

so named in honor of one of Mr. Ware's ancestors, United States senator Nicholas Ware. His immediate family are remarkable for their devotedness to work of a religious and educational character. Eight of his uncles as well as his father have been engaged in the ministry of the M. E. church, while three of his brothers, like himself, are faithful teachers. One brother, N. E. Ware, is in charge of the public schools at Hawkinsville. Mr. Ware organized the Cordele high school in 1895 and is its present principal.

JAHIEL J. WEST, born April 3, 1856, at Chemung, Chemung Co., N. Y., is one of a family of eleven children, all living and having families of their own. His father, a farmer, Geo. P. West, now lives at Waverly, N. Y. Jahiel received a fair common-school education, and at the age of eighteen took a thorough business course at Wyoming Seminary and Commercial college, graduating under Prof. L. L. Sprague. He then went into the milling business at Chemung, remaining there two years, and next engaged in the cider, vinegar and lumber trade at Waverly, where he also established what was afterward called the Herdic Coach line. In 1886 he accepted a position in Gresson, Ga., with the Gress Lumber company, but after eight months, during which he was promoted to the superintendency, he went to Atlanta and established the Georgia Pine and Lumber company, with which he remained two years. He had formed a partnership with Mr. I. X. Cheeves in lumbering, and they now sold out the (Atlanta) business to A. A. Fletcher and G. V. Gress, while Messrs. Cheeves & West assumed entire control of the Gress Lumber company, the former as secretary and treasurer, the latter as general manager. From its very beginning the enterprise so prospered that at the end of nine months its managers inaugurated a new undertaking, founding the Parrot Lumber company at Richmond, Ga., with G. W. Parrot as president, the other two members of the firm holding the same offices as in the Gress company. The capacity of the firm holding the same day, and in connection with it they carry on a general store and operate a railroad. The latter is fourteen miles in length and requires a force of 250 men, ninety mules, fourteen stationary engines and three locomotives. Mr. West has been in charge of the post-office at Richmond ever since it was established. His wife, whom he married in 1884, was Miss Annie Voris of Waverly, N. Y. He is the proud father of three sons: Herbert, aged nine; Stephen, seven, and George, two years of age. In June, 1895, he sold his interest in the Parrot Lumber company, moved to Atlanta, where he can better educate his boys, and established the West Lumber company at 244 West Petters street. At the same time he bought a nice house at 55 East Georgia avenue, which place he expects to make his permanent residence.

DOUGHERTY COUNTY.

S. B. BROWN, banker and merchant, Albany, Dougherty Co., Ga., is the son of B. Brown, native of Prussia, and was born in Atlanta in 1855. His father was a leading clothing dealer of Atlanta for many years. The subject of this memoir attended school in Atlanta, but struck out for himself at an early age. In 1866 he located in Albany, and three years later began work as a clerk for thirty dollars a month. In 1871 he was a clerk in the post-office for a year.

He then worked for D. Greenfield, general merchandise, and from 1877 to 1887 was his partner. He then bought out the business and increased the stock and has otherwise developed the trade until it is not excelled for the line in Albany. Mr. Brown was married in 1877 to Miss Ernestina Plonsky, and they have had born to them five children: Paul J., Ed. D., Lee Roy, Marie E. and Etta R. Mr. Brown is a Mason and a member of the A. O. U. W., Knights of Pythias, Knights of Honor, Legion of Honor and I. O. B. B. His sons Paul and Edward are students at Yale college. Mr. and Mrs. Brown are members of the Hebrew church. In politics he is a democrat, though liberal in his views. Mr. Brown is an excellent example of what push and grit can do in this country. He commenced life as a mere clerk, but by perseverance he finds himself now at the head of one of the best general merchandise business establishments in his section of the state. He is president of the Exchange bank and of the Albany Savings and Trust bank, and owns a large tract of farm land, much of which he is cultivating. He is one of the best business men in the state, and his keen mind is ever looking for opportunities for investment and improvement as will promote the prosperity of Albany. The Exchange bank commenced business about April 17, 1895, has a cash paid-up capital of \$50,000, and is doing a large deposit business. Mr. Brown has frequently been solicited to accept office, but has always declined, finding his business affairs too pressing.

N. J. CRUGER, manufacturer, Albany, is the son of Nicholas and Elizabeth (Robert) Cruger, and was born in Brooklyn, N. Y., Aug. 18, 1855. He attended Swanece university of the south, and in his younger days followed clerking. In 1886 he engaged in the brick business. Not having any ready cash, he borrowed \$1,000 from a bank and gave his paper. In two years' time he had made \$5,000, and demonstrated the possibilities of the business. In 1889 he formed a partnership with W. W. Pace, and the firm manufacture five million bricks annually, and together with their lumber business, their annual sales amount to \$75,000. Mr. Cruger was united in matrimony to Anna Bell Alexandra, daughter of Dr. P. W. Alexandra of Albany. To this union has been born one child, Nicholas Wight, named after Col. Wight of Albany.

F. G. EDWARDS, sheriff, Albany, Dougherty Co., Ga., is a son of F. G. and Eliza A. (Cade) Edwards, natives of Georgia, and was born March 17, 1849. His father died in 1856 and his mother survived until 1876. He was sent to the university of Tennessee for his education, and at twenty years of age opened a store in Albany and commenced business for himself. In 1875 he was made deputy sheriff, a position which he filled until 1878, when he was elected sheriff, and he has since been continued in the office. He is a straightforward, honest official, accommodating and painstaking, and his administration of the office is eminently satisfactory. Mr. Edwards is a stockholder and manager in the Albany Brick Manufacturing company, with a capacity of ten million bricks per annum, and a cash business of \$45,000 yearly. They employ 125 men and have a large plant. Mr. Edwards, besides other interests, owns a fine farm of 1,250 acres, situated about a mile from Albany. As a public official and citizen Mr. Edwards has no peer.

WILLIAM M. GODWIN, deputy sheriff, Albany, is a son of F. G. and Melvina M. (Hill) Godwin, both natives of Georgia. The father died in 1857, when the lad was only fourteen years old. He went to school until the war broke out, when he enlisted with the Georgia state militia. In a short time

