

a successful merchant of Fairburn; William S. Fairburn; Martha, Mrs. William A. McCurry, Fairburn; Letitia, deceased wife of Moses Westbrook, also deceased; Emma, deceased wife of John F. Goodman; Lola, wife of W. F. Lester, Fairburn; and M. P., the gentleman named above. Mr. Harvey was educated at Fayetteville, and at the age of eighteen began his business career by clerking for Landrum & Bro., of Atlanta. Continuing there for a year and a half, he came to Fairburn, where he was engaged for four years in the store of his brother Charles. In 1875 he began business on his own account in Fairburn, starting with a capital of but \$500. By careful management and attention to the wants of his customers he gradually built up a fine trade, and is now one of the leading merchants of his town. Mr. Harvey's successful conduct of his private affairs has directed the attention of the public to him, and has brought him many positions of trust. He served the Southern Express company for a number of years, and has also been on the town council. In 1886 he became the candidate of his party for the legislature, and being elected, served in the two following sessions. While a member of that body he did good service on the committees of banking, blind asylum, and education. Mr. Harvey was most happily married in 1881 in Fairburn to Miss Janie, daughter of John F. Beavers. Five children have come to add life and light to their home, as follows: Chester, Harry, Corinne, Henry G., and Mathias P., Jr. Mr. Harvey has been a prominent member of the masonic fraternity for years; of the Knights of Honor; the Golden Chain; and he and his wife are leading members of the Baptist church.

LATHAM. This is another of the old Virginia families which has been transplanted from the Old Dominion. It is of English extraction, and settled in Floyd county, Va., where Henry Latham reared a family of three sons. Thomas A., one of these sons, was born in 1799, and was first apprenticed to the latter's trade. Evincing some literary ability he was given an education and, studying law, began the practice of his profession in his home county. In 1829 he came to Georgia, where he settled at Campbellton, the county-seat of Campbell county. Here he passed his life as a lawyer and planter. He soon commanded a good practice and until his death was regarded as one of the most profound lawyers in the state. He was an advocate of great power and as a counsellor was looked upon as absolutely safe. He was a man of great public spirit and as a democrat represented his county in the legislature several terms. In 1831 his marriage with Caroline M. Smith was solemnized. She was also a Virginian. Their family consisted of Henry T., who died a cadet at West Point military school; Virginia A., married Owen H. Cochran, and died in 1883; Ella C., deceased wife of W. J. Garrett; William L., Harris county; Thomas W., Atlanta; Mary A. (Mrs. Dr. J. T. Davenport), Fairburn; Joseph L., Campbellton, and George, Fairburn. The father of these children died in 1862 and the mother in 1875. Joseph L. Latham is a prominent merchant and planter and lives at Campbellton, Campbell county, in the old Latham house, where he was born June 23, 1850. Like all boys of his age, the war interfered with his education. His father dying when he was but twelve years old and the rigors of war being on the country, he was compelled to buckle down to physical labor earlier than would have otherwise happened. He conducted the affairs of the plantation till 1874, when he went into the mercantile business at Campbellton, and which he has continued with success to the present time. He is also interested in farming, he and his brother owning the old home plantation of 1,200 acres. He was married April 29, 1880, to Miss Eliza R., daughter of M. H. Collins, and is the father of seven children: Henry T., Moley B., Joseph L., Jr., Clare C., George, Smith and Mary Ellen. Mr. Latham takes an active interest in the politics of his state and county and is a tower of strength

in his party. In 1892 the democratic leaders felt that they must pick the very strongest man in the county to head their ticket for the legislature, as the people's party had developed unexpected strength in Campbell county. The choice fell on Mr. Latham, and so successfully was the campaign conducted a majority of 294 votes resulted in his favor, larger than had been witnessed since the war. He served his constituents faithfully during the following sessions and did important work as a member of the committees on education, penitentiary and corporations. Again in 1894 he became the standard-bearer and again defeated his opponent. He served in the session of last winter and was a member of the following committees: Education, penitentiary, agriculture. Mr. Latham is a Mason, being treasurer of Campbellton lodge No. 76. As a citizen he is popular, and as a gentleman has a large number of friends.

REV. L. P. NEESE, the revered pastor of the Methodist church at Fairburn, Campbell Co., Ga., was born in Franklin county, Ga., July 26, 1838. Jacob Neese, his father, born in North Carolina in 1811, came to Georgia while still a young man, where he married and settled on a plantation in Franklin county. After a residence there of some years he removed to Cobb county, where he died in 1860. He was an earnest and devoted Christian, a member of the Methodist church, in which he was an exhorter. His wife, Minerva, was a daughter of John and Elizabeth Sewell, both of Georgia birth and English descent. To them were born eleven children: Rev. Levi P.; Andrew P., a physician in Texas; Jane E.; Mrs. Wm. Freeman, Franklin county; James P., died in Savannah during the war; John W., also died in the army; William P., planter, Milton county, Ga.; Jacob P., merchant, Forsyth county; Mary (Mrs. F. Adair), Forsyth county; D. F., merchant and farmer, Polk county, Ga.; Joseph P., planter, and Martha, who is the wife of Mr. Lewis, near Dalton, Ga. The eldest of this family, Rev. Levi P. Neese, spent his boyhood on the farm, where he received an excellent moral training and his primary education. He was subsequently given the advantages of the Emanuel county high school, where he finished his literary education. In 1858 he entered on his chosen life-work, the ministry of the Methodist church, joining the north Georgia conference, of which body he has since been a member. Of this ministry it is only proper to say that it has been attended, under the blessing of the Lord, with much success, bringing into the fold a large number of erring ones and helping to a stronger and brighter faith many already within the pale of the church. In the pulpit Rev. Neese is earnest and convincing, and is much beloved among his people for his social qualities. His married life dates from 1868, when he was happily wedded to Miss Sue McLeod. Mrs. Neese has been a helpmeet, indeed, and takes a great interest in her husband's work. She is a daughter of Duncan and Amanda (Smith) McLeod. The former, born May 27, 1810, in Georgia, died in the same state Nov. 6, 1889; the latter was born Aug. 6, 1826, and is now living with her daughter, Mrs. Neese. The children born to Rev. and Mrs. Neese are as follows: The first child died at birth; James, born May 27, 1872, is a graduate of Oxford college, practicing law; Pearl E., born Aug. 12, 1874, died Nov. 4, 1882; Marvin, born Feb. 17, 1877; Ruby H., born Aug. 5, 1879, died Aug. 5, 1881; Rebekah M. J., born Dec. 13, 1881; Mamie E. H., born July 27, 1884, and Lutie P., born Dec. 5, 1886.

JOSEPH J. NIXON, planter, Palmetto, Campbell Co., Ga., is the son of Francis and Anna (Ray) Nixon, and was born in Meriwether county, Ga., Oct. 12, 1839. The grandfather of this gentleman, Joseph Nixon, was a native of Ireland, and came to Georgia a young man in the latter part of the last century, settling in Ogle-