lumber dealers at Canton, Ohio. Since that time he has been buying timber on his own account, cutting it up into saw-logs and selling it in that form to lumber manufacturers.

He is a Republican in politics and is a member of Roberts Post, No. 672, Grand Army of the Republic, at Benton, Ohio. He has held the office of township trustee and has otherwise served his fellow townsmen with ability and credit. His mother, of Christian and patriotic memory, who was a lifelong member of the United Brethren church, died at Benton at the age of seventy-one years.

Mr. Moore was married June 1, 1868, to Miss Mary J. Haskins, and she has borne him three children. Their son Earl was accidentally killed in 1895, while attempting to get on board a moving train of cars. Their daugh-

ter Bertha is now Mrs. Haskins. Their son Clyde, who is a proficient stenographer, is a student at the Northern Indiana Normal School at Valparaiso, Indiana.

### JAMES BRINE.

Men popularly known as Pennsylvania Dutchmen have gone forth from the Keystone state to all parts of the west and southwest and wherever they have gone they have planted the standard of enterprise, prosperity and popular enlightenment and have maintained it wherever they have flung it to the breeze. Crawford county, Ohio, was, perhaps, specially favored in receiving a large number of settlers of German antecedents and of Dutch ancestry from her sister state beyond the Alleghenies. A name that has become well known in Texas township, Crawford county, Ohio, and the history of which may be traced through many generations of such sturdy men and women as have here been referred to is that of Brine, which is most worthily represented by James Brine, who was born in Northampton county, Pennsylvania, August 6, 1833.

James Brine was brought up on his father's farm in Pennsylvania and educated in the public schools, and at the age of eighteen entered upon a three-years' apprenticeship to the shoemaker's trade. After completing his apprenticeship he worked at his trade in Pennsylvania until 1855, when he went to Seneca county, Ohio, and worked on a farm by the month at Honey Creek for five years. After that he rented a farm nine years and managed it with such success that at the expiration of that time he was able to buy the farm of sixty acres on which he now lives. He has purchased twenty acres elsewhere and now owns eighty acres, which he devotes to general farming.

December 27, 1860, Mr. Brine was married in Seneca county, Ohio, to Amanda Fotelman, a native of Lehigh county, Pennsylvania, who had emigrated to Seneca county with her parents two years before. James and Amanda (Fotelman) Brine became the parents of six children, the following items of information concerning whom will be interesting in this connection. James, their first born child, is dead. Their daughter Nora, born next after James, is the wife of Warren Johnson, of Lykens township, Crawford county, Ohio. Alfred, their third child in order of birth, is dead. Their daughter Cora married Benjamin Hushouer, of Texas township, Crawford county, Ohio. Their daughters Mattie and Ruth are members of their household. It has been one of the ambitions of Mr. Brine's life to bring his daughters up to be good women and to educate them in such a manner as to enable them to

take the station in life to which their mental attainments and personal graces entitle them.

In political affiliations Mr. Brine is a Republican, proud of the history of his party and ardently devoted to its principles and work. Taking a broad and comprehensive view of all public questions and knowing that, like charity, national progress begins at home, he has, while not being an office seeker or in the ordinary sense of the term a politician, given his aid to the utmost possible extent to every movement tending to advance the interests of his township and county.

### OWEN OHL.

The man whose name is above is one of the old and honored citizens of Texas township, Crawford county, Ohio, and is a native of the Wyoming Valley in Pennsylvania, having been born in Luzerne county, February 28, 1833, a son of Philip and Mary (Kless) Ohl, who had six children, named as follows: Joshua, John, Owen, Abraham, Caroline and Elizabeth, of whom the subject of this sketch is the only one now living. Philip Ohl served his country as a soldier in the war of 1812 and became a man of local prominence at his old home in Pennsylvania. In 1851 he moved with his family from Pennsylvania to Ohio, and located in Texas township, Crawford county, on the farm now owned by his son Owen. He bought eighty acres of land, on which was a small clearing and a log house. He made improvements and remained there continuously until 1876, when he died, at the age of eighty-three years.

Owen Ohl lived on his father's home farm until 1869, when he removed to Lykens township, where he bought eighty acres of land, on which he lived seven years. After that he lived for four years on a farm owned by his father-in-law, Robert Dewalt, and then returned to his father's old homestead. He has been successful in a material way and has acquired two hundred acres of land, one hundred and twenty acres of which he divided among his children in 1901, retaining only his old homestead. In politics he is a Democrat and he and his wife and children are communicants of the German Reformed church.

Mr. Ohl was married May 11, 1861, to Miss Isabelle Dewalt, daughter of Robert Dewalt, of Lykens township, and they have had seven children, the following data concerning whom will be of interest in this connection. Their son Robert lives in Wyandot county, Ohio. Their daughter Mary is



the wife of P. A. Frankenfield, of Texas township, Crawford county. Their son Richard E. is a farmer in Seneca county, Ohio. Their daughter Laura E. is the wife of Albert Braldie, of Seneca county, Ohio. Their son William is a well-known citizen of Texas township. Their son Albert is a member of their household. Their daughter Ida is the wife of Willard Moore, of Texas township.

Mr. and Mrs. Ohl are passing the declining years of their lives quietly and calmly, with few bitter memories and with many pleasant thoughts of their past years, for their lives have been blameless and their worldly success has been won by most worthy means. Their charity has not been stinted and they have many times proven themselves friends to those in need. Their example has been a good one to their children and to all who know them and they are justly held in high esteem by a wide circle of acquaintances.

#### OBADIAH BANKS.

The family of Banks, which produced the well-known resident of Texas township, Crawford county, Ohio, whose name is the caption of this article, is the same old colonial family of which the late General Nathaniel P. Banks, warrior and statesman, was a representative. Obadiah Banks comes of a good old New York family and was born in Cayuga county, that state, November 29, 1834. His father, Rhesa Banks, was born in Connecticut and married Lucinda Mead, who bore him seven children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the first in order of birth. Ursula and Marion, twins, were next in order of birth and they are both dead. The next born was Sybil, who has also passed away. Their fifth child, Celestia, married Martin Welsh. The next in order of nativity was Ellen, who is the wife of C. Jump, of Benton, Crawford county, Ohio. Their youngest child, David, lives in Texas township, Crawford county. In the course of events Mr. and Mrs. Banks removed with their children to Crawford county, Ohio, and settled in Texas township, where Mr. Banks bought one hundred and sixty acres of land, which he developed into a good farm and on which he spent the remainder of his life, dying in 1885, at the age of seventy-five years. His wife died ten years earlier. He was a man of prominence in the township and was influential in public affairs and for a time he ably filled the office of township trustee.

In 1854, when his parents located in Texas township, Obadiah Banks was twenty years old. He remained with his father, assisting him in the management of his farm until June, 1864, when he married Miss Jane Mulsog,

by whom he has two children, Eva, who married C. H. Miller, who is a school teacher at Bucyrus, Ohio, and Truman, who is a member of his father's household.

Soon after he was married Mr. Banks located on his present farm, which has been his home since that time, except for three years. He owns eighty acres of well improved land, which he is cultivating profitably and is regarded as one of the well-to-do farmers of the township. He has always taken a deep interest in the causes of education and temperance and is a member of the Prohibition party. That he is not without considerable influence in local affairs will be understood when the fact is considered that he has held the office of constable six years and has for four years been township trustee of Texas township. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and has always contributed liberally toward the maintenance of Christian worship in his neighborhood. All in all he is a man of much public spirit, who is ready at all times to assist any measures which he deems likely to further the general interests of his fellow citizens.

#### ANDREW FRANKENFIELD.

Reference has been frequently made in this work to the good influence of Pennsylvania blood upon the settlement and development of the great middle west. Of such ancestry is Andrew Frankenfield, of Texas township, Crawford county, Ohio, who was born in Northampton county, Pennsylvania, April 6, 1820, and was there reared to a practical knowledge of farming and educated in the common schools. In due time he married Rebecca Besulma, who bore him five sons and five daughters, of whom seven are living.

In 1851 Mr. Frankenfield removed to Crawford county, Ohio, where he bought five acres of land, on which he erected a cabin and a log blacksmith shop. Later he bought fifty acres of heavily timbered land, which he gradually cleared and put under cultivation and on which he lived for twenty-five years, farming and doing carpenter work as there was a demand for his services. At the expiration of that time he located on a farm in Seneca county, Ohio, where he lived until 1868, when he removed to his present farm of one hundred and seventeen acres in Texas township, Crawford county, Ohio, where he has given his attention to general farming with much success.

Politically Mr. Frankenfield affiliates with the Democratic party and his influence in local public matters is recognized. At the same time he is not in the ordinary sense of the term a practical politician and he has never sought

nor accepted office. He is a communicant of the Presbyterian church and has for many years been a liberal contributor toward the support of its various interests. He began life poor and is a self-made man, whose success has been won most worthily and who is highly regarded by all who know him.

#### E. LAMBERT.

It is always a pleasure to the writer and it should edify the reader to peruse and consider any adequate sketch of the career of a man who has made his way to worldly success without the aid of influential friends and in spite of many discouragements, a man who, with the single idea of achieving victory, pushes obstacles from his path and, making himself superior to circumstances, presses forward to the goal which he seeks. Such a man is the subject of this sketch, who, though a farmer in a rural community, more fittingly represents the possibilities of legitimate American enterprise than a Gould or a Morgan.

Mr. Lambert comes of that sturdy old Pennsylvania stock which has given strength and activity to enterprise and impetus to education and enlightenment in all parts of our great west, and was born in Northampton county, in the Keystone state, February 2, 1819. He was reared on a farm and became early familiar with hard work and only the most meager educational advantages were available to him. At the age of nineteen he began to work at the blacksmith's trade. In 1843 he removed from Pennsylvania to Summerville, New Jersey, and worked there as a blacksmith for seven years. From Summerville he went to Ohio, and locating in Lykens township, Crawford county, opened a blacksmith shop there, which he conducted successfully for four years, when he traded it for another shop at Benton, in the same county, where he carried on blacksmithing until 1864.

In the year last mentioned Mr. Lambert retired from blacksmithing and bought the eighty-acre farm in Todd township, Crawford county, Ohio, on which he has since lived and the acreage of which he has since increased until it embraces one hundred and seventy-eight acres. The writer wishes to impress upon the mind of the reader the fact that Mr. Lambert has acquired this fine property by his own unaided efforts, by many years of hard toil, during which he has dealt with all with whom he has come in contact with the most scrupulous honesty. These facts are known to all who know Mr. Lambert and they should go far to discourage a belief which has taken root in the minds of many young persons that the easy way and the trickier way is the

only sure way to financial success. Such a man exerts upon the community at large an influence more potent for good than that of a dozen millionaires, who have made their money by grinding the faces of the poor and are flaunting it brazenly before an outraged world.

Mr. Lambert is a Democrat in politics and has held the office of supervisor of his township, which he filled most ably and to the entire satisfaction of all concerned, but he has been without political aspirations and has believed and acted religiously upon the belief that one man who does his duty thoroughly as it comes to his hands from day to day, is more useful than any ten men who go about advising others what they should do, especially men who are actuated by the professional politician's hope of profiting by the labor of others. Mr. Lambert is now eighty-two years old and he attributes his healthy longevity to an active and regular life and to the fact that he has never used tobacco or liquor in any form.

Mr. Lambert was married in 1845, to Miss Margaret Kunnsman, who has borne him six children, Mary, Adam, Samuel, Emma, David and Sarah, of whom all except David and Sarah are living.

#### DANIEL BECK.

The record of a life well spent and useful is always interesting and edifying and it is to be regretted that the brevity necessary to the plan of this work does not admit of the introduction of all details of the life of such men as the late Daniel Beck, of Jefferson township, Crawford county, Ohio.

Daniel Beck, who is descended from good Pennsylvania ancestry, was born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, in 1818, and lived there until 1830, attending school and assisting about the home work. In the year last mentioned, in company with his father and other members of his family, he went to Crawford county, Ohio, where Adam Beck, the father, built a grist-mill within the borders of Jefferson township, and took up land and engaged in farming. Daniel grew to manhood as his father's assistant in his agricultural and other enterprises and remained with him until 1845, when, at the age of twenty-seven, he married. Then under an independent arrangement he took charge of his father's farm, on which he lived until 1855. In 1857 he located on the farm which became known as his homestead and on which he died November 30, 1892. In politics he was a Republican and he exerted a recognized influence upon public affairs.

In 1845 Mr. Beck married Nancy Larciner, who was born in Perry county,

Ohio, February 5, 1821. Their son Robert W. is dead. Their son Joseph lives in Indiana. Their sons William and Shannon and their daughter Louisa are dead. Their daughter Margaret is living in Morrow county, Ohio. Mrs. Beck, who survives her husband, is the daughter of Robert Lareiner, a native of Ireland, who at the age of six years was brought to America by his parents, who settled in Pennsylvania. Later Robert and one of his brothers went to Fairfield county, Ohio, making the journey out from Pennsylvania on foot. Mrs. Beck's first recollections of home are of a floorless log cabin, and she states that she never had anything to do with a stove until after her marriage. The Beck homestead, now under her control, consists of eighty acres of rich and well cultivated land, which is a valuable agricultural property. Mrs. Beck is one of a family of twelve children and the only one now living.

#### SAMUEL S. FREESE.

The family of Freese has long been well known in Pennsylvania, where the name has become identified with success and agricultural and mechanical pursuits, in financial and commercial circles, in the professions and in politics. Wherever representatives of the family have gone, following the westward course of the empire, they have not only planted well, cultivated thoroughly and reaped abundantly, but have been so upright in their dealings with their fellow men and so public-spirited in their relations to their fellow citizens that everywhere the name has become a synonym for good citizenship. There may have been men named Frees who have fallen short of realizing this description, but such have never been known in Crawford county, Ohio, where the family has been well represented by Samuel Freese, of Jefferson township, and by others.

Samuel S. Freese was born at Lancaster, Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, October 8, 1820, one of the five children of John J. and Susan (Eldis) Freese, and he is the only one of them now living. The others were named William, Elizabeth, Susan and Adam. In 1823, when the subject of this sketch was about three years old, he was taken by his parents to Holmes county, Ohio, where the family lived until 1831, when they removed to Crawford county. John J. Freese bought eighty acres of land in Jefferson township, on which some improvements had been made and a one-room log house had been erected. Mr. Freese died at Galion, Ohio.

Samuel Freese was brought up to farm work and received a meager edu-



cation in the subscription school taught in a log school house near his pioneer home. He has a vivid recollection of early days in Crawford county and remembers the now flourishing city of Galion at a period in its history when it consisted of only a few scattered log cabins. He remained on the farm, assisting his father, until 1848, when, at the age of twenty-eight years, he married Lena Eberly and moved on his present farm, on which there then stood a small log house, which has since given place to a substantial modern residence. He proved himself to be a man of exceptional business capacity and became the owner of more than five hundred acres of land, three hundred acres of which he has divided among his children. His home farm of two hundred acres he devotes to general farming and stock-raising.

Samuel and Lena (Eberly) Freese have children named John, Caroline, Eliza and William.

#### ADAM ASHCROFT.

The subject of this sketch is the son of parents who were pioneers in what is now Crawford county, Ohio, and was born within the limits of Jefferson township at so early a date that he might well claim pioneership for himself. He comes of the old Pennsylvania family of Ashcroft and his father was Newton Ashcroft, a son of Adam Ashcroft, in honor of whom the present Adam Ashcroft was named and who was himself an early settler in Crawford county. Adam Ashcroft came out from Pennsylvania in 1828 accompanied by his son Newton and other members of his family and settled in Jefferson township, where he bought the farm which is now the property and home of his grandson, the second Adam Ashcroft. It consisted of one hundred and sixty acres of land, on which there had been a small clearing, in the midst of which stood a lonely little log cabin. Adam Ashcroft, who was a surveyor and school teacher, became prominent in the county and being a member of the church, with a gift for prayer and speech, he did effective work among the early settlers as an exhorter and an evangelist. He was a very industrious man and worked on his woodland farm early and late, chopping down trees, logging, grubbing and burning out stumps and in all necessary ways preparing for cultivation, and when he died at the age of ninety-two years, it was a farm of which he had long been proud.

Adam Ashcroft, grandson of Adam Ashcroft and son of Newton Ashcroft, was born in 1834 and passed his youth on the farm and in obtaining a practical education in local subscription schools, an ambition in which he was

encouraged by his mother, who before her marriage to Newton Ashcroft, was Miss Mary Hershener. Of the seven children of Newton and Mary (Hershener) Ashcroft, three of whom were sons and four of whom were daughters, the subject of this sketch and his sisters survive. Elizabeth is the widow of Samuel Trosh. Mary is the wife of John Creider. Catherine is the wife of John Johnson. Lydia is the wife of Johnson Davis. John and Henry are dead. Newton Ashcroft, who is a carpenter and stone cutter by trade, was a constant resident of Jefferson township, from his advent there in 1828, until his death in 1892, at the age of ninety-two. His wife died at the age of eighty-eight years. Their son Adam, who now owns one hundred and eleven acres of his grandfather's original homestead, has lived on the place all his life, except during two years and he took charge of the place in 1858. He owns two other pieces of land of twenty-five and thirteen acres, respectively. At the age of twenty-one he began working at the carpenter's trade, at which he was employed four years.

In 1858 Mr. Ashcroft married Lydia Crieder, who has borne him four children, as follows: Homer, who lives in Wells county, Indiana; Alice, who is the wife of Richard Hiltner, of Jefferson township; Edith, who is the wife of Harry Smith, of Jefferson township; and Pearl, who is the wife of William De Gray, of Jefferson township. Since he married Mr. Ashcroft has given his attention entirely to farming, in which he has been very successful. Politically he is a Republican, devoted to the principles and measures of his party and, while he is not without influence in local affairs, he is neither a practical politician nor an office seeker, but he is a man of recognized public spirit. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and is a liberal supporter of Christian worship in his township.

#### CHARLES M. HILBORN.

Charles M. Hilborn is one of the successful and progressive farmers of Bucyrus township, and is also a well-known and highly respected citizen. Mr. Hilborn is a native of Crawford county, having been born in Todd township, September 9, 1863, and is a descendant on both paternal and maternal sides from pioneer settlers of this county and of Richland county. Grandfather Hilborn was one of the earliest settlers of Richland county, while Grandfather Joseph Reinhart came to Todd township, Crawford county, when it was but a wilderness. The father and mother of our subject were Samuel L. and Mary

(Reinhart) Hilborn, the former of whom was born in Richland county and the latter in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania.

Charles M. Hilborn, of this biography, is the second child in a family of ten children born to his parents, and was reared on his father's farm, where he remained until attaining his majority. His education was pursued in the common schools, and he grew to manhood a fine type of the agricultural regions of one of the best counties in the state of Ohio.

After leaving the parental roof Mr. Hilborn spent the first summer in operating a threshing machine, and was so successful in this line that he has made that a business for every season since, three years of this time being a partner in the threshing business. His occupation has been exclusively that of a farmer, and since 1890 he has operated a fine farm in this township, where he has become prominent in Democratic politics. During 1896-97 he was the efficient assessor of Bucyrus township, and in 1900 he was almost successful in his candidacy for trustee, having gained the confidence of the public by his excellent management of the business connected with his former office.

Mr. Hilborn was married in 1888 to Miss Catherine Hirtz, who was born in Holmes township, Crawford county, and he has six children living. Mr. Hilborn and family belong to the highly esteemed and respected residents of the township.

### BENJAMIN A. SINN.

The agricultural interests of Crawford county, Ohio, are in the hands of experienced and capable men, whose fertile fields and attractive surroundings testify to their efficiency in their chosen line of effort.

Among the thriving agriculturists of Bucyrus township is the leading citizen, Benjamin A. Sinn, whose birth took place in a log cabin, on the farm now owned by Jonathan Carmean, in this township, on September 23, 1832. His parents were George and Sarah (Hawk) Sinn, who reared a family of ten children. George Sinn was a native of Pennsylvania and came with his wife to Crawford county, Ohio, in 1826, where they were among the pioneers. He successfully operated a grist and sawmill in this county, and about 1856 purchased a farm on section 4 in Bucyrus township, upon which he lived for many years. His death occurred in 1870, his wife surviving for six years. Mr. Sinn was a man of character and prominence, well and favorably known throughout the county, and thrice acceptably filled the position of county auditor, in addition holding other offices of honor and trust.

Benjamin Sinn, of this biography, was reared on the farm, but the major portion of his time was employed in the mill, where he became thoroughly instructed as a miller, both in grinding and sawing. In 1857 he decided to see something of the country, starting westward, and after a period spent in Iowa reached Denver, Colorado. At that time the present flourishing and beautiful city was but a collection of log cabins, and mining was the principal industry, the greater part of the population having been attracted thither for that purpose. Mr. Sinn also became interested in mining, but after a year of trial, with but indifferent success, he turned his face homeward, passing through the state of Missouri.

Upon reaching Ohio Mr. Sinn took charge of a gristmill at Sycamore, Ohio, where he remained for one year, and then went into the operation of a sawmill at Glenville, where he continued for eight years, passing the succeeding five years upon a farm. The following ten years were spent by Mr. Sinn in the successful operation of a sawmill in Fulton county, Ohio. It was not until 1882 that he decided to settle down to an agricultural life on his present farm, which he purchased from his father, but since that time he has shown such marked ability in his chosen line that his success as a farmer and also as a stock-raiser is well known through the locality. Mr. Sinn still continues to look after his stock and farming interests, but not so actively as formerly. A lifelong Democrat, he has taken a deep interest in township affairs, and was an efficient trustee of the same in 1867-8. He enjoys the esteem and respect of the community and is considered one of the representative men of Bucyrus township.

#### LEO WHITE.

Leo White, a young and successful farmer and stock-raiser of Dallas township, Crawford county, is a son of Willard T. White, a retired farmer, residing in Bucyrus, Ohio. The White family is numbered among the oldest in the county. Going back in the history of the ancestry, it is found to be of Virginia stock. Charles White, the paternal great-grandfather of Leo White, was born and reared in the Old Dominion and was about sixteen years of age when the Revolutionary war began. His name appears on the muster roll of militia. He was in active military service several years during the struggle of the colonies for American independence, being for a portion of that period under the immediate command of General Washington. He served also as one of the "minute men." When his father died he inherited as a portion of

his estate several slaves, and being reared amid slavery conditions he was not at first opposed to the system. Through inheritance and purchase he became in time the owner of a large number of slaves. He removed to Fayette county, Kentucky, and while there he liberated his bondsmen. He had fought for liberty in the war of the Revolution and could not believe it right to hold his fellow men in bondage or reconcile it with the principles of eternal justice. Becoming disgusted with the iniquitous system, he liberated his negroes, thirteen in number, and soon afterward removed to Ross county, Ohio, taking up his abode there about 1812. He followed farming with fair success in that county, where he continued to reside until his death, which occurred in 1856, when he had attained the advanced age of ninety-six years. He had three sons, namely: Samuel, George and Charles W., and the first two served in the American army during the war of 1812.

The youngest son, Charles W. White, was the grandfather of our subject. He was born in Fayette county, Kentucky, July 18, 1802, and when about eight years of age accompanied his father on his removal to Ross county, Ohio. At the age of eighteen he left the parental home and visited the "New Purchase" in northern Ohio. He secured work on the Indian mill, located on the Sandusky river, being employed by the government Indian agent at fifteen dollars per month. There he worked for three years and saved his money, with which he purchased two hundred and seven acres of land in what is now Dallas township, Crawford county. After working for the succeeding nine years for different people, he removed to his land, and by industry, economy and good business management became one of the largest land-owners and most successful farmers and stock-raisers of the county. In 1830 he married Hannah Simmons Hoover, and unto them were born the following named children: Lorena, Willard T. and Charles. Willard T. White, the father of Leo White, was born in Dallas township, August 8, 1845. After engaged in farming and stock-dealing on an extensive scale for many years and meeting with prosperity in his undertakings, Mr. White, the father, removed to Bucyrus, where he is now living in retirement from business cares.

Leo White resides upon the old homestead in Dallas township, where his birth occurred July 17, 1870. He was educated in the district schools and has always been connected with the cultivation of the fields and the raising and sale of stock. He has dealt quite largely in cattle and is a very energetic, wide-awake young business man, carefully conducting his interests, yet his methods are progressive and his enterprise and straightforward dealings have gained him prominence as one of the leading agriculturists of his community.



In 1899 Mr. White was united in marriage to Miss Velma Maud Shemer, a daughter of Levi Shemer, of Dallas township, and they have one child, Helen Lorena. Mr. White is now serving as township treasurer, an office to which he has been twice elected. He is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and is one of the leading and influential citizens of the community in which his entire life has been passed.

### ELIAS CRISSINGER.

Elias Crissinger, a trustee of Dallas township and a prominent farmer and successful stock-raiser, was born near Peru, Illinois, August 11, 1853. He was a son of William and Mary (Baker) Crissinger, both natives of Ohio, the former of Marion county and the latter of Crawford county. The paternal grandparents were of Dutch ancestry and removed from Pennsylvania to Crawford county, Ohio, early in its settlement, later going to Marion county where they spent their last days.

William Crissinger was reared in Marion county, but his wife grew up in Crawford county, where her father, Benajah Baker, was a pioneer settler of Whetstone township. Later in life he removed to Indiana and died in Jasper county. Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Crissinger, one of whom has passed away. After the death of our subject's mother in Illinois, when he was but two years old, the father placed the children in the care of their paternal grandparents. Later he married a second time and lived in Marion county, and from there, in 1861, he entered the United States army, and upon the expiration of his term of enlistment re-enlisted, and died at Murfreesboro while serving in the cause of his country.

Our subject did not live with his grandparents very long, as after his second marriage the father claimed his children. After his death they were directed by a guardian and thus Elias had several early homes, but was given a common-school education and was taught how to work on a farm. From early life, however, he was obliged to earn all he received and perhaps the stern discipline of necessity helped to make him the reliable and excellent man he now is.

In 1874 Mr. Crissinger was married to Harriet L. Houser, a daughter of Anthony Houser, of Marion county, Ohio, and then settled in Dallas county, where he began farming, first as a renter. An accidental discharge of a shotgun so injured his hand that the amputation of his arm below the elbow became necessary, and affliction which was borne with most wonderful courage.

For the following seventeen years the family resided in Marion county upon a forty-acre farm given to Mrs. Crissinger by her father, but in 1896 he bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, in Dallas township, Crawford county, where he has since lived and followed farming.

In 1897 Mr. Crissinger was elected trustee, and in 1900 was re-elected for a second term and in the spring of 1901 he was made assessor also and is now serving in both positions, to the entire satisfaction of the community. In politics he is a member of the Democratic party and is one of the representative men of his community. With his wife and family of eight children he belongs to the Methodist church, where he is most highly esteemed for his many traits of Christian character. His business relations have brought him into contact with almost all the residents of the township and there is no one who has more friends than Elias Crissinger.

### JESSE HOLLINSHEAD.

The family of Hollinshead are representatives of those who have been leaders in thought and in action wherever their lots have been cast. The family has been ably represented in Ohio, by Richard Hollinshead and his sons, one of whom, Jesse Hollinshead, is a prominent citizen of Texas township, Crawford county.

Jesse Hollinshead was born near McConnellsville, Morgan county, Ohio, August 25, 1823, a son of Richard and Catharine (George) Hollinshead, who had five sons and three daughters and two of whose sons, Jesse and Philip, fought gallantly for the Union cause in the Civil war, the former in Company H, One Hundred and Twenty-third Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, the latter in the Fourteenth Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry.

In 1829 Richard Hollinshead moved with his family from Morgan county, Ohio, to Seneca county, and in 1838 to Crawford county where he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in Lykens township, of the United States government, his purchase being comprised in what was known as the Indian reserve. The land was heavily timbered and he cleared a small space in which he erected a log cabin and addressed himself bravely to the work of improving his property; but he died at the age of fifty-two years, in 1842, only four years after his arrival there, and his wife died in 1853. When his parents located in Lykens township, the subject of this sketch was fifteen years old, and he received a scanty education in the common schools and was brought up to the hard life of a poor boy on the frontier. He began an independent career at

the age of twenty years, when he married Christina Feasel, who bore him five children. She died on the 29th of September, 1893.

Amanda, eldest daughter of Jesse and Christina (Feasel) Hollinshead, married J. G. Snyder, a wagon-maker and sawmill proprietor of Benton, Ohio. Their daughters, Sarah and Catharine, and their sons, Lawson and Herman, are dead. They have only one grandchild, Jesse H. Hollinshead, son of their son Lawson.

August 19, 1862, Mr. Hollinshead enlisted in Company H, One Hundred and Twenty-third Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry. At Winchester, where he saw his first experience of battle, he was made a prisoner of war. After being confined two days in Libby prison he was transferred to Belle Isle prison, from which he was liberated after about thirty days on parole and went to a camp at Martinsburg, Virginia, and participated in the engagements at New Market and Snickers Gap. He fought under General Hunter at Kernstown and later under General Sheridan at the battle of Opecken. Still later he participated in the fighting at Fisher's Hill and Cedar Creek, and after that his regiment was transferred to the Army of the James, under command of General Grant, and for a time was stationed at Camp Holley at Deep Bottom. Mr. Hollinshead fought at Hatchers Run and participated in the movements against Petersburg and Richmond. After the fall of Richmond, as a means of preventing Lee from crossing the river the One Hundred and Twenty-third Ohio and the Fifty-fourth Pennsylvania Regiments were detailed to destroy a bridge, and in an attempt to carry out that purpose were captured by the enemy and were prisoners with Lee at the time of the latter's surrender.

After the war Mr. Hollinshead returned to Ohio and took up carpenter work and for nearly forty years was successfully engaged in contracting and building. He is a Republican in politics, has been township trustee three years and is a member of Roberts Post, No. 672, Grand Army of the Republic.

#### THE MONNETT FAMILY.

4

The Monnett family is one of the oldest of the pioneer families of Crawford county. Its origin is traced to the French Huguenot refugees. One branch came from near Lyons, France, having been driven from their native country after the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, A. D. 1685. Many fled to England, some to Holland, and afterward three brothers emigrated from England to America and settled in Maryland and Virginia. A large number of the French families by the same name are now living in Montreal, many of

them keeping up their native tongue, and others are found in the French settlements of New Orleans. Different branches of the same family vary the orthography somewhat, some attaching the final "e," others omitting one of the "n's," and some of the old families even spelling it with one "n" and one "t." The Anglicized or American spelling is with the two "n's" and two "t's," and usually accented on the last syllable, but perhaps more properly with an equal emphasis on the first and last syllables.

The earliest record of accurate data of the Crawford and Marion counties branch of the family is of Isaac Monnett, born about 1726, in Westmoreland county, Maryland, where there is still an old homestead by that name. Isaac and his wife Elizabeth had children at this place, and among their immediate descendants was Abraham Monnett, born March 16, 1748. The latter married Ann Hillary, daughter of William Hillary; branches of this family are still found in Virginia, also in Ross and Pickaway counties, Ohio. Of this Abraham Monnett and Ann were born the following children, namely: Isaac, Osborn, William, Thomas, Elizabeth, Margaret, Ann and Jeremiah. Isaac, Osborn, Thomas and Jeremiah settled in Crawford and Marion counties. This elder generation all seemed to have lived to an advanced age and some to extreme old age, and have everywhere left a highly honorable record. Abraham Monnett, the father of Jeremiah, moved into Ohio in 1803, and entered a section of land in Pickaway county, and also land in Ross county, which sections are in the neighborhood of Kingston on the border line between Ross and Pickaway counties, and still bear the name of Monnett sections. Part of the real estate is now in the possession of the Downs family.

The Monnett family in religion became Virginian Episcopalians, but in the pioneer life of Ohio became Methodists.

The wife of Jeremiah, hereinafter referred to, and her ancestors were Roman Catholics,—a strange meeting of the Jesuits and the Huguenots after generations of religious persecution! It could be truthfully said of the elder pioneer Monnett family that they were "diligent in business, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord." The above named Jeremiah was an enthusiastic, old-time and old-style Methodist, and opened his home at all times generously to the circuit-rider, presiding elders and the bishops. Before the days of churches his home was the "meeting-house." His daily family prayer, his exemplary life and his exhortations, precept and example, have left their impress upon all who came in contact with him, even descending to the third and fourth generations. The good deeds done by Jeremiah Monnett have been to his descendants an inspiration, and he has, truly, by them been "sainted."

Jeremiah Monnett was born September 12, 1784, and his wife Aley (daughter of Jacob and Hannah Slagel) was born March 1, 1788. They were the parents of seven sons and seven daughters, two of whom died in infancy. Twelve lived to mature manhood and womanhood: Jacob, born March 18, 1806; Isaac, November 16, 1807; Abraham, October 12, 1811; Elsie, October 13, 1813; Margaret, July 11, 1816; Hannah, December 13, 1817; Ann, August 25, 1819; John, January 11, 1820; Jeremiah, January 2, 1823; Mary, April 2, 1824; Thomas J., January 16, 1826; and Martha, January 21, 1828.

At the marriage of Jeremiah Monnett with Aley Slagel, at Cumberland, Maryland, a part of the bride's dower included a number of slaves. All of these so delivered to him in bondage, he freed, and he early became an abolitionist.

In 1814, accompanied by his wife and young family, he removed to Pickaway county, Ohio, and located near Kingston, and thence he moved directly north, in the year 1835, to a point five miles south of Bucyrus, Crawford county, being half way between Sandusky City and Columbus. He was a man of great physical strength, filled with energy and possessed of great endurance. He not only managed his large landed estate wisely but also reared his family of twelve children to be honored citizens wherever they took up their abode for life. His interest in church buildings and church founding and education never ceased, and he filled his posterity with high ambitions along these nobler lines. Hardly a Methodist church, in fact church building of any denomination, in that part of the county, but that he assisted financially, as well as personally, attending their services and admonishing and exhorting more earnest work for the Master whom he lived to honor. About the year 1844 he founded and established Monnett chapel and donated the premises whereon to build the same. This little spot has been famous in that community for the number of noble youth, also men and women of more mature years, who have received their inspiration for a religious life and their aspirations for a higher social development. In this year, 1901, as a fulfillment to his request of forty years ago, we might say, as a fulfillment of his prophecy, a memorial stone chapel has been contracted for, to supplant the present church edifice that has occupied the site so dedicated by him about sixty years ago. He requested, and frequently repeated in his last prayers, "that a church would be continued there to the last generation." This exemplary citizen and his noble wife each lived to within a few weeks of four-score years, and are both buried in the cemetery adjoining Monnett chapel.



Many of his children and part of their families have chosen this for their last resting place.

Abraham Monnett, his son, referred to in another part of this work, carried on as his life work stock-raising, farming and banking in Marion county, and amassed an unusually large estate, leaving at his death property to about the amount of six hundred thousand dollars. Mrs. Martha Warner, widow of the late R. K. Warner, is the only survivor of the large family and occupies a large landed estate adjoining the old homestead.

The descendants of Jeremiah Monnett have made enviable records also in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska, Missouri and in almost all the western states. Colleges have been endowed, seminaries named for their beneficences, and public charities and churches have ever been remembered by many of these noble sons of a noble sire. From his family altar and from the hearthstone of this devout pioneer have gone forth influences that have reproduced ministers, lawyers, professors, teachers, physicians, railroad men, bankers, ranchmen, land-owners,—in fact, almost all the honorable professions and vocations have been honored by the descendants.

Thomas Jefferson Monnett, the seventh and youngest son of Jeremiah and Aley Monnett, came with his parents to Crawford county in 1835, at the age of nine years. Being the youngest in the family, he had better opportunities than some of the elder ones for cultivating his natural instinct and taste for scholarship and literary life; and in addition to attending the district schools he prepared for college in a select school held in the neighborhood, and afterward attended the Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware, to fit himself for the ministry. He was licensed to exhort as early as 1845. He prepared for his life-work by teaching school in the winters and working on the farm in summer, and all the time taking an active part in church work. After completing his education he became a member of the North Ohio Conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, and was stationed at Melmore, Fostoria, Kenton, Upper Sandusky and other points. He was an extremely hard worker in his pastorates, finally breaking his health down in the work of 1860 and 1861, and so severely injuring his throat that for years he was obliged to retire from the regular work. In taking up his secular work from 1864 until he retired from active work in 1899, he never failed to give much time to church and Sunday-school work and educational enterprises. For twenty years he was at the head of the Woolen Mills at Bucyrus; for eighteen years he was president of the Bucyrus Gas Company and owner of the plant, and at the same time was interested in banking and stock-raising and engaged

in looking after his landed estates. He spurned all sham methods of accumulating wealth, and his word was considered in commercial and business circles as good as his bond; and, notwithstanding his attention given to church and educational work, he amassed a comfortable fortune, as well as endowing his children with a liberal education and financial opportunities.

Thomas J. Monnett died of bronchitis May 10, 1901, at his beautiful home in Bucyrus, in the seventy-sixth year of his age, and was buried at Monnett Chapel near his parents, brothers and sisters, the spot so dear to him. He was married October 19, 1847, to Miss Henrietta Johnston, daughter of Hon. Thomas F. Johnston and Martha (Walton) Johnston, honored pioneers and leaders in their community and for many years residents of Marion county. Of this marriage were born seven children, hereinafter referred to. Mrs. Henrietta Monnett died November 20, 1871, at the early age of forty-one, leaving five children surviving her. Mr. Monnett was married the second time, to Miss Sarah Rexroth, who was at the time principal of the Bucyrus high school. She was an alumna of Mount Union College and brought with her a rich Christian experience, a well-trained intellect and a mind and heart full of noble inspirations. She gave the best years of her life to the rearing of the family and fitting them for the more serious duties of life and training them for high-school and college education, along with her other arduous family duties. She was a devoted companion and a ministering angel to Mr. Monnett in his declining years.

The children of Thomas J. and Henrietta Johnston Monnett were Webster and Agnes, who died in childhood; John Gilbert, known among his companions as "Bert," who died at the age of eighteen years, March 26, 1879. Orin Bruce, the oldest of the surviving children was born September 29, 1850, at the farm near Monnett chapel. He attended school at Kenton and Upper Sandusky, and afterward the district school, completing his education in the Ohio Wesleyan University. Bruce spent several years in the Bucyrus Woolen Mills, was superintendent of the gas works and was interested in the grocery business for many years. He retired to one of his farms in Bucyrus township, where he resides in luxury and ease, surrounded by his happy family. He was married November 24, 1877, to Miss Anna, daughter of Charles and Katherine Hoffman. They have two children,—Ethel Mae and Bessie Monnett.

William Arthur Monnett, the second son, was born at Fostoria, January 4, 1854, attended the union schools at Upper Sandusky and the district schools in Crawford county, and graduated at a commercial college at Pitts-

burg, Pennsylvania, in 1873. He spent ten years as one of the foremen of Wood Brothers in the Union Stock Yards, Chicago. He has always been a stockman, and for years has occupied the old family homestead where he still resides. He was married, February 25, 1875, to Miss Annetta Boyer, daughter of J. P. and Charlotta (Stough) Boyer. They have three children,—Kay, Grace and Charlotta.

The third son was Francis Sylvester Monnett, born in Kenton, Hardin county, Ohio, March 19, 1857. He was educated in the district and select schools and took a preliminary training under Mrs. Sarah Rexroth Monnett, his stepmother, who assisted in training him for the high school and the university. He graduated at the Bucyrus high school in 1875; took the full Greek classical course at the Ohio Wesleyan University, graduating in 1880, and received numerous honors at college in his class, literary societies and in his fraternity. In childhood he mapped out his career and stated before he entered the high school at Bucyrus that he expected to graduate at the high school and at Delaware and take a course in law at Harvard University. He did not vary from his self-arranged program, except to substitute the National Law School of Washington, D. C., for the Harvard Law School, either one of which he had his choice of entering. Having several warm friends at the National Law School, and, preferring the opportunities afforded at the capital city, he chose the latter and graduated at that institution on June 15, 1882.

He was admitted to practice law in the District of Columbia in June of that year, under the common-law practice, and was admitted by the supreme court, in 1882, to practice law in Ohio. He opened up an office January 1, 1883, at Bucyrus, thoroughly in love with his profession, and always adopted the maxim, "Keep thy shop and thy shop will keep thee." He was never without a substantial clientage, and entered actively into the social, political and professional life of Bucyrus and its environments. He was twice elected city solicitor by the Republican party, a party greatly in the minority in this Democratic Gibraltar. He was a frequent delegate to the county, district and state Republican conventions. His young friends in power in the district urged him to accept the nomination for congress, but as he had pledged himself to place in nomination and support "Uncle" Stephen R. Harris, he declined to betray his friend Harris, placed him in nomination and assisted in electing the first Republican congressman ever sent from the district; and in turn Harris's friends urged his nomination for attorney general of the state of Ohio, for which place he was nominated at Zanesville, this state, May 30, 1895, and, being elected, served in that office from 1896 to 1900.

In this position he carried through to the United States supreme court the taxation cases against the Western Union Telegraph Company, the five express companies and the thirteen national bank cases, winning each and every contest, and in his second term took up the fight on behalf of the state of Ohio against the Standard Oil trust, the Tobacco trust, the Cracker trust, the Beer trust, and was the author of the anti-trust act passed by the Ohio legislature in 1898. When he retired from office there were pending upward of twenty-five cases of ouster against these law violators. His vigorous campaign against monopoly brought a cyclone of corporate wrath that hurled him from his office. He resumed general practice the day following his termination of office as attorney general, and has a large and remunerative clientage in the state and federal courts at Columbus and throughout the state.

Mr. Monnett has campaigned in almost every county in the state many times, and spoken before the leading literary clubs of Boston, Philadelphia and several times at New York City, Chicago and Detroit, and campaigned for the national committees through the northwest. He is a constant contributor, on economic questions, to the leading magazines and newspapers of the country.

He took a trip abroad for pleasure and study in the summer of 1899, under contract with a newspaper syndicate to write up municipal ownership of four of the leading cities of England, which articles were broadly published throughout the United States in the leading newspapers.

Mr. Monnett was married to Miss Ella K. Gormly, daughter of James B. and Virginia (Swingly) Gormly, of Bucyrus, February 16, 1888. Mrs. Monnett was a pupil of the Cincinnati Musical College after graduating at a private school at Newburgh, New York, and also took a short course at the Ohio Wesleyan at Delaware. She took a prominent position among the club women of the capital city, and takes a keen delight in public and social affairs. She has always been a church worker, both at Bucyrus and at Columbus.

The fourth child was Miss Effie Monnett, an only daughter, who was born December 25, 1865. She attended private school and was fitted for the high school by her stepmother, graduating at the high school in 1884 and at the Ohio Wesleyan University in 1888. She was fond of her classical studies but excelled in her mathematical grades in all her classes. On February 12, 1891, she was united in marriage to Smith W. Bennett, an active young attorney of Bucyrus, who was afterward selected as special counsel in the office of attorney general at Columbus, Ohio, under F. S. Monnett, and still retains the same position under Attorney General Sheets. Two children were born

of this marriage: Hugh Monnett and Grace Lizetta. Mrs. Effie Bennett failed in health late in the year 1896, and spent the fall and winter and the following summer in Alabama, Texas and New Mexico, and finally succumbed to the dread malady, consumption, on the 27th of October, 1898, and was buried in Oakwood cemetery, Bucyrus, Ohio.

### JOHN C. CAHILL.

Prominent among the eminently successful farmers of Crawford county, Ohio, is John C. Cahill, who is one of the most progressive and intelligent agriculturists of his locality and one who has raised his farming operations into a science. The birth of Mr. Cahill was on the farm which he now occupies, in Vernon township, on April 14, 1862, and he is a son of Richard Wallace and Catherine (Richards) Cahill, and was a member of a family of thirteen children born to his parents. The seven survivors of this once large family are: Eliza, who is the wife of Washington Cummins; James, who resides in Tiro; Isaac, who is an attorney in Bucyrus; Richard, an attorney who resides in Napoleon, Henry county, Ohio; Warren, who lives in this township; John C., the subject of this sketch; Jennette Gundrum, of Toledo, Ohio.

Richard W. Cahill, the father of our subject, was a distinguished citizen of Crawford county. He was born in Derby township, Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, on March 6, 1801, and was of Scotch-Irish descent. He was a son of Abram and Nancy (Wallace) Cahill. His father was an officer in the state militia, and at one time had charge of all of the forces in western Pennsylvania. In 1818 Richard W. Cahill removed with his parents to Wayne county, Ohio, in 1827 removed to Crawford county and later purchased the farm which our subject now occupies. In 1829 he married Miss Eliza Cummins, who died in 1843. To this union were born two children: Abraham, who became a distinguished lawyer of the Dayton, Ohio, bar; and David C., now a practicing attorney of Bucyrus, Ohio. In 1844 he was married to Miss Catherine Richards. In 1841 Mr. Cahill was elected to the state legislature and was re-elected in 1842 and in 1843, serving his constituency in an admirable, non-partisan manner. In 1850 he was elected a member of the Ohio constitutional convention, serving with distinction as a member of that body. In all his career, both public and private, the sympathies of Richard W. Cahill were always with the great masses of the common people, and he was at all times an uncompromising foe of corporations. Mr. Cahill became a large land owner before his death, which took place on October 2, 1886. His



home farm consisted of one hundred and sixty acres, while he also owned two hundred acres east of the town of DeKalb, one hundred and twenty acres in Auburn township, which is now the property of B. F. Lash, and other holdings. He was a power in the Democratic party and held many of the township offices besides his public service in the legislature and constitutional convention. He was known as a consistent Christian gentleman, and his declining years were comforted by the affection of all who knew him.

The mother of our subject was born in 1822, in Vernon township, which is now Jefferson township, a daughter of James Richards, who was the second settler in the township, appearing here in 1821. He was the first blacksmith in the locality, and shortly after the erection of his cabin built a small round-log shop. He made cow bells, prepared iron points for plows, hammered out and tempered axes, obtaining his supplies of iron from Sandusky City. Mr. Richards found much to do in repairing settlers' wagons that had become disordered in the long journey from the east. At this date there were but two roads in the township. The Columbus and Sandusky road, running north and south through the township, had been first cut out about the year 1818, and was simply a blazed path through the forest, from which undergrowth and fallen trees had been removed. The death of the mother of our subject was on February 28, 1898.

John C. Cahill, whose successful farming operations, in connection with his prominent identification with all progressive movements in the township, has become an important factor in this part of Crawford county, was reared on his father's farm. His primary education was completed in the public schools, from which he graduated into the normal college, at Ada, with a view of still pursuing higher branches in a university. However, his father was alone on the farm and needed his assistance, and in 1880 our subject returned to the old home and took charge of the operations there. His parents experienced tender care as long as they lived, and after the death of his father he purchased the interest of the other heirs and now owns the old Cahill farm, with the exception of two small portions. Mr. Cahill is a thoroughly honorable man, liberal with his employes and generous of heart—destitution and poverty never appealing to him in vain. Modest and unassuming in manner, yet when drawn out in conversation his opinions are sound and valuable upon all questions which come under his observation. He is a scientific farmer, thoroughly up-to-date and manages his agricultural operations on the same basis that he would conduct any other business. Hence he has been unusually successful and many of his neighbors are inclined to follow his methods.

Mr. Cahill was married in 1887, to Miss Mary Weirich, who was a native of Wayne county, Ohio, a daughter of Christian and Addie (Miller) Weirich, both of whom are now deceased. To our subject and wife have been born three children, as follows: Allen W., John R. and Edith, deceased. In politics he has been a life-long Democrat, and has been honored by his fellow citizens by election to many of the responsible offices of the township. For a considerable period he served as township trustee. At the present time he is serving his second term as clerk of the township, his efficiency and honesty making him one of the most highly esteemed officials in the county. Mrs. Cahill is a consistent member of the United Presbyterian church, and our subject is usually an attendant upon the services there with Mrs. Cahill. For very many years the family name has been one which has commanded respect in Crawford county, and our subject is a worthy representative of it.

### SILAS GUNDRUM.

Silas Gundrum, a representative citizen and leading farmer of Crawford county, was born in Berks county, Pennsylvania, on the 14th of January, 1830, a son of John and Charlotte (Fogle) Gundrum. The father was also a native of the Keystone state, his birth occurring about 1797, and his father came from the fatherland to the United States. John Gundrum learned the blacksmith's trade early in life, but later devoted his time and attention to agricultural pursuits. About 1834 he came to Crawford county, Ohio, and about six months later located in Bucyrus township, where he purchased the farm of eighty acres on which our subject now resides. This place was then covered with native timber with the exception of about three acres, which had been cleared by a Mr. Cox, the former owner, and to this tract the father afterward added another eighty acres adjoining the place on the south and which is now owned by Lewis Heller. Thus he became the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of land, which he improved and placed under a fine state of cultivation, and he became known as one of the substantial and reliable citizens of the township. He passed to his final reward in 1862. He was an active supporter of the Democratic ticket and was a stanch member of the Lutheran church. His wife survived him but a few months, when she, too, passed away in death. Mr. and Mrs. Gundrum became the parents of sixteen children, seven of whom still survive, namely: Henry, a resident of Richland county, Ohio; Pasetta, wife of Arthur Cleland, of this county; Sarah, the wife of Isaac Cole, of Richland county, Ohio; Lovina, wife of Henry Cloyd, of Missouri; Michael,

who resides in Steuben county, Indiana; Rebecca, wife of James Smith, of Tiffin, Ohio; and Silas, the subject of this review.

The latter was reared to manhood in the place of his nativity, there acquiring a limited education in the old pioneer log school house of his neighborhood. In 1856 he came to Bucyrus, Ohio, and learned the cabinet-maker's trade, but after two years spent in the city his father purchased his eighty-acre tract and, wishing the son to assist him in its cultivation, the latter located on that place, and in 1860 he and his brother Henry took charge of the farm, conducting the same on the shares. After the father's death Silas purchased the home farm and the brother became the owner of the adjoining eighty acres. On this place our subject has ever since continued to make his home, and his efforts in his chosen vocation have been attended with a high and well merited degree of success. His fields are under a fine state of cultivation, everything about the place being neat and thrifty in its appearance, and its owner stands among the foremost agriculturists of Crawford county.

On the 27th of June, 1861, Mr. Gundrum was united in marriage to Miss Lovina Buck, a native of Licking county, Ohio, and a daughter of John Buck. Unto this union have been born eight children, as follows: John, a resident of Polk township, Crawford county; William, at home; Anna, deceased; Joseph, who resides in Sandusky township, this county; Margaret, the wife of Albert Heller, of Sandusky township; Silas and Emma, twins, and both now deceased; and Frank, who is still under the parental roof. Mr. Gundrum is a staunch supporter of the principles of the Democracy and is also a zealous member of the United Brethren church.

#### WILLIAM SHERMAN NYE.

William Sherman Nye, one of the leading business men and agriculturists of Crawford county, is a native son of the Buckeye state, his birth having occurred in Cranberry township, Crawford county, on the 9th of September, 1865. He is a son of Jonathan and Lovina (Inmel) Nye. The father was born in Medina county, Ohio, on the 2d of March, 1823, his parents being Jonathan and Sabrina (Briggs) Nye. Jonathan Nye, the grandfather of our subject, was born in Massachusetts, in 1770, and the father, also named Jonathan, was a well known resident of Massachusetts. The latter was a son of Jonathan Nye, who was engaged in whale fishing, following that dangerous occupation for many years.

Jonathan Nye, the grandfather of our subject, was reared to manhood in

his parents' home, receiving his education in the common schools of the neighborhood. After his marriage he engaged in farming pursuits on his own account, and a few years afterward he removed to the state of New York, where his wife died. He afterward married again, his second union being with Sabrina Briggs, the grandmother of our subject. By his first marriage he had seven children, all of whom are now deceased. Soon after his second marriage he came to Ohio, locating in Medina county, where he entered one hundred and sixty acres of forest land, on which he erected a log cabin. As the years passed he cleared his land, there remaining until 1825, when he sold that property and came to Crawford county, here entering one hundred and sixty acres of forest land near what is now North Robinson. He cleared eighty acres of his land, giving the remaining eighty acres to two of his sons, and there he spent his remaining days, passing away in 1849. In 1853 his widow was also called to the home beyond, and at her death the farm passed into possession of Jonathan and Lorenzo Nye. In 1857 the brothers sold the place and came to Cranberry township, the former purchasing the farm which he yet owns, consisting of eighty acres, while Lorenzo became the owner of ninety-five acres just across the road from his brother. Lorenzo Nye was married, and his brother Jonathan boarded with him until his marriage, on the 21st of April, 1861, to Miss Lovina Immel, who was a native of Cranberry township, her birth having occurred on the farm adjoining that which belongs to her husband, and was a daughter of Philip Immel, one of the early pioneers of this township. He emigrated from Pennsylvania, his native state, his parents having been of Pennsylvania Dutch descent. After his marriage Philip Immel emigrated with his bride to the Buckeye state, making the journey by wagons, and after his arrival in Crawford county he entered eighty acres of land in Cranberry township, the deed being signed by Andrew Jackson. He erected a log cabin, and blankets were hung up for doors and to keep out the wolves. As time passed he cleared his farm and placed his fields under a fine state of cultivation, and there he spent his remaining days, his death occurring in 1885.

After his marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Nye began life in an old log cabin on his father's farm, and through this rude structure the wind whistled and the rain and snow were blown through the crevices, it being almost impossible in severe weather to keep from freezing to death. For five years they remained in that primitive dwelling, and in 1866 they erected their pleasant and commodious dwelling, where they are now enjoying the comforts and many of the luxuries of life. Six children blessed their union, three of whom still

survive, namely: William Sherman, whose name introduces this review; Albert Sheridan, an agriculturist of Cranberry township; and Eli Liberty, who is still at home. The father of these children is a Republican in his political views, and during the Civil war was a staunch abolitionist. Although not a member of any religious denomination his views are in harmony with the Methodist doctrine, and he has always given liberally of his time and means to its support. His life has been crowned with success, and he now enjoys the respect and esteem of all with whom he has become acquainted.

William Sherman Nye, the immediate subject of this review, was reared to manhood under the parental roof, and his educational advantages were those afforded by the common schools of his locality, and the G. W. Michael Business College, of Delaware, where he prepared himself for the teacher's profession. After receiving his certificate he had two different schools tendered him, but that occupation did not prove congenial to his tastes, and he accordingly abandoned all thought of becoming a teacher. At the early age of fourteen years he began working on the farm, and from that time on the major portion of its work fell upon his young shoulders. When eighteen years of age he received his share of the crops, and for five years following his marriage he remained on the home farm, after which, in the spring of 1897, he purchased and removed to the place which he now occupies, consisting of eighty acres. He has placed his fields under a high state of cultivation, which annually yield to him golden returns, and he now ranks high among the influential and prominent agriculturists and swine-breeders of Crawford county.

On the 29th of November, 1891, Mr. Nye was united in marriage with Miss Zella M. Springer, a native of Cranberry township, and a daughter of S. S. Springer, now deceased. Two children have graced this marriage, Bertha L. and Willis L. In political matters Mr. Nye affiliates with the Republican party, but the honors or emoluments of office have never had an attraction for him, although he is a public-spirited and loyal citizen. He is well and favorably known in the community in which he resides, and numbers its best residents among his warmest and most confidential friends.

#### JOHN HARKENRIDER.

John Harkenrider is a well known representative of the industrial interests of Crestline, being foreman in the car shops of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, located in this place. He was born in Allen county, Indiana, August 23, 1852, and is of German lineage. His father, Henry Harkenrider,



was a native of Germany, and after attaining man's estate was there married to Margaret Grush, who was also born in the same country. Believing that they might have better opportunities in the new world, they bade adieu to the fatherland, crossed the Atlantic and took up their abode near Fort Wayne, Indiana, where the father purchased a farm. For forty years he resided in Pleasant township, Allen county, and there died at about the age of sixty-five years. His widow still survives him, at the ripe old age of seventy-eight years, and is yet living on the old home place in Pleasant township. This worthy couple became the parents of five sons and two daughters.

John Harkenrider, the second son and child, was reared amid the scenes of rural life, working in the fields in the summer months, while in the winter season he attended school, his time being thus occupied until he began learning the carpenter's trade at the age of eighteen years. He began business as an employe of George Holmes, of Vermilion township, Allen county, Indiana, to whom he served an apprenticeship of three years, and afterward was employed by him as a journeyman for two years. He afterward worked for other contractors and was engaged on many buildings in Fort Wayne as an employe of Jesse Lower. In 1881 he entered the service of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company as a carpenter, receiving one dollar and ninety-five cents per day for his services. He was with the corporation in Fort Wayne until 1889, when he came to Crestline as foreman of the car shops at that place, since which time he has served continuously in that capacity. His long and varied experience in the line of his chosen occupation as well as his good executive ability and capable control of the business won him the confidence of the officers of the road. He is well qualified for the duties and labors which devolve upon him, and he has control of all the carpenter work in the shops of Crestline and at times he has as many as one hundred men under his supervision.

Mr. Harkenrider was united in marriage to Miss Mary Shaughney, a native of Pleasant township, Allen county, Indiana. Her people were early settlers of that locality. Their marriage has been blessed with four daughters and a son, namely: Lizzie, Annie, Maggie, Loretta and Thomas. Mr. Harkenrider has taken a great interest in the education of his children, realizing the importance of good mental training as a discipline and preparation for life's work. The eldest daughter, Lizzie, having enjoyed good school privileges, is now occupying the position of bookkeeper at the Gibson House. Annie is quite a successful musician and is now engaged in teaching music, while the younger children are students in the schools of Crestline. Mr. Harken-

rider himself had but limited educational privileges, his knowledge being largely acquired by study at night after working hours were over. He has also added to this by extensive reading and observation and is now a well informed man. He and his family are members of the Catholic church at Crestline, and in his political affiliations he is a Democrat. On the ticket of the party he was elected a member of the city council and is now serving in that capacity. His official prerogatives are used in support of all measures for the development and improvement of the city.

### JOHN FISHER.

John Fisher, an engineer on the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railroad, residing at Crestline, was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, February 9, 1852. His father, Adam Fisher, was a native of the same locality, and in the year 1855 crossed the Atlantic to America, bringing with him his family. He believed that he might better provide for his wife and children in the new world, and accordingly he located upon a farm in Crawford county, Ohio, where he carried on agricultural pursuits until his death, which occurred in the year 1878. His wife, Mrs. Catherine Fisher, was also born in Hesse-Darmstadt, passing away in Crawford county. Their children are Adam, Mrs. Grufstein, Mrs. Elizabeth Clemens, Philip, Lein, George, Eliza, Fred, Jacob, John and Mrs. Mary Fiddler.

In taking up the personal history of John Fisher we present to our readers the life record of one who is widely known in Crawford county. He was brought to Ohio by his parents when only three years of age, and has here passed his entire life. He pursued his education in the schools of Crestline and in his youth worked upon his father's farm, assisting in the labors of field and meadow from the time of early spring planting until the crops were gathered in the autumn. Not desiring to follow the plow as a life work, however, he left home in 1871 to enter the railroad service as a fireman in the employ of the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railroad. He was thus engaged for five years, on the expiration of which period he was promoted to the position of engineer, in which capacity he has served for a quarter of a century. He has been offered positions on passenger trains, but has refused these, preferring to run on a freight engine. He is most reliable, painstaking and careful, and he enjoys in an unusual degree the confidence of his superiors. In the line of his chosen life work he has social relations with the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers.

In 1876 Mr. Fisher was united in marriage to Miss Louisa Metz, who was born in Crawford county, October 12, 1854, her parents having come to Ohio from Germany in an early period of the development of the Buckeye state. Two children grace the union of our subject and his wife,—Amos and Howard. The parents hold membership in the Lutheran church, and in his political affiliations Mr. Fisher is a Democrat, supporting the men and measures of the party and keeping well informed on the issues of the day. He has never been an aspirant for office, preferring to give his entire attention to his work. He has a wide acquaintance in Crawford county and his friends are almost as numerous.

#### R. M. YOUNGBLOOD.

R. M. Youngblood, who is occupying the position of clerk in the yard-master's office of the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railroad Company, was born in the city of Indiana, Pennsylvania, March 6, 1840. His father, William Youngblood, was a native of Middleton, Franklin county, Pennsylvania, and by trade was a shoemaker, learning the business in early life, and following it for a number of years. After his marriage he removed to Indiana, Pennsylvania, and thence came to Ohio, locating in Alliance, Stark county, where he died when about sixty years of age. He was of German lineage, the original American ancestors having come from the fatherland. But the grandfather of our subject was a native of the Keystone state. William Youngblood married Miss Isabella McCune, who was a native of Franklin county, where she resided up to the time of her removal with her husband to Indiana county. She lived to attain the age of eighty-five years and died in Alliance, Stark county, Ohio. She was of Scotch-Irish descent. Mr. and Mrs. Youngblood were the parents of fifteen children, thirteen of whom reached years of maturity, while eight of the family are still living, four of the brothers being railroad men.

Mr. Youngblood, of this review, was the eleventh in order of birth and is now the only one of the brothers in the railroad office. He was in his eighteenth year when he accompanied his parents on their removal from Pennsylvania to Alliance, and at that time he secured a position as freight brakeman, running from Crestline to Alliance and Allegheny. In 1862 he was made freight conductor and followed that business with the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railroad Company until 1871, when he was made a passenger conductor, running from Crestline to Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, until 1885.

covering a period of almost a quarter of a century, serving as conductor of the same road. In 1885-6 he tended the switches in the Crestline yards and from 1886 until 1899 was assistant yardmaster at Crestline, since which time he has occupied his present position in the yardmaster's office. The large railroad corporations are exacting in their demands made on their employes, yet are quick to recognize faithful service and to continue in their employ those who are true, faithful and capable and to this class belongs Mr. Youngblood, who has been with the company through the entire period of his business career.

On the 24th of December, 1863, occurred the marriage of Mr. Youngblood and Miss Sarah Hunt, a native of Huron county, Ohio, born in the village of London. They became the parents of three children: Harry, who is living in Crestline; Minnie, at home; and Frank, who is a clerk in the office of the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railroad Company. In his political views Mr. Youngblood is a staunch Republican and is well known among the representative people of the county. He is a member of the Volunteer Relief Railroad Society, an organization formed for the relief of all in need of assistance who are in the railroad employ. For forty-one years he has been connected with the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne & Chicago line and is therefore one of its oldest employes. It would be difficult for anyone in this or other walks of life to show a record of more faithful service than Mr. Youngblood has done, and to those who desire advancement his history should furnish an example worthy of emulation in showing the power of fidelity as a potent aid in the business world.

#### THOMAS N. PATTERSON, D. D. S.

Prominent among the rising professional men of Cranberry township, Crawford county, is Dr. Thomas Newton Patterson, a successful and popular practitioner of dentistry, who in the past six years has absorbed the greater part of the patronage in his line in this section. The birth of Dr. Patterson was in Guernsey county, Ohio, on August 30, 1866, and he was a son of William and Mary J. (Young) Patterson. The former was born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, where he grew to manhood and pursued the trade of millwright for some years, later engaging in contracting.

The early boyhood of Thomas N. Patterson was spent in his home and in attendance upon the common schools in his district, but at the age of fifteen years he began to make his own way in the world. His first work was in a sash factory in Mansfield, and while employed there during the day he pur-

sued his studies at night. With the exception of short intervals he continued in the sash factory for the following ten years and then accepted a position in the wholesale department of the hardware firm of Wagner & Son, with whom he remained one year. His tastes, however, were not in this line, and he determined to begin the study of dentistry. In the fall of 1893 he entered the Ohio State Medical University and in the spring of 1896 he was graduated at this institution. In the following spring he located in New Washington and since then has been very successful in his practice. Dr. Patterson is a student and keeps well informed concerning all of the modern discoveries in his chosen profession, and employs all of the modern implements which have done so much in late years to change the whole practice of his science.

Dr. Patterson was married in February, 1896, to Miss Mary M. Nagle, who was born in Mansfield, and was the daughter of Daniel Nagle. Two children were born of this union: Margaret, deceased, and an infant. Dr. Patterson is an active member of the United Brethren church, where he is highly regarded. His skill and close attention to business have won for him the confidence of the public, and he is regarded as one of the rising young men in his profession whose success is permanent.

### SAMUEL EICHHORN.

Among the worthy German emigrants in Ohio was John Eichhorn, from Baden, who in 1835 located three miles south of Galion, in Morrow county. His son, Adam Eichhorn, was born in Baden, Germany, in 1817, and came over to America with his father, his mother having died in 1834. On attaining his majority he was given one half of his father's farm of one hundred and sixty acres, on which he erected buildings and which he proceeded to improve. He married Margaret Loyer, who bore him eight children, three of whom, beside the subject of this sketch, survive: Christian J., of Polk township, Crawford county, Ohio; Catharine, who is the wife of Peter Zimmerman of the same township; and Emma S., who is not married. Mr. and Mrs. Eichhorn lived on their farm in Morrow county until 1866, when Mr. Eichhorn sold the place and removed to Galion, where he lived until 1873, when he bought a farm of one hundred acres on the Winchester road, two miles and a half west of Galion, where he lived until his death, which occurred October 24, 1900. His widow, now in her seventy-fourth year, lives on their homestead which is now managed by their son, Christian Eichhorn. Mr.



Eichhorn, who was a prominent Democrat, long wielded a marked influence in the affairs of his townsmen.

Samuel Eichhorn was born on the Eichhorn homestead in Morrow county, Ohio, October 10, 1857, and was educated in the common schools and brought up a practical farmer. April 21, 1881, he married Miss Mary E. Hocker, a native of Jefferson township, Crawford county, Ohio, and a daughter of Philip Hocker, who was born in Baden, Germany. For a year after his marriage he worked the home farm on shares, and in 1882 he located on his present farm of eighty acres, then the property of his father-in-law, which he worked on shares for five years. He then bought the place on which, in 1890, he erected an addition to his house and built a commodious barn. He has adequate outbuildings and all necessary appliances for successful farming, and his farm is considered one of the best improved and equipped agricultural properties in the township. In 1901, Mr. Eichhorn bought the John Wardon farm of forty acres, on which are another fine residence and handsome farm buildings. He devotes himself to general farming, but makes a specialty of raising hogs, in which he has been very successful. His methods have been so progressive and so fruitful of good results that he has come to be regarded as one of the most substantial farmers in Crawford county. In politics he is a Democrat and for six years he has been a member of the township school board. He is a member of the German Reformed church at Galion, in which for years he has held various offices, and is now an elder.

Samuel and Mary E. (Hocker) Eichhorn had four children, three of whom survive: Calvin H., who is employed at Flickinger's Wheel Works, at Galion, Ohio, and Edwin W. and Emma M., who are members of their father's household. Mrs. Eichhorn died December 20, 1886, and February 13, 1889, Mr. Eichhorn married Miss Mary Edler, a native of Marion county, Ohio, and a daughter of Carl Edler, a prominent farmer of Jefferson township, Crawford county, Ohio. By his second marriage he has two sons named Roy O. and Earl F. Eichhorn.

#### JACOB ULMER.

Jacob Ulmer, who is carrying on agricultural pursuits in Liberty township, Crawford county, where he is known as a reliable and highly esteemed citizen, was born on the farm where he now resides, on October 30, 1847, a son of Daniel and Barbara (Brose) Ulmer, and is one of the eight survivors in a family of eleven children. The names of these are: Fredericka, the wife of

Adam Durr, of Fort Recovery, Mercer county, Ohio; Abraham, of Cranberry township, this county; Adam, of Bucyrus; John, of Fort Recovery; Jacob, of this sketch; George, of Fort Recovery; Solomon, of Holmes township; and Samuel, of Sulphur Springs.

Daniel Ulmer, the father of our subject, was born in Germany, in 1805, and grew up on the home farm, also working at times for neighboring farmers. In 1832 he left his native land with the intention of finding a better opportunity in America. After a long and wearisome voyage of six weeks he landed in New York city and came on into Ohio to Crawford county, where he knew he would find friends who had preceded him the years before. Mr. Ulmer came with the determination to succeed, and immediately entered a small tract of land, containing forty acres, in Liberty township, located one and one-half miles east of Brandywine Station, and upon it he erected a log cabin, in the forest, and soon after installed his bride within it and settled down to a busy life. His wife, Barbara Brose, was a most estimable young lady, who had come from Germany on the same vessel with him, and she made him a loving helpmate and was a cheerful companion through the pioneer experiences which followed. Two years after marriage Mr. Ulmer sold the forty-acre farm and bought one of eighty acres, in the same township, two miles north of Sulphur Springs. Of the eighty acres five were already cleared, and a log cabin had been built upon it by the former owner. Here Mr. Ulmer went to work with a will, cleared and improved the land, and in later years bought the thirty-acre tract adjoining, erected commodious and comfortable buildings and made his farm one of the best and most productive in the locality. He was known far and wide for his thrift and industry, as well as for his neighborly kindness. On April 30, 1884, occurred his death, and the Lutheran church lost one of its most valued members.

Jacob Ulmer was reared on the farm and obtained his education at the common schools of the locality. When he had attained his nineteenth year his father permitted him to start out in life for himself, after which he worked at the carpenter's trade before and after the harvest seasons, during which time he was employed in running a threshing machine for six years. In 1874 he married Miss Louisa Ackerman, a native of Liberty township, a daughter of David Ackerman, who had been born in Wurtemberg, Germany, and had been one of the early settlers of Crawford county. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Ulmer, viz.: Thomas, Alpheus D., and Catherine,—all of whom reside at home.

After marriage Mr. Ulmer settled down on the home place and farmed

for his father, on shares, until about 1880, when he purchased the place, consisting of one hundred and four acres. His aged father then took up his residence with his son, Samuel Ulmer, the mother having passed away during the previous year. Since that time Mr. Ulmer has successfully pursued farming, his land yielding large crops, and his herds increasing in numbers until he is justly regarded as one of the most substantial citizens of the locality. In politics, like his father, he has always been a Democrat, and has served for several terms as township trustee. His interest in educational matters has made him a valuable member of the school board and he is a leading member of the German Lutheran church. Mr. Ulmer is one of the highly respected farmer-citizens of Crawford county.

#### JOSEPH M. RICHARDS.

Joseph M. Richards, deceased, was a man of sterling worth who made his home in Crestline and by his many commendable personal characteristics won the esteem and confidence of a large circle of friends. He was born in New Brighton, Pennsylvania, June 9, 1852, and there remained until his removal to Allegheny, where he entered the railway service, acting as fireman for his brother on the Pennsylvania road. Before he was twenty years of age he was made an engineer and acted in that capacity with the same road until his death, which occurred in 1892, when he was accidentally killed while on duty. He was oiling his engine and was struck by a passing passenger train, being instantly killed. It was while making a return trip from Pittsburg with freight No. 65. He ran his train on the siding at Steele in order to secure the necessary coal and also clear the track for the passenger train, No. 31. He had gone down under the engine and crawled out while it was letting off steam, so that he did not hear the on-coming train, which was approaching at a speed of thirty miles an hour. A projection struck his head and death followed immediately. He had resided for more than fourteen years in Crestline and was known to every school child almost as well as to the older residents of the city. He was extremely kind-hearted and was numbered among the best residents of the community. He held membership with the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and the Relief Society, and wherever known he commanded respect and the friendship of his fellow men. He was sober and industrious, energetic and reliable, and his many excellent qualities classed him among the citizens of worth.

Mr. Richards in early manhood was united in marriage to Miss Emma

Weber, who was born in Crestline, on Christmas day of '1858, and was a daughter of Michael and Mary (Miller) Weber. Her father was a prominent and honored pioneer of Crestline, conducting a hostelry where the Continental now stands, this place being known as the Franklin House. However, a fire destroyed the hotel in 1860. Mr. Weber was also in the grocery business and was one of the prominent men of the town, occupying an enviable position in business and social circles and as a member of the Masonic fraternity. He died in 1884, leaving a family of three sons and two daughters. His widow is still living.

Mrs. Richards is the eldest of the five children. She was reared in Crestline and there pursued her education. Her brothers and sisters are: George, who is an engineer on the Pittsburg, Ft. Wayne & Chicago road; Christ, a fireman; Mary, wife of James B. Fitzsimmons, an engineer on the Pittsburg, Ft. Wayne & Chicago Railroad; and John George, deceased. Mrs. Richards has considerable prominence in Crestline, being one of those well-to-do ladies of the city. Her home is celebrated for its thoughtful and gracious hospitality and her many friends delight there to gather.

#### P. FRED HOSS.

P. Fred Hoss, who owns and cultivates one hundred and twenty acres of fine land in Chatfield township, represents one of the old and honored pioneer families of the county. When the greater part of the land in this locality was still in possession of the government his grandfather, John A. Hoss, took up his abode in Crawford county. He was a native of Wurtemberg, Germany, and with his family he came to America, crossing the Atlantic in a sailing vessel, the voyage consuming weeks instead of days, as at the present time. Continuing his journey westward to Crawford county, he entered a tract of government land in Chatfield township—the farm upon which our subject was born—and erected a log cabin, after which he began to clear and develop his land, thus making a good home for his family. One of his children was Adam Hoss, who was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, in 1823, and was therefore a lad of ten summers at the time of the emigration of the family to the new world. He was reared here amid frontier scenes and experiences and after attaining to man's estate he married a Miss Leity, by whom he had two children, Adam and Christiana, both now deceased. After the death of the mother the father wedded Catherine Leity, and they had three children, namely: Fred; Elizabeth, the wife of Ben Green; and Lena, who married

Dan Kolb. The father continued to reside on the old family homestead until called to his final rest in 1895, when seventy-two years of age, and the mother of our subject passed away the same year. They were consistent members of the Lutheran church, known and respected for their sterling worth. The father came to the county in limited circumstances but he cleared and improved his farm, worked industriously and with determination, and thus became well-to-do.

On the old family homestead, now occupied by Samuel Koln, P. Fred Hoss was born, on the 4th of July, 1855, and there his youth was passed, the duties of the school room claiming his attention in the winter months, while in the early spring he aided in planting the crops, assisted in their cultivation through the summer, and in the autumn performed his share in garnering the yield of the fields. He was married in 1883 but continued on the old home place until 1888, when he came to his present farm, comprising one hundred and twenty acres of the rich land of Chatfield township. The buildings, fences and other improvements upon the place were put there by him, and he carries on general farming and stock-raising, having well tilled fields and good grades of stock,—all giving evidence of his thrift and careful supervision.

In 1883 was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Hoss and Miss Elizabeth Klink, a daughter of Christian Klink, and unto them have been born four children, Jesse E., Eva, Jonas and Bertha. The parents belong to the Lutheran church and have many friends in the county. Having spent his entire life in Chatfield township Mr. Hoss is deeply interested in its welfare and is a progressive citizen.

#### SMITH W. BENNETT.

Probably no profession affords a wider field for individual enterprise and ability than does the legal profession, and this fact has attracted to its ranks multitudes of ambitious young men in every generation since law became reduced to a recognized science and increasing civilization has demanded a finer discrimination between justice and injustice. "Through struggles to success" has certainly been the history of Mr. Bennett. Handicapped by physical disability, but with strong determination and perseverance, he has steadily advanced until today he occupies a conspicuous position among the distinguished members of the bar of this portion of Ohio.

He was born in Apollo, Armstrong county, Pennsylvania, on the 8th of May, 1859, and is a son of William B. and Mary A. (Herron) Bennett,



both of whom were natives of western Pennsylvania, and removed from the Keystone state to Ohio in 1862. On the 4th of April, 1864, they took up their abode in Bucyrus. The mother died in May, 1899, at the age of seventy years, and the father is now retired in Bucyrus. The only school privileges which Smith W. Bennett enjoyed were those afforded through the educational system of Bucyrus. He was graduated in the high school here in June, 1879, but his study had not been continuous. During his fifteenth year he was ill, being confined to his bed for one entire year with necrosis of the tibia, which left him crippled in the left limb and forced him to remain away from school for three years. naturally a lover of books, he spent much of his time in reading and in his youth had a desire to enter the literary field, but thinking that he was not sufficiently well educated, upon leaving school to become a writer, he undertook to learn a trade from which to derive means sufficient to enable him to prosecute a college course. Physical weakness, however, forced him to give up this work and he was persuaded by his mother to read law. He at first had no inclination to do this, but complying with her request, he soon became deeply interested in his studies—an interest that has never waned, but has grown stronger as he has mastered the principles of jurisprudence and learned of the wonderful science which has developed into the present intricate legal system. His long illness, though difficult to be borne at the time, proved, as Mr. Bennett says, "the most beneficial thing that ever happened" to him. It early inured him to suffering and turned his thoughts toward books. Necessity and his mother's influence turned his thoughts to the law and success has attended his efforts in this direction. He has contributed as a writer to the literature of his profession, as well as to various magazines and periodicals. For thirteen years he was a partner of General E. B. Finley, of Bucyrus. During a part of that time the firm was known as Finley, Eaton & Bennett, and later became Finley, Beer & Bennett, the second member being Judge Thomas Beer, of Bucyrus. Afterward the firm became Beer, Bennett & Monnett, and thus remained until January 1, 1898, when it was dissolved. Mr. Bennett then went into the office of Hon. F. S. Monnett, attorney general of Ohio, as special counsel, and after the termination of Mr. Monnett's term, remained with his successor, the Hon. J. M. Sheets, in the same capacity. He has had charge of very important cases in state and federal courts, and in the supreme court of the United States, at Washington. Some of the most important questions of taxation have been

settled by causes in which he participated, especially that concerning the taxation of shares of national banks.

On the 12th of January, 1891, Mr. Bennett was united in marriage to Miss Effie Monnett, of Bucyrus, Ohio, a daughter of Rev. T. J. Monnett, of Bucyrus, and a graduate of Monnett Hall of the Ohio Wesleyan University, at Delaware, this state. She died October 26, 1898, leaving two children, Hugh M., born February 22, 1892, and Grace Lizetta, born January 2, 1896. On the 28th of November, 1900, Mr. Bennett was again married, his second union being with Miss Annie Drought, of Bucyrus, daughter of William H. Drought, and a lady of refinement and social distinction. Mr. Bennett holds membership in the First Methodist Episcopal church, at Bucyrus, but while an adherent to that denomination, is liberal in his views, according to others the right which he reserves for himself of forming his own opinions upon all such matters. In his political views he has always been a Republican, and has assisted the cause of the party "on the stump" since the Blaine campaign of 1884. He belongs to the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks and to the Knights of Pythias fraternity, and has attained the thirty-second degree of Masonry. At the session of the Ohio State Bar Association, held in July, 1901, he was elected its secretary, which position he now holds. Viewed in a personal light he is a strong man, of excellent judgment, fair in his views and highly honorable in his relations with his fellow men. His integrity stands as an unquestioned fact in his career. His life has been manly, his actions sincere, his manner unaffected and his example is well worthy of emulation.

#### ABRAHAM LAIBBLY.

Throughout his entire business career Mr. Laibbly has carried on agricultural pursuits and is now the owner of a valuable and attractive farm of one hundred acres in Chatfield township, Crawford county. He was born in Mahoning county, Ohio, October 6, 1836, his parents being John and Susanna Laibbly, who had eleven children, six of whom are yet living. Upon the family homestead in the county of his nativity the subject of this review spent the days of his boyhood and youth, early becoming familiar with all the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. On attaining his majority he began farming on the shares, and has always engaged in the tilling of the soil, his industry and careful management making his work a profitable source of income.

In the year 1857 Mr. Laibbly was married to Miss Catherine Mock, and unto them were born two children: Emery W., who is now a resident farmer of Chatfield township; and Matilda, who died at the age of two years. After the death of his first wife Mr. Laibbly was again married, his second union being celebrated on the 17th of January, 1899, when Amy Seiple became his wife.

It was in the year 1860 that Mr. Laibbly removed to Crawford county, taking up his abode upon the farm which has since been his home. He at first purchased eighty acres of land, but has since added to the property, until he now owns one hundred acres. Only twenty acres had been cleared when he took possession, all of the remainder being covered with a heavy growth of timber. He has since cleared forty acres alone, and of the entire amount eighty-three acres has been made ready for the plow and is now under a high state of cultivation, the fields yielding a golden tribute to the owner, while fine improvements indicate his progressive spirit. His first home here was a log cabin, in which he resided for eighteen years, when he replaced it by his present fine commodious residence. Good barns and out-buildings also furnish shelter for grain and stock, and the accessories and conveniences of a model farm are here in evidence, standing as monuments to the enterprise and labor of the owner.

Mr. Laibbly gives his political support to the Democracy, and his fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, have frequently called him to public office, continuing him in the position of township trustee for nine years. He is a member of the parish church, and is a citizen of worth, widely and favorably known throughout his adopted county.

#### AMOS B. CHARLTON.

Among the eminently successful and widely known farmers and stock-raisers of Liberty township, Crawford county, is Amos B. Charlton, who was born on the 7th of September, 1835, in this township, a son of Michael and Anna (Mason) Charlton. Nine children were born to the parents of our subject, and of these six still survive, namely: Mary, the wife of L. H. Mason, of Ashland county; Elizabeth, the widow of J. H. Wert; Amos B., of this sketch; Narcissa, the widow of William Tobias, of Wooster, Ohio; Jonas, formerly a member of the One Hundred and First Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and now a resident of Columbus county, Ohio; and Alpheus D. Charles was a member of Company C, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, during the Civil war, and

died of typhus ever at Grafton, Virginia; and Anna and Alexander have also passed away.

The father of this family, Michael Charlton, was born in Hagerstown, Maryland, on the 5th of March, 1808, a son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Menser) Charlton, who, with their family of ten children, emigrated to Columbiana county, Ohio, as early as 1822. In 1829 his father gave him a tract of eighty acres of land in Liberty township, Crawford county, which the latter had entered some time previously. After one summer's work on this farm, however, Michael returned to Columbiana county, and there married Anna Mason, who was born therein in 1810. In the following spring they returned to Liberty township and settled on their farm, and this became their permanent residence. As time went on Michael Charlton bought other land, adding at different times till he owned four hundred and thirteen acres in Liberty township, and one hundred and sixty in Columbiana county. A long and useful life was his, and although it extended to his ninety-first year it was filled with good deeds, and when death came, on January 15, 1899, he was sincerely mourned by a large circle of friends. To the end he took an interest in public affairs, was a staunch Republican and was a most estimable man. The mother had passed away on September 20, 1892, at the age of eighty-one years, eleven months and seven days.

Amos B. Charlton, our immediate subject, grew to manhood surrounded by excellent home influences, and it was not until he had attained his majority that he embarked in farming upon his own account. His success as a dealer and shipper of stock was immediate, but the Civil war broke out just at this time, and on August 12, 1861, he enlisted for service in Company C, Forty-ninth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and was made second lieutenant of his company. He saw eight months of service in the Army of the Cumberland, under General Buell, but was then stricken with typhoid fever and was sent to the hospital at Louisville, Kentucky, for several weeks. So eager was he to be again in the field that he rejoined his regiment before he was able, suffered a relapse and was obliged to resign his command, sending in his resignation. A change seemed to cause so much improvement that his comrades persuaded him to recall his resignation, and in his desire to be again on the field of duty he did so, but the very next day he was again prostrated and was quickly put aboard the train and sent home. This explains why he never received any formal discharge, although he had been a brave and faithful soldier.

The following summer was spent by Mr. Charlton in recuperating, but the next season he again engaged in farming, working for his father on the

shares and also resumed his buying and shipping of stock to eastern markets. When Mr. Charlton first engaged in the business of shipping he was the youngest shipper in this section of the country. His judgment was excellent, he understood his market, was careful and cautious and his business in this line so prospered that the time came when he shipped as high as ninety thousand dollars worth of stock in a single season. In 1872 he purchased the home farm, consisting of one hundred and seventy-one acres, and has ever since continued to make this desirable place his home. He sold it in 1894 to L. H. Mason, who in turn sold it to W. H. Charlton.

The marriage of Mr. Charlton was in 1869, to Miss Emma E. Hoppel, a native of Northampton county, Pennsylvania, born on the 23d of October, 1849, and came to Crawford county with her parents when quite young. To this marriage were born seven children: Virgil H., who is in the office of the Osborne Machine Company, of Columbus, Ohio; Ary B., a hotel man of Allegheny, Pennsylvania; Michael Z., a teacher, who resides at home; Anna, a teacher and wife of Dr. E. E. Bevington, of Sulphur Springs, Ohio; Mabel, also a teacher, who is the wife of W. F. McCameron, of Sandusky township; and Orlo H. and Donald H., who are living at home. All of the children of Mr. Charlton have been afforded excellent educational opportunities and four of them have been acceptable teachers. Virgil H. and Michael Z. finished their courses at Ada (Ohio) College.

Mr. Charlton has been identified with various interests, for nine years being a partner in the butchering business in Sulphur Springs, continuing until 1895, and he did not give up his successful stock business until 1885. Since the latter date he has paid considerable attention to the farm. In politics he has ever been a stanch Republican, and most acceptably served the township as assessor for three years. His connection with the Lutheran church has covered many years, in which he has held the position of trustee and is known as one of its most liberal supporters. Not only is Mr. Charlton an intelligent and liberal-minded man, but is also something of a traveler, having visited fourteen of the states in the Union. Fraternally he is connected with the Masonic order, in which he is highly esteemed.

### JACOB MUNCH.

One of the most respected citizens and successful farmers of Vernon township, Crawford county, Ohio, is Jacob Munch, who was born in Germany, on April 29, 1847, and he was one of a family of three children born to Nicholas



Munch and wife, who remained in Germany all their days. The former died at the age of sixty-eight years, the mother of our subject having died when her son was but two years old.

Jacob Munch was well taught in the schools of his native land, and at the age of twenty-one, according to the laws of his country, he entered the army, serving faithfully through the Franco-Prussian war. In 1873, after the close of that war, Mr. Munch decided to emigrate to America, in the hope of bettering his condition. His landing in the United States was in the harbor of New York, where he remained one week, coming then to Mansfield, Ohio. Although he was master of the trade of stone mason, he was without means, and it took some time for him to become accustomed to the unknown language and different manners and customs, but his honest face and willingness to work soon made him friends, and he secured employment in Mansfield after a short delay. About one year later Mr. Munch went to Crestline and worked at his trade and also assisted neighboring farmers in agricultural work.

In 1877, by his industry and economy, Mr. Munch found himself able to rent a farm for himself. This was a tract of some sixty acres, in Jackson township, and here Mr. Munch and his estimable wife bent every energy to cultivate the land to its highest condition of producing capacity, and to lay aside means in order to become the owners of one of the fine farms in this favored part of the state. Mr. Munch had been married in 1875 to Miss Christina Riber, who was a native of this township, and who was a daughter of John Riber, who had come hither at an early day from Germany and was a pioneer settler of the township.

For nine years Mr. Munch cultivated the farm in Jackson township, but in 1886 he became the owner of his present home farm, which consists of ninety-three acres, and here the family has since resided, the efforts of Mr. Munch having been directed to their welfare. Honest toil has met with its reward in the case of our subject. It was by no fortunate speculation that he attained his success, but by the application of unremitting industry and self-denial he has changed the condition of a poor German youth, in a strange country, to that of one of the most respected and prosperous land-owners of one of the best parts of the state in which he has made his home.

Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Munch, the five survivors of the family being as follows: Henry; Mary, the wife of Edward Zimmerman, of Mansfield; John; Frederick William; and Tracy, while the one removed by death was named George.

In politics Mr. Munch has become identified with the Democratic party

and his religious connection is with the German Reformed church. He is one of the most industrious and practical farmers of this neighborhood, and his well cultivated land and excellent improvements show his excellence as an agriculturist.

### JACOB BENDER.

One of those business men whose probity is well known and whose career has thus far been distinguished for enterprise is Jacob Bender, one of the leading agriculturists of Crawford county. A native son of the Buckeye state, his birth having occurred in Richland county, on the 8th of January, 1840. His parents were Jacob and Catherine (Hoffman) Bender, and they had eleven children, nine now living, namely: Jacob, the subject of this review; Henry, a resident of Cranberry township, Crawford county; Charles, who resides near Knoxville, Iowa; Christena, widow of Peter Stiving, of Richland county; Anthony, of Vernon township, Crawford county; William, of Auburn township, this county; Lizzie, wife of Cyrus Cross, also a resident of Auburn township; John, who makes his home in Vernon township; and Philip, of Sandusky township.

The father of this family was born near Heidelberg, Germany, on the 5th of October, 1816, while the mother was born at the same place on the 13th of August, 1816, and there they attained their majority and were married, that event occurring in 1840. In the same year they bade farewell to their native land and sailed for the United States, and after arriving in this country, they located in Richland county, Ohio, near Shelby, where Mr. Bender purchased forty acres of timber land. They took up their abode in a small cabin which had been built by a former owner, later adding twenty acres to their original tract, and there they resided for a number of years, when they purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres four miles south of Shelby. There they made many substantial improvements, continuing to make their home there until 1862, when they sold that place and removed to Crawford county, Mr. Bender buying the farm of George Cummings, which contained about two hundred acres of land, located on the present site of old De Kalb, a part of the town having been built on a portion of the land. At one time he also owned three hundred acres of land in Iowa and two hundred acres in Michigan. On his Crawford county farm he spent his remaining days, passing away on the 26th of September, 1897, at the ripe old age of eighty years, eleven months and twenty-five days. He was an ardent Democrat in political mat-

ters, but was never an office seeker, and he became known as one of the most reliable, straightforward and progressive agriculturists of his locality. His wife died on the 15th of January, 1885, and both she and her husband were zealous members of the Lutheran church. While in Germany she was a member of the Reformed church, while he was a Catholic, but after coming to America they both united with the Lutheran denomination and remained true to its teachings until their death.

Jacob Bender, whose name introduces this review, enjoyed only the educational privileges afforded by the old pioneer log school house of the neighborhood, with its puncheon floor and slab benches, and he remained under the parental roof until eighteen years of age. He then removed to Michigan, where he spent about three years engaged at work in a livery stable and saw-mill, but that work proved too heavy for one so young and at the close of that period, in 1861, he returned to Ohio. On his arrival in this state he was engaged by a Mr. Crim to cross the plains to California with a drove of horses, reaching the Golden state after a journey of three months and three days, although a part of the train did not arrive until ten days later. Mr. Bender remained in Sacramento, California, about two years, working in a sales stable and at other occupation. In 1863 he again came to Crawford county, where he was employed as a farm hand for a time, and later, when the building of the Mansfield, Cold Water & Michigan Railroad was begun, he was employed at making cross ties for the company and afterward working on the grading of the road. This work covered the greater part of two years, after which he purchased seventy-two acres of his present home place and settled down to the quiet pursuits of farm life. He has added to his original purchase until the homestead now contains eighty-six acres, and he also owns a tract of one hundred and sixty acres in Cranberry township, and a town residence in Tiro.

The year 1865 witnessed the marriage of Mr. Bender and Miss Elizabeth Molder, a native of the Empire state and a daughter of Jacob Molder, who came from Germany to New York, entering land in Niagara county. About 1837 he sold that place and came to Richland county, Ohio. Unto our subject and wife have been born six children, as follows: Anthony, who makes his home in Sandusky township, Crawford county; Catherine, who is still at home; Mary, a resident of Tiffin, Ohio; Marion, of Auburn township, Crawford county; Nettie, who also resides in Tiffin; and Cory, deceased. Mr. Bender gives his political preference to the Democracy, but is liberal in his views, voting for the men whom he thinks best qualified for public office. The

family are members of the Lutheran church, and in the community where they reside they enjoy the respect and esteem of a large circle of friends and acquaintances.

#### WILLIAM S. BROWN.

William S. Brown, who is now actively connected with the railway service as engineer of the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne & Chicago line, and makes his home in Crestline, was born in Crawford county, August 20, 1862. His father, Joseph Brown, was also a native of the same county, and was born July 7, 1834. The grandfather became one of the early settlers of this portion of the state, arriving in Crawford county with a rifle, which was all the property that he had in the world. His energy, resolute spirit and capable management, however, enabled him to secure a handsome competence. He occupied six hundred and forty acres of land, some of which he entered from the government, and at his death he still owned a valuable tract of one hundred and forty acres, having in the meantime sold the other portion of his property. Joseph Brown was reared to farm life and from his father he inherited a large and desirable tract of land. He lived upon this farm for fifty-seven years and was one of the best known agriculturists of the community. He married a Miss Smith, who was born in the town of Frederick, Wayne county, Ohio, September 14, 1837, and pursued her education in one of the log schoolhouses that were common at that day. In 1854 she came to Crestline with her father, who was a prominent business man of this city, connected with the lumber trade and with the clothing business. In his political views Joseph Brown was first a Whig, but in 1856 he voted for James Buchanan and afterward became a Republican. He died on the old homestead in 1896, and thus passed away one of the honored pioneer settlers of Crawford county.

William S. Brown, whose name introduces this record, spent his boyhood days in his father's home, pursued his education in Crestline, and at the age of twenty-one years he entered upon his business career, following farming and also working in a sawmill for his father, devoting two years to the latter business. He then entered the railway service, being employed as a fireman on the Pennsylvania line in 1885, acting in that capacity for seven years, after which he was promoted to engineer in 1892. Through fifteen years he has been in the employ of the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne & Chicago road, and during that time has had only one accident and that was of a

very slight character, no one being injured. The car, however, broke down on account of being overloaded. Mr. Brown is devoted to his work and the responsible duties that devolve upon him, discharging them with careful faithfulness, allowing nothing to interfere with them.

In 1887 occurred the marriage of William S. Brown and Miss Luella Walters, who was born in Richland county, Ohio, July 22, 1862, and is a daughter of George and Mary Jane (Simpson) Walters. Her parents were born in Richland county, and there the father died, but the mother is still living. Mrs. Brown was educated in Crestline and by her marriage has become the mother of two children: Helen May and Ruth Lucile, both natives of Crestline, the former born January 17, 1889, the latter July 7, 1891. Mr. Brown is a member of the Knights of Pythias fraternity, the Maccabees and for nine years has been connected with the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen. His political support is given to the men and measures of the Republican party and in religious faith he and his wife are Methodists, holding membership in the church of that denomination in Crestline.

#### CHARLES NESS.

For twenty-seven years Charles Ness has been in the service of the Big Four Railroad Company, which he is now serving as engineer. He was born in 1834, and when only about a year old was brought to Crawford county by his parents, who located on a farm one mile west of Galion. The grandfather, Michael Ness, Sr., lived and died in York county, Pennsylvania, as did his wife. Their son, Michael Ness, Jr., was born and reared in York county, whence he came to Crawford county. He was a contractor and builder, and followed that occupation in Galion from 1835 until his death, which occurred December 19, 1900, when he had attained the ripe old age of seventy-six years. He erected most of the early business blocks, churches and factories of the city, together with many of the residences. He was an architect as well as contractor, and engaged in teaching drafting. In public affairs he took a deep and earnest interest, and was one of the charter members of the Lutheran church, contributing liberally to its support and doing all in his power to advance its work and upbuilding. He married Sarah Ruhl, a daughter of Michael Ruhl, whose father laid out the town of Galion, where Michael Ruhl was a pioneer merchant. Mrs. Ness is still living, at the advanced age of seventy-four years. In their family were the following children: Charles, whose name introduces this review;



John, a teacher in the schools of Galion; Michael, who is also living in the same city; William, a farmer of Leesville, who also has charge of a quarry; Mrs. Ellen Overley, of Galion; Ida, wife of James Overley, a farmer and stock-raiser of Todd township, Monroe county, Ohio; Emma, wife of William Gorley, of Galion; Mrs. Margaret Flick, deceased; and one who died in infancy.

On the family homestead farm Charles Ness was reared, and during his active business career he has been identified with the railroad service. In 1874 he entered the employ of the Big Four Railroad Company, with which he has been identified for twenty-seven years. Promoted to the position of engineer, he has since acted in that capacity and is one of the most reliable representatives of the road, being ever watchful in discharging the responsible duties which devolve upon him. He is a member of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and has also had membership relations with the Knights of Pythias fraternity. Mr. Ness was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Casey, a daughter of Nelson Casey, of Polk township, Crawford county, and they now have one daughter, Myrtle E., who is a graduate of the high school and is now a student in the university at Delaware, Ohio, where she is pursuing a special course in vocal and instrumental music. The family enjoy the warm regard of many friends and occupy a leading position in social circles.

#### J. AGNEW, D. D. S.

Although one of the younger representatives of the dental fraternity in Crestline, Dr. Agnew possesses the skill and ability which will win him success, and the ambition which prompts energetic and continued action. He was born in western Ontario, Canada, in May, 1872, and his parents are still residing in Wingham, Ontario. He is the eighth in a family of nine children, among whom are two dentists, two physicians, two sisters who are nurses in the Pennsylvania hospital, at Philadelphia, while the youngest brother is now studying medicine. Such a record probably has scarcely ever been paralleled, and the family is certainly doing its share toward the alleviation of human suffering.

Dr. Agnew, whose name introduces this review, pursued his education in the public schools of his native county, and prepared for his professional career as a student in the Pennsylvania College of Dental Surgery, in which institution he was graduated on the completion of the regular course, with

the class of 1899. He was located at Galion for some time, but in June, 1900, came to Crestline, where he opened an office. Although hardly a year has passed since that time he has already secured a large clientage. He is thoroughly in touch with the most advanced and improved methods of the day, and the work which he does in the line of his profession has given excellent satisfaction. He is a young man of determined purpose, of resolute spirit and commendable ambition, and these qualities cannot fail to bring him success.

#### DAVID KALB.

One of the leading farmers and stock-raisers of Crawford county is David Kalb, who resides in Chatfield township, where he owns and operates four hundred and eighty acres of valuable land. This constitutes one of the fine farms of this portion of the state. It is splendidly improved with substantial and commodious buildings, having three houses upon it, in addition to the residence of our subject. The barns and outbuildings are large, furnishing ample shelter for grain and stock, and fine grades of horses, cattle and sheep are seen in the pastures, while the rich fields give promise of golden harvests. The owner is numbered among the most prosperous and enterprising agriculturists of the county and well deserves his success.

Mr. Kalb was born on the farm where he now lives, March 21, 1844. His father, William Kalb, was a native of Wittenberg, Germany, born in 1800, and after arriving at years of maturity he was there married to Sevina Haynes. In the year 1832 they emigrated to America, making the voyage on a sailing vessel, which was sixty days between port and port. Mr. Kalb first located near Wooster, Ohio, where he purchased eighty acres of land, but after three years came to Crawford county, settling in Chatfield township. Here he bought one hundred and ten acres of wild land, of which only three acres had been cleared, the remainder being covered with a heavy growth of timber. A log house of one room was almost the only improvement on the place. Throughout the remainder of his life the father carried on farming here. He passed away at the age of ninety-one, his wife when eighty-nine years of age. They were both members of the Pietist church and were people of the highest respectability, honored as worthy pioneer settlers, who had aided in laying broad and deep the foundation for the present prosperity and progress of the county. He owned considerable real estate, including three hundred and sixty acres of land in Chatfield township. Unto Mr. and

Mrs. Kalb were born eight children, namely: Sylvania, deceased wife of Michael Lutz; G. William, a retired farmer of Chatfield township; John, Jacob, Catherine, Redenia and Caroline, all of whom are now deceased; and David.

The last named, born and reared on the old homestead, pursued his education in the common schools and when twenty-one years of age assumed the management of the home farm, which he has since cultivated. His practical experience in the fields of his youth well qualified him for the responsibility which he assumed, and as the years have passed he has increased his operations, becoming one of the most extensive farmers of the county. In connection with the raising of grain best adapted to this climate, he is extensively engaged in raising horses, cattle, sheep and hogs, and keeps on hand good grades of stock. In addition to his farm here he also owns six hundred and forty acres of land in Texas, near Fort Worth.

In March, 1869, occurred the marriage of Mr. Kalb and Miss Catherine Beigle, and unto them were born the following: Sarah, deceased; Emma, wife of General Wallymire, of Chatfield township; Lucy E., wife of George Quick, of Chatfield township; Clara, at home; William H., a schoolteacher in Chatfield township; John, David T. and Frederick, who are upon the farm; Lizzie, deceased; and one that died in infancy. The mother of the above children was called to her final rest April 24, 1901, and many friends were left to mourn her loss. The family attend the Lutheran church, of which Mr. Kalb is an earnest member. In his political views he is a stalwart Democrat and has served as school director, while for twelve years he has filled the position of trustee of Chatfield township, his long retention in office being ample proof of his fidelity to duty. He is a man who is ever found faithful to all the obligations of life, who is honorable in his dealing, straightforward in contract, and his many estimable qualities make his example well worthy of emulation.

### JOHN JACOB DURR.

For four score years Mr. Durr has traveled life's journey and his has been an upright, useful and honorable career, which has made him a venerable and respected gentleman. In pioneer days he came to Crawford county, and for two-thirds of a century has been a witness of its development and progress, aiding, as he found opportunity, in the work of growth and improvements, and feeling a just pride in what has been accomplished here.

Mr. Durr is a native of Wurtemberg, Germany, born October 31, 1821, his parents being Henry and Elizabeth (Crumb) Durr, who had five children, namely: Henry and Mary, now deceased; John J.; Barbara, who has also passed away; and Adam, who is living in Mercer county, Ohio. After the death of his first wife the father married Mary Coile, and their children were: Martin, who is deceased; and David, who makes his home in Chatfield township. The father was a farmer and baker, and conducted a tavern in the old country, where he remained until 1832, when with his family he came to America, crossing the Atlantic in a sailing vessel, which reached Baltimore harbor after a voyage of sixty-five days. From that place the family proceeded by team to Columbiana county, Ohio, and in the winter of 1832 came on sleds, drawn by oxen, to Crawford county, locating in Chatfield township. Here the father purchased one hundred and twenty acres of government land, where Thomas Regula now lives, and erected a double log cabin. The land was heavily timbered, and the entire region was wild and primitive, the family, therefore, experiencing the hardships of pioneer life. Henry Durr continued to engage in farming there until his life's labors were ended in death, when he was seventy-five years of age.

Mr. Durr of this review was a youth of eleven years, when, with his father he came to Chatfield township. So wild and unbroken was the trackless forest that he was several times lost in the green woods while hunting the oxen and cattle in his boyhood. He aided in the arduous task of developing the raw land, clearing it of the timber and preparing it for the plow. He lived with his father until his marriage, when he established a home of his own, removing to his present farm, whereon he has resided for fifty-seven years. His first home was a log cabin, and the young couple began their domestic life in true pioneer style, but as the years passed all the comforts and conveniences known to the older east were introduced and the farm was thus transformed into a very valuable property. He now owns one hundred and thirty-eight acres, of which he cleared from the woods one hundred and twenty acres. He has carried on general farming and stock-raising, and has also successfully practiced veterinary surgery. His labors have been crowned with an enviable degree of success and he has accumulated a comfortable competence for the evening of life.

In 1844 Mr. Durr was married to Miss Elizabeth Jacoby, and they became the parents of the following children: Daniel and Benjamin, now deceased; Leo, the wife of the Rev. Philip Kessler; Sarah, who married Fred Crother, of Liberty township; Mary, who resides in Holmes township; and Lena. On

the 18th of June, 1872, Mr. Durr was united in marriage to Hannah Solge. His present wife bore the maiden name of Hannah Herman, and they were joined in wedlock in September, 1890. Their home is a large brick residence, which was erected by Mr. Durr in 1858, being one of the many excellent improvements which he has placed upon his farm. He has long been a member of the Methodist church, and when he first resided in the county religious services were held in his father's cabin. He votes with the Republican party, and has always favored every movement and measure tending to promote the general welfare.











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