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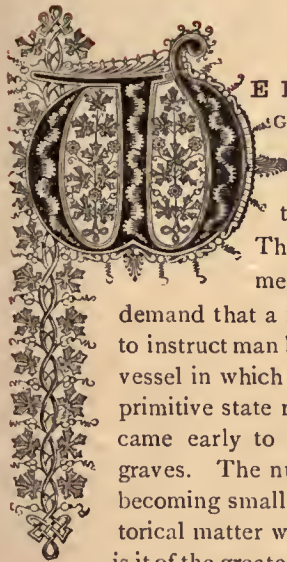








# PREFACE



WE HAVE completed our labors in writing and compiling the PORTRAIT AND BIOGRAPHICAL ALBUM of this county, and wish, in presenting it to our patrons, to speak briefly of the importance of local works of this nature. It is certainly the duty of the present to commemorate the past, to perpetuate the names of the pioneers, to furnish a record of their early settlement, and to relate the story of their progress. The civilization of our day, the enlightenment of the age, and this solemn duty which men of the present time owe to their ancestors, to themselves and to their posterity, demand that a record of their lives and deeds should be made. In local history is found a power to instruct man by precedent, to enliven the mental faculties, and to waft down the river of time a safe vessel in which the names and actions of the people who contributed to raise this region from its primitive state may be preserved. Surely and rapidly the noble men, who in their vigor and prime came early to the county and claimed the virgin soil as their heritage, are passing to their graves. The number remaining who can relate the history of the first days of settlement is becoming small indeed, so that an actual necessity exists for the collection and preservation of historical matter without delay, before the settlers of the wilderness are cut down by time. Not only is it of the greatest importance to render history of pioneer times full and accurate, but it is also essential that the history of the county, from its settlement to the present day, should be treated through its various phases, so that a record, complete and impartial, may be handed down to the future. The present the age of progress, is reviewed, standing out in bold relief over the quiet, unostentatious olden times; it is a brilliant record, which is destined to live in the future; the good works of men, their magnificent enterprises, their lives, whether commercial or military, do not sink into oblivion, but, on the contrary, grow brighter with age, and contribute to build up a record which carries with it precedents and principles that will be advanced and observed when the acts of soulless men will be forgotten and their very names hidden in obscurity.

In the preparation of the personal sketches contained in this volume, unusual care and pains were taken to have them accurate, even in the smallest detail. Indeed, nothing was passed lightly over or treated indifferently; and we flatter ourselves that it is one of the most accurate works of its nature ever published.

As one of the most interesting features of this work, we present the portraits of numerous representative citizens. It has been our aim to have the prominent men of to-day, as well as the pioneers, represented in this department; and we congratulate ourselves on the uniformly high character of the gentlemen whose portraits we present. They are in the strictest sense representative men, and are selected from all the callings and professions worthy to be given. There are others, it is true, who claim equal prominence with those given; but of course it was impossible for us to give portraits of all the leading men and pioneers of the county. We are under great obligation to many of the noble and generous people of this county for kindly and material assistance in the preparation of this ALBUM.





PORTRAITS  
AND  
BIOGRAPHIES

OF THE

GOVERNORS OF ILL.,

AND OF THE

PRESIDENTS

OF THE

UNITED STATES.

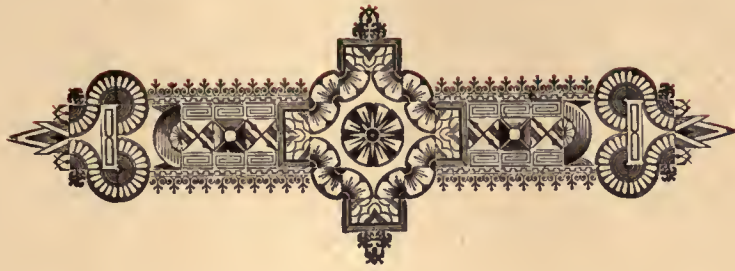


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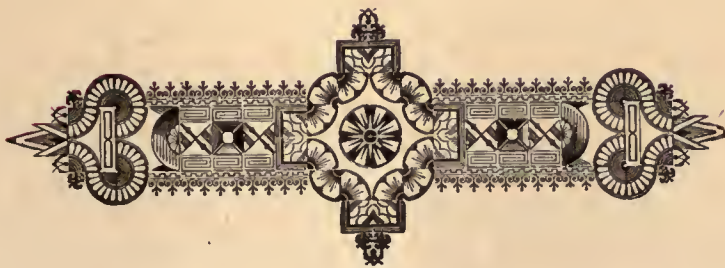
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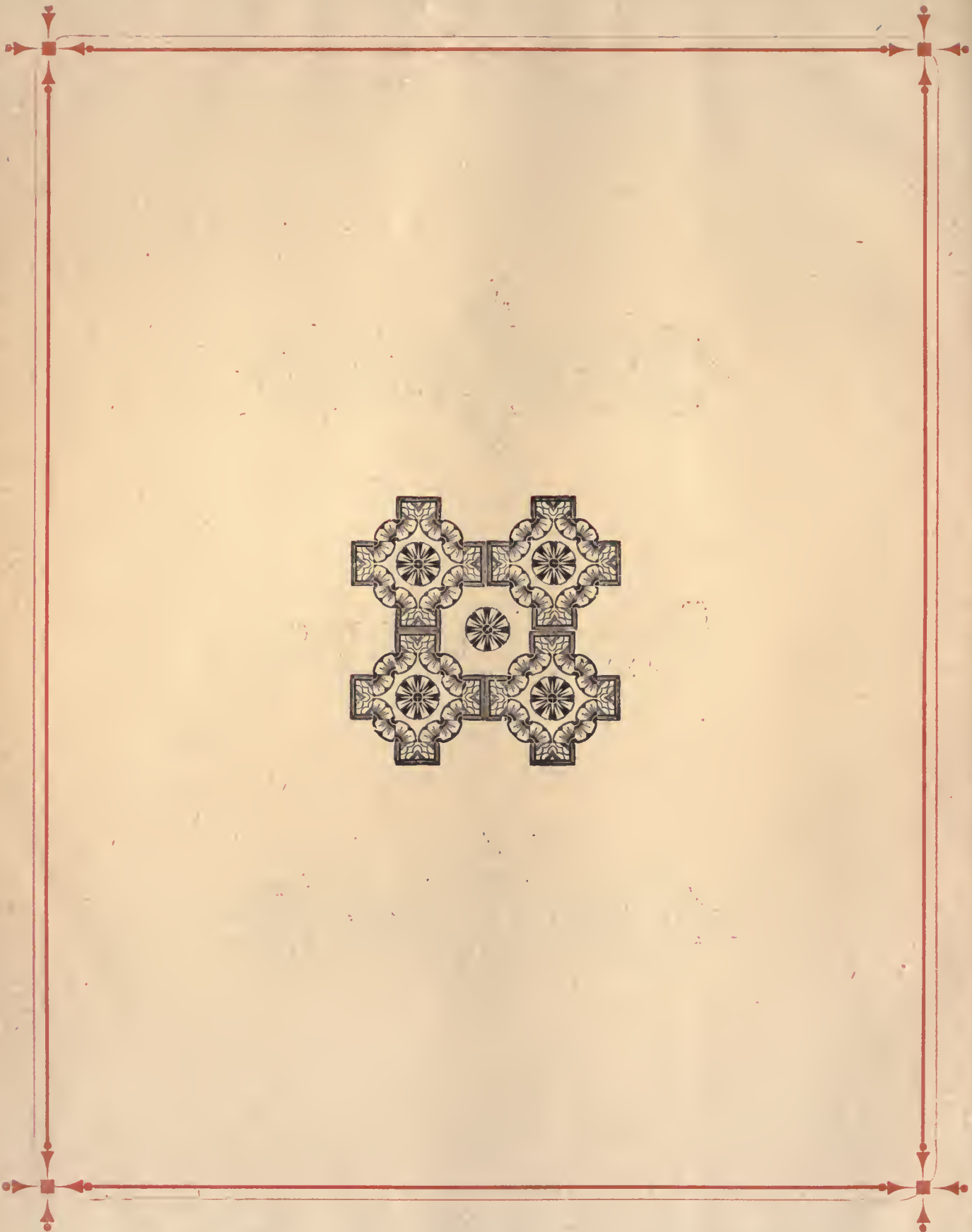
CHARMAN BROS.

1885.

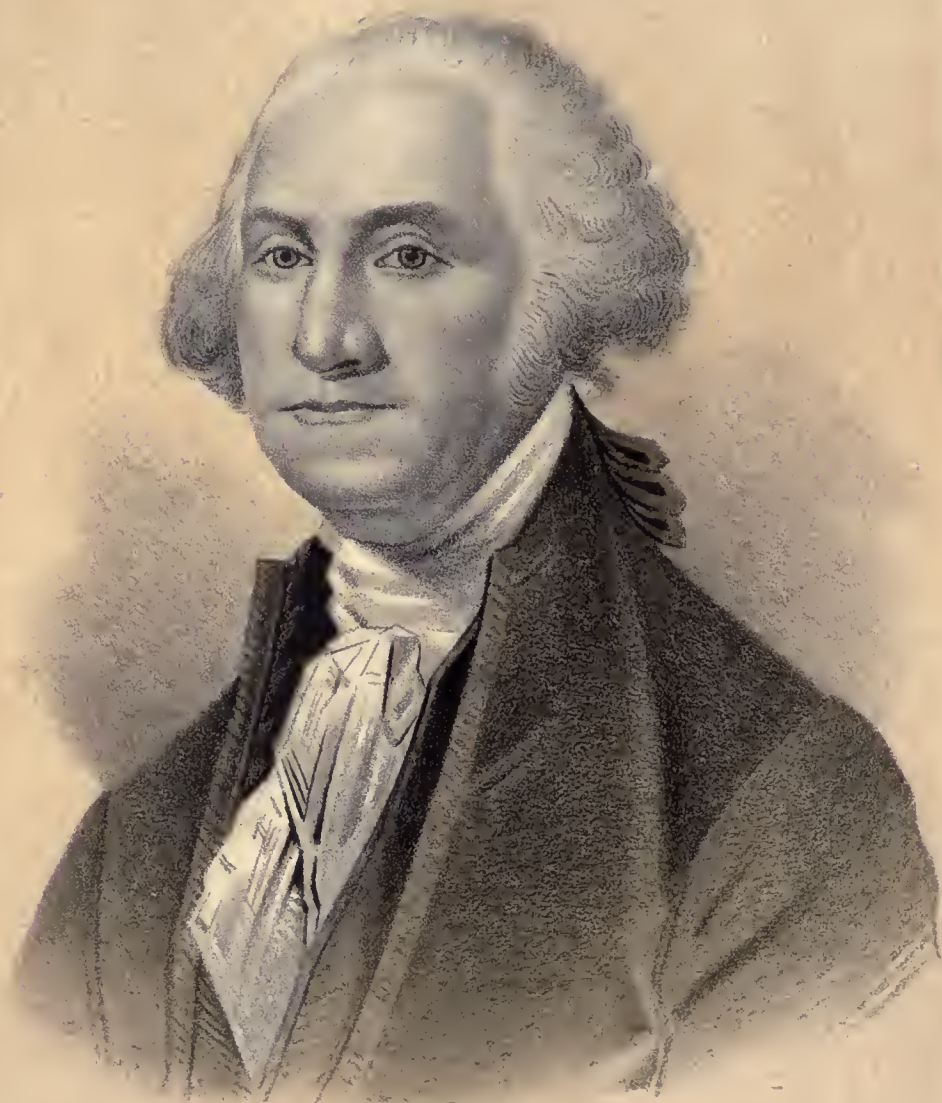


PREIDENTS.









*George Washington*





## GEORGE WASHINGTON.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

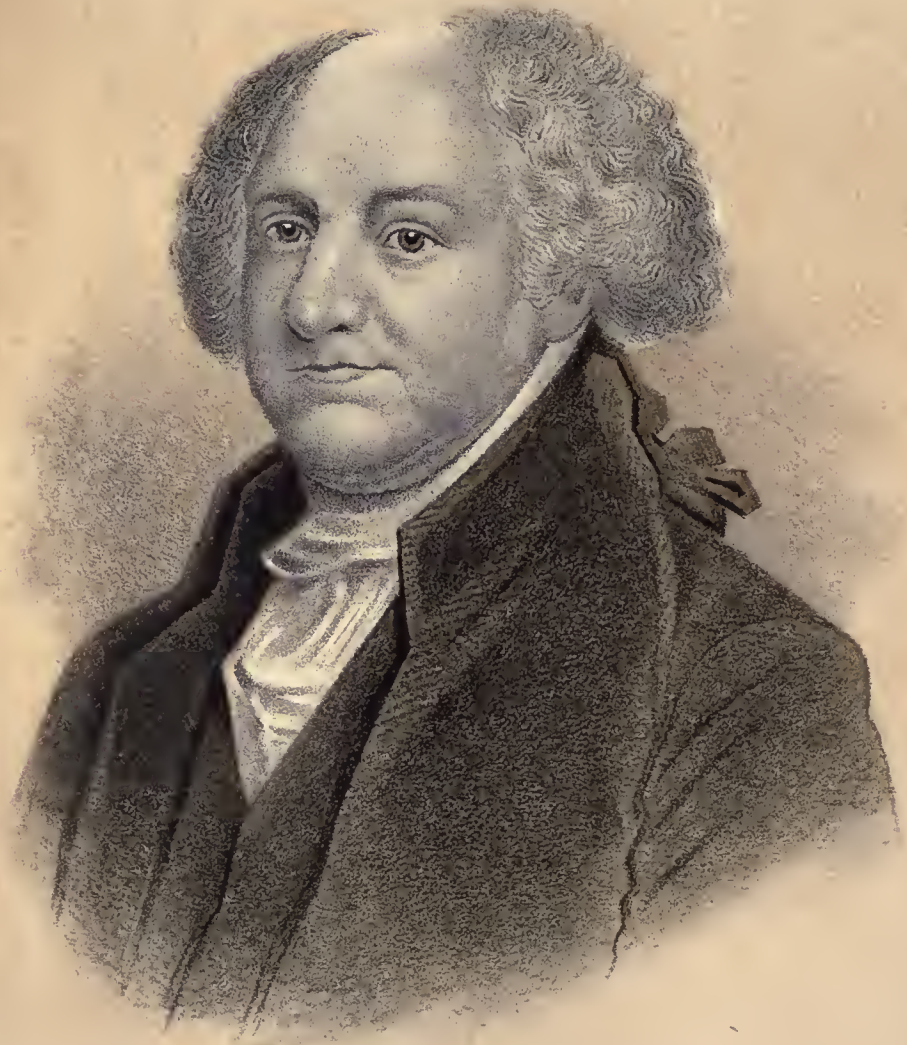
In February, 1789, Washington was unanimously elected President. In his presidential career he was subject to the peculiar trials incidental to a new government; trials from lack of confidence on the part of other governments; trials from want of harmony between the different sections of our own country;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

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

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

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





*John Adams*



## JOHN ADAMS.

**J**OHN ADAMS, the second President and the first Vice-President of the United States, was born in Braintree (now Quincy), Mass., and about ten miles from Boston, Oct. 19, 1735. His great-grandfather, Henry Adams, emigrated from England about 1640, with a family of eight sons, and settled at Braintree. The parents of John were John and Susannah (Boylston) Adams. His father was a farmer of limited means, to which he added the business of shoemaking. He gave his eldest son, John, a classical education at Harvard College. John graduated in 1755, and at once took charge of the school in Worcester, Mass. This he found but a "school of affliction," from which he endeavored to gain relief by devoting himself, in addition, to the study of law. For this purpose he placed himself under the tuition of the only lawyer in the town. He had thought seriously of the clerical profession but seems to have been turned from this by what he termed "the frightful engines of ecclesiastical councils, of diabolical malice, and Calvinistic good nature," of the operations of which he had been a witness in his native town. He was well fitted for the legal profession, possessing a clear, sonorous voice, being ready and fluent of speech, and having quick perceptive powers. He gradually gained practice, and in 1764 married Abigail Smith, a daughter of a minister, and a lady of superior intelligence. Shortly after his marriage, (1765), the attempt of Parliamentary taxation turned him from law to politics. He took initial steps toward holding a town meeting, and the resolu-

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

While Mr. Adams was Vice President the great

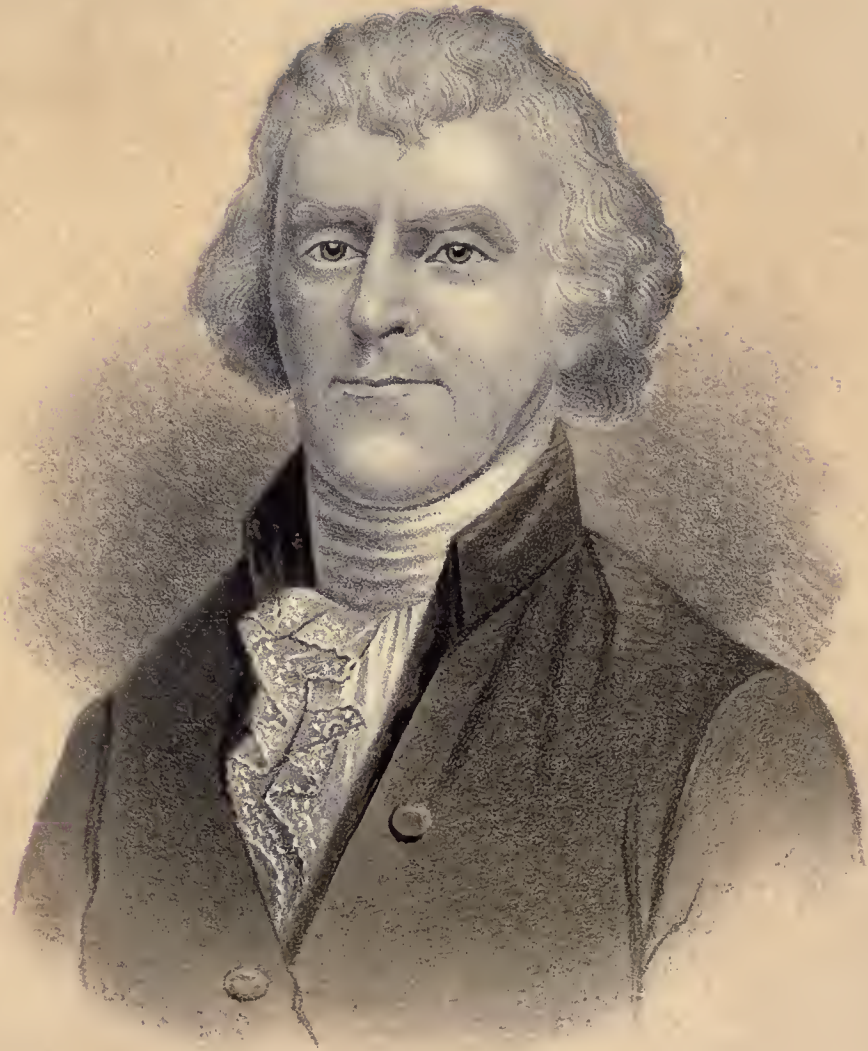
French Revolution shook the continent of Europe, and it was upon this point which he was at issue with the majority of his countrymen led by Mr. Jefferson. Mr. Adams felt no sympathy with the French people in their struggle, for he had no confidence in their power of self-government, and he utterly abhorred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

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

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

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





*Th. Jefferson*





# THOMAS JEFFERSON.



THOMAS JEFFERSON was born April 2, 1743, at Shadwell, Albermarle county, Va. His parents were Peter and Jane (Randolph) Jefferson, the former a native of Wales, and the latter born in London. To them were born six daughters and two sons, of whom Thomas was the elder. When 14 years of age his father died. He received a most liberal education, having been kept diligently at school from the time he was five years of age. In 1760 he entered William and Mary College. Williamsburg was then the seat of the Colonial Court, and it was the obode of fashion and splendor. Young Jefferson, who was then 17 years old, lived somewhat expensively, keeping fine horses, and much caressed by gay society, yet he was earnestly devoted to his studies, and irreproachable in his morals. It is strange, however, under such influences, that he was not ruined. In the second year of his college course, moved by some unexplained inward impulse, he discarded his horses, society, and even his favorite violin, to which he had previously given much time. He often devoted fifteen hours a day to hard study, allowing himself for exercise only a run in the evening twilight of a mile out of the city and back again. He thus attained very high intellectual culture, alike excellence in philosophy and the languages. The most difficult Latin and Greek authors he read with facility. A more finished scholar has seldom gone forth from college halls; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The fourth of July, 1826, being the fiftieth anniver-

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

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

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

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





*James Madison*



## JAMES MADISON.

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

The Madison family were among the early emigrants to the New World, landing upon the shores of the Chesapeake but 15 years after the settlement of Jamestown. The father of James Madison was an opulent planter, residing upon a very fine estate called "Montpelier," Orange Co., Va. The mansion was situated in the midst of scenery highly picturesque and romantic, on the west side of South-west Mountain, at the foot of

Blue Ridge. It was but 25 miles from the home of Jefferson at Monticello. The closest personal and political attachment existed between these illustrious men, from their early youth until death.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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





*James Monroe*





## JAMES MONROE.

**J**AMES MONROE, the fifth President of The United States, was born in Westmoreland Co., Va., April 28, 1758. His early life was passed at the place of nativity. His ancestors had for many years resided in the province in which he was born. When, at 17 years of age, in the process of completing his education at William and Mary College, the Colonial Congress assembled at Philadelphia to deliberate upon the unjust and manifold oppressions of Great Britain, declared the separation of the Colonies, and promulgated the Declaration of Independence. Had he been born ten years before it is highly probable that he would have been one of the signers of that celebrated instrument. At this time he left school and enlisted among the patriots.

He joined the army when everything looked hopeless and gloomy. The number of deserters increased from day to day. The invading armies came pouring in; and the Tories not only favored the cause of the mother country, but disheartened the new recruits, who were sufficiently terrified at the prospect of contending with an enemy whom they had been taught to deem invincible. To such brave spirits as James Monroe, who went right onward, undismayed through difficulty and danger, the United States owe their political emancipation. The young cadet joined the ranks, and espoused the cause of his injured country, with a firm determination to live or die with her strife

for liberty. Firmly yet sadly he shared in the melancholy retreat from Harleam Heights and White Plains, and accompanied the dispirited army as it fled before its foes through New Jersey. In four months after the Declaration of Independence, the patriots had been beaten in seven battles. At the battle of Trenton he led the vanguard, and, in the act of charging upon the enemy he received a wound in the left shoulder.

As a reward for his bravery, Mr. Monroe was promoted a captain of infantry; and, having recovered from his wound, he rejoined the army. He, however, receded from the line of promotion, by becoming an officer in the staff of Lord Sterling. During the campaigns of 1777 and 1778, in the actions of Brandywine, Germantown and Monmouth, he continued aid-de-camp; but becoming desirous to regain his position in the army, he exerted himself to collect a regiment for the Virginia line. This scheme failed owing to the exhausted condition of the State. Upon this failure he entered the office of Mr. Jefferson, at that period Governor, and pursued, with considerable ardor, the study of common law. He did not, however, entirely lay aside the knapsack for the green bag; but on the invasions of the enemy, served as a volunteer, during the two years of his legal pursuits.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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


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

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






J. Q. Adams



## JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.



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

When but eleven years old he took a tearful adieu of his mother, to sail with his father for Europe,

through a fleet of hostile British cruisers. The bright, animated boy spent a year and a half in Paris, where his father was associated with Franklin and Lee as minister plenipotentiary. His intelligence attracted the notice of these distinguished men, and he received from them flattering marks of attention.

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

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

in the spring of 1782, he accompanied his father to Paris, traveling leisurely, and forming acquaintance with the most distinguished men on the Continent; examining architectural remains, galleries of paintings, and all renowned works of art. At Paris he again became associated with the most illustrious men of all lands in the contemplations of the loftiest temporal themes which can engross the human mind. After a short visit to England he returned to Paris, and consecrated all his energies to study until May, 1785, when he returned to America. To a brilliant young man of eighteen, who had seen much of the world, and who was familiar with the etiquette of courts, a residence with his father in London, under such circumstances, must have been extremely attractive; but with judgment very rare in one of his age, he preferred to return to America to complete his education in an American college. He wished then to study law, that with an honorable profession, he might be able to obtain an independent support.

Upon leaving Harvard College, at the age of twenty, he studied law for three years. In June, 1794, being then but twenty-seven years of age, he was appointed by Washington, resident minister at the Netherlands. Sailing from Boston in July, he reached London in October, where he was immediately admitted to the deliberations of Messrs. Jay and Pinckney, assisting them in negotiating a commercial treaty with Great Britain. After thus spending a fortnight in London, he proceeded to the Hague.

In July, 1797, he left the Hague to go to Portugal as minister plenipotentiary. On his way to Portugal, upon arriving in London, he met with despatches directing him to the court of Berlin, but, requesting him to remain in London until he should receive his instructions. While waiting he was married to an American lady to whom he had been previously engaged,—Miss Louisa Catherine Johnson, daughter of Mr. Joshua Johnson, American consul in London; a lady endowed with that beauty and those accomplishments which eminently fitted her to move in the elevated sphere for which she was destined.

He reached Berlin with his wife in November, 1797; where he remained until July, 1799, when, having fulfilled all the purposes of his mission, he solicited his recall.

Soon after his return, in 1802, he was chosen to the Senate of Massachusetts, from Boston, and then was elected Senator of the United States for six years, from the 4th of March, 1804. His reputation, his ability and his experience, placed him immediately among the most prominent and influential members of that body. Especially did he sustain the Government in its measures of resistance to the encroachments of England, destroying our commerce and insulting our flag. There was no man in America more familiar with the arrogance of the British court upon these points, and no one more resolved to present a firm resistance.

In 1809, Madison succeeded Jefferson in the Presidential chair, and he immediately nominated John Quincy Adams minister to St. Petersburg. Resigning his professorship in Harvard College, he embarked at Boston, in August, 1809.

While in Russia, Mr. Adams was an intense student. He devoted his attention to the language and history of Russia; to the Chinese trade; to the European system of weights, measures, and coins; to the climate and astronomical observations; while he kept up a familiar acquaintance with the Greek and Latin classics. In all the universities of Europe, a more accomplished scholar could scarcely be found. All through life the Bible constituted an important part of his studies. It was his rule to read five chapters every day.

On the 4th of March, 1817, Mr. Monroe took the Presidential chair, and immediately appointed Mr. Adams Secretary of State. Taking leave of his numerous friends in public and private life in Europe, he sailed in June, 1819, for the United States. On the 18th of August, he again crossed the threshold of his home in Quincy. During the eight years of Mr. Monroe's administration, Mr. Adams continued Secretary of State.

Some time before the close of Mr. Monroe's second term of office, new candidates began to be presented for the Presidency. The friends of Mr. Adams brought forward his name. It was an exciting campaign. Party spirit was never more bitter. Two hundred and sixty electoral votes were cast. Andrew Jackson received ninety nine; John Quincy Adams, eighty-four; William H. Crawford, forty-one; Henry Clay, thirty-seven. As there was no choice by the people, the question went to the House of Representatives. Mr. Clay gave the vote of Kentucky to Mr. Adams, and he was elected.

The friends of all the disappointed candidates now combined in a venomous and persistent assault upon Mr. Adams. There is nothing more disgraceful in the past history of our country than the abuse which

was poured in one uninterrupted stream, upon this high-minded, upright, patriotic man. There never was an administration more pure in principles, more conscientiously devoted to the best interests of the country, than that of John Quincy Adams; and never, perhaps, was there an administration more unscrupulously and outrageously assailed.

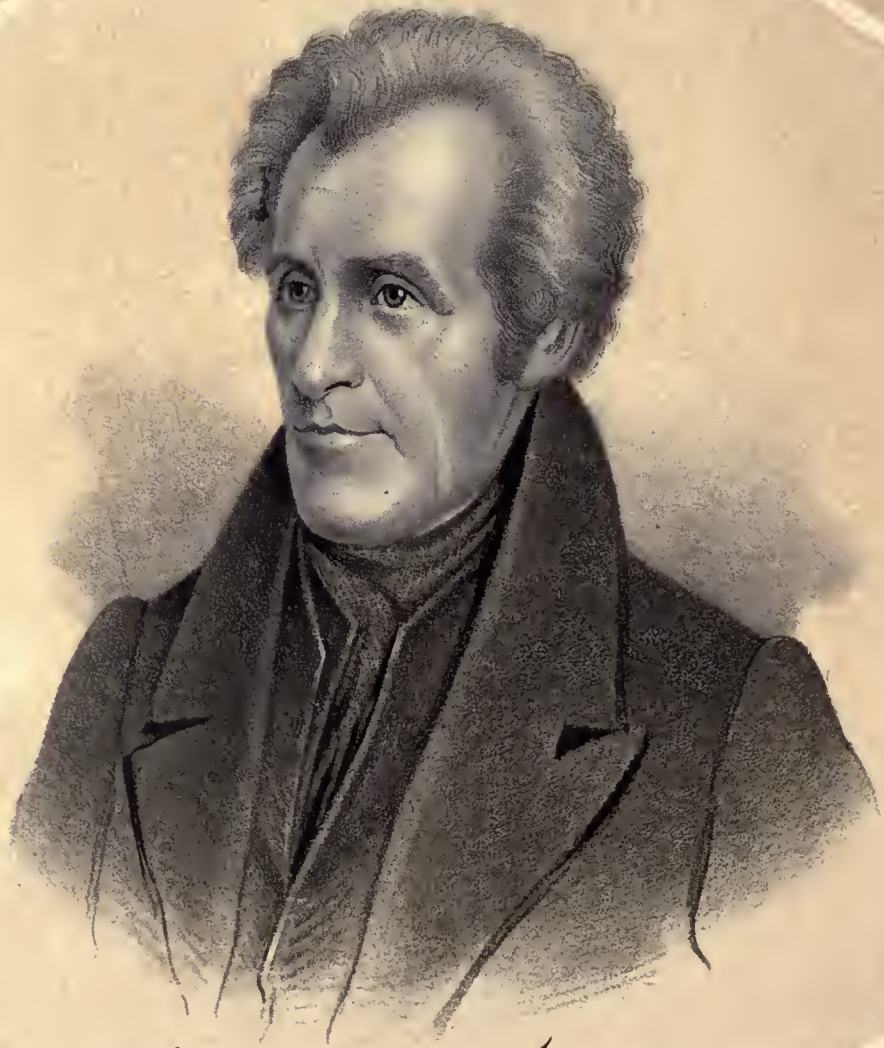
Mr. Adams was, to a very remarkable degree, abstemious and temperate in his habits; always rising early, and taking much exercise. When at his home in Quincy, he has been known to walk, before breakfast, seven miles to Boston. In Washington, it was said that he was the first man up in the city, lighting his own fire and applying himself to work in his library often long before dawn.

On the 4th of March, 1829, Mr. Adams retired from the Presidency, and was succeeded by Andrew Jackson. John C. Calhoun was elected Vice President. The slavery question now began to assume portentous magnitude. Mr. Adams returned to Quincy and to his studies, which he pursued with unabated zeal. But he was not long permitted to remain in retirement. In November, 1830, he was elected representative to Congress. For seventeen years, until his death, he occupied the post as representative, towering above all his peers, ever ready to do brave battle for freedom, and winning the title of "the old man eloquent." Upon taking his seat in the House, he announced that he should hold himself bound to no party. Probably there never was a member more devoted to his duties. He was usually the first in his place in the morning, and the last to leave his seat in the evening. Not a measure could be brought forward and escape his scrutiny. The battle which Mr. Adams fought, almost singly, against the proslavery party in the Government, was sublime in its moral daring and heroism. For persisting in presenting petitions for the abolition of slavery, he was threatened with indictment by the grand jury, with expulsion from the House, with assassination, but no threats could intimidate him, and his final triumph was complete.

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

On the 21st of February, 1848, he rose on the floor of Congress, with a paper in his hand, to address the speaker. Suddenly he fell, again stricken by paralysis, and was caught in the arms of those around him. For a time he was senseless, as he was conveyed to the sofa in the rotunda. With reviving consciousness, he opened his eyes, looked calmly around and said "*This is the end of earth*;" then after a moment's pause he added, "*I am content*." These were the last words of the grand "Old Man Eloquent."





*Andrew Jackson*



## ANDREW JACKSON.



ANDREW JACKSON, the seventh President of the United States, was born in Waxhaw settlement, N. C., March 15, 1767, a few days after his father's death. His parents were poor emigrants from Ireland, and took up their abode in Waxhaw settlement, where they lived in deepest poverty.

Andrew, or Andy, as he was universally called, grew up a very rough, rude, turbulent boy. His features were coarse, his form ungainly; and there was but very

little in his character, made visible, which was attractive.

When only thirteen years old he joined the volunteers of Carolina against the British invasion. In 1781, he and his brother Robert were captured and imprisoned for a time at Camden. A British officer ordered him to brush his mud-spattered boots. "I am a prisoner of war, not your servant," was the reply of the dauntless boy.

The brute drew his sword, and aimed a desperate blow at the head of the helpless young prisoner. Andrew raised his hand, and thus received two fearful gashes,—one on the hand and the other upon the head. The officer then turned to his brother Robert with the same demand. He also refused, and received a blow from the keen-edged sabre, which quite disabled him, and which probably soon after caused his death. They suffered much other ill-treatment, and were finally stricken with the small-pox. Their mother was successful in obtaining their exchange,

and took her sick boys home. After a long illness Andrew recovered, and the death of his mother soon left him entirely friendless.

Andrew supported himself in various ways, such as working at the saddler's trade, teaching school and clerking in a general store, until 1784, when he entered a law office at Salisbury, N. C. He, however, gave more attention to the wild amusements of the times than to his studies. In 1788, he was appointed solicitor for the western district of North Carolina, of which Tennessee was then a part. This involved many long and tedious journeys amid dangers of every kind, but Andrew Jackson never knew fear, and the Indians had no desire to repeat a skirmish with the Sharp Knife.

In 1791, Mr. Jackson was married to a woman who supposed herself divorced from her former husband. Great was the surprise of both parties, two years later, to find that the conditions of the divorce had just been definitely settled by the first husband. The marriage ceremony was performed a second time, but the occurrence was often used by his enemies to bring Mr. Jackson into disfavor.

During these years he worked hard at his profession, and frequently had one or more duels on hand, one of which, when he killed Dickenson, was especially disgraceful.

In January, 1796, the Territory of Tennessee then containing nearly eighty thousand inhabitants, the people met in convention at Knoxville to frame a constitution. Five were sent from each of the eleven counties. Andrew Jackson was one of the delegates. The new State was entitled to but one member in the National House of Representatives. Andrew Jackson was chosen that member. Mounting his horse he rode to Philadelphia, where Congress then held its

sessions,—a distance of about eight hundred miles.

Jackson was an earnest advocate of the Democratic party. Jefferson was his idol. He admired Bonaparte, loved France and hated England. As Mr. Jackson took his seat, Gen. Washington, whose second term of office was then expiring, delivered his last speech to Congress. A committee drew up a complimentary address in reply. Andrew Jackson did not approve of the address, and was one of the twelve who voted against it. He was not willing to say that Gen. Washington's administration had been "wise, firm and patriotic."

Mr. Jackson was elected to the United States Senate in 1797, but soon resigned and returned home. Soon after he was chosen Judge of the Supreme Court of his State, which position he held for six years.

When the war of 1812 with Great Britain commenced, Madison occupied the Presidential chair. Aaron Burr sent word to the President that there was an unknown man in the West, Andrew Jackson, who would do credit to a commission if one were conferred upon him. Just at that time Gen. Jackson offered his services and those of twenty-five hundred volunteers. His offer was accepted, and the troops were assembled at Nashville.

As the British were hourly expected to make an attack upon New Orleans, where Gen. Wilkinson was in command, he was ordered to descend the river with fifteen hundred troops to aid Wilkinson. The expedition reached Natchez; and after a delay of several weeks there, without accomplishing anything, the men were ordered back to their homes. But the energy Gen. Jackson had displayed, and his entire devotion to the comfort of his soldiers, won him golden opinions; and he became the most popular man in the State. It was in this expedition that his toughness gave him the nickname of "Old Hickory."

Soon after this, while attempting to horsewhip Col. Thomas H. Benton, for a remark that gentleman made about his taking a part as second in a duel, in which a younger brother of Benton's was engaged, he received two severe pistol wounds. While he was lingering upon a bed of suffering news came that the Indians, who had combined under Tecumseh from Florida to the Lakes, to exterminate the white settlers, were committing the most awful ravages. Decisive action became necessary. Gen. Jackson, with his fractured bone just beginning to heal, his arm in a sling, and unable to mount his horse without assistance, gave his amazing energies to the raising of an army to rendezvous at Fayetteville, Alabama.

The Creek Indians had established a strong fort on one of the bends of the Tallapoosa River, near the center of Alabama, about fifty miles below Fort Strother. With an army of two thousand men, Gen. Jackson traversed the pathless wilderness in a march of eleven days. He reached their fort, called Tohopeka or Horse-shoe, on the 27th of March, 1814. The bend

of the river enclosed nearly one hundred acres of tangled forest and wild ravine. Across the narrow neck the Indians had constructed a formidable breast-work of logs and brush. Here nine hundred warriors; with an ample supply of arms were assembled.

The fort was stormed. The fight was utterly desperate. Not an Indian would accept of quarter. When bleeding and dying, they would fight those who endeavored to spare their lives. From ten in the morning until dark, the battle raged. The carnage was awful and revolting. Some threw themselves into the river; but the unerring bullet struck their heads as they swam. Nearly every one of the nine hundred warriors were killed. A few probably, in the night, swam the river and escaped. This ended the war. The power of the Creeks was broken forever. This bold plunge into the wilderness, with its terrific slaughter, so appalled the savages, that the haggard remnants of the bands came to the camp, begging for peace.

This closing of the Creek war enabled us to concentrate all our militia upon the British, who were the allies of the Indians. No man of less resolute will than Gen. Jackson could have conducted this Indian campaign to so successful an issue. Immediately he was appointed major-general.

Late in August, with an army of two thousand men, on a rushing march, Gen. Jackson came to Mobile. A British fleet came from Pensacola, landed a force upon the beach, anchored near the little fort, and from both ship and shore commenced a furious assault. The battle was long and doubtful. At length one of the ships was blown up and the rest retired.

Garrisoning Mobile, where he had taken his little army, he moved his troops to New Orleans, and the battle of New Orleans which soon ensued, was in reality a very arduous campaign. This won for Gen. Jackson an imperishable name. Here his troops, which numbered about four thousand men, won a signal victory over the British army of about nine thousand. His loss was but thirteen, while the loss of the British was two thousand six hundred.

The name of Gen. Jackson soon began to be mentioned in connection with the Presidency, but, in 1824, he was defeated by Mr. Adams. He was, however, successful in the election of 1828, and was re-elected for a second term in 1832. In 1829, just before he assumed the reins of the government, he met with the most terrible affliction of his life in the death of his wife, whom he had loved with a devotion which has perhaps never been surpassed. From the shock of her death he never recovered.

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





*Mr van Buren,*



## MARTIN VAN BUREN.



MARTIN VAN BUREN, the eighth President of the United States, was born at Kinderhook, N. Y., Dec. 5, 1782. He died at the same place, July 24, 1862. His body rests in the cemetery at Kinderhook. Above it is a plain granite shaft fifteen feet high, bearing a simple inscription about half way up on one face. The lot is unfenced, unbordered

or unbounded by shrub or flower.

There is but little in the life of Martin Van Buren of romantic interest. He fought no battles, engaged in no wild adventures. Though his life was stormy in political and intellectual conflicts, and he gained many signal victories, his days passed uneventful in those incidents which give zest to biography. His ancestors, as his name indicates, were of Dutch origin, and were among the earliest emigrants from Holland to the banks of the Hudson. His father was a farmer, residing in the old town of Kinderhook. His mother, also of Dutch lineage, was a woman of superior intelligence and exemplary piety.

He was decidedly a precocious boy, developing unusual activity, vigor and strength of mind. At the age of fourteen, he had finished his academic studies in his native village, and commenced the study of law. As he had not a collegiate education, seven years of study in a law-office were required of him before he could be admitted to the bar. Inspired with a lofty ambition, and conscious of his powers, he pursued his studies with indefatigable industry. After spending six years in an office in his native village,

he went to the city of New York, and prosecuted his studies for the seventh year.

In 1803, Mr. Van Buren, then twenty-one years of age, commenced the practice of law in his native village. The great conflict between the Federal and Republican party was then at its height. Mr. Van Buren was from the beginning a politician. He had, perhaps, imbibed that spirit while listening to the many discussions which had been carried on in his father's hotel. He was in cordial sympathy with Jefferson, and earnestly and eloquently espoused the cause of State Rights; though at that time the Federal party held the supremacy both in his town and State.

His success and increasing reputation led him, after six years of practice, to remove to Hudson, the county seat of his county. Here he spent seven years, constantly gaining strength by contending in the courts with some of the ablest men who have adorned the bar of his State.

Just before leaving Kinderhook for Hudson, Mr. Van Buren married a lady alike distinguished for beauty and accomplishments. After twelve short years she sank into the grave, the victim of consumption, leaving her husband and four sons to weep over her loss. For twenty-five years, Mr. Van Buren was an earnest, successful, assiduous lawyer. The record of those years is barren in items of public interest. In 1812, when thirty years of age, he was chosen to the State Senate, and gave his strenuous support to Mr. Madison's administration. In 1815, he was appointed Attorney-General, and the next year moved to Albany, the capital of the State.

While he was acknowledged as one of the most prominent leaders of the Democratic party, he had

the moral courage to avow that true democracy did not require that "universal suffrage" which admits the vile, the degraded, the ignorant, to the right of governing the State. In true consistency with his democratic principles, he contended that, while the path leading to the privilege of voting should be open to every man without distinction, no one should be invested with that sacred prerogative, unless he were in some degree qualified for it by intelligence, virtue and some property interests in the welfare of the State.

In 1821 he was elected a member of the United States Senate; and in the same year, he took a seat in the convention to revise the constitution of his native State. His course in this convention secured the approval of men of all parties. No one could doubt the singleness of his endeavors to promote the interests of all classes in the community. In the Senate of the United States, he rose at once to a conspicuous position as an active and useful legislator.

In 1827, John Quincy Adams being then in the Presidential chair, Mr. Van Buren was re-elected to the Senate. He had been from the beginning a determined opposer of the Administration, adopting the "State Rights" view in opposition to what was deemed the Federal proclivities of Mr. Adams.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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






W. H. Harrison





## WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

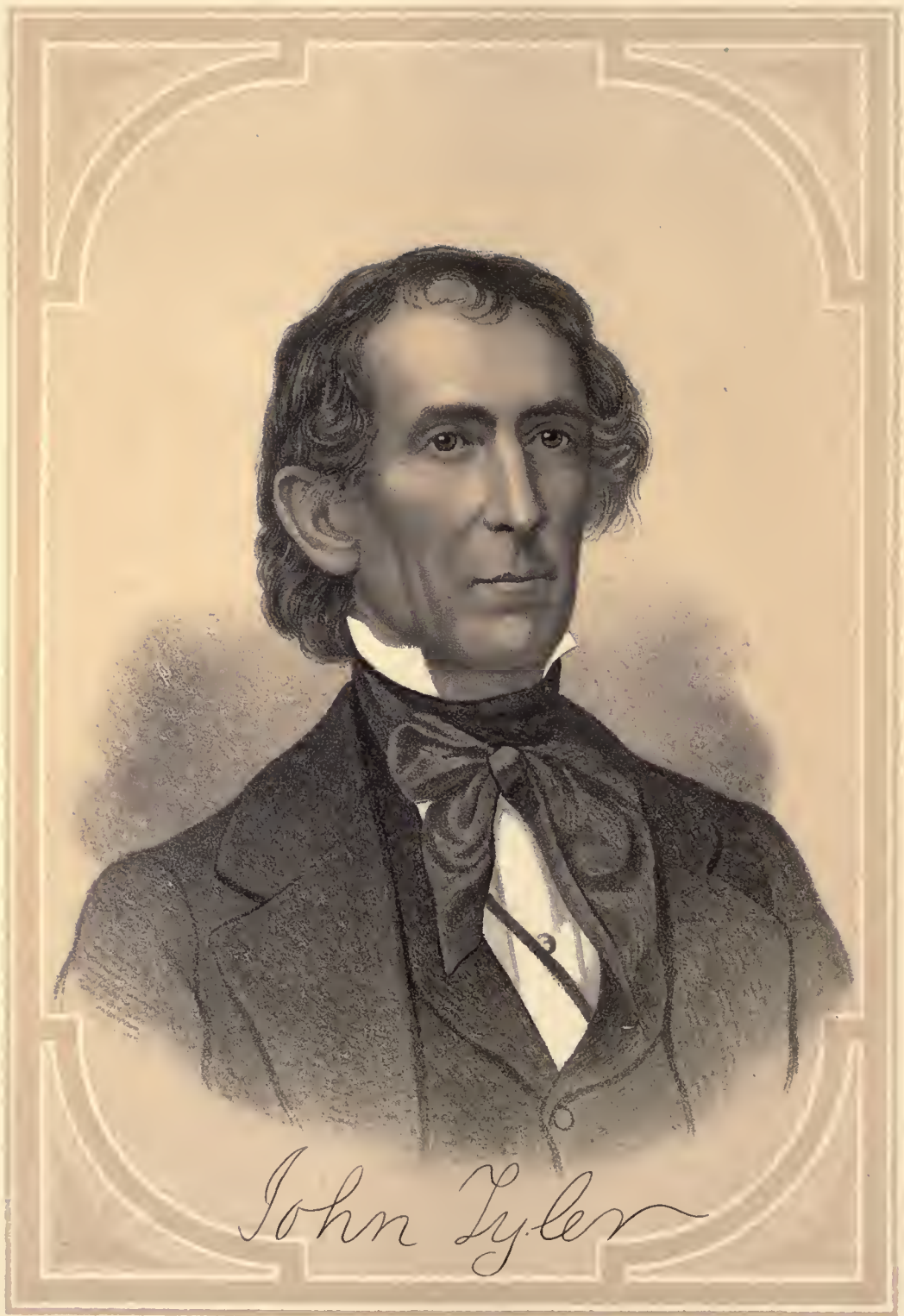
In 1816, Gen. Harrison was chosen a member of the National House of Representatives, to represent the District of Ohio. In Congress he proved an active member; and whenever he spoke, it was with force of reason and power of eloquence, which arrested the attention of all the members.

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

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

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







## JOHN TYLER.

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

At nineteen years of age, he commenced the practice of law. His success was rapid and astonishing. It is said that three months had not elapsed ere there was scarcely a case on the docket of the court in which he was

not retained. When but twenty-one years of age, he was almost unanimously elected to a seat in the State Legislature. He connected himself with the Democratic party, and warmly advocated the measures of Jefferson and Madison. For five successive years he was elected to the Legislature, receiving nearly the unanimous vote of his county.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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





James A. Cook





## JAMES K. POLK.

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

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

he became one of the leading men of the region. His mother was a superior woman, of strong common sense and earnest piety.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

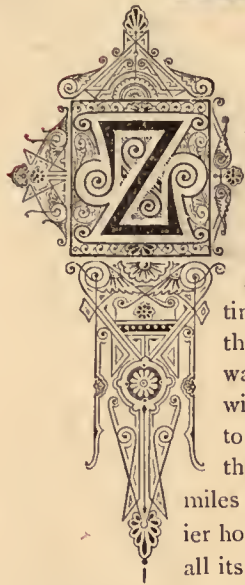




Zachary Taylor.



## ZACHARY TAYLOR.



ZACHARY TAYLOR, twelfth President of the United States, was born on the 24th of Nov., 1784, in Orange Co., Va. His father, Colonel Taylor, was a Virginian of note, and a distinguished patriot and soldier of the Revolution. When Zachary was an infant, his father with his wife and two children, emigrated to Kentucky, where he settled in the pathless wilderness, a few miles from Louisville. In this frontier home, away from civilization and all its refinements, young Zachary could enjoy but few social and educational advantages. When six years of age he attended a common school, and was then regarded as a bright, active boy, rather remarkable for bluntness and decision of character. He was strong, fearless and self-reliant, and manifested a strong desire to enter the army to fight the Indians who were ravaging the frontiers. There is little to be recorded of the uneventful years of his childhood on his father's large but lonely plantation.

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

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

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

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

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

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

tellectual stimulus. Thus with him the uneventful years rolled on. Gradually he rose to the rank of colonel. In the Black-Hawk war, which resulted in the capture of that renowned chieftain, Col Taylor took a subordinate but a brave and efficient part.

For twenty-four years Col. Taylor was engaged in the defence of the frontiers, in scenes so remote, and in employments so obscure, that his name was unknown beyond the limits of his own immediate acquaintance. In the year 1836, he was sent to Florida to compel the Seminole Indians to vacate that region and retire beyond the Mississippi, as their chiefs by treaty, had promised they should do. The services rendered here secured for Col. Taylor the high appreciation of the Government; and as a reward, he was elevated to the rank of brigadier-general by brevet; and soon after, in May, 1838, was appointed to the chief command of the United States troops in Florida.

After two years of such wearisome employment amidst the everglades of the peninsula, Gen. Taylor obtained, at his own request, a change of command, and was stationed over the Department of the Southwest. This field embraced Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia. Establishing his headquarters at Fort Jessup, in Louisiana, he removed his family to a plantation which he purchased, near Baton Rouge. Here he remained for five years, buried, as it were, from the world, but faithfully discharging every duty imposed upon him.

In 1846, Gen. Taylor was sent to guard the land between the Nueces and Rio Grande, the latter river being the boundary of Texas, which was then claimed by the United States. Soon the war with Mexico was brought on, and at Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma, Gen. Taylor won brilliant victories over the Mexicans. The rank of major-general by brevet was then conferred upon Gen. Taylor, and his name was received with enthusiasm almost everywhere in the Nation. Then came the battles of Monterey and Buena Vista in which he won signal victories over forces much larger than he commanded.

His careless habits of dress and his unaffected simplicity, secured for Gen. Taylor among his troops, the *sobriquet* of "Old Rough and Ready."

The tidings of the brilliant victory of Buena Vista spread the wildest enthusiasm over the country. The name of Gen. Taylor was on every one's lips. The Whig party decided to take advantage of this wonderful popularity in bringing forward the unpolished, unlettered, honest soldier as their candidate for the Presidency. Gen. Taylor was astonished at the announcement, and for a time would not listen to it; declaring that he was not at all qualified for such an office. So little interest had he taken in politics that, for forty years, he had not cast a vote. It was not without chagrin that several distinguished statesmen who had been long years in the public service found their claims set aside in behalf of one whose name

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

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

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

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

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





*Millard Fillmore*




 MILLARD FILLMORE.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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





*Franklin Pierce*



## FRANKLIN PIERCE.




FRANKLIN PIERCE, the fourteenth President of the United States, was born in Hillsborough, N. H., Nov. 23, 1804. His father was a Revolutionary soldier, who, with his own strong arm, hewed out a home in the wilderness. He was a man of inflexible integrity; of strong, though uncultivated mind, and an uncompromising Democrat. The mother of Franklin Pierce was all that a son could desire,—an intelligent, prudent, affectionate, Christian woman. Franklin was the sixth of eight children.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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





*James Buchanan*





## JAMES BUCHANAN.



JAMES BUCHANAN, the fifteenth President of the United States, was born in a small frontier town, at the foot of the eastern ridge of the Alleghenies, in Franklin Co., Penn., on the 23d of April, 1791. The place where the humble cabin of his father stood was called Stony Batter. It was a wild and romantic spot in a gorge of the mountains, with towering summits rising grandly all around. His father was a native of the north of Ireland; a poor man, who had emigrated in 1783, with little property save his own strong arms. Five years afterwards he married Elizabeth Spear, the daughter of a respectable farmer, and, with his young bride, plunged into the wilderness, staked his claim, reared his log-hut, opened a clearing with his axe, and settled down there to perform his obscure part in the drama of life. In this secluded home, where James was born, he remained for eight years, enjoying but few social or intellectual advantages. When James was eight years of age, his father removed to the village of Mercersburg, where his son was placed at school, and commenced a course of study in English, Latin and Greek. His progress was rapid, and at the age of fourteen, he entered Dickinson College, at Carlisle. Here he developed remarkable talent, and took his stand among the first scholars in the institution. His application to study was intense, and yet his native powers en-

abled him to master the most abstruse subjects with facility.

In the year 1809, he graduated with the highest honors of his class. He was then eighteen years of age; tall and graceful, vigorous in health, fond of athletic sport, an unerring shot, and enlivened with an exuberant flow of animal spirits. He immediately commenced the study of law in the city of Lancaster, and was admitted to the bar in 1812, when he was but twenty-one years of age. Very rapidly he rose in his profession, and at once took undisputed stand with the ablest lawyers of the State. When but twenty-six years of age, unaided by counsel, he successfully defended before the State Senate one of the judges of the State, who was tried upon articles of impeachment. At the age of thirty it was generally admitted that he stood at the head of the bar; and there was no lawyer in the State who had a more lucrative practice.

In 1820, he reluctantly consented to run as a candidate for Congress. He was elected, and for ten years he remained a member of the Lower House. During the vacations of Congress, he occasionally tried some important case. In 1831, he retired altogether from the toils of his profession, having acquired an ample fortune.

Gen. Jackson, upon his elevation to the Presidency, appointed Mr. Buchanan minister to Russia. The duties of his mission he performed with ability, which gave satisfaction to all parties. Upon his return, in 1833, he was elected to a seat in the United States Senate. He there met, as his associates, Webster, Clay, Wright and Calhoun. He advocated the measures proposed by President Jackson, of making retri-

sals against France, to enforce the payment of our claims against that country; and defended the course of the President in his unprecedented and wholesale removal from office of those who were not the supporters of his administration. Upon this question he was brought into direct collision with Henry Clay. He also, with voice and vote, advocated expunging from the journal of the Senate the vote of censure against Gen. Jackson for removing the deposits. Earnestly he opposed the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia, and urged the prohibition of the circulation of anti-slavery documents by the United States mails.

As to petitions on the subject of slavery, he advocated that they should be respectfully received; and that the reply should be returned, that Congress had no power to legislate upon the subject. "Congress," said he, "might as well undertake to interfere with slavery under a foreign government as in any of the States where it now exists."

Upon Mr. Polk's accession to the Presidency, Mr. Buchanan became Secretary of State, and as such, took his share of the responsibility in the conduct of the Mexican War. Mr. Polk assumed that crossing the Nueces by the American troops into the disputed territory was not wrong, but for the Mexicans to cross the Rio Grande into that territory was a declaration of war. No candid man can read with pleasure the account of the course our Government pursued in that movement.

Mr. Buchanan identified himself thoroughly with the party devoted to the perpetuation and extension of slavery, and brought all the energies of his mind to bear against the Wilmot Proviso. He gave his cordial approval to the compromise measures of 1850, which included the fugitive-slave law. Mr. Pierce, upon his election to the Presidency, honored Mr. Buchanan with the mission to England.

In the year 1856, a national Democratic convention nominated Mr. Buchanan for the Presidency. The political conflict was one of the most severe in which our country has ever engaged. All the friends of slavery were on one side; all the advocates of its restriction and final abolition, on the other. Mr. Fremont, the candidate of the enemies of slavery, received 114 electoral votes. Mr. Buchanan received 174, and was elected. The popular vote stood 1,340,618, for Fremont, 1,224,750 for Buchanan. On March 4th, 1857, Mr. Buchanan was inaugurated.

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

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

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

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

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

South Carolina seceded in December, 1860; nearly three months before the inauguration of President Lincoln. Mr. Buchanan looked on in listless despair. The rebel flag was raised in Charleston; Fort Sumpter was besieged; our forts, navy-yards and arsenals were seized; our depots of military stores were plundered; and our custom-houses and post-offices were appropriated by the rebels.

The energy of the rebels, and the imbecility of our Executive, were alike marvelous. The Nation looked on in agony, waiting for the slow weeks to glide away, and close the administration, so terrible in its weakness. At length the long-looked-for hour of deliverance came, when Abraham Lincoln was to receive the scepter.

The administration of President Buchanan was certainly the most calamitous our country has experienced. His best friends cannot recall it with pleasure. And still more deplorable it is for his fame, that in that dreadful conflict which rolled its billows of flame and blood over our whole land, no word came from his lips to indicate his wish that our country's banner should triumph over the flag of the rebellion. He died at his Wheatland retreat, June 1, 1868.





*A. Lincoln*



**A**BRAHAM LINCOLN, the sixteenth President of the United States, was born in Hardin Co., Ky., Feb. 12, 1809. About the year 1780, a man by the name of Abraham Lincoln left Virginia with his family and moved into the then wilds of Kentucky. Only two years after this emigration, still a young man, while working one day in a field, was stealthily approached by an Indian and shot dead. His widow was left in extreme poverty with five little children, three boys and two girls. Thomas, the youngest of the boys, was four years of age at his father's death. This Thomas was the father of Abraham Lincoln, the President of the United States

whose name must henceforth forever be enrolled with the most prominent in the annals of our world.

Of course no record has been kept of the life of one so lowly as Thomas Lincoln. He was among the poorest of the poor. His home was a wretched log-cabin; his food the coarsest and the meanest. Education he had none; he could never either read or write. As soon as he was able to do anything for himself, he was compelled to leave the cabin of his starving mother, and push out into the world, a friendless, wandering boy, seeking work. He hired himself out, and thus spent the whole of his youth as a laborer in the fields of others.

When twenty-eight years of age he built a log-cabin of his own, and married Nancy Hanks, the daughter of another family of poor Kentucky emigrants, who had also come from Virginia. Their second child was Abraham Lincoln, the subject of this sketch. The mother of Abraham was a noble woman, gentle, loving, pensive, created to adorn a palace, doomed to toil and pine, and die in a hovel. "All that I am, or hope to be," exclaims the grateful son "I owe to my angel-mother."

When he was eight years of age, his father sold his

cabin and small farm, and moved to Indiana. Where two years later his mother died.

Abraham soon became the scribe of the uneducated community around him. He could not have had a better school than this to teach him to put thoughts into words. He also became an eager reader. The books he could obtain were few; but these he read and re-read until they were almost committed to memory.

As the years rolled on, the lot of this lowly family was the usual lot of humanity. There were joys and griefs, weddings and funerals. Abraham's sister Sarah, to whom he was tenderly attached, was married when a child of but fourteen years of age, and soon died. The family was gradually scattered. Mr. Thomas Lincoln sold out his squatter's claim in 1830, and emigrated to Macon Co., Ill.

Abraham Lincoln was then twenty-one years of age. With vigorous hands he aided his father in rearing another log-cabin. Abraham worked diligently at this until he saw the family comfortably settled, and their small lot of enclosed prairie planted with corn, when he announced to his father his intention to leave home, and to go out into the world and seek his fortune. Little did he or his friends imagine how brilliant that fortune was to be. He saw the value of education, and was intensely earnest to improve his mind to the utmost of his power. He saw the ruin which ardent spirits were causing, and became strictly temperate; refusing to allow a drop of intoxicating liquor to pass his lips. And he had read in God's word, "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain;" and a profane expression he was never heard to utter. Religion he revered. His morals were pure, and he was uncontaminated by a single vice.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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





*Andrew Johnson*





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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

opposition to, the principles laid down in that speech.

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

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

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





*G. A. Grant*



## ULYSSES S. GRANT.



ULYSSES S. GRANT, the eighteenth President of the United States, was born on the 29th of April, 1822, of Christian parents, in a humble home, at Point Pleasant, on the banks of the Ohio. Shortly after his father moved to Georgetown, Brown Co., O. In this remote frontier hamlet, Ulysses received a common-school education. At the age of seventeen, in the year 1839, he entered the Military Academy at West Point. Here he was regarded as a solid, sensible young man of fair abilities, and of sturdy, honest character. He took respectable rank as a scholar. In June, 1843, he graduated, about the middle in his class, and was sent as lieutenant of infantry to one of the distant military posts in the Missouri Territory. Two years he past in these dreary solitudes, watching the vagabond and exasperating Indians.

The war with Mexico came. Lieut. Grant was sent with his regiment to Corpus Christi. His first battle was at Palo Alto. There was no chance here for the exhibition of either skill or heroism, nor at Resaca de la Palma, his second battle. At the battle of Monterey, his third engagement, it is said that he performed a signal service of daring and skillful horsemanship. His brigade had exhausted its ammunition. A messenger must be sent for more, along a route exposed to the bullets of the foe. Lieut. Grant, adopting an expedient learned of the Indians, grasped the mane of his horse, and hanging upon one side of the animal, ran the gauntlet in entire safety.

From Monterey he was sent, with the fourth infantry, to aid Gen. Scott, at the siege of Vera Cruz. In preparation for the march to the city of Mexico, he was appointed quartermaster of his regiment. At the battle of Molino del Rey, he was promoted to a first lieutenancy, and was brevetted captain at Chapultepec.

At the close of the Mexican War, Capt. Grant returned with his regiment to New York, and was again sent to one of the military posts on the frontier. The discovery of gold in California causing an immense tide of emigration to flow to the Pacific shores, Capt. Grant was sent with a battalion to Fort Dallas, in Oregon, for the protection of the interests of the immigrants. Life was wearisome in those wilds. Capt. Grant resigned his commission and returned to the States; and having married, entered upon the cultivation of a small farm near St. Louis, Mo. He had but little skill as a farmer. Finding his toil not remunerative, he turned to mercantile life, entering into the leather business, with a younger brother, at Galena, Ill. This was in the year 1860. As the tidings of the rebels firing on Fort Sumpter reached the ears of Capt. Grant in his counting-room, he said,—“Uncle Sam has educated me for the army; though I have served him through one war, I do not feel that I have yet repaid the debt. I am still ready to discharge my obligations. I shall therefore buckle on my sword and see Uncle Sam through this war too.”

He went into the streets, raised a company of volunteers, and led them as their captain to Springfield, the capital of the State, where their services were offered to Gov. Yates. The Governor, impressed by the zeal and straightforward executive ability of Capt. Grant, gave him a desk in his office, to assist in the volunteer organization that was being formed in the State in behalf of the Government. On the 15th of

June, 1861, Capt. Grant received a commission as Colonel of the Twenty-first Regiment of Illinois Volunteers. His merits as a West Point graduate, who had served for 15 years in the regular army, were such that he was soon promoted to the rank of Brigadier-General and was placed in command at Cairo. The rebels raised their banner at Paducah, near the mouth of the Tennessee River. Scarcely had its folds appeared in the breeze ere Gen. Grant was there. The rebels fled. Their banner fell, and the star and stripes were unfurled in its stead.

He entered the service with great determination and immediately began active duty. This was the beginning, and until the surrender of Lee at Richmond he was ever pushing the enemy with great vigor and effectiveness. At Belmont, a few days later, he surprised and routed the rebels, then at Fort Henry won another victory. Then came the brilliant fight at Fort Donelson. The nation was electrified by the victory, and the brave leader of the boys in blue was immediately made a Major-General, and the military district of Tennessee was assigned to him.

Like all great captains, Gen. Grant knew well how to secure the results of victory. He immediately pushed on to the enemies' lines. Then came the terrible battles of Pittsburg Landing, Corinth, and the siege of Vicksburg, where Gen. Pemberton made an unconditional surrender of the city with over thirty thousand men and one-hundred and seventy-two cannon. The fall of Vicksburg was by far the most severe blow which the rebels had thus far encountered, and opened up the Mississippi from Cairo to the Gulf.

Gen. Grant was next ordered to co-operate with Gen. Banks in a movement upon Texas, and proceeded to New Orleans, where he was thrown from his horse, and received severe injuries, from which he was laid up for months. He then rushed to the aid of Gens. Rosecrans and Thomas at Chattanooga, and by a wonderful series of strategic and technical measures put the Union Army in fighting condition. Then followed the bloody battles at Chattanooga, Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge, in which the rebels were routed with great loss. This won for him unbounded praise in the North. On the 4th of February, 1864, Congress revived the grade of lieutenant-general, and the rank was conferred on Gen. Grant. He repaired to Washington to receive his credentials and enter upon the duties of his new office.

Gen. Grant decided as soon as he took charge of the army to concentrate the widely-dispersed National troops for an attack upon Richmond, the nominal capital of the Rebellion, and endeavor there to destroy the rebel armies which would be promptly assembled from all quarters for its defence. The whole continent seemed to tremble under the tramp of these majestic armies, rushing to the decisive battle field. Steamers were crowded with troops. Railway trains were burdened with closely packed thousands. His plans were comprehensive and involved a series of campaigns, which were executed with remarkable energy and ability, and were consummated at the surrender of Lee, April 9, 1865.

The war was ended. The Union was saved. The almost unanimous voice of the Nation declared Gen. Grant to be the most prominent instrument in its salvation. The eminent services he had thus rendered the country brought him conspicuously forward as the Republican candidate for the Presidential chair.

At the Republican Convention held at Chicago, May 21, 1868, he was unanimously nominated for the Presidency, and at the autumn election received a majority of the popular vote, and 214 out of 294 electoral votes.

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

Soon after the close of his second term, Gen. Grant started upon his famous trip around the world. He visited almost every country of the civilized world, and was everywhere received with such ovations and demonstrations of respect and honor, private as well as public and official, as were never before bestowed upon any citizen of the United States.

He was the most prominent candidate before the Republican National Convention in 1880 for a re-nomination for President. He went to New York and embarked in the brokerage business under the firm name of Grant & Ward. The latter proved a villain, wrecked Grant's fortune, and for larceny was sent to the penitentiary. The General was attacked with cancer in the throat, but suffered in his stoic-like manner, never complaining. He was re-instated as General of the Army and retired by Congress. The cancer soon finished its deadly work, and July 23, 1885, the nation went in mourning over the death of the illustrious General.



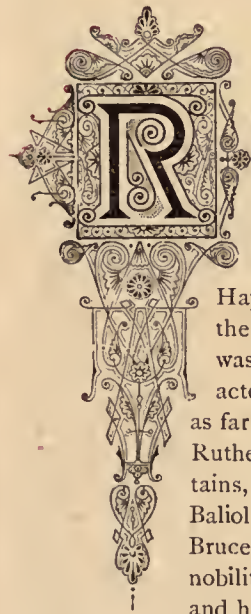


Sincerely  
R. B. Hayes





## RUTHERFORD B. HAYES.



RUTHERFORD B. HAYES, the nineteenth President of the United States, was born in Delaware, O., Oct. 4, 1822, almost three months after the death of his father, Rutherford Hayes. His ancestry on both the paternal and maternal sides, was of the most honorable character. It can be traced, it is said, as far back as 1280, when Hayes and Rutherford were two Scottish chieftains, fighting side by side with Baliol, William Wallace and Robert Bruce. Both families belonged to the nobility, owned extensive estates, and had a large following. Misfortune overtaking the family, George Hayes left Scotland in 1680, and settled in Windsor, Conn. His son George was born in Windsor, and remained there during his life. Daniel Hayes, son of the latter, married Sarah Lee, and lived from the time of his marriage until his death in Simsbury, Conn. Ezekiel, son of Daniel, was born in 1724, and was a manufacturer of scythes at Bradford, Conn. Rutherford Hayes, son of Ezekiel and grandfather of President Hayes, was born in New Haven, in August, 1756. He was a farmer, blacksmith and tavern-keeper. He emigrated to Vermont at an unknown date, settling in Brattleboro, where he established a hotel. Here his son Rutherford Hayes the father of President Hayes, was

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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





*J. A. Garfield*



# JAMES A. GARFIELD.

**J**AMES A. GARFIELD, twentieth President of the United States, was born Nov. 19, 1831, in the woods of Orange, Cuyahoga Co., O. His parents were Abram and Eliza (Ballou) Garfield, both of New England ancestry and from families well known in the early history of that section of our country, but had moved to the Western Reserve, in Ohio, early in its settlement.

The house in which James A. was born was not unlike the houses of poor Ohio farmers of that day. It was about 20 x 30 feet, built of logs, with the spaces between the logs filled with clay. His father was a hard working farmer, and he soon had his fields cleared, an orchard planted, and a log barn built. The household comprised the father and mother and their four children—Mehetabel, Thomas, Mary and James. In May, 1823, the father, from a cold contracted in helping to put out a forest fire, died. At this time James was about eighteen months old, and Thomas about ten years old. No one, perhaps, can tell how much James was indebted to his brother's toil and self-sacrifice during the twenty years succeeding his father's death, but undoubtedly very much. He now lives in Michigan, and the two sisters live in Solon, O., near their birthplace.

The early educational advantages young Garfield enjoyed were very limited, yet he made the most of them. He labored at farm work for others, did carpenter work, chopped wood, or did anything that would bring in a few dollars to aid his widowed mother in her struggles, to keep the little family to-

gether. Nor was Gen. Garfield ever ashamed of his origin, and he never forgot the friends of his struggling childhood, youth and manhood, neither did they ever forget him. When in the highest seats of honor, the humblest friend of his boyhood was as kindly greeted as ever. The poorest laborer was sure of the sympathy of one who had known all the bitterness of want and the sweetness of bread earned by the sweat of the brow. He was ever the simple, plain, modest gentleman.

The highest ambition of young Garfield until he was about sixteen years old was to be a captain of a vessel on Lake Erie. He was anxious to go aboard a vessel, which his mother strongly opposed. She finally consented to his going to Cleveland, with the understanding, however, that he should try to obtain some other kind of employment. He walked all the way to Cleveland. This was his first visit to the city. After making many applications for work, and trying to get aboard a lake vessel, and not meeting with success, he engaged as a driver for his cousin, Amos Letcher, on the Ohio & Pennsylvania Canal. He remained at this work but a short time when he went home, and attended the seminary at Chester for about three years, when he entered Hiram and the Eclectic Institute, teaching a few terms of school in the meantime, and doing other work. This school was started by the Disciples of Christ in 1850, of which church he was then a member. He became janitor and bell-ringer in order to help pay his way. He then became both teacher and pupil. He soon "exhausted Hiram" and needed more; hence, in the fall of 1854, he entered Williams College, from which he graduated in 1856, taking one of the highest honors of his class. He afterwards returned to Hiram College as its President. As above stated, he early united with the Christian or Disciples Church at Hiram, and was ever after a devoted, zealous member, often preaching in its pulpit and places where he happened to be. Dr. Noah Porter, President of Yale College, says of him in reference to his religion:

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

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

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

The military history of Gen. Garfield closed with

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

Without an effort on his part Gen. Garfield was elected to Congress in the fall of 1862 from the Nineteenth District of Ohio. This section of Ohio had been represented in Congress for sixty years mainly by two men—Elisha Whittlesey and Joshua R. Giddings. It was not without a struggle that he resigned his place in the army. At the time he entered Congress he was the youngest member in that body. There he remained by successive re-elections until he was elected President in 1880. Of his labors in Congress Senator Hoar says: "Since the year 1864 you cannot think of a question which has been debated in Congress, or discussed before a tribunal of the American people, in regard to which you will not find, if you wish instruction, the argument on one side stated, in almost every instance better than by anybody else, in some speech made in the House of Representatives or on the hustings by Mr. Garfield."

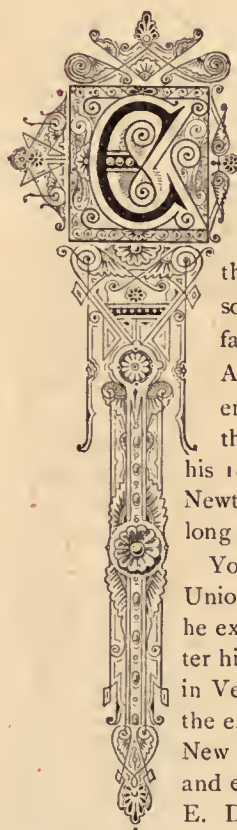
Upon Jan. 14, 1880, Gen. Garfield was elected to the U. S. Senate, and on the eighth of June, of the same year, was nominated as the candidate of his party for President at the great Chicago Convention. He was elected in the following November, and on March 4, 1881, was inaugurated. Probably no administration ever opened its existence under brighter auspices than that of President Garfield, and every day it grew in favor with the people, and by the first of July he had completed all the initiatory and preliminary work of his administration and was preparing to leave the city to meet his friends at Williams College. While on his way and at the depot, in company with Secretary Blaine, a man stepped behind him, drew a revolver, and fired directly at his back. The President tottered and fell, and as he did so the assassin fired a second shot, the bullet cutting the left coat sleeve of his victim, but inflicting no further injury. It has been very truthfully said that this was "the shot that was heard round the world." Never before in the history of the Nation had anything occurred which so nearly froze the blood of the people for the moment, as this awful deed. He was smitten on the brightest, gladdest day of all his life, and was at the summit of his power and hope. For eighty days, all during the hot months of July and August, he lingered and suffered. He, however, remained master of himself till the last, and by his magnificent bearing was teaching the country and the world the noblest of human lessons—how to live grandly in the very clutch of death. Great in life, he was surpassingly great in death. He passed serenely away Sept. 19, 1883, at Elberon, N. J., on the very bank of the ocean, where he had been taken shortly previous. The world wept at his death, as it never had done on the death of any other man who had ever lived upon it. The murderer was duly tried, found guilty and executed, in one year after he committed the foul deed.





*C. A. Allen.*





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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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





*Grover Cleveland*



## S. Grover Cleveland.



STEPHEN GROVER CLEVELAND, the twenty-second President of the United States, was born in 1837, in the obscure town of Caldwell, Essex Co., N. J., and in a little two-and-a-half-story white house which is still standing, characteristically to mark the humble birth-place of one of America's great men in striking contrast with the Old World, where all men high in office must be high in origin and born in the cradle of wealth. When the subject of this sketch was three years of age, his father, who was a Presbyterian minister, with a large family and a small salary, moved, by way of the Hudson River and Erie Canal, to Fayetteville, in search of an increased income and a larger field of work. Fayetteville was then the most straggling of country villages, about five miles from Pompey Hill, where Governor Seymour was born.

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

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

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

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

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

The first public office to which Mr. Cleveland was elected was that of Sheriff of Erie Co., N. Y., in which Buffalo is situated; and in such capacity it fell to his duty to inflict capital punishment upon two criminals. In 1881 he was elected Mayor of the City of Buffalo, on the Democratic ticket, with especial reference to the bringing about certain reforms

in the administration of the municipal affairs of that city. In this office, as well as that of Sheriff; his performance of duty has generally been considered fair, with possibly a few exceptions which were ferreted out and magnified during the last Presidential campaign. As a specimen of his plain language in a veto message, we quote from one vetoing an iniquitous street-cleaning contract: "This is 'a time for plain speech, and my objection to your action shall be plainly stated. I regard it as the culmination of a most bare-faced, impudent and shameless scheme to betray the interests of the people and to worse than squander the people's money." The *New York Sun* afterward very highly commended Mr. Cleveland's administration as Mayor of Buffalo, and thereupon recommended him for Governor of the Empire State. To the latter office he was elected in 1882, and his administration of the affairs of State was generally satisfactory. The mistakes he made, if any, were made very public throughout the nation after he was nominated for President of the United States. For this high office he was nominated July 11, 1884, by the National Democratic Convention at Chicago, when other competitors were Thomas F. Bayard, Roswell P. Flower, Thomas A. Hendricks, Benjamin F. Butler, Allen G. Thurman, etc.; and he was elected by the people, by a majority of about a thousand, over the brilliant and long-tried Republican statesman, James G. Blaine. President Cleveland resigned his office as Governor of New York in January, 1885, in order to prepare for his duties as the Chief Executive of the United States, in which capacity his term commenced at noon on the 4th of March, 1885. For his Cabinet officers he selected the following gentlemen: For Secretary of State, Thomas F. Bayard, of Delaware; Secretary of the Treasury, Daniel Manning, of New York; Secretary of War, William C. Endicott, of Massachusetts; Secretary of the Navy, William C. Whitney, of New York; Secretary of the Interior, L. Q. C. Lamar, of Mississippi; Postmaster-General, William F. Vilas, of Wisconsin; Attorney-General, A. H. Garland, of Arkansas.

The silver question precipitated a controversy between those who were in favor of the continuance of silver coinage and those who were opposed, Mr. Cleveland answering for the latter, even before his inauguration.









GOVERNORS.









*Hadraah Bond.*



## SHADRACH BOND.

**S**HADRACH BOND, the first Governor of Illinois after its organization as a State, serving from 1818 to 1822, was born in Frederick County, Maryland, in the year 1773, and was raised a farmer on his father's plantation, receiving only a plain English education. He emigrated to this State in 1794, when it was a part of the "Northwest Territory," continuing in the vocation in which he had been brought up in his native State, in the "New Design," near Eagle Creek, in what is now Monroe County. He served several terms as a member of the General Assembly of Indiana Territory, after it was organized as such, and in 1812-14 he was a Delegate to the Twelfth and Thirteenth Congresses, taking his seat Dec. 3, 1812, and serving until Oct. 3, 1814. These were the times, the reader will recollect, when this Government had its last struggle with Great Britain. The year 1812 is also noted in the history of this State as that in which the first Territorial Legislature was held. It convened at Kaskaskia, Nov. 25, and adjourned Dec. 26, following.

While serving as Delegate to Congress, Mr. Bond was instrumental in procuring the right of pre-emption on the public domain. On the expiration of his term at Washington he was appointed Receiver of Public Moneys at Kaskaskia, then the capital of the Territory. In company with John G. Comyges,

Thomas H. Harris, Charles Slade, Michael Jones, Warren Brown, Edward Humphries and Charles W. Hunter, he became a proprietor of the site of the initial city of Cairo, which they hoped, from its favorable location at the junction of the two great rivers near the center of the Great West, would rapidly develop into a metropolis. To aid the enterprise, they obtained a special charter from the Legislature, incorporating both the City and the Bank of Cairo.

In 1818 Mr. Bond was elected the first Governor of the State of Illinois, being inaugurated Oct. 6, that year, which was several weeks before Illinois was actually admitted. The facts are these: In January, 1818, the Territorial Legislature sent a petition to Congress for the admission of Illinois as a State, Nathaniel Pope being then Delegate. The petition was granted, fixing the northern line of the State on the latitude of the southern extremity of Lake Michigan; but the bill was afterward so amended as to extend this line to its present latitude. In July a convention was called at Kaskaskia to draft a constitution, which, however, was not submitted to the people. By its provisions, supreme judges, prosecuting attorneys, county and circuit judges, recorders and justices of the peace were all to be appointed by the Governor or elected by the Legislature. This constitution was accepted by Congress Dec. 30. At that time Illinois comprised but eleven counties, namely, Randolph, Madison, Gallatin, Johnson, Pope, Jackson, Crawford, Bond, Union, Washington and Franklin, the northern portion of the State being mainly in Madison County. Thus it appears that Mr. Bond was honored by the naming of a

county before he was elected Governor. The present county of Bond is of small limitations, about 60 to 80 miles south of Springfield. For Lieutenant Governor the people chose Pierre Menard, a prominent and worthy Frenchman, after whom a county in this State is named. In this election there were no opposition candidates, as the popularity of these men had made their promotion to the chief offices of the State, even before the constitution was drafted, a foregone conclusion.

The principal points that excited the people in reference to political issues at this period were local or "internal improvements," as they were called, State banks, location of the capital, slavery and the personal characteristics of the proposed candidates. Mr. Bond represented the "Convention party," for introducing slavery into the State, supported by Elias Kent Kane, his Secretary of State, and John McLean, while Nathaniel Pope and John P. Cook led the anti-slavery element. The people, however, did not become very much excited over this issue until 1820, when the famous Missouri Compromise was adopted by Congress, limiting slavery to the south of the parallel of 36° 30' except in Missouri. While this measure settled the great slavery controversy, so far as the average public sentiment was temporarily concerned, until 1854, when it was repealed under the leadership of Stephen A. Douglas, the issue as considered locally in this State was not decided until 1824, after a most furious campaign. (See sketch of Gov. Coles.) The ticket of 1818 was a compromise one, Bond representing (moderately) the pro-slavery sentiment and Menard the anti-slavery.

An awkward element in the State government under Gov. Bond's administration, was the imperfection of the State constitution. The Convention wished to have Elijah C. Berry for the first Auditor of Public Accounts, but, as it was believed that the new Governor would not appoint him to the office, the Convention declared in a schedule that "an auditor of public accounts, an attorney general and such other officers of the State as may be necessary, may be appointed by the General Assembly." The Constitution, as it stood, vested a very large appointing power in the Governor; but for the purpose of getting one man into office, a total change was made, and the power vested in the Legislature. Of this provision the Legislature took advantage, and de-

clared that State's attorneys, canal commissioners, bank directors, etc., were all "officers of the State" and must therefore be appointed by itself independently of the Governor.

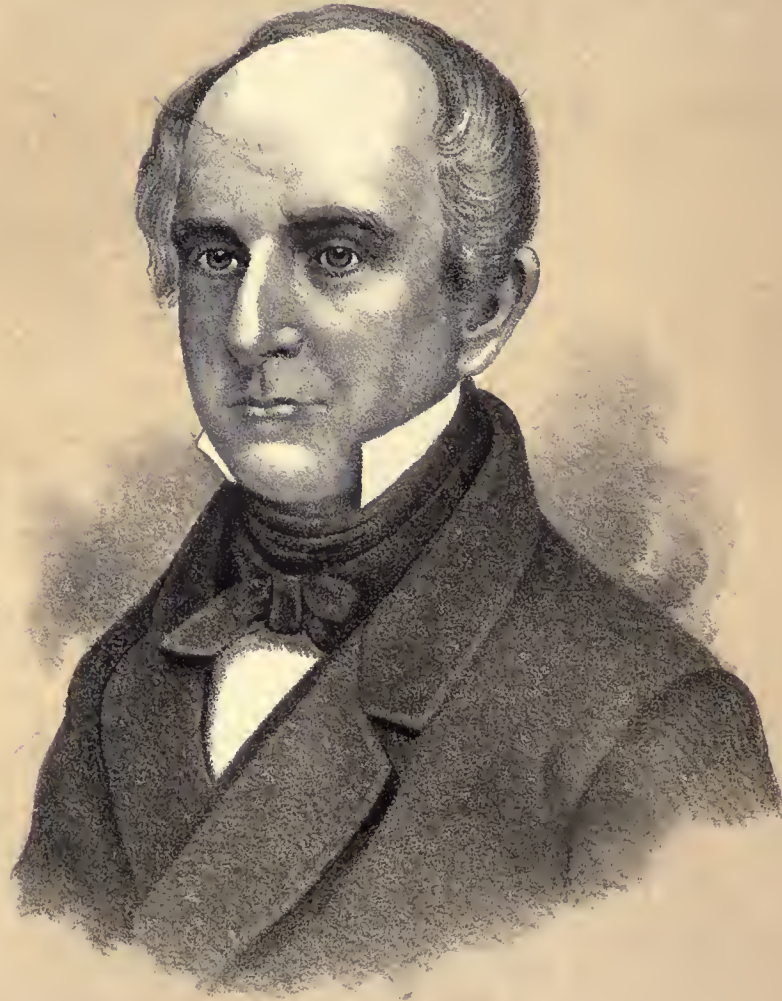
During Gov. Bond's administration a general law was passed for the incorporation of academies and towns, and one authorizing lotteries. The session of 1822 authorized the Governor to appoint commissioners, to act in conjunction with like commissioners appointed by the State of Indiana, to report on the practicability and expediency of improving the navigation of the Wabash River; also inland navigation generally. Many improvements were recommended, some of which have been feebly worked at even till the present day, those along the Wabash being of no value. Also, during Gov. Bond's term of office, the capital of the State was removed from Kaskaskia to Vandalia. In 1820 a law was passed by Congress authorizing this State to open a canal through the public lands. The State appointed commissioners to explore the route and prepare the necessary surveys and estimates, preparatory to its execution; but, being unable out of its own resources to defray the expenses of the undertaking, it was abandoned until some time after Congress made the grant of land for the purpose of its construction.

On the whole, Gov. Bond's administration was fairly good, not being open to severe criticism from any party. In 1824, two years after the expiration of his term of office, he was brought out as a candidate for Congress against the formidable John P. Cook, but received only 4,374 votes to 7,460 for the latter. Gov. Bond was no orator, but had made many fast friends by a judicious bestowment of his gubernatorial patronage, and these worked zealously for him in the campaign.

In 1827 ex-Gov. Bond was appointed by the Legislature, with Wm. P. McKee and Dr. Gershom Jayne, as Commissioners to locate a site for a penitentiary on the Mississippi at or near Alton.

Mr. Bond was of a benevolent and convivial disposition, a man of shrewd observation and clear appreciation of events. His person was erect, standing six feet in height, and after middle life became portly, weighing 200 pounds. His features were strongly masculine, complexion dark, hair jet and eyes hazel; was a favorite with the ladies. He died April 11, 1830, in peace and contentment.





*Edward Coles*





## Edward Coles.

**E**DWARD COLES, second Governor of Illinois, 1823-6, was born Dec. 15, 1786, in Albemarle Co., Va., on the old family estate called "Enniscorthy," on the Green Mountain. His father, John Coles, was a Colonel in the Revolutionary War. Having been fitted for college by private tutors, he was sent to Hampden Sidney, where he remained until the autumn of 1805, when he was removed to William and Mary College, at Williamsburg, Va. This college he left in the summer of 1807, a short time before the final and graduating examination. Among his classmates were Lieut. Gen. Scott, President John Tyler, Wm. S. Archer, United States Senator from Virginia, and Justice Baldwin, of the United States Supreme Court. The President of the latter college, Bishop Madison, was a cousin of President James Madison, and that circumstance was the occasion of Mr. Coles becoming personally acquainted with the President and receiving a position as his private secretary, 1809-15.

The family of Coles was a prominent one in Virginia, and their mansion was the seat of the old-fashioned Virginian hospitality. It was visited by such notables as Patrick Henry, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, the Randolphs, Tazewell, Wirt, etc. At the age of 23, young Coles found himself heir to a plantation and a considerable number of slaves. Ever since his earlier college days his attention had been drawn to the question of slavery. He read every-

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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





*Norman Edwards*



## Ninian Edwards.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

In 1826-7 the Winnebago and other Indians committed some depredations in the northern part of the

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

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

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





*John Reynolds*





## John Reynolds.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

In 1839 the ex-Governor was appointed one of the Canal Commissioners, and authorized to borrow money to prosecute the enterprise. Accordingly, he repaired to Philadelphia and succeeding in obtaining a million dollars, which, however, was only a fourth of what was wanted. The same year he and his wife made a tour of Europe. This year, also, Mr. Reynolds had the rather awkward little responsibility of introducing to President Van Buren the noted Mormon Prophet, Joseph Smith, as a "Latter-Day Saint!"

In 1846 Gov. Reynolds was elected a member of the Legislature from St. Clair County, more particularly for the purpose of obtaining a feasible charter for a macadamized road from Belleville to St. Louis, a distance of nearly 14 miles. This was immediately built, and was the first road of the kind in the State. He was again elected to the Legislature in 1852, when he was chosen Speaker of the House. In 1860, aged and infirm, he attended the National Democratic Convention at Charleston, S. C., as an anti-Douglas Delegate, where he received more attention from the Southern Delegates than any other member. He supported Breckenridge for the Presidency. After the October elections foreshadowed the success of Lincoln, he published an address urging the Democrats to rally to the support of Douglas. Immediately preceding and during the late war, his correspondence evinced a clear sympathy for the Southern secession, and about the first of March, 1861, he urged upon the Buchanan officials the seizure of the treasure and arms in the custom-house and arsenal at St. Louis. Mr. Reynolds was a rather talkative man, and apt in all the Western phrases and catchwords that ever gained currency, besides many cunning and odd ones of his own manufacture.

He was married twice, but had no children. He died in Belleville, in May, 1865, just after the close of the war.





*Amos A. Phelps*



Wm. L. D. Ewing.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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








*Joseph Duncan*





## Joseph Duncan.



JOSEPH DUNCAN, Governor 1834-8, was born at Paris, Ky., Feb. 23, 1794. At the tender age of 19 years he enlisted in the war against Great Britain, and as a soldier he acquitted himself with credit. He was an Ensign under the dauntless Croghan at Lower Sandusky, or Fort Stephenson. In Illinois he first appeared in a public capacity as Major-General of the Militia, a position which his military fame had procured him. Subsequently he became a State Senator from Jackson County, and is honorably mentioned for introducing the first bill providing for a free-school system. In 1826, when the redoubtable John P. Cook, who had previously beaten such men as John McLean, Elias Kent Kane and ex-Gov. Bond, came up for the fourth time for Congress, Mr. Duncan was brought forward against him by his friends, greatly to the surprise of all the politicians. As yet he was but little known in the State. He was an original Jackson man at that time, being attached to his political fortune in admiration of the glory of his military achievements. His chances of success against Cook were generally regarded as hopeless, but he entered upon the campaign undaunted. His speeches, though short and devoid of ornament, were full of good sense. He made a diligent canvass of the State, Mr. Cook being hindered by the condition of his health. The most that was expected of Mr. Duncan, under the circumstances, was that he would

obtain a respectable vote, but without defeating Mr. Cook. The result of the campaign, however, was a source of surprise and amazement to both friends and foes, as Mr. Duncan came out 641 votes ahead! He received 6,321 votes, and Mr. Cook 5,680. Until this *denouement*, the violence of party feeling smoldering in the breasts of the people on account of the defeat of Jackson, was not duly appreciated. Aside from the great convention struggle of 1824, no other than mere local and personal considerations had ever before controlled an election in Illinois.

From the above date Mr. Duncan retained his seat in Congress until his election as Governor in August, 1834. The first and bloodless year of the Black Hawk War he was appointed by Gov. Reynolds to the position of Brigadier-General of the volunteers, and he conducted his brigade to Rock Island. But he was absent from the State, in Washington, during the gubernatorial campaign, and did not personally participate in it, but addressed circulars to his constituents. His election was, indeed, attributed to the circumstance of his absence, because his estrangement from Jackson, formerly his political idol, and also from the Democracy, largely in ascendancy in the State, was complete; but while his defection was well known to his Whig friends, and even to the leading Jackson men of this State, the latter were unable to carry conviction of that fact to the masses, as mail and newspaper facilities at that day were far inferior to those of the present time. Of course the Governor was much abused afterward by the fossilized Jackson men who regarded party ties and affiliations as above all other issues that could arise; but he was doubtless

sincere in his opposition to the old hero, as the latter had vetoed several important western measures which were dear to Mr. Duncan. In his inaugural message he threw off the mask and took a bold stand against the course of the President. The measures he recommended in his message, however, were so desirable that the Legislature, although by a large majority consisting of Jackson men, could not refrain from endorsing them. These measures related mainly to banks and internal improvements.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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





*Thos. Carlin*



**T**HOMAS CARLIN, the sixth Governor of the State of Illinois, serving from 1838 to 1842, was also a Kentuckian, being born near Frankfort, that State, July 18, 1789, of Irish paternity.

The opportunities for an education being very meager in his native place, he, on approaching years of judgment and maturity, applied himself to those branches of learning that seemed most important, and thus became a self-made man; and his taste for reading and study remained with him through life. In 1803 his father removed to Missouri, then a part of "New Spain," where he died in 1810.

In 1812 young Carlin came to Illinois and participated in all the "ranging" service incident to the war of that period, proving himself a soldier of undaunted bravery. In 1814 he married Rebecca Huitt, and lived for four years on the bank of the Mississippi River, opposite the mouth of the Mis-souri, where he followed farming, and then removed to Greene County. He located the town site of Carleton, in that county, and in 1825 made a liberal donation of land for county building purposes. He was the first Sheriff of that county after its separate organization, and afterward was twice elected, as a Jackson Democrat, to the Illinois Senate. In the Black Hawk War he commanded a spy battalion, a post of considerable danger. In 1834 he was appointed by President Jackson to the position of Receiver of Public Moneys, and to fulfill the office

more conveniently he removed to the city of Quincy.

While, in 1838, the unwieldy internal improvement system of the State was in full operation, with all its expensive machinery, amidst bank suspensions throughout the United States, a great stringency in the money market everywhere, and Illinois bonds forced to sale at a heavy discount, and the "hardest times" existing that the people of the Prairie State ever saw, the general election of State officers was approaching. Discreet men who had cherished the hope of a speedy subsidence of the public infatuation, met with disappointment. A Governor and Legislature were to be elected, and these were now looked forward to for a repeal of the ruinous State policy. But the grand scheme had not yet lost its dazzling influence upon the minds of the people. Time and experience had not yet fully demonstrated its utter absurdity. Hence the question of arresting its career of profligate expenditures did not become a leading one with the dominant party during the campaign, and most of the old members of the Legislature were returned at this election.

Under these circumstances the Democrats, in State Convention assembled, nominated Mr. Carlin for the office of Governor, and S. H. Anderson for Lieutenant Governor, while the Whigs nominated Cyrus Edwards, brother of Ninian Edwards, formerly Governor, and W. H. Davidson. Edwards came out strongly for a continuance of the State policy, while Carlin remained non-committal. This was the first time that the two main political parties in this State were unembarrassed by any third party in the field. The result of the election was: Carlin, 35,573; Anderson, 30,335; Edwards, 29,629; and Davidson, 28,715.

Upon the meeting of the subsequent Legislature (1839), the retiring Governor (Duncan) in his mes-

sage spoke in emphatic terms of the impolicy of the internal improvement system, presaging the evils threatened, and urged that body to do their utmost to correct the great error; yet, on the contrary, the Legislature not only decided to continue the policy but also added to its burden by voting more appropriations and ordering more improvements. Although the money market was still stringent, a further loan of \$4,000,000 was ordered for the Illinois & Michigan Canal alone. Chicago at that time began to loom up and promise to be an important city, even the great emporium of the West, as it has since indeed come to be. Ex-Gov. Reynolds, an incompetent financier, was commissioned to effect the loan, and accordingly hastened to the East on this responsible errand, and negotiated the loans, at considerable sacrifice to the State. Besides this embarrassment to Carlin's administration, the Legislature also declared that he had no authority to appoint a Secretary of State until a vacancy existed, and A. P. Field, a Whig, who had already held the post by appointment through three administrations, was determined to keep the place a while longer, in spite of Gov. Carlin's preferences. The course of the Legislature in this regard, however, was finally sustained by the Supreme Court, in a *quo warranto* case brought up before it by John A. McClernand, whom the Governor had nominated for the office. Thereupon that dignified body was denounced as a "Whig Court!" endeavoring to establish the principle of life-tenure of office.

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

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

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

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

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

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



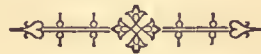


Thomas Ford





## Thomas Ford.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

But perhaps the Governor is remembered more for his connection with the Mormon troubles than for anything else; for it was during his term of office that the "Latter-Day Saints" became so strong at Nauvoo, built their temple there, increased their numbers throughout the country, committed misdemeanors, taught dangerous doctrines, suffered the loss of their leader, Jo Smith, by a violent death, were driven out of Nauvoo to the far West, etc. Having been a Judge for so many years previously, Mr. Ford of course was non-committal concerning Mormon affairs, and was therefore claimed by both parties and also accused by each of sympathizing too greatly with the other side. Mormonism claiming to be a system of religion, the Governor no doubt was "between two fires," and felt compelled to touch the matter rather "gingerly," and doubtless felt greatly relieved when that pestilential people left the State. Such complicated matters, especially when religion is mixed up with them, expose every person participating in them to criticism from all parties.

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


Ford's "History of Illinois" is a very readable and entertaining work, of 450 small octavo pages, and is destined to increase in value with the lapse of time. It exhibits a natural flow of compact and forcible thought, never failing to convey the nicest sense. In tracing with his trenchant pen the devious operations of the professional politician, in which he is inimitable, his account is open, perhaps, to the objection that *all* his contemporaries are treated as mere place-seekers, while many of them have since been judged by the people to be worthy statesmen. His writings seem slightly open to the criticism that they exhibit a little splenetic partiality against those of his contemporaries who were prominent during his term of office as Governor.

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





*Aug. C. French*



## Augustus C. French.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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





*J. A. Matteson*



Joel A. Matteson.



JOEL A. MATTESON, Governor 1853-6, was born Aug. 8, 1808, in Jefferson County, New York, to which place his father had removed from Vermont three years before. His father was a farmer in fair circumstances, but a common English education was all that his only son received. Young Joel first tempted fortune as a small tradesman in Prescott, Canada, before he was of age. He returned from that place to his home, entered an academy, taught school, visited the principal Eastern cities, improved a farm his father had given him, made a tour in the South, worked there in building railroads, experienced a storm on the Gulf of Mexico, visited the gold diggings of Northern Georgia, and returned *via* Nashville to St. Louis and through Illinois to his father's home, when he married. In 1833, having sold his farm, he removed, with his wife and one child, to Illinois, and entered a claim on Government land near the head of Au Sable River, in what is now Kendall County. At that time there were not more than two neighbors within a range of ten miles of his place, and only three or four houses between him and Chicago. He opened a large farm. His family was board-

miles away while he erected a house on his claim, sleeping, during this time, under a rude pole shed. Here his life was once placed in imminent peril by a huge prairie rattlesnake sharing his bed.

In 1835 he bought largely at the Government land sales. During the speculative real-estate mania which broke out in Chicago in 1836 and spread over the State, he sold his lands under the inflation of that period and removed to Joliet. In 1838 he became a heavy contractor on the Illinois & Michigan Canal. Upon the completion of his job in 1841, when hard times prevailed, business at a stand, contracts paid in State scrip; when all the public works except the canal were abandoned, the State offered for sale 700 tons of railroad iron, which was purchased by Mr. Matteson at a bargain. This he accepted, shipped and sold at Detroit, realizing a very handsome profit, enough to pay off all his canal debts and leave him a surplus of several thousand dollars. His enterprise next prompted him to start a woolen mill at Joliet, in which he prospered, and which, after successive enlargements, became an enormous establishment.

In 1842 he was first elected a State Senator, but, by a bungling apportionment, John Pearson, a Senator holding over, was found to be in the same district, and decided to be entitled to represent it. Matteson's seat was declared vacant. Pearson, however, with a nobleness difficult to appreciate in this day of

greed for office, unwilling to represent his district under the circumstances, immediately resigned his unexpired term of two years. A bill was passed in a few hours ordering a new election, and in ten days' time Mr. Matteson was returned re-elected and took his seat as Senator. From his well-known capacity as a business man, he was made Chairman of the Committee on Finance, a position he held during this half and two full succeeding Senatorial terms, discharging its important duties with ability and faithfulness. Besides his extensive woolen-mill interest, when work was resumed on the canal under the new loan of \$1,600,000 he again became a heavy contractor, and also subsequently operated largely in building railroads. Thus he showed himself a most energetic and thorough business man.

He was nominated for Governor by the Democratic State Convention which met at Springfield April 20, 1852. Other candidates before the Convention were D. L. Gregg and F. C. Sherman, of Cook; John Dement, of Lee; Thomas L. Harris, of Menard; Lewis W. Ross, of Fulton; and D. P. Bush, of Pike. Gustavus Koerner, of St. Clair, was nominated for Lieutenant Governor. For the same offices the Whigs nominated Edwin B. Webb and Dexter A. Knowlton. Mr. Matteson received 80,645 votes at the election, while Mr. Webb received 64,408. Matteson's forte was not on the stump; he had not cultivated the art of oily flattery, or the faculty of being all things to all men. His intellectual qualities took rather the direction of efficient executive ability. His turn consisted not so much in the adroit management of party, or the powerful advocacy of great governmental principles, as in those more solid and enduring operations which cause the physical development and advancement of a State,—of commerce and business enterprise, into which he labored with success to lead the people. As a politician he was just and liberal in his views, and both in official and private life he then stood untainted and free from blemish. As a man, in active benevolence, social virtues and all the amiable qualities of neighbor or citizen, he had few superiors. His messages present a perspicuous array of facts as to the condition of the State, and are often couched in forcible and elegant diction.

The greatest excitement during his term of office was the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, by Con-

gress, under the leadership of Stephen A. Douglas in 1854, when the bill was passed organizing the Territory of Kansas and Nebraska. A large portion of the Whig party of the North, through their bitter opposition to the Democratic party, naturally drifted into the doctrine of anti-slavery, and thus led to what was temporarily called the "Anti-Nebraska" party, while the followers of Douglas were known as "Nebraska or Douglas Democrats." It was during this embryo stage of the Republican party that Abraham Lincoln was brought forward as the "Anti-Nebraska" candidate for the United States Senatorship, while Gen. James Shields, the incumbent, was re-nominated by the Democrats. But after a few balloting in the Legislature (1855), these men were dropped, and Lyman Trumbull, an Anti-Nebraska Democrat, was brought up by the former, and Mr. Matteson, then Governor, by the latter. On the 11th ballot Mr. Trumbull obtained one majority, and was accordingly declared elected. Before Gov. Matteson's term expired, the Republicans were fully organized as a national party, and in 1856 put into the field a full national and State ticket, carrying the State, but not the nation.

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

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

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

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





*James W. Russell*



## William M. Bissell.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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






*John Wood*





## John Wood.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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


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







*Rich. Yates*



## Richard Yates.



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

Gifted with a fluent and ready oratory, he soon appeared in the political hustings, and, being a passionate admirer of the great Whig leader of the West, Henry Clay, he joined his political fortunes to the party of his idol. In 1840 he engaged with great ardor in the exciting "hard cider" campaign for Harrison. Two years later he was elected to the Legislature from Morgan County, a Democratic stronghold. He served three or four terms in the Legislature, and such was the fascination of his oratory that by 1850 his large Congressional District, extending from Morgan and Sangamon Counties north to include LaSalle, unanimously tendered him the Whig nomination for Congress. His Democratic opponent was Maj. Thomas L. Harris, a very popular man who had won distinction at the battle of Cerro Gordo, in the Mexican War, and who had beaten Hon. Stephen T. Logan for the same position,

two years before, by a large majority. Yates was elected. Two years later he was re-elected, over John Calhoun.

It was during Yates' second term in Congress that the great question of the repeal of the Missouri Compromise was agitated, and the bars laid down for reopening the dreaded anti-slavery question. He took strong grounds against the repeal, and thus became identified with the rising Republican party. Consequently he fell into the minority in his district, which was pro-slavery. Even then, in a third contest, he fell behind Major Harris only 200 votes, after the district had two years before given Pierce 2,000 majority for President.

The Republican State Convention of 1860 met at Decatur May 9, and nominated for the office of Governor Mr. Yates, in preference to Hon. Norman B. Judd, of Chicago, and Leonard Swett, of Bloomington, two of the ablest men of the State, who were also candidates before the Convention. Francis A. Hoffman, of DuPage County, was nominated for Lieutenant Governor. This was the year when Mr. Lincoln was a candidate for President, a period remembered as characterized by the great whirlpool which precipitated the bloody War of the Rebellion. The Douglas Democrats nominated J. C. Allen of Crawford County, for Governor, and Lewis W. Ross, of Fulton County, for Lieutenant Governor. The Breckenridge Democrats and the Bell-Everett party had also full tickets in the field. After a most fearful campaign, the result of the election gave Mr. Yates 172,196 votes, and Mr. Allen 159,253. Mr. Yates received over a thousand more votes than did Mr. Lincoln himself.

Gov. Yates occupied the chair of State during the

most critical period of our country's history. In the fate of the nation was involved that of each State. The life struggle of the former derived its sustenance from the loyalty of the latter; and Gov. Yates seemed to realize the situation, and proved himself both loyal and wise in upholding the Government. He had a deep hold upon the affections of the people, won by his moving eloquence and genial manners. Erect and symmetrical in person, of prepossessing appearance, with a winning address and a magnetic power, few men possessed more of the elements of popularity. His oratory was scholarly and captivating, his hearers hardly knowing why they were transported. He was social and convivial. In the latter respect he was ultimately carried too far.

The very creditable military efforts of this State during the War of the Rebellion, in putting into the field the enormous number of about 200,000 soldiers, were ever promptly and ably seconded by his excellency; and he was ambitious to deserve the title of "the soldier's friend." Immediately after the battle of Shiloh he repaired to the field of carnage to look after the wounded, and his appeals for aid were promptly responded to by the people. His proclamations calling for volunteers were impassionate appeals, urging upon the people the duties and requirements of patriotism; and his special message in 1863 to the Democratic Legislature of this State pleading for material aid for the sick and wounded soldiers of Illinois regiments, breathes a deep fervor of noble sentiment and feeling rarely equaled in beauty or felicity of expression. Generally his messages on political and civil affairs were able and comprehensive. During his administration, however, there were no civil events of an engrossing character, although two years of his time were replete with partisan quarrels of great bitterness. Military arrests, Knights of the Golden Circle, riot in Fulton County, attempted suppression of the *Chicago Times* and the usurping State Constitutional Convention of 1862, were the chief local topics that were exciting during the Governor's term. This Convention assembled Jan. 7, and at once took the high position that the law calling it was no longer binding, and that it had supreme power; that it represented a virtual assemblage of the whole people of the State, and was sovereign in the exercise of all power necessary to effect a peaceable revolution of the State Government

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

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

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

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





*R. J. Oglesby*





## Richard J. Oglesby.

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

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

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

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

pany of eight men, Henry Prather being the leader.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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





*John A. Palmer*



## JOHN M. PALMER

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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





*John L. Beveridge*





# John L. Beveridge.

**J**OHN LOWRIE BEVERIDGE, Governor 1873-6, was born in the town of Greenwich, Washington Co., N. Y., July 6, 1824. His parents were George and Ann Beveridge. His father's parents, Andrew and Isabel Beveridge, before their marriage emigrated from Scotland just before the Revolutionary War, settling in Washington County. His father was the eldest of eight brothers, the youngest of whom was 60 years of age when the first one of the number died. His mother's parents, James and Agnes Hoy, emigrated from Scotland at the close of the Revolutionary War, settling also in Washington Co., N. Y., with their first-born, whose "native land" was the wild ocean. His parents and grandparents lived beyond the time allotted to man, their average age being over 80 years. They belonged to the "Associate Church," a seceding Presbyterian body of

America from the old Scotch school; and so rigid was the training of young Beveridge that he never heard a sermon from any other minister except that of his own denomination until he was in his 19th year. Later in life he became a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, which relation he still holds.

Mr. Beveridge received a good common-school education, but his parents, who could obtain a livelihood only by rigid economy and industry, could not send him away to college. He was raised upon a farm, and was in his 18th year when the family removed to De Kalb County, this State, when that section was very sparsely settled. Chicago had less than 7,000 inhabitants. In this wild West he continued as a farm laborer, teaching school during the winter months to supply the means of an education. In the fall of 1842 he attended one term at the academy at Granville, Putnam Co., Ill., and subsequently several terms at the Rock River Seminary at Mount Morris, Ogle Co., Ill., completing the academic course. At this time, the fall of 1845, his parents and brothers were anxious to have him go to college, even though he had not money sufficient; but, not willing to burden the family, he packed his trunk and with only \$40 in money started South to seek his fortune.

Poor, alone, without friends and influence, he thus entered upon the battle of life.

First, he taught school in Wilson, Overton and Jackson Cos., Tenn., in which experience he underwent considerable mental drill, both in book studies and in the ways of the world. He read law and was admitted to the Bar, in the South, but did not learn to love the institution of slavery, although he admired many features of Southern character. In December, 1847, he returned North, and Jan. 20, 1848, he married Miss Helen M. Judson, in the old Clark-Street M. E. church in Chicago, her father at that time being Pastor of the society there. In the spring of 1848 he returned with his wife to Tennessee, where his two children, Alla May and Philo Judson, were born.

In the fall of 1849, through the mismanagement of an associate, he lost what little he had accumulated and was left in debt. He soon managed to earn means to pay his debts, returned to De Kalb Co., Ill., and entered upon the practice of his profession at Sycamore, the county seat. On arrival from the South he had but one-quarter of a dollar in money, and scanty clothing and bedding for himself and family. He borrowed a little money, practiced law, worked in public offices, kept books for some of the business men of the town, and some railroad engineering, till the spring of 1854, when he removed to Evanston, 12 miles north of Chicago, a place then but recently laid out, under the supervision of the Northwestern University, a Methodist institution. Of the latter his father-in-law was then financial agent and business manager. Here Mr. Beveridge prospered, and the next year (1855) opened a law office in Chicago, where he found the battle somewhat hard; but he persevered with encouragement and increasing success.

Aug. 12, 1861, his law partner, Gen. John F. Farnsworth, secured authority to raise a regiment of cavalry, and authorized Mr. Beveridge to raise a company for it. He succeeded in a few days in raising the company, of course enlisting himself along with it. The regiment rendezvoused at St. Charles, Ill., was mustered in Sept. 18, and on its organization Mr. B. was elected Second Major. It was attached, Oct. 11, to the Eighth Cavalry and to the Army of the Potomac. He served with the regiment until November, 1863, participating in some 40 bat-

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

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

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

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





*M. Cullom*



**S**HELBY M. CULLOM, Governor 1877-83, is the sixth child of the late Richard N. Cullom, and was born Nov. 22, 1829, in Wayne Co., Ky., where his father then resided, and whence both the Illinois and Tennessee branches of the family originated. In the following year the family emigrated to the vicinity of Washington, Tazewell Co., Ill., when that section was very sparsely settled. They located on Deer Creek, in a grove at the time occupied by a party of Indians, attracted there by the superior hunting and fishing afforded in that vicinity. The following winter was

known as the "hard winter," the snow being very deep and lasting and the weather severely cold; and the family had to subsist mainly on boiled corn or hominy, and some wild game, for several weeks. In the course of time Mr. R. N. Cullom became a prominent citizen and was several times elected to the Legislature, both before and after the removal of the capital from Vandalia to Springfield. He died about 1873.

Until about 19 years of age young Cullom grew up to agricultural pursuits, attending school as he had opportunity during the winter. Within this time, however, he spent several months teaching school,

and in the following summer he "broke prairie" with an ox team for the neighbors. With the money obtained by these various ventures, he undertook a course of study at the Rock River Seminary, a Methodist institution at Mt. Morris, Ogle County; but the sudden change to the in-door life of a student told severely upon his health, and he was taken home, being considered in a hopeless condition. While at Mt. Morris he heard Hon. E. B. Washburne make his first speech.

On recovering health, Mr. Cullom concluded to study law, under the instruction of Abraham Lincoln, at Springfield, who had by this time attained some notoriety as an able lawyer; but the latter, being absent from his office most of the time, advised Mr. Cullom to enter the office of Stuart & Edwards. After about a year of study there, however, his health failed again, and he was obliged to return once more to out-door life. Accordingly he bought hogs for packing, for A. G. Tyng, in Peoria, and while he regained his health he gained in purse, netting \$400 in a few weeks. Having been admitted to the Bar, he went to Springfield, where he was soon elected City Attorney, on the Anti-Nebraska ticket.

In 1856 he ran on the Fillmore ticket as a Presidential Elector, and, although failing to be elected as such, he was at the same time elected a Representative in the Legislature from Sangamon County, by a local coalition of the American and Republican parties. On the organization of the House, he received the vote of the Fillmore men for Speaker. Practicing

law until 1860, he was again elected to the Legislature, as a Republican, while the county went Democratic on the Presidential ticket. In January following he was elected Speaker, probably the youngest man who had ever presided over an Illinois Legislature. After the session of 1861, he was a candidate for the State Constitutional Convention called for that year, but was defeated, and thus escaped the disgrace of being connected with that abortive party scheme to revolutionize the State Government. In 1862 he was a candidate for the State Senate, but was defeated. The same year, however, he was appointed by President Lincoln on a Government Commission, in company with Gov. Boutwell of Massachusetts and Charles A. Dana, since of the *New York Sun*, to investigate the affairs of the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments at Cairo. He devoted several months to this duty.

In 1864 he entered upon a larger political field, being nominated as the Republican candidate for Congress from the Eighth (Springfield) District, in opposition to the incumbent, John T. Stuart, who had been elected in 1862 by about 1,500 majority over Leonard Swett, then of Bloomington, now of Chicago. The result was the election of Mr. Cullom in November following by a majority of 1,785. In 1866 he was re-elected to Congress, over Dr. E. S. Fowler, by the magnificent majority of 4,103! In 1868 he was again a candidate, defeating the Hon. B. S. Edwards, another of his old preceptors, by 2,884 votes.

During his first term in Congress he served on the Committee on Foreign Affairs and Expenditures in the Treasury Department; in his second term, on the Committees on Foreign Affairs and on Territories; and in his third term he succeeded Mr. Ashley, of Ohio, to the Chairmanship of the latter. He introduced a bill in the House, to aid in the execution of law in Utah, which caused more consternation among the Mormons than any measure had previously, but which, though it passed the House, failed to pass the Senate.

The Republican Convention which met May 25, 1876, nominated Mr. Cullom for Governor, while the other contestant was Gov. Beveridge. For Lieutenant-Governor they nominated Andrew Shuman, editor of the *Chicago Journal*. For the same offices the Democrats, combining with the Anti-Monopolists, placed in nomination Lewis Steward, a wealthy

farmer and manufacturer, and A. A. Glenn. The result of the election was rather close, Mr. Cullom obtaining only 6,800 majority. He was inaugurated Jan. 8, 1877.

Great depression prevailed in financial circles at this time, as a consequence of the heavy failures of 1873 and afterward, the effect of which had seemed to gather force from that time to the end of Gov. Cullom's first administration. This unspeculative period was not calculated to call forth any new issues, but the Governor's energies were at one time put to task to quell a spirit of insubordination that had been begun in Pittsburg, Pa., among the laboring classes, and transferred to Illinois at Chicago, East St. Louis and Braidwood, at which places laboring men for a short time refused to work or allow others to work. These disturbances were soon quelled and the wheels of industry again set in motion.

In May, 1880, Gov. Cullom was re-nominated by the Republicans, against Lyman Trumbull, by the Democrats; and although the former party was somewhat handicapped in the campaign by a zealous faction opposed to Grant for President and to Grant men for office generally, Mr. Cullom was re-elected by about 314,565, to 277,532 for the Democratic State ticket. The Greenback vote at the same time was about 27,000. Both Houses of the Legislature again became Republican, and no representative of the Greenback or Socialist parties were elected. Gov. Cullom was inaugurated Jan. 10, 1881. In his message he announced that the last dollar of the State debt had been provided for.

March 4, 1883, the term of David Davis as United States Senator from Illinois expired, and Gov. Cullom was chosen to succeed him. This promoted Lieutenant-Governor John M. Hamilton to the Governorship. Senator Cullom's term in the United States Senate will expire March 4, 1889.

As a practitioner of law Mr. C. has been a member of the firm of Cullom, Scholes & Mather, at Springfield; and he has also been President of the State National Bank.

He has been married twice,—the first time Dec. 12, 1855, to Miss Hannah Fisher, by whom he had two daughters; and the second time May 5, 1863, to Julia Fisher. Mrs. C. is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, with which religious body Mr. C. is also in sympathy.



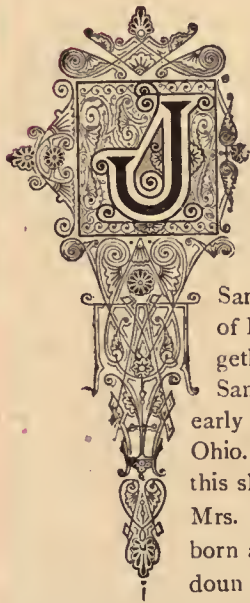


John M. Hamilton





## John M. Hamilton.



JOHN MARSHALL HAMILTON, Governor 1883-5, was born May 28, 1847, in a log house upon a farm about two miles from Richwood, Union County, Ohio. His father was Samuel Hamilton, the eldest son of Rev. Wm. Hamilton, who, together with his brother, the Rev. Samuel Hamilton, was among the early pioneer Methodist preachers in Ohio. The mother of the subject of this sketch was, before her marriage, Mrs. Nancy McMorris, who was born and raised in Fauquier or Loudoun County, Va., and related to the

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

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

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

When the tremendous excitement of the political campaign of 1860 reached the neighborhood of Roberts Township, young Hamilton, who had been brought up in the doctrine of anti-slavery, took a zealous part in favor of Lincoln's election. Making special efforts to procure a little money to buy a uniform, he joined a company of Lincoln Wide-Awakes at Magnolia, a village not far away. Directly after the ensuing election it became evident that trouble would ensue with the South, and this Wide-Awake company, like many others throughout the country, kept up its organization and transformed itself into a military company. During the ensuing summer they met often for drill and became proficient; but when they offered themselves for the war, young Hamilton was rejected on account of his youth, he being then but 14 years of age. During the winter of 1863-4 he attended an academy at Henry, Marshall County.

and in the following May he again enlisted, for the fourth time, when he was placed in the 141st Ill. Vol. Inf., a regiment then being raised at Elgin, Ill., for the 100-day service. He took with him 13 other lads from his neighborhood, for enlistment in the service. This regiment operated in Southwestern Kentucky, for about five months, under Gen. Paine.

The following winter, 1864-5, Mr. Hamilton taught school, and during the two college years 1865-7, he went through three years of the curriculum of the Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware, Ohio. The third year he graduated, the fourth in a class of 46, in the classical department. In due time he received the degree of M. A. For a few months he was the Principal of Marshall "College" at Henry, an academy under the auspices of the M. E. Church. By this time he had commenced the study of law, and after earning some money as a temporary Professor of Latin at the Illinois Wesleyan University at Bloomington, he entered the law office of Weldon, Tipton & Benjamin, of that city. Each member of this firm has since been distinguished as a Judge. Admitted to the Bar in May, 1870, Mr. Hamilton was given an interest in the same firm, Tipton having been elected Judge. In October following he formed a partnership with J. H. Rowell, at that time Prosecuting Attorney. Their business was then small, but they increased it to very large proportions, practicing in all grades of courts, including even the U. S. Supreme Court, and this partnership continued unbroken until Feb. 6, 1883, when Mr. Hamilton was sworn in as Executive of Illinois. On the 4th of March following Mr. Rowell took his seat in Congress.

In July, 1871, Mr. Hamilton married Miss Helen M. Williams, the daughter of Prof. Wm. G. Williams, Professor of Greek in the Ohio Wesleyan University. Mr. and Mrs. H. have two daughters and one son.

In 1876 Mr. Hamilton was nominated by the Republicans for the State Senate, over other and older competitors. He took an active part "on the stump" in the campaign, for the success of his party, and was elected by a majority of 1,640 over his Democratic-Greenback opponent. In the Senate he served on the Committees on Judiciary, Revenue, State Institutions, Appropriations, Education, and on Miscellany; and during the contest for the election of a U. S. Senator, the Republicans endeavoring to re-

elect John A. Logan, he voted for the war chief on every ballot, even alone when all the other Republicans had gone over to the Hon. E. B. Lawrence and the Democrats and Independents elected Judge David Davis. At this session, also, was passed the first Board of Health and Medical Practice act, of which Mr. Hamilton was a champion, against so much opposition that the bill was several times "laid on the table." Also, this session authorized the location and establishment of a southern penitentiary, which was fixed at Chester. In the session of 1879 Mr. Hamilton was elected President *pro tem.* of the Senate, and was a zealous supporter of John A. Logan for the U. S. Senate, who was this time elected without any trouble.

In May, 1880, Mr. Hamilton was nominated on the Republican ticket for Lieutenant Governor, his principal competitors before the Convention being Hon. Wm. A. James, ex-Speaker of the House of Representatives, Judge Robert Bell, of Wabash County, Hon. T. T. Fountain, of Perry County, and Hon. M. M. Saddler, of Marion County. He engaged actively in the campaign, and his ticket was elected by a majority of 41,200. As Lieutenant Governor, he presided almost continuously over the Senate in the 32d General Assembly and during the early days of the 33d, until he succeeded to the Governorship. When the Legislature of 1883 elected Gov. Cullom to the United States Senate, Lieut. Gov. Hamilton succeeded him, under the Constitution, taking the oath of office Feb. 6, 1883. He bravely met all the annoyances and embarrassments incidental upon taking up another's administration. The principal events with which Gov. Hamilton was connected as the Chief Executive of the State were, the mine disaster at Braidwood, the riots in St. Clair and Madison Counties in May, 1883, the appropriations for the State militia, the adoption of the Harper high-license liquor law, the veto of a dangerous railroad bill, etc.

The Governor was a Delegate at large to the National Republican Convention at Chicago in June, 1884, where his first choice for President was John A. Logan, and second choice Chester A. Arthur; but he afterward zealously worked for the election of Mr. Blaine, true to his party.

Mr. Hamilton's term as Governor expired Jan. 30, 1885, when the great favorite "Dick" Oglesby was inaugurated.



*McLean County,*

*Illinois.*





# INTRODUCTORY.



THE accumulation of valuable material for this work has already been so large that only a brief historical mention of the county can be given, or can be expected.

MeLean County is situated very near the geographical center of the State of Illinois, and in area is the largest county in the State, comprising 1,154 square miles. It ranks third in population, having about 65,000 inhabitants, and is only excelled by Cook and La Salle Counties. In material development and production of soil, it unquestionably stands first. Its

American settlers are principally from Ohio, New York, Pennsylvania, Indiana and Kentucky, the Ohioans outnumbering those from any one of the other States. The bulk of the foreign population, which is not large, is made up about equally of Germans and Irish, while there are some from England, Scotland and France.

If space would permit we should like to go back and dwell at length on the Aboriginal occupation, the French possession, the British conquest in 1763, and to the time when Gen. George Rogers Clark, representing and under the authority of the then great commonwealth of Virginia, came out and captured this entire region from the British. It would be pleasant to trace the history of this country through the various changes, as it was known after the last conquest under the name of the Illinois County, and later on when it was called the Northwestern Territory, and afterward as the Ter-

ritory of Indiana, and follow it along from 1809, when it became the Territory of Illinois, and in 1818, when it became one of the bright stars in the American Republic. During all these varied changes, and under all these governmental authorities, the territory now embraced by MeLean County took its part, and was an important factor. It was not, however, until 1822, that this particular portion of the State of Illinois was actually settled by the white man. It is not to be supposed that this was the first visitation of the white man, for undoubtedly events occurred here in which the white man took part long before this period. It is believed that the French and Indians had many camp-fires together, in the beautiful groves that abound in this county, when on their way from Lake Michigan to Cahokia and Kaskaskia; and the early Indian traders and hunters had their stations about here, for the early settlers frequently found clearings in the woods. It was in this region also, that Gen. Hopkins' army became involved in its expedition against the Indians of the Illinois and Wabash Rivers, many of whom had participated in the Chicago massacre.

John Hendrix and family were the first settlers in the territory now embraced by the county, they locating at what is known as Blooming Grove in the spring of 1822. Hendrix was soon joined by John W. Dawson and family. Blooming Grove seemed to be an attractive spot to the earliest settlers, for they all located about it. The spring of 1823 found the Orendorff families, William and Thomas, John Benson and W. H. Hodge in neighborly proximity to the settlers of 1822. This year Gardner Randolph settled at what was subsequently known as Randolph's Grove. In the spring of

## McLEAN COUNTY.

1824, Absalom and Isaac Funk and William Broek made a settlement at what is now called Funk's Grove. They were soon joined by others, among whom were the Stubblefield family. So rich and fair a region of country lying in the wake of emigration, when once known and opened to settlement could not otherwise than be rapidly populated.

The territory now known as McLean has been under the jurisdiction of different counties. The year previous to the State's admission into the Union, it was under the control of Crawford County. In 1819, after the admission, Clark County had jurisdiction. The first settlers, however, owed their allegiance to Fayette County, which was organized in 1821, and extended northward as far as the Illinois River. It was subsequently attached to Tazewell County, and was under its jurisdiction when the county of McLean was organized by an act of the Legislature, approved Dec. 22, 1830. It was named in honor of John McLean, twice elected United States Senator from Illinois.

When the settlers first came in the Indians were quite numerous, mostly belonging to the Kickapoos, Delawares and Pottawatomies, the Kickapoos having the largest number. Most of these left before the end of the year 1829, though at the breaking out of the Black Hawk War in 1832, there was a sufficient number of Indians in this section to cause considerable uneasiness among the people.

The early settlers of McLean County found plenty of wild game here, such as deer, turkeys, wolves, and the smaller birds. They were generally good hunters, and their guns supplied for their families what the markets of the present day furnish. The pelts of the wild animals were to the pioneers an important article of commerce, as they furnished the means, in absence of ready cash, of supplying the wants of domestic life. Beeswax and honey were also a valuable commodity in those early days.

They did not have to contend in this section of the country, as they did elsewhere, with hostile Indians, but they had foes almost as dreaded in malarial diseases, and prairie fires. One carried off hundreds of persons, while the other destroyed crops and homes. But as improvements multiplied and the land became cultivated and drained, these enemies to the people disappeared. It was not many years before the pioneers found themselves in the midst of a populous and cultivated community. Schools and churches had been established, cities founded, railroads constructed, and civilization and culture, with all their attractive features, possessed the land.

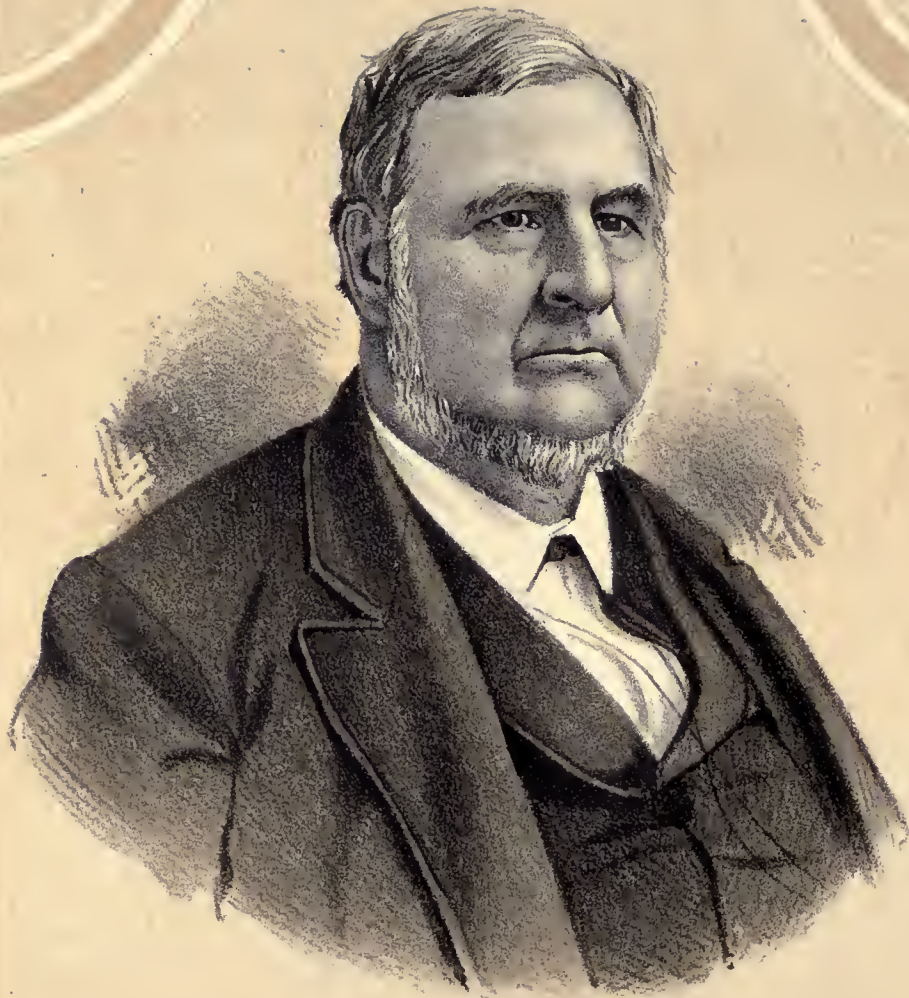
In many respects McLean is one of the finest and foremost counties in the State. It is free from

the severities of winter which afflict the more northern counties, and free from the oppressive heat that is experienced in the southern ones. About one-ninth of the surface is covered with groves, which afford shade and add beauty to the landscape. Like all portions of the Mississippi Valley, the surface inclination is toward the southwest. It is moderately rolling, free from extreme flatness as well as from abrupt changes, which makes it exceedingly easy of tillage. Its summit elevation is about 220 feet above Lake Michigan, and about 795 feet above the ocean. The country is well supplied with running water by the incipient streams that contribute to the formation of the Sangamon, Vermilion, Maekinaw and Kickapoo Rivers and Sugar Creek. Good water is found in all parts of the county at reasonable depths, and in the northern part are many fine springs. Extensive coal beds underlie the surface formation, from which a good article of marketable coal is obtained. The soil is unsurpassed in its fertility, and is adapted to the raising of all kinds of cereals, yet more attention is given to stock-raising, the value of which exceeds that of any county west of the Alleghanies.

The educational facilities of McLean are unequalled by any county in the State. In addition to her public schools, which are superior, she has two distinguished institutions of learning, the reputation of which has extended far and wide. These are the Illinois Wesleyan University located at Bloomington, and the State Normal University. Another institution located at Normal is the Soldiers' Orphans' Home. The buildings of these institutions are ornamental in their architecture, and are commodious and substantial.

The Indians and the wilderness have passed away, living now only in history, or in the memories of the pioneers who yet remain. In their stead are well cultivated farms and fine cities, peopled with an intelligent population, and surrounded by the arts and refinements of an advanced civilization. Those by whose wisdom and industry this change has been produced, can contemplate with commendable pride, the grand transformation. Taking a retrospective view of the past, and contemplating the present, the contrast of the two periods comes vividly upon the mind. Before them to-day, resting in quiet grandeur, is a fair civilization, with happy homes basking beneath the sunlight of culture and domestic peace; before them to-day is a complete social and political society, standing out in bold relief, radiant with the bright light of Christianity, fostered by American institutions and shining resplendent with American freedom.





DAVID DAVIS.





## BIOGRAPHICAL.



THE HON. DAVID DAVIS, the eminent Judge, Jurist and Statesman, was born in Cecil County, Md., March 9, 1815, and departed this life June 26, 1886, at Bloomington. He had lived out more than the usual period allotted to man, but the immediate cause of his demise was diabetes, superinduced by a complication of carbuncle and erysipelas. In the early morning, when the intelligence of his dissolution spread through the city, on every face was depicted an expression of sorrow. Flags were displayed at half-mast, and the bells of the city echoed the sad news. Later in the day houses were draped, and Bloomington assumed an air of deep mourning.

Cecil County lies on the eastern shore of Maryland, but a few miles from our National Capital, and here young David spent his youthful days beneath the parental roof. During this period he had made several visits to Washington, the impressions of which remained with him through life, and which he often related to friends in his later years. It was during these visits that the ambition to become President of the United States was planted in his mind. This very laudable desire remained with him even after he had ceased to be in public life, and he waited at his beautiful home in Bloomington for its realization, like Cineinnatus from his

plow. He was modest and diffident about this ambition, however, as though it were a mere childish whim, and was sensitive at any allusion by strangers to the subject, although he was wont to converse freely of the matter with his friends.

After completing his preliminary studies young Davis was placed in Kenyon College, Ohio, where he graduated Sept. 4, 1832. In October following he commenced the study of law at Lenox, Mass., in the office of Judge Henry W. Bishop, where he remained two years. From there he went into the New Haven Law School, continuing his studies until the fall of 1835. After receiving his license to practice he settled in Pekin, Tazewell County, Ill., and opened a law office, but one year later removed to Bloomington and took up his abode, where he lived until his earthly labors ended. Upon coming here he took possession of the office of Jesse W. Fell, whom he succeeded as an attorney and counselor, the latter having given up his practice to engage in the real-estate business. Though not an orator, or what might be called a very fluent speaker, he was successful in his practice, and soon obtained an enviable position in the profession.

Before leaving the East Mr. Davis formed the acquaintance of Sarah, the accomplished daughter of Judge Walker, of Lenox, Mass., with whom he was united in marriage Oct. 30, 1838. Of this union there are two children living—George P. and a daughter, Mrs. Sarah D. Swayne, both residents of Bloomington. The mother died in 1879. By his second marriage, which was consummated soon after

his retirement from the United States Senate, there was no issue.

From the time he became a citizen of Illinois Mr. Davis took an active part in politics. In 1840 he was a candidate on the Whig ticket for State Senator. In 1844 he was elected to the Legislature. In 1847 he was elected a member of the Constitutional Convention, and the year following was chosen Judge of the Eighth Judicial District. He was re-elected twice, and served continuously as Judge of this circuit until 1862, when he was called by his old friend, President Lincoln, to fill one of the highest positions within the gift of this Government, as Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States. He occupied this exalted position for fifteen years, or until 1877, when he left the Supreme Bench for the National Legislature, succeeding Gen. John A. Logan as Senator from this State.

There have been greater law students than David Davis, but no greater Judges. It was said by one of his eminent colleagues that he knew just enough of law to be a great Judge and not enough to spoil him. His talents were in the direction of common sense, and rose into the region of genius. He never lost sight of the practical ends of litigation. To him the facts of the case were the integral part of it. He was fair and impartial, and rose above prejudice without for a moment forgetting the object in view, which was not to spin fine legal theories, but to promote the ends of justice. No jurist seeking a model could do better than to study the record made by Judge Davis while on the Supreme Bench of the United States. There is no other tribunal in this world that can compare with this. Since the organization of this Government there have been forty-nine Supreme Court Justices, some of whom have been Chief Justices, but each practically having the same authority. Any law passed by Congress can be brought before this Court for its crucial analysis, and from its judgment there is no appeal. More than one narrow escape the country has had from the abuse of this authority, one of the most notable of which was the legal-tender act, which was put upon its Constitutional trial, and made to show cause why it should not be repudiated and thrown out of the window of the Su-

preme Court. Chief Justice Chase, its putative father, was fast yielding to this when Judge Davis made a bold and successful stand, and thus prevented the act from being strangled to death. Thus the best monetary system the world ever saw was saved to bless mankind.

The last judicial act of Judge Davis, though it may seem a paradox, was a refusal to preside in a judicial capacity. He had been elected by the Legislature of Illinois to the Senate. About this time he was placed on the Electoral Commission as one of the referees to determine which one of the Presidential candidates voted for in 1876 was legally elected. He refused to act, upon the ground that, being a State Senator, at least in embryo, he could not with propriety serve.

The ever memorable year of 1860, memorable not only to the State of Illinois, but to the whole country, may be considered the year in which the subject of this sketch entered upon a career which carried him beyond the confines of his State, and gave him a national reputation. This was the year that witnessed the nomination of Illinois' greatest son for the highest position within the gift of the American people. To David Davis the credit is due more than to any other man for bringing forward and finally securing the nomination at the Chicago Convention, of Abraham Lincoln as the Republican candidate for President of the United States. In this he was assisted greatly by his old friend and fellow-townsmen, Jesse W. Fell. Before this Judge Davis had never taken any part in National politics, but this year he sought and secured the election as one of the Senatorial Delegates at the Decatur State Convention, and some days prior to the Chicago Convention he, with others, opened the Lincoln headquarters at the Tremont House. He appointed himself Master of Ceremonies, called aides about him, set them to work, and took the entire management of Lincoln's candidacy into his own hands. Oglesby was sent into the pit of the "wigwam" to work enthusiasm there and appoint committees to all the State delegations to popularize Lincoln. No one questioned the right of Judge Davis to do this, or doubted his judgment. He was a natural born leader, never gave up, never faltered or made any mistakes. The result of this

was that his old friend, who had for so many years tried cases before his court, who had ridden with him on the circuit, swam rivers with him, who had sat with him around the fireplace of the country hostelry late o' nights telling quaint and funny stories—Abraham Lincoln—was nominated as the Republican candidate for President of the United States.

In 1872 Judge Davis himself came prominently before the people as a third-party man for the Presidential nomination. His name was endorsed for this by the labor reformers at the Columbus Convention, and this through jealousy defeated his nomination by the Liberal Republican Convention at Cincinnati. It has been thought by many prominent politicians that had Mr. Davis instead of Mr. Greeley been nominated at the Cincinnati Convention, he would, as did Greeley, have received the endorsement by the Democratic Convention at Baltimore, which would have secured his election.

Judge Davis took his seat in the United States Senate on the 4th of March, 1877. From his first entrance into this body he was an influential and distinguished member, and so remained until his retirement in 1883. Although possessing but little legislative experience he ranked with the great men of the Senate, serving on the Judiciary Committee with Conkling, Edmonds, Carpenter, Thurman, Garland, and other eminent lawyers of that body. Though the ambition of his life was not yet realized, he came within one degree of it as a Presidential possibility. Only one life stood between him and this exalted position, that of President Arthur. From October, 1881, to March, 1883, he was the acting Vice President of the United States and presiding officer of the Senate.

Judge Davis was a very kind-hearted man, and disliked much to see men at variance with each other, and he could not understand why any man should think ill of him. His heart was as tender as a woman's, and he was as susceptible to flattery as a school-girl. A kind word was always remembered and an unkind one speedily forgotten. Senator Conkling was one day making a great speech in the Senate, on a subject in which there were fine legal points, and often he would turn to Senator Davis as though addressing him. The latter was a little

annoyed at being singled out as a target for the great Senator's eloquence, and once interrupted him, asking why his remarks seemed directed at him. Mr. Conkling drew himself up to his full height and quietly, but with great dignity, answered, "When the Musselman prays he turns his face toward Mecca. When I speak of law, I cannot resist the temptation to address myself to the most eminent and learned jurist in the Senate, a man who left the highest tribunal in the world to give this body the honor of his presence and the benefit of his wisdom." These two great men were always the warmest of friends, and during his Senatorial term Judge Davis was constantly seeking to reconcile Conkling with the men whom he disliked, and they were not few. Among these was Blaine. One day the two met accidentally in Mr. Davis' committee room. It was an occasion he had long sought, and joy filled his big heart. "Now look here," he said in his familiar way to the two Senators, who were standing like icebergs beside him, "You two fellows have been enemies long enough, and it is time you made up. You are both good friends of mine, and I want you to be good friends of each other. I want you to shake hands and I'll bless you." Touched by the sincerity of the good old man, these two men gave way for the moment, and the hands of Conkling and Blaine came together the first time for twenty years. But it was not a reconciliation or a surrender of either side; it was only a momentary truce offered out of reverence for the kind heart that had so much desired to make peace between them. They have never spoken to each other since.

While Judge Davis was active and influential in his congressional life, yet he will be known in history and to fame as a jurist. As a legislator he left no particular impress upon the country, commencing too late in life to do this. By nature, education and training he was pre-eminently qualified for a Judge, and this part of his life the student will find a prolific field for study and instruction. Though possessed of great wealth yet his habits of life were frugal; he lived in the simplest manner. He had rooms on the first floor, fronting on Sixth street, of the National Hotel, which he occupied during his entire life at the Capital as Associate

Justice and as Senator. His rooms were commodious but plainly furnished. His lunch while at the Capitol building, either as Justice or Senator, consisted of two apples, a ginger cookie and a glass of milk. This was taken at precisely the same hour every day, standing at a lunch-counter in the Senate corridor. The counter was presided over by an old woman who is known to history as "Dyspepsia Mary."

Judge Davis in stature was nearly six feet in height, of heavy weight, large forehead, clear blue eyes, prominent nose and altogether of commanding figure. In disposition he was genial, companionable, benevolent, charitable and kind. Though not a member of any church yet he believed in all religions and contributed liberally to all denominations. He was broad and Catholic in his views and in his conduct. Many a school-house and many a church building in Central Illinois rest to-day on a lot given by him. He had a numerous tenantry on his extensive estates, and when from drouth or other causes there was a failure in crops, he would remit to his tenants his entire claims for rent. About his home when he died there were many old persons who were living on his bounty. In land investments and land speculations he was shrewd and possessed an insight into future valuation of property that was truly remarkable. It was through his land operations that he accumulated an estate which at his death was estimated at about \$600,000; and it may be said of Judge Davis that this vast estate was acquired by him without ever having wronged or oppressed his fellow-men. In private life he was absolutely above reproach. Honest, robust, tender and considerate, he passed triumphantly through life a model in character and a model of success, finishing up at life's close, a completely rounded, personal individuality. He was never the circumference of an occasion, but always near the center, molding with his great mind and noble character the forces about him. Nature and education had stamped upon him every lineament of gentility. No occasion ever found him inferior to its demands and whether among the humblest or the richest and most powerful of the land, he was the same inborn gentleman. He was, to quote from his favorite author:

A combination and a form indeed,  
When every god did seem to set his seal,  
To give the world assurance of a man.

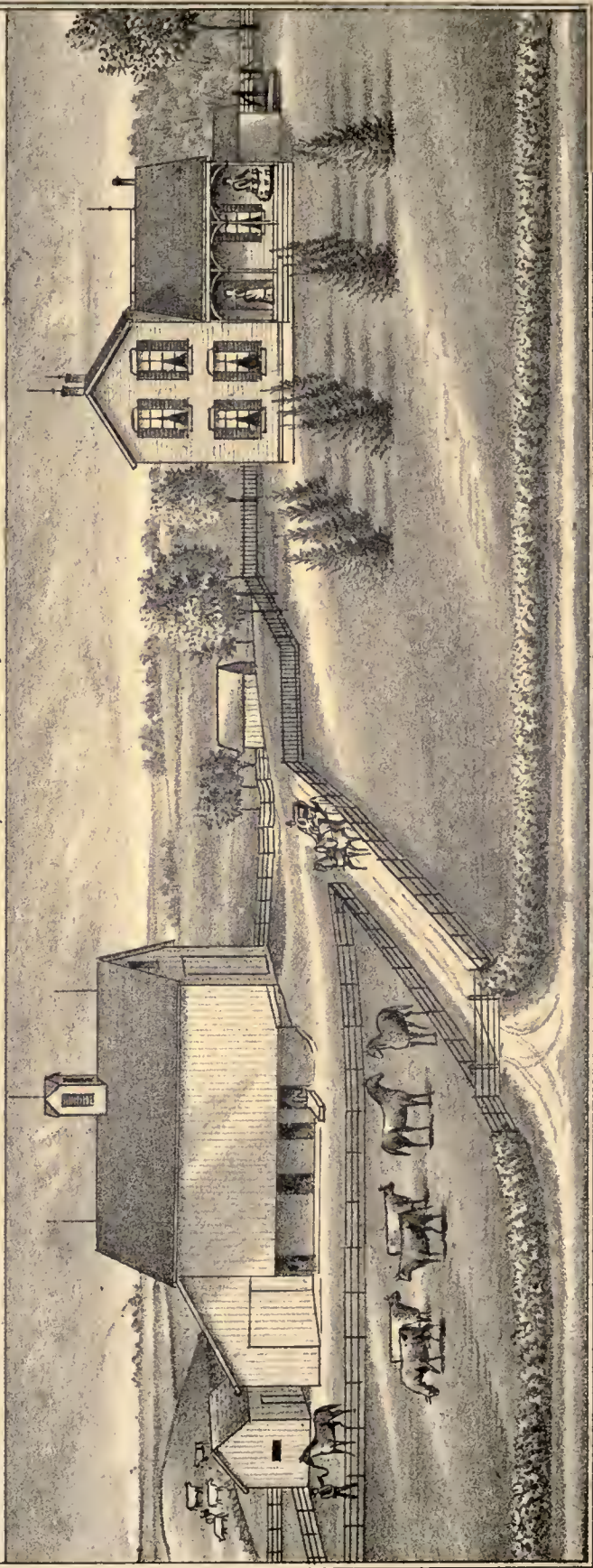
**D**AVID VANCE, senior member of the firm of Vance & Sons, who are extensively engaged in importing and breeding draft horses at Chenoa, has had a long experience in this business and has been remarkably successful. He began dealing in horses in Adams County, Ohio, nearly forty years ago and has become thoroughly acquainted with the habits, needs and proper care of the noblest of animals. In a State which has become quite noted for its fine horses, Mr. Vance has for many years occupied a prominent position. See view in this work.

The subject of this biography is a native of Adams Co., Ohio, and was born April 22, 1824. His father, John Vance, a prosperous farmer of that county, reared his son to agricultural pursuits and carefully trained him in all the duties pertaining to that department of business. Our subject received a good common-school education and remained under the home roof until he attained to years of manhood. The parental household included twelve children, of whom David was the youngest. His mother before her marriage was Miss Mary McGovney, of Ohio. Young Vance lived on a farm in Ohio until 1852, then came to this State and settled on a farm in Lawndale Township, near the banks of Maekinaw Creek in this county, where he carried on blacksmithing and farming for thirteen years. The land which he there took possession of was but little removed from its original condition, but he cultivated and improved it, together with four other farms, all of which combined to form the basis of his start in life and laid the foundation for his future prosperity. In due time he disposed of his landed possessions in that locality and is now the owner of a fine estate in Yates Township, which he has mostly devoted to the breeding of stock. He resided upon this until 1881, when he removed to the village of Chenoa, where he erected a fine barn, especially adapted to breeding purposes. It is 32x110 feet in area, two stories in height and fitted up with convenient stalls for fine horses. Among these are the Belgium, Clydesdale, Percheron and Norman breeds, besides a few handsome specimens of Kentucky trotting stock. In connection with this, he also has a finely appointed livery





RES. OF J. A. STEPHENS, SEC. 10. (T. 21.) MT. HOPE TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF P. M. STUBBLEFIELD, SEC. 9. (T. 21.), FUNK'S GROVE TOWNSHIP.

stable, with the best of horses and the handsomest of vehicles. The sons have inherited in a marked degree the talents of their father in this direction and bid fair to follow in his footsteps as successful breeders and dealers.

Mr. Vanee was married, Sept. 2, 1845, to Miss Emma Wikoff, the daughter of William and Sarah (McCue) Wikoff, and they became the parents of eight children: Henry B., who married Miss Rena Heflin; Joseph T., who married Miss Jennie McCarty and is in partnership with his father in the stock business; William, who grew to manhood and was married to Miss Mattie St. John, joined the regular army, and was Clerk in the Quartermaster's department in Wyoming Territory, where he died in 1880; Leona married William Holderness, and lives near San Diego, Cal.; Edgar married Miss Nancy Gailbreath, and they live in Republic County, Kan.; Ella and Frank died when young, and Mary is the wife of William Arnold, who is engaged in the livery business in Chenoa. Mrs. Vanee has been a member of the Methodist Church since she was a girl. In politics Mr. Vanee, his sons and sons-in-law are all staunch Republicans.



**J**AMES A. STEPHENS, a highly respected farmer of Mt. Hope Township, is engaged successfully in agricultural operations on section 10, where he owns and occupies a comfortable homestead. His father was a pioneer of Illinois, and made his location in Logan County in the early settlement of the State.

The subject of our sketch is a native of Logan County, Ill., and was born in Atlanta Township, Dec. 11, 1836. His father, Adam Stephens, of Virginia, was born in July, 1801, and his grandfather, Peter Stephens, an early farmer of the Old Dominion, emigrated from Virginia to Ohio in about 1809. He located in what is now Clinton County, and was among the earliest pioneers of that region. He purchased a tract of timber land, cleared a farm from the forest, established a comfortable home and remained there until the close of his life. His son, Adam, the father of our subject, there grew to manhood, and was united in

marriage with Miss Mary Hoblit, a native of Ohio. They located in Clinton County after their marriage, remaining there until 1829, and then, accompanied by his wife and four children, Adam Stephens started for the State of Illinois. The journey was made overland with horses and wagons. They carried their household goods with them and camped and cooked by the way. Before removing his family here, Mr. Stephens had previously visited the State, and purchased a claim in what was then township 21 north, range 1 west, and included in Tazewell County. Upon it stood a log cabin into which the family moved and set up house-keeping in the best manner possible. The town of Springfield, forty miles distant, included the nearest post-office, and Pekin, at the same distance in another direction, was the depot for supplies, and the only market for grain and pork for several years. The second winter during which Mr. Stephens was a resident of Illinois, was remarkable for its deep snows, a season which will be long remembered by the old settlers and their children. Travel was almost entirely suspended, and the pioneers suffered great privation during a long season when there was no communication with the outer world.

After the land in that vicinity was surveyed and came into market, Mr. Stephens entered 280 acres at \$1.25 per acre, the greater part of which consisted of timber. He cultivated what there was of prairie, cleared the timber as rapidly as possible, established a homestead, and lived to see the country around him opened up to civilization. His death occurred in August, 1882, the wife and mother having departed from the scenes of earth three years before. They had become the parents of nine children, seven of whom grew to years of maturity, and whom they carefully trained to habits of industry and to principles of honor.

James A. Stephens was the eighth child of his parents' family, and he has a vivid remembrance of the scenes and incidents of pioneer life. The first school he attended was conducted on the subscription plan in the old log cabin which had been the home of his parents when they first came to the county. The name of his first teacher was James Maekin, a brawny man, the quality esteemed

the most highly in a teacher of those days. The popular belief then was that the wisest plan to govern a school was by the rod, and woe to the boy especially, who disputed the teacher's authority or judgment. The method of instruction too in those days, was widely different from that of the present, and a text book was never laid aside until it had become so worn that it was unfit for further use, a wide contrast to the present school system which is undergoing perpetual change, and not invariably for the better. The benches and writing-desks were made of slabs, and the floor was made of puncheons. Here young Stephens attended school during the winter season, and worked upon his father's farm the remainder of the year. He was but a boy when he commenced marketing the farm produce, and the trip to and from Pekin for this purpose usually occupied three days. His wheat sold at thirty and thirty-five cents per bushel, and some qualities only ten cents, and dressed pork brought \$1.25 per hundred. His father raised flax and kept sheep, and his mother and sisters spun the wool and the product of the flax plant, weaving the same into garments for the several members of the family, and for other purposes demanded in the household. "Calico" was then considered a luxury, and usually formed the "best dress" of the female members.

James Stephens remained at home with his parents until he attained his majority. He was soon afterward married and settled upon the southeast quarter of section 10, in what is now Mt. Hope Township. He put up the first buildings on the place, having broken some of the land the year previous. This he occupied for two years, and then removed upon the farm which constitutes his present homestead. This latter consists of 159 acres, all inclosed and under a good state of cultivation. He has a fine brick residence which was erected in 1877, good frame barns, and other necessary farm buildings, a view of which is given in this volume.

The marriage of Mr. Stephens with Miss Martha E. Hatch, occurred Dec. 24, 1857. Mrs. Stephens was born in Greene County, Ohio, and was the daughter of Stephen B. Hatch, a native of Indiana, and a farmer by occupation. He came to Illinois

in 1854, and located in Atlanta, Logan County, where he still lives. In early manhood he was married to Miss Phœbe Levally.

Mr. and Mrs. Stephens have become the parents of two children—Edward, who was born in Mt. Hope Township, and married Lillie Atehison, and Carrie B. Mr. Stephens is Republican in politics, straightforward in his business methods, and an honest man and a good citizen.



**H**ARRISON HORINE, a well-to-do farmer of West Township, is comfortably located on section 3, where he settled in 1884, and where he has a finely cultivated farm, provided with all modern improvements. He is a native of Jessamine County, Ky., born Aug. 30, 1832, and is the son of John Horine, a native of the same county and State. His grandfather, Henry Horine, a native of Maryland, removed to Kentucky at an early period in the settlement of the Blue Grass regions. When he landed in Jessamine County he had \$2.50 in cash and an ax on his shoulder. He took up a tract of wild land from which he cleared the timber and opened up a fine farm. He was a man of great resolution and good judgment and amassed a fine property, at his death leaving a farm estate consisting of 320 acres with good buildings, and money at interest. Although born and reared in the South he was always opposed to slavery. The great-grandfather of our subject, Tobias Horine, was a native of Germany and emigrated to America prior to the Revolutionary War. He located in Maryland, where he carried on agriculture successfully and spent the remainder of his days.

John Horine, the father of our subject, was reared on a farm in his native county, and after arriving at years of manhood, was united in marriage with Miss Margaret Bash. She also was a native of Jessamine County, Ky., being the daughter of Henry Bash of Virginia, who removed from the Old Dominion to Kentucky early in life. He also went into that State poor in pocket and died possessed of a good property. About the time of his marriage John Horine purchased a tract of land



two and one-half miles from Nicholasville, the county seat of Jessamine County, where he lived until 1864. In the meantime he improved a good farm and supplied it with a comfortable residence and all the necessary out-buildings. Desirous however of changing his location and seeing the great West, he came into Illinois and located in this county, where he spent the last years of his life with his son, our subject. His death occurred in 1876. The mother survived two years, departing this life in 1878.

The parental family of our subject included nine children, seven of whom grew to mature years; Harrison was the fourth child. He grew to manhood in his native county, received a fair education in the subscription schools, and made his home with his parents until twenty-one years of age. He then went to Athens, Fayette County, purchased two four-horse teams, and engaged in general teaming. He also opened a wagon-shop and superintended this while he employed men to do the teaming. After a residence in Athens of seven years he returned to his native county, where he carried on farming until 1864. He then accompanied his father to this State and county, first renting a farm in Old Town Township. Thence he removed to Arrowsmith and operated upon rented land until the purchase of his present farm. Upon this he has already made good improvements, and may be properly classed among the representative citizens of this locality.

Mr. Horine was married in Lexington, Ky., Sept. 9, 1856, to Miss Mary E. Level, a native of his own county, and the daughter of Littleton and Mary (Goss) Level, both natives of Virginia, whence they removed and were among the early settlers of Jessamine County, Ky. Of this marriage there have been born ten children, as follows: Francis M. lives in West Township; Anna E., Mrs. Bedell, lives in Benjaminville, this county; Andrew J., in Arrowsmith Township; Charles W., Walter C., Frederiek L., Robert Clinton, Laura B. and John L. are at home. Margaret, the eldest daughter and second child, was born Sept. 29, 1858, and died Sept. 25, 1885.

Mr. and Mrs. H. are members of the Christian Church, in which our subject has been an Elder for

many years. He is Republican in politics and cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln in 1860, which was the only vote cast for him in the county, outside of Lexington, his life being threatened on account of this action. He has lived to see his Union and anti-slavery principles triumph, and views with much satisfaction the outcome of the war.



**H**UGH VAUGHAN. This gentleman is a prominent member of the farming community of Chenoa Township, where he is successfully engaged in stock-raising, and where he has been located since the spring of 1859. He is of Welsh parentage and ancestry, and was born on a farm in Montgomeryshire, Wales, Jan. 17, 1834. Hugh Vaughan is the son of Edward and Elizabeth (Davis) Vaughan, and his father was a farmer of modest means. Hugh lived in his native Wales until he was twenty-two years of age; then boarded a vessel bound for New York City, and after arriving there resumed his chosen calling until the fall of 1859. He then came to Illinois, and purchased eighty acres of land on section 1, Lexington Township, this county.

Mr. Vaughan, of this notice, was married in 1860, to Miss Ellen Jones, a native of his own country and shire, and the daughter of Hugh and Jane (Evans) Jones. After marriage Mr. Vaughan and wife located on his farm, whence they removed to the present homestead in 1865. The total amount of his home farm now comprises 240 acres.

During the war our subject began feeding hogs and cattle, and shipping and selling, and from the proceeds realized a handsome income. He added to his first purchase as time progressed and his means accumulated until he has become the owner of a handsome estate and has all his land under good cultivation. He ships a carload of fat hogs every year, and often a carload of cattle. The farm is handsomely laid out, and the fields divided by hedge fences of which he has five miles. The land is tile drained.

Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Vaughan there were born eight children, four sons and four

daughters, as follows: Edward R., Viola J., Hugh (deceased), E. Mary, Grace J., Robert, Maggie I. and John G. Mr. V. is Republican in politics, and is in all respects fulfilling his obligations as a good citizen and worthy member of the community. He came to America without a dollar in his pocket, and his present possessions are the result of his own industry and perseverance. He is a striking illustration of the self-made man who has arisen by his own efforts to an enviable position among the best class of citizens, and who have assisted in making this State what it is among the commonwealths of the West. Mrs. Vaughan is a member of the Presbyterian Church. A fine lithographic view of the handsome residence and home of Mr. Vaughan is shown elsewhere in this work.



**A**SA H. MOORE, proprietor of the Bloomington and Normal Horse Railway, is a highly respected and well-known citizen who has contributed a generous share toward the business interests of the city. This railway which he is now conducting in a business-like and systematic manner, is a source of great comfort and convenience to those who would otherwise be obliged to go on foot to their places of business or employ a more expensive method of conveyance.

Mr. Moore was born on a farm among the New England hills, in Worcester County, Mass., in October, 1820, being the son of Asa and Sabra (Lovell) Moore, natives of the Bay State. His father was a man of modest means, and spent the greater part of his life in farming pursuits. Our subject was reared to habits of industry, received a careful parental training, and obtained a fair education in the public schools. In early life he evinced that active and energetic disposition which has since served him so well and placed him in an enviable position among his fellow-men. While still young he began to lay plans for the future, and was ambitious to do something and be somebody in the great world. At the age of nineteen he was employed as conductor on the Western Railroad, run-

ning from Boston to Springfield, Mass. Later he assisted in running trains which conveyed the first passengers from Worcester to Springfield, one of whom was the famous Maj. George W. Whister, who was then chief engineer of the road, and who afterward attained a wide reputation as builder of the railroad from St. Petersburg to Moscow, in Russia, being peculiarly adapted to railroading and having more than ordinary knowledge of what was required to build and conduct a system successfully and profitably.

The subject of our sketch made rapid progress in the confidence and respect of his superior officers, and was soon placed in charge of a train as conductor, running out of Boston on the Western Railroad, and becoming widely and favorably known for his skill and reliability. He continued on that run for a period of eleven years, then came West to La Porte, Ind., where he was employed as engineer on the Michigan Southern, from which position he soon rose to be Assistant Superintendent with headquarters at La Porte, Ind., at which place he remained until 1854. He was then induced by George Bliss to come to Bloomington, where he was appointed Assistant Superintendent of what was then the Chicago and Mississippi, but now the C. & A. R. R., Richard Morgan, now of Illinois, being Superintendent. Mr. Moore continued in this office until the resignation of Mr. Morgan, when he succeeded to the general superintendency of the road, a position which he filled in an able and creditable manner for three years. In 1869 he purchased the Horse Railroad of Bloomington, of which he took possession Jan. 1, 1870, and which under his management, as we have said, became one of the great enterprises of the city. It is suitably equipped in every particular, and extends in every direction, so as to meet as far as possible the requirements of the local traveling public. It is conceded by all to be one of the best railway systems of its kind outside of Chicago, and Mr. Moore has spared neither time nor money to perfect it and keep it in repair.

The marriage of our subject occurred in the spring of 1848, in Plymouth, Mass., the maiden of his choice being Miss Nancy B. Washburn, and they became the parents of two children—Thomas

W. and Mary C., the latter the wife of E. E. Maxwell, of the firm of S. A. Maxwell & Co., of Chicago.

The residence of Mr. Moore is pleasantly located on North Main street, where with his excellent wife he enjoys the companionship of the cultured people of the city. He is a gentleman of fine personal appearance, and his genial, courteous disposition has secured for him hosts of friends wherever he is known.



**B**F. FUNK, of Bloomington, is a native of Funk's Grove, this county, and was born in 1838. He is the son of Isaac and Cassandra (Sharp) Funk, natives respectively of Kentucky and Maryland, whose names are widely and favorably known throughout this section. He was reared on his father's farm, completed his education in Wesleyan College, and received from the estate 2,100 acres of land. To this he has since added 140 acres, and with others of that name so familiarly known throughout this county, has been prosperous in his undertaking, and ranks as one of the most valued citizens of McLean County.

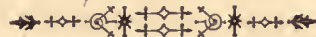
Our subject remained on the home farm until the beginning of the late war, and then enlisted as a Union soldier in Co. G, 68th Ill. Vol. Inf., but served only six months, near Alexandria, Va. Returning home he continued under the parental roof until 1865, and two years later became a resident of Bloomington, where he has a beautiful home at No. 1008 North Main street, the residence having been erected at a cost of \$12,000. He retains the supervision of his farm, which is operated by tenants who take care of the stock, of which there are about 500 head of cattle and twenty-five horses of the Clydesdale and Norman stock.

Mr. F. has been prominent in the affairs of the city since becoming a resident here. He was elected President of the Board of Trustees of Wesleyan University in 1877, which position he has since held, and occupies the same office among the Trustees of the Blind Asylum of Jacksonville, Ill., being appointed by Gov. Oglesby in 1885. He was elected Mayor of Bloomington in 1871, and each succeeding year until 1875, and then again in

1884-85. He was Supervisor of Normal Township for 1870-71. He is a member and Director of the Bloomington Loan and Building Association, a stockholder in the Walton Plow Company, and there are few worthy projects which have been set on foot since he became a resident here that have not received his assistance.

In 1886 Mr. Funk was chosen as one of the delegates from Illinois to attend the G. A. R. encampment which met at San Francisco, which he attended, and was also chosen by the local post as delegate to the State Encampment at Decatur, Peoria, Springfield and Rock Island. He was an alternate delegate to the National Republican Convention which met at Cincinnati and nominated Hayes for President, and was a delegate to the State Convention for many years.

Mr. Funk was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Hamilton in the spring of 1865. Mrs. F. is the daughter of John and Rebecca (Pritchard) Hamilton, natives of Ohio, who came to Illinois in 1845, and settled near Le Roy, where Mr. H. engaged in farming and stock-raising. Of this union there has been one child, a son, Frank, who is now attending college at Lawrenceville, N. J. Mr. Funk is Republican in politics, and socially, belongs to the Royal Arcanum.



**S**AMUEL FITCHHORN, a highly respected resident of Downs Township, is the owner of 280 acres on sections 9 and 10, on the former of which he has a handsome and substantial residence and upon which he located in 1866. When he first took possession of this property it was comparatively unimproved. It is now thoroughly drained and in a fine state of cultivation. The barn and out-buildings are kept in good repair, and everything about the premises donates the oversight of a thorough and systematic business man.

The subject of our sketch was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, March 3, 1821, and was taken to Indiana by his parents when a child four years of age. They located in Wayne County, near Centerville, where his father pursued his occupation of a hatter, and

Samuel was employed by neighboring farmers most of the time until he attained his majority. His father in the meantime had also taken up farming and finally went into Mexieo, Miami County, where he spent the remainder of his life. The mother, who before her marriage was Miss Elizabeth Monroe, died in middle life in Wayne County. She was born and reared in Pennsylvania, and was there married to Samuel Fitehorn, Sr.

The subject of this history was the youngest of his parents' family of six daughters and two sons. He was married in Wayne County, Ind., to Miss Elizabeth McKeman, who was born in Virginia and came with her parents to Indiana when a young woman, where her education was completed. She died in Downs Township in 1870, when forty-five years of age. Of this union there were born eight children, three of whom are now deceased, two dying of measles ten days after the death of the mother. Those living are John F., James, Samuel D., William A., Daniel W. The deceased were, Elizabeth J., Stephen and Idora.

The second marriage of Mr. Fitehorn took place in Peru, Ind., Feb. 15, 1872, when he was united with Mrs. Mary (Finster) Myers. This lady was a native of Prussia, born Sept. 28, 1844, being the daughter of Simeon and Elizabeth (Daufel) Finster, who emigrated from Germany to the United States when Mrs. F. of this notice was ten years of age. Their family consisted of four daughters and one son, of whom Mrs. F. was the eldest. They first located on a farm in West Virginia, where they remained during the Rebellion. The father participated in this war as a soldier of the Union, and was seriously crippled at the battle of Winchester, on account of which he now draws a pension. He lives near Peru, Ind., being sixty-five years of age; the mother is sixty-four. Their daughter, Mary, remained under the parental roof until her first marriage, to Frederick Myers, which took place Dec. 29, 1865, near Bunker Hill, Miami Co., Ind. Mr. Myers was a native of Germany, a farmer by occupation, and died in Miami County in 1870. They had become the parents of four children: Simeon, Lewis and Maggie are living with their mother; Mollie, the third child, is married and a resident of Peru, Ind.

Samuel and Mary F. Fitehorn have become the parents of ten children, one of whom, Stella, is deceased. Those living are, Henry, Minnie, Lulu, Marshall, Anna, Charles, Hattie, Marion and Alba. Mr. Fitehorn came to McLean County in 1866, and is essentially a self-made man. His present possessions are the result of his own industry and perseverance, and he has been fairly successful in his struggle to maintain his family and provide them with the comforts of life. In the business community he is regarded as substantial and reliable, prompt to meet his obligations, and in all respects is rated as a valued member of society.



GEORGE L. HUTCHIN, editor and proprietor of the *Sunday Eye*, of Bloomington, is a native of the Prairie State and born in De Witt County Sept. 25, 1854. He is the son of John D. and Elizabeth Hutehin, natives of Ohio, where the father was engaged extensively in farming and the raising of fine stock. John Hutehin came to Illinois about 1840, and settled in De Witt County. While on a visit to Bloomington he was offered the central portion of the site of the present city for \$300, being an area of about 640 acres, but he preferred to take his chances in De Witt County, and there purchased 2,500 acres. He was the first man to introduce fine Berkshire hogs into this part of the country, and also what is known as the Hutehin corn. In 1849 he took a trip to California for the purpose of speculating, being absent about eighteen months, and then, satisfied with his experience in that direction, he returned to De Witt County, where he resumed his farming operations and passed the remainder of his days. He departed this life in 1861. Mrs. Hutehin was subsequently married to Mr. G. Gandy, and is still living in De Witt County. Their family consisted of nine children, of whom six are living.

George L. Hutehin was the fourth child of his parents' family, and after receiving his primary education in the public schools entered Wesleyan College, from which he graduated in 1876. In all he spent six years in high schools and colleges and received a thorough education, by which he be-

came well fitted for the duties which he has assumed in his later life. After completing his studies Mr. Hutchin first took a position as city editor of the Bloomington *Leader*, having already had considerable experience as a reporter. After a year with the *Leader* he became traveling agent for the *Pantagraph*, which occupied him another year, and he then purchased the *Sunday Eye*, which, after conducting one year he sold, and was one of the original projectors of the *Bulletin*. This occupied his attention for a year, and he then sold his interest in it and purchased a half interest in the *Sunday Eye*, with which he has been connected as publisher since 1882. This journal was established in January, 1877. Mr. Hutchin possesses genuine literary talent, and has been a contributor to the publications of Harper Bros., the *Century* and other standard periodicals. He is a member of the American Press Association, and President of the Press Club of Bloomington. In politics our subject is independent, and socially belongs to the Knights of Pythias.

The *Sunday Eye* was first established by H. R. Persinger as a society paper. It was a five-column folio, and was issued every Sunday. It was conducted by Mr. Persinger for about one year, when M. I. Leland, who was a silent partner, assumed control of the paper and put it in charge of George L. Hutchin. This arrangement lasted about one year, when a stock company was formed which had financial control of the paper. Then Mr. Hutchin secured a half interest. Subsequently the plant was taken to Chicago, where it was issued for that city and Bloomington. This did not prove a financial success and in about two years a move was made back to Bloomington, when Mr. Hutchin became sole proprietor. By able management the patronage has been increased until the *Eye* now has a circulation of upward of 6,000.

Mr. Hutchin is a forcible and facetious writer, and his short and humorous articles make people nervous as well as merry. Connected with him as associate editor is Cornelius M. Leek, a facile, pungent and polished writer, and an experienced editor. The two make a strong editorial team, which has made the *Eye* very popular and given it a wide reputation. The *Eye* is chiefly a literary journal,

and independent in politics. It is a seven-column quarto, extensively and well illustrated. It is elegantly got up in all its parts, and is one of the best literary and family papers in the country.

It is ever ready and bold in exposing fraud, injustice, hypocrisy and immorality, and to commend justice, honesty, worth and virtue. The office of the *Sunday Eye* is located in the Opera House Block.

The marriage of George L. Hutchin and Miss Cora Leland took place in Bloomington in 1877. She is a daughter of the late Moses F. Leland, formerly editor of the *Leader*, and who died in March, 1886. Of this union there have been born two children—Elberon and Louise. Mr. Hutchin and his family occupy a pleasant home at No. 305 Northeast street, and are highly esteemed for their social qualities and cultivated tastes.



THOMAS M. LEWIS, who has been a resident of Illinois for nearly thirty years, is one of the highly respected residents of West Township, Town 21, where he owns a comfortable farm homestead on section 5. He is a native of Harrison County, Ohio, born in Green Township, May 1, 1836. His father, Joseph Lewis, who descended from Scotch ancestry, was a native of Berks County, Pa., where he grew to manhood. He was there married to Miss Mary Benner, also a native of the Keystone State, but descended from the German. After marriage they went into Harrison County, Ohio, being among the earliest settlers of that region. Joseph Lewis purchased a tract of heavy timberland, only a small portion of which was cleared. This in due time, with the assistance of his sons, he converted into a valuable farm homestead, where he passed the remainder of his life, dying in 1883. The wife and mother had passed to the better land in 1850. Their eight children included four sons and four daughters, six of whom grew to become men and women, and five are now living. Jacob B. was for many years a banker in Farmer City, Ill.; Joseph L. is a resi-

dent of West Township, this county; Hannah married William Kent, and lives in Harrison County, Ohio; Thomas M., our subject, was the fourth child; Rebecca became the wife of James Mahaln, and died in Marion County, Kan., in 1882.

Thomas M. Lewis was reared on a farm in his native county, and received a fair education in the public schools. He remained under the home roof until he was twenty-two years of age, when he came to this State and located in West Township. He was then unmarried and employed himself at whatever his hands could find to do, working out for two years by the month. He then purchased a team, and in company with his brother Jacob, commenced farming on rented land. In the fall of 1860 he returned to the old homestead, and worked with his father until the fall of 1865. He then came back to Illinois and West Township, of which he has been a resident since that time.

Mr. Lewis was married in November, 1860, to Miss Nancy Smith, who was born in Wyandotte County, Ohio, April 7, 1839. Her father, Benjamin Smith, was a native of New Jersey, whence he removed after his marriage to Ohio, and settled in Wyandotte County. In 1856 he started further Westward, and coming to this State and county located in Empire Township, where he spent the remainder of his days. He married early in life Miss Esther Eft, also a native of New Jersey. She survived her husband a number of years, and died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Coons, in Arrowsmith Township, this county.

Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis there were born seven children: Ida M., Mrs. Nichols, lives in Belleflower Township; Mary Esther, Mrs. Stanley, is a resident of Farmer City; Hartwell E. lives in West Township; Walter V., Callie M., Lela Mabel and Jacob S. are with their parents at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which Mr. L. has been Trustee and Steward and Superintendent of the Sunday-school for a number of years. Politically he is a Republican. He was Collector of West Township for a number of years, has served as Assessor, and has always taken a lively interest in the establishment and maintenance of schools.

**G**EORGE J. FOSTER, who is Superintendent of the Bloomington (Phoenix) Nurseries in Bloomington Township, occupies a responsible position for which he has proved himself amply fitted by his large experience and natural adaptation to the business. The Bloomington (Phoenix) Nurseries embrace 600 acres of land and are probably the most extensive of any in the State, and by far the largest of any in the county.

The subject of this history is a native of Rhode Island, born near Providence on the 2d of January, 1846. His parents were natives of the same State, and traced the Foster ancestry back six generations of a line made worthy and honorable by lives of high moral principles and an upright course. The parental family of our subject included seven children, of whom George J. was the eldest born. His father owned a farm in his native State and followed that calling.

George J. Foster remained with his parents and attended school until eighteen years of age. He then went to Flushing, L. I., where he engaged with the well-known nursery firm of Parsons & Co. Of this his uncle, John B. Foster, was foreman, and under him our subject remained until 1868, obtaining a good knowledge of the different departments of the business. He then came West and engaged with F. K. Phoenix until 1877, a period of nine years. Then, for one season, he was employed by Augustine & Co., after which he returned to the Phoenix Nurseries which had changed hands, and in the fall of that same year became foreman of the business. Since then the nursery has again changed hands, Mr. Foster becoming a member of the firm.

The marriage of our subject with Miss Lydia B. Browning occurred in 1870. She is a native of Chatham, Columbia Co., N. Y., and by her union with our subject has become the mother of five children, of whom the eldest died in infancy. Those living are Alma, George K., Bernice L. and Esther B. They are pleasantly located in a handsome and attractive residence and are surrounded by all the comforts of life. In politics, Mr. Foster is a staunch Republican, is a gentleman highly respected in his community, a member of Grace Methodist Episcopal Church of Bloomington, and has held some of the minor offices of his township.





*L. Wakefield*



**L** H. KERRICK was born in Franklin County, Ind., in 1846. He is the son of Rev. Nimrod and Mary (Masters) Kerriek, natives respectively of Loudoun County, Va., and Lancaster County, Pa. To them were born four other children—Eleanor J., Phebe A., William M. and Thomas C. William M. was killed in battle at Viक्सburg, May 22, 1863, at the age of nineteen.

The subject of this sketch removed with his parents to Woodford County, Ill., in 1860, and graduated from the Illinois Wesleyan University, in 1866. He taught a short time in the same institution; studied law and was admitted to practice in Bloomington in 1868. Mr. Kerriek was married to Sallie E., daughter of Hon. Isaae and Cassandra Funk, in October, 1868. Of their four children, but one, Birdie, the youngest, is now living. Mr. Kerriek was elected to the Lower House of the State Legislature in 1871; he is at present engaged in farming. In politics Mr. Kerriek is Republican; himself and wife are members of the First Methodist Episcopal Church, Bloomington. Their residence is at No. 809 North McLean street.



**D** R. CYRENIUS WAKEFIELD. The late Dr. Wakefield of Bloomington, who departed this life on the 20th of February, 1884, was widely and favorably known throughout the nation. As a gentleman he was honored and respected by all who ever met him. Possessing as he did fine natural abilities and those qualities which constitute the true man and valuable citizen, it was not difficult for him to win the esteem and admiration of those about him. The life history of Dr. Wakefield, necessarily briefly given here, is in its chief points as follows: He was born in Watertown, N. Y., and was the son of Joseph and Susan (Sawyer) Wakefield, both natives of Vermont. His great-grandfather, Andrew Wakefield, was born May 5, 1765, was of English descent, and belonged to the old Quaker stock who were extensive landholders in the Kingdom. When eighteen years of age he emigrated to the United States, settling first in Nelson County, Ky., whence he removed to Franklin County, Pa. There he was

married in 1794, to Miss Margaret Campbell, the ceremony being performed by Rev. Mr. Cooper. After settling in Nelson County, Ky., he was followed by two brothers, John and Daniel, who married and settled there, reared families, and it is supposed passed the remainder of their lives. The children born to them were all daughters and but little is known of their history. Andrew Wakefield died in Hamilton County, Ohio, June 23, 1828, and his wife, surviving him a period of twenty-seven years, passed to her final rest in the spring of 1855. Mrs. Margaret Wakefield was born in Franklin County, Pa., Dec. 16, 1772, and was consequently eighty-three years of age at the time of her decease. The maiden name of Andrew Wakefield's mother was Margaret McCoy. She was of Scottish ancestry and a lady of great intelligence and personal attraction.

Dr. Cyrenius Wakefield was the fifth of a family of six children, who lived to become men and women. He was reared on a farm until he attained his majority, in the meantime having received a good education and becoming a teacher in 1837. He then removed westward to Bloomington, Ill., and became teacher of a large school three miles south of the city, where he was engaged for fifteen months. He then purchased a tract of land in De Witt County, lying west of Farmer City, and while engaged in the improvement of the same, pursued his former calling during the winter months for four seasons following marriage. In 1847, in company with his brother, Dr. Zera Wakefield, he purchased a stock of goods and they engaged in trade near Marion, De Witt Co., Ill., our subject taking charge of the store and his brother continuing practice which, extending for miles around, necessitated long drives and the care of horses. In addition to this the latter commenced preparing medicine and leaving it at the store for sale, the demand finally becoming so extensive that what was originally a country store became quite a laboratory for drugs. In June, 1848, after continuous practice of two years, Dr. Zera Wakefield contracted violent congestion of the lungs and died within thirty-six hours after the attack.

After the death of his brother, Dr. Cyrenius Wakefield purchased the interest of the first named

in the business, and continued as before. In 1850 he sold his farm and moved to Bloomington, that he might have better facilities to extend his business. He also applied himself diligently to the study of medicine and pharmacy and here gained the title of doctor. During the first few years after his removal to Bloomington he operated extensively in drugs in company with Robert Thompson, who was a brother-in-law of Mrs. Wakefield, having his laboratory in the rear of his drug-store. In 1856 he put up a brick laboratory near his dwelling and two years later retired from the drug trade, giving his whole attention to the compounding of medicine. His business steadily increased, and in 1879 he had local agencies established over all the Western States and had accumulated a large capital.

Dr. Wakefield was a man of firm and decided principles, a member of the Free Congregational Church and a stanch adherent of the Republican party. He was generous, hospitable and charitable, always ready to extend a helping hand to those in need. The four children of his family were Emma, the wife of Mr. A. S. Eddy, Cashier of the People's Bank, and the mother of five children, namely, Gussie, Florence, Adelbert S., Louis and Maxwell. Osear, the eldest son, married Miss Agnes Benelhy and resides on the old homestead; Hattie is the wife of A. B. Brady of Davenport, Iowa; Mr. B. is editor and proprietor of the *Northwestern News*. The youngest of the family is a son, Homer.

Dr. Wakefield, on the 17th of August, 1843, was united in marriage with Miss Harriett Richardson, at the home of the bride's parents in Watertown, N. Y. Mrs. Wakefield was the daughter of Josiah and Cynthia (Tolman) Richardson, natives respectively of Massachusetts and New Hampshire. Her parents were married in Watertown, N. Y., in about 1815, and settling there engaged in farming pursuits, the father giving much attention to the breeding of fine horses and cattle. The parental household included eight children, all of whom grew to years of maturity and are recorded as follows: Charles and Juliet (Mrs. Dodge) are in Watertown, N. Y.; Mrs. Wakefield was the third child; Cynthia, Mrs. Thompson; Josiah; Mary, now

Mrs. Waters, and Martha, Mrs. Jones, are all in Bloomington. Josiah Richardson was a man of strong character and much ability and a stanch member of the old Whig party. He took a deep interest in all matters pertaining to his county, State and nation, and remained a resident of Watertown until his death, loved and respected by all. His children were given a practical education and carefully reared to those principles of honor and honesty which have distinguished most of the members of that family. Both parents belonged to the Universalist Church.

The portrait of Dr. Wakefield is fittingly presented in a work containing the portraits and sketches of so many of the best people of McLean County. With a mind so richly stored as his was and with the genial disposition and temperament which it was his fortune to possess, a successful life, in the full sense of the word, is what we might look for, nor were his friends disappointed.



**J. HIGGINS**, is of the firm of Higgins & Co., marble and granite manufacturers, Bloomington, who are transacting an extensive and profitable business. Their main office is located on East Front street and occupies Nos. 227 and 229. The subject of this biography was born in Georgetown, Ohio, in 1840. His parents were Hon. John J. and Martha C. (Hetterick) Higgins, the father of Maryland and the mother of Virginia. John J. Higgins was an attorney at law and successfully practiced in the various courts of Ohio. He was prominently identified with the politics of that State, being elected a member of the Legislature and holding the offices of County Judge and Sheriff of Brown County.

The grandfather of our subject, Col. Robert Higgins, was one of the stanch old veterans of 1876, and contributed his full share toward the emancipation of the colonies. After this was effected he purchased over 1,000 acres of land in Southern Ohio. He had previously been a slave-holder, but becoming disgusted with the peculiar institution,

gave to his slaves their liberty. He was a man of prominence and closely identified with political affairs in the early history of the Buckeye State. He practiced law and served as District Judge, and spent the main part of his life at Higginsport, which was named after him.

John J. Higgins, the father of our subject, was the youngest son of his parents and died in Ohio in 1857. His wife survived him until 1873. Of their family of eleven children, seven are now living, viz., Robert, Mary, Annie, Lydia, Mattie, Hamer J. and Sallie. All are residents of Ohio except our subject.

Hamer J. Higgins remained at home until twenty-one years of age and until after graduating from the High School. About that time the war came on and at the first call for troops he enlisted in the three years' service in the 59th Ohio Infantry, and afterward re-enlisted in the 192d Ohio Infantry, remaining in the army until the surrender of Lee. During this time he was in twenty-nine pitched battles. He enlisted as a private and was mustered out as First Lieutenant. He was at Shiloh, Stone River, Chickamauga, Mission Ridge and through the entire Atlanta campaign, fighting 120 successive days before the fall of Atlanta.

At the close of his military career young Higgins returned to Ohio and was appointed Deputy Clerk of the Common Pleas Court, which position he filled for two years, and then in 1868 came to Illinois. He commenced here with a capital of \$10 in cash, and after an experience of eight years, part of which time was spent in traveling, he established his present business in 1876. The beautiful marble front building, a part of which is occupied as his business office, was erected in 1886. He keeps two men on the road and the whole force of employes ranges from eighteen to twenty-five men. His present status in the business community as will be seen is due to his own persevering energy. He commenced at the foot of the ladder and his present position is his just reward.

Mr. Higgins was married in Bloomington in 1870, to Miss Alice De Vore, a native of his own State and daughter of Jackson and Hannah De Vore. Of their union there have been born eight children—Mattie, Frank, Elmo, Maude, Charles, Ina, Robert

and Lillian. Mr. Higgins is Republican in politics, and socially is identified with the I. O. O. F., the G. A. R. and A. O. U. W.

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**C** W. ATKINSON, ex-County Clerk of McLean County, has been a resident of the Prairie State since 1853, coming here when a young man eighteen years old. His native place was Lake County, Ohio, where he was born in 1835, and his parents were William and Marian (Ferguson) Atkinson, natives respectively of New Brunswick and New York. They were married in Ohio in 1833, locating upon a farm of 160 acres, where William Atkinson industriously engaged in farming and stock-raising until 1853. He then started for the prairies of Illinois and purchased a farm in Cheney's Grove Township, this county, which he cultivated for a number of years, and which still remains his home, although he is now retired from active life. William Atkinson was born in 1807, and is consequently now eighty years of age. He was always of a religious turn of mind, studied for the ministry while a young man and was ordained a minister of the Methodist Church in 1848, since which time he has served as a local preacher. The parental household consisted of ten children, six now living.

The subject of this history spent his boyhood and youth in attendance at school during the winter seasons and assisting on the farm the balance of the year. At twenty-one years of age he entered Wesleyan University, Bloomington, where he pursued a two years' course, and engaged in teaching for two years following, in McLean and Champaign Counties. During the first year of the war he enlisted as a soldier in Co. I, 23d Ohio Vol. Inf., and served until the close of the conflict. For brave and faithful services he was commissioned Captain, having taken part in the battles of South Mountain, Antietam, and all the engagements of the Shenandoah Valley of 1864. He escaped serious injury and received an honorable discharge on the 26th of August, 1865.

At the close of his military services Mr. Atkinson returned to Illinois, and locating at Saybrook,

engaged in mercantile pursuits until 1868. He then sold out, and going to Bloomington, was appointed Deputy Circuit Clerk, which position he held four years and then was the incumbent of the same position in the office of the County Clerk until 1877, when he was elected County Clerk and held the office until December, 1886.

Mr. Atkinson was married in 1866, to Miss Kate Guthrie, the daughter of Rev. R. E. and Lucy (Kelsall) Guthrie. Of this union there have been born five children: William E.; Wilber, a graduate of the city High School, both of whom are clerks in the office of their father; those at home are—Marion, Roy and Carrie. Mr. Atkinson is Republican in politics and socially belongs to the Masonic fraternity, the I. O. O. F., the G. A. R. and K. of P. In addition to his pleasant residence in Bloomington, he has a farm near Cheney's Grove, consisting of 140 acres of valuable land, finely improved and mostly devoted to stock-raising. Mr. Atkinson is a thorough business man and in all respects a representative citizen.



**I**RA C. PRATT, the tile manufacturer of Cropsey, is a native of the Green Mountain State, where he first opened his eyes to light, Jan. 12, 1832. His parents, Ira Allen and Asenath (Wait) Pratt, were also natives of Vermont, where they resided on a farm and passed their entire lives in their native State. The father was accidentally drowned when about fifty years of age. The mother survived her husband many years, attaining to the advanced age of eighty-one. The eight children included in the parental household all lived to mature years, and their record is as follows: Curtis, the eldest, is a resident of Milton, Vt.; Sophia married B. B. Woods, and died in Vermont in the fall of 1886; Ira C., is our subject; Charles J. resides in Gilman, Ill.; Lucina became the wife of C. S. Tolman, of Fitchburg, Mass.; Frank is a resident of Livingston County, this State; Mary, Mrs. J. C. Hyde, lives in Iroquois County, and George R. in Cropsey.

The subject of this sketch was reared on his

father's farm and received a common-school education. When seventeen years old he commenced work at wagon-making, serving an apprenticeship to this and the blacksmith's trade, and being employed eight years with one man. In 1855 he came West, locating first in Tazewell County, this State, and following his trade in the town of Morton until 1867. He then settled upon a farm in Livingston County, on section 13, in Belle Prairie Township, where he first purchased 160 acres. To this he subsequently added until he is now the owner of 240 acres, all under a good state of cultivation. Mrs. Pratt is the owner, in her own right, of 332 acres.

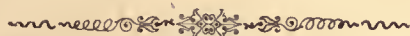
Mr. Pratt, in the fall of 1882, began to drain his land, and for some time hauled tile from Fairbury, a distance of nine miles. He saw that it would be necessary to use a large amount, and concluded it would be the best economy to manufacture his own tile. Accordingly, in connection with George S. Cook and Frank Pratt, the former also an extensive farmer, he soon put up a steam factory and commenced operations. He has now laid tile on all their land, the three farms being well drained by this means. Mr. Cook has since died, but his widow still continues an interest in the factory which our subject operates. They have three kilns constantly in operation, and besides that for their own use manufacture a large supply for other parties.

In the spring of 1883, Mr. Pratt left his son in charge of the farm and erected a handsome and commodious residence in Cropsey, which he now occupies, and a view of which may be seen on another page. This structure is considered one of the finest in this section of the country, and in its finishing and furnishing indicates cultivated tastes and ample means. Our subject and his family are held in the highest respect in this section, and enjoy the acquaintance and society of hosts of friends.

The marriage of Ira C. Pratt and Miss Ellen H. Hathaway was celebrated in 1854. This lady was a native of the same town as her husband, and departed this life in Livingston County, this State, in May, 1879, leaving three children—George W., Ida A., who died in 1880, and Henry. The second marriage of Mr. Pratt occurred in 1880. The

present wife of our subject was formerly Miss Mary A. Landes. She was born in Tazewell County, being the daughter of Joseph and Jane (Mitchell) Landes, of Groveland, Tazewell Co., Ill.

In earlier years Mr. Pratt affiliated with the Whig party, later with the Republican, and is now identified with the Prohibitionists. He is a member in good standing of the Congregational Church, and has held the offices of Road Commissioner and Assessor, and was eight years Justice of the Peace in Livingston, where he formerly lived, and has been President of the Belle Prairie agricultural fair for ten years.



**N**ICHOLAS DIEDRICH, Jr., of Bloomington, is an extensive manufacturer of cast and wrought iron, shaftings, pulleys, mill-work and general machinery, also makes and repairs engines and boilers, and executes all orders with promptness and dispatch. His shops occupy Nos. 407 and 409 South Center street and Nos. 404 and 406 Madison street.

Mr. Diedrich is a native of Bloomington, and was born in September, 1860. He is the son of Nicholas and Catharine (Clemen) Diedrich, who were of German birth and parentage. The father of our subject emigrated to America in 1852, and Miss Catharine Clemen came two years later. He first stopped in Albany, N. Y., where he remained two years, and then came to Chicago, arriving at Bloomington in 1856. In the meantime he had been married to Miss Clemen, in 1855, and to them were given three children: Louisa, at home; Bertha, now Mrs. Cloppenburg, of Springfield, Ill., and the subject of this sketch.

After coming to Bloomington, Nicholas Diedrich, Sr., was employed by the C. & A. R. R. Co. and remained for two years. He then had charge of the Flag Foundry. In the winter of 1860-61, he with two others started the Bloomington Foundry, but afterward sold their interest in it to Mr. Ollis, and in 1869 started the Union Foundry. His first shop was a frame building which was destroyed by fire in 1874. In 1876 he put up a brick building, the machine shop being 50x60

feet, and a pattern-room in the second story, also two stores, a foundry 40x80, and a boiler-room 20 x40 feet, all of brick, besides other necessary buildings. Mr. Diedrich operated here until 1882, and then leased his building to his son, who has continued the business since that time, and employs on an average twenty men.

Our subject is a graduate of the High School and Business College of Bloomington. He was employed with his father in the foundry business when a young man, and is in every respect a practical machinist. He is a member of the firm of Diedrich & Hayes, practical heating engineers and manufacturers of the Rattan tubular masonry-furnaces, ventilators, room-heaters, registers, etc., the office being located at Nos. 59 and 61 Lake street, Chicago.

Our subject was married in 1883, to Miss Lizzie Lowentrou, also a native of Bloomington, and the daughter of F. W. Lowentrou. Of this union there have been born three children—Irenc, Ethel, who died in infancy, and Lawrence. The family is pleasantly located at No. 609 West Market street. Mr. Diedrich is Republican in politics, and a useful factor in the business community.



**K**A. ELLSWORTH, a general farmer and stock-raiser of Downs Township, is comfortably located on section 30, where he owns eighty acres of improved land under a good state of cultivation. He came to McLean County in 1859, and with the exception of four years spent in Heyworth, has made Downs Township his home since that time. Mr. Ellsworth was born in St. Clair County, this State, Aug. 12, 1849. For parental history see sketch of William Ellsworth in another part of this ALBUM.

The early life of our subject was spent under the home roof, and his parents removed from St. Clair County when he was ten years of age, coming into this county and locating in Downs Township. Young Ellsworth was married in this township, when twenty-two years of age, Sept. 7, 1871, to Miss Mary, the daughter of George and Susanna Jane Bishop. She was born in Randolph Township, July 11, 1850, and remained with her parents until

her marriage. Of this union there have been born seven children, two, Eura Z. and Nathan, being deceased. Those living and at home are Clyde, Lyda B., George W., Bertie A. and Ellis C.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Ellsworth located upon the farm which they now occupy, where they have lived as peaceful and praiseworthy citizens, and enjoy the respect and friendship of a large circle of acquaintances. They attend the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in politics Mr. Ellsworth is strongly Republican.

**D**R. WILLIAM E. GUTHRIE, a rising young physician of Bloomington, is junior member of the firm of White & Guthrie, and is fast winning for himself a prominent and honorable name in the medical profession of McLean County. Dr. Guthrie was born in Abingdon, Knox Co., Ill., in 1857, and is the son of Peter and Caroline E. (Corsan) Guthrie, natives respectively of Bloomington, Ill., and Warren County, Ohio.

Both Peter Guthrie and his wife were born in 1829; the former worked with his father at his trade of a plasterer and brick-mason, afterward engaging as a contractor and builder. He is now a resident of Normal, being Constable of that village, and in 1886 was candidate for Sheriff. The parental family consisted of two children, of whom only the subject of our sketch is living.

Our subject's grandfather, Robert Guthrie, was a native of Ohio, and came to Illinois in 1826, settling in Bloomington, where he cultivated a small farm and followed his trade of carpenter as opportunity afforded. His family included seven children—John, Robert, Margaret, Adam, Peter, Kate and Lee—all of whom lived to be men and women, and were educated in Bloomington.

The younger days of our subject were spent in school, where he improved his opportunities, and commenced teaching at the age of eighteen years. He was thus occupied for three years, in the meantime pursuing his studies in a higher school, after his own winter term had closed. He attended Wesleyan and Normal Universities. In the fall of

1876 there were thirty-three competitive candidates for entrance to the Military School at West Point, of which young Guthrie was successful, and was accordingly sent there, but remained, however, only a short time. He then returned home to McLean County, and commenced to read medicine with Drs. White and Worrell, of Bloomington. After a time he entered Rush Medical College at Chicago, from which he graduated in 1881, and was proffered a partnership with Dr. White, which he gladly accepted. He has made rapid strides in his profession since that time, and been intrusted with important business in connection with his practice. For two years he was Surgeon of the 4th Regiment, State Militia; has been County Physician four years, and is a member of the McLean County, the Central Illinois and the State Medical Societies, and in June, 1887, was appointed District Surgeon of the Lake Erie & Western Railroad. His office at present is located in the Post Office Block.

The marriage of Dr. Guthrie and Miss Letta Smith was celebrated in 1882, at the residence of the bride's parents. Mrs. G. is the daughter of Oliver and Elizabeth (Warren) Smith, of Wichita, Kan., and by her marriage with our subject has become the mother of two daughters—Lelia, born Jan. 1, 1883, and Bernardine, Oct. 25, 1886. The family are located in a pleasant home at No. 503 East Washington street, where they have gathered around them a circle of warm friends, and are happy in the prospects of a bright and prosperous future.

Dr. Guthrie is a member of the Republican party, and was the first Commander of the Sons of Veterans, with which order he is still connected.

**S**AMUEL OGDEN has retired from active labor and is passing the sunset of life in peace and quiet and in the enjoyment of a well-earned competency, making his residence at Lexington. His father, Albert Ogden, was a native of New York, and the mother of our subject, Margaret (Riddle) Ogden, was born in Pennsylvania. Their first settlement after marriage was in Kentucky, whence they emigrated to Madi-

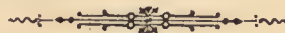
son County, Ohio, and in 1831 came to McLean County and settled in Money Creek Township, where they lived for several years. They then moved to Livingston County, and taking up their residence in the neighborhood of Pontiac, made that their home for two or three years, then coming back to this county, again located in Money Creek Township, where they spent the latter years of their life. He died Aug. 15, 1845, and her demise occurred in 1850. Eight children were born to them, five sons and three daughters—Abner, Mary, Jonathan, Benjamin, Deborah, John, Susan and Samuel (twins).

Samuel Ogden is the youngest of his parents' children and was born in Madison County, Ohio, Aug. 24, 1809. Continuing to reside in his native State until 1833, he then came to McLean County, and has made this his home until the present time, engaged exclusively in agricultural pursuits. He is the owner of 785 acres of improved land, besides valuable property at Lexington.

Our subject was married in Fayette County, Ohio, to Nancy Vandolah. She was born in Fayette County, Ohio, in May, 1810, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of ten children. The record is as follows: Obediah was united in marriage with Miss Hannah Wiley, and they are living at Lexington; Croghan died when seven years old; Sarah became the wife of James Coon, and departed this life in Money Creek Township; Mary A. died in Money Creek Township when fourteen years old; Albert is a resident of Money Creek Township, and has a biographical sketch in this work; John W. departed this life when in his third year; Angelia is the wife of James Pirtle, and they are living in Jasper County, Mo.; Alex was first married to Miss Alice Miller, and after her demise married Kate Lyons, and they are living in Ford County, Kan.; George W. and Louisa Flesher were united in marriage and are living in Gridley Township, and Francis M. died when fourteen years old.

The faithful and loving companion of our subject departed this life in Lexington, July 8, 1884. She was a member of the Christian Church and an earnest laborer in the cause of the Master, and beloved by all who knew her. She is waiting for her

loved one on the other shore, and soon the time will come when his sorrows here on earth will be over, and he will meet her in the home beyond, never again to be separated through the endless days of eternity. In politics Mr. Ogden is a staunch Jacksonian Democrat, and one of the foremost, as well as respected and honored citizens of McLean County.



JAMES McMAHON, one of the self-made men of Downs Township, who by his own exertions has acquired a comfortable home with something laid up for a rainy day, came to this county in 1863, and purchased his present farm, which is located on section 9. It consists of 120 acres of good land, the greater part of which is under cultivation and upon which he has a good farm dwelling, a substantial barn and all necessary outhouses.

Mr. McMahon is a native of Ireland, born in 1833, and was left an orphan while still an infant. He was at once taken into the family of his uncle, John Ryan, and when nine years of age emigrated with him to the United States. They located in St. Louis, Mo., where our subject lived until he was fifteen years old and then set out to "paddle his own canoe." He first proceeded northeastward into Canada, going first to Quebec and thence to Toronto, in the Province of Ontario. He did not, however, remain very long in the Dominion, but started westward again, proceeding first to Fond du Lac County, Wis., where he worked as he had in Canada, as a laborer on a farm. From Wisconsin he came this State, locating first in Lincoln, Logan County, where he remained six years. He then came to McLean County, was soon afterward married, and engaged as a molder of ear wheels in the city of Bloomington, which trade at that time was very profitable. After some years of hard work, during which he managed to lay up a little sum of money, he purchased the land which constitutes his present farm, and since that time has been successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits.

Mr. McMahon was married, in Bloomington, in 1863, to Miss Salinda Allen, a native of Lafayette, Ind., who was born in 1836, and is the daughter of

Thomas Allen, now deceased. The latter was a farmer by occupation. Mrs. McM. lived under the parental roof until her marriage, having come to Illinois in 1863. Of her union with our subject there were born six children, one of whom, Aaron, is deceased. The others, all at home, are Mary, John, Rosa E., James and Thomas. The parents and children are regular attendants and members of the Catholic Church, and our subject, politically, is an uncompromising Democrat. Mr. McMahon has fully proved the maxim that "Perseverance will ensure success." He commenced life a poor boy, without friends or influence, but is now in possession of a good home, and by his honesty and industry has gained the esteem of the worthiest class of citizens.



**J**OSEPH TOWNSEND, general foreman of the C. & A. R. R. shops at Bloomington, is a native of England, and was born Nov. 14, 1825. He is the son of Henry and Mary (Fell) Townsend, of English ancestry and parentage. The father, while in England, was engaged in the manufacture of carriages and other road vehicles, in which he carried on an extensive business. He was a man of large liberality, and was ruined financially by signing notes for friends, which he, as usual, was obliged to pay, and on account of which he was compelled to throw up his business. He then came to America in 1829, settling at Utica, N. Y., where he worked as a carpenter, and died five years later, in 1834. The mother of our subject survived her husband over forty years and departed this life in 1875. Of the parental family of twelve children only four are now living: Ann, Mrs. Jones, of Attica, N. Y.; Joseph, our subject; Eli, of Hamilton, Mo., and Mary, Mrs. Shipman, of Chicago. The parents were members of the Church of England.

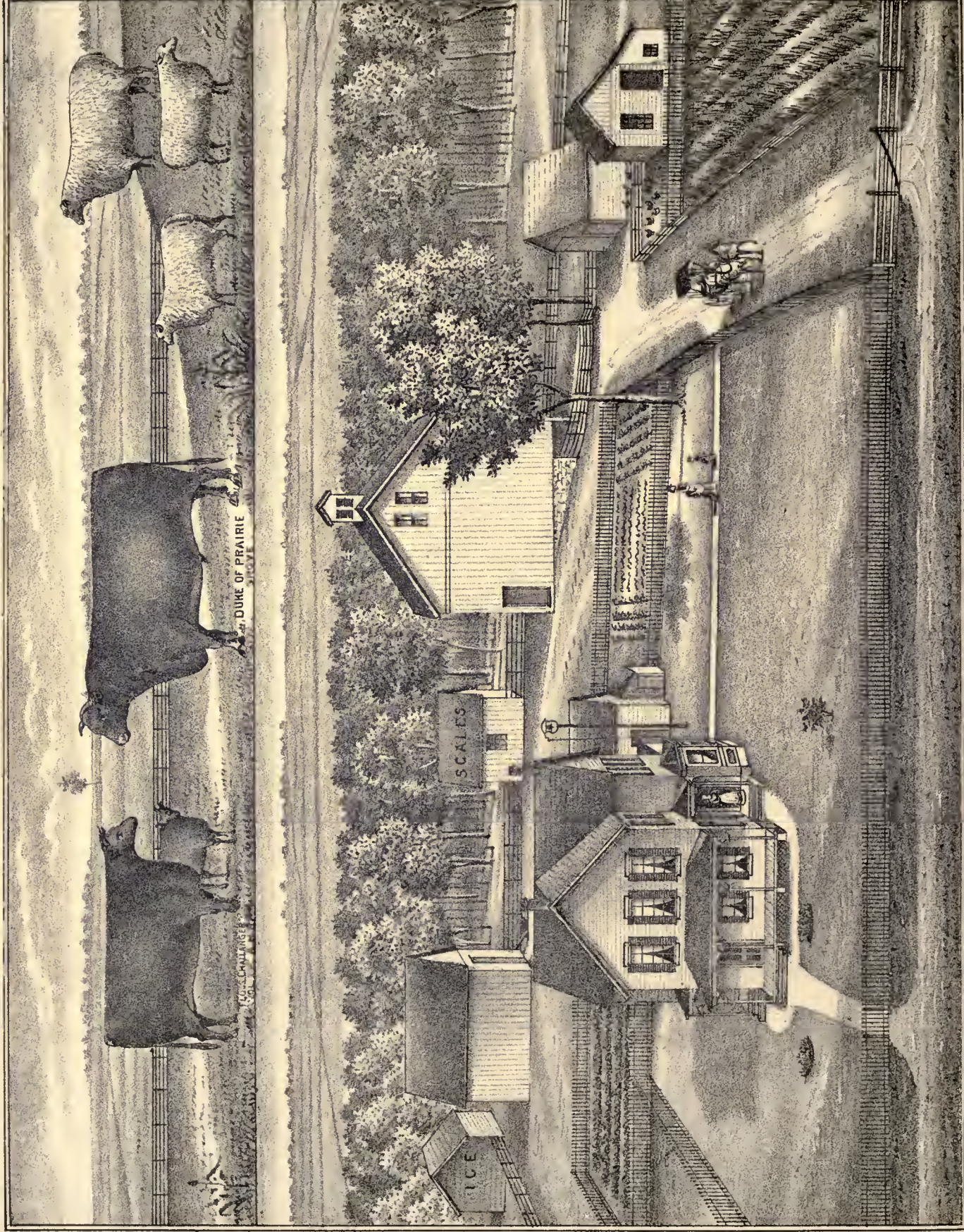
Joseph Townsend at the early age of ten years commenced to paddle his own canoe. After leaving home he engaged to work upon a farm, and remained in that vicinity for seven years, attending school in winter and working the balance of the year. In 1842 he returned to Utica and com-

menced learning the carpenter's trade, at which he served three years. He then went to Oneida Village and entered the employ of the Syracuse & Utica Railroad Co. as car repairer, where he remained five years, after which he accepted a position as foreman on the Lake Shore & Southern Railroad, at Adrian, Mich. In 1854 he visited Chicago, whence after a short time he went to Racine, Wis., where he was given a position as foreman of the Racine & Mississippi Railroad, which occupied eight years. From there he went to Kansas to take a similar position in the car department of the Union Pacific. After five and one-half years in that position he became master car-builder of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railroad, with headquarters at Sedalia, Mo., where he remained six years. Mr. Townsend then engaged with the Hannibal & St. Joe as car-builder, and was with that company four years. From there he went to the Union Pacific Central Branch at Atchison, Kan., and the next year, 1880, accepted his present position, which he has since occupied. It is scarcely necessary to say, considering the positions which he has filled, that Mr. Townsend possesses more than ordinary skill and ability as a mechanic, and is well qualified for his present responsible duties. He is well posted in railroad matters, and has accumulated a fine property, much of it consisting of Kansas lands. He is Republican in politics, and as a citizen is highly respected for his excellent character and moral worth.

Mr. Townsend was united in marriage with Miss Amy Wralten, of Utica, N. Y., in 1848. She is the daughter of Jacob and Ann (Randall) Wralten, natives of England, and who emigrated to America in 1829. Mr. Wralten was a contractor and builder, and after coming to this country with his family, located at Utica, N. Y., where the parents remained until their death, the mother departing this life in 1832, and the father in 1879. Their family included nine children, of whom Mrs. T. was the youngest but one. By her marriage with our subject she became the mother of five children, four living, namely, James A.; Elizabeth J., Mrs. Barnard; Frank F., Mrs. Dr. Harris; and Julia M., Mrs. McGrew, all living in Kansas. Nellie departed this life in 1864.







RESIDENCE OF J. C. GREGORY, BREEDER OF SHORT HORN CATTLE AND OXFORD-DOWN SHEEP . SEC. 32 . GRIDLEY TOWNSHIP.

**J**OHN C. GREGORY, one of the most prominent and prosperous young farmers of Gridley Township, is proprietor of 520 acres of valuable land upon which is erected a fine farm dwelling, a good barn and all other buildings appertaining to a first-class modern homestead. The fields are finely laid off for the growing of grain and for pasturage, the fences are substantially built and kept in good repair, while the farm implements are of the latest improved pattern and adapted in all respects for the most expeditious work in the best manner. The larger portion of the land is devoted to grain and stock-raising, in the latter of which Mr. Gregory takes great pride and pleasure, and usually keeps on the farm about 130 head of fine cattle and twenty-five head of horses, some of which are thoroughbred and all of choice grades. He also fattens about seventy-five head of hogs annually which bring the best price the market affords. On all sides in connection with the homestead there is an air of ample comfort, suggestive of cultivated tastes and abundant means, and no roof is more hospitable than that of our subject, who is the center of a large circle of friends and acquaintances. As a business man his course has been one worthy of imitation. He is prompt to meet his obligations, generous in his contributions to the enterprises which will advance the prosperity of his community, and always the friend of education and morality, encouraging thrift and industry by the most potent means at his hands, namely, his own example.

The subject of this history was born and reared among the people of Gridley Township, first opening his eyes to the light on the 8th of June, 1859. He is the offspring of an excellent family, being the son of John and Mary Gregory, of Normal, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume. His studies, begun in the common school of Normal, were completed in the Evergreen Business College, at Bloomington, where he graduated in 1880. He was bright and studious, made the most of his opportunities, and thus became well fitted for the duties of life, in which he has met with such uniform success. His home training naturally tended to make him self-reliant, and when twenty years of age he commenced tilling upon his own account a part

of the land which he now owns and occupies. After perfecting his plans for the establishment of a comfortable home and having already become greatly attracted by the womanly and lovable qualities of Miss Arnettie, daughter of John and Mary (Abbott) Ogden, of Money Creek Township, he led this lady to the altar on the 3d of May, 1882. Soon after marriage the young people commenced house-keeping, and on the 18th of November, 1883, there was added to the family a little daughter, who they named Pearl, and who is now (1887) an interesting child of about three and one-half years old.

John Ogden, the father of Mrs. Gregory, was born in Fayette County, Ohio, and his wife, in Newark, same State. After their removal to Illinois they located in Money Creek Township, where the death of the father took place quite suddenly on the 8th of March, 1879. On that day he came to Gridley on business and fell dead on the street. The mother is still living, and now a resident of Towanda. They had only two children, both daughters, Arnettie, the wife of our subject, and Hattie E. The latter died when six years of age. The birth of Mrs. Gregory took place in Money Creek Township July 21, 1862. Our subject and his wife are members in good standing of the Christian Church, and politically Mr. G. affiliates with the Democratic party. He has served as School Director in the township and starts out in his community as one of its most promising members, taking an interest in its moral and financial welfare, and is in all respects an important factor in its business and agricultural interests. Each year witnesses some new addition to his premises, enhancing their beauty and value, and the view given on an adjacent page, presents a picture which is viewed with admiration by the passing traveler and which forms one of the finest features in the landscape of this section.

**M**RS. NANCY CLARK, a highly respected resident of West Township, is a native of Ohio, and was born in Perry County, Aug. 21, 1831. Her father, Thomas Hammond, was born in Pennsylvania, and her grandfather, John Hammond, an Englishman by birth, emi-

grated to the United States when a young man, locating in Pennsylvania. He was there married to Miss Rebecca Reynolds, a native of the Keystone State, and soon afterward they removed to Ohio, and located in Perry County at an early period in the history of that section. There John Hammond purchased a tract of prairie land, and for a tenement set up four forked sticks and split clap-boards to cover them, and by this means constructed a dwelling in which he lived with his family until he could erect a log house. He cleared a farm from the wilderness and lived to see that and the land around him settled up and finely improved. He departed this life at the age of seventy-eight years, having made a good record as an industrious and intelligent citizen, and contributed his full share toward the development of Perry County.

Thomas Hammond, father of the subject of our sketch, was but an infant when his parents moved to Ohio and located in the wilderness. He grew to manhood in Perry County and was married to Miss Olive Spencer. She was born in Pennsylvania, Jan. 14, 1800, and was the daughter of Thomas and Margaret (Armstrong) Spencer. After marriage the young couple settled upon a tract of timber land, where Thomas Hammond, like his father before him, constructed a rude dwelling, in which he and his wife commenced housekeeping. He then commenced clearing his land and cultivating the soil, remaining a resident of that locality until 1866. He then sold his farm and starting for the farther West, came to this State and county, settling first in West Township. He purchased 260 acres of land on sections 30 and 31, where he carried on farming until 1877, and in February of that year removed to Bloomington, where he died in June following. His widow still survives and makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. Clark.

Mrs. Nancy (Hammond) Clark remained under the parental roof until her marriage with Sampson Clark, which occurred on the 1st of September, 1853. Mr. Clark was born in Somersetshire, England, Jan. 27, 1831, and was the son of Sampson and Susan (Irish) Clark. After marriage the young people located upon the present homestead of Mrs. C., and became the parents of two children, daughters—Olive, who married William Hoit, and Marga-

ret J., the wife of Hartwell E. Lewis, who resides in West Township. Mr. Clark met his death by accident in 1869, being run over by the cars of the I. B. & W. R. R. He was a very successful business man and farmer and at the time of his death owned about 800 acres of land. He was a kind husband and father, a good citizen, and universally respected by all who knew him, giving of his means for the advancement of worthy enterprises and taking a genuine interest in the welfare of his township and county.



**F**RANK L. HOLLINGSWORTH, an energetic and successful young farmer of Downs Township, is the owner of 170 acres of valuable land on section 5, which includes fifty acres of timber. He took possession of this farm in March, 1886, and already has made some excellent improvements, having in contemplation more and greater ones as time progresses. He possesses that spirit of industry, enterprise and resolution which is not satisfied with ordinary achievements but is ambitious to excel, and bids fair to become one of the representative citizens of this prosperous and progressive county.

Mr. Hollingsworth is a native of Champaign County, Ohio, and was born June 7, 1862. His father, Samuel W. Hollingsworth, a native of Columbus, Ohio, in early life removed to Champaign County, where he met and married Miss E. Helen Lyon, who was born in Champaign County, where she was reared and educated. Her parents are of American birth and of Scotch-Irish ancestry. After his marriage, Samuel W. Hollingsworth located near Lewisburg, Ohio, and was there engaged in farming until 1872, when he came to Illinois, taking up his abode at Monmouth, Warren County. Two years later he went to Missouri and located near Hopkins, whence he removed later to Taylor County, Iowa. From there he went to Lincoln, Neb., where he engaged in merchandising. In 1882 he recrossed the Father of Waters, locating in Bloomington, this county, and is now retired from active labor. Our subject was the eldest of his father's family and received his early education at Lincoln,

Neb. He commenced doing for himself at the early age of fourteen years, his first experience in the business world being as a stock-raiser in Nebraska. He came to Bloomington with his father in 1882, and was connected with him for a time in the wholesale notion trade. Later he became interested in farming.

The marriage of Frank L. Hollingsworth and Miss Lizzie Weleh was celebrated at the home of the bride's parents in Downs Township, Dec. 17, 1884. Mrs. H. was born in Downs Township, June 6, 1865, and completed her education at Wesleyan University, Bloomington. Of her marriage there has been born one child, a daughter, Helen May. Mrs. H. is a lady of more than ordinary intelligence and fine social qualities. Our subject is a sold Republican in politics, and gives his earnest support to the principles of his party.



**E**DGAR M. HEAFER is one of the firm of N. B. Heafer & Co., manufacturers of brick and drain tile, which is carrying on an extensive and lucrative business. This was established in July, 1874, by our subject, on a small scale, and at first was limited to the manufacture of tile only. The brick kiln was established in 1861, by Napoleon B. Heafer and James H. McGregor, and was continued for about twenty-three years, and until its dissolution by the withdrawal of Mr. McGregor. This yard, the first one established in Bloomington, became the most extensive, and Mr. Heafer, after dissolving with his partner, operated it alone for about one year and then sold it to his son-in-law, Joseph B. Holmes, and his two sons, Arthur and Edgar M. In 1884-85, the brickyard was removed to its present location. The clay of which this brick is manufactured lies about four feet beneath the surface in a strata about eleven feet thick, and after being manufactured resembles in appearance the famous brick of Milwaukee, the grain being fine and the quality strong and durable. The tile yards and factory occupy about seven acres

of ground, the main building being 150x252 feet in dimensions, two stories in height, and furnished with the most modern machinery and appliances. This is under the management of N. B. Heafer and his son, Edgar M., and affords them a fine income. In 1883 they turned out 4,000,000 feet of tile. They manufacture it in all sizes, from three to twelve inches.

Napoleon B. Heafer, the father of our subject, was born in Charleston, W. Va., in 1823, and at the early age of ten years began his battle with the world to obtain the necessaries and, if possible, the comforts and luxuries of life. He possessed but a limited education, having been only six months in school, and employed himself at whatever he could find to do. His wanderings led him northward and he drifted into Kentucky, where he lived for several years and was prospered in his efforts to obtain a livelihood. After arriving at a suitable age he was married, in Jamestown, Ky., to Miss Elizabeth C. Clark, a native of the same place. He remained there with his family until his removal to Bloomington and soon afterward engaged in the manufacture of brick. He was possessed of much natural genius and very soon became a master mechanic, with a good knowledge of his business. He is the inventor of the brick pavement being used in this city, Jacksonville, Champaign and Decatur. After a few years thus occupied, he was obliged to retire on account of failing health and is now in California.

Edgar M. Heafer, who is now the manager of the tile business, was born in Jamestown, Ky., March 20, 1851, and was about two years old when he came to Bloomington with his parents. He received his primary education in the schools of this city and subsequently took a course of study in Wesleyan University, being in the Junior Class at the time of leaving. In February, 1876, he was married to Miss Ida M., daughter of William S. Depew, of Bloomington, whose father was one of the early settlers of the Prairie State. Of this marriage there have been born three children—Stella P., Edgar N. and Roscoe Lionel. Mr. Heafer, although still a young man, is serving a term as Alderman of the city, and takes an active and intelligent interest in all matters pertaining to the welfare of his county and city. He is a wide-awake and enterprising busi-

ness man and has a tile factory of his own a half mile southeast of that which we have mentioned, which he operates independently.

**O**BEDIAH OGDEN, of Lexington, is the eldest son of Samuel and Nancy (Vandolah) Ogden, and was born in Fayette County, Ohio, near a small village called Yankcetown, on the 28th of March, 1830. When three years old his parents removed to Illinois, settling in McLean County, on Maekinaw Creek in Money Creek Township, in the fall of 1833. The grandfather of our subject, Albert Ogden, had removed to Money Creek Township in 1831. He was born in the State of New York, and was of English descent. His wife was formerly Miss Margaret Riddle, of Scotch-Irish and Welsh descent. They were the parents of ten children, of whom eight grew to mature years, married and had families of their own. Albert Ogden departed this life on the 15th of August, 1845, at an advanced age, and his wife in 1850, when eighty-six years old.

Samuel Ogden, whose sketch appears in this work, settled upon a farm in Money Creek Township, and engaged in agricultural pursuits and stock-raising. He was born in Madison County, Ohio, Aug. 24, 1809, and at the age of twenty years was married to Miss Nancy, daughter of John and Sarah Vandolah. When he first took possession of his land in Money Creek Township, it was new and unimproved, and upon it was a small cabin, where he and his wife established themselves as comfortably as possible and lived several years. The journey from Ohio was made overland with an ox-team, and he brought with him two thoroughbred greyhounds and three other hunting dogs, by the assistance of which he caught twenty-one wolves and a large number of deer. The household circle was completed by the birth of eleven children, and our subject remained with his parents until thirty-six years old, when he was united in marriage with Miss Hannah, daughter of James and Sarah R. Wiley, of Money Creek Township.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Obediah Ogden located on a farm in Money Creek Town-

ship, where they lived continuously until 1882. They became the parents of eleven children, four sons and seven daughters, eight of whom are yet living: Sarah became the wife of John Kemp; Nancy A., Samuel A., Francis M., Rhoda M., Mary J., Ella O. and Lizzie M. are at home.

In 1882 Mr. Ogden with his family left the farm and removed to Lexington. The old homestead consists of 585 acres, finely cultivated and with good improvements. He still retains possession of it but it is operated by a tenant. He is still largely interested in stock-dealing, raises from twenty to thirty high-grade calves each year and superintends the feeding of large numbers of cattle and hogs in the winter, which he ships by rail to the Chicago markets. He also has fine Norman horses on his farm, both draft and roadsters. His industry and energy have greatly assisted in developing the agricultural resources of this section and he has in all respects been a valued addition to the farming community as well as to society in general. Mr. Ogden belongs to the Baptist Church, and Mrs. O. is connected with the United Brethren. Our subject, politically, has been a Jeffersonian Democrat since old enough to exercise the right of suffrage and still casts his vote in support of the principles of his party.

**D**ANIEL W. MASON. This gentleman may be numbered among the intelligent and successful farmers of Downs Township, where he has a fine estate of 120 acres, located on section 27. The land is under a good state of cultivation and supplied with a modern residence with handsome grounds and good out-buildings. The dwelling stands on a rise of ground which commands a fine view of the surrounding country. The farm is conducted with system and good order and everything is kept up in the best style. The machinery is after the most improved pattern and the live-stock includes the best grades of domestic animals. Mr. Mason took possession of his present home in March, 1868, having purchased it the previous year. He came to this

county in October, 1839, and has been a resident here most of the time since.


Daniel W. Mason was born in Preble County, Ohio, April 15, 1833, being the son of Solomon Mason, who was a native of Kentucky, but is now living with his son, S. B. Mason, in Downs Township. The grandfather of our subject is supposed to have died in Kentucky. Solomon Mason removed from his native State to Ohio in 1805, several years before it was admitted into the Union as a State. He settled in what is now Darke County, thence he removed to Preble County, and from there to McLean County.

Our subject was the eighth of a family of eleven children, six sons and five daughters; three of each are still living and all have been married. The early life of our subject was spent at home with his parents until 1852, when he went to Ohio and attended the Audubon University to complete his education. The school was carried on under the auspices of the United Brethren Church, of which his parents were members. After returning home he engaged in teaching for a time and then took up the carpenters' trade. His first purchase of land was in Story County, Iowa, and consisted of 285 acres, unimproved. This he sold later and purchased sixty-nine acres in Downs Township, this county, where he went to live and which remained his home until his removal to his present farm.

The marriage of Daniel W. Mason and Miss Susan F. Richardson was celebrated at the home of the bride's parents in Downs Township, Aug. 14, 1860. Mrs. M. is the daughter of Samuel T. and Mary (Weleh) Richardson. See sketch of Jeremiah Weleh for parental history of Mary Weleh. The parents of Mrs. M. were natives respectively of New York and Pennsylvania, and their marriage took place near Ft. Harrison, Ind. They came to McLean County in 1838 and located in Downs Township, where the mother died in 1870, aged fifty-seven years and six months. The father is now living in Bloomington, being seventy-eight years of age. Their children were seven in number, of whom Mrs. M. was the fourth. One daughter is deceased.

Mrs. Mason was born in Downs Township, this

county, July 28, 1839. She commenced her education in the public schools and completed it in Bloomington. Mr. and Mrs. Mason have become the parents of the following children: Orville H., who assists his father on the homestead; Cornelia, who was formerly a teacher in the public schools, and is now at home with her parents; Mary E., at home; Celia A., who died at the age of nine months, and Stanley L., at home. Mrs. Mason and two daughters are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In politics Mr. Mason is Republican and has held the office of Commissioner of Highways, and also been a member of the Board of Education. His first vote for President was for Fillmore, and the first vote he ever cast was for David Davis for Circuit Judge.



**G**EORGE W. DOWNS. The subject of this history is a son of one of the earliest settlers of this county and Downs Township, his parents being Lawson and Sarah Downs. He was born Aug. 22, 1839, and was the second of a family of nine children, of whom the record is as follows: William M. is a resident of Heyworth; Francis M., born Jan. 16, 1844, died when eleven years of age; Peter J., born Aug. 1, 1845, died when three years of age; of John D. a sketch will be found in another part of this ALBUM; Henry L., born Aug. 11, 1849, died when a little more than one year old; Solomon F. was born June 28, 1851, and is clerking in a hardware store at Saybrook; Albert P., born Nov. 18, 1852, was married to Miss Mary R. Lemon, who died March 9, 1887; he is a resident of Downs Township; Alfred E., born Aug. 7, 1855, married Miss Ellen Miller, and is engaged in farming in Downs Township.

The present homestead of our subject, which lies on section 7, is the farm on which he was born. It now includes 175 acres of valuable land, finely improved. Mr. Downs was educated in the district schools of his native township, remaining under the home roof until the breaking out of the late war. He then enlisted as a Union soldier in Co. F, 94th Ill. Vol. Inf., and for a period of three years performed military duty in a brave and faithful man-

ner. His regiment participated in only a few active engagements, but among these was the battle at Prairie Grove, Ark., and the sieges at Vicksburg and Mobile. Young Downs escaped serious illness and wounds and was honorably discharged at Springfield on the 18th of August, 1865. Soon after his return home he was united in marriage with Miss Theodosia A. Myers, at the home of the bride's parents in Randolph Township, on the 16th of March, 1870.

Mrs. Downs is the daughter of H. A. and Lavina (Scheeter) Myers, now of Randolph Township. She was born in Licking County, Ohio, Jan. 20, 1851, and came to Illinois with her parents in her girlhood. They located first in Bloomington Township, this county, whence they removed later to Old Town Township, and finally to Randolph Township, their present home. The education of Mrs. Downs, begun in the district school, was completed at Marshall College in this State. Of her union with our subject there were born nine children—Sarah, Henry L., Belle, Lavina, Elmer E., Cloa, George Stanley, Walter J. and Mary. Mr. and Mrs. D. are members in good standing of the United Brethren Church, and our subject, politically, is a firm supporter of the Republican party. He has served his township as Collector, Highway Commissioner and in other important positions, and was elected Supervisor, April 15, 1887. Their homestead is pleasantly located and its inmates enjoy all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life, and are held in high esteem in their community as good neighbors and citizens.

**J**UDGE O. T. REEVES, who presides over the Circuit Court of McLean, Ford, Iroquois and Kankakee Counties, is a resident of Bloomington and one of her most valued citizens. He is a native of Ross County, Ohio, born in 1829, and the son of William and Mary (McLain) Reeves, both natives of Virginia. The grandfather of our subject, Josiah Reeves, emigrated from Culpeper Court House, Va., to Ross County, Ohio, in about 1804, where he engaged in farming pursuits. He went to Ross County in 1804, when the territory was but a wilderness, being

among the earliest settlers of that region. He entered a claim and cleared 200 acres of land, where he established a permanent home and passed the remainder of his days. All of his thirteen children lived to become men and women and were all married. One of his sons, Owen T., was the County Judge of Ross County for a number of years. William, the father of our subject, was a member of the State Legislature. Josiah Reeves departed this life in 1841, aged eighty-one years. His wife, the grandmother of our subject, died the following year, aged eighty. Both were devoted members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in early days meetings were held in his log house and were presided over by such men as Rev. Henry B. Bacon, of Kentucky, and Bishop McKendree. The children all received a good education. Grandfather Reeves belonged to the Whig party and took an active part in promoting the interests of his State and county.

William Reeves was reared on the farm, and when twenty-one years of age purchased a tract of land and engaged extensively in grain and stock-raising. Like his father before him he became prominent in the affairs of that locality and was elected to the Ohio Legislature in 1852. He also held the various township offices and was an acknowledged leader of rare intelligence and sound sense. He was married in Ohio, in 1818, to Miss McLain, of that State, and the daughter of John McLain, a prominent resident of the Buckeye State. Of the ten children born of this marriage, five only are living: Mrs. Julia A. Hitch, of Bloomington; James M., a grain and stock farmer of Ross County, Ohio; Owen T., our subject; William M., Deputy Recorder of McLean County, and Emma, Mrs. Landon, of Kokomo, Ind. William Reeves moved to Illinois in 1855, settling in McLean County. He had disposed of all his property in Ohio, and after coming here purchased a farm in Bloomington Township, which he occupied for a number of years and then selling out, moved into Old Town Township. The wife and mother departed this life in 1860, and in 1862 Mr. Reeves was married the second time, to Mrs. Mary M. Reeves, of Pennsylvania. He departed this life in 1876, and the second wife died in 1882.



Owen T. Reeves remained on his father's farm, attending the common schools, until seventeen years old. He then took a two years' course at Salem Academy and afterward attended the University of Delaware, Ohio, where he studied another two years and graduated in 1850. He then became tutor of languages in the University, and the following year was Principal of Berea Seminary, which was located near Cleveland, Ohio. Then, on account of failing health, he retired from active labor for one year. In 1853 he became Principal of the Chillicothe High School and the year following completed his law studies which he had been pursuing while teaching at Chillicothe, under the instruction of W. T. McClintock. He was admitted to the bar in 1854, and immediately removed to Bloomington and commenced the practice of his profession. His talents and ability received ready recognition and he very soon attained to a leading position among the professional men of this State. In 1862 he raised and commanded the 75th Regiment, Illinois Infantry. After filling various positions of trust and responsibility connected with legal matters he was elected Circuit Judge in March, 1877, which position he has held since that time. He is Republican in politics and has conscientiously devoted his time and attention to the duties of his position. In addition to other interests, he purchased in 1877, the woolen factory which is located on University avenue, and which gives employment to twelve operatives, yielding to its proprietor large profits annually.

Judge Reeves was married in 1851, to Miss Luey A., daughter of Reuben and Abbie King, of Delaware, Ohio, and of this union there were born four children, of whom only one is now living, Edward C. This son married Miss Nettie Jones, of Normal, and they have two children, Ella B. and Owen F. Mrs. Reeves departed this life in February, 1861. The second wife of our subject, to whom he was married in 1862, was Miss Mary E. Hawks, a native of Bloomington, and daughter of M. H. and Elizabeth A. Hawks, of Bloomington. The family of our subject includes eight children: Lucy, a graduate of Wellesley College, Massachusetts; Lincoln, a farmer of Normal; William H., a graduate of Champaign University; Owen T., stu-

dent at Dean Academy, Franklin, Mass., and Lewis M.; James M., Mabel and Huston M., students in Bloomington. Besides his city property the Judge owns 440 acres of choice land, and in his profession has accumulated a competency. Both Mr. and Mrs. Reeves are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and greatly respected by all who know them.

**J**EFFERSON BIRDSSELL, who is successfully engaged as a gardener and a grower of small fruits, is pleasantly located on section 21, in Randolph Township. He came to McLean County in 1852, and since that time has been engaged at his present business. Mr. Birdsell was born in Harrison, Hamilton Co., Ohio, on Christmas Day, 1825. His father, John Birdsell, a cooper by trade, was an old resident of Harrison, and died there some years ago. The mother who, before her marriage, was Miss Allen, departed this life when our subject was but a week old, and he never afterward saw his father.

Our subject, after the death of his mother, was taken into the family of John Richards, a German by birth and parentage, and they came to Dearborn County, Ind., young Birdsell remaining with them until he was seventeen years old. He then went to live with his brother-in-law, Joseph Lawson, the husband of his eldest sister, Sarah A. Mr. Lawson served through the late war, and afterward joined the standing army. He was with Custer's Division in Wyoming Territory at the time the hero of the frontier was killed. He was Captain of a company and on his way to reinforce Custer, but arrived only in time to witness the slaughter of the United States troops and the flight of the redskins. Capt. Lawson died in Wyoming Territory in 1883.

When twenty-four years old Mr. Birdsell left the home of his brother-in-law in Cincinnati, Ohio, and coming to Illinois, located in Randolph Township, this county. He was married to his sister-in-law, Mrs. Lavina (Passwater) Birdsell, who died on the 22d of September, 1883. By her first husband, William W. Birdsell, she had become the mother of five children, the record of whom is as follows: Jesse J. was born Aug. 26, 1829; Emily C., May

16, 1834; William F., Jan. 20, 1837; John S., May 25, 1839; Sarah C., April 20, 1842. Mr. and Mrs. B. united with the Christian Union Church soon after their marriage. Our subject is a Democrat politically, and socially is a Mason and an Odd Fellow, and is Past Grand of the Subordinate Lodge and a member of the Encampment. He has in all respects been an honest man and a good citizen, and is highly esteemed in his community.



**W**ILLIAM LASH, a veteran of the Mexican War and an early pioneer of the Prairie State, became a resident of this section in 1835. He was born in Miller Township, Knox Co., Ohio, Sept. 14, 1825. His father, Nathaniel Lash, was a native of the same county and State, and his grandfather, John Lash, was born in North Carolina. His great-grandfather was a native of Germany, and being desirous of emigrating to America and not having money to pay his passage, contracted with a North Carolina planter and worked for him to pay his passage. Locating in North Carolina he spent the balance of his life there, where his remains were buried long years ago. His son, the grandfather of our subject, died in Morrow County, Ohio, at the advanced age of ninety-seven years.

Nathaniel Lash, the father of our subject, was reared in his native State of Ohio, where he grew to manhood, in the meantime receiving a fair education in the public schools. He was there married, and continued in that State until 1833, when he emigrated to Illinois and settled in that portion of the State which was assigned afterward to Bureau County, the latter not being then organized. The elder Nash entered a claim, built a cabin and fenced a few acres. He there established a comfortable home, it being located about one and a half miles north of the now flourishing city of Princeton. There he spent the remainder of his life and died in June, 1834.

The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Charity Short, and she was born in Baltimore, Md. She came to Illinois with her family and died in Tazewell County in November, 1836. The parental household consisted of nine children, four

sons and five daughters, of whom the subject of our sketch was the fourth in order of birth. He was eight years old when his father came to Illinois. After the death of his mother he lived with Mr. Henshaw and grew to manhood in this county.

In 1846, during the progress of the Mexican War, Mr. Lash enlisted as a soldier in the 4th Illinois Infantry, Col. E. D. Baker commanding, and went to Mexico. He participated in the battles of Vera Cruz and Cerro Gordo, and engaged in the various other battles and skirmishes, serving until the close of the war, and receiving his honorable discharge in March, 1847. At the close of his military experience he returned to McLean County, and in 1851 set out overland for the gold fields of California. He started out from Dale Township on the 3d of April and drove an ox-team across the plains in company with a large party. He arrived in Oregon City on the 16th of August following, having crossed the Cascade Mountains, a distance of eighty miles, in four days. After arriving in California he entered the mines, and was occupied in digging for the yellow ore until July 15 of the following year. He then set out for home via the Isthmus and New Orleans, and the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers to Pekin, thence by stage to Bloomington.

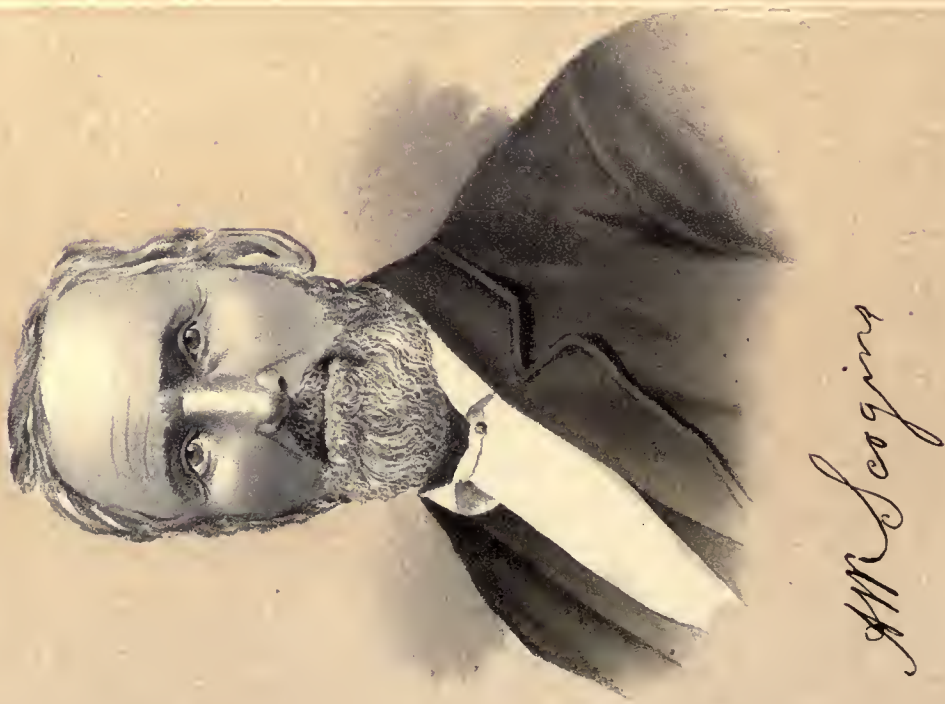
Mr. Lash, after remaining in Illinois until 1855, set out in the month of February for Texas, then, returning in April of the same year, settled upon the farm which he has since continuously occupied. He was married on the 20th of March, 1856, to Miss Susan Herring, who was a native of Richland County, Ohio, and a daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth (Ferguson) Herring. Their comfortable home is surrounded by the appliances of good taste and ample means, and Mr. Lash and his wife are enjoying the good things of this life and the highest esteem of their friends and fellow-citizens.

Mr. Lash has always been a conscientious Democrat and cast his first vote for Gen. Cass. He has had a large and useful experience in life, and has gathered much valuable knowledge from the scenes which he has witnessed during his travels over a large portion of the United States. As a leading representative citizen of this county we give a portrait of Mr. Lash on page 220.





Mr. J. Lash



Mr. Seegins

**J**OHAN M. WILLSON, proprietor of the Maple Grove Poultry and Vegetable Farm, of the West Side, Bloomington, engaged in business at his present farm in October, 1885, and has met with gratifying success. His poultry embraces the Brahma and Plymouth Rock species, and Mr. Willson exhibits some of the finest fowls to be seen in the market. His business is on the increase, and he purposes to carry on breeding extensively in the near future. Before coming to this locality Mr. Willson conducted a grocery trade at Lansing for a period of seventeen years and carried on the poultry business for four years. Of this latter he now has a thorough understanding, and the prospects are that he will build up a fine reputation in this department of business.

Mr. Willson is descended from English and Scottish ancestry, and was born in the county of Brant, Ontario, the date of his birth being Dec. 15, 1845. He was reared in his native Province, and came to the United States in 1867. His father, Joseph Willson, is still living, making his home with our subject. The mother, Eliza A. (Parsons) Willson, died at Lansing, Mich., July 3, 1879. Of the parental union there were born but two children, our subject and his sister Clarissa, who died at the age of fourteen years. The parents were born and reared in Upper Canada, and were active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church there.

John M. was educated in Wentworth County, and remained there until nearly grown. When fourteen years of age he visited Cleveland, Ohio, where he was employed as clerk in a store of general merchandise. Later he returned to Canada, and from there proceeded to Lansing and engaged in the grocery trade, as stated. There he was married to Miss Minnie Potter, who died after the birth of her first child. The child, Grace B., only survived its mother nine months. Mrs. Minnie Willson was born and reared in Michigan, and was a lady greatly beloved by her husband and friends for her amiable and excellent character.

Mr. Willson was the second time married, at Detroit, Mich., on the 29th of March, 1879, to Mrs. Josie (Bainbridge) Gally, the daughter of Prof. E. D. and Sarah (Pickett) Bainbridge, natives of New York. The father was a professor of music,

and was called one of the sweetest singers in the East. He graduated at Hamilton, N. Y., when eighteen years of age, and two years later began teaching and followed this profession until he rested from his earthly labors. Late in life he went to Detroit, Mich., and died there on the 29th of May, 1879. For many years he had been a resident of Rochester, N. Y. All his time and talents were devoted to the calling which he greatly loved, and while his musical talent drew around him a large circle of admiring friends, he was likewise valued for his kindly and courteous disposition and personal worth.

Mrs. Josie Willson was born in Seneca County, N. Y., Aug. 22, 1850. She inherited, in a large degree, the musical genius of her father, and when a child of five years old could readily play upon the several instruments which he possessed. She still plays skillfully, but without notes or after technical rules. She lived at home until her first marriage in Rochester to Mr. W. A. Gally, who died in about the year 1875. Our subject and wife are members in good standing of the Congregational Church, of which the former is a Trustee, and in politics he affiliates with the Republican party. Socially he belongs to the Masonic fraternity.



**C**APT. ANDREW W. SCOGIN, of Bloomington Township, whose portrait we give on a preceding page, owns and occupies a finely improved farm estate of 340 acres of well improved land, pleasantly located on section 18. He is carrying on the business of a general farmer, and in the management of large and important interests is meeting with success.

Capt. Scogin is a native of Hamilton County, Ohio, and was born on the 25th of March, 1823. His father, Joel A. O. Scogin, was a native of the same State and of excellent Scottish and Welsh descent. The mother, formerly Miss Hester Wakefield, was a native of the same State as her husband, whom she survived several years, removed to McLean County, Ill., and died in about 1875, at the advanced age of eighty-three years. Her husband

was cut down in the prime of life, and died in his native State and county.

The subject of our sketch was one of the elder children born to his parents and remained in his native county until he had arrived at the age of fourteen years. He then sought the more western country in company with his uncle, Joseph Wakefield, and they came to McLean County, Ill., settling in Randolph Township, and young Seogin remained with his uncle until his marriage. This interesting event occurred on the 26th of November, 1844, the maiden of his choice being Miss Elizabeth Karr, daughter of Thomas J. and Elizabeth (Kitchell) Karr, natives of New Jersey, the father a farmer by occupation. The young wife lived only a short time after the birth of her first child, her decease occurring Oct. 13, 1845. The child also died while young.

Mr. Seogin was the second time married, Jan. 19, 1847, in Bloomington Township, to Miss Eliza Low, who was a native of Lieking County, Ohio, and born Aug. 29, 1829. She became the mother of seven children, one of whom is now deceased, and died at her home in Bloomington Township on the 15th of November, 1863. The children are recorded as follows: Lee, the eldest born, married Miss Nettie Custer, of DeWitt County, Ill., and he is now carrying on farming operations in Dale Township; Jay B. is a farmer and carpenter, residing in Bloomington Township; he was married to Mrs. Victoria (Grow) Brown, a Kentucky lady. John N., of Bloomington, is employed at draying; he was married to Miss Nannie Kinzel, a native of this county. Frank, a farmer, is unmarried and resides at home; Hattie became the wife of Olid Lash, of Dale Township, and is now living with her father; Joseph W. is engaged in farming on the old homestead. These children constitute a fine family, have received a good education, and are all more than ordinarily bright and intelligent.

While yet a young man Mr. Seogin had served a thorough apprenticeship at the carpenter trade, at which he was engaged until after his second marriage, since which time he has been successfully engaged in farming pursuits. The homestead is finely located, and in all its appointments is well fitted for the operations of a first-class agriculturist. The

soil produces all kinds of cereals for the local market, and there is a sufficient amount of timber for the ordinary uses of the farm. Mr. S. owns valuable farm machinery of the latest improved pattern, and his barns and out-buildings are conveniently arranged for the storing of grain and the shelter of stock.

The mother of the family and two of her sons, Jay B. and Joseph, are devoted members of the Christian Church, and the entire family in a marked degree enjoys the confidence and esteem of the community. Mr. S. is Democratic in politics, and has taken a lively interest in the principles which he advocates and believes in. Some years since he was seriously affected by a stroke of paralysis, which greatly interfered with his former busy and energetic life.

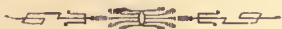
During the progress of the late Civil War Mr. Seogin assisted to organize a company of three months' men and was elected Captain. After they had reached Springfield they were pressed for six months' service or more, but owing to the urgency of business matters at home, some of the company, who had arranged their affairs for three months' absence and not for six, concluded to return home, and did so, with the credit of having the will and desire to serve their country to the best of their ability.

**G**EORGE O. FULLER, an enterprising farmer living on section 4, Old Town Township, is the son of Charles and Eliza (Griffin) Fuller, natives of York State. After their marriage the parents settled in Jefferson County, their native State, whence they removed to St. Lawrence County, and then back to Jefferson County, and there lived until 1865, the father engaged the while in farming. During the latter year they came to McLean County, and taking up their residence in Old Town Township, continued to live as man and wife until October, 1882, when he was struck by lightning and instantly killed. She survives him and is a resident of Old Town Township. Their union was blest by the birth of six sons and five daughters, and George O. was the third in order of birth.

Mr. Fuller of this notice was born in St. Lawrence

County, N. Y., Dec. 6, 1842. He received his education in the common schools and worked on the farm in his native county until 1865, when he came with his parents to this county and settled with them in Old Town Township. Thus far in life his years have been passed in agricultural pursuits, in which he has met with moderate success. He is at present the owner of an eighty-acre farm, located on section 4, Old Town Township, on which he has good and substantial farm buildings, and is there engaged in the general routine of a farmer's life.

Mr. Fuller was married in Jefferson County, N. Y., Jan. 1, 1862, to Climena Groat, daughter of Henry and Jane (Gibbons) Groat. Miss Groat's parents had three children, and she was born in Jefferson County, N. Y. The union of our subject with Miss Groat has been blest by the birth of two children, Myron and Allie, both living at home. Mr. Fuller became a soldier in the Union army in 1862, enlisting in the 13th New York Heavy Artillery and served three years. Receiving his discharge he returned to Jefferson County, N. Y., and there lived until coming here. In politics he is a Democrat.



**J**W. EVANS, a prominent and prosperous citizen of McLean County, is one of the stockholders and Director of the Bloomington Stove Works, and a lumber merchant, engaged in the manufacture of sash, doors and blinds, and also in contracting and building. Our subject was born in Cambria County, Pa., on the 12th of February, 1828, and is the son of John and Margaret (Jones) Evans, both natives of Montgomeryshire, Wales. His grandparents, John and Jane (Watkins) Evans, were also of Welsh ancestry and parentage, and were engaged in agricultural pursuits. Of their family of children John was the third.

John Evans was reared to farming pursuits, and attended school during his earlier years, and finally learned the blacksmith's trade in his native county. In 1818 he emigrated to America, and proceeded to Ebensburg, Pa., where he opened a blacksmith-shop, and after getting it fairly under way returned to his native land and was there married. Shortly

afterward he brought his bride back with him to Pennsylvania, where he resumed labor in his shop, and operated it for twelve years thereafter. He then purchased a farm about two miles from the village, which he occupied for about thirty years, and then retiring to the village departed this life there in 1877. He was a respected and useful citizen, a Deacon of the Congregational Church for many years, and held various offices in the county. He gave to each of his children a good education, and took an intelligent interest in all matters pertaining to the intellectual and moral advancement of his community. John Evans and his wife were the parents of six children—David, Mary, John W., Morris, Richard and Jane A., all of whom lived to become men and women.

The subject of this biography was reared on a farm, and attended school three months each year in the winter, until he was eighteen years old. A year afterward he went to learn the carpenter's trade with his uncle, David H. Roberts, of Ebensburg, where he served three years, and for two years following worked as a journeyman there. He then came West, in 1852, and visited Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, went north to Michigan and southwest to Missouri; then returned East to New York, and thence to New Jersey, where he remained a short time and from there went to his old home, having been gone a year. In 1854 he started westward once more by way of Louisiana, where he spent the winter and worked at his trade. From there he went up the river to Quincy, Ill., where he spent the summer, and in October of that year came to Bloomington, where he has since remained. He worked at his trade until March, 1855, and then formed a partnership with J. W. Hayes, and they engaged in contracting for the following eighteen years, until the death of Mr. H. During this time they put up more buildings than any other firm in the city, and during the time they operated together established a lumber-yard and built a planing-mill, in 1859, which was destroyed by fire in April, 1861. They immediately rebuilt and operated the same until the partnership was dissolved by death in 1873, since which time Mr. Evans, who purchased the interest of his partner, has continued the business alone. The main office is located on the corner of

Center and Mulberry streets, where the shops, built of brick, cover an area of 3,500 feet. Mr. Evans gives employment to thirty-five men; the lumberyards are on the opposite side of the street. Mr. Evans was one of the original organizers of the Bloomington Stove Works, and was President from 1885 to 1887. He has also been Treasurer, and was a Director from its organization.

The marriage of J. W. Evans and Miss Martha Williams took place in Ebensburg, Pa., May 20, 1860. Of this union there have been born six children, as follows: Fremont is engaged with his father in the lumber office; Cora, Roland, Fred, William and Susan are at home. The wife and mother departed this life in 1879, at the home of her husband in Bloomington. Mr. Evans and his family occupy a beautiful residence at the corner of Chestnut and Center streets, which was erected in 1864, at a cost of \$6,000. It is built of brick, and in furnishing and finishing is indicative of cultivated tastes and ample means.

Mr. Evans commenced life single-handed, without means or influence, and his present possessions are the result of his own industry and enterprise. He possesses marked business talent, and is well informed upon matters of general interest. He has been prominently identified with the affairs of the community since coming here, and among other positions of trust was Alderman of the Sixth Ward for five years, and has always contributed cheerfully of his time and means for the promotion and encouragement of whatever was calculated to be for the general welfare of the community. He is Republican in politics, and in all respects a representative citizen. Our subject is connected with the Presbyterian Church, of which Mrs. E. was also a member in good standing.



**S**AMUEL W. SUTHERLAND, deceased, formerly a resident on section 2, Old Town Township, was an offspring of Dr. John and Maria (Wilbor) Sutherland, natives of Columbia County, N. Y. After the marriage of

the parents they settled in Columbia County, where the father followed the practice of his profession and was also engaged in farming. He died there in 1842. She afterward married Samuel E. Hudson, of Newark, Wayne Co.; N. Y., and in 1858 they emigrated to this State and took up their residence in Old Town Township, this county, where he died in August, 1870. She afterward made her home with her son Samuel, and departed this life in Old Town Township, Oct. 20, 1886. She was of a quiet, retiring disposition, and was loved for her acts of Christian charity and kindness. By her first marriage she became the mother of two children, who lived to attain the age of man and womanhood. Our subject was the elder, and Caroline A., the younger. The latter became the wife of R. P. Layton, and died at Roekford, Ill., one year after her marriage.

Samuel Sutherland was born at Chatham Center, Columbia Co., N. Y., May 28, 1826. He was reared to farm labor and supplemented his education received in the common schools by a course of study at Kinderhook Academy, Kinderhook, N. Y., and still later attended the Rensselaer Institute, at Troy, N. Y., from which he graduated. He, however, aimed to follow none of the professions, but devoted his entire time to agricultural pursuits, and was thus occupied in Columbia County until 1856. In February of that year he came to this county with his wife and one child, and located in Old Town Township, purchasing nearly the whole of section 2, on which he located and followed his chosen calling until his death, which event occurred May 18, 1879.

Mr. Sutherland was married in Columbia County, N. Y., Dec. 26, 1849, to Miss Mary H. Rider, daughter of D. W. and Anna Rider, natives of York State, where the mother died in August, 1852. The father came to Henry County, Ill., subsequently removing to Iowa, where he departed this life. D. W. Rider was the father of six children, Mary H. Helen, Anna, Wilson, Adeline and D. W. Mrs. Sutherland was born in Chatham, N. Y., July 19, 1829, and has borne our subject seven children, three of whom are deceased; those living are Anna V., Edward W., John C. and Aliee M. Anna is the wife of Allan Brown. Mr. Sutherland was Township



Supervisor, and also held other minor offices during his life. He was a member of the Episcopal Church, and highly respected by all who knew him.



**H**ON. J. H. ROWELL, Congressman from the Fourteenth District of Illinois, having his residence at Bloomington, is a native of the Old Granite State, where he was born in 1833, and among the New England hills, in addition to a natural inheritance, imbibed those strong and worthy principles of character which have contributed to his success in life and to the building up of an honorable record. He is the son of J. B. and Cynthia (Abbott) Rowell, also natives of New Hampshire. The grandparents on both sides were natives of Massachusetts, and after the Revolutionary War, removed from their native State into New Hampshire. Both the great-grandfathers of our subject served on the side of the colonies in their struggle for independence, and were among the early settlers of the Bay State. They descended from a long line of honorable English ancestry, who were good citizens and straightforward business men, and mostly engaged in agricultural pursuits.

The parents of our subject removed from New Hampshire in 1849, to McLean County, Ill., and settled in Danvers Township. The father lived only one year after coming here, and his eldest son, Ira, took up a tract of 160 acres of land, upon which he built a house, improved a farm, and established a comfortable home, where the family lived for a number of years.

The subject of this history remained with his mother and her family until he was twenty-one years old; at sixteen years of age he commenced teaching school winters while employed on the farm during the summer seasons. He had made the most of his advantages, and given good attention to his books while in school. After leaving the farm he entered Eureka College in Woodford County, Ill., as a student, and remained for the following six years. In 1860-61 he was Professor of Mathematics. The Civil War being now in progress he enlisted in Co. G, 17th Ill. Vol. Inf., being elected

First Lieutenant, and after a year was given a Captain's commission, which he retained until his term of service expired. He was engaged with his regiment in the battles of Fts. Henry and Donelson, Shiloh, Hatchie, the sieges of Corinth and Vicksburg, and also in Meridian campaign. Intermingled with these were various skirmishes, in all of which he performed his part as became a soldier and a leader.

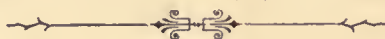
After receiving his honorable discharge from the army Capt. Rowell commenced the study of law in Chicago University, in which he made such rapid progress that he was admitted to the bar that same year, 1865, and commenced the practice of his profession in Bloomington, Ill. His evident talent received ready recognition, and he was elected to the office of State's Attorney from 1868 to 1872. He was a member of the Board of Education for six years, and Master in Chancery of McLean County for three years, in the meanwhile occupying other positions of trust and responsibility as a citizen and valued member of society.

Capt. Rowell was elected to represent the Fourteenth District in the United States Senate, first in 1882, and is now serving his third term as a national legislator. During this time his course has been straightforward and upright, and his influence has been exerted for the best good of the greatest number. He is by no means a party politician, but in his high position strives to follow a line of strict integrity, which shall reflect not only honor upon himself, but upon the judgment of those who have placed him there.

The subject of our sketch was united in marriage with Miss Maria Woods at Bloomington, in 1866. Mrs. Rowell was born in Alton, Ill., and is the adopted daughter of J. C. and Maria Woods, of that place. She is an accomplished and educated lady, being a graduate of Denmark Academy. Their household circle has been completed by the birth of five children, as follows: Chester H. and Cora M. are attending the Michigan University at Ann Arbor; Lawrence W. is a student at the High School in Bloomington; Elmer and Laura are at home. The family residence is pleasantly located at the corner of Walnut and Evans streets, and its inmates are surrounded by all the refinements of

modern life. They number among their friends the most cultivated people of the city.

Capt. Rowell is a member in good standing of the Christian Church, and socially belongs to the I. O. O. F., K. of P. and G. A. R. He has attained to his present high position solely by his own merits. He is social and genial in his disposition, a man who is faithful to his friends, strong in his sense of honor, and possesses hosts of friends, who rejoice in his prosperity as the just reward of his excellent qualities of mind and heart. Capt. Rowell has accumulated a comfortable property, is a stockholder in the National State Bank, and has an interest in the Home and Loan Association of Bloomington.



**H**UGH CAMPBELL, who is now living in ease and retirement at No. 904 Moulton street, Bloomington, is enjoying the results of an energetic and industrious life and the esteem and confidence of a large circle of friends. Mr. Campbell has been a resident of Illinois since 1835. His birth occurred on the 14th of January, 1812, his parents being James and Nancy (Jamieson) Campbell, natives of the same State as their son, and engaged in farming pursuits. Of their seven children four are now living—Hugh, John G., James and Emeline J. The parents removed to Missouri in 1854, where they passed the remainder of their days. Both were honored members of the Christian Church, and greatly esteemed by all who knew them.

Hugh Campbell remained with his parents and received a common-school education. After attaining his majority he left the parental roof, and worked on a farm for two and one-half years, then, in 1835, came to Morgan County, Ill. There he purchased a farm of 290 acres, upon which he lived for fifteen years, when he sold out and came to McLean County. Here he purchased 120 acres four and one-half miles southwest of Bloomington, where he remained from 1850 until 1886. He then moved into the city, and purchased the place where he now lives, consisting of a house and three lots, which forms a comfortable and attractive home.

In 1834 Mr. Campbell was united in marriage with Miss Catharine Frye, of Kentucky, and of their union there was born one child, a daughter, Adeline, now Mrs. Lawler, and the mother of two children—Hugh and Clarence Eugene. Mrs. Catharine Campbell departed this life in December, 1870, after being the companion of her husband for a period of thirty-six years.

The second wife of our subject was Mrs. Jane Simmons, a native of Montgomery County, Ill. She was born Jan. 9, 1828, and by her former husband, Hamilton Simmons, became the mother of eight children, of whom the record is as follows: John T. married Miss Dora Shurtz, and they have three children—Ashley, John M. and Nancy J.; Celestia married Oscar Shurtz, and they have two children—Alvin and William D.; Charles married Rebecca Miller, and they have two daughters—Teresa and Annie; Rosella became the wife of George Little, and is the mother of two children—Orville and George; David married Miss Alice Pricer, and their two children are named Clyde and Calvin; Lillie became the wife of James Hitehoek, and they have one son—Hugh O.; James Jefferson, born Aug. 11, 1863, was killed by lightning May 23, 1880, near Marengo, Iowa.

Mr. and Mrs. Campbell are worthy members of the Christian Church, and in politics our subject casts his vote with the Republican party. He became Supervisor in 1862, held the office three years, and has also been Road Commissioner and Township Trustee.

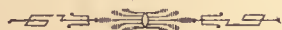


**R**UBEN G. BRIGHT, of the well-known firm of Dillon & Bright, importers and breeders of French horses at Normal, was born in Lincoln County, Ky., Sept. 25, 1852. The parents of our subject were Henry and Maria (Gentry) Bright, also natives of Lincoln County, where they lived until their death. The father was twice married, and by his first union had four children and by the second three.

Ruben G. Bright is the second child born of his father's first marriage. He was reared to manhood on a farm, and devoted his time to agriculture and

stock-raising, in the meantime receiving a common-school education, and supplemented by a course of study at Lexington College for two years. In 1870 our subject came to this State, and locating at Normal purchased a farm of ninety acres two and a half miles northeast of that city. On this place he located and engaged in its improvement and the raising of stock, and there met with success.

In 1874 Mr. Bright was united in marriage with Miss Sarah, daughter of Ellis and Martha Dillon. He then began to deal in French draft horses, and in 1882 made his first trip to France, and on his return brought with him ten head of horses of that breed. In 1884 he again went to France, and this time imported twenty head, six of them, however, being for other parties. In 1885 our subject formed a partnership with Adolphus Dillon, which relationship has continued until the present time, under the firm name of Dillon & Bright. Mr. Bright's wife departed this life April 28, 1881, leaving one daughter, Bernie. In politics Mr. Bright is a Democrat, although an earnest worker in the cause of temperance. In religion he holds fellowship with the Christian Church, and is one of the prominent and foremost citizens of the county.



**J**AMES K. ORENDORFF, deceased, was one of the oldest settlers of Bloomington Township, and died at his home in this township Jan. 1, 1875. He was a native of Christian County, Ky., and was born Dec. 28, 1812, being the first child of William and Sarah Orendorff. William Orendorff became the father of fourteen children by four different wives. (See sketch of Ohio H. P. Orendorff on another page in this work.)

The subject of our sketch emigrated North to Illinois with his father when he was only about six years old, his mother having died in Kentucky about two years previously. He remained with his father until he had attained to years of manhood, and was married in Bloomington Township, this county, to Miss Lavina Sayles. The wedding took place at the residence of the bride's mother, May 4, 1837. This lady was born in Howard County,

Mo., Jan. 23, 1821, and was the daughter of Elias and Sarah (Sayles) Sayles, natives of North Carolina, of Welsh and English ancestry, but of American parentage and Southern born. Elias Sayles was a farmer by occupation, and after his marriage in North Carolina removed first to Nashville, Tenn., thence to Southern Illinois, afterward to Howard County, Mo., whence they returned, in 1830, to the Prairie State and located in Sangamon County. The father subsequently went to the lead mines near Dubuque, Iowa, and died there Jan. 20, 1835. The mother, with her children, came into McLean County, and settled in Bloomington Township. The parental family consisted of nine children, all of whom except Mrs. O. of this notice have been dead for more than twenty years. The mother, in about May, 1844, went to Iowa, and died there in August, 1853.

After the marriage of our subject and his wife they went to Wisconsin, locating on Fox River, where they remained for four years, thence coming to McLean County, Ill., and settling in Bloomington Township, which remained their permanent home. In his earlier years Mr. Orendorff accumulated a handsome property, but by a series of misfortunes lost the greater part of it before he died. His widow is spending the sunset of her life on a part of the old homestead. She is a most excellent and worthy lady and has many warm friends in this county. Their family consisted of five children, two of whom are deceased; Perry married Miss Elizabeth Belleville, and resides on a farm in Sumner County, Kan.; James married Miss Barthana Quinn, and is farming on a part of the old homestead; his wife died near Shirley in 1878. Mary F. is unmarried and lives with her mother. The deceased are William and Sarah A.; the former was married, and left a wife and family who are residents of this county.

Politically Mr. Orendorff was a Whig, but in 1866 joined the ranks of the Democratic party. His family were closely connected with the history of this township, and were people of rare intelligence, good business qualities and principles of honor and honesty. The family history is somewhat remarkable and is of more than ordinary interest. They are widely represented in the United

States, and in October, 1886, held a family reunion in the city of Bloomington, at which were represented large numbers of their descendants, there being about 250 in attendance. The reunion occupied two days and evenings, and was a grand success in all of its features. The exercises were interspersed with speeches, toasts and music, and the various members of the family exhibited many old and valuable relics which have been preserved for more than a hundred years.

The Orendorffs are of German descent. In 1823, Christopher, William and Thomas came to this State, and the first named settled in Logan County, on Sugar Creek. Thomas took up a claim on what is now known as the Stephen Houghton place; he became the father of thirteen children. The Orendorffs of this locality are descendants of William and Thomas; those around Canton, of John Orendorff; those around Springfield, of Joseph, and those around Hopedale and Delavan, of Aaron, Enoch and Esau, the latter being brothers of another branch of the family. The various male members of the family have been represented in the State Senate, in the army, and have occupied various other important positions connected with public affairs. They are principally noted for owning mills of all kinds, and various members of the family have brought out several notable inventions. Capt. John Orendorff patented a reaping-machine similar to that of the McCormicks', but failed to reach the patent office before they had theirs entered. He patented a wool-carding machine, and spent twenty years trying to perfect perpetual motion.

The Orendorffs in Canton are connected with the famous plow company of that city, and Hon. Alfred O., of Springfield, at one time received the Democratic nomination for State Treasurer, and is now Chairman of the State Democratic Central Committee. They have been intimately identified with the business and industrial interests of the Prairie State since it was admitted into the Union, and have contributed their full quota toward developing its resources and building it up financially and otherwise. At the late reunion several members of the family came from Rondo, Polk Co., Mo., traveling the entire distance of 450 miles in

a wagon drawn by a mule-team, being fourteen and one-half days on the road. This simply illustrates a trait of the family, namely, that of sturdy perseverance and a determination to accomplish whatever they set about, and this has been the secret of their success in life, and assisted them to the position which they occupy in the history of the State of Illinois.



**J**OHN W. COOK, A. M., incumbent of the Chair of Mathematics, Illinois State Normal University, was born in Oneida County, N. Y., April 20, 1844, being the son of Harry D. and Joanna (Hall) Cook. In 1851 the family removed to Illinois, and settled in McLean County, where the father became prominent both as a business man and a politician, not only in that vicinity but throughout the State; his death occurred in 1873. The mother is still living, and resides at Normal.

The subject of this sketch completed his education in the Illinois State Normal University, whence he graduated in 1865. He then taught one year in the schools of Brimfield, Peoria County, at the end of which time he was placed in charge of one of the departments of the Model School, a position which he occupied for two years. During the seven years following he had charge of reading and elocution in the Illinois State Normal University, and since 1876 has been Professor of Mathematics.

Prof. Cook is a very active, energetic man, and besides giving due attention to his duties as teacher has found time to assist in many worthy enterprises. For twenty-six months, associated with Dr. E. C. Hewitt, he edited and published the *Illinois School Master*, and for three and one-half years the *Illinois School Journal*, being for two years assisted by Rudolph R. Reeder. He has, for fifteen years, given from four to ten weeks of his summer vacation to conducting institutes in different counties of the State. He has a genuine love for learning, which he has evinced by his numerous sacrifices of ease and profit.

The degree of A. M. was conferred upon Prof. Cook by Knox College in 1884. When Dr. Rich

ard Edwards, former President of the Illinois State Normal University, was elected State Superintendent of Public Instruction, he at once tendered Prof. Cook the position of Chief Clerk in his office, and in fact not a year passes that the latter is not offered some important and enviable position. But he has thus far refused to accept any of them, preferring to remain and labor for the institution which gave him his education.

Our subject is the author of "Cook's Methods of Written Arithmetic," which has passed through several editions. Like his father before him he takes great interest in political matters. Religiously he is connected with the Unitarian Church, and has been leader of the choir for some time.

Prof. John W. Cook was united in marriage with Miss Lydia F. Spofford, of North Andover, Mass., on the 26th of August, 1867. Mrs. Cook is the daughter of Farnham and Lydia Spofford, and was born in North Andover, Mass., in 1846, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of two children—Agnes S. and John L. Our subject and his family occupy a beautiful and tasteful home, and number among their warmest friends and associates the cultivated people of Normal.



**D**R. N. B. COLE, physician and surgeon of Bloomington, Ill., and who has made for himself a good record in his profession, is a native of Fairfield County, Ohio, where he was born Dec. 28, 1837. His parents were Broad and Leah (Peters) Cole, the former born on the 23d of September, 1802, and the latter Nov. 19, 1806. They were natives respectively of Ohio and Maryland, and were married in Fairfield County, Ohio, on the 7th of January, 1827. The parents of Broad Cole were Thomas and Elizabeth (Stevens) Cole, the father born in Huntingdon County, Pa., March 15, 1757, and the mother in May, 1759. Thomas Cole was a soldier of the War of 1812. In early life he removed with his parents to Ohio, they being among the early settlers of that State, locating there in 1800, when it was peopled chiefly by Indians. He built a log cabin in the wilder-

ness, and in due time became the proprietor of an extensive and valuable farm, which he had, by his own industry, eliminated from the forest. The family of Thomas and Elizabeth Cole included seven daughters and four sons, of whom all lived to years of maturity. The father passed the remainder of his days upon the homestead which he had established in the wilds of Ohio, and died Aug. 20, 1840, nine years after the death of his faithful partner, who had died Sept. 27, 1831.

The mother of our subject, Mrs. Leah (Peters) Cole, was the daughter of Samuel and Mary (Stephenson) Peters. They were of English ancestry, but American birth, both being natives of Baltimore, Md. After marriage they removed to Ohio, settling in Fairfield County in 1812, and engaged in farming pursuits. Samuel Peters was born Nov. 27, 1772, and departed this life in Ohio, Sept. 10, 1829. His wife, Mary, was born Sept. 28, 1773, and died in Ohio, Feb. 15, 1861. They had a family of thirteen children, nine sons and four daughters, all living to maturity, the first death being that of one of the sons at the age of thirty-seven years. They all lived in Ohio, engaged in farming and stock-dealing, and all, with one exception, became wealthy. That one, however, was a man of fine talents, and became prominently identified with public affairs.

Broad Cole, the father of our subject, received a fair education in the common schools, and was reared, lived and died on the farm where he was born. In the apportionment of property he received the homestead, and with that and other land in adjoining counties was the proprietor of 700 acres, and was largely interested as a stock-dealer. He had a family of fourteen children, four of whom died in infancy, and ten lived to mature years. Of these seven are now living and recorded as follows: Thomas is engaged in farming in Fairfield County, Ohio; David is similarly engaged in Blackford County, Ind.; the next is Dr. N. B., of our sketch; Jonathan S. is Principal of the Minier School of this county; Joseph R., who is possessed of much literary ability, is a resident of Brooklyn, and engaged as a historian; Lewis D. is engaged in farming in Fairfield County, Ohio; Henry is the youngest of the family, and occupies the old homestead.

The father of our subject died on the 25th of June, 1882, at the advanced age of eighty years; the mother is still living on the old homestead, and is eighty years old.

The subject of this history commenced attending school at a very early age, and pursued his studies until he was twenty, in the meantime filling vacations with farm work. He commenced the study of medicine on the 4th of April, 1857, at Lancaster, Ohio, and subsequently took two courses of lectures in New York City, whence he entered Long Island College Hospital, Brooklyn, and graduated on the 19th of July, 1860, being a member of the first class graduated from the institution. He returned to Licking County, Ohio, and commenced the practice of his profession at Etna, where he remained until April, 1862. The war being then in progress he entered the army as Assistant Surgeon, U. S. A., for a term of three months, with the 19th Ohio, and was with the regiment at the siege of Corinth, and was placed in charge of the Field Hospital of the 2d division of the 3d Army Corps. He then re-entered as Assistant Surgeon in the 50th Ohio Volunteers, of the 23d Army Corps, and remained in service until the close of the war.

After his return from the army Dr. Cole was united in marriage with Miss Matilda C. Evans, a native of Licking County, Ohio, who was born Sept. 24, 1839, and was the daughter of John and Margaret (Montgomery) Evans, of Pennsylvania and Ohio respectively. Her parents were married in about 1828. They lived upon a farm, and her father was engaged in agriculture and stock-raising.

After their marriage Dr. and Mrs. Cole came to Bloomington, arriving here Nov. 1, 1865, and since that time our subject has followed his profession continuously and built up a large and lucrative practice. He belongs to the County, State and National Medical Associations, and has been a member of the United States Examining Pension Board for twelve years. Politically he affiliates with the Republican party, and socially is a member in good standing of the G. A. R., and Union Veterans Union.

The Doctor and Mrs. C. have become the parents of three children—Carrie L., Evens N. and Leah M., all living. The family occupy a hand-

some and convenient residence, which the Doctor built in 1866, and which is located at No. 1105 North Main street. The parents and one daughter are members of Grace Methodist Church, of which Dr. Cole has been a Steward for ten years. He has, in all respects, fulfilled the obligations of a good citizen, and as a physician has hosts of patrons and friends. His office is located at No. 106 West Washington street, Bloomington.



**J**OHAN CAMPBELL, D. D. S., residing at Bloomington, is a native of West Virginia, born in 1833. He is the son of Archibald and Susan (Jones) Campbell, natives of West Virginia, where the father followed the calling of a farmer. Nine children were born of the parental union, five of whom are now living. The subject of this notice was reared to the calling of a farmer, and lived with the old folk until he was twenty years old. His early education was received in the common schools, and supplemented by an academical course at Union, Monroe Co., W. Va. His preceptor was Rev. Samuel Houston, a Presbyterian clergyman. After leaving school our subject began the practice of dentistry, borrowing \$50 wherewith to purchase his first case of dental instruments.

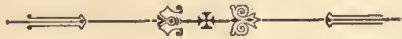
Our subject continued this profession until the breaking out of the late Civil War in 1861, when he enlisted in Co. F., 22d West Virginia Volunteers, as Lieutenant. He resigned his office during the first year of service, and while at home was elected Captain, and returning to the field of conflict continued in the service until the close of the war. He participated in the battle of Fisher Hill, where he received two wounds, one in the left shoulder and one in the left hip. At the battle of New Market he received a flesh wound in the foot. Here he was ordered to charge the pits of the enemy, and starting on a run, our subject at the head of his men soon fell into the pit himself, and that, too, right on top of two of the enemy. He immediately demanded their surrender, and they, doubtless thinking there were many more to assist him in their capture, there and then surrendered,

although they were afraid to stick their heads out of the pit. Mr. Campbell told them to throw up their hats and get out, and they did so.

After returning from the war Mr. Campbell once more entered upon the peaceful pursuits of life and engaged in farming in West Virginia. This he continued for about one year, and March 18, 1866, we find him at Bloomington, Ill., with a cash capital of seventy-five cents in his pocket. He, however, had a large amount of energy, and was determined to succeed in the practice of his profession, and engaged in partnership with his cousin, Dr. J. M. Skaggs, at Danvers. This relationship continued for about eight months, at the expiration of which time Dr. Campbell opened an office at Leroy, and there practiced his profession until 1868. During this time, however, he practiced three months of each year at Concord, Mo. During the years 1869-70 he was a student in the Dental College at St. Louis, where he received his degree of D. D. S.

Coming to Bloomington in 1870 Dr. Campbell opened an office at No. 208 North Center street, and at once entered upon practice as Dental Surgeon and there remained for two years. He then changed his location to the corner of Center and Jefferson streets, where he is at present located, and where he is meeting with success.

Mr. Campbell was married to Miss Katie Jarrett, of West Virginia, in 1879. She is the daughter of Ira and Eveline (Johnson) Jarrett, natives of West Virginia. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Campbell, one daughter, Nettie J., has been born. The Doctor is a member of the Illinois Dental, State Dental and the Central Illinois Dental Associations. He is Democratic in politics, and has been a member of the Masonic fraternity since 1863.



**J**S. BAY, one of the old settlers of this county and now a retired farmer, is living at his comfortable home in Bloomington Township. He is pleasantly located on section 15, and has at this place fifty-four acres of land. He also has a small farm south of his home, in the same township. Mr. Bay became a resident

of McLean County in 1837, at once making his location in Bloomington Township, and with the exception of eight years has made this township his home since that time. During this interval he resided in Piatt County and carried on farming, but chose this locality for his final home.

The subject of our sketch was born near Mechanicsburg, Champaign Co., Ohio, on the 30th of March, 1816. His father, William Bay, was a native of Pennsylvania, and of Scotch-Irish ancestry. He went to Champaign County, Ohio, in early manhood, and was there united in marriage with Miss Susanna Hudson, a native of Baltimore, Md., and descended from the same races as her husband. They lived in Ohio for some years after their marriage, and until after the birth of five children. The elder Bay then decided to go westward for a permanent location. Accordingly, with his family, he emigrated to Indiana in 1824, and they took up their first location in Indianapolis, where they remained for a period of fifteen years, during which time five more children were added to the household circle.

In 1836, with his wife and family, Mr. Bay removed to McHenry County, Ill., and afterward came to McLean County and settled one and one-half miles west of the city of Bloomington. There they remained for ten years, and afterward removed within the city limits. While upon a visit at Galesburg, Knox County, the father was taken ill, and died there on the 30th of August, 1844. The mother survived him for a period of twenty-four years, and departed this life at her home in McLean County in September, 1868. They were most excellent and worthy people and were highly respected in the community. William Bay was an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and officiated as local minister the greater part of his life. He was not especially educated for this work, but possessed fine abilities as a speaker, and was more than ordinarily intelligent.

J. S. Bay commenced doing business for himself when quite a youth, his first employment away from home being that of mail carrier between Indianapolis and Madison, Ind. He held this important position for eight years, and after the first year was the general and special agent of the post-office

department and was only sixteen years old when he first engaged as mail agent.

After coming to McLean County Mr. Bay was married to Miss Sarah Routt, in February, 1840. Mrs. Bay was a sister of ex-Gov. Routt, of Colorado. She was born in Kentucky, but her parents dying when she was young, she came North to Illinois with her uncle, with whom she lived until her marriage with our subject, and after becoming the mother of two children, died on the 17th of March, 1844, a little more than four years after her marriage. One of the children is deceased, and the other, Sarah by name, is the widow of Edwin S. Walker, who was a nephew of the late Judge David Davis; Cornelia died at the age of four years.

Mr. Bay was the second time married, in Warren County, Ill., Sept. 27, 1846, to Miss Alvina Bay, who was a native of Ohio and was born Jan. 26, 1828. This lady became the mother of ten children, and departed this life Nov. 6, 1882, at the age of fifty-four years. The children of Mr. Bay by his second marriage were as follows: Manfred J., Lidia A. and William are married; Mary I. is deceased; Clara E. and Hattie are married; Fannie is deceased, and the remainder are at home—Edwin R., John S. and Charles E.

Mr. Bay married his present wife in Vermilion County, Ill., Sept. 11, 1884, the lady being Miss Mary F. Reid, of Champaign County, Ohio. She was born Dec. 6, 1859, and came to Vermilion County, Ill., while a young child, where she was reared and received her education. She was one of the younger children of her parents' family, and at the age of seventeen became a teacher in the public schools, and was thus engaged in this township for some years before her marriage. She became the mother of one child, Ralph S., who died in infancy.

Mr. Bay has occupied a prominent position among his fellow-townsmen since coming to this locality. He was Constable for twelve years and has served as Deputy Sheriff. Politically he is a staunch Republican, and both our subject and wife are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The homestead of Mr. Bay is very pleasantly located, and his family are surrounded by all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life. Their

home and its surroundings indicate the presence of cultivated taste and refinement, and they enjoy the highest respect of their friends and associates.



**W**ILLIAM M. BRIGHT, importer and breeder of French draft horses, is also extensively engaged in the culture of small fruits, and is the occupant of a fine homestead in Normal, from which he dispenses a generous hospitality, and enjoys the association and friendship of the cultured people of this locality. Mr. Bright is a native of Lincoln County, Ky., and was born Oct. 23, 1835, his parents being John and Elizabeth (Morrison) Bright, natives of the same State, where they spent their entire lives and were finally laid peacefully away for their final rest. The parental family of our subject included nine children, all of whom reached mature years, and seven are still living.

The subject of this history was next to the youngest of his parents' family, and was reared to farming pursuits. After pursuing his primary studies in the common schools, he entered the academy at Stanford, Ky., and after completing a course in 1857, accompanied his brother-in-law, James Givens, to Illinois. The two together purchased section 2 of Normal Township, in this county, which they retained possession of until 1865. In the meantime young Bright had returned to his native State and remained there until 1861, when he came back to McLean County, which has since been his home. In the spring of 1866 he removed within the city limits of Normal, where he owns 100 acres on three sides of the Soldier's Orphans' Home, besides forty acres outside of the city. Until 1882 he gave his principal attention to the growing of small fruits, then, through the influence of his nephew, R. G. Bright, he imported four French draft mares, and has since devoted a large portion of his time to the breeding of horses. Before this, however, he had raised a number of Kentucky saddle horses, and already attained quite a reputation in this line.

The subject of this sketch was married near Danville, Ky., in 1864, to Miss Mary E. Bruce, who



was born near that city on the 2d of November, 1842, and was the daughter of Henry and Mary E. (Pope) Bruce. Of this union there were born seven children, of whom one son died at the age of five years, and six are now living. They were named respectively, John H., James G., Mary E., Bruce, Fannie M. and Reuben G.

**D**M. DICKINSON, a retired farmer, now owns and occupies a handsome residence at No. 1417 North Main street, Bloomington. He is a native of the Prairie State, having been born in Pike County, Oct. 29, 1842. His parents were Eliada and Lois B. (Fancher) Dickinson natives of Marlborough, Conn., the father born in 1810, and the mother in 1812. They were married in their native State, where the elder Dickinson was employed in a brass bell foundry, and they remained in New England until 1831. They then emigrated to the West, and the father of our subject purchased 500 acres of Government land in Pike County, this State. He first put up a log house, in which all the children, except the youngest, were born. The family lived on the farm until 1856, and then moved into the town of Perry, where the father engaged in mercantile business until 1861. He then purchased 200 acres of land in Sangamon County, near Springfield, and engaged there in farming three years. In 1865 he purchased 400 acres in this county, which he occupied until 1877, and then removed to Leroy, where he now lives in ease and comfort, retired from active business. The wife and mother departed this life in 1864. Their three children were Sarah A., now Mrs. I. P. Cook, of Le Roy; D. M., our subject, and Mary T., Mrs. J. C. Williams, of Blanchard, Iowa. The father of our subject is Republican in politics, and religiously inclines to Unitarian doctrines.

The subject of this biography was reared on his father's farm in Pike County, and still remembers it as it was before being relieved from its original condition. It was then covered with a thick growth of brush and trees, and he recollects cutting this and driving cattle through to break it down. His primary studies were conducted in a log cabin with

puneheon floor, and seats made of slabs, with round pins for legs. He continued to work on the farm and attend school during the winter seasons until 1856. He was studious and interested in his books, and being bright and observant, received a useful and practical education. After graduating from the log cabin he attended the public school in Perry for two years, and officiated as clerk in his father's store during the intervals from study. Two years later he entered the college at Quincy, Ill., where he pursued the study of English and German for one year, then commenced teaching in Pike County, and followed the same until the breaking out of the war.

Mr. Dickinson then enlisted in Co. B, 99th Ill. Vol. Inf., being engaged in the service three years and one month, and participating in the battles of Hartsville, Mo., Magnolia Hill, Port Gibson, Raymond, Miss., Jackson, both before and after the siege, Champion Hills, Black River Bridge, the siege of Vicksburg, lasting from the 19th of May until the 3d of July, the Banks expedition up the Red River, the capture of Ft. Esperanzo, Tex., and of Spanish Fort, Blakesley and Mobile, besides many minor engagements. He received but one wound during the campaign, and that at Magnolia Hill. The ball struck his pocket-knife, breaking both sides of the handle off, and bending the frame into the shape of the letter "E," and glancing off struck him in the groin and lodged in the butt end of his musket. At Jackson, Miss., a canister ball passed through his hat, slightly grazing the top of his head.

After receiving an honorable discharge at the close of the war Mr. Dickinson came to McLean County, and with what money he had saved and a loan from his father he purchased a farm of 240 acres in West Township. To this he afterward added eighty acres. It is all prairie and is now finely improved with a handsome and substantial residence, good barns, and all necessary out-buildings. Mr. D. labored industriously and perseveringly, and was universally conceded to be one of the leading farmers of this section. He still owns the farm property. He formerly was quite extensively engaged in the raising of grain and cattle, but the farm is now principally devoted to grain.

Mr. D. occupied it until 1882, then purchased his present place in Bloomington for the sum of \$4,000.

The marriage of Mr. Dickinson and Miss M. I. Williams was celebrated at the home of the bride's parents, Feb. 28, 1867. Mrs. D. is a native of Indiana, being the daughter of John and Amanda (Bush) Williams, natives of Jamestown, the same State. The parental family included ten children, six now living: Mrs. L. Wileox, Mrs. D. M. Dickinson, James M., Mrs. Joseph Taylor, Mrs. Frank Duneau and Charles W.

Our subject and his wife have three children—Clara L., Melvina and Eliada. Mr. D. is a Republican in politics, and an honored member of the G. A. R. He has been Treasurer, Town Clerk, School Director and Commissioner of Highways, and in other respects has assisted in the growth and prosperity of Bloomington Township. He is an active member of the Unitarian Church, and Chairman of the Board of Trustees.



**O**LIVER H. P. ORENDORFF. There are yet living a few of the early settlers of McLean County, among the first of whom was the family whose history we purpose briefly to relate in this personal notice of the oldest member now living. Mr. Orendorff has been a resident of Bloomington Township since 1823, having come here on the 2d day of May of that year. He was the third in order of birth of eight sons and five daughters, and his father, William, was born in Georgia, March 26, 1792. His grandfather, Christopher, is supposed to have been a native of Virginia, and was of German ancestry and parentage. The history of the family in the United States dates back prior to the Revolutionary War. Christopher Orendorff was a farmer and miller by occupation, and removed from his native State to Illinois, where he permanently located after having been a citizen of several other States of the Union. He died in Logan County at the age of sixty-five years.

William Orendorff, the father of our subject, when a young man removed from Georgia to North Carolina and thence to Tennessee. Later he went

into Kentucky, and at the age of nineteen years was married to Miss Sarah Nichols, who became the mother of three children, two sons and one daughter. While still a young woman she departed this life in the State of Kentucky. Mr. O. was the second time married, after coming to Illinois, to Miss Lovina Sayles, a native of the State of Tennessee, and who became the mother of five children, of whom our subject is the eldest son and second child. William Orendorff came to Illinois in 1816, locating in St. Clair, whence he removed to McLean County in 1823, and settled in Bloomington Township. There were then but very few white people in this region, the family of Mr. O. being the second one to make settlement in the township, and here the mother of our subject died on the 9th of November, 1831.

The third wife of William Orendorff was Miss Susan Ogden, to whom he was married in this county in 1834. This lady became the mother of two children, a son and daughter, and died in 1844. William Orendorff married his fourth wife, Miss Naomi Able, on his sixty-second birthday, and of this union there were born four children, all of whom are yet living. There was a difference of fifty-four years between the birth of his first and last child. He and his last wife are now both deceased. He was born March 26, 1792, and died May 12, 1869. Mrs. Naomi Orendorff survived him only two years, dying in 1871. He was the father of fourteen children, seven of whom are yet living. William Orendorff was a man of more than ordinary ability, and became prominent in the affairs of his adopted township and county. After coming to this locality he was appointed Justice of the Peace, and had jurisdiction over a large portion of this State while it was yet a Territory, and upon the organization of the county and township he held the various local offices.

The subject of this history lived with his father until he was twenty-two years of age. His brother, John Lewis, was the first male child born in Bloomington Township, his birth occurring Jan. 20, 1826. After our subject had attained his majority he was married at the home of the bride's parents in this township, to Miss Sarah L. S. Hendricks, daughter of John and Jane (Brittin) Hendricks.

Mrs. O. was born in McLean County, July 24, 1831, and remained under the parental roof until her marriage. Her father was a Virginian by birth, and a direct lineal descendant of President Taylor. His daughter Elizabeth, the eldest sister of Mrs. O., was the first white child born in McLean County; her birth occurring on the 3d of May, 1823. The family history was interesting and eventful, and one which its later descendants may peruse with pride and satisfaction.

John Hendricks and Jane Brittin were united in marriage in Champaign County, Ohio, and settling upon a farm in that county remained for some years, when they decided upon a removal further West. Accordingly, in 1821, they set out overland for the Prairie State, arriving here in the fall of the year, and spending the first winter near the growing village of Springfield. Early in the spring they set out for their final destination, McLean County, and established a home on section 27, in Bloomington Township, upon which they remained until they closed their eyes to the scenes of earth. The father died Jan. 15, 1838, and the mother Dec. 17, 1856.

Mr. and Mrs. Hendricks were devoted Christians and prominently connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church. They were extremely hospitable and charitable, and their doors were always open for the weary, whether stranger or neighbor. They were generous to a fault, and would rob themselves to contribute to the comfort of others. Their home was the place of meeting for the Methodist Episcopal congregation for a number of years, and the father was a Class-Leader in that denomination for a long period. This excellent and worthy pair were known throughout the county as Uncle John and Aunt Jane Hendricks. Mr. H. was a staunch Whig in politics and died before the old party was abandoned.

Mrs. Orendorff's birth occurred on section 27, in this township, July 24, 1831. When but in her seventh year her father died and she was reared by her mother, with whom she remained until her marriage. By her union with our subject she became the mother of two children: Mary J., the wife of William M. Cox, a farmer of Bloomington Township, and George P., who married Miss Ceatta Hol-

lis, and is at present residing on his father's farm.

Mr. and Mrs. O. are connected with the Christian Church of Bloomington Township. Our subject has held the offices of his township, and was once a candidate for Sheriff. He once received a fine silver spoon which was given as a prize to the oldest settler who should be present at the Logan County Fair, held in Atlanta. Each county had three representatives, Mr. O. being the oldest one present.

The homestead of Mr. Orendorff is pleasantly located on section 27, and he is surrounded by all the comforts of life. He has been engaged in agricultural pursuits the greater part of his life, and has uniformly met with success, which is the reward of industry and perseverance.



**D**R. E. K. CROTHERS, physician and surgeon, optician and oculist, of Bloomington, Ill., occupies a high position in the profession in this locality as a gentleman well versed in its intricacies and faithful in the discharge of his professional duties. Dr. Crothers is a native of Mt. Pleasant, Jefferson Co., Ohio, and was born Oct. 29, 1826. He is the son of Noble and Rachel (Brown) Crothers, natives of Pennsylvania, and his father followed the occupation of a farmer. They left Ohio in the spring of 1835, and coming to the Prairie State purchased a large tract of land in Putnam County, which they occupied for two years. Noble Crothers then sold out and returned to Ohio. After two years he came back to Illinois, and locating in Fulton County, purchased another tract of land, which he devoted to stock-raising, and also engaged in buying and selling, becoming the leading stockman of that county. He continued in this business until he retired from active labor, and departed this life on the 1st of March, 1880, having survived his wife over forty years, the death of the mother occurring in 1837, in Fulton County, Ill. The parental family included five children, who grew to mature years: Casaline M., Mrs. Parker, after having been a resident of Fulton County for forty-nine years, removed to Chicago, and is now the inmate of the home of her son, Dr. Edwin S. Parker; she became

the mother of four children: Dr. Jordan Parker, of Fulton, Ill.; Lonisa, Mrs. Jenkins, living near Vermont, Ill.; William, of Bloomington, and Dr. Edwin S., of Chicago. Rev. Warren B., who for thirty years was a Methodist preacher for the counties of Knox, Fulton and McDonough, and is now in Washington Territory; Dr. William R., of Delavan, is the leading physician and surgeon of Tazewell County; Vincent, now deceased, was a prominent stock-dealer of Fulton County, and after having been in a snow blockade near Chicago, and having exhausted himself in an effort to open the blockade, he died from exposure that night at Chicago.

Dr. Crothers of our sketch spent his youth partly upon his father's farm and in attendance at school until the summer of 1845, when he occupied himself as a teacher for five months in the district school. In the fall of that year he commenced the study of medicine with Dr. William H. Nance, of Vermont, Ill., and during the winter of 1847-48 attended medical lectures at St. Louis. The winter following he went East, and took a course of study in the Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia, from which he graduated in 1850. He then came directly to Bloomington and commenced the practice of his profession, in which he has been continuously engaged since that time, and is the oldest physician now living here and engaged in practice. He commenced with a capital of \$10 in cash and his medicine box, and was a stranger to the people. The first month his expenses were \$100 over his income, but the tables were soon turned and his patrons increased as time went by, so that he now has a practice extending over a radius of twenty miles in each direction. Since 1865 he has given especial attention to the treatment of the eye and ear, in which he has become very proficient. In the meantime he attended another course at Philadelphia, devoted to the study of the eye and ear at Wills Hospital, and probably has had more experience in this direction than any of his colleagues in this locality.

Dr. Crothers was married on the 1st of May, 1851, to Miss Maria L. DePew. Mrs. C. is a native of Indianapolis, Ind., and the daughter of Elijah DePew, a prominent merchant and stock-

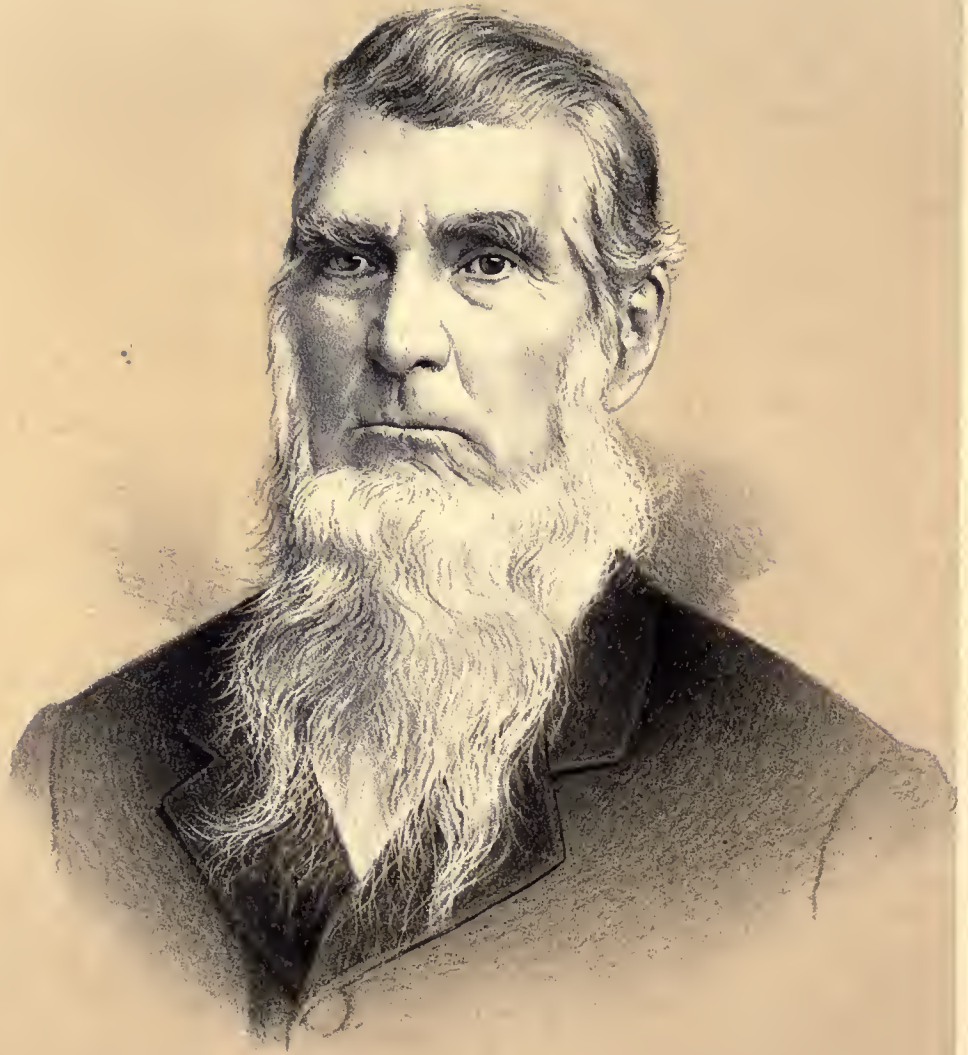
dealer of Bloomington. The Doctor and Mrs. C. have become the parents of four children: Noble E., a jeweler of Paxton, Ill.; Lulu, at home; E. K., Jr., also engaged in the jewelry business, and Rachel. In 1874 Mrs. Crothers commenced the study of medicine under the instruction of her husband, and three years later attended the Woman's College of Pennsylvania, at Philadelphia, and afterward the Woman's Medical College of Chicago. In the winter of 1882-83 she returned to Philadelphia, and graduated in the class of 1883, and is now the acknowledged leading lady physician of Central Illinois. They occupy a handsome and attractive home in the city of Bloomington, and are valued and useful members of society. The Doctor is Republican in politics, and belongs to the McLean County Medical Society.

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**D**A. CREED, editor and publisher of the *Heyworth Standard*, is a resident of Bloomington, and the son of Austin G. and Minerva S. (Shannon) Creed, his mother being the daughter of Capt. Shannon, of Bloomington, now deceased. Austin G. Creed is a contractor and builder, and the parental household included two children only, our subject and his brother Shannon.

The subject of this sketch was born at Berryville, Highland Co., Ohio, Aug. 10, 1853. He resided there with his parents until twelve years of age, and the family then removed to Hillsboro, where he attended school in the winter and worked on a farm during the summer season. He graduated from Hillsboro High School in the spring of 1868, and the following year removed with his parents to Chillicothe, Mo., where he taught school for several months, and then, having a desire to be a printer, entered the office of the *Chillicothe Tribune* to learn the trade. He served a full apprenticeship, and was afterward made local editor of the *Tribune*, which position he held until his removal to Bloomington, where he arrived Nov. 25, 1874. He worked at the case in the *Leader* and other printing-offices in Bloomington until December, 1875, when he formed a partnership with Mr.





*Jonathan Park.*

F. M. Doxsee, and purchased the outfit of a job office, which they operated until the following June. They then removed to Ford County, and for six months were occupied in the printing of a Democratic campaign paper. After the election they returned to Bloomington, and Mr. Creed, purchasing the interest and stock of his partner, established the *Democratic News*, which he edited and published until the fall of 1879. He then sold out to Mr. L. L. Burr, who merged the paper into the *Bulletin*, the present Democratic organ. In 1880 Mr. Creed purchased another printing-office, and has since carried on a job and newspaper business.

Mr. Creed was married, Oct. 7, 1879, to Miss Jessie E. Stump, and of this union has been born one child, a daughter, L. H. They occupy a pleasant and attractive home at No. 715 South Water street.



**E**LDER JONATHAN PARK, whose portrait is shown in connection with this sketch, is a pioneer of 1853, and a resident of section 26, Dale Township. He was born in Madison County, Ky., on the 14th of July, 1815. His father, Eli Park, was a native of North Carolina, and his grandfather, Ebenezer Park, who was born in Virginia, was of excellent English ancestry, and removed from his native State to North Carolina when a young man. His father had died when he was a child, and after he became of suitable years he was apprenticed to learn the trade of a tailor. This, however, was unsuited to his taste, and he abandoned his trade, and going to North Carolina married, and engaged in farming pursuits. During the early settlement of Kentucky he removed his family there, it being before the day of carriage roads, and the journey was performed with pack-horses. This was about 1795. Ebenezer Park, after his arrival in Kentucky, purchased a tract of timber land in Madison County, cleared a farm from the wilderness, and established a comfortable home, where he remained until his death, which occurred at the advanced age of ninety-three years. The maiden of his early choice, to whom he was married soon after his arrival in North Carolina, was Miss Tabitha Mills. She accompanied her hus-

band to Kentucky, and died there in Madison County.

Eli Park, the son of Ebenezer and Tabitha (Mills) Park, and the father of our subject, was a little boy seven years old when his parents removed from North Carolina to Kentucky. He grew to manhood in the latter State, and was there married to Miss Winnifred Dillingham. He then purchased a tract of land in Madison County, and entering upon agricultural pursuits made that the business of his life. He departed from the scenes of his earthly labors on the 6th of December, 1858, at the age of seventy years, four months and twenty-seven days. His wife had preceded her husband to the better land on the 19th of December, 1854, at the age of fifty-nine years, three months and nine days. They were excellent and worthy people, and of their family of twelve children they reared eleven to maturity, and instilled in them principles of virtue and honor.

Jonathan Park of our sketch was the fourth child and third son of his parents. Free schools had not been established when he was a child, and his early education was received in the subscription schools of his native county. He was reared to habits of industry, and when not in school was engaged in the lighter duties around the homestead and made his home with his parents until he had attained his majority. He then started out in business for himself and rented a tract of land about ten miles from his old home, which he cultivated for two or three years, and then purchased a few acres in Madison County. He there industriously engaged in farming pursuits, and as time passed he added by degrees to his first purchase until he was the possessor of 120 acres. This he sold in 1853, and started North with his family, including his wife and six children, for the prairies of Illinois. They made the journey overland and their outfit consisted of four horses and two wagons. They carried with them their household goods and provisions, camped and cooked by the wayside, and slept in the wagons at night. After eighteen days of continuous travel they landed in McLean County. Mr. Park had visited the State the previous fall, on horseback, but had not made any purchase of land, and after his arrival here with his family

they spent the winter in a house belonging to Hiram Quinn, whose name is frequently mentioned in connection with the history of the early pioneers of this county.

During this time Mr. Park had been looking about with an eye to business and had purchased 106 acres of land in Dale Township on section 26, which constitutes his present homestead. Of this there were forty acres broken, and a portion of the land fenced, but there were no buildings upon it. Mr. Park erected a temporary shelter for his family, and during the following summer built the more substantial residence which has been his home since that time. He did all the carpenter work himself, which he feels a just pride in saying was well done. He also carried on the improvement and cultivation of his land, and subsequently added to his acreage until he is now the possessor of 226 acres, with a good set of frame buildings and a generous supply of grain and stock. He has been successful in his business transactions, and has conducted himself in that straightforward, honest and methodical manner which has secured him the esteem and confidence of his neighbors and fellow-citizens.

The subject of our sketch was united in marriage with Miss Barthana Quinn on the 6th day of October, 1836, in Madison County, Ky. Mrs. Park was born in the latter named county Oct. 27, 1818, and removed with her husband and children to this State. She remained the faithful companion of her husband for a period of fifty-four years, and departed this life on the 20th of August, 1882, in Dale Township. Their family included ten children, seven of whom are now living; the record is as follows: Minerva E. became the wife of J. J. Denham, and lives in Dale Township; Sidney Q. is also a resident of that township; Alwilda is at home; Eli is in California; Rhoda married T. E. Cutting and lives in Bloomington, Ill.; Sallie, the wife of S. F. Clark, lives on the old homestead; Luey married John C. Douglas, and they live in Madison County, Ky.; Hiram, the sixth child, was born Nov. 4, 1846, and died Sept. 1st, 1870; Mary, the youngest child, was born March 20, 1862, and died March 22, 1882; one died in infancy unnamed.

Mr. Park became a member of the Christian

Church in 1843, and his wife two years later. He commenced preaching in 1852, and was ordained in Kentucky, that same year, as a minister of the Christian Church. He preached at Grassy Ridge Church, alternately with John G. Campbell, two or three years, in a school-house, and then a church building was erected, and they continued their ministerial labors together until 1858. The Christian Church of Dale Township was then organized in a school-house on section 26, and Mr. Park was the first preacher who ministered to the spiritual wants of the congregation and continued to perform this office until the church building was erected in Shirley. He is now afflicted with throat trouble, and has been able to speak but little within the past six or seven years. Mr. Park has recently bought a home in Bloomington, where he will soon move, to spend the remainder of his days.

During his residence in Kentucky Mr. Park was a member of the State militia and held commissions as Captain and Major. He is a gentleman of good abilities, and has filled many offices of trust in Dale Township. He has been Justice of the Peace, Assessor and School Director, and to whatever position in life he has been appointed has fulfilled his respective duties as became an honorable and conscientious citizen. In politics in early life he was an old Henry Clay Whig, and on the organization of the Republican party he became identified with and has since been a strong supporter of its principles. During the Rebellion he was a staunch supporter of the Union cause. One of his sons, Ely, served three years as a soldier, doing honorable service for his country in Co. H, 94th Illinois Volunteers.



**M**RS. HATTIE ENLOW, widow of James Enlow, owns and occupies a fine homestead in Bloomington, and is a member of a prominent family in McLean County, who were among the pioneer settlers of the Prairie State. Mrs. Enlow was born in Rossville, Ind., in 1849, and is the daughter of Robert and Eliza (Harvey) Campbell, natives of Pennsylvania. They were married in Franklin County, that State, in 1849, and located for a short time upon a farm there,



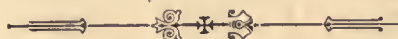
whence they soon afterward removed by wagon to Indiana, and located in Clinton County upon rented land for a period of five years. They then removed to Illinois and purchased eighty acres of unimproved land in Dale Township, this county, upon which Robert Campbell built a comfortable house, planted an orchard, and made other improvements as time went on. The parents still occupy the old homestead, which now comprises 240 acres, and is one of the most valuable farms in this section. Their family consisted of four children, of whom Hattie, Mrs. Enlow, was the eldest; Newton married Miss Dora Culp, and lives on the homestead; William was married to Miss Anna McCoy, March 28, 1867, in Bloomington, and is engaged in the grocery trade, and Crawford is at home.

Robert Campbell, in 1881, rented his farm, and coming to Bloomington engaged in the grocery trade for three years, then sold the building and stock and moved back to the farm. He has been a good citizen and a prominent man, holding the office of Supervisor and other minor positions. He is Republican in politics, an Elder and Trustee in the First Presbyterian Church, and one of the wealthy and influential men of Dale Township. The faithful and affectionate mother has stood bravely by her husband in his labors and duties, and is also connected with the church of his choice in Bloomington.

The marriage of James Enlow and Mrs. Hattie Campbell took place on the 19th of November, 1868, in Covell, this county. The husband of our subject was the son of John and Catharine (Lander) Enlow, natives of Kentucky, who came to McLean County, Ill., in 1835, and settled on a farm in Dale Township, which remained their home the balance of their lives. Their family included eight children, of whom James was the third in order of birth. He was born in Kentucky in 1833, reared to farming pursuits, and given a practical education. At the age of twenty-nine years, the late war being then in progress, he enlisted in 1862, in Co. H, 94th Ill. Vol. Inf., became Sergeant of the company, and served until the close of the war. Upon his return from the army he engaged in farming on eighty acres of land which had been given

him by his father. Two years later he sold this and purchased 160 acres in another part of the township. After his marriage with our subject they occupied this farm until 1878, and then, Mr. Enlow wishing to extend his farming operations, removed to Russell County, Kan., where he purchased 160 acres, and besides the improvement and cultivation of this engaged in mercantile pursuits, continuing thus jointly engaged until his death in 1880. The bereaved widow returned to Dale Township to her friends, with the body of her husband, which was buried in the cemetery here. Mr. Enlow was a man of good business capacity, an upright and straightforward citizen, Republican in politics, and a member of the A. O. U. W.

After the death of her husband, Mrs. Enlow, the following year, erected her present fine residence in Bloomington at a cost of over \$2,000, and has continued the management of the property which her husband left to her with rare judgment and business tact. The four children born to her and her husband are: John R., Robert, Mamie and Irma. Mrs. E. belongs to the First Presbyterian Church of Bloomington, and is a lady highly esteemed for her womanly virtues, kindness of heart, and many other excellent traits of character.



**F**RANK EDWARDS owns and operates one of the best livery and feed stables in the city of Bloomington, being located at No. 410 West Front street. Our subject is a native of this county, having been born near Pleasant Hill on the 7th of April, 1858, and is the son of George W. and Mary A. (Heney) Edwards, natives respectively of Tennessee and Troy, N. Y. George W. Edwards left his native State when a small boy, and emigrated to Carter County, Kan., where he was engaged on a farm until 1845. He then returned East as far as Illinois, and settled at Paris, Edgar County, where he engaged in keeping hotel. Thence he removed to Pleasant Hill, McLean County, and occupied himself in the manufacture of furniture until 1861. He then came to the city of Bloomington, engaged as a painter, and eight years later purchased a farm two and one-half

miles east of the city, where he has since lived. He was married on the 1st of January, 1847. The parental household included four children: William H., who resides on the home farm; Frank, our subject; Fred and Ned, at home.

Frank Edwards, at the age of twelve years, started out for himself and was employed the following two summers in work on a farm. He then learned house and sign painting, which he followed a few years, and during the fall and winter also occupied himself in buying and selling horses. In this latter he was remarkably successful, and concluded to give it his future attention. He established his present business in the winter of 1881-82, which from a comparatively humble beginning now yields him a handsome income. He subsequently purchased a farm in Bloomington Township, which he only occupied, however, for six months, and then moved into the city. Here he occupies a handsome residence at No. 524 West Grove street, and in his business and social life is esteemed as one of the most valued citizens of Bloomington.

Our subject was married to Miss Annie Long, of Kentucky, in 1881. Mrs. E. is the daughter of George and Mary E. (Dixon) Long, of Kentucky, where the father died in 1868. Mrs. Long came to Bloomington in 1879, and is living with her daughter, Mrs. Edwards. The parental family included six children, of whom one is deceased. Those surviving are: William A., James M., Annie, Betty (Mrs. A.E. White of Bloomington), and Georgia A.



**S**AMUEL F. BARNUM, one of the self-made men of this county, and at present residing at Leroy, is a member of the firm of Barnum & Keenan, proprietors of the Leroy Flouring Mills. He was born at Canton, St. Lawrence Co., N. Y., Aug. 11, 1824, and his father, Samuel B. Barnum, was a native of the Green Mountain State. The father was reared to manhood in his native State, and was there engaged in a woolen mill and also learned the trade of a cooper. He moved to Canton, N. Y., while yet a young man and there followed his woolen trade and

continued to reside there until his marriage with M. Rhoda Farwell. She was a daughter of Jeduthan Farwell, a merchant and manufacturer in Canton, who also owned a flouring and saw-mill, and a large stock farm in that county. He was a Vermonter by birth, and about 1835 removed to Erie County, N. Y., and followed his business as a merchant and potash manufacturer. About 1846 Mr. Farwell removed to Defiance County, Ohio, where he passed the remainder of his life. In 1834 our subject's father removed to that county and settled in Eden Township, where he erected a mill and engaged in the manufacture of cloth, following that business until 1846. He then rented his mill and removed to Defiance County, where he took another mill, and in 1847 removed the machinery from the mill at Eden to the one in Defiance County. He continued in that business for two years when he purchased a farm near town and devoted the remaining years of his life to agricultural pursuits. He died on the farm in September, 1864. His widow spent the last years of her life at the home of our subject, her demise occurring in July, 1882. There were five children born to the parents of our subject, of whom he is the eldest: Harriet married S. A. Moore, and departed this life in 1872; Eliza married George Bruner, a resident of Bloomington; Jeduthan died in Indiana; John is a resident of San Francisco, Cal.

The subject of this notice attended the common schools of his native county until he was ten years of age when he commenced working in his father's mill and there learned the trade of a cloth dresser. He continued to work for his father until twenty-one years old, when he was taken into partnership. This relation existed for one year, when our subject rented the mill and ran it for his own profit. In 1847 he moved the machinery of the mill to Defiance and assisted his father in setting up the same, when he returned to New York. His father, however, sent for him to return to Ohio, as the family were all sick and our subject soon after arriving there was taken sick himself. After convalescing he went back to New York and remained there during the winter of 1847. In the spring of 1848 he moved his family to Defiance County and engaged, in company with his father, in the manu-

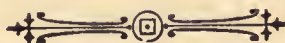
facture of cloth. This relation existed only until the fall of that year, when our subject went back to York State, and once more settling at Eden embarked in the lumber business. He soon, however, went back to Defiance, and purchasing a lot in that place erected a building thereon. The climate did not agree with him and the doctor ordered him to return to York State, which he did, and for three years was more or less afflicted with chills and fever and unable to do any manual labor. In 1852 he was elected Constable and performed the duties of that office for one year. About this time he purchased twenty-five acres of land and was also elected Justice of the Peace, and attended to the duties of that office while cultivating his little farm.

In 1855 our subject came to Leroy on a visit to his sister and accompanied by his father. The latter purchased 160 acres of land about one mile north of Leroy, for which he paid \$11 per acre. They returned East, and the following spring our subject with his family came here and located and improved a part of the land which his father had purchased. It was an exceedingly dry summer and in consequence thereof the crops were a failure and our subject lost his all. He returned to New York \$1,500 in debt and began life anew by working at anything he could find to do until the following spring. He then engaged as clerk and book-keeper in a wholesale fruit, feed and vegetable establishment and remained with the firm one year. In 1858 he went on his father-in-laws' farm and assisted him until the fall of that year. Then in company with an old schoolmate our subject engaged in mercantile business, his partner furnishing the capital. Their store was located at Eden Valley, and they continued the business for two and a half years when they sold out, and from that time until 1865, our subject performed the duties of Justice of the Peace.

In the spring of 1865 Mr. Barnum came to Bloomington where he engaged as book-keeper in a lumber-yard for Bruner & Whitmer. He was with this firm five years and then, moving to Leroy, he, in partnership with Mr. Bruner, embarked in the same business. He soon thereafter added the coal business to that already established, and one year was engaged in buying grain for E. H. Rood.

In the fall of 1871 our subject commenced buying grain on his own account. In 1872, in company with Bruner & Keenan, he purchased the flouring mill at Leroy, and in 1876 our subject and Mr. Keenan purchased Mr. Bruner's interest in the mill, and the firm has since, been Barnum & Keenan. Mr. Barnum is also interested with Mr. Keenan in farming and stock-raising, and they own in partnership 380 acres of good land.

Samuel F. Barnum was married to Clarinda Bunting in 1854. She was born at Eden, Eric Co., N. Y., and was a daughter of Levi and Christine Bunting. She departed this life in 1861, and in 1865 Mr. Barnum was married to Eliza A. Patterson. Of our subjects' first union three children were born: Matilda M. married Charlton Waters, and they are living at Leroy; Henry C. died in Leroy in 1856, and Henry I. is a book-keeper for Barnum & Keenan. The second union of our subject was blest by the birth of two children—Percy Davis and George Perrin. Mr. Barnum is a Republican in politics and has served the city of Leroy as Mayor, and at present is Supervisor of Empire Township. He was President of the Empire Loan and Building Association during its entire existence, eight years, and has been President of the Leroy Loan and Building Association since its organization. Socially he is a member of the Masonic fraternity, holding fellowship with Leroy Lodge No. 221.



**A**RON P. RHODES, a wealthy and influential resident of Bloomington Township, owns and occupies a fine estate on section 24. He comes from a prominent family, the first representatives of whom in this section, settled in this part of the Prairie State before the land had been surveyed, in 1823. They located a "squatter's" claim, which, when surveyed, embraced sections 22 (for the house and a small portion of land), and 14 and 15. This land is yet in possession of the family, and our subject owns the homestead as it was first laid out. The father was accidentally killed by an engine of the L. B. & W. R. R., near his home, Aug. 20, 1875, and was nearly eighty years of age. He was a man greatly

respected and of fine abilities, kind and generous in his disposition, and exercised a good influence over all with whom he came in contact. His wife, who before her marriage was Miss Mary Johnson, a native of Kentucky, came North in early youth, and met her husband for the first time in Champaign County, Ohio. She was a most amiable and lovable Christian lady, and by her noble qualities of mind and character was well fitted to be the companion of such a man as her husband. She came to Illinois with him, and departed this life in Bloomington on the 15th of February, 1845.

The paternal grandfather of our subject, Ebenezer Rhodes, was a native of Maryland, where he was educated and reared to manhood. In his native State he made the acquaintance of Miss Mary Starr, which soon ripened into a mutual attachment, and in due time she became his wife. After their marriage they came to Illinois, where Mr. Rhodes, who was of a deeply religious turn of mind, became a local minister of the Baptist Church. They spent the latter part of their lives in Bloomington Township, and here closed their eyes forever to the scenes of earth.

Aaron P. Rhodes of our sketch was the youngest of his parents' family of nine children, which was composed of three sons and six daughters, of whom two sons and one daughter are yet living. He received an early education in the log school-house, and being studious and fond of books, in due time was prepared to enter college. About this time came the call for volunteer troops for the defense of the Union, and young Rhodes, laying aside his personal interests and inclinations, responded to the call and enlisted as a soldier in Co. G, 17th Ill. Vol. Inf., their Captain being O. A. Burgess, Principal of the college where young Rhodes intended to pursue his studies. They were assigned to the Western division of the Mississippi Valley, and participated in the battles of Frederickstown, Ft. Henry, Donelson, Shiloh, Corinth, Iuka, Jackson, Memphis and Vicksburg. They were also at the siege and capture of the latter city, and afterward in the engagement at Yazoo, Miss. Mr. Rhodes escaped through these many engagements and other skirmishes without being seriously injured or imprisoned, and at the close of the term for

which he enlisted received an honorable discharge at Springfield, in July, 1864, having served his country faithfully for more than three years, and reported for duty each time without fail from the hour that he heard of the firing of Ft. Sumter until he was mustered out. He did not enter the army for amusement or glory, but simply because he realized the importance of the preservation of the Union, and with thousands of other brave spirits he was willing to yield his life for this cause should it be the will of Providence.

After the close of the war, and after Mr. Rhodes had been transformed from a soldier to a civilian, he returned to his home in Bloomington Township, and at once commenced farming on his own account. He soon felt the need of a helpmeet and sympathizer, and accordingly on the 9th of November, 1864, he was married in Bloomington Township, to Miss Martha M. Cox. This lady was born in McLean County, Aug. 9, 1834, and died at the home of her husband, in Bloomington Township, Feb. 20, 1876. (For parental history see sketch of David Cox.) Mrs. R. became the mother of two children: Edward, a bright and promising young man, who completed his business and law education at the Evergreen City Business College, and is now in the Normal School at Valparaiso, Ind.; and Ora M., who is attending school with bright prospects for a good education, as he is fond of his books and applies himself faithfully.

Mr. R. was the second time married, in Randolph Township, this county, on the 13th of October, 1880, to Miss Lottie E. Reid, who was born in Champaign County, Ohio, on the 22d of March, 1848. Her parents subsequently removed from that State and are now residents of Randolph Township, McLean County. Mrs. R. received her early education in Ohio, and came to this county with her parents in October, 1875. She began teaching when twenty years of age, and followed this profession for a period of ten years. She is an amiable and accomplished lady, and is highly respected in this community.

Mr. Rhodes is the possessor of 800 acres of some of the finest farming land in this section of the Prairie State. It is finely improved and cultivated, and in addition to the ordinary pursuits of ag-

rieculture Mr. Rhodes is giving much attention to the breeding of fine stock. He has also been engaged in the purchase and sale of mules for the past ten years, and has brought to the State some of the finest draft animals ever exhibited in the Mississippi Valley. His possessions, with the exception of about 160 acres, have been the accumulation of his own industry and perseverance, and he has illustrated in a marked manner what a resolute will can accomplish.

The family residence is a model of beauty and comfort, and in all its appointments is indicative of cultivated tastes and abundant means. The grounds around it and the barns and out-buildings correspond with the dwelling, being shapely and tasteful structures, which embellish the place and add to the general effect of stability and attractiveness. He has valuable and costly farm machinery, and all the appliances of a modern farm estate. Mr. Rhodes has contributed his full quota toward the development of this section, and is held in the highest esteem for his excellent personal traits of character and the qualities which have rendered him a valued citizen.



**M**RS. NANCY ARROWSMITH, a lady well-known and highly respected in Leroy, where she has her present residence, is a native of Washington County, Md., and was born May 13, 1810. Her father, John Oliver, was born in County Derry, Ireland, where he grew to manhood and followed agricultural pursuits. Early in life he emigrated to the United States, locating first in Washington County, Md. From there, in 1812, accompanied by his wife and three children, he emigrated to Ohio, the removal being made after the fashion of those days, overland by wagons. He located in Ross County, being among the early pioneers of that section, and purchased a tract of timber land upon which he erected a log house and in due time opened up a good farm where he lived to see the country around him developed and brought to a fine state of cultivation. He died there upon the homestead which he had established, on the 12th of February, 1852, at the

advanced age of eighty-seven years. In early manhood he was united in marriage with Miss Mary Ann Beck, who was born in Maryland and descended from Scottish ancestry. She also died in Ross County, Ohio, Sept. 13, 1852, surviving her husband only a few months. The parental family included nine children.

The subject of this history made her home with her parents until her marriage with John Wesley Arrowsmith, which occurred on the 24th of December, 1823. Mr. A. was born in Ross County, Ohio, Oct. 31, 1805. His father, Samuel Arrowsmith, and his grandfather, also named Samuel, were natives of Maryland. The latter was of English descent and one of the pioneers of Ross County, Ohio, where with the assistance of his children he improved a farm upon which he passed the remainder of his days. The father of John W. was a young man when his parents removed to Ohio, and not long afterward he was married to Miss Elizabeth Ritter, a native of Maryland and of German ancestry. The young people lived in Ross County until 1839, then came to Illinois, the journey being made overland with wagons. Mr. A. purchased quite an extensive tract of land, located in what is now Padua and Arrowsmith Townships. He made his home in the former township and remained there until his death, which occurred in 1842. His widow survived him many years, making her home with her children the latter part of her life, and died in 1869. The town of Arrowsmith was named in honor of this family.

Before his marriage John W. Arrowsmith purchased a farm near the old homestead of his father where he resided with his family until 1854. He then sold out and came overland to Illinois, their household goods being transported in wagons, also the provisions, and they camped and cooked by the wayside. After a journey of over two weeks they arrived in this county, and in due time Mr. A. purchased 250 acres of land in Empire Township, besides ninety in Padua, four miles north of Leroy. Later he purchased another tract in Arrowsmith Township. He resided on his homestead in Padua Township, until his death, Jan. 11, 1885. Mrs. A. now lives in Leroy with her daughter, Maria. Her six children are located as follows: Hannah,

Mrs. Birney, is a resident of Seward County, Neb.; Ross lives in Padua Township, McLean Co., Ill.; Elizabeth J., Mrs. Wahls, lives in Empire Township; Mary E., Mrs. Kellar, in Arrowsmith; John W. in Padua, and Maria in Leroy.

Mrs. Arrowsmith and her husband connected themselves with the Methodist Episcopal Church early in life of which they remained members for a period of over fifty years. In 1883, they celebrated their golden wedding, at which were gathered a large number of relatives and friends, and which was made the occasion of general rejoicing because such worthy and excellent people were spared so long to live among the acquaintances which they had attached to them by their uniform kindness of heart and blameless lives.



**G**EORGE HINSHAW, JR., deceased, and late of Bloomington Township, of which he was one of the pioneer settlers, was a native of Tennessee, born near the county seat of Overton County on the 26th of December, 1820, and departed this life June 12, 1874, at his home in the township of which he has been a resident for over fifty years. During this long period he had fully established himself in the confidence and respect of his fellow-citizens, and was a bright example of a useful and worthy life.

Mr. Hinshaw came with his parents from his native State of Tennessee to McLean County, Ill., in 1827, when a child of seven years old. His father, also named George Hinshaw, was a native of the same State as his son, and was occupied in farming pursuits. He was one of the solid and substantial men who came North at that period in the history of the development of the new territory of Illinois, and assisted in opening a way for the advance of civilization. The country was then wild and unbroken, but he possessed the dauntless spirit of the pioneer settler of that day, and having set his hand to the plow, was not the one to turn back. His ancestors were of English Quaker stock, hard-working and industrious people, of whom the representatives in this country are not now numerous.

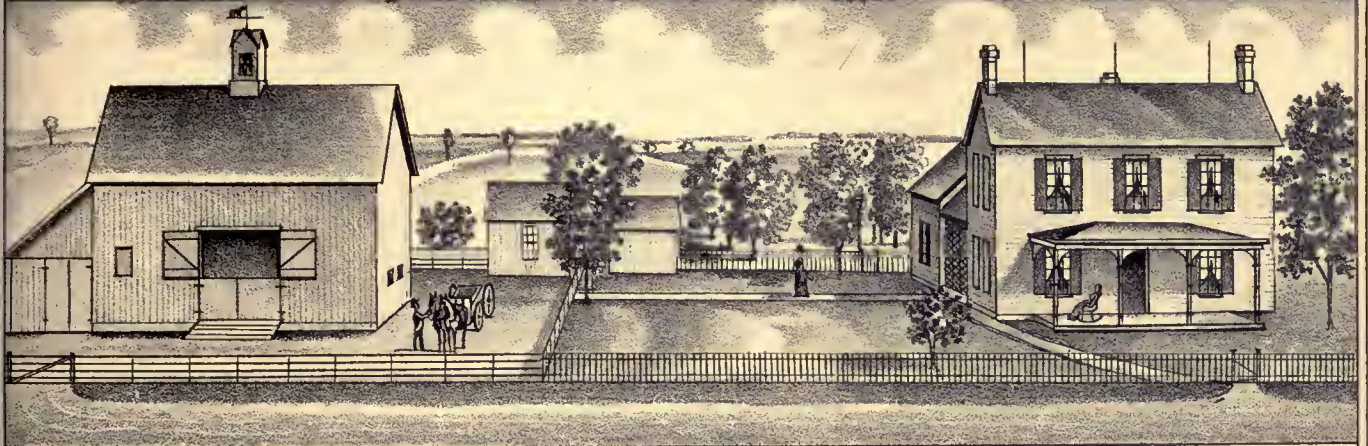
The parental household of our subject included seven children, of whom he was the youngest but one. The family is now almost extinct, and never having been very prolific, a few of the immediate relatives of our subject are the only representatives living.

Mr. Hinshaw of whom we write, after attaining to years of manhood, was married to Miss Polly M. Tolliver, July 3, 1848, near the western limits of the city of Bloomington. Mrs. Hinshaw was the fifth child and fourth daughter of James and Elizabeth (Maxwell) Tolliver, and was born Dec. 21, 1828, in a pioneer log cabin of Bloomington, and has never lived more than five miles away from her birthplace. Her parents were natives of Ashe County, N. C., where they were reared, and during early youth came with their respective parents to Indiana, where they were united in marriage after attaining to suitable age. Their wedding occurred in Clay County, and after the birth of four children they made their preparations for a journey to the farther West. Coming into McLean County, Ill., they settled in Bloomington Township on the farm of Mr. J. H. Rhodes, and in the log cabin where Mrs. Hinshaw first opened her eyes to the light of day and was reared to womanhood.

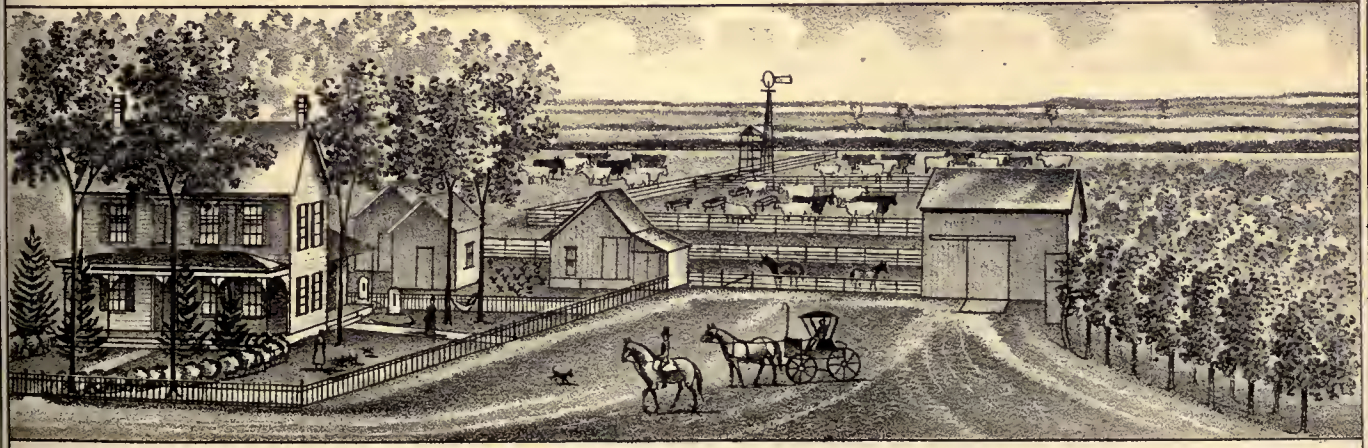
Mr. Tolliver was successful in his western venture, and as time passed he accumulated a large body of land lying in what is now the west end of the city of Bloomington, and which is the site of some of the best buildings erected there. This land, afterward laid out in town lots, was entered by Mr. Tolliver from the Government, and he paid for it at the rate of \$1.25 per acre. It is now valued at hundreds of dollars per foot. This land he retained possession of until his death, which occurred April 20, 1848. He was a thorough business man, and an industrious, enterprising and reliable citizen. In politics he was strongly Democratic, and worked hard for the success of his party in this section. His wife, the mother of Mrs. Hinshaw, is yet living, at the advanced age of eighty-seven years, and makes her home with her daughter. She is still strong and active, and retains, to a remarkable degree, her mental and physical powers, and often relates in an interesting manner



RESIDENCE OF N. A. KAMPF, SEC. 7. MOUNT HOPE TP.



RESIDENCE OF NICHOLAS MAURER, SEC. 10, DANVERS TP.



RESIDENCE OF SAML. Y. EWING, SEC. 17. MOUNT HOPE TP.





many incidents of her girlhood and the after years which followed during the time of the early settlement of the Prairie State.

Mr. Hinshaw was a man of more than ordinary intelligence and ability, and kept himself well posted in regard to matters of general interest. He was well informed, an extensive reader, and took an active part in local politics, being a zealous worker for the success of the Democratic party. In business affairs he was a skillful manager, shrewd, and keenly observant of what was going on around him, and exercised good judgment in his money transactions. Since the death of her husband Mrs. Hinshaw has managed the large business interests left upon her hands in a highly intelligent and successful manner. She comes of a good family, was carefully reared and educated, and eminently fitted to be the companion of her husband. She owns 240 acres, which constitutes the present homestead, and also eleven acres within the limits of Normal, this county. Belonging to the estate there is also a tract of land comprising 1,200 acres near Baxter Springs, Cherokee Co., Kan.; they also own a three-story business house at No. 108 West Front street, Bloomington. The family residence is a tasteful structure, comfortable and convenient in all its appointments, and the barns and out-buildings correspond in every respect to the dwelling. The children were carefully reared and educated, and are of invaluable aid to their mother in the management of the large interests for which she holds herself responsible. Mrs. Hinshaw has a family of four children, three sons and one daughter; Ida became the wife of Dr. Hull; the sons—Ezra, Toby and Rolla—remain at home assisting their mother.

**A**RCHIBALD CAMPBELL, who is descended from an honorable line of Scotch ancestry, was born in the Land of the Thistle in 1826, and came with his parents to America two years afterward. In about 1840 he became a resident of Illinois, and until within the last three years was actively engaged in agricultural pursuits. He is now a resident of Bloomington, where he owns and occupies a good residence

which was erected at a cost of \$3,100. He has been intimately identified with the industrial and agricultural interests of McLean County for the last forty years, and is held in the highest respect by the citizens among whom he has moved with an honest and upright purpose and a blameless life.

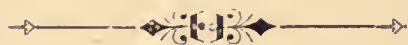
The parents of our subject were Archibald and Elizabeth (Shields) Campbell, also natives of Scotland. After coming to America, they stopped in Pittsburgh for eighteen months, and then went into Jessamine County, Ky., and were residents of Lexington for eight years following. They then moved to McLean County, locating in Orendorff settlement, where they remained one year, and thence removed to Old Town Township, where the father purchased 200 acres of land at first and subsequently added 300. Here he remained until the close of his life, cultivating the soil and beautifying the homestead, and was buried on a portion of land over which he had walked for so many years. He was Justice of the Peace for many years and an Elder in the Baptist Church, of which his wife was also a devoted member. The record of their four sons is as follows: John is a merchant of McLean County, and all the other brothers are residents here.

The subject of this history remained with his parents until twenty-four years old, assisting in the labors of the farm and receiving a practical education. He then purchased forty acres of land which he paid for before his marriage, afterward making further purchases, first of eighty and then of 120 acres, and then his father left him eighty acres. To this he afterward added sixty acres, and has also 160 acres near Farmington City, and eighty near Amboy, Lee County.

Mr. Campbell was married, in 1851, to Miss Mary E. Twining, a native of Pennsylvania, born June 2, 1833, and the daughter of Thomas Twining, a native of the same State. Of this union there were born seven children, three now living, and the record is as follows: Mary B., Mrs. Wagner, was born Feb. 21, 1852, and is the mother of five children—Charles F., Gracie (deceased), Abbie J., Edna, and an infant unnamed; Sarah E., Mrs. Gregory, was born Dec. 19, 1856, and has two children—Ella M. and Goldie E.; Thomas A. was born May 2, 1859,

and married Miss Mary Nogel; they have two children—Howard and Elnora; Franklin E., born Dec. 9, 1861, died Oct. 13, 1886; Howard A., born Aug. 2, 1864, died Jan. 31, 1882; Charles E., born Oct. 23, 1867, is attending college at Bloomington; Nellie A., born May 24, 1871, is at home with her parents.

Mr. and Mrs. C. are worthy members of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Bloomington, and in politics our subject is a staunch Republican. He was School Trustee while on a farm, and belonged to the Union League. No man in McLean County is held in higher respect than our subject, and no lady is more worthy of esteem than his amiable and excellent wife.



**W**ILLIAM J. BALDRIDGE, a prosperous farmer of White Oak Township, is located on section 23, where he has a comfortable homestead, and is surrounded by all the necessaries and many of the luxuries of life. He is a native of the Buckeye State, having been born in Adams County, Ohio, Oct. 13, 1839. His parents were William and Margaret (Kane) Baldrige, natives of Ohio and Pennsylvania. The father was born in 1805, and is still living. He came to Illinois in 1852, and purchased 120 acres of land in White Oak Township, upon which he remained until 1858, and then retired from active labor and took up his residence in the village of Oak Grove. His wife, the mother of our subject, was born in 1806, and died at the home of her husband in White Oak Township, in August, 1867.

The parental family of our subject consisted of six children, the record of whom is as follows: Mary became the wife of William Ramsey, and makes her home with her children, Mr. Ramsey being deceased; Samuel married Miss Kirkpatrick; Martha is now Mrs. A. Hart; James W. married Miss Martha Johnson; William J., of this sketch, was the fifth child; George T. married Miss Hattie Ewins, now deceased; his second wife was Miss Amanda Leach.

The subject of this history was reared by his parents, and remained under the home roof until he

had attained his majority. He was married Nov. 21, 1867, to Miss Caroline Wright, who was born in Ohio, Feb. 6, 1848. Mrs. B. is the daughter of Samuel and Mary (Balas) Wright, both natives of Ohio, where the father died Nov. 13, 1876. The mother still survives, and is now living at Chenoa, this county. The household circle was completed by the birth of eleven children, as follows: Mary J. was the eldest; Naney died when sixteen years of age; Samuel A. died in 1867, aged thirty-five years; William H. and Albert S. are residents of Mound City, Kan., the latter being Mayor; Sarah C., the twin sister of Albert, is living at Chenoa, this county; Elizabeth A. died when a small child; John B. is living in Kansas; Martha died in infancy; Caroline is Mrs. Baldrige; James A. died when two years of age.

William J. Baldrige came to Illinois in the spring of 1852, being a lad of thirteen years. He received a fair education in the district schools, and was reared to habits of industry and principles of honor. He commenced early in life to lay his plans for the future, and was willing to work for his possessions. He is now the owner of 240 acres of fine land, and is an extensive breeder of fine horses, turning his attention mostly to Norman and Clydesdale stock. His stables include four fine Morgan roadsters, which are models of endurance and speed. As a stock-breeder he has gained an enviable reputation in this vicinity, and has exercised admirable judgment in the management and care of valuable animals.

Mr. Baldrige has been prominent in the affairs of the county since attaining to years of manhood. He was elected Supervisor on the Republican ticket, in 1879, and has served the county in that capacity six terms. He has been Chairman of the committee on education, and has been the encourager and supporter of every measure to advance the prosperity and intelligence of the people of this section. He has held all the minor offices of White Oak Township, and is highly esteemed in the councils of his townsmen, for his cool and temperate judgment and the general fund of information which assists him in determining questions of importance. In religious matters he has been no less active than in civil affairs. He was reared in

the Presbyterian Church, but is now connected with the Methodist, holding the offices of Trustee, Steward and Superintendent of the Sunday-School.

During the progress of the late war Mr. Baldrige enlisted as a Union soldier in the 94th Regiment, Illinois Volunteer Infantry, as a private, and participated in several general engagements. He was in the Western and Southern armies, and takes pride in the knowledge that he was never beaten in a race with the rebels, never under arrest, never in the hospital and never wounded in battle. After serving three years he received his honorable discharge, in 1865.

Mr. and Mrs. Baldrige became the parents of nine children, namely: Clarence Myrtie, who died at the age of twelve years; Lucia, Iola, Mary Mabel, William C., Estella, who died in infancy; Margaret; Edith who died in infancy and John Carl. In politics Mr. Baldrige is Republican.



**G**EORGE H. COX, of Bloomington, proprietor of the Hungarian Roller Mill, is one of the rising young men of the city, and is rapidly attaining to a prominent position among its industrial interests. Mr. Cox was born in Dixfield, Oxford Co., Me., Nov. 22, 1848. His father, Thomas J. Cox, was a general merchant of Dixfield, and his mother, who before her marriage was Miss Almira Millett, was a native of Norway. Both are now deceased.

The subject of this history spent his boyhood in his native town, and there received his primary education. He soon afterward went to the city of Boston, Mass., and engaged as clerk in a store. In June, 1866, he started for the West, and landing in Bloomington, became book-keeper for his brother, Thomas J., who had preceded him to this locality and had set up in business for himself. After five years thus occupied young Cox purchased a one-fourth interest in the Eagle Mills, and later a half interest. He then sold out and purchased the Vienna Mills at Peoria, which he operated about five years, and until the property was destroyed by fire. This calamity involved a loss of nearly \$16,000, but was insured for a little over \$12,000. Mr.

Cox then returned to Bloomington, and purchased the Union and Hungarian Mills, which he remodeled and enlarged, and put in a complete roller system. He is still operating these mills, the Union having been changed in name, being now known as the Crown Roller Mills, and which are located on the Illinois Central Railroad. The Hungarian Mills are on the Chicago & Alton Railroad, and to both are secured the best of shipping facilities, having a capacity of 350 barrels in twenty-four hours. The grades upon leaving this point go to local points, and the mill feed to Philadelphia, and includes the best grades of flour sold in the States of Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and Missouri. The lower grades are shipped to New York City for exportation.

Mr. Cox was married, Sept. 1, 1872, to Miss Clara M. Bruner, of Bloomington, daughter of George Bruner, Esq. They have one child living, a son, Herman W.; a daughter, Lutie Dell, died when six years of age. Mr. Cox commenced business on a small capital, but by energy and close application has accumulated a handsome property. He is a practical and thorough business man, greatly respected by his friends and associates, and is contributing his full share toward the prosperity of this section.



**H**ENRY BEDELL, deceased, formerly occupied a prominent position among the extensive landowners and successful stock-raisers of Padua Township. He was born in Greene County, N. Y., May 9, 1806, and departed this life at his home in Padua Township, this county, March 21, 1884. He was the son of William Bedell, also a native of the Empire State, who spent his entire life in Greene County, where he followed agriculture for many years and then retired from active labor to enjoy the fruits of his early industry. He lived to an advanced age, dying in Athens, N. Y. The mother died when her son, Henry, was but a youth. He started out early in life to do for himself and after arriving to years of manhood was united in marriage with Miss Deborah Searles, of New Baltimore Township, Greene County, N. Y., their wedding occurring on the 29th

of January, 1840. Mrs. B. also was born in Greene County, N. Y., Aug. 29, 1814. After marriage the young people settled in their native county and there their seven children were born: Hannah J. became the wife of George W. Bingham, a farmer of Blue Mound Township, this county; William S. married Miss Cornelia A. Rowley, and is carrying on a farm in Padua Township; Caleb S., who married Miss Delia Brown, of Padua Township, owns and operates an eighty acre farm but lives upon the old homestead with his mother, cultivating also a part of this; Palmer, unmarried, is farming in Nebraska; Lawrence L. is located on a farm of fifty-three acres in Padua Township, having been married to Miss Estelle C. Fuller; Henry, Jr., married Miss Anna Horine, and is carrying on agriculture on his own homestead of fifty-five acres in Padua Township; Philena C. married Andrew T. Dorland, and lives in Nebraska.

Mr. Bedell came with his family to Padua Township in 1861, and established a permanent homestead upon which he remained until his death. The homestead consists of 320 acres of finely cultivated land, a handsome and commodious residence and all the buildings necessary to the completion of a first-class, modern farm estate. Mr. B. was an active member of the Society of Friends and in politics a staunch Republican. He in all respects fulfilled the duties of a good citizen and assisted materially in building up the business and agricultural interests of this section.



**W**ALTER BARNARD, Sr., deceased, a representative citizen of Bloomington Township, within whose boundaries he had lived for a period of about thirty years, was a highly respected member of society, and successful in his farming and business pursuits. The subject of this history was born in McLean County, near Heyworth, Feb. 4, 1831, and departed this life in Bloomington Township. He was the son of Frederick and Mary (Canedy) Barnard, who came to this county as pioneer settlers, and passed the greater part of their lives afterward in Bloomington City. Frederick Barnard was born March 6,

1799, and died in Bloomington, Aug. 25, 1851. The mother of our subject was born Nov. 2, 1794, and died in Bloomington.

Walter Barnard, Sr., was the third of a family of six children, five of whom lived to mature years, but only two of whom now survive, a son and daughter. Our subject was reared on a farm with his parents, and there gained the experience which afterward fitted him for successful operation in the pursuit of agriculture. Aside from general farming he was successfully engaged in buying and selling stock, and his good judgment enabled him to operate successfully and profitably in this line. He was an upright business man, and a staunch adherent of the Republican party.

Our subject was married in Bloomington, on the 8th of April, 1860, to Miss Susan Lawrence. Mrs. B. is a native of Boone County, Ind., born Feb. 24, 1839. Her parents came to Tazewell County, Ill., when she was about eight years of age, and located upon a farm, where the mother died. Her father, in the spring of 1885, came to McLean County, which remained his home until his decease, which occurred on the 17th of July, 1885. He was a good man in every sense of the term, honest and industrious, and had a good influence over all those with whom he associated. In politics he was a staunch Democrat, and took an intelligent interest in all matters pertaining to the welfare of his community.

Mrs. Barnard was educated in Tazewell County, and received careful parental training, remaining at home until she attained to womanhood, and after the death of her mother until the second marriage of her father. She then left home and supported herself until her marriage with our subject. She is a lady greatly esteemed in this vicinity, and is widely known for her kindness of heart and generous womanly sympathies. Of her marriage with our subject there have been born three children, one of whom, Peter J., who was born June 10, 1864, died Sept. 26, 1865; Lydia M., born April 1, 1861, is the wife of Alex Robertson, and with her husband lives on the homestead of Mrs. B.; they have two children—Perl B., born Nov. 8, 1878, and Alex, Jr., Aug. 30, 1881. Walter Barnard, Jr., is attending school, and makes his home with his mother. Mrs. B., in her own right, possesses forty-

seven acres of valuable land besides the home which she occupies. She has been a member of the Christian Church since seventeen years of age, and has carried out in her daily life and conversation the principles of true religion.



**G**USTAVE A. ENSENBERGER, one of the go-ahead men of Bloomington, is extensively engaged in the retail furniture business, and has been a resident of this city since the spring of 1868. He is a native of Bavaria, and was born Aug. 31, 1851. When he was two years old his parents, George and Catharine Ensenberger, emigrated to America. After reaching New York City they proceeded to Vincennes, Ind., whence, after a short time they removed to Aurora, the same State, where Gustave attended school. In 1868 George Ensenberger, with his family, moved to Bloomington, through the influence of Dr. Schroeder, the expert horticulturist of Bloomington, whose circulars and advertisements had attracted his attention.

After arriving here young Gustave was employed in the vineyard of Dr. S. a few months, and was then employed by the Bloomington Manufacturing Company, with whom he learned the carpenter's trade and the fitting of sash, doors and blinds. With this company he remained eleven years, and having accumulated quite a little capital, in the fall of 1879 went into the furniture business for himself in the building known as the Bee Hive store. Here he commenced the manufacture of furniture on a small scale, at the same time doing a retail trade. He prospered in his undertakings, and in due time his business became too large for the old store and he then removed to the Gridley Building, which he occupied until 1886, and then located in his present quarters, having purchased the building formerly owned by Harwood Bros. and which is one of the oldest business houses in the city. He now carries on a general manufacturing business, to which he has added upholstery, and gives employment to seven or eight men. His building is 25x100 feet, and three stories in height with a basement under the whole. The wareroom

and shop is 31x100, the building running through from street to street. Mr. E. carries a large and well-selected stock, and besides his own manufacture buys largely from other houses.

The subject of our sketch was married, in 1878, to Miss Lizzie Reisch, of Springfield, Ill., and they became the parents of three children—Frank G., Gustavus S. and Elnora S. Mr. and Mrs. E. are members in good standing of St. Mary's (German) Catholic Church, and their attractive home is the resort of the first-class citizens of Bloomington.



**J**AMES A. LASH, occupying a valuable farm estate in Bloomington Township, is successfully engaged in the breeding of thoroughbred Poland-China swine, his land lying near the limits of the city of Bloomington. He established his present business in 1880, and is the possessor of several valuable and registered animals, the head of the herd being Cassander, No. 4297. The only time he was ever exhibited was at the fair of St. Louis, Mo., where he took the first premium in an exhibition of 800 hogs. Mr. Lash has been very successful in his breeding operations, and keeps from sixty to 100 head of swine. He began in a small way, but has steadily increased his business until he has made a reputation as a fair dealer, and having a good understanding of his business. One of his pigs exhibited at the Chicago fair took the first premium, and was sold for \$200, being then only six months old. Its dam, Belle of McLain, is numbered 10,898 in the books, and is supposed to be the most successful breeder in the county.

Mr. Lash was reared upon a farm, and received his early education in the common schools. He is a native of Bloomington Township, and was born on the 7th of October, 1846. He remained under the parental roof until his marriage, being reared to habits of industry and economy, and became well fitted for the later struggle of life. He was married, Oct. 19, 1865 in the city of Bloomington, to Miss Sarah F. Livingston. Mrs. Lash was born in Lincoln, Ohio, on the 14th of March, 1845, and came to Illinois with her parents when a child ten years of age. They settled in McLean

County, and her father, Isaac Livingston, died in Normal Township in 1874. He was an industrious and energetic man, a successful farmer, and highly respected by his neighbors. The mother of Mrs. L., who before her marriage was Miss Sarah Wise, is still living, at an advanced age, and makes her home in Pontiac, Ill. She is a relative of Congressman Wise, of Virginia, and possesses the excellent traits of a family noted for its ability and prominence.

Mr. and Mrs. Lash have become the parents of three children, two boys and one girl—Willard E., Josie A. and Frank—all at home. They are all connected with the Christian Church, and politically Mr. L. is a staunch adherent of the Democratic party.

We incorporate in this biography a sketch of Isaac Lash, father of the above, who has been a resident of McLean County since 1834, and in that long period has witnessed with unabated interest the remarkable changes which have taken place in this portion of the State.

Isaac Lash is now a retired farmer, and one of the representative citizens of the township of Bloomington. He owns and occupies a fine farm estate lying on sections 27 and 34, the residence being on the former. He has here 240 acres of valuable land, well stocked and supplied with first-class farm buildings. His earlier life was industriously employed in the establishment of his present comfortable home, and his years of persevering toil have yielded him a handsome competency.

Isaac Lash was born near Vernon, Knox Co., Ohio, on the 20th of January, 1820. His father, Nathaniel Lash, was of German descent and a native of North Carolina. He came to Ohio when a young boy and was reared in Knox County, and for several years was there employed in a sawmill. He had been married in the meantime to Miss Charity Short, a lady who was born near Baltimore, Md., but having lost her parents when quite young came to Ohio with a neighbor, and was reared by strangers from the time she was ten years of age. The family of Isaac Lash, Sr., and his wife consisted of nine children, four sons and five daughters, one of whom died in infancy, and their son Isaac, heretofore written of, was the eldest but one

in the family. The parents and their eight children came to Illinois in the fall of 1833, and settled in Putnam County. There the father died a few months later, and in the spring of 1834 the mother with her children came to McLean County. A few years later she also departed this life, having passed away in Tazewell County, where they had located a short time previously, and very near the line of McLean County. After the death of their mother the children all lived together for a time, and separated later, each one being compelled to depend upon his own resources.

Our subject then employed himself at whatever he could find to do, receiving but small pay and working hard, but saving his money. He was employed by Zachariah Simmons for a period of five years, for which he received \$200. He was stout and rugged and could do a man's work, and this pay seemed far out of proportion to what he really earned. But money was scarce in those days, and the laborer felt that he should be content with cash even though it was a small sum. Young Lash, however, was healthy and energetic, and possessed a proportionate amount of courage and resolution. At the age of twenty-four years he was united in marriage with Miss Anna Simmons, at the residence of the bride's parents in Bloomington Township, on the 27th of December, 1845. Mrs. L. is the daughter of David and Elizabeth (Jones) Simmons, natives respectively of Virginia and Georgia. In early youth they came with their parents to Indiana, where they were reared to mature years, and received the advantages of an education in the public schools. Of their union there were born three children, of whom Mrs. Lash was the youngest, her birth having taken place on the 18th of April, 1830. In the fall of that year the parents with their three children came west to Illinois and located in McLean County, soon afterward becoming residents of Bloomington Township, where they lived until their removal within the city, where they are now retired from active labor, and are enjoying the fruits of their early toil and struggles.

Mrs. Lash remained with her parents until her marriage, and has become the mother of nine children, one of whom is deceased. Of those who survive the record is as follows: James A. married

Miss Sarah F. Livingston, and they reside near the city of Bloomington, this son, being like his father, a dealer in fine swine; Eliza J. is the wife of William R. Young, a farmer of Bloomington Township; Martha A. married Daniel B. Snavely, and they reside on the homestead; Levi A. married Miss Lenora B. Jones, who is now deceased; he is in California engaged in mining; David N. is with his brother in Eureka, Cal.; Andrew J. died at the age of two and one-half years; Mary E. is the widow of Ed. Orendorff, and lives at home with her parents; Frank O. married Miss Agnes Houser, and resides in Vermilion County, Ill.; William E. is at home, and assists in operating the farm.

After the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. L. they commenced farming operations upon rented land, then made a small purchase, which they subsequently added to, and now have a finely improved farm upon which they are passing their later days in the peace and comfort which is their just due after the labors and toil of their earlier years. Mrs. L., with three sons and three daughters, is a member in good standing of the Christian Church. Mr. L. has been prominent in the affairs of his community since becoming of suitable age, having held most of the minor offices. He was Overseer of the County Poor-farm for six years, and conducted the affairs of the institution creditably and with good judgment. Politically he is Democratic, and occupies an important position in the affairs of his party in this vicinity.



**D**R. CURTIS KNIGHT, one of the best known and most reliable citizens of McLean County, came to the Prairie State in 1863, from Kentucky. He was born in Westmoreland, N. H., on the 18th of January, 1816. His father, also Curtis by name, was a gentleman farmer of New England ancestry, who came to America prior to the Revolutionary War, and settled in Massachusetts. The first representative of the family in this country was Jonathan Knight, an Englishman, who made settlement in Massachusetts. He was the father of only one child, the great-grandfather of our subject, who, after he grew to

manhood, in his native State, married Miss Dudley, who was closely related to the first Governor of Massachusetts. This lady lived to the advanced age of 103 years, and died in Piermont, in Grafton Co. N. H., as also did her husband, at the age of seventy-five years.

Jonathan Knight became a prominent physician in that locality, and was looked up to as a leader among the men of his county. His son Curtis, the father of our subject, was born in Westmoreland, N. H., and there grew to manhood, being reared to farming pursuits. He afterward removed to Cornish, N. H., and was married to Miss Betsey Atwood, a New Hampshire lady, and lived there in the latter named State until 1846. They then removed to Illinois, and settled on a farm near Blackberry, Kane County, where the father passed the remainder of his days, his death taking place about 1850, when he was sixty-two years of age. He was a man of great energy and industry, and improved a farm from a tract of uncultivated land, so that his widow was left in comfortable circumstances; she is now residing with her daughter, Mrs. Maria Fonvard, at Elkhart, Ind., whose husband is connected with a foundry in that place. The mother of our subject has now arrived at the advanced age of eighty-nine years, and is a bright and intelligent old lady, who retains her natural faculties to a remarkable degree.

Curtis Knight was the eldest of twelve children born to his parents, seven sons and five daughters, all of whom are living with the exception of two, a son and daughter. They are all married and comfortably settled in homes of their own. Our subject was reared to farming pursuits, and educated at Piermont Academy. In 1834 he set out in life on his own account, first coming to New York City, and after a tour of some of the Western States landed in Bourbon County, Ky. Before leaving his native State he had had some experience as a teacher, and after arriving in Kentucky again took up the profession which he followed there for three years.

From Bourbon Mr. Knight removed to Clark County, and in due time was married to Miss Polly A. Emerson, a native of the latter county, and who bore him three children, one son and two

daughters, all now married: Mary became the wife of Schuyler Thompson, of McLean County, Ill., and is now living in Bloomington Township; James P. married Miss Mildred Stagner, and is farming in the latter named township; Sarah married Rufus Oldham, a farmer of Clark County, Ky. The mother of these children died in the latter named State and county, at the age of thirty years.

In the meantime Mr. Knight had been in Jackson County, Mo., where he engaged in farming for three years before returning to Clark County, Ky., and before the death of his wife, and he had also, as opportunity afforded, gained considerable information in dentistry. After the death of his first wife he began practicing, and was thus occupied for two years in Clark and Marion Counties. He had been successful in his business transactions and at this time purchased a farm in Madison County, Ky., upon which he located, and on the 4th of September, 1850, was married to Mrs. Emily (Cornelison) Ballard, a native of Madison County, Ky., who was born in 1821. She was reared and educated in her native county, where her father had settled at an early day, and was one of the prominent citizens of the county, in which he was proprietor of a valuable plantation. Mrs. Knight was educated and accomplished, and has always occupied a high position in society.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Knight located upon the farm, and our subject followed his self-appointed trade as a local dentist until 1863. The Civil War being then in progress, he came North to evade the hostile attitude of the Secessionists, himself being a radical Republican. He voted for Fremont for President while in Kentucky, and when the National Convention assembled at Chicago on the 10th of May, 1860, and nominated Abraham Lincoln for President, he was present as a delegate and voted and worked for the great Illinoisan. After he returned home from the convention he began to arrange with other loyal citizens for the raising of a home guard and the organization of Union clubs, and was President of the one in Madison County. Under his supervision these clubs or companies finally became the means of holding in check Morgan and Zollicoffer, who were then threatening the peace and security

of that section of country. The life of our subject was frequently threatened, and after a time he deemed it expedient to remove North. As one of the Home Guards he was at the battles of Wildeat and Richmond, and was subjected to great loss and annoyance of all kinds; his horses were stolen, and his property greatly damaged by Morgan's raiders. After coming North one of his sons joined the regular army, and did good service in battle for the Union.

After coming to Illinois Dr. Knight purchased eighty acres of land in Bloomington Township, where he established a permanent home and which he has since occupied. Both the Doctor and his excellent lady are prominently connected with the Christian Church at Shirley, and our subject in politics is as thoroughly reliable as he was during the days of the "late unpleasantness."

**J**OHAN H. BRYANT, contractor and builder, having his office at the intersection of Northeast and Douglas streets, Bloomington, may be properly numbered among the pioneer settlers of Illinois, as he came here in 1837 with his parents, being then a young child. He was born in East Cambridge, Mass., Dec. 3, 1833, his parents being Eben and Martha (Brown) Bryant, natives of Wakefield and Charlestown, Mass. Eben Bryant was a farmer by occupation, and emigrated from the Bay State to Illinois in 1837, settling in Pike County, upon 160 acres of wild land, which he improved and cultivated and occupied until his death, which occurred in 1866. The mother survived him twelve years, dying at the old homestead in 1878. They were the parents of five children, four now living, as follows: Eben F., of Pike County; John H., our subject; Harriet and Joseph B., of Kansas City. The father of our subject was a strong Abolitionist, and both parents were members of the Baptist Church.

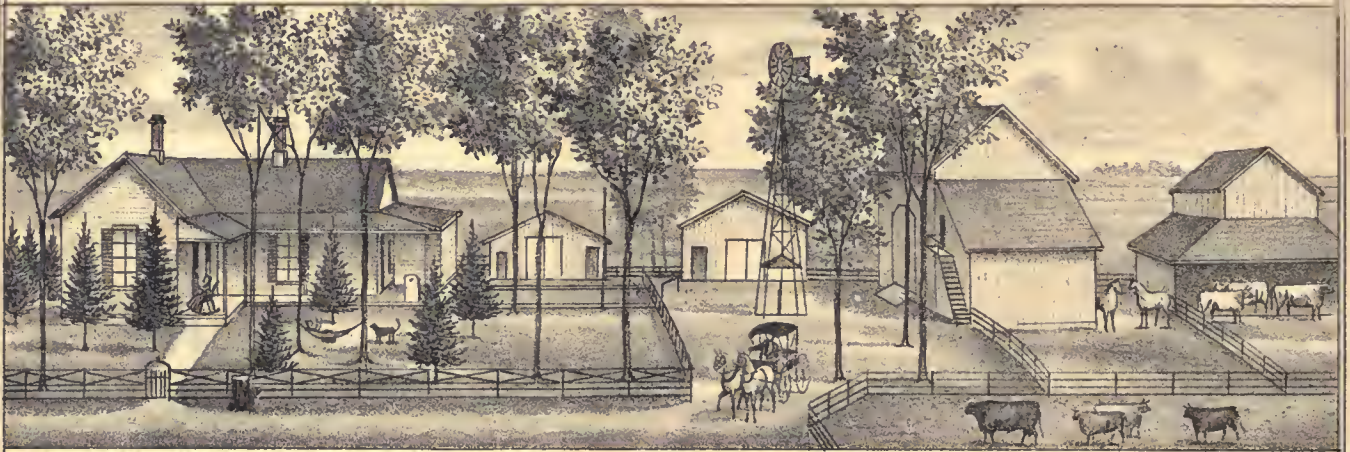
John H. Bryant was reared on his father's farm, and received a practical education. He remained at home until nineteen years old, and then served three years at the carpenter's trade, in Griggsville. He soon afterward commenced as a contractor,







RESIDENCE OF W. H. BALL, SEC. 10., CHEENEY'S GROVE TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF W. H. HOSELTON, SEC. 23., ANCHOR TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF HENRY BUTLER, SEC. 3., CHEENEY'S GROVE TOWNSHIP.

which he followed in that locality until 1859, and then came to Bloomington. Here he first established himself on West Mulberry street, removing to his present quarters in 1884. He now gives employment to from five to twenty men, and among the important structures which he has had in charge are the City Hall, Turner Hall, the German Methodist Episcopal Church and the Eagle Block, besides some of the finest residences in the city.

Our subject was married in 1855, to Miss Nancy English, a native of New Salem, Ill., and the daughter of Robert and Martha (Hooper) English, of Ohio. Mr. English was a farmer who, after coming to Illinois, settled first at New Salem, whence he removed to McLean County in 1863. His declining years were spent in Normal Township, where his death occurred in about 1865.

Mr. and Mrs. Bryant became the parents of five children, as follows: George A. is in California; Alice, now Mrs. Gilbert Eldridge, is the mother of two children—Clare and Pansy; Frank married Miss Mary Ellen Ingersol, and they have one daughter, a babe, Ethel Frances; Arthur is doing business with his father; Charles, the youngest, is at home. The family residence is located at No. 806 West Oliver street, and is the resort of the best people of Bloomington. Mrs. Bryant is a member in good standing of the Baptist Church. Mr. Bryant is one of the largest contractors in the city of Bloomington, and both as a business man and a citizen, is one of the important factors in its business and industrial interests.



**D**R. A. L. CHAPMAN, of Bloomington, has been a practicing physician of McLean County for a period of ten years and came to this city in 1883. He is one of the reliable physicians of this locality, and enjoys a large and lucrative practice in both city and country. Dr. Chapman was born in Smyrna, Harrison Co., Ohio, on the 25th of January, 1847, and is the son of Dr. R. C. and Mary (McDonald) Chapman, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Ohio. They emigrated to Ohio after their marriage, in 1843, locating in Hendrysburg, Belmont County,

where the father of our subject engaged in the practice of medicine, but subsequently removed to Newcomerstown, where he remained until his death, after a practice of twenty-nine years in that place; the mother died in 1848. Of their family of four children, three are now living: Catharine M., Mrs. Berg, of El Paso, Woodford Co., Ill.; Dr. A. L. of our sketch, and Mary E., Mrs. Brown, of Newcomerstown, Ohio.

The subject of this history remained with his parents until sixteen years of age, and received a fair education in the common schools. The war then being in progress he enlisted in Co. G, 76th Ohio Vol. Inf., and remained in service until the close of the war. He went in as a drummer boy, but after two months threw his drum away, substituting for it a musket, and participated with his comrades in the battles of Resaca, Ga., Altona Pass, Big Shanty, Kennesaw Mountain and the siege of Atlanta, winding up his military services at the battle of Bentonville, in North Carolina. After his honorable discharge from the army young Chapman resumed his studies at the High School in his native town, and after a three years' course entered the Eastman National Business College at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., from which he graduated in 1866. In 1869 he went to Nashville, Tenn., and became teacher in a graded school whence, after eighteen months, he removed to Glasgow, Ky., where he taught a few months, and then returning home attended another term at the High School. He then resumed teaching until 1874, in the meantime reading medicine, and the following year entered the Medical College at Cincinnati, Ohio, from which he graduated in 1876. He commenced practice at Bellaire, Ohio, and in 1877 came to Illinois, locating in Oak Grove, this county, where he remained until 1883, when he came to Bloomington. He is a member of the Board of United States Pension Examining Surgeons, and is Secretary of McLean County Medical Society.

Dr. Chapman was married in 1879, to Miss Lydia Bramwell, of Dry Grove Township, this county, and the daughter of Ezra F. and Rebecca (Griffith) Bramwell, of Indiana. Her parents came to Illinois in 1856, and purchased a farm which they still occupy. The Doctor and Mrs. C. have become

the parents of two children—Jessie R. and Mary C. Their comfortable and attractive home is located at No. 703, East Washington street, and they enjoy the society and friendship of a large circle of acquaintances.

Politically our subject uniformly casts his vote with the Democratic party. Socially he belongs to the G. A. R., the Red Men, Commercial Council, the Blue Lodge and Chapter of the A. F. & A. M., and the Knights Templar, and also a new organization called the Union Veterans Union.



**C**HARLES A. BARLEY, Insurance Agent and Notary Public of Leroy, is also engaged in the real estate, loan and collecting business, of which he has a thorough understanding, and is meeting with success. Mr. Barley is a native of the Buckeye State and was born in Wayne Township, Champaign County, March 19, 1845. His father was George Barley, of Frederick County, Va., and his grandfather, John Barley, was a native of Maryland but of German ancestry and parentage. He was engaged in agricultural pursuits the greater part of his life, and spent his last days in the Old Dominion.

George Barley, the father of our subject, was reared on a farm in his native county and was there married in the fall of 1834. A few days afterward, accompanied by his bride and equipped with one horse and a spring wagon, he set out overland for Ohio. They located in Greene County and thence, after two years, removed to Champaign County. Here the father bought a tract of heavy timber land near Urbana. There was a log cabin on the place and half an acre was cleared. He immediately set about its improvement and cultivation, and established a permanent home, where he spent the remainder of his days, his decease occurring in January, 1883. He had cleared the greater part of his land and erected a good set of frame buildings. In addition to the affairs of his own family and his homestead he was always interested in the welfare and prosperity of the community around him, and materially assisted in its development and progress. He filled various offices of trust in his township,

and with the exception of two years was Trustee from 1854 until his death, a period of twenty-nine years.

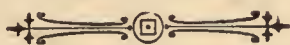
The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Julia A. Spicknel. She also was born in Frederick County, Va., and was the daughter of Clement Spicknel who, with his wife, formerly a Miss Frazier, was a native of New Jersey, and the latter of French descent. Mrs. B. died in July, 1886, in Champaign County, Ohio. Of this union there were born seven children, as follows: John W. served in the late war as Captain of Co. F, 134th Ohio Vol. Inf.; he is now Register of Deeds in Washington County, Kan. Noah F., formerly a teacher of penmanship in the city schools of Lexington, Mo., died there Aug. 10, 1860; Isaiah N. is a farmer and stock-raiser near Lawrence, Kan.; Mary, Mrs. Morecraft, lives in Champaign County, Ohio; our subject was the next in order of birth; Martha A., Mrs. Hallowel, lives in Leroy, Ill., and Sarah, in Champaign County, Ohio.

Charles A. Barley was the fifth child of his parents. His childhood and youth were spent upon the farm and he received his early education in the district schools. He also attended the High School at Urbana for two years and remained a resident of his native State until 1868. In the meantime he had graduated from Oberlin Commercial College, and during the war served in the army as a member of the 134th Ohio Infantry. He taught school for a time in Ohio, and after coming to this State continued this occupation near Leroy until 1870. He was then appointed Principal of the Leroy schools, which position he held for four years and then was compelled to resign on account of ill-health. He soon afterward established his present business, and in 1879 associated himself in partnership with D. L. Moorehouse, loan and real-estate agent. They operated together until September, 1886, when their business was closed up without any outstanding indebtedness.

The manner in which the affairs of the firm were conducted by Mr. Barley is a fair indication of his tact and ability as a financier. He is a thorough business man, and his straightforward methods of conducting his affairs and his promptness in meeting his obligations have gained him the confidence

and respect of the business community. In his handling of half a million dollars there has never been a shadow of a loss or fraud, and he retired from the firm with a clear conscience and the good will of those with whom he dealt. He has been prominently identified with various public enterprises in the city of Leroy and has held various offices of trust. He was one of the Executive Committee of the company organized to build the Narrow Gauge Railroad from Leroy to Fisher, in Champaign County, and also Secretary of the same, and one of five who organized the Leroy Library Association in 1875. He has been City Clerk, with the exception of two years, since the city was incorporated, and was a member of the School Board from 1877 until 1886, and then declined to serve longer. He was Clerk of Empire Township six years and has been Notary Public since 1874. He was elected Secretary of the Empire Loan and Building Association in 1874, and continued in that office while the company existed, a period of eight years. In 1882, when the Leroy Loan and Building Association was organized, he was elected Secretary, and has been re-elected each year. He is a member of Leroy Lodge No. 221, A. F. & A. M., being Master two years. He is also a member of Thomas Riddle Post No. 230, G. A. R.

Charles A. Barley and Miss Matilda Dempsey were united in marriage in Ohio in October, 1868. Mrs. Barley is the daughter of Jefferson and Jane (Bailey) Dempsey, natives of Pennsylvania, who removed to Ohio at an early period in the settlement of Champaign County, being among the pioneers of that section. Of this union there have been born five children—Inez, Frank C., Jessie, Canby A. and Lloyd B.



**L**YMAN W. BETTS, a pioneer settler of Bloomington Township, is now comfortably located on section 12, where he has spent the greater part of forty years, and been actively and successfully engaged in general farming. Mr. Betts was born in Cecil County, Md., Aug. 5, 1825. His father, Franklin Betts, was a native of Richmond, Mass., born March 28, 1789, and was

the son of Zebulon Betts, who was a farmer of New England, and died in Massachusetts. Franklin Betts, when a young man left his native town for the city of Baltimore, where he engaged in the boot and shoe business, and where, in due time, he was married to Mrs. Ann Davis, a native of his own county. After the birth of three children, among whom was the subject of our sketch, the family removed to Brooklyn, N. Y., where two more children were born, both daughters. The three eldest were sons—Franklin M., Robert C. and our subject, Lyman W. The sisters, Mary A. and Louisa A., are now both living in Iowa.

Mr. Betts spent the greater part of his boyhood and youth in the city of Brooklyn and afterward went to New York City. Then, when nineteen years of age, he removed with his parents to Otsego County, N. Y., where both the latter died a few years later. Lyman W. then set out for the West, and coming into McLean County, Ill., located near Bloomington, where he engaged in the cattle trade with the late Judge Davis, his half-brother. His good education and some previous experience in mercantile business, had given him a good insight into methods of doing business, and he was quite successful in his trading operations. His connection with Judge Davis continued for a score of years. In 1876 Mr. Betts removed to the farm which he now occupies, and engaged in the breeding of standard horses—Hambletonians. His two stallions are Bright Ratler and Roseoe Thornedale, magnificent animals which promise great things for the future. Mr. Betts has already attained a fine reputation as one of the most successful breeders of this section. The dam of these horses is "Roxy" from Alexander's "Norman" of Kentucky.

After coming into this county Mr. Betts spent some years in "single blessedness," but finally concluded that his condition would be greatly improved by the acquisition of a helpmeet and partner. He was consequently united in marriage, on the 19th of September, 1853, with Miss S. R. Davis, the daughter of Dr. David Davis, and second cousin of Judge Davis. Their wedding took place in Cecil County, Md. The mother of Mrs. Betts, before her marriage, was Miss Emeline Wicks, and

she is yet living in Cecil County, Md., where she was born, and is now arrived at the advanced age of eighty years. Dr. David Davis, the father of Mrs. Betts, died in Maryland in 1844. He was a successful physician, and practiced in his native State from the time he became of age until his death. Mrs. Betts has still in her possession some rare old pieces of china, and the silver buckles worn by her great-grandmother on her wedding day.

Mrs. Betts was born in Kent County, Md., Feb. 24, 1831. After the death of her father, her mother, with a family of eight children, removed to Cecil County, where Mrs. Betts was reared and educated, and remained until her marriage with our subject. Of this union there were born four children, one of whom, William, died in 1876, at the age of twenty-two years; Emma became the wife of J. A. Jordan, trainmaster at Roodhouse, Ill.; Fannie married E. B. Mitchell, Jr., a farmer near Danvers, this county; Anna, Mrs. J. V. Nichols, is living with her husband on a farm near Covell, Ill. All the members of the family are connected with the Protestant Episcopal Church, and Mr. Betts, politically, is a solid Republican.



**D**R. J. L. WHITE, of the firm of White & Guthrie, Bloomington, is one of the leading physicians of the city, and comes from a prominent New England family, widely and favorably known in that region. Our subject was born in Westminster, Mass., on the 5th of December, 1832, and is the son of Dr. John and Luey (Howe) White, also natives of the Bay State. His grandfather, James White, was born in Massachusetts, and in his younger days learned the trade of a blacksmith, but soon afterward engaged in farming pursuits, in which he became very successful and accumulated a handsome property. The great-grandfather of our subject, Josiah White, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War. The first representatives of the family in this country came from England in the vessel which followed the Mayflower, and settled in Watertown, Mass. From one of these descended the present family. On his mother's side Dr. White is the eighth generation

from John Alden, who is celebrated in verse by the poet Longfellow in connection with Miles Standish.

Dr. John White, the father of our subject, received careful home training and pursued his early studies in the common schools. In later years he entered the medical department of Brown's University, at Providence, R. I., from which he graduated with honors, and commenced the practice of his profession in Westminster, Mass., following it there for a period of twenty-six years. In 1851 he removed to Watertown, N. Y., where he continued his practice and spent the remainder of his days, his decease occurring in 1868. The mother survived until 1874. Their family consisted of five children, all of whom grew to maturity. Dr. J. L., our subject, was the eldest of the family; Ellen became the wife of Dr. J. I. Seollard, of Clinton, Oneida Co., N. Y.; she was highly educated, and became Principal of the White Seminary, at Clinton, which position she occupied about seven years; the institution was named after her. Josiah is a resident of California and the proprietor of an extensive cattle ranch in Sonoma County; he is also interested in silver mines in Arizona. Charles is engaged in the drug business at Ithaca, N. Y.; Abbie married John J. Stephens, book-keeper in the Treasury Department at Washington. The father of our subject was a member of the State Legislature of Massachusetts and of the State Medical and local societies. He was a prominent and useful citizen, and greatly respected for his natural talents and sterling worth of character.

The subject of this biography spent his younger days in school, commencing his medical studies at an early age and graduating in 1854, from the Medical Department of Harvard College, Massachusetts. He also obtained valuable experience in the general hospital of the State in 1853. He subsequently went to Europe, spent several months among the hospitals of Paris, and after returning to the United States, came to Illinois in the fall of 1854. His first location was in Jerseyville, Jersey County, where he remained until 1859. He then went to Memphis, Tenn., practiced there two years, and returning to Jerseyville, became surgeon of the Board of Enrollment, which position he occupied until the close of the war.

Dr. White became a resident of Bloomington in 1870, since which time he has practiced continuously and taken a leading position in the profession along the Mississippi Valley. The following year, 1871, he became surgeon of the C. & A. R. R., which position he holds, together with the same on the Illinois Central and in the Soldiers' Orphans' Home.

Dr. J. L. White and Miss Harriet Hawley, of Jerseyville, were united in marriage on the 10th of February, 1857. Mrs. White is the daughter of Samuel and Hannah Hawley, and of her union with our subject she has become the mother of four children—Leila, Charles H., Lucy B., and one who died in infancy. The Doctor and his family are in possession of a handsome home at No. 509 West Washington street, and enjoy the friendship and esteem of a large circle of acquaintances. He has built up an extensive practice in this vicinity and accumulated a competency. He is stockholder and Director in the Third National Bank of Bloomington, and a stockholder in the Plow Works and Gas Company. In politics he is a staunch Republican; socially he belongs to the A. F. & A. M., and in 1886 was Grand Commander of the K. T. of Illinois; he is a 32d degree Mason.



**J**ESSE HILL, one of the honored pioneers of McLean County, settled in Dale Township as early as 1830, and during a residence of fifty-seven years has fully established himself in the respect and esteem of his associates and fellow-citizens. Since coming to this section of Illinois Mr. Hill has closely identified himself with the industrial and agricultural interests of his adopted county, and whenever an opportunity presented itself has been one of the foremost to contribute of his time and means to promote its development and prosperity. As the oldest settler of Dale Township he is held in peculiar veneration and respect, and accorded that tacit acknowledgment to the worth and enterprise which have been his chief characteristics.

The subject of our sketch is a native of the Blue Grass State, having been born five miles from Lexington, Fayette Co., Ky. His birth occurred

on the 24th of March, 1809, and his father was James Hill, a native of Pennsylvania, who, when a young man removed to Kentucky, before his marriage, and settled in the county where his son was subsequently born. He was a carpenter and millwright by trade, a skilled workman, and followed his trade in Kentucky until 1820. In the meantime he had married, and now resolved to remove to the North. He accordingly started out with his wife and nine children for the State of Indiana. They proposed to make the trip overland, and their outfit consisted of eleven horses and three wagons. After crossing the Ohio River they settled in Jefferson County, Ind., where the elder Hill followed his trade and became prominent in the business affairs of that section. He built two or three gristmills, of which he superintended the operations for some years, and also carried on the business of cabinet-making. He passed the balance of his life in Jefferson County, and after a long and busy career departed from the scenes of his earthly labors in about 1860, at the ripe old age of eighty-four years. The partner of his early manhood and the mother of our subject was Miss Mary C. Cope, to whom he was married about 1794. She was a native of Maryland, and after her marriage to James Hill accompanied him to Jefferson County, Ind., and died in that county two years after the death of her husband, in 1862. They became the parents of twelve children, whom they carefully trained to habits of industry and principles of honor and honesty, and of whom five are surviving, and are living worthy and honorable lives in accordance with the precepts handed down to them by their worthy and excellent parents.

Jesse Hill of our sketch was the fifth child of his parents' family. He received only a limited education, but being naturally fond of books has always kept himself well posted in regard to all matters worthy of attention. As soon as large enough to work he assisted his father in the mill and distillery, and remained with his parents until after he had attained his majority. He then determined to see something of the world beyond the bounds of his native State, and packing a knapsack started on foot for the prairies of Illinois. He walked from Madison to McLean County,

and upon his arrival here had \$3.37½ in his pocket. This was in 1830. He first obtained work among farmers, digging wells, splitting rails, or whatever his hands could find to do. He made his home for the first twelve months with Col. Beeler, of Twin Grove, whose daughter, Miss Naney, became his wife in August of the following year.

After spending one season in McLean County, Ill., Mr. Hill went to Indiana, procured a pair of horses, a wagon and some leather; he then traded one horse, the wagon and leather for forty acres of land in Twin Grove, McLean County, and also purchased a claim on section 2, of Dale Township. Upon this there was a log cabin partly finished, and into it he removed with his young wife and commenced housekeeping. He had no money with which to enter land, and it was entered for him, and he then traded his land in Twin Grove for the eighty acres which he now owns and occupies. He erected a small, round log house, chinked and daubed it with mud, and built a chimney of sticks and dirt. He took possession of this place in 1833, which he has continuously owned and occupied since that time. The log cabin, however, has been replaced by a handsome and comfortable farm residence; and the diminutive pig-pen by a good barn and all necessary out-buildings. Mr. Hill has added to his first purchase as his means permitted, and is now the possessor of 220 acres, all in a good state of cultivation. He has also erected a good set of buildings on two other farms. His life has been one of energy and industry, and in his later days he feels richly rewarded for the toils and difficulties of his early manhood.

Miss Naney Beeler, the first wife of our subject, became the mother of three children, and departed this life in Dale Township, in October, 1840. She was born in Butler County, Ohio, in April, 1808, and was the daughter of Samuel and Mary (Graves) Beeler, who removed from Ohio to Illinois in 1830. The children of Jesse Hill by his first marriage were: John W., who lives in Dale Township; Jane, wife of Samuel Morgan, also of this township; and Martha E., Mrs. Sackett, who lives in Bloomington.

For his second wife Mr. Hill, in 1843, married

Miss Phoebe Munsell, who was born in Vermont and died in Dale Township, this county, in 1860. Of this marriage there were also three children: Naney A., the wife of James Rogers, of Dale Township; Zerah Munsell, of Kansas, and James, also a resident of Dale.

The third marriage of Mr. Hill took place in 1862, his wife having been Miss Matilda Hancock, of Ohio, and of this marriage there are two sons living—Charles F. and William A.

Politically Mr. Hill is a staunch adherent of the Democratic party. His life has included a rich experience, and he has witnessed with unabated interest the remarkable changes which have occurred along the Mississippi Valley since his removal from the Blue Grass State of his nativity to the prairies of Illinois. The stirring scenes he has witnessed during the course of a long and busy life would make an interesting volume, and we cannot by any means do justice to them within the brief details of a biographical sketch. Suffice it to say that Mr. Hill has acted well his part, and has his abundant reward in the position which he holds in the community.



**W**ILLIAM H. DOOLEY, a prosperous and progressive farmer of Empire Township, is one of its most intelligent citizens, an extensive reader, well educated and well informed, and a gentleman who has materially assisted in the advancement and prosperity of this section. He is a native of Clark County, Ky., and was born Aug. 15, 1834. His father, William Dooley, a native of the same county and State, was born March 1, 1804, and his grandfather, Obadiah Dooley, of Virginia, removed from the Old Dominion to Clark County, Ky., soon after his marriage, and was among the pioneer settlers of that region. He cleared a farm from the wilderness and made it his home until his death, at an advanced age, in about 1844.

The father of our subject was reared in his native county, and after his marriage purchased a tract of timber land ten miles from Winchester, the county seat. He there cleared a farm and lived until 1851, then disposed of his possessions in the Blue




Grass country and started with his family, consisting of his wife and twelve children, on an overland journey to Illinois. They began their journey on the 11th of November, their outfit consisting of twelve horses and four wagons, with a carriage, and arrived in Bloomington in just one month from the day they started. There William Dooley, Sr., rented a house for a short time, then purchased the Rogers farm in Old Town Township. This he occupied until 1858, being successful in his business and agricultural operations, and then abandoning the active labors of life, removed to Bloomington, whence he removed to a farm in Padua Township, where he spent his last days, dying on the 7th of June, 1869. The mother of our subject before her marriage was Miss Minerva Morris, a native of the same county and State as her husband. She was born in 1810, being the daughter of Samuel Morris, of Virginia, whence he removed to Clark County, Ky., at an early day, where he cleared a farm and occupied it until his death in 1859. Mrs. Minerva Dooley departed this life in Bloomington, in August, 1884.

William H. Dooley was the fifth child of his parents' family, and was a youth of seventeen years when his parents removed from Kentucky to Illinois and located in this county. He had obtained a good education in the subscription schools of his native State and afterward assisted his father in carrying on the farm until his marriage. He then settled on a small tract of land which had been given him by his father, and after occupying it one season sold it and purchased sixty acres adjacent, where he lived one year, then sold again and purchased 120 acres. This he also sold, after occupying it one season, and after a short residence in Bloomington, rented for one year a farm in Normal Township, then purchased eighty acres in Old Town Township. After several more changes of location he selected his present site, which he removed to on the 1st of May, 1876. This farm contains 1,185 acres, all improved, much of it being devoted to pasture, and the shapely and substantial set of frame buildings is unexcelled in this section. His cattle are graded Durhams, and among them are to be found some of the finest animals in the county. Everything about the premises denotes

the supervision of an intelligent and enterprising man, who is keeping full pace with the progress and improvement of the day.

The marriage of William H. Dooley and Miss Eliza Naggle took place at the home of the bride's parents in Old Town Township, on the 12th of October, 1854. Mrs. Dooley was born in Darke County, Ohio, May 7, 1835. Her father, Samuel Naggle, and her mother, formerly Miss Mary (Slechy) Naggle, were natives of Pennsylvania, whence they came to McLean County in 1850, settling first in Bloomington Township, and later in Old Town Township, where the mother died in 1871. The father died in Vermilion County in 1880. Mr. and Mrs. Dooley became the parents of eleven children, seven of whom are living—Lillie May, Milton H., George E., Damaris, Obadiah M., Hattie and Lida B. Mr. and Mrs. D. are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and our subject in politics is an uncompromising Democrat. He cast his first presidential vote for James Buchanan, and since that time has uniformly voted in support of the principles of his party. He has filled various offices of trust in Old Town Township; has been Collector of Taxes, and served on the Board of Supervisors several terms in Empire Township, being also a member of the School Board. To such men as Mr. Dooley is McLean County indebted for its prosperous and prominent position as one of the wealthiest and most progressive counties of the State.



**J**S. CRAWFORD, a prominent citizen of McLean County, is now passing his days in ease and retirement at his pleasant home in Bloomington, and as one of the prominent, substantial and useful members of the business community, is held in the highest respect, which is increased by the knowledge of his personal worth. Our subject is a native of Center County, Pa., and was born on the 25th of May, 1823. He is the son of Rev. James and Appalonia (Helper) Crawford, natives respectively of Lancaster and Center Counties. They were jointly engaged in merchandising and farming, and moved to Maryland in 1849,

where they spent the remainder of their days, the father dying in 1856, and the mother in 1862. Their family consisted of eight children, only two now living—D. F., a resident of Odell, this county, and our subject.

Young Crawford was reared to farming pursuits and received a practical education. He remained under the parental roof until he had grown to man's estate, and had the care of his parents until their death. In April, 1865, he disposed of his interest in the estate, and coming to Ottawa, La Salle County, engaged in the manufacture of buggies and wagons, which he followed for nine years. He then removed to Normal in order to educate his children, and after nine years came to Bloomington in 1883.

Mr. Crawford was married in 1851, to Miss Elizabeth Hinkle, a native of Maryland, and the daughter of Jesse and Mary A. (Falek) Hinkle, natives of Maryland and Virginia, respectively. They were the parents of ten children, of whom the following are living: Rebeeca, Mrs. Bowden, resides in Stark County, Ohio; John F. is in Maryland; the next was Leonard; Elizabeth is the wife of our subject; Rev. George, her twin brother, is on the Pacific coast; Rev. Richard is in Pennsylvania; Ellen J., Mrs. Elbin, lives in Maryland, and Mary F., Mrs. Pratt, in Missouri. The father of Mrs. C. was an extensive farmer and the owner of 700 acres of land. He died in 1871, aged seventy-three years. The mother died in 1881, and was eighty-four years old. Both parents were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Crawford became the parents of seven children, six now living, as follows: Asbury M. is an attorney of Montana; Amanda M. lives at home; William A. married Miss Elonise Smith, and they have one child, Erastus E., of Chicago; George S. operates a ranch in Montana; Bertha C. married E. G. Hubbard, and they have two children, Elbert G. and Ralph, the latter of whom is in Buffalo, N. Y.; Elmer E. is on a ranch in Montana.

Mr. Crawford is Republican in politics, and with his wife a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He has been Class-Leader and Superintendent of the Sabbath-school, and was Trustee most of the time while living in Ottawa. Mr.

Crawford purchased his residence in 1883, and since retiring from farm labor has engaged considerably in life insurance. He is considered a representative citizen of McLean County, and has fulfilled all his obligations as a business man, the father of a family, a neighbor and friend.



**C**HARLES H. GMEHLIN, dealer in and manufacturer of guns, rifles, pistols, and carrying on general repairing in this line, is thus worthily adding his mite to the industrial interests of Bloomington, where he is held in high esteem as an honest man and a good citizen. Mr. G. is a skilled mechanic and possesses a thorough acquaintance with his business, having had many years' experience, and can turn out in a creditable manner almost anything in the line of fire-arms.

Mr. Gmehlin was born in Stuttgart, Wurtemberg, Germany, Feb. 22, 1834, and in accordance with the laws and customs of his native country entered school when six years of age, where he remained until fourteen. He then went to learn the trade of a gunsmith to the King of Wurtemberg, and after serving an apprenticeship of three years packed his "kit" and removed into Switzerland, where he pursued his trade one year, and thence to Paris, France, and five months later to London, England. In the latter city he spent two years, during which time he acquired an intimate knowledge of fire-arms and became an expert in their use and manufacture.

The subject of this sketch set sail for America in the spring of 1854, first landing in New York City. He proceeded soon afterward to Hartford, Conn., where he secured a job in the shops of Samuel Colt, manufacturer of the celebrated Colt's revolver. After one year spent there he came West to Milwaukee, Wis., where he spent twelve months. Thence he went to Chicago, Ill., where he formed a partnership with George Brown, and they for a short time engaged in the manufacture of guns. The firm was soon dissolved, and Mr. Gmehlin soon afterward came to Bloomington, in 1857. He engaged with the firm of Howlett & Clary, hardware merchants, as clerk and repairer, and continued



RESIDENCE OF JOS. A. PITTS, SEC. 33, MT. HOPE TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF A.H. CARLOCK, SEC. 20, OAK GROVE TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF THOS. TYSON, SEC. 22, MT. HOPE TOWNSHIP.



with them until they sold out their business. He then commenced business on his own account, and has been deservedly prosperous. Besides the manufacture of guns and pistols he makes a specialty of repairing these and locks of all kinds. He carries a full stock of the best American and English manufactures in his line, as well as knives, ammunition, etc. He owns his business house and adjoining lot. The house is two stories in height and 25x50 feet in area. He also has a good residence on the corner of Madison and Market streets.

The marriage of Charles H. Gmehlin and Miss Henrietta Sehlegel, of Bloomington, was celebrated in 1859. Mrs. G. is also a native of Wurtemberg, Germany, and by her union with our subject became the mother of four children, one now deceased. Those living are three daughters: Ida is a teacher in the High School of Bloomington; Mary and Amelia are at home. Mr. Gmehlin is a representative citizen and has taken an intelligent interest in the growth and prosperity of his adopted city. He is a member of the Council, having represented the Second Ward for the past two years. He belongs to the Turner Society, and in all respects is fulfilling his obligations as a useful member of the community.



**H**UGH K. VICKROY, a highly respected resident of Normal Township, is engaged in the growing of small fruits, and as a breeder of Holstein-Friesian cattle. He has been a resident of the Prairie State since 1856, coming here when a boy fourteen years old from his native State of Pennsylvania, where he was born in Westmoreland County, on the 24th of October, 1841. His parents were Isaac and Maria (Kennedy) Vickroy, whose family consisted of four children: Nathan is a fruit-grower at Amboy, this State; our subject was the second in order of birth; John P. is a resident of Normal; Margaret is the wife of C. F. Lee, of Johnson County, Neb.

Mr. Vickroy was reared to farming pursuits in Pennsylvania, and received a common-school education. Upon coming to Illinois with his uncle, Hugh McLaughlin, he located in Bureau County,

and was variously occupied at whatever he could find to do for two years afterward. He then engaged with Samuel Edwards of Lamoille to learn the nursery business, and remained with him six years. Then, wishing to still further advance his education, he entered Mt. Carroll Seminary, and applied himself closely to study for two years following. The Civil War then being in progress he enlisted as a private in Co. K, 93d Ill. Vol. Inf., and served until the close. He was present at the battles of Jackson, Miss., and Champion Hills, at which latter place nearly one-half of his regiment was cut down. Later he participated in the siege of Vicksburg and numerous skirmishes, the only injury which he received being on account of a railroad accident by which he suffered the fracture of his leg. He received his honorable discharge at Chicago, and, returning to Bureau County, Ill., received the appointment of Inspector of Spirits, and remained at Peoria during the winter of 1865-66. He afterward took a course of study at Eastman Commercial College in Chicago, whence he graduated in 1867, and after this resumed work for Mr. Edwards, with whom he remained a year, and afterward engaged with his brother-in-law, at Minonk, in the nursery business for some length of time.

The marriage of Mr. Vickroy took place in 1868, at Lamoille, Bureau County, the maiden of his choice being Miss Mary P. Graves, who was born in Massachusetts, but at the time of her marriage resided in Bureau County. Soon afterward our subject and his wife located at Champaign, where Mr. V. was placed in charge of the gardens and orchards of what is now the University of Illinois, and was thus employed until 1874. He then came to Normal and settled upon the place which he now occupies. He at first purchased ten acres, located in the north part of the city, for which he paid \$4,500, and has since embellished the same with a fine residence, erected at a cost of \$5,000, besides other improvements which have added greatly to its beauty and value. Mr. Vickroy subsequently added to his acreage, and now has in all seventy acres, which is mainly devoted to the growing of small fruits, and to which he gives his entire attention. Every dollar he possesses he accumulated by his own industrious efforts and good judgment.

He lived economically, was careful to meet his obligations promptly, and by this means has gained the reputation of an honest man and a good citizen. In politics he uniformly casts his vote with the Republican party, although otherwise taking no active part. Socially he is a member in good standing of the Masonic fraternity.

Mr. and Mrs. Vickroy have become the parents of two children, a son and daughter—H. Edwards and M. E. Louise. Mrs. V. is a careful and praiseworthy wife and mother, and an earnest member of the Baptist Church.



**SIAM GILEAD LAIN**, a gentleman highly respected in the community, and an intelligent and skillful farmer, owns a large tract of finely cultivated land, and has one of the finest residences in this section. He possesses fine natural abilities, great energy of character, and his possessions are the result of his own industry, economy and perseverance.

Mr. Lain is a native of Madison County, Ky., and was born on the 11th of September, 1829. His parents were John and Sallie (Baker) Lain, and he was their second son. He was reared in his native county, received his early education in the subscription schools, and as soon as he became of suitable age commenced the duties of life in assisting his parents around the homestead. When he had attained his majority his father gave him a horse and a saddle, and this was his start in life. He went from home and engaged in the buying and selling of cattle, and general trading. In the spring of 1855, with a capital of \$400 he purchased a stock of goods, and being still further assisted by his father, obtained additions to this on credit, and conducted a very successful trade until the fall of 1857, when he sold out and came to McLean County.

Upon arriving here Mr. Lain purchased a tract of land on section 19, in Dale Township. It was entirely unimproved, and he industriously set about breaking the sod and cultivating the soil, and erected a good set of frame buildings. He was also obliged to fence his land, and he was thus industri-

ously occupied until the fall of 1865, when he sold out and purchased land in Allen Township. The following spring he removed to Shirley, and in company with his brother, W. B. Lain, purchased 200 acres of land on section 36, which constitutes his present homestead. At the same time the brothers opened a store of general merchandise in Shirley and conducted that business and farming together for the following two years, when our subject traded his interest in the store for his brother's interest in the farm, and has since devoted his time to agricultural pursuits. He subsequently added to his landed possessions and is now the owner of 532 acres, the home farm including 200 acres and the balance of his land lying in Randolph Township. It is all improved and in a good state of cultivation, and Mr. Lain ranks among the first and substantial farmers of this locality.

The subject of our sketch was united in marriage with Miss May J. Boulware on the 28th of July, 1857. Mrs. L. was also born in Madison County, Ky., and is the daughter of Hardin and Ruth J. (McWilliams) Boulware, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of five children, all living: Susan P. became the wife of Henry B. Stubblefield, and lives in Dale Township; Robert, Albert G., Wellie B. and Ira D. are at home with their parents. Mr. and Mrs. L. are prominently connected with the Christian Church of Shirley, and in politics Mr. Lain, formerly a Whig, now affiliates with the Democratic party.



**JACOB EYER**, one of the self-made men and successful merchants of McLean, deals extensively in dry-goods and ready-made clothing, and established business here in March, 1883. He is of that energetic and resolute character which admits of no such word as fail, and has maintained the position which he first took in the front ranks among the business men of this locality.

Mr. Eyer was born in Butler County, Ohio, Jan. 1, 1848. His father, Rudolph Eyer, was a native of Germany, and was educated and grew to manhood in his native Empire. After attaining his

majority he emigrated to America, first locating in Butler County, Ohio, where he was married. In 1843 he removed to Fulton County, the same State, and purchased a farm, upon which he lived for thirteen years, and then selling out came to McLean County, Ill. He first located in White Oak Township, engaged in farming pursuits, and afterward removed to Dry Grove Township, where he spent the remainder of his days, departing this life in 1877.

The wife of Rudolph Eyer was formerly Miss Barbara Gunden, who was a native of the same country as her husband, and to whom he was married in Ohio. She accompanied him to the West, and now lives with her children in Dry Grove Township. Of these there were ten in number, seven of whom grew to mature years, the record being as follows: Mary, the wife of John Barrett, lives in Humboldt County, Iowa; Sophronia married Edward Patton, and lives in Dry Grove Township; Jacob, our subject, was the third child; Mattie, Mrs. Albert Wright, resides in Linn County, Kan.; Lizzie married Jacob Patton, and lives in Dry Grove Township; Christian and Daniel are in Humboldt County, Iowa.

The subject of this history was the eldest son of his parents. He attended the district school in winters, and assisted his father on the farm during the milder seasons. He remained under the home roof until twenty-two years of age, then farmed on rented land on his own account and purchased an interest in a corn-sheller and thrashing machine, which he operated profitably in White Oak and Dry Grove Townships. In 1874 he abandoned farming to engage in mercantile pursuits, having a capital of \$600, the result of his own earnings. With this he purchased a half-interest in a store in White Oak Township, and put in a general stock of merchandise, operating there until 1882. He then sold out, and after a vacation of a few months came to the little city of McLean, as before stated. He has been successful since his first establishment here, is doing a good business and carrying an average stock of \$7,000.

Mr. Eyer was married on the 6th of July, 1884, to Miss Laura, the daughter of Edward and Maria (Griest) Cadwallader, who were natives of Indiana.

Mrs. Eyer was born in that State, in Darlington, Montgomery County, in 1863. They have one child, Lloyd E., born Dec. 14, 1885. Both are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and our subject, in politics, affiliates with the Republican party.



**J**H. ANDERSON, of Bloomington, is engaged with Tillotson & Fell in the abstract and loan business, and possesses a good understanding of business matters in general. He was born in Greenfield, Highland Co., Ohio, Nov. 20, 1826, being the son of John and Sarah (Brooks) Anderson, of York County, Pa. John Anderson was a manufacturer of furniture, and was also an undertaker, besides being engaged in farming pursuits. He removed from his native State to Ohio in 1820, located in Greenfield, and remained there until his death in 1866. The mother died in Lawrence, Kan., in 1873, at the home of her son, Dr. S. B. Anderson. Both parents were members of the Presbyterian Church for many years. They had three sons, two now living, our subject and his brother, the latter being a graduate of the Medical College at Cincinnati.

Young Anderson remained with his parents until he was twenty-two years of age, and then went to Piekaway County, where he remained three years engaged in farming. From there he went to Frankfort, Ross Co., Ohio, and engaged in general merchandising for two years, and soon afterward entered the Commercial College of Columbus, Ohio, from which he graduated in 1856. He afterward remained at the college one year, during which he had charge of its office affairs.

After leaving the college Mr. Anderson engaged in farming in Piekaway County, Ohio, until September, 1860, when he came to Illinois and engaged in the dry-goods business at Bloomington, at which he continued three years. He then purchased a farm of 420 acres in Will County, which he occupied and cultivated for seven years, and then sold eighty acres of it, having now 340 acres. Upon retiring from his farm Mr. Anderson returned to Bloomington, and engaged in the abstract and loan business on North Main street. In 1873 he moved

into the court-house, where he has been since that time.

In 1851 our subject married Miss Naney F. Baker, who was born March 5, 1831, and is the daughter of Solomon M. and Elizabeth (Horsey) Baker, natives of New York and Ohio. Her father was an extensive farmer and stock-raiser, owning from 6,000 to 8,000 acres of land, and shipping large numbers of animals to market annually. Six only of their ten children are now living: Naney F., Mrs. Anderson; Lizzie, Mrs. J. N. Larimore, of Bloomington; John, of St. Louis; Minnie, Mrs. Baker, of Bloomington; Florence, Mrs. J. J. Hiddelston, of Eudora, Kan.; Phillip F., of North Carolina.

Mr. and Mrs. Anderson became the parents of six children—Sallie B., William M., Harry A., Adelbert, Samuel and Florenee M. Politically our subject is Democratic, and with his wife is a member of the Independent Church of Bloomington. Their handsome and attractive residence is located at the corner of Douglas and McLean streets, and they are held in high esteem by a large number of friends.



**W**ESLEY T. CRAIN, a prominent and successful farmer of Mt. Hope Township, is pleasantly located on section 8, and carrying on agriculture and stock-raising in a first-class manner. He is a native of Logan County, Ky., and was born July 20, 1841. His father, William Crain, was born in the same county, and his grandfather, Armisted Crain, was a native of Virginia, and removed to Kentucky in an early period in the settlement of that State. He was the friend and associate of Daniel Boone, and located near the Boone settlement when first becoming a resident of Kentucky. He purchased a tract of timber land and cleared a farm from the wilderness, where he established a comfortable home and passed the remainder of his days. His son William, the father of our subject, was reared in his native county and assisted his father in clearing the farm, remaining with his parents until his marriage. He then purchased a tract of heavy timber land, twelve miles from his father's place, and cleared nearly 1,000

acres. Upon this he engaged extensively in stock-raising, and bred horses, mules and sheep, which he drove to Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi for sale. He was a thorough Union man, and at the breaking out of the war joined the Union forces and became Lieutenant of the 8th Kentucky Cavalry. He died in the service at Hopkinsville, Ky., on the 7th of March, 1863. His wife, before her marriage, was Miss Amanda McMillan, a native of the same county and State as her husband, and the daughter of Bloomer McMillan, a pioneer settler of Logan County. They became the parents of nine children, all of whom, with one exception, lived to become men and women: Lemuel, the second son, served in the war in the same company with his father, and also died while in the service at Elkton, Ky., Dec. 31, 1862. The mother is still living, and a resident of Atlanta, Ill.

The subject of our sketch was the eldest child of his parents' family. He remained with his parents and assisted his father in the duties around the homestead until he was fifteen years of age, and then made annual trips to the South with horses and mules to sell, usually spending his winters in that warmer clime. In the spring of 1860 he was united in marriage with Miss Jane E. Porter, a native of Butler County, Ky., and born Dec. 11, 1841. She was the daughter of Benjamin and Naney (Hutchinson) Porter, of Butler County, Ky., and remained with her parents until her marriage with the subject of our sketch.

After his marriage Mr. Crain purchased a tract of timber land in Butler County, Ky., where he built a log house and commenced the improvement of a farm. After five years he sold out and proceeded north into McLean County, Ill., and purchased in Mt. Hope Township sixty acres of land lying on section 5. Two years afterward he traded this for a tract of eighty acres on section 8, which he now owns and occupies, and where he has resided since that time. He subsequently added to this last purchase and now has a fine farm of 160 acres, all in one body and all improved. Upon this he erected a comfortable farm residence. He has good barns and out-buildings, and all the necessary machinery and implements for carrying on agriculture after the most modern and approved methods. The



homestead bears evidence on every hand of cultivated taste and ample means.

Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Crain there were born five children, who are recorded as follows: William B. is a resident of Mt. Hope Township; Rurie M. is a student at Bloomington, Ill.; Virgil U., Ira L. and Elon P. are at home.

Mr. Crain is Republican in politics, and occupies a prominent position in the Masonic fraternity. He has always taken a great interest in the success of the order, having become a Mason in Kentucky as early as 1863, as a member of Gasper River Lodge No. 247. After coming to Illinois he assisted in the organization of McLean Lodge No. 469, in the fall of 1865. He also assisted in organizing Stanford Allen Lodge No. 605, and still holds membership in that lodge, having been Worshipful Master for several years. He is a great admirer of the doctrines of the fraternity, and has given liberally of his time and means to promote the interests of Masonry.



**J**EREMIAH WELCH, one of the leading farmers of Bloomington Township, is also largely interested in stock-raising, turning his attention principally to the breeding of fine horses. He makes a specialty of roadsters, and has in his stables several of the offspring of the celebrated Hero of Thorndale, the famous Ralston and the Clay stock, comprising in all about forty head, seven of these being from the Hero of Thorndale, and remarkably fine animals. He also has animals of a speedy family on both sides. For beauty and symmetry the animals exhibited on the farm of Mr. Welch will compare favorably with any others in the State.

The home farm of Mr. Welch is located on sections 27, 34, 35 and 36, the residence being located on the first named. His landed possessions in Bloomington Township aggregate about 400 acres, besides about 100 in Vermilion County. His dwelling, barns and outhouses are finely built and correspond with each other, being models of taste and convenience, and the whole estate presents one of the prettiest spots in the landscape of McLean

County. Mr. Welch became a resident of this locality in 1834, making his first settlement in Downs Township. He has been successfully engaged in his present business since a boy fourteen years of age, exhibiting at an early period of his life a peculiar adaptability for his chosen field of operations. Of this he makes a science, and has studied the habits and needs of animals in more than an ordinary degree. He possesses the faculty of developing their finest qualities, and in return is rewarded by a handsome income from his operations in this department of business.

The subject of our sketch was born in Vigo County, Ind., July 10, 1827. His father, Solomon Welch, was a native of Pennsylvania and of staunch Irish ancestry. He was reared to manhood in his native State and was there married, in Northampton County, to Miss Susan Jacoby, a native of the same State and of German descent and parentage. After marriage they removed to Central Ohio, where several of their children were born, and subsequently removed to Vigo County, Ind. The family circle included ten children, only three of whom are living: two sons and one daughter: Jeremiah, of our sketch; Albert, and a sister, Elisa J.

Our subject was the ninth child of the family, and his father died at Ft. Harrison Prairie, Ind., when his son Jeremiah was only six years old. Two years later the mother and her children came to Illinois, and locating in McLean County made their final home in Downs Township, where the children grew to mature years and where the mother closed her eyes to the scenes of earth in the fall of 1867.

The subject of our sketch was reared and educated in Downs Township, and while still a young boy began to earn his own livelihood, working at whatever his hands could find to do and being employed by the month for one or two years. After becoming of age he began to operate a farm on his own account and met with success. Five years later he took unto himself a partner and helpmeet in the person of Miss Sarah J. Myers, their marriage occurring Feb. 17, 1853. Mrs. Welch was born in Kentucky, and at the age of six years came with her parents to Illinois, and they settled in Bloomington Township. She remained with them until her marriage, in the meantime receiving a fair

education in the common schools, and assisting her mother in household duties. Her parents are both now deceased, but their names are held in kindly remembrance by a large circle of friends and acquaintances. They were most worthy and excellent people, and trained their children in those principles of honor and honesty which they had made the rule of their own lives, and the good influence which they shed around them will live for years to come. They were natives of the South and of English and German ancestry.

Mr. and Mrs. Welch have become the parents of five children, one of whom is deceased: Mary S., the wife of L. K. Calhoun, resides on a farm in Vermilion County, Ill.; Minerva married Charles Wagner, a farmer of Gillum, this county; John is carrying on agricultural operations on a farm in Bloomington Township, and is married; Lizzie C. Kershaw resides on section 35; William Henry is attending school at Bloomington, Ill. These children form a bright and interesting family, and are the joy and comfort of their parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Welch settled in this township soon after their marriage and began life at the foot of the ladder. They were poor in purse but united in their efforts to establish a permanent and comfortable home, and this they have accomplished to their abundant satisfaction. They are now possessed of a good share of this world's goods, and in their later years are reaping the rich reward of earlier toil and self-denial. They are highly esteemed among their neighbors and fellow-townsmen, and are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. W. has been prominently connected with the affairs of his township since coming here, has been a member of the Board of Trustees, Township Supervisor, Commissioner of Highways, etc. Politically he is a solid Republican.

In connection with the present business of Mr. Welch it is only just to say that his reputation as a breeder of fine horses is by no means confined to the limits of his township. Some of his roadsters are familiarly known on the streets of Chicago and New York City, being driven by some of the finest horsemen and wealthiest citizens of these cities. He has carried off laurels at the local and State fairs, and his favorite stallion Lamplighter has won the

first premium at various fairs for the last fourteen years. The colts of this animal are sold at high prices. The stock farm of Mr. Welch is complete in all its appointments and has already become one of the notable features of this section.

REV. GEORGE W. BURNS, deceased, was late a prominent member of the Central Illinois Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and died while in attendance at this conference, of malarial fever, at Kewanee, Oct. 14, 1884. He was born in Wheeling, W. Va., June 2, 1835, being the second child and eldest son of Rev. John Burns, a prominent minister of the same church, belonging to the Muskingum Conference. John Burns was the son of a Scotch gentleman whom it is supposed was a native of Ayrshire, where he was reared and received a fine education. He came to the United States when a young man, and followed the vocation of a teacher in Virginia and Ohio. He was a man of influence and greatly respected wherever known. His son, John Burns, inherited much of his father's talent, and during the early days was appointed General Superintendent of the Methodist Protestant Church in the United States, and also served as President of the Conference for many years. He labored in the ministry during a period of fifty years, preaching in the States of Ohio, Virginia and Pennsylvania. He was celebrated for his clear and logical reasoning powers, and was considered one of the first pulpit orators of his day. He was a close student, an extensive reader, and distinguished himself by that unobtrusive and modest bearing which rendered him an object of respect and affection wherever known.

George W. Burns, following in the footsteps of his honored father, became in early life a hard student, and entered upon his ministerial duties when twenty-two years of age, being licensed in Steubenville, Ohio. He entered upon his first charge at Brownsville, that State, in 1857, when twenty-three years of age, being then a member of the Methodist Protestant Church, with which he remained connected for the following sixteen years. After with-

drawing from this he united with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and thereafter, during the remainder of his life, devoted his time and attention to the cause of religion, in the ministry. His education was begun in Steubenville, Ohio, whence later he went to Uniontown, Pa., and took a classical course in the college there, from which he graduated after three years. Becoming also desirous of gaining an insight into the methods of general business transactions, he took a thorough course in Duff's Business College at Pittsburgh, Pa., which proved of great advantage to him in his supervision of the finances of the churches over which he afterward had charge.

Rev. George W. Burns was united in marriage with Miss Emma H. Mouser, Sept. 2, 1863. Mrs. B. was born in Marion, Ohio, Sept. 10, 1840, being the daughter of Isaac and Anna (Strawbridge) Mouser, natives respectively of Virginia and Pennsylvania. They became residents of Ohio in early youth, and were married in Marion, that State, in February, 1835. There they located, and the father became one of the most successful cattle dealers of that section. He died there upon the homestead which he had established in 1864. Later the mother removed to Shelbyville, Ill., where she departed this life in 1874. Mrs. Burns, after a course in the High School of Marion, completed her education in the Wesleyan University at Delaware, Ohio. After her marriage with Mr. Burns they located at Ridgeville, Md., whence they removed to Liverpool, Ohio, where, in addition to his ministerial labors, Mr. B. became Superintendent of the public schools, and where he labored with such persistence and faithfulness that his health was seriously impaired. He was connected with the Methodist Protestant Church for some time after coming to Illinois, but was admitted to the Central Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1873, at Galesburg. His first appointment was at Gilman, Ill., where after two years he was removed to Carthage, Mo., and afterward was engaged for some time in different parts of Illinois. Finally, in 1883, he was assigned to Chenoa, but in the meantime made his home in Bloomington, where his death occurred. Although cut down in the prime of life the result of his good works and his influence

will be apparent for many years to come. His earnest and devoted life secured him the affection and confidence of a large circle of friends and acquaintances, by whom his name will ever be cherished in tender remembrance. He left a widow with a family of five children: Anna E. completed her education at Wesleyan University, and is now a teacher in the Second Ward of Bloomington; John W. operates the farm of his mother, which consists of 160 acres of good land, in Padua Township. He also has received a good education, which was completed at Wesleyan University, of which Carrie E. was also a student, and is now a teacher in the public schools of Padua; George P., living at home, is pursuing his studies in the High School of Bloomington, and Katie W., the youngest, attends the public schools. The home of Mrs. Burns in Bloomington is pleasantly located at No. 1404 North Main street, where she has a good residence, which is the resort of the cultured people of the city. Mr. Burns was a strong anti-slavery man, and was greatly interested in the success of the temperance movement, arraying himself on the side of the Prohibition party.



**W**ILLIAM B. LAIN, of Dale Township, this county, a prominent and successful farmer and stock-feeder and shipper, is operating successfully on his fine farm located on section 36. He is in all respects a representative man of one of the leading counties of the Prairie State, full of enterprise and energy, and presenting an example worthy of imitation by the rising generation.

Mr. Lain is a native of the Blue Grass State, having been born in Madison County, May 28, 1827. His father, John Lain, of Virginia, was born in Albemarle County, and his grandfather, Isham Lain, was also born in Virginia, and descended from English ancestry, his father, the great-grandfather of our subject, having been a native of England, and emigrated to America in the colonial days, settling in Virginia. This latter gentleman was twice married, and the two families amounted to sixteen sons, seven of whom served in the Revolutionary War. The grandfather of

our subject, one of the seven, served under Gen. Washington, and received a pension during the last years of his life. He emigrated from Virginia to Tennessee before the days of carriage roads, making the removal with pack horses. He spent two years at the north fork of Holston River and then removed to Kentucky, following Boone's trail, and settling in that part of the State now included in Madison County. There he purchased a tract of timberland, cleared a farm in the midst of the forest, and established a home where he remained the balance of his life. He departed from the scenes of his earthly labors in 1851, after having arrived at the advanced age of over ninety-six years. The maiden name of his wife was Nancy Lamb. She was a native of Virginia, followed her husband in all his wanderings, and died in Madison County, Ky., at the age of eighty years. Their son, the father of our subject, was born in 1795, and was about nine years old when his parents moved to Kentucky. He there grew to manhood and married Miss Sallie Baker, of Maryland. He purchased land in Madison County, Ky., near his father's homestead, engaged in farming and stock-raising, and remained there until his death, which occurred in 1867. His wife died in the same county, Nov. 15, 1885, at the age of eighty-two years. They were most excellent and worthy people and devoted members of the Christian Church.

The parents of our subject had a family of eight children, seven of whom grew to years of maturity. William B., our subject, was the eldest born; Isham G. is a resident of Dale Township; Isaiah lives in Blue Mound Township; Shelton H. and Burgess W. are in Madison County, Ky.; Elizabeth married Thomas R. Todd and died in St. Clair County, Mo.; Nellie B. became the wife of Y. J. Garrett, and died in Madison County, Ky.

William B. Lain was reared in his native county before the day of free schools. His father was a man of more than ordinary intelligence, and fully realized the advantages of education. He accordingly contributed his full share toward the maintenance of a subscription school, and provided for all his children the means of an ordinarily fair education. William B. remained with his parents

until he was twenty years old, employing his time alternately in work and study, and then entered a boarding-school in the same county to receive a still further course of instruction. Seven years later he was married and moved to Missouri, settling in St. Clair County, being among the earliest pioneers of that region. He entered a tract of Government land and purchased another tract adjoining, and pursued farming and school teaching in that section until 1857. He then returned to Kentucky and settled in Rockcastle County, where he engaged in mercantile pursuits until 1864, when he sold out and came into McLean County, Ill. He purchased 160 acres of land in Dale Township, which he operated for one year, then went to Shirley in this county with his brother, and purchased a tract of land lying on section 36 in Dale Township. He then located in the town and engaged in trade as before, carrying on a general merchandise business for the following twelve years. In the meantime he purchased the farm which he now owns and occupies, and in 1875 settled upon it and has since made it his home. He has greatly improved the condition of the premises since he first took possession and has brought the land to a fine state of cultivation. He has been greatly prospered in his farming and stock operations and ships annually large numbers of stock to Chicago.

Mr. Lain was married in Rockcastle County, Ky., Sept. 27, 1849, to Miss Ziporah Todd, who was born in that county, Aug. 12, 1832. She comes from an excellent and prominent family, and was the daughter of John and Mary (Heaton) Todd. Her grandfather, William Todd, a native of Maryland, was one of the earliest settlers of Kentucky, and owned the first ox-cart ever brought into Madison County.

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**G**EORGE CHURCH, a resident of McLean, Mt. Hope Township, is one of the old settlers of this county. Mr. Church was born at Rome, Ashtabula Co., Ohio, Feb. 18, 1822. His father, Calvin Church, was born in East Hadam, Middlesex Co., Conn., and the paternal grandfather of our subject, Joseph Church, was





*Jacob Funk*

likewise a native of Connecticut and of English ancestry. The grandfather spent his entire life in the State of his nativity, and died on his farm near East Haddam, where he had lived all his life. The father of our subject was reared on the latter farm, and when a young man went to Ashtabula County, Ohio, where he was united in marriage with Miss Susan Crowell. She was born in the Nutmeg State, and removed with her parents to Ohio when three years old. Her father, William Crowell, was one of the first settlers in Rome, Ohio. He bought timber land and improved a farm in the neighborhood of that place, and there spent the latter years of his life. Our subject's father also bought timber land near the same place, which he occupied until 1833, when he sold it and removed to Geauga County, Ohio, and located at Thompson. He bought a house, acted in the capacity of "mine host," and also engaged in merchandising at that place, making it his home until his death, in 1857. His wife died at the residence of her son in Akron, Ohio.

The subject of this notice was the eldest son born to his parents, and assisted his father in the store and about the hotel, making his home with his parents until 1844. He then went to Leesville, Conn., and engaged in a cotton-mill, to learn cotton dressing. He worked in this place for a year and a half, when he embarked in the cotton business in Battenville, N. Y., and was thus occupied for two years. Returning to Ohio he operated his father's hotel for a time and then served as Postmaster at Thompson. In 1856 he came to Shipman, Macoupin Co., Ill., and in the fall of that year located on a farm and was there occupied for a little more than a year. At the expiration of that time he moved to Bloomington, and leasing a hotel kept public house for a year and a half, after which time he rented a farm in Mt. Hope Township, and for some years thereafter was occupied in farming on rented land. In 1860 our subject removed to the village of McLean, where he has continued to reside until the present time. From 1876 to 1883 he clerked in the mercantile establishment of F. A. Wheelock, and previous to that time he had been engaged in the fire insurance business. He also served eight years as Deputy Sheriff, and has held

the positions of Constable, City Justice and Township and Town Clerk.

Mr. Church was married to Miss Margarette Hall in 1851. She was born in Rhode Island, and has borne our subject four children: Susan T., the wife of William T. Gibbs; William G. and Clara E. are residents of McLean; the latter is the wife of William M. King, Postmaster of McLean; Lizzie died in infancy. Mr. Church is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and holds fellowship with Lodge No. 469 of McLean. In politics he is a staunch Republican.



JACOB FUNK, a highly esteemed farmer, and one of the most extensive stock-raisers of McLean County, is a native of this county, and was born in Funk's Grove Township. The date of his birth was April 7, 1830, and he is the third son of Isaac and Cassandra (Sharpe) Funk, a sketch of whom appears in another part of this work.

As soon as old enough, young Jacob commenced to assist his father in all the various kinds of farm work, and herded cattle during the summer season on the wild prairies of his native township. At the age of twelve years he went to Chicago and lived with an uncle there, also following his old occupation of herding cattle and sheep, outside the city limits. Chicago was then a small town, with probably 5,000 inhabitants. The greater part of the land now occupied by the city was wild prairie, and Jacob Funk frequently herded a flock of sheep on the ground which is now occupied by the Grand Pacific Hotel. He remained with his uncle ten months, and then returned home to his father in McLean County, where he lived until fourteen years of age, and then again started for Chicago and the home of his uncle with whom he had lived before. He was accompanied by his father, and together they pursued their way overland to Indiana where they intended making a short visit. Jacob was there taken sick, and after an illness of

three weeks, his father, who had gone home in the meantime, returned for him and removed him home on a bed. After this he remained with his father until his marriage, when he settled on the farm which he now owns and occupies, and a part of which was given him by his father. Only a few acres were then improved, but he set himself industriously about its cultivation, and by degrees increased his possessions until now he may be ranked among the large landed proprietors of the State, owning 2,600 acres, and all under a good state of cultivation. This land is divided up into several farms which are furnished with suitable buildings and occupied by tenants. Mr. Funk manages his extensive possessions, and upon his land are raised in large numbers, horses, cattle and hogs. He grazes from 400 to 600 head of cattle annually, and also operates as a shipper, sending his animals to Chicago. As we might expect, the income from these enterprises yields him a handsome sum annually.

Jacob Funk was married to Miss Mary A. Waltman, Nov. 18, 1858. Mrs. Funk is a native of Bedford County, Pa., and was born June 15, 1838. She is the daughter of Michael and Julia Ann (Wilson) Waltman, and of her marriage with our subject there have been born three children—Charles A., Clara May and Dean N. They are all now at home with their parents. The two eldest were educated at Wesleyan University, Bloomington; the youngest son received his preparatory course at Peekskill, N. Y., and is now a student at Yale College.

The farm residence of our subject and his family is a handsome brick structure, one of the most elegant in the Prairie State, and both within and without is indicative of cultivated tastes and ample means. Its inmates are surrounded by all the comforts of life, and enjoy the confidence and esteem of a large circle of friends and acquaintances. In politics Mr. Funk is strongly Republican, and as a business man is straightforward and systematic in his operations, meeting his obligations promptly, and in all respects conforming to the duties of a good citizen whose influence is widely felt, and whose transactions largely affect the welfare of his community. He is known far and wide,

and his portrait, which we give in connection with this sketch, will be welcomed by his many friends throughout the county.



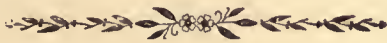
**L**ESTER GREEN, one of the leading business men of Bloomington, and an extensive dealer in hard and soft coal, has his yards at the corner of Howard and Mulberry streets, and his city office at No. 314 North Center street. Mr. Green is a native of England, was born in 1846, and is the son of John and Martha (Fox) Green, who also were natives of England. John Green carried on draying and transportation business, and the grandfather of our subject was a woolen manufacturer. After his decease his son John continued the business until his death, which occurred July 15, 1850. Six years after the death of her husband, the mother of our subject came with her family of three children to the United States and at once proceeded westward to Illinois, settling first at Jerseyville, Jersey County, where they remained until 1858. They then came to Bloomington, where the mother has since lived. Lester, of our sketch, was the eldest child; Anna, Mrs. Ragland, lives in Chicago, and has four children—Walter, John, Rosa and Violet. John is a locomotive engineer and makes his home at Bloomington.

Lester Green received a good education, his younger days being mostly spent in school, and he pursued his studies three years after the family became residents of Bloomington. He was then employed by the month at farming, and continued at this and other work until 1867, when he started a dray line and operated it for about four years; then at the same headquarters he opened his present office and has now built up an extensive and lucrative trade in coal. He gives employment to four men and uses four double teams in the delivery of orders. Besides this business he has also dealt considerably in real estate. He purchased his present property, which includes his home and office, in 1871. He is now one of the leaders in city affairs, having held the office of Alderman in the Second Ward and is Vice-President of the Bloomington Co-operative Coal Company. He always



takes an active interest in the welfare of his city and county, and contributes liberally of his means to the support of every worthy enterprise. His late string always hangs out to the poor and needy, and he is in all respects one of the useful factors in the social and business elements of the city.

Mr. Green was united in marriage with Miss Ellen Steele in 1870, and they have three children—Gertrude, Flora and Ida. Mrs. Green is the daughter of Alexander and Sivillia (McGowen) Steele, who were natives of Ohio. The little household is surrounded by all the comforts of life, and enjoys the esteem of a large circle of acquaintances.



**J**ACOB FLEMING, general merchant at Holder, Old Town Township, and also Supervisor of the township, was born in Huntingdon County, Pa., June 2, 1841. The father of our subject, John Fleming, was born on the Emerald Isle in 1810, and emigrated to the United States with his parents in 1820, settling in Fulton County, Ill., in 1849. Our subject's mother, Elizabeth (Kitt) Fleming, was born in Pennsylvania. After the parents' marriage they settled in Huntingdon County, Pa., and there lived for about ten years, when they removed to Fulton County, Ill., where their demise occurred. The father died in July, 1882, and the mother Jan. 11, 1868. The parental family consisted of twelve children, nine of whom lived to attain the age of man and womanhood, as follows: James, Jacob, William, Samuel, Frederick, Joseph, B. E., John P. and Maggie J. Three died in infancy, and only six are living at this writing.

Jacob Fleming was the second son and child born to his parents, and was but eight years of age when they removed to Fulton County, Ill., and there in the common schools he received his education. Our subject continued to live with the old folk until he was twenty years of age, when he enlisted in Co. G, 50th Ill. Vol. Inf., as a private. Soon, however, he was promoted Corporal for meritorious conduct, then First Sergeant, then First Lieutenant, and subsequently commissioned Cap-

tain. He was in the service nearly four years, and during that time received no serious wound or injury. He accompanied Sherman in his march to the sea, and participated in the battles of Ft. Henry, Donelson, Corinth, Miss., Altona Pass, and others, besides many skirmishes.

After his discharge from the service Mr. Fleming returned to Fulton County, and at once entered upon the duties of a pedagogue, which he followed for a little more than a year, and then, in February, 1867, came to this county and settled in Old Town Township. There he engaged in farming and has continued to make that township his home until the present time. He carried on his farming operations until 1874, and then embarked in mercantile pursuits at Holder, in company with his brother William, under the firm name of Fleming Bros. This relationship continued until 1884, when our subject bought out his brother's interest, and at present carries on the business alone. He has a general stock of merchandise, sufficient to meet the wants of all his customers, and in addition to his mercantile business is largely engaged in buying and shipping grain and stock. Mr. Fleming is the owner of 420 acres of land, all of which is under an advanced state of cultivation. He has a fine residence in the village of Holder, and has met and is meeting with signal success in the conducting of his different branches of business.

Mr. Fleming and Miss Susan D. Hughes, daughter of Robert E. and Ollie (Harlan) Hughes, were united in marriage in Fulton County, Ill., Jan. 28, 1863. Her father was a native of Ireland and her mother of English ancestry. After their marriage they settled in Indiana, whence they moved to Fulton County, where they resided until their death; his demise occurred in 1862, and hers in 1850. They had three children—Sarah A., Martha and Susan D. Susan was born in Fulton County, Ill., Jan. 3, 1843, and remained an inmate of the parental household until her marriage with our subject. By this union eleven children were born—Ollie E., Fred E., Joseph B., Mary E., Ida H., Charlie A., John R., Maggie, Robert H., Jessie G. and Bernie E. Ollie E. and Charlie A. are deceased.

Mr. Fleming has held the office of Commissioner

of Highways for nine years. He was elected Supervisor of Old Town Township in the spring of 1884, and still holds that office. He was appointed Postmaster at Holder under the Grant administration, and has held that office continuously until the present time, with the exception of two years when his brother was the incumbent of the office. Mr. Fleming was one of the organizers of the Third National Bank of Bloomington, and is yet a stockholder of the same. Mrs. Fleming is a member of the Christian Church, and in politics our subject is a Republican.



**J**OHN W. ARROWSMITH, Jr., a highly respected resident of Padua Township, is successfully operating the farm of his mother, which is pleasantly located on section 32. From this he derives a handsome income, and is also the owner of sixty acres of good land on section 5, Empire Township. The father of our subject was John W. Arrowsmith, Sr., a native of Ross County, Ohio, where he passed his childhood and youth, and developing into manhood engaged at farming pursuits. There also he was married to Miss Nancy Oliver, a lady of Irish parentage and descent, but a native of Maryland. After marriage the young people settled on a farm in Green Township, Ross Co., Ohio, whence in 1854 they emigrated to Illinois, making the journey overland with teams. They settled in Padua Township, on section 32, where the father of our subject purchased 160 acres of land, and ninety acres in Empire Township, on section 5. He was born Oct 31, 1805, and departed this life Jan. 11, 1885, on the homestead which he had established in this county. The wife and mother is yet living, making her home with her younger daughter, Nancy M., at Leroy.

The subject of this history was born in Green Township, Ross Co., Ohio, June 13, 1849, being the youngest but one of a family of eight children, two of whom are deceased. He was five years of age when his parents removed from the Buckeye State to Illinois, and received his education mostly in Padua Township. He remained an inmate of the parental home until 1873, then going

into Seward County, Neb., engaged in farming, being also married there on the 2d of September, 1875, at the home of the bride's parents, to Miss May M. Davis. Mrs. A. was born in Lee County, Iowa, in the vicinity of Keokuk, Dec, 27, 1855. She was the daughter of James T. and Amanda E. (Collins) Davis, natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Ohio. They removed West while young, and were married in Lee County, Iowa. After marriage they went to Nebraska, settling on a farm in Seward County. Later the father returned East to Butler County, Neb., where he died July 27, 1882. The mother married again and is now a resident of Lincoln, Neb.

Mrs. Arrowsmith was the elder of her mother's two children, and went with the latter to Nebraska, remaining with her until her marriage. Of her union with our subject there have been born five children—Preston D., Maudalena, Rose O., John W. and Alvin R.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Arrowsmith located in Seward County, Neb., where they lived five years, and then came to Illinois, settling first at Stumptown, this county, and in about 1885 removed to their present home. Mr. Arrowsmith politically is a staunch adherent of the Democratic party, and as a business man and citizen is considered one of the valued members of the community.

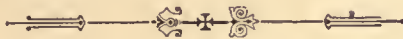


**W**ILLIAM B. MYERS, manufacturer of organs and engaged in cabinet work at No. 218 South Main street, Bloomington, is a native of York County, Pa., and was born March 31, 1846. His parents were Lewis and Luey (Bond) Myers, natives of Germany, who emigrated to the United States before their marriage, and became husband and wife in the city of Baltimore, Md. They located in York County, Pa., and there spent the remainder of their lives, the father being engaged in the cabinet business. Lewis Myers died in 1878, and the mother of our subject in 1879. The parental household included nine children, seven now living.

William B. Myers was the fifth child of his parents, and remained an inmate of his father's house

until twenty-one years of age. He then learned the cabinet trade, and coming west, located first in Decatur, Ill. He became a resident of Bloomington in 1866, and with the exception of three years this city has been his home since that time. He was engaged with Andrus Bros. for a period of ten years.

Mr. Myers was married in 1868 to Miss Jennie Weire, of Decatur, the daughter of George and Emeline Weire, and by her union with our subject she has become the mother of two children—Charles and James A. They have a pleasant home at No. 217 South Center street, and enjoy the society of many friends. Mr. Myers belongs to the L. O. O. F., and is one of the most worthy citizens of an industrial community.



**J**OHAN RODMAN, an old pioneer of this county, and one of the old settlers of the State, highly respected for his sterling worth and integrity, is passing the sunset of life on his farm of 180 acres on section 22, Old Town Township. Mr. Rodman was the sixth in order of birth in a family of eleven children, and first saw light in Berks County, Pa., Dec. 5, 1817. He was reared upon his father's farm, and continued to reside with the old folk until he had attained the age of manhood. He then left the parental roof-tree and began farming for himself. Prior to this, however, his parents had removed to Zanesville, Ohio, and it was there that our subject received his education in a log school-house in Muskingum County.

It was during the year 1838 that our subject first began to do for himself. He began farming on eighty acres which his father had previously given him in Hopewell Township, and for thirteen years was occupied in that manner, when he went on another farm given by his father, consisting of eighty acres of timber land in Ohio, and was interested in its improvement and cultivation until he concluded to try his fortunes farther West. Following up this conclusion he, in the fall of 1854, accompanied by his wife and seven children, came to this county, and settled on section 22, Old Town Township.

Mr. Rodman has continued to reside upon the

same section on which he settled when he first came here, until the present time, with the exception of about three years, and has been continuously occupied in agricultural pursuits. He is at present the owner of 180 acres of valuable and productive land, on which he has a good set of farm buildings, and is one of the self-made men of the county.

Mr. Rodman was married in Muskingum County, Ohio, Feb. 15, 1838, to Mary J., daughter of Leggett and Nancy (Gutridge) Grey, natives of Virginia. Mrs. Rodman was born in Muskingum County, Ohio, May 1, 1819, and of her union with our subject seven children were born, four of whom are living—Ann, Joseph L., Lucinda and E. L. Ann is the wife of Homer Boise, and they are living at Bloomington, Ill.; Joseph was united in marriage with Miss Mary Hayes, and is a farmer of Old Town Township; Lucinda became the wife of Jeremiah Whitecomb, who is also a farmer of Old Town Township; E. L. married Miss Louisa Fogle, and they are likewise residents of Old Town Township. The deceased children of our subject and wife were named Worthington N., Laura and Margaret A. The latter was the wife of John Craig, and departed this life in Old Town Township.

Mr. Rodman has held some of the minor offices in the township. He has taken a deep interest in the cause of the Master, and with his wife has been a member of the Methodist Protestant Church for almost two score years and ten, and all their children are members of the same denomination. In politics he is a staunch Republican, and socially is possessed of a genial and kind disposition which has made for him innumerable friends, not only in Old Town Township, but throughout the entire county.



**J**AMES POINDEXTER, a native of McLean County, and who has here spent the greater part of his life, was born on the farm where he now lives, on section 17, Bloomington Township, on the 10th of September, 1843. His father, Arnett Poindexter, was a native of Virginia and of French descent, their earlier ancestors going with William the Conqueror from France to England, whence, later, they emigrated to the

United States, and located in Virginia at about the time of the close of the Revolutionary War. The first representatives in this country were two brothers, one of whom located in Lexington, Ky., where afterward the father of our subject met his future wife, Miss Elizabeth Duncan. After their marriage and the birth of six children, four sons and two daughters, the family removed North to Illinois, in 1839, and settled in Bloomington Township upon a tract of unimproved land, most of the country around them still being in its original condition.

Arnett Poindexter was a miller by trade, and had owned mill property in Kentucky which was devoted to the manufacture of woolen goods. After coming to this county he erected the first woolen-mill within its borders, and successfully followed this calling until his death, which occurred in about 1844. Our subject was then about one year old and the youngest of the family. He remained on the farm with his mother and brothers and obtained a fair education in the pioneer schools. When quite young he was greatly interested in the operations of the honey-bee, and as he grew older he soon began to make a business of rearing for these. He has now about 200 colonies of Italian bees, from which he obtains large quantities of honey, usually taken in the comb.

The mother of our subject departed this life in March, 1874; five of his brothers and sisters lived to mature years, and two brothers and one sister are yet living. On the 25th of December, 1879, our subject was married in Bloomington Township to Miss Elizabeth Brigham, the daughter of George and Lydia (Shinn) Brigham, the former of Boston, Mass., and the latter of Cincinnati, Ohio. They were married in Pike County, Ill., and located there upon a farm, where the father passed the remainder of his days. The mother is living with her son, Asa Brigham, in Bloomington Township. Mrs. Poindexter was born in Pike County, Ill., Dec. 20, 1843. She came to McLean County with her parents when twelve years of age, was educated in Normal, and began to teach when nineteen, which she followed until her marriage with our subject. Of this union there has been born one child—Jamesina Pearl.

The homestead of Mr. Poindexter embraces

seventy-five acres of finely cultivated land, a comfortable residence, all necessary barns and out-buildings, and within and without gives evidence of the supervision of a well-directed and intelligent mind. Mr. P. is highly respected in his community, is Democratic in politics, and in all respects a useful and valued member of society. He possesses considerable literary taste, and has been a correspondent of the *American Bell Journal* for some time. He was also Secretary of the Bee-Keeper's Association of Central Illinois in 1884, which position he occupied for some time afterward.



**W**ILLIAM KING, deceased, was formerly one of the most successful farmers in Bloomington Township and ranked among its valued citizens. He owned a good farm of 300 acres on section 19, where his widow and youngest son are now living and operating a part of the homestead. Mr. King was born in Somerset County, Pa., Feb. 25, 1813, and was of pure German extraction. He was first married to Miss Amelia Colburn, who was also of Pennsylvania birth and German ancestry, and whose parents spent nearly their entire lives in Somerset County, Pa.

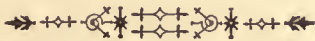
After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. K. remained in Pennsylvania until about 1836, when they removed to Illinois and located upon what is now familiarly known as the old King homestead. Of their union there were born three children, all living and recorded as follows: Ellen became the wife of Joseph Nye, a farmer of McLean County; William married Miss Sarah Alexander, and is farming near Farmer City, Ill.; Amelia married Mr. John Debolt, and is residing on a farm with her husband in Martin Township, this county. Mrs. Amelia C. King departed this life at the home of her husband in Bloomington Township, Aug. 12, 1844, greatly mourned by her family and a large circle of friends and acquaintances.

The second wife of Mr. King was Miss Ann Van Nostin, to whom he was married in Bloomington Township on the 26th of February, 1845. This lady was born in Hamilton County, Ohio, Nov. 2, 1824, her parents being Abraham and Margaret

(Cook) Van Nostin, natives of New Jersey, of New England parentage and German ancestry. They were married in Hamilton County, Ohio, whence they removed to Cincinnati, Ohio, and from there to McLean County, where the father died in Randolph Township in about 1840. The mother is still living, and makes her home with her grandson, Elias King, in Bloomington Township, having arrived at the advanced age of eighty-four years.

Mrs. King, by her marriage with our subject became the mother of six children, four now living, as follows: David married Miss Crystal Shermer, and is farming in Cheney's Grove Township; Alice became the wife of John Foster, who is farming near Shirley; Elias is engaged in farming pursuits in Bloomington Township; Zephaniah H. lives with his mother at the old homestead and is carrying on farming; he was married, Feb. 23, 1887, to Miss Anna Burning.

Mrs. King and her husband were among the early residents of McLean County and favorably known as being numbered with its most valued and worthy citizens. In politics Mr. King was a member of the old Whig party, and served as Justice of the Peace for a number of years. The sons are all Democrats. Mr. King died Oct. 28, 1854.



**A** B. HOBLIT, Cashier of the National State Bank of Bloomington, is a native of Illinois, and was born in Fulton County on the 10th of March, 1844. He is the son of Mahlon S. and Mary A. (Thomas) Hoblit, the father a native of Ohio and the mother of Pennsylvania.

The early life of Mahlon S. Hoblit was employed in mercantile pursuits in this State, partly in Canton and partly at Atlanta. He was busily employed until 1857, when he was obliged to abandon active business on account of his wife's failing health, and removed to Minneapolis, Minn., where his life terminated in 1868; the mother survived her husband for a period of seventeen years, dying in Atlanta, Ill., in 1885. Both were members of the Baptist Church. The father was one of the first men in Illinois to advocate the principles of the Repub-

lican party, taking an active part in its organization here, and was also greatly interested in the establishment of schools and churches and the success of temperance. His latch-string always hung out to the wayfarer, and the poor and needy found in him a staunch friend and helper.

The parental household of ten children was broken into by the death of four of its members; the living are as follows: Almeda, Mrs. McCrary, lives in Little Falls, Minn.; Isaac N. is a dealer in live-stock at Minneapolis, Minn.; Alvin B. is our subject; Lizzie Z. resides in Minneapolis; Mahlon S., Jr., is farming near Monticello, Minn., and Daniel S. is also living near the latter-named place; John T., who died of fever at Stone River while in the army, was first to enlist in the three months' service at Minneapolis; he was city editor of the *Tribune* of that city; Isaac N., who was also in the army, was injured at the first battle of Bull Run, but recovered, and at the expiration of three months they both re-enlisted, and served until the close of the war; they belonged to the famous Minnesota First.

The subject of this sketch remained at home until seventeen years old, and after his parents went North, attended the Minneapolis High School. He subsequently engaged as a clerk for his brother, a merchant in Canton, Ill., where he remained two years. He then enlisted in Co. B, 8th Ill. Vol. Inf., and during a service of thirteen months participated in several engagements and skirmishes, being at the siege and capture of Spanish Fort, Ft. Blakeley and Mobile, Ala. He escaped injury, and after receiving an honorable discharge returned to Canton and clerked for the dry-goods merchant, A. C. Babeock. The following eighteen months were spent in Sauk Center, Minn., with the firm of Moore & McClure, who were engaged in merchandise and milling. He then came to Atlanta, Ill., and was connected with the banking house of Frank, Hoblit Bros. & Co. from 1867 to 1873. Then, on account of ill-health, he accepted a position as Deputy Collector of Internal Revenue at Springfield, Ill., but after two years resigned. Then, in company with a few friends he assisted in the establishment of the Farmer's National Bank at Pekin, Ill., where he occupied the position of Cashier three years. He was then con-

eemed with others in the organization of the National State Bank of Bloomington, of which he is a stock-holder and Director, and has been Cashier since 1878.

Mr. Hoblit was married in 1876, to Miss Annie E., daughter of Capt. Isaac and Elmira (Neal) Keys, who were natives respectively of Illinois and Kentucky. To Mr. and Mrs. H. there have been born two sons—Edward M. and Harris K. The residence of our subject and his family is located at No. 315 East Chestnut street, and they enjoy the friendship and society of the cultured citizens of Bloomington. They are both members of the First Baptist Church. In politics Mr. Hoblit uniformly votes the Republican ticket, and is an honored member of the G. A. R. He is also a member of the K. of P. Lodge, and has been Past Chancellor. His energy and enterprise have placed him in the front rank with the business men of Bloomington, and he is the substantial supporter and encourager of every measure tending to its credit and welfare.

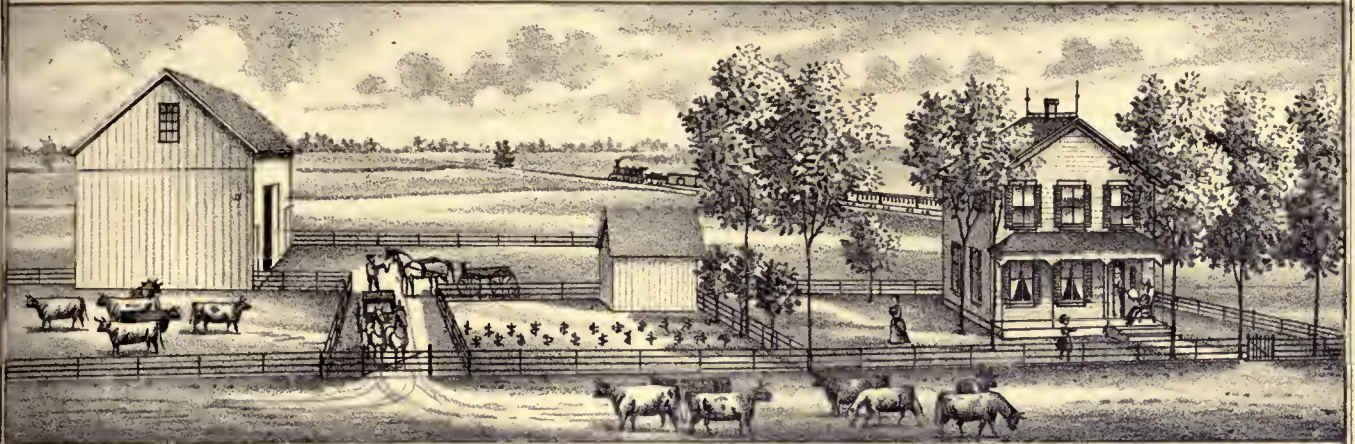
**J**OHAN MURRAY, deceased, was one of the prominent and well-to-do farmers of McLean County, and was a resident of Old Town Township. He was born in County Tipperary, Ireland, about 1821. When about twenty-eight years of age he came to the conclusion that he could better his financial condition in life by emigrating to the United States, and following up his conclusion he landed upon the soil of our free Republic in 1849. He selected as the place of his residence the State of Ohio, and after residing there for seven years he concluded to come still further West, and in 1856 became a citizen of McLean County by settling in Old Town Township. There he determined to make his permanent home, having, as he often said, great faith in the future development of the country. He purchased a farm in that township, and was industriously engaged in agricultural pursuits there until Aug. 10, 1886, the date of his demise. At this time he was the owner of 320 acres of valuable and productive land, which he had acquired through his own energy and perseverance. He was a self-made man in every

respect the word implies, and what he possessed up to the date of his demise had been acquired, as stated, through his own exertions and not as the recipient of any legacy whatsoever.

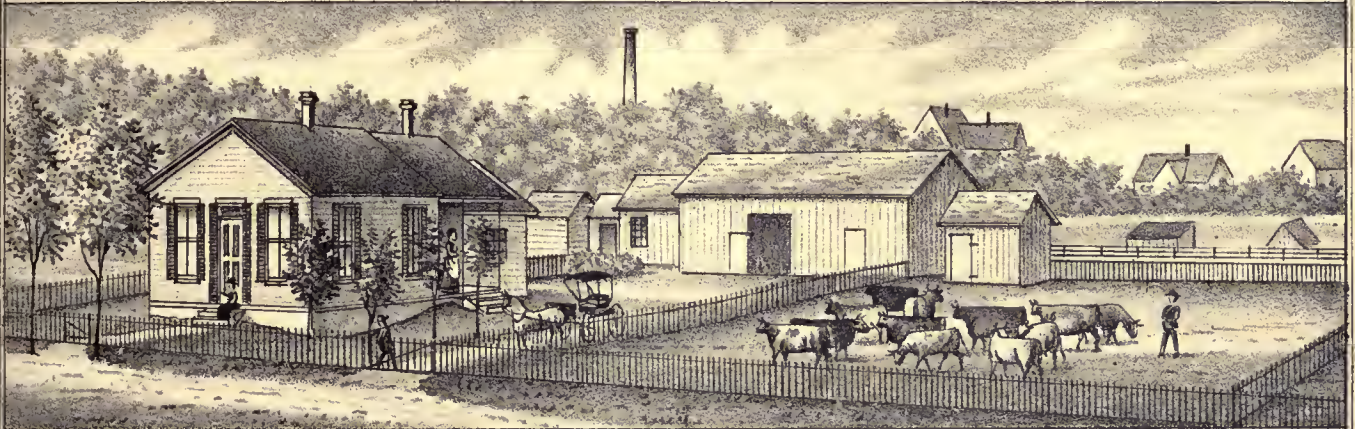
Mr. Murray was married at Bloomington, Ill., Sept. 14, 1856, to Miss Eliza Loughman, who was born in Queens County, Ireland, Feb. 22, 1837. She was about seventeen years of age when she came to the United States, and of her union with Mr. Murray eleven children have been born: Anna is the wife of Frank Schlink, and they reside in Peoria; the others are Edward, Michael, John, Maggie, Thomas, Martin, James, Mary, Joseph M. and William. James died in infancy. Mrs. Murray and her children are members of the Catholic Church, as was our subject. In politics Mr. Murray was a Democrat. His remains are interred in the Catholic Cemetery at Bloomington.

**R**OBERT S. HOWARD, of Leroy, has been a resident of the Prairie State since 1858, and has built up for himself a good record as a man of the highest integrity, and one who has exerted a good influence in society. He is an ardent Prohibitionist, earnestly and actively opposed to the use and manufacture of spirituous liquors, and a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, with which he has been prominently connected since 1845. A large portion of his time has been given to the promotion of those ideas which he believes to be for the welfare of the community, socially, morally and religiously, and he has contributed liberally and cheerfully of his means to these ends.

Mr. Howard is a native of Madison County, Ky., and was born June 15, 1827. His father, Ignatius Howard, was a native of the same State, and his grandfather, of English birth and parentage, was one of the earliest pioneers of the Blue Grass region. He served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and yielded up his life on the battle-field as a tribute to liberty of thought and conscience. By his death there were left a widow and two small children, the father of our subject being but three or four years old when his father died. The



RESIDENCE OF A. T. MITCHELL, SEC. 23., DALE TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF JOSEPH DENNING, 808. E. CHESTNUT ST., BLOOMINGTON.



RESIDENCE OF JONATHAN ALLISON, SEC. 16., DALE TOWNSHIP.





mother subsequently married Thomas Taylor, of Madison County, Ky., who became a well-to-do farmer. Ignatius Howard was reared on the farm of his stepfather, and lived there until a few years before his death, his last days having been spent in Owen County. He and his only brother, James, served as soldiers in the War of 1812. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Elizabeth Stalker. She was also a native of Madison County, Ky., and died at the home of her husband in Owen County. The parental household consisted of eight children.

Robert S. Howard was the sixth child and third son of his parents, and remained under the home roof until sixteen years old. He then went to Jessamine County, Ky., and became an apprentice to learn the cabinet-maker's trade. In June, 1846, he enlisted in the 2d Kentucky Infantry, Company F, the latter being known as "Jessamine Blues," under command of Capt. Willis. He was mustered into service on the 9th of June, and mustered out late in the summer of 1847. His war experience was in the territory of Mexico, where he participated in the battle of Buena Vista, and where his Captain, Colonel, and Lieutenant-Colonel, Henry Clay, Jr., were killed.

After the close of his army service Mr. Howard returned to his cabinet trade, and in the latter part of 1848 started in business on his own account, in Jessamine County, Ky., and operated there for the following ten years. In 1858 he emigrated to Illinois, and purchased eighty acres of land in Empire Township, this county, where he carried on farming six years. He then rented his farm and again returned to "jour" work at his trade in Bloomington, where, after a year thus occupied, he opened a furniture store. He conducted this until 1872, then sold out and came to Leroy and opened a store of the same kind, which he operated until 1883, when he sold out and retired from active business. His homestead comprises twenty acres of land within the city limits, upon which is a good set of frame buildings, and he owns other valuable property in this vicinity.

Mr. Howard was married, Dec. 27, 1848, to Miss Lavina Sageser, who was a native of Jessamine County, Ky., and born Dec. 17, 1830. Her father,

Henry Sageser, was a native of the same county and State, and her grandfather, Frederiek Sageser, was a native of Germany, whence he emigrated in early manhood, and spent the last years of his life in Jessamine County, Ky. His son Henry, the father of Mrs. H., spent his entire life in farming pursuits in his native county. He was married to a Miss Naney Woodard, a native of his own country, and they became the parents of thirteen children.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard have no children of their own, but have reared two others. Joseph F. Sageser, the nephew of Mrs. H., was taken in charge by our subject and his wife when six months old, carefully reared and educated and given the best advantages; he is now a practicing physician of Chicago, and a leading member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The other child, a little girl by the name of Annie Cook, became an inmate of the household when six years of age, and remained until her marriage.

Mrs. Howard is a member of the same church as her husband, and has been his active helper and sympathizer in all his good works. Our subject, before the war, was Democratic in politics, when he joined the ranks of the Republicans, but since 1872 has identified himself with the Prohibitionists. He voted for Green Clay Smith in 1876, for Neal Dow in 1880, and for St. John in 1884. In 1876 and 1880 he cast the only vote for prohibition in this township, and has been among the bravest in the opposition which has been attendant upon the efforts to abolish that which brings such untold misery to thousands of human beings.

WILLIAM MARCUS COX, one of the most successful farmers and stock-growers of Bloomington Township, is finely located on sections 34 and 35, the homestead being located on the latter. Mr. Cox has carried on his farming operations intelligently and successfully, and of late years has devoted his attention principally to the breeding of Short-horn and Jersey cattle, sheep, horses and swine. Mr. Cox is a native of McLean County, and was born on his father's old homestead in Bloomington Township, Aug. 9, 1836. A his-

tory of his parents will be found in the sketch of David Cox in another part of this work.

Our subject remained under the parental roof until he was twenty-six years of age, and on his twenty-sixth birthday, the late Civil War being then in progress, he enlisted as a soldier of the Union, and joined his command at Bloomington, being assigned to Co. F, 94th Ill. Vol. Inf., Col. Orme commanding. They were sent to the Department of the West, and later went to Vicksburg, afterward to the Gulf, where they remained for about one year, and were then ordered to New Orleans. In August, 1863, Mr. Cox returned home on a furlough, and in December of that year returned to the army and joined his regiment in February following, with which he remained until his final discharge, which also occurred on his birthday, Aug. 9, 1865.

Mr. Cox participated in all the engagements and skirmishes of his regiment, being in the fight at Springfield, Mo., and at the siege of Vicksburg, remaining in the latter place nearly one month before the surrender of the city. They returned to New Orleans in December following, and then went on an expedition across Lake Pontchartrain under command of Lieut. Col. Webb, of the 77th Illinois Regiment. While the fleet was crossing a lake the vessel which contained Mr. Cox and his comrades foundered, and Mr. C. was seriously hurt in the ankle by falling from the deck to the hull of the boat through a trap-door. Afterward, at the siege of Spanish Fort on Mobile Bay in March, 1865, while on duty, a large shell burst within a few feet of him, and he narrowly escaped being torn to pieces. Aside from the slight wounds thus received and some slight illness, he escaped unharmed, and very seldom failed to report at roll-call. He served in the army just three years to a day.

At the close of his army life Mr. Cox returned to his home in Bloomington Township, and on Dec. 4, 1868, was united in marriage with Miss Mary J. Orendorff, daughter of Oliver and Sarah L. (Hendrix) Orendorff, a sketch of whom will be found in another part of this volume. Mrs. Cox was born in Bloomington Township, Jan. 1, 1850, and completed her education in the Normal University at Normal, Ill., where she received excellent and prac-

tical instruction, choosing those studies which would be of service to her in later years. After leaving school she returned to her parents, and remained with them until her marriage with our subject. She is the elder child and only daughter of a family of two children.

Shortly after his marriage Mr. Cox located upon a tract of land and engaged in farming pursuits. He has been successful in his agricultural and business transactions, and is now the owner of 155 acres, all finely improved, and under a good state of cultivation; he also owns property in Normal. His homestead is pleasantly located, and he has a comfortable residence and out-buildings, and all the appliances of a good modern farm estate. Mrs. Cox is a member in good standing of the Christian Church, while Mr. C. is a Methodist in religious belief. He is Republican in politics, and uniformly casts his vote in support of the principles of that party. He is straightforward and upright in his business transactions, and enjoys in a marked degree the confidence and esteem of his fellow-townsmen.



**J**EREMIAH WHITCOMB, a well-to-do and prosperous farmer residing on section 22, Old Town Township, is an offspring of Francis and Jane (Evans) Whitcomb, natives of New Hampshire and Ohio respectively. When about thirty years of age the father, in company with a brother, went to York State, whence the father came to Illinois in 1817, and settled in Vermilion County. For over forty years he heard of none of his relatives. Jane (Evans) Whitecomb was a daughter of William Evans, one of the early settlers of Bloomington, this county. The parents of our subject were united in marriage in Vermilion County, this State, and made settlement there, and in that county the father was engaged in the manufacture of salt. Subsequently he embarked in the milling business, and still later in life followed the occupation of a farmer. In 1849 the parents moved to McLean County, and settled in Old Town Township, where the father continued at his chosen vocation. He lived to attain the advanced age of eighty-six years, and she departed

this life when in her seventy-eighth year, both dying in Old Town Township.

The parental household of our subject included seven children who lived to attain the age of maturity, and Jeremiah was the fifth in order of birth. He was born in Vermilion County, Ill., Jan. 10, 1839, and was ten years of age when he accompanied his parents to this county, and since that time has been a resident of Old Town Township. His education was received in the common schools of this county, and his years thus far in life have been devoted almost exclusively to agricultural pursuits. He is at present the owner of 233 acres of valuable land, and is meeting with success in the prosecution of his vocation.

Mr. Whiteomb was married in Old Town Township to Miss Lueinda Rodman, Feb. 27, 1862. She is the daughter of John and Mary J. (Grey) Rodman (see sketch of John Rodman), and was born in Muskingum County, Ohio, March 27, 1843. Their union has been blessed by the birth of the following children: Sylvia, Lillie A., May, William A., Mary F. and Alma E. May is the wife of M. Adams, and they are living in Downs Township. Mr. Whiteomb has held the office of Supervisor two years, Justice of the Peace eight years, Township Clerk two years, Township Treasurer four years, and School Trustee for several years, and is at present Township Treasurer. In politics he is Republican. Mrs. Whiteomb religiously holds fellowship with the Methodist Protestant Church.



**N**M. CAMPBELL. The subject of the following brief history owns and occupies a good farm on section 32, Bloomington Township, and is successfully engaged in general agriculture and stock-raising. His homestead consists of 120 acres of finely improved land, stocked with good cattle, and supplied with a fine set of frame buildings. With the exception of a few years Mr. Campbell has made this place his home since he came to McLean County in 1849.

N. M. Campbell was born in Monroe County, Ind., March 30, 1842. His father, Rev. John G., and his mother, Sallie A. (Campbell) Campbell,

were both natives of Bourbon County, Ky., and descended from excellent Scotch-Irish ancestry. They were reared and married in their native State, and soon afterward came North to Monroe County, Ind., where, after eleven years, and the birth of three children, they returned to Kentucky on account of failing health. While in Indiana the father of our subject had frequently officiated in the pulpit of the Christian Church and followed preaching afterward with the exception of a few years.

After their return to Kentucky, Mr. Campbell became greatly opposed to the principles of slavery and decided to remove away from it. He accordingly proceeded to Illinois, where freedom reigned and all enjoyed their liberty. He secured a wild tract of land in McLean County, on which stood a small log cabin, into which he removed his family. He now began to preach in earnest, and his health greatly improved by the change. He labored faithfully among the settlers with good results; and on the 3d of April, 1853, was greatly pleased in being able to assist in the organization of the Grassy Ridge Christian Church, which started in with about a dozen members and Mr. Campbell as Elder and minister. In due time a church edifice was erected on section 32, and upon ground donated by Wilson Lindley. The church thus started has been well kept up, and the building still occupied for religious purposes. Rev. J. G. Campbell conducted the services of this charge for about a quarter of a century, and in the meantime also officiated at other places and was an active agent of the McLean County Missionary Society. The good seed thus early sown by the father of our subject sprang up and brought forth fruit, and is felt to-day in the religious influences which prevail throughout that locality.

The subject of our sketch in early life was greatly devoted to his parents, and labored on his father's farm early and late. He attended the common schools during the winter seasons until he was twenty years of age and remained under the parental roof until his marriage. This interesting event took place Oct. 27, 1864, at the home of the bride's parents in Bloomington Township, the lady of his choice being Miss Mary S. Quinn, daughter

of S. M. and S. A. (Boulware) Quinn, of Richmond, Ky. Her parents were born and married in the Blue Grass State, and the father died at the old home in Bloomington Township in 1882, aged about sixty-six years. Mrs. Campbell was born in Kentucky, May 23, 1847, and came North with her parents when a young child, living with them in Bloomington Township until her marriage. She has become the mother of two sons: Charles L., born March 10, 1866, and Ira C., Oct. 18, 1869. Both have received a good education and are living at home with their parents.

Mr. Campbell and his family are active members of the Christian Church in Grassy Ridge, of which our subject has held the office of Deacon for several years and is now Elder in the church at Bloomington. In politics he is a staunch adherent of the Republican party.



**J**OSEPH B. AYERS, a retired farmer now living in the enjoyment of a competency in the village of Danvers, has spent his entire lifetime in this county, having been born in the city of Bloomington on the 19th of November, 1831. Bloomington, at that time, probably could have hardly been called a city, and our subject has noted with keen interest the changes which have taken place in his native county within a period of over fifty years. He has also furnished his full quota to its growth and prosperity, having been one of its most progressive and substantial citizens.

The subject of this history was the son of James T. and Rebecca B. (Bloomer) Ayers, natives respectively of Madison and Fayette Counties, Ohio. James T. Ayers was born Nov. 14, 1805, and departed this life in Buford, S. C., on the 10th of September, 1865. Mrs. Rebecca B. Ayers was born Oct. 13, 1806, and preceded her husband to the unknown land on the 2d of March, 1848. The parents of our subject were fairly educated in their youth, and were married in Ohio in 1825. His father was a man of fine abilities, an extensive reader and possessed a valuable fund of general information. They emigrated to the Prairie State in the fall of 1831, locating first in Tazewell

County, whence they removed to McLean County and settled near Lexington. James Ayers served as a soldier in the Union Army, first as an Orderly Sergeant, and was afterward appointed Regimental Mail Messenger. After going to Nashville he was retained by Gov. Johnson of Tennessee as recruiting officer, and was afterward appointed Chaplain and assigned to duty in the 104th Regiment of Colored Troops at Buford, S. C.

Joseph B. Ayers remained under the parental roof until he was eighteen years of age, and on the 27th of April, 1851, was married to Miss Sarah C. Haybarger. Mrs. Ayers was born July 26, 1832, in Augusta County, Va., and is the daughter of Abraham and Mary (Crowbarger) Haybarger, who were of German descent, but natives of Maryland and Virginia respectively. The father was born Nov. 19, 1798, and died in McLean County, Ill., in 1843. Mrs. H. was born July 5, 1800, in Rockingham County, Va., and died in Danvers Township, this county, in September, 1885. They were worthy and valued citizens, and members in good standing of the Presbyterian Church. Their household included seven children, as follows: Susan M. married William C. Hinshaw; George C. died in infancy; John C. married Miss Catharine Peuterbaugh; David K., unmarried, died at the age of twenty-three years; Sarah C. is the wife of our subject; Elizabeth R. is now Mrs. John Smith, and Julia A., Mrs. D. B. S. Smith.

Mr. and Mrs. Ayers became the parents of eight children, of whom the record is as follows: John Thompson, born April 12, 1852, married Miss Hattie A. Estes; William Henry, born June 29, 1854, married Miss Emma Neal; one son, born Sept. 3, 1853, died in infancy; Mary Elizabeth, born Dec. 30, 1856, married M. L. Keplinger, of Carlinville, Ill.; a daughter was born Jan. 2, 1856, and soon afterward died; Joseph Lincoln, born Jan. 16, 1859, died October 20 of the same year; Seymore Warren was born Aug. 12, 1861, and Frank David, June 15, 1865.

Our subject in early life purchased a farm at Mosquito Grove, in this county, which he occupied for thirty-five years, and where he carried on agriculture with fair success, and his sons now occupy it. He is a member in good standing of the

Methodist Episcopal Church, with which he united in 1853, and held the office of Steward. The father of our subject died, as stated, in Buford, S. C., with typhus malarial fever. When but twenty years old he commenced his ministry in the Methodist Episcopal Church as a local preacher. He possessed fine talents, was fairly educated and a natural orator. He was the means of great good during his life, being active and useful and a sincere Christian. His wife was also connected with the same church, and a worthy helpmeet of her husband. They were the parents of eleven children: Mary J. became the wife of W. Walters Wallace; Nancy was the second, who died in infancy; Richard died in infancy; the next was our subject; then followed William T., Catharine, Margaret, Benjamin H., Henry C., Sarah E. (deceased), and an infant son, who died unnamed. The parents of Mrs. Ayers came to Illinois in 1834, and located in Tazewell County, whence they came to Danvers Township three years later, where they remained the balance of their lives.

**A**NDREW R. DILLMAN, a prosperous and successful druggist of the little city of MeLean, has been a resident of this county since 1867, and during a period of twenty years has fully established himself in the confidence and esteem of his fellow-citizens. He was born in a log cabin in Lewis Township, Brown Co., Ohio, Jan. 11, 1841. His father, Conrad Dillman, was a native of Maryland, and his grandfather, Andrew Dillman, was of pure German ancestry, and came to America with his father and mother when a young child. They located in Maryland, and later removed to Kentucky, where they passed the remainder of their lives.

Conrad Dillman was quite young when his parents removed from Maryland to Kentucky, and he there grew to manhood and married Miss Lydia Reed, a native of Jessamine County. After their marriage they removed to Ohio, and the elder Dillman purchased a tract of land and cleared a farm in Brown County. He was generous-minded and liberal, always willing to assist a friend, and by the

signing of notes lost the whole of his property. In 1841 he removed from Brown to Clermont County, Ohio, where he cultivated rented land and worked at the carpenter's trade until his death, which occurred in 1859, at the age of sixty years. His widow afterward removed to Illinois, and spent the remainder of her days with her daughter, Mrs. Margaret Houser, of Champaign County, departing this life in December, 1882, in the eighty-second year of her age. The parental household consisted of nine children, three sons and six daughters, eight of whom are still living.

The subject of our sketch was the seventh child of his parents. In early youth he was attacked with hip disease, and was an invalid for a period of eight years. His father being poor he could do but little toward educating his children, but Andrew R. was fond of his books, and while confined at his home pursued his studies, and with the assistance of the district school fitted himself for a teacher, and commenced this occupation at the age of eighteen years. He taught during the winter seasons and in the summer pursued farming on rented land for eight years, and during this time took a partial course of study at Prof. Laycock's Academy at Felicity, Ohio. In 1866 he decided to remove further West, and accordingly journeyed across the State of Indiana and located in MeLean County, pursuing his first duties as a pedagogue in this State, in the town where he now resides. After one year thus employed he secured a position as clerk, and followed this in various stores in MeLean for the next four years. In 1874 he was appointed Postmaster, which position he held until December, 1885. In 1872 he officiated as clerk in a drug-store, where he gained much valuable information, and held the position as druggist's clerk for the following ten years, when he opened a drug-store on his own account, and has successfully operated it until the present time.

The marriage of Andrew R. Dillman and Miss Joanna Crosswell was celebrated April 2, 1868, in the village of MeLean. Mrs. D. is the daughter of John M. and Mary Crosswell, and was born in 1837. By her marriage with our subject she has become the mother of one child, a daughter, Ora Litta. They occupy a pleasant and comfortable

home and enjoy the esteem and respect of a large circle of friends and acquaintances. Mr. Dillman is Republican in politics, and he and his wife are connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mr. Dillman has been prominent in the affairs of his town since coming here. He is local editor of the *McLean Lens*, and has served six years as Police Magistrate of the village. He has taken a decided interest in educational matters, and served as a member of the School Board, doing what he could to advance the educational and moral interests of his community.

The *McLean Lens* was established in 1879, by D. G. Palmer, as an independent paper. He conducted the paper until June, 1885, when our subject became the editor. It is now owned by Critchfield Bros. The *Lens* is a seven-column folio, issued every Saturday, and is a bright, newsy sheet. It is well edited, and has a liberal country circulation.

**J**OHN F. WELCH, a farmer and stock-grower of Bloomington Township, is located on section 35, and in addition to the ordinary pursuits of agriculture is extensively engaged as a breeder of fine stock. He carries on farming on one of his father's places, which consists of 240 acres. In his stock-raising operations he makes a specialty of horses, and exhibits some among the best specimens of their kind in this section of McLean County.

Mr. Welch is a native of McLean County, and was born on the farm which he now occupies but which is owned by his father. Eighty acres of this was purchased by the latter at an early day for the consideration of one yoke of oxen. For a history of the parents of our subject the reader is referred to the sketch of Jeremiah Welch on another page of this work.

John F. Welch remained a member of the parental household until his marriage. In the meantime he received his primary education in the common schools, and completed his studies at Wesleyan College, Bloomington, where he took a course of practical instruction such as he judged would be of use to him in later years. He was married, Oct.

29, 1885, at the home of the bride's parents in Leroy, McLean County, to Miss Lizzie C., the daughter of John W. and Emeline (Buekles) Kershaw. The father of Mrs. W. was the only son of Joseph Kershaw, an English gentleman who settled in the Prairie State at an early period in its history, and was the only representative of the family bearing that name in this country. His wife, the grandmother of Mrs. W., was of Virginian parentage and American ancestry, but born in Illinois, her family being of German descent. The parents of Mrs. W. are still living, and make their home in Downs Township. The wife of our subject was born in the latter township Jan. 30, 1867. She was reared under the parental roof, and completed her education at the U. B. College, of Westfield, Clark Co., Ill., and subsequently took a course at Wesleyan College in the city of Bloomington. She also became an accomplished musician, and in her other studies attained to a high degree of perfection.

Mr. and Mrs. Welch have become the parents of one child—Bessie K., who was born July 2, 1886. Mrs. W. is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and politically Mr. Welch affiliates with the Republican party.

**C**HRISTIAN BECK, a prosperous farmer and stock-raiser of Dry Grove Township, is the owner of eighty-six acres on section 4, and is engaged principally in the breeding of fine horses and cattle. His farm is finely cultivated and improved, and he occupies a handsome country residence which is indicative within and without of cultivated tastes and ample means. His barns and out-buildings are of first-class description, and his business transactions are carried on with that method and system which is one of the requisites of thrift and prosperity.

Mr. Beck was born in Woodford County, this State, on the 8th of June, 1848. He is the son of Peter and Catharine (Gingery) Beck, who were of German birth and parentage. Peter Beck was born in about 1805, emigrated to America in 1833, making his first location in Pennsylvania whence, four

years later, he came to the Prairie State and died in Woodford County, Sept. 17, 1850. The mother was born May 27, 1809, is still living, and remains a widow. She makes her home with her son Christian. Of their eight children the record is as follows: Barbara was born July 11, 1833, and died in infancy; Daniel was born Oct. 8, 1834; Elizabeth, Oct. 9, 1836, and married Andrew Keefer, of Allen County, Kan.; John was born Nov. 21, 1838, and died when twenty-six years of age; Ellen, now Mrs. A. Stephens, was born Feb. 19, 1841; Peter was born Nov. 21, 1843, and married Miss Lydia Miller; Catherine, born May 9, 1846, died at the age of one year and twenty days.

Christian Beek of our sketch was the youngest member of his father's family. He remained under the parental roof until he was twenty-six years of age, and on the 3d of January, 1874, was married to Miss Barbara Schiek. Mrs. B. is a native of Butler County, Ohio, was born April 19, 1847, and is the daughter of Joseph and Magdalena (Augsberger) Schiek, her parents being natives of Germany, and are still living in Tazewell County, this State, which has been their home since 1856. Their family of eleven children included the following: Elizabeth, Barbara, Magdalena, Catharine, Joseph, Mary, Annie, Francis, Lydia, Fannie and Rosa.

Mr. and Mrs. Beck have become the parents of four children—Ida M., Amelia A., Mary O. and Rosa L. In religious belief Mr. Beek and wife are members of the Mennonite Church, and politically he votes the Democratic ticket. The Lake Erie & Western Railroad crosses the southwest corner of his farm.

**W**ILLIAM BUCKWORTH, one of the leading druggists of Leroy, is a native of Sussex County, Del., and was born Feb. 7, 1829. His father, Curtis Buckworth, was a native of Maryland, but was reared and married in Delaware. He removed, in 1832, to Ohio, and located seven miles from Chilliothe, in Ross County, where he purchased a tract of heavily timbered land, in the midst of which was a log cabin. Here he established himself with his family, and lived to improve

a farm of over 400 acres, erecting good buildings and providing all the appliances of a first-class farm estate. After witnessing the remarkable changes which occurred during an interval of thirty-seven years, and keeping full pace with the progress of the age, he departed this life on the homestead which he had established in 1869, when seventy-nine years of age.

The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Ellen Draper. She was born in Delaware, and was the daughter of John Draper, a native of the same State. She became the mother of four children, and died four years after locating with her husband in Ohio, her decease occurring in 1836. The sister of our subject, Susan by name, became the wife of John Thomas, accompanied her husband to Missouri, and died there in 1863; Alexander D. lives at North Platte, Neb., and has served as State Senator; he was formerly a physician, and later Register of the land-office of North Platte, and at present is engaged in the banking and real-estate business.

William Buckworth received his early education in the common school, and attended two terms at Frankford Academy in Ohio. When twenty-two years of age he commenced the study of medicine, under the instruction of Dr. William Latta at Frankford, and in the winter of 1854-55 attended a course of lectures at Starling Medical College at Columbus, Ohio. The following spring he commenced practice at Clarksburg, Ohio, and in the fall of the same year came to Illinois, locating first at Mt. Zion, Macon County. In 1862 he attended lectures in the Ohio Medical College at Cincinnati, from which he graduated in June, 1863. He then returned to Mt. Zion, and after practicing eighteen months there removed to Champaign County, where he spent six years in the practice of his profession, and from there he came to Leroy. In 1871 he purchased the drug-store of Guy & Sims in this place, which he has successfully conducted since that time. He is a thorough-going business man, genial, courteous and obliging, and a great favorite in the business circles of his community.

Mr. Buckworth was married in Greenfield, Ohio, Nov. 15, 1855, to Miss Mary S. Parish, who was born in Ross County, Ohio, in 1831. Of this union

there were born two children: Dana L., who is associated with his father in business; Maggie Ellen died in infancy. The store is finely equipped and doing a good business. Our subject is Republican in politics, and in all respects is fulfilling the obligations of a good citizen.



**A**NSEL D. HOWARD, of McLean, is senior member of the firm of Howard & Gifford, dealers in hardware. He is a native of Taunton, Bristol Co., Mass., and was born Aug. 18, 1831. His father, Ansel Howard, Sr., was a native of West Bridgewater, Mass., and was born June 24, 1803. Our subject's grandfather, Simeon Howard, was a native of the same town, and it is supposed that his great-grandfather, Eliakim Howard, was also born there. Eliakim Howard was a farmer there, and Clerk for the town of Bridgewater in early days, and died there. Simeon Howard was a farmer and miller, and served as a soldier in the War of 1812, and with the exception of the time he was in the army, spent his entire life in Bridgewater. Ansel Howard, Sr., was reared in Bridgewater, Mass., and served his apprenticeship there at carriage-making. When twenty years of age he went to Taunton, where he worked as a "jour" for one year, and then engaged in business on his own account as a manufacturer of carriages and coaches. After the construction of the Taunton & New Bedford branch railroad he added to his other business that of ear-building, carrying on this latter department until 1856, and manufacturing carriages until 1867. He then disposed of his property in the East, and coming to this State located in McLean County, and has since lived a retired life, spending the most of his time with his son, our subject.

Ansel Howard, Sr., in early life was united in marriage with Miss Louisa Wilbur, the mother of our subject. She was born in Easton, Mass., Sept. 5, 1804, and departed this life in Taunton, April 4, 1834. Mr. Howard afterward married Miss Phœbe Bucklin, also a native of Massachusetts, and who died in Fall River, that State, in 1885. Of the first marriage there were four children: Louisa W. died May 11, 1843, in Taunton; Maria W. became the

wife of Daniel McFarland, and lives in Mt. Hope Township; Ansel D., our subject, was the third child; James G. died Feb. 8, 1836, in Taunton. Of the second marriage there was one child, a son, Charles W., who died Feb. 27, 1859.

The subject of this history remained under the home roof and attended the city schools of Taunton until fifteen years of age. He then engaged as clerk in a drug-store, and later in a boot-and-shoe store. When seventeen years of age he began an apprenticeship at carriage-building, serving three years, and then spent two years in a locomotive manufactory. He became remarkably skillful in the use of tools, and after working as a "jour" in a wagon-shop one year, went into partnership with his father and operated with him until the fall of 1857, and the following spring came to Illinois.

After arriving in this county our subject engaged at farm work with S. J. Chapin for a brief time, afterward going into DeWitt County and working at his trade. There, after eighteen months, the shop in which he was employed was destroyed by fire, and he lost a large number of valuable tools. He then went to Independence, Iowa, whence he returned after nine months to Waynesville, this State, and from there came to Heyworth in this county, where he built a shop and engaged in the manufacture of carriages and other vehicles four years. He then came back to the Prairie State and this county, and purchasing a farm in Mt. Hope Township, engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1875. He then sold out, and going to McLean engaged in the furniture trade. In 1881, he became associated with his present partner, Laban F. Gifford, and added hardware to his other stock. The firm is on a substantial basis, and doing a profitable and steadily increasing trade.

Mr. Howard was married in October, 1855, to Miss Mary B. Hunter, who was a native of Warren, R. I., and the daughter of William S. Hunter, of the same town and State. Rufus Hunter, the grandfather of Mrs. H., was a native of Rhode Island, and in early life followed the sea in the whaling service. His father served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and his son Rufus was in the War of 1812. William Hunter, the father of Mrs. Howard, followed the sea from the time he was sixteen until







*George Wilson*



MRS. GEORGE WILSON.

he was thirty years of age, and then engaged in ship-building in Warren, R. I. He left New England in 1858, and crossing the Mississippi settled in Buchanan County, Iowa, and still lives there upon a comfortable homestead. He married, in early manhood, Miss Sarah Luther, who was born in Rehoboth, Mass., and died in Warren, R. I., in 1840. For his second wife William S. Hunter married Miss Lydia Luther, a sister of the first lady.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard have two children—Mary L., the wife of Laban F. Gifford, of McLean, and Ella M., who married Willis Snow, and lives in Mt. Hope Township. The parents and daughters are members of the Congregational Church, of which Mr. Howard has been Treasurer and one of the leading members for several years. He has in all respects fulfilled the obligations of a good citizen, and enjoys the friendship and esteem of the community in a marked degree.



**R**EV. GEORGE WILSON, of Bloomington Township, a gentleman of rare literary ability, a minister of the Baptist Church, and who has also combined the peaceful and pleasurable pursuit of agriculture with his other life labors, has been a resident of McLean County since 1858, at which time he located upon a purchase which he made nearly twenty years before. He has been remarkably successful in his undertakings in life, and to his agricultural pursuits has added that of stock-raising, which he has carried on extensively and profitably for a number of years. He is the owner of 570 acres of land, 320 in this county, and 250 in Ford County, Ill., and since becoming a resident of this locality has aided materially in the building up of its industrial and agricultural interests, as well as its great moral bulwarks.

The subject of this history was born in Allegheny County, Pa., on the 22d of August, 1817. His father, Samuel Wilson (who always spelled his name Willson), was of Scotch-Irish ancestry, and was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Craghead, whose descendants were of the same races. The mother was a native of Maryland, and her father was a Captain in the French and Indian

War, and also a Colonel in the Revolutionary War. After the marriage of the parents of our subject they settled in Pennsylvania, where they spent the remainder of their lives.

George Wilson remained in his native State, receiving careful home training and a good education. He pursued his primary studies in private schools, and at the age of sixteen years attended Franklin College, in Harrison County, Ohio. After completing his studies in this institution he entered Theological Hall, a seminary of learning which is conducted by the United Presbyterian Church, and there received literary and ministerial instruction, under the tutorship of Rev. Dr. John Pressley. Before entering on his theological studies his father died. He spent three years with Dr. Pressley, and was then licensed to preach by the Presbytery of the Associate Reform Church of Monongahela. He was ordained in the fall of 1841 by the Mansfield Presbytery, but after a few years withdrew from the church of his early choice and received immersion from the Baptist Church, with which he has since been connected.

After a few years of ministerial labor in Mansfield, Ohio, Mr. Wilson came to Illinois and engaged in the ministry in this State. Prior to making this his home in (1839) he had traveled over the larger portion of the State, conversed with many educated and intellectual men, and here began the more practical development of his religious thought and ideas. These he soon began to put upon paper, and in the course of time became quite noted as the author of a valuable religious work, "Baptismal Controversy Reviewed," which is a very logical work, consisting of 434 pages, bound in cloth. He has also in manuscript a work entitled "The Kingdom of God Developed, According to the Inspired Record and Predictions." Many years of his life were spent in this latter work, and it will soon be placed in the hands of the publishers. In this Mr. Wilson hopes to fill a vacant niche in sacred literature. Although his literary labors have consumed much time and labor, Mr. Wilson has worked industriously alike at his farming pursuits.

The marriage of Rev. George Wilson and Miss Margaret Taggart was celebrated in Belmont County, Ohio, in 1841. Mrs. W. was a daughter

of Rev. William Taggart, D. D., a prominent minister in the Associate Reform Church of Ohio. She was born Oct. 16, 1821, and reared in her native State, receiving a liberal education, and by her union with our subject became the mother of seven children, viz.: Sarah E., Mary J., William T., Margaret G., Amelia A., Maria I. and Georgiette C. The family occupy a handsome and comfortable residence, and are surrounded by a large circle of friends and acquaintances. This fair home was invaded by death March 18, 1887, when the faithful wife and fond and tender mother was taken from them.

Her decease was caused by a complication of diseases, principally of the liver and lungs. She had suffered much for many years, and was often at the "Gates of Death," but rallied, and was active to the last attack, which commenced with hemorrhage of the lungs and terminated in stragulation.

Tenacity for early impressions and teaching was the predominant trait of her mind, and she never gave up any of them while she could resist the evidence against them.

In her last attack she could talk but little; but in former attacks of chills, caused by the obstruction of the gall duct, she raved much, continually repeating detached portions of Psalms in meter. With these Psalms she was familiar from childhood, and could sing them without book or preceptor, and when no human voice could impress her she had all the counsel, praise and prayers enstamped on her mind, mingled with incoherent thoughts. She was a life member of the Iowa Baptist State Convention, the Bible Union, and of the Missionary Union. The following beautiful and tender lines were penned by Mr. Wilson, whose heart was burdened with a sense of his loneliness at the loss of his beloved life companion:

Now rest in peace, thy journey is o'er,  
And we on earth shall meet no more;  
I'll tread alone this thorny path,  
And finish up our work at last.

Then I shall talk as spirits do,  
And learn what now is known to you;  
The life we now begin by faith  
Will not be altered by death.

And when the Savior comes again,  
We hope to follow in His train;  
The earth a Paradise will be,  
And here again I'll walk with thee.

The "casket" now encloses thy form,  
But thy bosom and head I can see;  
Thy face is pale, yet fresh as the morn;  
Thy closed eyes return no look unto me.

Margaret! we are going to take thee away,  
To dwell in thy lonely house of clay;  
Thy place at home will be empty still,  
For no other one thy place can fill.

Thy coffin is lowered, we bid thee adieu,  
The earth replaced conceals thee from view.  
The last sight I took, thy image impressed  
What time can never erase from my breast;  
Nor can I forget my first days with you:  
Thou wast young, fair, lovely and true.

O! thy grave is so lonely, and I feel as if thou  
Felt its loneliness, too, and desolation, e'en now.  
Thank God! Not here! Thy spirit is gone.  
I stand beside thy cold grave alone.  
At home, thou, with those first you have loved,  
And had gone before you had removed.

I stand alone. No voice from thee speaks  
Me joy and peace, nor me reproaches  
For consigning thee to this cold, dark, and  
Drear abode. Thou art at home—the better  
Home and better company; but still I feel—  
I feel—my better judgment cannot change  
My feelings. My last impressions must  
Grow dim with age and worn out with cares,  
Labors, and sorrows thou wilt not know.

In politics Mr. Wilson is a staunch Republican. He was a strong anti-slavery man, and during the early history of the party assisted greatly in the establishment of its principles, by giving lectures for this purpose whenever time and opportunity permitted. At the same time he vigorously advocated the abolition of slavery, and there is no doubt that his words at that time left an ineffaceable impress upon the people of Ohio. He can now pass down the sunset hill of life with the consciousness that he has been a good and faithful servant in the cause of right and justice. It is with pleasure that we give the portrait of Mr. Wilson with this brief outline of his life, and as a fitting companion picture we give that of his wife.

ESSEK E. GREENMAN, one of the earliest pioneers of McLean County, came to this section Aug. 29, 1829, and after following farming the greater part of his life retired from active labor and removed to Leroy, where he is now living in the enjoyment of a competency. He was

born three miles from Waterford, Washington Co., Ohio, Jan. 23, 1816. His father, John Greenman, was a native of Providence, R. I., and his grandfather, Jeremiah Greenman, was of Welsh birth and parentage, and came to the United States when a young man. He was accompanied by two brothers, and they located in Providence, R. I. During the struggle of the colonists for independence he was a commissioned officer of the Revolutionary War, and was taken prisoner by the British at the battle of Quebec. After being released he engaged in farming pursuits, and subsequently emigrated to Ohio, and spent the last years of his life in Washington County. His son John, the father of our subject, was a young man when his parents removed from Rhode Island to Ohio. He had received a good education in his native State, and taught school in Washington County before his marriage. After this event he located on a farm, but still devoted the greater part of his time for twenty years to the profession of a teacher.

In 1826 he removed to Waterford, where he leased a hotel and ferry, which he operated for one year, then removed three miles up the river, where he purchased sixty acres of land, and lived until 1829. Early in August of that year he started for the West, accompanied by his wife and nine children, together with Seth Baker and family. The entire journey was made overland with teams. Mr. Greenman had one pair of horses and a wagon, and Maj. Baker, one yoke of oxen and a horse in lead. They camped and cooked by the wayside, and the journey, especially through Indiana, was slow and tedious. In places the sloughs were so bad that all the animals were required to pull one wagon through. Each cheerfully assisted the other, however, and they arrived at "Blooming Grove" on the 29th of August, halting at the home of their former neighbor, and the brother of Maj. Baker, Dr. Isaac Baker. After looking around three or four days they found a vacant double log house in the grove, four miles south of the present site of the city of Bloomington. Into one end of this Mr. Greenman removed with his family, while the other was reserved for school purposes, Mr. G. officiating as pedagogue.

In November following James Allin, a merchant

from Vandalia and proprietor of a store at the south part of the grove, came along looking after his interests there and to seek a new location. He made a claim to the land which is the present site of Bloomington, and induced the father of our subject to remove his family there, and in consideration let him have the west half of the southwest quarter of section 4, Mr. Allin reserving twenty acres off the east side for the purpose of laying out what was the original site of Bloomington. This sixty acres is on the east side of Madison street, and within one block of the court-house. Mr. Greenman built a double log house between Washington and Front streets and near Madison, and this was the second house put up on the original site of the city of Bloomington. Mr. Greenman also entered a tract of eighty acres on what is now section 6. This transaction took place on the 22d of February, 1830, and our subject has in his possession the receipt for the money, which was signed by William L. D. Ewing, Receiver, who was afterward Governor of Illinois. In this house Lydia E. Greenman, the sister of our subject, taught the first school opened in Bloomington, in the summer of 1830.

The father of our subject, in the meantime, assisted Mr. Allin in the store, which he had moved there in the spring, and in the fall and winter he taught a term of school two and one-half miles southwest of the future city. In the spring of 1831 he sold his land and removed to De Witt County, entering a claim three miles south of Waynesville. He removed there with his family, and in October of that same year was seized with fatal illness and died. The family then returned to McLean County and entered eighty acres of land two and one-half miles southwest of Bloomington. There was a log cabin on the place, into which the family moved, but on account of the severity of the weather soon left it and rented a house in Bloomington. In 1833 the mother of our subject was again married, to Dr. Isaac Baker, and spent the last years of her life at his home in Bloomington. After the death of her first husband she kept her family together until they were all able to care for themselves.

Esek E. Greenman was thirteen years of age

when he came to McLean County with his parents, and fifteen when his father died. He remained with his mother two years afterward, and then went to learn the trade of a carpenter and joiner, at which he served until the summer of 1835, when he went to Dixon's Ferry, now in Lee County, Ill., and after following the business of helping build cabins on Old Man's Creek, shortly after the Black Hawk War, proceeded from there to Plattsville, Wis., where he entered the lead mines and remained one and one-half years. He then returned to Bloomington for a year, and was variously employed there and elsewhere until 1838. He then went to Cedar County, Iowa, in company with two brothers, where they entered two claims, broke and fenced the land, built a cabin and made other improvements, and then, leaving one brother in charge, our subject and the other went into Davenport to earn money by which to secure their purchase. Our subject was then taken sick, and finally returned to Bloomington. His mother then sold the land near there and gave each child his share of the estate. Esek E. and his brother again started for Iowa with teams, and while on the way ran across a mill site on Skunk River below Augusta, in Des Moines County, Iowa, and concluded to stop there and build a saw and grist mill. This was in 1840, while Iowa was yet a Territory. In June, 1843, our subject sold his interest in the mill, and returning to Bloomington, purchased a carriage and proceeded to Chicago, where he purchased a stock of dry-goods and notions, and starting homeward peddled them through the country. Late in the fall of 1843 he stopped with Hiram Buek, the popular landlord of the Leroy hotel, and Mr. Buek induced him to settle at Leroy and establish a store. Mr. Buek offered to board him for \$1 a week as long as he would stay. Mr. Greenman formed a partnership with S. D. Baker, and with \$250 worth of goods on hand, and another \$100 worth purchased in Bloomington, on credit, and a good team, started in business here Feb. 13, 1844. They operated together for fourteen years, carrying a general stock of everything required in those days, from a thimble to a grindstone, and accumulated sufficient means so that in time our subject purchased a farm of 240 acres a few miles west of Le-

roy. He still remained in town, but controlled his farming interests for about two years, and then engaged in the grocery trade. In 1868 he sold out and retired from active business with a fine competency, which will enable him to pass the remainder of his days surrounded by all the comforts of life and many of its luxuries. The third year after Mr. Greenman commenced renting his farm he made a lease with George W. Segler, and Mr. Segler has now occupied the place for the long period of nineteen years, as tenant, which probably has not a parallel case in McLean County.

The marriage of Esek E. Greenman and Miss Martha Pearce was celebrated Feb. 14, 1848. Mrs. G. was born in Mechanisburg, Champaign Co., Ohio, Feb. 27, 1831. She became the mother of eight children, and departed this life July 14, 1864. Only three of their family are living: Mary Belle is the widow of Scott Crumbaugh, and resides with her father in Leroy; John E. and Charles E. are also at home. Mr. Greenman was formerly a Democrat in politics, but has been a Republican since the organization of this party. He has been Postmaster of Leroy, was a member of the School Board for nine years and School Treasurer six years. Socially he belongs to the Leroy Lodge No. 221, A. F. & A. M., Bloomington Chapter.

During his long residence in this vicinity Mr. Greenman has fully established himself in the confidence and respect of his fellow-townsmen, and has assisted materially in the growth and development of Empire Township. He has been a man of excellent judgment and foresight, and whether at carpentering or mining, teaching, farming or in trade, he was uniformly successful, and whenever he encountered difficulties did not allow them to overcome him, but returned to the attack with renewed vigor. He displayed rare judgment in his mining operations and seemed to have an intuitive knowledge of the richest leads. When he and his partner first began they followed the suggestions of the latter and dug without results, but when they changed to where Mr. Greenman believed they would find a rich vein of ore it proved as he had predicted. Mr. G. was at Belmont when it was the capital of Wisconsin, and traveled over a considerable portion of

the three States of Iowa, Wisconsin and Illinois before there was any railroad or even a wagon track. He has witnessed strange scenes, remarkable changes, and no man has viewed with more satisfaction the growth and development of the Great West.

The mother of our subject, before her marriage, was Miss Ruth White, and she was born in Barnard, Vt., Dec. 31, 1793. Her father, Deacon David White, a member of the Presbyterian Church, was born in Hardwick, Mass., when he removed to Vermont in 1799, and from there to Washington County, Ohio, where he died in Waterford Township, Nov. 13, 1840. His wife died Nov. 21, 1841.



**S**AMUEL I. LEACH, Supervisor of Mt. Hope Township, is a highly respected resident of the village of McLean, where he owns a comfortable estate, and by his energy and industry has obtained the means whereby he is now able to enjoy the good things of life, while his excellent personal traits of character, his ready sympathy and uniform kindness of disposition have gained him the deep respect of his fellow-citizens.

The subject of this biography is a native of the Old Granite State, having first opened his eyes to the light among the New Hampshire Hills, in Cheshire County, and the town of Westmoreland. The date of his birth was Dec. 31, 1840. His father, Bradley Leach, was a native of the same town and county; his grandfather, Isaac Leach, also a native of Cheshire County, was a farmer by occupation, spent his entire life in the county of his birth, and departed from the scenes of his earthly labors after having attained the ripe old age of over ninety years. His son Bradley, the father of our subject, in early manhood learned the trade of a blacksmith, which he followed since that time at Westmoreland, Cheshire County, where he still resides, being now eighty-one years of age. After having arrived at years of manhood he was united in marriage with Miss Eliza Woodward, a native of Westmoreland, Cheshire County, and she still remains his faithful

and affectionate companion, being his junior by one year. The household circle embraced eight children, five of whom are still living.

Samuel I. Leach was the fifth child and third son of his parents' family. He was reared under the parental roof, receiving a fair education in the common schools and in the academy at South Village. He was fond of study and ambitious to excel, and after he had completed his primary course, pursued a more advanced one at Meriden, N. H., and engaged in teaching, which he pursued the three succeeding winters. At this time, the late Civil War being then in progress, he enlisted as a soldier of the Union, Aug. 31, 1862, in Co. A, 14th N. H. Vol. Inf., and served in the army until the close of the war. The first year he was employed at Brigade Headquarters in the Quartermaster's Department, on detached service, and he was afterward assigned to duty at Campbell General Hospital, Washington, D. C. At the close of the war he received an honorable discharge with his comrades, on the 21st of July, 1865, and immediately returned to New Hampshire. After visiting among his old friends and acquaintances for about a month he came west to McLean County, Ill., and engaged as book-keeper for C. C. Aldrich, with whom he has continued with the exception of one year since that time. In 1883 he associated himself in partnership with R. E. Gifford, and opened a grocery store, which has now become one of the leading establishments of its kind in this vicinity. To their first stock he has added a line of general merchandise, and now enjoys an extensive and lucrative trade.

Mr. Leach was united in marriage with Miss Nancy Maria Blake, on the 12th of October, 1862. Mrs. Leach is a native of Swanzey, Cheshire County, N. H., and the daughter of Benjamin C. and Emeline (Aldrich) Blake, a native of the same town and county. Benjamin C. Blake learned the trade of a tanner, and after following this a few years departed this life at the early age of twenty-six years. The maiden name of his wife was Emeline Aldrich. She is still living, and makes her home with her son-in-law, the subject of our sketch.

Samuel I. and Mrs. Nancy M. Leach have become the parents of five children, as follows: Fred

S., Carlon W., Blake, Carrie De Etta and Mattie Maria.

Mr. Leach was Township Clerk for fourteen years. He is also Township Treasurer, which office he has occupied since 1874. He has been a member of the Board of Trustees for a number of years, a position which he still holds, and was appointed in November, 1884, Supervisor of Mt. Hope Township, elected in 1885, and re-elected in 1886. He is Republican in politics, and socially belongs to the G. A. R., Harrison W. Wood Post No. 173. He also belongs to the A. F. & A. M., being a member of Lodge No. 469, McLain and Bloomington Chapter, De Molay Commandary No. 24, at Bloomington.

Mr. Leach, in connection with his official duties, has the supervision of his farm, which is operated by a tenant, and is quite extensively interested in stock-raising. It comprises 237 acres of land, all under a good state of cultivation, and yields him a handsome income.



**H**ON. SAMUEL BEVAN KINSEY, a prominent and wealthy farmer of Mt. Hope Township, owns and occupies a valuable farm estate which is pleasantly located on section 12. He is an old and valued resident of McLean County, and has contributed his full share toward the development of the resources of this section. He is possessed of fine abilities, is of an energetic and enterprising turn of mind, and has always had in view some worthy aim and object.

Mr. Kinsey was born in Highland County, Ohio, on the 19th of September, 1824. His father, John Kinsey, and his grandfather, Christopher Kinsey, were both natives of North Carolina, the latter emigrating from his native State to Clinton County, Ohio, during the early settlement of that county. He there purchased a farm and pursued the peaceful calling of an agriculturist the balance of his days. His son John, the father of our subject, there learned the trade of a millwright, and later, that of a carpenter. Soon after his marriage he removed to Highland County, and in about 1825 returned to Clinton. He was industrious and en-

terprising, and was afterward engaged as a builder and contractor. In 1840 he engaged to build a few miles of stone pike that extended from Cincinnati to Columbus, which he completed, but which, owing to the dishonesty of his partner, proved unprofitable. In the spring of 1843 he removed from Ohio to Illinois, accompanied by his wife and six children. Their outfit consisted of six horses and two wagons, and they carried the greater part of their household belongings, and camped and cooked by the wayside. The first stop was made in the south part of Logan County, where they were obliged to wait for the waters of Salt Creek to subside before they could proceed further. They then journeyed to the northern part of the county, and settled two and one-half miles southwest of the present site of the then unknown city of Atlanta. The elder Kinsey then being unable to buy land, rented for the succeeding three or four years, afterward going to Tazewell County, Ill., and engaging in his former business as a builder and contractor. He there superintended the erection of several large barns and two county bridges on the Maekinaw Creek, and in this vicinity he spent the last years of his life.

The mother of our subject, before her marriage, was Miss Elinor Bevan. She was born in Virginia, attended her husband in his various wanderings after their marriage, and died at the home of her daughter in the village of McLean, Sept. 22, 1872. They had become the parents of nine children, of whom the record is as follows: Jonathan, the eldest born, died in Logan County, Ill.; Samuel B., our subject, was the second son; Lewis lives in Mt. Hope Township; Milton in Tazewell County; John died in Ohio; Louisa married Lafayette Areher; Ruth lives in McLean, and also Stacy B.; Nathan L. served as a soldier of the Union in Co. G, 33d Ill. Vol. Inf., and died in the army. The parents were reared in the Quaker faith, to which Mrs. Kinsey adhered until the close of her life.

The subject of our sketch remained with his parents during his childhood and youth, pursuing his education in the common schools, and in the different branches of work in which he was engaged. He came to Logan County with his parents and lived with them one year, after which, during the



winter seasons, he taught school, and during the summer was engaged in farming pursuits. In 1850 he entered 160 acres of land on the southwest quarter of section 12, in what is now Mt. Hope Township, and commenced the improvement of a farm. Three years later he moved upon it and since that time has occupied it continuously. The land is all enclosed and in a good state of cultivation, and Mr. Kinsey has a comfortable set of frame buildings on it. He subsequently added to his first purchase, having 160 acres in another part of the township and fifteen acres of timber in Logan County.

Mr. Kinsey was married, Jan. 16, 1847, to Miss Mary Stephens, a native of Logan County, Ill., and the daughter of Adam and Mary Stephens, who were pioneer settlers of that section. This lady only remained the companion of her husband for six short years, departing this life in 1853, after having become the mother of two children: Guy H., who died at the age of twenty-seven years, and one who died in infancy. In 1854 Mr. Kinsey was married to Miss Millicent Stephens, the sister of his first wife, and of this union there were born five children, of whom the record is as follows: John is a resident of Bloomington; Jarvis H. lives in Mt. Hope Township; Nathan L. lives in McLean Village and is employed as a teacher; Effie married Terah Farnsworth and they reside in this township, and Maudé is at home with her parents.

Mr. Kinsey has been prominent in the affairs of this locality since first coming here, his talents and ability being duly recognized by his fellow-citizens. For two years he was the Assessor and Treasurer of Logan County, and the second year after coming to McLean was elected Assessor, and since that time has held the office of Commissioner of Highways for twelve years. He has been School Treasurer for the same length of time, and a member of the Board of Supervisors for the past ten years. In 1862 he resigned his position on the Board, having received a commission from Gov. Yates as a recruiting officer for volunteer soldiers, and in six days raised a company of ninety-six men, of which company he was elected Captain. This was named Company A, and it constituted a part of the 117th Illinois Regiment. They marched to the scene of

conflict and were engaged in the battles at Sabina Cross Roads, and were in all the battles of Sherman's meridian campaign. Then, on account of ill-health, Capt. Kinsey was obliged to tender his resignation, and on the 10th of May, 1864, reached home and for some time was incapacitated for any active labor.

In 1884 Capt. Kinsey was elected to represent the 28th District in the Lower House of the Illinois Legislature, and re-elected in the fall of 1886. His abilities here, as elsewhere, were at once acknowledged, and he was placed on various important committees, embracing roads and bridges and canals and rivers. He has served his constituents faithfully and conscientiously, and enjoys the respect and esteem of the people of his community in a marked degree. In politics he was originally a Whig; his first vote for President was for Henry Clay, and on the organization of the Republican party he became identified with its principles, and has been a staunch supporter of that party since.



**L**EWIS HARLEY, deceased, late a highly respected resident of Logan County, Ill., was a native of Pennsylvania, born in December, 1820, and departed this life at his home in Logan County, Ill., on the 6th of January, 1871. He became a resident of that county in 1844 and built up for himself an enviable record as an honest man, a good citizen, and a valued member of the community. He commenced at the foot of the ladder in life and his career offers a striking illustration of what may be accomplished by inborn principles of honor, truth and resolution, and perseverance in battling with the difficulties of life.

The father of our subject, Abraham Harley, was also a native of the Keystone State from which he removed to Ohio when his son Lewis was yet a child. He settled with his family near Dayton, and after living there a few years they proceeded further westward and finally located in this county, being among its earliest settlers. Their location was near a handsome grove which later received its name from and in honor of the Harley family, which it still bears. There, in the course of time, and after

our subject had grown to years of discretion, the father and son established a comfortable home, improved a fine tract of land and erected a sawmill. The tide of prosperity, however, finally turned against them, and by a series of misfortunes the property was lost to the family and its various members scattered in different directions to look out for themselves as best they could. Lewis was turned out into the world with all his earthly possessions tied up in a pocket handkerchief. He had been reared to habits of industry, however, and his bright intelligent face soon secured him friends. He first engaged to work by the month in a distillery, and at once commenced to save a portion of his earnings. A few years later and at the time of his marriage he was the owner of forty acres of land in White Oak Township. This he sold afterward and purchased a tract of wild land, eighty acres, in Mt. Hope Township. Upon this he built a frame house, where he resided with his wife and family for two years, in the meantime breaking the sod and fencing the land, and two years later sold it at an advanced price. This enabled him to purchase 400 acres of land in Iowa. He did not remove there, however, but soon disposed of this purchase, and in company with two brothers, Guy and Marian Tuttle, built a sawmill near Kickapoo River, and was engaged in operating this two years. He then disposed of his interest in the mill and purchased 320 acres of land on sections 13 and 14 of what was afterward Atlanta Township, Logan County. On account of insufficient means he only put up a small frame house here, into which he removed his family and commenced the improvement of his purchase. He planted hedge all around it and divided it into forty-acre fields.

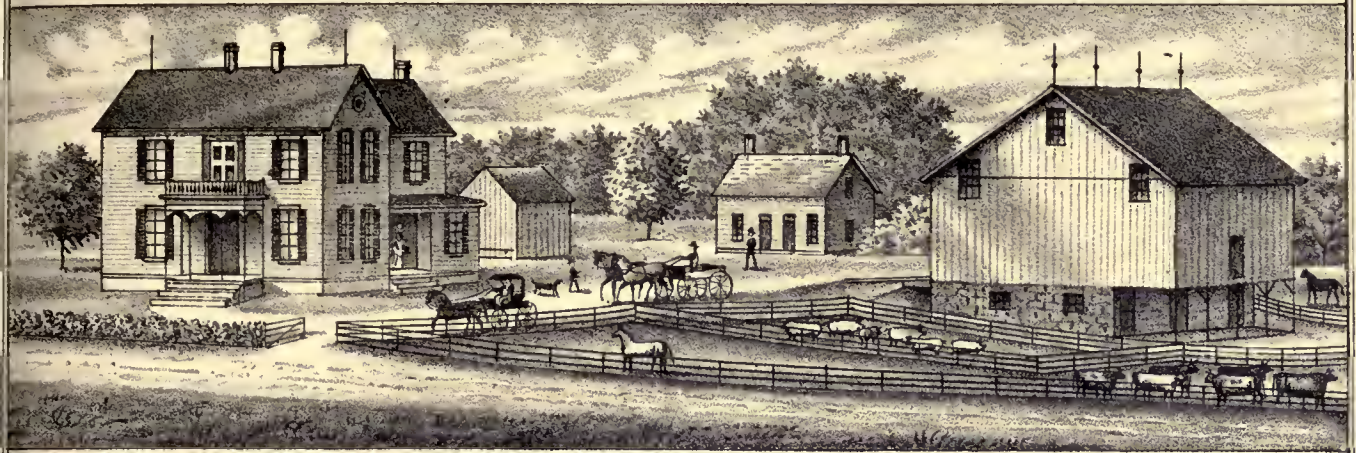
About this time the war came on, and he at once laid aside his personal and private interests and proffered his services to assist in the preservation of the Union, becoming a member of Co. A, 117th Illinois Infantry. He performed his duties bravely and faithfully as a soldier, encountered with his comrades the dangers and vicissitudes of war, which he escaped unharmed, and at the close received his honorable discharge on the 7th of August, 1865. He then returned to his home in Logan County and resumed his farming pursuits. His

health, however, had become greatly impaired from privation and exposure in the army, but he made no application for a pension and endured his affliction as patiently and bravely as he had done when on the march and in the field.

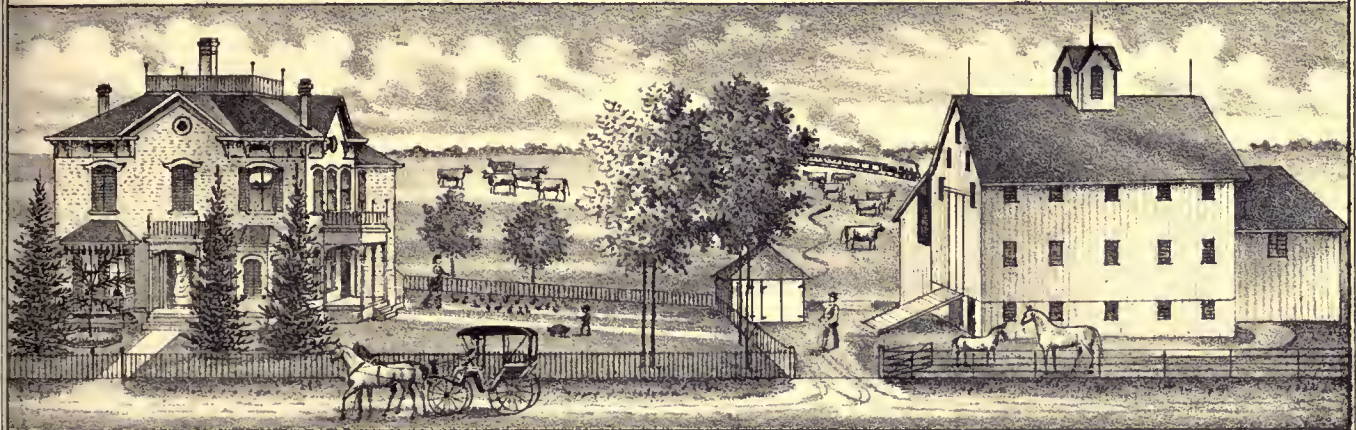
Mr. Harley was remarkably enterprising and ambitious, and willing to labor cheerfully to accomplish any desired result. His ambition led him to labor for a comfortable home and a competency, and his worthy efforts in this direction were richly rewarded. At the time of his death he was the owner of a fine homestead, consisting of 340 acres of land, a good brick residence, large frame barn, and all the necessary out-buildings required by a first-class agriculturist. The farm was well stocked with high grade animals, the sale of which, after his death, amounted to about \$5,000. His marriage with Miss Elizabeth J. Haughey occurred in February, 1849, in McLean County. Mrs. Harley was born in Greene County, Ohio, Aug. 7, 1831, and was the daughter of Joseph and Esther (White) Haughey (see sketch of Matthew Haughey). After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Harley settled in Logan County, and lived there until the following August, when they moved into the house of Mrs. Harley's father, where they remained during the winter, while Mr. H. built a house on his own land.

Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Harley there were born two children: Abraham died when two years and five months old; Francis Marian, the surviving son, was born in Logan County, Ill., July 8, 1855. He pursued his early studies in the common schools and completed his education by attendance at the State Normal University. He now owns and occupies a part of the old homestead in Atlanta Township, Logan County, and has elsewhere about 300 acres of valuable land. He married Miss Fidelia M. Tuttle, who was born in Logan County, and is the daughter of Guy and Martha A. (Roach) Tuttle. They have one child, a daughter—Edna.

Since the death of her husband Mrs. H. has administered upon the estate. She remained upon the homestead until 1878, and then purchased property in McLean, where she erected a fine residence. She has in her own right 160 acres of land, which comprises a part of the home farm and which is operated by a lessee. She is a lady of fine business



RESIDENCE OF HENRY PATTON, SEC. 1, DRY GROVE TOWNSHIP.



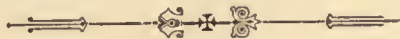
RESIDENCE OF J. J. HAM, SEC. 33, HUDSON TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF W. GOODFELLOW, SEC. 15, DALE TOWNSHIP.



capacities, greatly respected in her community on account of her personal worth, and a member in good standing of the Congregational Church.



**W**ILLET L. MARTIN was born in Padua Township, Dec. 28, 1843, and it has been his home until the present time. He was here reared to manhood, educated in the district schools, and remained under the parental roof until he attained his majority. He was trained to habits of industry and honesty, and at an early age gained a good insight into business methods, and when quite young was intrusted with the buying and selling of cattle, and other affairs in which he displayed more than ordinary ability. With this valuable experience he obtained a good start in early life, and has now a beautiful farm homestead, finely located on section 31, Padua Township. This comprises 277 acres, of which 216 lie in Empire Township, on section 6. His land is all improved. The farm residence is a handsome and convenient structure, and the barn and other out-buildings correspond with the general air of thrift that pervades the whole premises. His agricultural machinery and his stock are of the best kind and kept in fine condition. Mr. Martin has labored industriously since he first started out for himself, and while yet in the prime of life is reaping a rich reward of perseverance and energy.

The first marriage of Mr. Martin occurred in his native township, on the 21st of January, 1869, when he was united with Miss Damaris Dooley. Mrs. M. was born in Clark County, Ky., and came North with her parents in 1851, remaining under the parental roof until her marriage. Of this union there were three children. This lady died at the home of her husband in Padua Township, Nov. 7, 1872. Since the death of the mother, one child has passed away. Those surviving are Mary J. and Florence M. The second wife of our subject, to whom he was married Jan. 6, 1876, was Miss Cynthia, daughter of Martin and Catharine (Foust) Baum, who were both natives of Piekaway County, Ohio, where they were reared, educated and married. They remained on a farm in their native State un-

til 1874, then removed to Illinois and settled in Padua Township, where the mother died in 1884, being sixty-two years of age. Mr. Baum now lives with his daughter, the wife of our subject, and is sixty-two years old. Both were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Mr. B. is Republican in politics. Mrs. Martin and her twin brother, John C., were born in Piekaway County, Ohio, Aug. 7, 1850. The parental household included six children, three sons and three daughters, all of whom are living, married, and settled in homes of their own. Mrs. M. was educated in the schools of her native county, being a young lady when her parents removed to the Prairie State. Of the present marriage of our subject there were born four children—Laura H., Elberta F., Charles A. and John H. Mrs. M. is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and our subject politically is a solid Republican. As a citizen, farmer and business man, he is regarded as one of the leading spirits of his community, and is held in high respect.



**G**EPHART CRICHFIELD, a resident of Funk's Grove Township, this county, was born in De Witt County, Ill., Oct. 23, 1853, being the youngest son of Samuel and Lydia (Duncan) Crichfield, natives of Pennsylvania. Our subject was but a young child when his parents came into McLean County and settled in Funk's Grove, where he attended the district school and assisted his father in the improvement of the farm. He remained under the parental roof until his marriage, and then settled on the old homestead, and is now the owner of ninety-one acres of this. He has erected a good set of frame buildings and is engaged in general farming and stock-raising, which he has carried on with uniform success.

Mr. Crichfield was married, Dec. 30, 1877, to Miss Chrissie Baker, who was born in Funk's Grove Township, July 10, 1860, and is the daughter of R. Harris and Mary (Taylor) Baker, a sketch of whom is given in another part of this ALBUM. Mr. and Mrs. C. became the parents of four children—Hattie May, Alice, Nellie and Samuel. Mrs. C. is a mem-

ber in good standing of the Christian Church. Mr. C. is Republican in politics, and in all respects a worthy citizen and useful member of the community.

The father of our subject, Samuel Criehtfield, was born in Fayette County, Pa., April 10, 1817, and was the son of James Criehtfield. He grew to manhood in his native county and was there married to Miss Lydia Duncan, a native of the same State. In 1846 they removed to Coshocton County, Ohio, where they remained until 1853, then started for Illinois with four horses and two wagons, making the entire journey overland, camping and cooking by the way. After arriving in the Prairie State, James Criehtfield rented land in De Witt County a few years, then purchased a tract of wild land in this county, in what was afterward Funk's Grove Township. He improved a farm and built up a comfortable homestead, upon which he remained the balance of his days, departing this life on the 24th of January, 1886. The wife and mother died in September, 1877. The household circle was completed by the birth of eight children.



**V**ALENTINE NAFFZIGER, Postmaster at Danvers Village, and carrying on a trade in general merchandise, is one of the valuable German citizens of this locality who have contributed so much toward its development and prosperity. Our subject was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, March 12, 1842, and is the son of Christian and Barbara (Staehly) Naffziger, natives of the same Province, and who are still living, being now residents of Danvers Township. Christian Naffziger was born Jan. 17, 1803, and his wife, Barbara, Jan. 22, 1805. They emigrated to America in the fall of 1853, and landing in New York City proceeded westward to Chicago; locating in Danvers Township, this county, on the 19th of March, 1854. The father of our subject is a farmer by occupation and the owner of 120 acres of valuable land in Danvers Township. Both parents are members of the Mennonite Church, and Mr. N. is Democratic in politics. He greatly enjoys the political freedom of his adopted country, being a gentleman who en-

joys the privilege of expressing his views and maintaining them. The parental family consisted of ten children, of whom the record is as follows: Elizabeth, Mrs. Steitz, is a resident of St. Louis, Mo.; Catharine married Phillip Klenk, and they live in Seward, Neb.; Peter is a merchant of Stanford, this county; Helena married Mr. H. Naffziger, one of the pioneers of McLean County; Christian is deceased, his wife and daughter live in Princeton, Ill.; Maria died in Germany; Jacob died in Danvers Township; our subject was the eighth in order of birth; John married Miss Mary Imhof, and is living on the home farm; Barbara became the wife of Jacob Brenneman, and lives in Dry Grove Township.

The subject of our sketch remained under the parental roof until he had attained to years of manhood, and on the 28th of February, 1867, was united in marriage with Miss Henrietta Naffziger, the daughter of Frederiek and Barbara (Naffziger) Naffziger, natives of Germany, who emigrated to America in 1840, and after a residence of ten years in Ohio removed to Illinois, in 1850. The family consisted of eight children, viz., Augustus, Frederiek, Edward, Henrietta, Albert, Julius, Julia, who died in infancy, and Ida, now Mrs. Arthur Hulbert, of Arrowsmith, this county. The wife of our subject was born in Ohio on the 13th of June, 1848.

Mr. Naffziger was reared on his father's farm and received a fair education in the public schools. He remained with his parents until he attained his majority and afterward, for a few months, engaged as clerk for Mr. Abbot, of Danvers. During the progress of the late war he enlisted as a Union soldier in Co. D, 94th Ill. Vol. Inf., and when this regiment was mustered out was transferred to the 37th and promoted Corporal. He participated in all of the general engagements around Mobile, Ala., and Ft. Morgan, and served along the Rio Grande River for several months. In July, 1864, his brigade reshipped to New Orleans; he was actively engaged at the siege and capture of Ft. Morgan, Mobile and Spanish Fort, and received his honorable discharge at Huston, Tex., on the 15th of May, 1866. After returning from the army he located in Dry Grove Township, and engaged in farming. He emigrated to Kansas in 1870, and re-

turned to Danvers in 1876, and in 1877 established his present business, in which he has met with marked success, having now the largest store in the village. In 1880 he erected the fine building which he now occupies, and five years later was appointed Postmaster. This position he is filling with credit to himself and satisfaction to all concerned. He is a worthy member of the Mennonite Church, a systematic business man, and in politics a Democrat, and is a member of Post No. 146, G. A. R. at Bloomington, Ill.

The household circle of our subject was completed by the birth of eight children, of whom seven are now living: Edwin, Assistant Postmaster, was (in 1886) eighteen yearsold; Ida, sixteen; Otto, fourteen; Clara, deceased; Theodore is nine years old; Emma, seven; Helena, five, and Charles, one year old.



**J**AMES QUITMAN BISHOP, a former resident of section 10, Empire Township, was born in a log cabin on the farm which he now owns and occupies, Nov. 24, 1848. His father, James Bishop, one of the pioneers of McLean County, was born in Fauquier County, Va., April 3, 1806. The Bishops from whom he descended came to the colonies from England with William Penn and belonged to the Society of Friends. In the fall of 1809 they removed to the Territory of Ohio and located within the bounds of what is now Clarke County. There James Bishop received his early education and remained with his parents until some years after he had attained his majority.

In the spring of 1831 he set his face for the farther West, coming as far as La Fayette, Ind., and thence to Ft. Clark, now Peoria, also to Pekin, whence he went down the Mississippi Bottoms, where he purchased cattle and returned to Ohio. He then returned to the West, but visited Ohio every year until he was married. This interesting event occurred on the 9th of March, 1837, the lady of his choice being Miss Margaret Cannaday. They became the parents of five children, as follows: Caroline, born June 26, 1838, became the

wife of Thomas Campbell, of Old Town; John Allen was born May 3, 1840, and lives half a mile west of his father's old homestead; Emily was born Aug. 30, 1843, and became the wife of William Evans, now deceased; Rachel was born May 23, 1846, and married Nathaniel Beckman; they live on a farm in West Township; James Quitman was born Nov. 24, 1848, the day when Gen. Scott captured the city of Mexico and made Gen. Quitman the Governor thereof.

The experiences of James Bishop during the first years of his residence in the Prairie State, were very interesting, oftentimes pathetic and frequently ridiculous. The pleasures of the early pioneers were of the simplest kind, but it is probable that they reaped fully as much enjoyment and amusement as do the people of to-day with their more costly recreations. The settlers had their wolf hunts, their bear hunts, Indian hunts and prairie fires, and these served to beguile many days and hours that perhaps otherwise would have been unbearably tedious. Our subject was reared amid these stirring scenes, and thus became instilled with those sturdy and self-reliant qualities for which the earlier settlers of the great West were so eminently distinguished, and which was necessary to aid them in overcoming the difficulties which beset their path. James Bishop accumulated a fortune by farming and buying and selling cattle, and was at one time said to be the wealthiest man in Empire Township.

James Q. Bishop was reared on his father's farm and attended the district school, receiving a fair education. He remained under the home roof until his marriage, and then purchased land in West Township, where he located and lived until 1877. Then, after his father's death, which occurred in 1877, he returned to the old homestead upon which he has since resided. It includes now about 700 acres of land, and upon it is a fine set of farm buildings, all kept in good repair. The farm is well stocked with high grade cattle, horses and hogs, and the farm implements and machinery are of the most valuable and efficient character. The Bishop farm is familiarly known throughout McLean County, and forms one of the most attractive homesteads within its limits.

The subject of this history was married, Feb. 16, 1873, to Miss Martha J. Powell, of Pennsylvania. The young wife died within less than a year of her marriage. For his second wife Mr. Bishop married Miss Margaret V. Powell, the sister of his first wife, Nov. 11, 1875. This lady was also born in Pennsylvania, and by her marriage with our subject became the mother of four children—Minor, Clinton M., James Q. and Margaret E. Our subject and his family in their home life enjoy all the comforts and luxuries which wealth affords. Mr. Bishop manages the pasture land of his farm, and looks after the stock, while the balance is leased to tenants.



**A**LLEXANDER MODEL, a manufacturer of wagons, and who is also engaged in blacksmithing, occupies Nos. 208 and 210 West Grove street, Bloomington, and is a worthy factor of the industry of the community. Mr. Model is a native of Baden, and was born in the village of Steisslingen by the Stockach, Oct. 14, 1828. His parents were John and Barbara (Shumaker) Model, natives of the same country as their son, and the father followed the trade of a weaver through life. Of the parental family of six children only three are living—Solomon, John and Alexander.

The subject of this history, in accordance with the customs and laws of his native country, was placed in school when six years of age, and pursued his studies until fourteen. He then served two and one-half years at the wagon trade, following this until twenty years of age, when he entered the German army and served as a soldier three years, traveling all over the Empire, being detailed as wagon-maker. Thinking that he had given sufficient of his years to the service of his country, he emigrated to America and settled in Hamilton, Canada, in March, 1856. Three years later he came to Madison County, Ill., and in October, 1860, became a resident of Bloomington. Here he worked at his trade until the outbreak of the late war, and in 1862 enlisted in Co. E, 82d Ill. Vol. Inf., serving two years, and receiving his

honorable discharge. After being mustered out of service Mr. Model returned to Bloomington and worked at his trade until 1880. He then purchased his present shops for \$2,200, where he has since continued business, and in brisk seasons gives employment to eight men.

Mr. Model was married in 1856, in Hamilton, Canada, to Miss Mary N. Saueraisan, a native of his own country, and they became the parents of four children, two of whom survive: John A., and Louisa, who is the wife of Goodwin Ford, Assistant Superintendent of the Dominion Express Company, in Canada. Our subject is a Republican in politics, and with his wife a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Their residence is located at No. 703 South Lee street, where they are enjoying all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life.



**S**CAMON RODMAN, a resident of Old Town Township since 1856, is at present residing on section 23, where he owns a fine and productive farm, and where he is engaged in the raising of stock and the cereals. The parents of Mr. Rodman, Joseph and Mary (Street) Rodman, were natives of Bucks County, Pa. In 1821 the parents removed from Bucks County, Pa., to Muskingum County, Ohio, and there the father died in April, 1853. The mother departed this life at Mt. Vernon, Ohio, at the home of her youngest daughter in 1876, having attained to the venerable age of ninety years. The parental family of our subject consisted of eleven children, six sons and five daughters, and Scamon was the third in order of birth.

Scamon Rodman first saw light in Bucks County, Pa., Aug. 7, 1810, and was about eleven years of age when his parents removed to Muskingum County, Ohio. His education was received principally in the common schools of Pennsylvania, and he continued an inmate of the parental household until he was about twenty-two years of age, when he started out to do for himself. He first worked a farm, owned by his father, on shares. Continuing his agricultural pursuits for a time, he was soon



enabled to buy a place of his own, which was located in Muskingum County. Continuing to reside in that county until 1853, he emigrated to this county, and spent the first winter two and a half miles north of Danvers. He then rented a farm in Bloomington Township, and for two years was occupied in farming in this manner. In the spring of 1855 he bought 120 acres of land on sections 23 and 28, Old Town Township, and immediately moved upon the same, and has made that his home until the present time. He is now the owner of 200 acres of valuable and productive land, and has met and is meeting with success in the prosecution of his vocation.

Mr. Rodman and Miss Eliza Wolf were united in marriage in Muskingum County, Ohio, Feb. 17, 1833. She was born in Virginia, May 18, 1811, and has borne our subject ten children—William, Joseph H., Francis A., James M., Samuel A., Elizabeth A., Scamon C., Julius N., Winfield S. and Oscar. Joseph died July 3, 1855, when in his twentieth year; William married Miss Applegate, and they are living in Old Town Township; Francis A. married Miss Angeline Matthew; she died, and he was united in marriage with Miss Amanda King, and they are at present living in Old Town Township. James M. and Eliza Linton became man and wife, and live in Piatt County, this State; Samuel A. is married and a resident of Vermilion County, Ill.; Elizabeth is the wife of William H. Porter, a farmer of Old Town Township; Scamon C. and Emma Flemming became man and wife, and they are living in Butler County, Kan.; Julius N. married Miss Clara Colvin, and they are living in Piatt County; Winfield S. and Miss Josephine E. Badley were united in marriage, and are at present residing in Bloomington; Oscar O. selected as his life companion Miss Kate B. Schultz, and they are living in Old Town Township.

Mr. Rodman was the first Supervisor of Old Town Township, and held that office for five years. He was also Justice of the Peace twelve years, School Director, and held other minor offices in the township. He is and has been a member of the Methodist Protestant Church for fifty-six years. His wife was a member of the same church for upward of forty years, and departed this life Jan. 28,

1880, in Old Town Township. In politics Mr. Rodman votes the Republican ticket, and in 1862 was a delegate to the State Convention and likewise was elected to the same honor in 1880, 1884 and 1886. Abraham Lincoln was the first lawyer to whom Mr. Rodman ever paid a fee.

When our subject first came to Old Town Township wild game prevailed in abundance, and being exceedingly fond of hunting, he engaged in the sport, and during the winter of 1856-57 killed twelve deer in Old Town Township. In 1881 he obtained a position in the office of Secretary of State, in the shipping department, and held the same for four years. He has been an active factor in the development of Old Town Township, and has contributed his quota toward its progress. He has also taken considerable interest in church affairs, and in 1846, prior to his settlement here, was a delegate to the General Conference at Cincinnati, Ohio, and in 1866 was a delegate to the General Convention at Cincinnati, Ohio. Mr. Rodman has in his possession a genealogy of the Rodman family from the original Rodman of Barbadoes—1620 to 1886.

**J**OHAN MARSHALL HITCHCOCK, deceased, formerly a resident of this county, was born in York County, Pa., Sept. 3, 1820, and was the son of Caleb and Elizabeth (Marshall) Hitchcock, and grandson of Isaac Hitecock, a native of England. The grandfather came to this country during the Revolution and was a pedagogue by profession. Caleb Hitecock was born and reared to manhood in Maryland. He first saw light in Hartford County, near Baltimore, that State, Jan. 18, 1797. He there learned the trade of a miller, and followed the same in Maryland for some time, and then in Ohio, whither he had removed. Later in life he was engaged in mercantile pursuits and also carried on a large farm in Harrison Township, Perry Co., Ohio. He spent the last years of his life on the farm in that county, dying there in 1875. The mother of our subject was born in Baltimore, and died at the home of her daughter in Morgan County, this State, in 1879. Eleven children were born to the parents.

Our subject attended the public schools in his younger years, and when he was of sufficient age assisted in the labors on the farm. He lived at home with his parents until his marriage, and then engaged in trade at Oakfield, Perry Co., Ohio. He was thus occupied for two years and then bought a farm in that county, where the city of Corning is now situated, and carried on farming. He sold his place in September, 1851, and bought another near the home of his father, and located upon it. In 1852 he went to California, via the Isthmus, and was absent from home until August, 1856, his wife in the meantime residing with his and her parents. While living in California he engaged in mining, meeting with partial success. Returning home he continued his farming operations until the breaking out of the late war and then, Sept. 20, 1861, enlisted in Co. A, 62d Volunteer Infantry, and served his country faithfully and well until Sept. 24, 1862, when he was discharged on account of disability. He was in the Army of the Potomac and participated in several important battles. May 20, 1864, he again enlisted, this time for 100 days, and joined Co. G, 161st Ohio National Guards. He was mustered in as Sergeant, and continued to serve until the close of the war. He participated in all the engagements in which his regiment fought, which were numerous and bloody, and escaped from the field of conflict without serious injury. Returning from the war he, in 1865, sold his farm in Ohio and that year came to this State, and bought a place in Mt. Hope Township, this county. He farmed this place for nine years, then rented it, and purchasing the McLean Hotel, filled the position of "mine host" until Sept. 20, 1876, the date of his demise.

Mr. Hitchcock was married to Miss Mary J. Rink, May 12, 1850. She was born in Baltimore County, Md., March 3, 1832. Her father, John Rink, was a native of Germany. He came to America with an uncle when one year old, his mother having died in the old country. He was reared to manhood in Pennsylvania. There he learned the trade of a tailor, and moving to Baltimore, Md., worked at his trade until 1845. He then went to Perry County, Ohio, and continued working at his trade until 1872, when he moved to Armstrong, Tazewell Co., Ill., and continued laboring at his

vocation until a short time before his death, which occurred in November, 1880. The maiden name of the mother of Mrs. Hitchcock was Belinda H. Marshall, a native of Baltimore County, Md. She died in Ohio in June, 1868.

After the death of our subject Mrs. Hitchcock continued to manage the hotel until 1880. July 14 of that year the building was destroyed by fire, and Mrs. Hitchcock then went to Atlanta, and rented a hotel which she conducted on her own account. She then returned to this county, and in 1882 had the present hotel erected. It is commodious and conveniently arranged and is well kept. Mrs. Hitchcock is the mother of two children by our subject, Addis and Mazilla. She and her daughter Addis are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



**C**HARLES C. MAYER, an enterprising German citizen of Leroy, was born in Schwenningen, in the Kingdom of Wurtemberg, Germany, Nov. 19, 1847. He is the son of Lawrence and Anna Maria (Haller) Mayer, who were also natives of the same Province, the father being a cooper by trade, which he followed in his native country until 1863. He then started for the United States, embarking at Havre, France, in June, and landing in New York City in August. From there he proceeded to Buffalo, and engaged in a sash and blind factory. He then journeyed West to Michigan, and locating in Ann Arbor spent the last years of his life there with his son. The mother had died in Schwenningen, in 1859. Four of their children accompanied the father to America: George lives in Avoca, Iowa, and is a jeweler by trade; John is a cabinet-maker, and lives in Ann Arbor, Mich.; our subject was the next oldest; Kate died in Wisconsin; Jacob, the eldest son of the family, served in the German army, and died there from the effects of wounds received in battle.

The subject of this history attended school in his native country until he was fourteen years old, and was then apprenticed to watch and clock making, serving at this until his departure for the United States. After reaching Buffalo he learned

the barber's trade, at which he afterward worked in Cincinnati, St. Louis and Bloomington. In 1867 he came to Leroy, and opening a barber-shop continued his former occupation until 1881. In the meantime he added to it the jewelry business, and in 1881 disposed of the barber-shop, since then having devoted his entire attention to his trade in jewelry and the repairing of watches and clocks. His is the only establishment of the kind in the city, and yields him a handsome income.

Mr. Mayer was married in Leroy, on the 10th of July, 1871, to Miss Nannie J. Gibbs, who was born in Leroy, and is the daughter of John and Mary Gibbs. Mr. and Mrs. M. have become the parents of six children—Edith, George, John L., Charles, Bertha and Frank. The family attend the Lutheran Church, and our subject in politics uniformly casts his vote with the Democratic party. He is a member of the City Council and Collector of Taxes, and socially belongs to Leroy Lodge No. 221, A. F. & A. M.



**N**ELSON O. LACOCK, a successful and prosperous farmer residing on section 1, Old Town Township, is the son of Rezin and Eliza (Oliver) Lacock, natives of Washington County, Pa., where they were married and settled, and where they continued to live until called to a better home. The father was a farmer, and followed his calling in his native county until his demise. He became the head of a family of three children, of whom Elisha and Nelson lived to attain the age of manhood.

Nelson Lacock was born in Washington County, Pa., July 4, 1817. When he was five days old his mother died, and young Lacock was placed in the home of his grandparents, with whom he lived until he had attained the age of manhood, engaged the while in attending the common schools and in working on a farm. April 6, 1842, our subject was married to Sarah Williams, daughter of Abraham and Sarah (Hannah) Williams, natives of Westmoreland County, Pa. After their marriage her parents went to Greene County, Pa., whence they removed to Washington County, that State, and from there came to this county, arriving here in 1856,

and settling near White Oak Grove, where the father continued to labor at his calling, that of a farmer, until his death, and where his good wife also died. Abraham Williams became the father of eight children—Elizabeth, Rhoda, Rebecca, Richard, Mary, Abraham, Sarah and Robert E.

Sarah, Mrs. Lacock, was born in Greene County, Pa., March 22, 1823. She lived with her parents until her marriage with our subject, which union has been blest by the birth of eight children, the record of whom is as follows: Elizabeth is the wife of Joseph M. Smith, and lives in Bloomington, Ill.; Luzettee died of diphtheria when eighteen years old; Abraham died when sixteen years old; Timandria died when fourteen years of age, of diphtheria; Robert R. was united in marriage with Miss Grace Mason, and they are living in Padua Township; Sarah A. is the wife of E. D. Benjamin, and they are living in Old Town Township; Oliver N. is married to Minnie Young, and they live in Padua Township; Cromwell lives at home.

Mr. Lacock has held some of the minor offices of his township, and he and his wife are active members of the Christian Church, to which denomination they have belonged for many years. He was Elder in a congregation of that denomination. In political principle he is a Republican, but since the birth of the Prohibition party has voted for its success. Mrs. Lacock is one of those kind-hearted Christian women found in every portion of our land, who sympathise with the poor, and has never turned the hungry from her door, believing as she does that "It is more blessed to give than to receive, and inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, my disciples, ye have done it unto me."



**J**AMES S. GEORGE, a highly respected farmer and carpenter of Danvers Township, pleasantly located on section 36, is a native of Pendleton County, Va., and was born on the 24th of March, 1824. His parents were William and Mary A. (Hawkins) George, both natives of Virginia, and the mother of German ancestry. William George was a carpenter by trade; he was born in 1796, and removed to Champaign County,

Ill., where he died in April, 1875. The parents were married in Hampshire County, Va., in 1816, the mother being eighteen years old. She removed with her husband to Illinois, and died of cholera in Danvers Township in 1854, at the age of fifty-four years. The parental household included the following children: Samuel married Miss Rebecca Idleman, in Virginia; John died of cholera, in 1854; Thomas married Miss Collins Betts; James S. is the subject of our sketch; Catharine, Mrs. Simons, lives in Harrison County, W. Va.; Elsie, the wife of Elijah White, resides in Randolph County, W. Va.; Mary became the wife of William Brown, of Virginia; Sarah married Silas Smith, of Tazewell County, Ill.; Rebecca married William Emmett, of Tazewell County, Ill., and William married Miss E. Demming, of McLean County; Abraham and Isaac were twins, the first married Miss Goram, and Isaac married Miss R. Cook, of McLean County, Ill.

James S. George became a resident of the Prairie State in 1852, and for two years followed the trade of a carpenter. Not being quite satisfied with the results in this direction he took up farming pursuits, locating on the tract of land which he now owns and occupies. He is making a specialty of stock-raising, and deals in high grade Short-horn cattle.

After coming to Illinois the subject of our sketch was married to Miss Elizabeth Bennett, on the 12th of September, 1853, in Tazewell County. Mrs. George was born in Virginia, on the 12th of September, 1829, and is the daughter of John and Catharine (Grapes) Bennett, natives of the same State, the father born in 1797. He emigrated to Iowa after his marriage, and died there in 1873. The mother died in Tazewell County, this State, in 1836, leaving four children, two boys and two girls. Eliza married John Roarbeck; Elizabeth, of our sketch, is the second child; David married Miss Salina Green; William was killed by lightning when sixteen years old. The education of our subject and his wife was necessarily somewhat limited, their parents being pioneers of a new country, and schooling facilities very meager. Realizing the advantages of mental culture they have given their children the best advantages which the schools of

the present day afford. Of these children John died of cholera, in 1854; David B. married Miss Charity Perry; James W., Ida and Elner are at home. While Mr. and Mrs. George have not identified themselves with any church organization they are firm believers in the Scriptures, and endeavor to follow the precepts of the Golden Rule. Mr. George is Democratic in politics, and in all respects is a worthy citizen and a valued member of society.



**J**OHN GAY, an enterprising and intelligent farmer of Empire Township, owns and occupies a comfortable homestead of 200 acres on section 3. He is a native of Pickaway County, Ohio, and was born in 1842, being the son of James Gay, deceased. The latter was also a native of Ohio, his birth occurring in Pickaway County on the 1st of April, 1809. The father of the latter, John Gay, Sr., removed from his native State of Pennsylvania to Pickaway County, Ohio, being among the earliest settlers of that region. He purchased a tract of timber land, cleared a farm from the wilderness, and established a comfortable home, where he passed the remainder of his days. There James Gay, the father of our subject, grew to manhood, and was married to Miss Permelia Ross, a native of New Jersey. He inherited a part of the old homestead in Pickaway County and lived upon it until the fall of 1852. Then, accompanied by his wife and ten children, he started overland to Illinois. After twelve days' travel they landed in Piatt County, where James Gay cultivated a tract of rented land for two years and then coming into McLean County, purchased the northeast quarter of section 3, in what is now Empire Township. Thirty acres of this was broken and fenced, and there was upon it a frame house and log stable. Here, the father of our subject settled with his family, and here his life terminated on the 6th of July, 1881. He had been prosperous in his farming and business operations, and at the time of his death his land was finely improved, well fenced and under a good state of cultivation. The wife and mother departed this life Feb. 17, 1871. One child was born to them after coming into this





*W. W. Rounds*



*Jonas Hill*

State, and of the eleven born to them the record is as follows: David died in Empire Township; Mary was married and her husband died in the army, and she now lives at Weedman Station; Margaret, the widow of Abner Brown, lives with her brother on the old homestead; Martha became the wife of Chamber Dynes, and died on the homestead in 1870; our subject was the next in order of birth; Elizabeth married F. M. Rutledge, and lives in Empire Township; Eliza, Mrs. C. H. Best, lives in Shelby County, Iowa; Reason R. lives in Hancock County, Iowa; William, in Farmer City; Sarah, Mrs. Frank McFarland, in Nobles County, Minn.; Mary F., Mrs. Jacob Williams, in Empire Township.

John Gay was a lad of twelve years old when he came to this county with his parents. His youth and childhood were spent in attendance at the district school and assisting his father, on the farm, and he lived with his parents until one year before his marriage. He then engaged with his brother David in operating a rented farm for about five years, and afterward rented a farm by himself west of Le Roy, upon which he remained until after the death of his wife. He then returned to the old homestead for a year, and with the exception of the time that he was engaged with his brother William, has been a resident there since. His marriage with Miss Mary L. Buckles occurred in 1867, at the home of the bride's parents in Downs Township. Mrs. Gay was born in Empire Township, and is the daughter of Peter Buckles, one of the early pioneers of this county. Our subject is Democratic in politics, and in all respects is fulfilling the obligations of a good citizen.

**D**AVID H. ROUNDS, formerly a prominent contractor and builder of Bloomington Township, is now one of the most successful breeders of fine horses in McLean County. He was formerly associated in business with a partner, and they engaged in building operations for about ten years under the firm name of Vanschoick & Rounds. The firm is now dissolved, and Mr. Rounds devotes nearly the whole of his time and attention to developing the qualities of

that noble animal, the horse. He is making a specialty of roadsters, and is the only man in McLean County who has raised a horse that has made a record by his training, coming within 2:30, and the only man in the county who has developed the speed of a horse to a record of 2:24½, which is the record of the chief of his stables, which is known as Rounds Sprague, and is registered as No. 4194. This animal is the son of Governor Sprague, his dam being Davis Maid. Mr. Rounds purchased him at the age of twenty months, and has made him what he is. There is also attached to his stables, Belmont Sprague No. 4527, which, although young, gives indications of something beyond the ordinary, which will soon place him upon an equality with his sire, Rounds Sprague, and dam, Lady Rodman, by Belmont No. 64, and grand-dam, Patty Rodman, by Alcalde No. 103. Mr. Rounds also owns the fine colt Brownell, No. 6064, which possesses the most style of any in his stables. He was sired by Lumps, whose record is 2:21, his dam being Mambrunello, and the second dam by Pilot, Jr. His coach stallion, Abdallah Bruce, and which possesses particularly graceful movements for a large horse, is on record, and when upon exhibition received the highest praise from Judge Arthur Caton, whose knowledge of a good horse, and success in developing, proves him to be a man of no ordinary judgment. With these horses Mr. Rounds has built for himself an enviable reputation as a breeder and developer. He has followed his present business for nearly thirty years, although a part of the time he was engaged as a builder and contractor. He lives near the city limits of Bloomington, and is well and favorably known throughout this section, as much for his personal traits of character as for his success in his chosen calling.

The "Mark-Field Monthly" of March, 1886, has given a lengthy notice of the Vanguard Stud, by which the collection of horses bred by Mr. Rounds is familiarly known throughout this section. It editorially remarks: "The truth of the matter is that Mr. Rounds has employed his brains in the most effective manner, and to the greatest possible advantage. In addition to this he has been wonderfully fortunate in getting hold of a

lot of dams whose pedigrees contain in harmonious union about all the elect blood lines which are known to the trotting register, and whose forms and breeding qualities are admirably adapted to the head of the stud. The splendid success with which the efforts of the owner of the Vanguard Stud have been crowned, is easily traced to the sound judgment and practical wisdom that were employed in laying the foundation of that interest. That the plucky, intelligent and thoroughly honest labors of Mr. Rounds are an enduring credit to himself and a source of untold profit to the city of Bloomington, cannot for one moment be denied." We cannot, in the space of a brief biography, name the various members of his family of equines, but it will be safe to say that the collection has no superior, if any equal, in this portion of Illinois. The animals are models of beauty and symmetry, and those whose speed has been tested, give indications of remarkable feats to be performed in the future.

Mr. Rounds is a native of Lewis County, N. Y., and was born Oct. 28, 1830. When a young child his parents removed to Medina County, Ohio, and later, in 1841, journeyed still further Westward, coming to the prairies of Illinois, making their location in Fulton County. In 1856 they all came to Bloomington, which has remained their home since that time. The parents are still living, and make their home with their son, our subject. The father, Samnel D. A. Rounds, was a native of Boston, Mass., and the mother, who, before her marriage was Miss Amy Hatfield, was born in the State of New York.

David H. remained with his parents until he had attained to years of manhood, and was married at Farmington, Ill., in 1852, to Miss Laura Sweet, a native of Allegany County, N. Y., who had come West with her parents one year previously. Of this union there have been born eight children, four of whom are now deceased: Aliee, who became the wife of J. M. Grant, a farmer, and resides at Elwood, Ill.; Nellie, Olivia and Amy are at home. The deceased are George A., Mary, Speneer and Samuel D. Mr. and Mrs. Rounds are prominently connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in politics the subject of our sketch is a Republican.

Among the numerous portraits of the leading citizens of McLean County given in this volume, we are confident none are more deserving a prominent place or will be received with greater favor than that of Mr. Rounds.



**J**ONAS SILL has been a resident of Dry Grove Township since 1857, and is now located on section 16. His has been a varied and busy life, interspersed with travel to various parts of the world, including two trips to Europe and visits to different parts of the United States; in fact he has seen the wonders of the principal cities of the world, and his experiences, if written out, would make an interesting volume.

Mr. Sill was born in Bedford County, Pa., on the 10th of April, 1819. He is the son of Daniel and Catharine (Stiffler) Sill, natives of the same county as their son. Daniel Sill was born in 1778, and died in Pennsylvania in 1850, at the age of seventy-two years. He was possessed of a good English and German education, and was engaged in farming pursuits the greater part of his life. Mrs. Catharine Sill was born in 1786, and departed this life in 1848, after becoming the mother of sixteen children, nine sons and seven daughters, viz.: Elizabeth, Sophia, Henry, Jacob, Catharine, Isaac, Daniel, Zaehariah, Mary, Jonas, George, Michael, Henry (second), Mary (second), Susan and Naney. Of these only six are living. The parents were members of the Lutheran Church and were people highly connected in their community, training up their family to habits of industry and principles of honor and virtue.

Jonas Sill was married in his native State, to Miss Theresa Boyer, on the 22d of October, 1841. Mrs. Sill was born in Somerset County, Pa., Oct. 26, 1816. Her parents were Benjamin and Elizabeth (Ellrich) Boyer, natives of Maryland. Of this union there were born four children, two sons and two daughters. William, who married Miss Nora Swallow, is living in this county; Elizabeth, Mrs. John Lucas, resides in Missouri; Catharine, who married Rev. Andrew Latimer, a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Latimer was



born in New York State, in 1838, and reared in Canada, where his education began. He came to Illinois in 1868, and completed his studies at Evanston College, near Chicago, entering the ministry the following year. He is now located at Durham, Marion Co., Iowa, and to himself and wife have been born two children: Simpson J., born Sept. 29, 1874, died Sept. 27, 1886; Arthur H. was born July 4, 1878. Mr. Latimer is distinguished as a revivalist, and is one of the most prominent clergymen in his locality. Daniel M., the other son of our subject, was born Dec. 3, 1851, and is still an inmate of the parental home. He is highly educated, completing his studies in the Wesleyan University at Bloomington. On account of failing health he went to Oregon and spent four years, and after returning to Illinois, made a trip to Europe.

Mr. Sill is the possessor of 210 acres of finely cultivated land, upon which he has erected a tasteful farm dwelling with all necessary barns and out-buildings. Of late years he has been largely engaged in the breeding of fine stock, especially horses, of which he has imported choice specimens of Clydesdale and Norman. Of these he has made three importations and disposed of them to parties in Oregon and other portions of the Northwest. His farm is beautifully located in the central part of the township, and the local elections have been held at his shop for the last sixteen years. Mr. Sill is Republican in politics, and has been a member of the Evangelical Association for a period probably of forty-seven years. He has been closely identified with the agricultural and industrial interests of this section for the last thirty years, and has contributed his full quota toward its development and growth, and in presenting his portrait, we give that of one of the leading and representative men of McLean County.



**J**OHN FRY, a native of Greene County, Pa., now owns and occupies a comfortable homestead in Empire Township, on section 19. He comes of worthy and substantial ancestry, being the son of Abraham and Mary (Beckenbaugh) Fry, the father born in the eastern part of

the Keystone State, and the mother in Greene County. The paternal grandfather of our subject was a native of Germany, and the maternal grandparents were of German descent, but born in Pennsylvania. Abraham Fry departed this life in 1827, leaving a wife and seven children. Just previous to his death he had visited Licking County, Ohio, and selected a farm there, which he had paid for by the sale of his property in Greene County, Pa. To this the widow and her children removed, settling in Burlington Township. The journey, a distance of 160 miles, was made overland with teams, in the manner common to the pilgrimage of the early pioneers. They took their household goods along, and camped and cooked by the wayside. There was a log cabin on the place, which the family occupied for some years, and forty of the 175 acres were partly cleared. Our subject and his brothers cleared all but thirty acres of the remainder. The mother kept her family together until they had grown to mature years. Twenty years after the death of her first husband she was married again, was again widowed, and during the last years of her life made her home with her children.

John Fry was the sixth child of his parents, and was born Sept. 4, 1824. As soon as large enough he assisted his parents in the labors of the farm and lived with his mother after her second marriage. He attended the common schools in Ohio, and after he had attained his majority and was married, purchased the interest of the other heirs in the old homestead. This he occupied until 1870, and then, selling out, removed to this State and county, and located upon the place which he still owns and occupies. This comprises 205 acres of land, all enclosed, with a fine stretch of pasture and good improvements. He was reared to habits of industry and economy, and inherited from his substantial German ancestors the traits which have constituted him a valuable and reliable member of the community.

The marriage of Mr. Fry with Miss Rebecca Liming was celebrated Feb. 17, 1849. Mrs. F. was born in Monongalia County, W. Va., July 7, 1829. Her parents were Samuel and Jane (Brown) Liming. They removed to Licking County, Ohio, when Mrs. F. was a young child, and spent the last years

of their life there. Of this union there are seven children living, as follows: Susan, the wife of James W. Long, is a resident of Calhoun County, Iowa; Abraham also lives in that county; Ellen married Leroy Oliver, and they live in Downs Township; William is a teacher in Belleflower Township; Charles A., John Wesley and Elizabeth May are at home with their parents.

Our subject and his wife are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, to the support of which they contribute liberally and cheerfully. Mr. Fry cast his first Presidential vote for Gen. Cass, and was Democratic in politics until the formation of the Republican party. His present possessions are the result of his own industry and perseverance, and he has contributed his full share toward the growth and development of his adopted township. His homestead is finely located and pleasant to look upon, and our subject is considered one of the representative men of the locality.

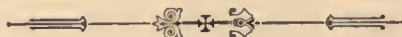


**A**LFRÉD H. MORRIS, of the firm of Galusha & Morris, dealers in hardware at Le Roy, is, with his partner, carrying on an extensive and lucrative trade. Mr. M. was born in Empire Township, this county, April 27, 1846. His father, Leonard M. Morris, was a native of North Carolina, whence he removed at an early day to Indiana, where he lived until 1844; then, with his wife and one child, he came into Illinois, making the journey overland, and arriving at Le Roy, in this county, with \$1.75 in his pocket. He located upon a tract of rented land, which he cultivated for a number of years, and then purchased forty acres one and one-half miles west of Le Roy. To this latter he added eighty acres, which he continued to cultivate and improve until the fall of 1884, when he sold out and removed to the home of his daughter, Mrs. Helmick, in Monroe County, Mo., where he departed this life on the 8th of August, 1885. His wife, the mother of our subject, was formerly Miss Lavina Pugsley, who was a native of Maine, and the daughter of Joseph Pugsley, of the same State, whence he removed to Indiana, being among the earliest pioneers of that State.

Soon afterward he pushed on to Illinois and located in Empire Township, this county, being among the earliest settlers of this region. Of their six children five grew to become men and women: Sarah O. married James Helmick, and they live in Monroe County, Mo.; Alfred H., our subject, was the second child; Charles W. died in Empire Township, June 26, 1885; Marcus P. lives in West Township, and William J., in Sedgwick County, Kan.

The subject of this history pursued his primary studies in the town of Le Roy, and assisted his father on the farm. He remained under the parental roof until twenty-one years old, and was soon afterward married and located upon land. After farming in this manner for twelve years he purchased land in Empire Township, which he occupied and cultivated until December, 1880. He then purchased a one-half interest in the store of Mr. Galusha, with whom he has been associated since that time.

Mr. Morris was married, April 9, 1867, to Miss Elizabeth Wyekoff, who was born on the line of Licking and Fairfield Counties, Ohio, and was the daughter of Matthew and Naney (Finckbone) Wyekoff, natives respectively of Virginia and Ohio. Of this union there have been born four children, all daughters—Ella May, Mary Agnes, Eva and Daisy Aliee. Mr. Morris is Republican in politics, and has held the office of City Treasurer of Le Roy. Socially he belongs to Le Roy Lodge No. 149, I. O. O. F. He is a straightforward and energetic business man, and in all respects a representative citizen.

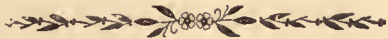


**G**EORGE McINTOSH, plumber, and carrying on a good trade in gas and steam-fittings, is contributing his full share to the business interests of Bloomington, and thus fulfilling the obligations of a good citizen. He is a native of Scotland, born in the city of Breehin in May, 1844. His parents were George and Agnes McIntosh, by whom he was reared and sent to school, where he received a good education. He learned the trade of a plumber in his native city, serving an apprenticeship of six years, and at the expiration of this time proceeded to the city of

Glasgow and worked as a "jour" for one year. From there he went to Dublin, where he spent one year, and thence to the city of London, England, where he worked at his trade two years. From there he sailed for America, and after spending a week in Montreal, Canada, where work was dull, set his face Westward, and soon found a job in Chicago, Ill., from which he derived a handsome salary of \$4.75 per day.

Mr. McIntosh spent two years with one firm in that city, and was then detailed to go to Bloomington, where he completed a contract for the firm, and where he decided to locate. He became a permanent resident of the city in 1868, and established himself in business. Three years later his stock was destroyed by fire, and having no insurance he lost everything. His credit, however, was good, and he soon recovered from this disaster. He once more opened up a stock of fixtures, his business place being located under the First National Bank, at the corner of Washington and Main streets, where he operated successfully, and in due time was enabled to put up the present convenient and commodious building. This occupies an area of 22x90 feet, with two stories and basement.

Mr. McIntosh is a straightforward business man, and takes a genuine interest in the prosperity of his adopted city, and there are few worthy enterprises that have not received his encouragement and support. He was married in 1870 to Miss Helen, daughter of John McGregor, of Bloomington, and they have two children—George and Adella.



**C**HRISTIAN W. NAFZIGER, a retired farmer now living in the village of Stanford, this county, was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, on the 28th of May, 1819. He is the son of Christian and Elizabeth (Fisher) Nafziger, and his father, born in 1867, died in March, 1819, leaving a widow and five children. The mother, born in 1788, after the death of her husband emigrated to the United States with her family, and died three years later in Illinois, in September, 1854. The family lived one year in Ohio.

Our subject preceded the balance of his mother's

family to America, coming here in 1846, landing in New York City on the 22d of September, whence he went to Butler County, Ohio. He was employed as a farm laborer in that State for a period of eight years, and in the meantime was married to Miss Elizabeth Ehresmann, March 15, 1849. She was born in Hesse-Cassel, Germany, in November, 1823, and came to America in July, 1842, where she and her sister joined their father and two brothers, who had already been here three years, and located in Butler County, Ohio. Her father died one year after her marriage. His family consisted of two sons and three daughters, of whom Barbara married Mr. Berck; Frederick married Miss Emma Jacobs; Christian is deceased; Elizabeth, of our sketch, and Ellen, who married Jacob Musleman.

A few years after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Nafziger came to Illinois, in 1854. Mr. N. rented land the first year and then purchased eighty acres, to which he afterward added a like amount, and beside this, which comprises the homestead, has 120 acres within one and a half miles of the village of Stanford. In 1878 he engaged in the lumber business in Stanford and was thus occupied for five years, at the end of which time he sold out and retired from active business. He has been a hard worker in his time, and his possessions are but the just reward of his early industry.

Mr. N. became connected with the Masonic fraternity in 1877, being a member of Allin Lodge No. 605, and is a warm supporter of the principles which he learned to admire long ago. He is a member in good standing of the Mennonite Church, of which he has been a liberal and cheerful supporter, and politically is a reliable Democrat. He is held in the highest respect in this community for his usefulness as a citizen and his excellent personal traits of character.

Mr. and Mrs. Nafziger became the parents of six children, the record of whom is as follows: John H. married Miss Amelia Nafziger (a cousin); Christian F. married Miss McWilliams, and is living in Allin Township; Eliza M. became the wife of Henry Linker, of Tazewell County, this State; Gustoff A. married Miss Birtha Hauser, and lives in Tazewell County; Lena E., Mrs. George

Wright, is a resident of Stanford; William J., married Miss Martha Lamb, and is located in Allin Township.

Mrs. Elizabeth Nafziger departed this life on the 21st of February, 1884, of consumption. She was a lady greatly beloved by her husband and family, industrious, cheerful and affectionate, a good wife and loving mother, and at her death mourned by a large circle of friends and acquaintances. She was a sincere Christian, a member of the Mennonite Church, and by her daily walk and conversation exerted a good influence over her household and all who enjoyed her acquaintance. Her memory is held sacred by her husband and family, who sustained in her death an irreparable loss.



**S**OLOMON S. PORTER, a prosperous farmer of Normal Township, is pleasantly located on section 15, where he owns a valuable homestead, and is carrying on his agricultural pursuits skillfully and with success. He has been a resident of the Prairie State for a period of over thirty years, all but one of which have been spent in Normal Township, and during this long period, by his upright course as a citizen and a business man has fully established himself in the confidence and esteem of a large circle of friends and associates.

Mr. Porter was born in Muskingum County, Ohio, on Christmas Day, 1828. His father, William Porter, was born in Washington County, Pa., and his mother, formerly Miss Mary Ritchie, in Erie County. They were reared and married in their native State, whence they removed to Muskingum County, Ohio, in about 1806, being among the early pioneers of the Buckeye State. William Porter there opened up a farm in the wilderness and established a permanent home, where he and his wife resided until their death, which occurred in 1832, both dying within one week. They left a family of twelve children, of whom the subject of our sketch was the youngest, and he was but four years old when thus sadly orphaned. He was taken into the family of his eldest brother who resided on a farm, where he remained until sixteen years

of age and received the advantages of a common school education. He then started out to take care of himself. He pursued his studies for some time afterward, paying his expenses by teaching and clerking alternately. He then became collector for a large foundry, and in 1857 started for the West.

Young Porter, after leaving Ohio, came into La Salle County, Ill., and during the summer season engaged in farming pursuits. In the winter he still followed collecting for his former employers, in the south part of the State, where the company had sold a large number of stoves. The following year he came into McLean County, and has been a resident of Normal Township since that time. The first purchase of Mr. Porter in Normal embraced 250 acres of land on section 10, which he cultivated and improved industriously for many years and which still remains in his possession. He removed to his present home in 1874. His landed property now includes 378 acres, which are under a good state of cultivation and largely devoted to stock-raising.

The marriage of Solomon S. Porter and Miss Amanda M. Shuey took place in Ohio in the spring of 1859. Mrs. P. was born in Muskingum County, that State, and by her marriage with our subject has become the mother of seven children, one of whom died in childhood and another at the age of fifteen years. Those living are: Ida, Walter, Weldon, Bessie and Willie. The homestead is one of the finest in McLean County, and is equipped with all the appurtenances of a first-class country estate, and Mr. Porter and his family are living in the full enjoyment of the good things of this life, and he is in all respects rated as a representative citizen of one of the wealthiest counties of the Prairie State.

The career of the subject of this history is a striking illustration of what may be accomplished from an exceedingly small beginning. Mr. Porter started out early in life, and "paddled his own canoe" singly and alone, with but little education and no money. He was thoughtful and studious, however, and improved upon his meager early advantages to the best ability. His spare time was devoted to study, and he made such good progress

that he was given the position of a teacher, and with this and the small salary which he received as collector he managed to save a little from time to time until he was enabled to come West, which was then the "promised land" to the enterprising and ambitious young man. He was possessed of good judgment and made the most of his opportunities, and those who have known him and watched his course for the last thirty years rejoice to see that he is reaping the just reward of persevering industry and a straightforward and upright life.



COL. WILLIAM H. SCROGGS, a well-to-do and influential farmer of Hudson Township, owns one of the finest country estates in McLean County, and is widely and favorably known as one of its most valued citizens. Col. Scroggs was born in Highland County, Ohio, on the 24th of November, 1835. His parents, Alexander and Lavina (Rodgers) Scroggs, were natives of the same State. Alexander Scroggs was a farmer by occupation, and remained in his native State until his death, which occurred in 1862. The mother subsequently removed with some of her children to Warrensburg, Mo., where she departed this life in 1885. The parental household embraced nine children, one of whom died in infancy, and eight attained their majority. The record is as follows: James A. is a resident of Pottawatomie County, Kan.; William H., our subject; John G., of Warrensburg, Mo.; Josie, the wife of Capt. W. C. Marlatt, resides in Warrensburg, Mo.; Alexander, near Wichita, Kan.; Mary L. became the wife of Capt. James Crawford, of Greenfield, Ohio; Sadie died at the age of twenty-four years; Erskin E. lives near Warrensburg, Mo.

The subject of this sketch was the second child of his parents' family. He was reared to farming pursuits, attended the common schools, and completed his education in the Academy at South Salem, Ohio. After becoming a young man, in 1859, he entered Monmouth College, in Warren County, Ill., and pursued a thorough course of study for one year. He then returned to Ohio and taught school, intending to re-enter college; but when the

Civil War broke out he decided to proffer his services to aid in putting down the Rebellion. He enlisted in Company C, 81st Ohio Infantry, on the 19th of September, 1861, as a private. The regiment was equipped at Benton Barracks, Mo., and young Scroggs soon afterward was appointed First Corporal. They embarked on a river steamer the following March, at St. Louis, arriving at Pittsburgh Landing, Tenn., on the 17th. From there the regiment moved toward Corinth, Miss., arriving there on the 29th of May, and Mr. Scroggs was there promoted Fifth Sergeant. At the battle of Corinth he was wounded in the right arm and shoulder, and as a soothing medicine for this received the appointment of First Sergeant.

On the 1st of January, 1863, Mr. Scroggs was transferred to the 111th United States Colored Infantry, and on the 29th of January following Sergt. Scroggs received a Captain's commission. He was subsequently captured in an engagement with the rebels under Gen. N. B. Forrest, and held until Nov. 24, 1864, when he was exchanged, and joined his command at Nashville, Tenn. He was soon afterward assigned to duty as Assistant Inspector of Defences, and ordered to Murfreesboro, Tenn. In July, 1865, he was mustered as Lieutenant-Colonel, but retained on general court martial, receiving his final discharge in November, 1866.

After being relieved from his position as an Inspector of Defences, Col. Scroggs was sent to New Orleans, thence to Mobile, where he arrived the morning following the explosion of Dick Taylor's ammunition at that city. He was intending to leave New Orleans on a boat which started previously, and which, at the time of the disaster, was blown to pieces. Col. Scroggs has in his possession a fine steel engraving, in the center of which is his war record, and which was presented to him by C. B. Davis, a member of the staff of Gen. Thomas, and architect of the Soldiers' Home at Dayton, Ohio.

After his retirement from the army Col. Scroggs was assigned to duty as Assistant Superintendent of the National Cemetery at Ft. Donelson, where he remained until April, 1867. He then came north to Illinois, and purchased the farm upon which he now resides, where he has devoted his attention mostly to stock-raising. His homestead consists of

147 acres, under good cultivation, with a comfortable and substantial farm dwelling, a good barn and outhouses, and all the appliances of a first-class agriculturist and stock-raiser. Col. Scroggs is Republican in politics, liberal in his views, making it his aim to cast his ballot for worthy men, irrespective of party. He has frequently been the incumbent of local offices, more to please his friends than to gratify his own inclinations. He is a member and the Commander of Post 611, G. A. R., and in religious matters coincides with the doctrines of the Baptist Church.

After his return from the army Col. Scroggs was married, in Warren, Pa., on the 3d of January, 1867, to Miss Harriet, the daughter of Robert and Elizabeth (Orr) Barber. Mrs. S. was born in Niagara County, N. Y., Aug. 28, 1840. Of this union there were seven children, two of whom died in infancy. Those surviving are Charles R., M. Alice, Richard E., William C. and J. Harvey. Col. Scroggs has taken particular care to give his children the advantages of a good education, so that they may become honored and useful members of society.



**W**ILLIAM J. BAIRD, residing on section 12, Dry Grove Township, is a farmer, bricklayer and house-builder, and in the prosecution of his several trades is uniformly skillful and successful. Mr. Baird was born in Fayette County, Pa., in November, 1821, and is the son of Aaron and Margaret (Allen) Baird, also natives of the Keystone State. Aaron Baird was born May 30, 1786, and died in his native State on the 18th of November, 1870, having arrived at the advanced age of eighty-five years. The mother was born April 14, 1786, and died in Pennsylvania Aug. 22, 1834. The father was a farmer by occupation, Republican in politics, and an active Elder of the Presbyterian Church, of which both parents were members for a good many years. Of their family of thirteen children the record is as follows: the first born died unnamed; Maria became the wife of E. Finley; Eliza, Mrs. B. F. Miller, is now de-

ceased; Jane and her husband, William Brown, are both deceased; John A. married Miss E. J. Wilson; Robert died at the age of two years and eleven months; Mary died when eleven months old; James P. married Miss Harriet Riley, who is now deceased; William J. of our sketch was the next child; Robert A. married Miss Nancy Acklen; George E. died when nine years old; Josiah W. died aged four years; David A. married Miss Elizabeth Ridgeway. Of the second marriage of Aaron there were born three children—Emma C., Sanford W. and Haven E.

William J. Baird of this sketch was united in marriage with Miss Maria Wilkins, in Pennsylvania on the 16th of October, 1845. Mrs. Baird was the daughter of John and Elizabeth (Hastings) Wilkins, natives of Pennsylvania, who are both now deceased. Their family of five children is recorded as follows: William, Jane, Nancy, James and Maria. Mr. and Mrs. Baird, after their marriage, remained in Pennsylvania until 1860. They then removed to Montgomery County, Mo., and remained through the summer, coming in the fall to McLean County, where he has since remained. The following year he purchased eighty acres of land, and in 1868 another eighty acres adjoining. Upon his homestead of 160 acres he erected a fine dwelling in 1864, and in 1885 renovated and rebuilt it so that it is now two stories in height and makes a commodious and handsome residence. He is also supplied with all necessary barns and out-buildings and the other appurtenances of a modern country estate.

Mr. Baird learned bricklaying in his native State, and has followed it considerably in the last forty-five years. He has now practically abandoned it and gives the most of his attention to the business of his farm. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Baird included four children, as follows: Aaron died when nine days old; William W. married Miss Landgartha Hayes, and they are living in this county; Elizabeth J. is at home; James D. married Miss Ann Eliza McWilliams, and is living in McLean County.

Mr. Baird is Republican in politics and takes a great interest in the success of the temperance movement. He has been a member of and an Elder in the Presbyterian Church at Normal for



RESIDENCE OF **FRANK KRAFT**, SEC. 17 TOWANDA TP.



RESIDENCE OF **GEO. W. BINGHAM**, SEC. 32, BLUE MOUND TP.



RESIDENCE OF **LUKE CARNELL**, SEC. 33. BLUE MOUND TP.





a period of fifteen years. He has been an earnest worker in the cause of religion and a cheerful and liberal contributor to the maintenance of the church.



**A**NDREW J. SPRINGER, one of the intelligent and progressive farmers of Allin Township, is a native of the Buckeye State, having been born in Butler County, Ohio, April 22, 1836. His parents were Christian and Magdalena (Engel) Springer, natives of France, the father born Sept. 18, 1792, and the mother Feb. 4, 1798. Christian Springer was a miller by trade, and with four other brothers, served under Napoleon in the war of 1812, in his native country, for a period of four years and then deserted, for the third time, finally coming to the United States. He arrived here on the 12th of June, 1830, and landed at New Orleans, whence he proceeded to Hamilton, Butler Co., Ohio. There he followed farming upon ninety-four acres of land of which he became the owner and occupied this farm until November, 1854. He then removed to this State and county, settling in Danvers, where he lived two years. He then purchased 600 acres of land, upon which he farmed until within a few years of his death, which occurred Oct. 3, 1879. The mother died Sept. 13, 1870. The parents of our subject were married in France on Christmas Day, 1822. Their children were ten in number and recorded as follows: Catherine died in France in infancy; Joseph E. married Miss Reiser, and lives in Stanford; Peter D. married Miss Brenaman; Christian W. married Miss Stalter; Magdalena became the wife of Mr. Nicholas Reiser; John married Miss Sherbine; Andrew J. of our sketch was the sixth child; Catherine became the wife of Mr. Peter Schurtz; Mary, the wife of Mr. David Habecker; George died in Ohio. The parents were members of the Mennonite Church.

Andrew Springer received a fair education in the common schools and lived with his parents until he had attained his majority. He was then married, July 22, 1875, to Miss Eliza Slaughbough, and then purchased eighty acres of land in Allin Township.

His present homestead consists of 146 acres, all finely cultivated and improved. The children of our subject and his wife, six in number, were William E., Daniel A., John Q. (died Feb. 22, 1887), Mary M., Anna A. and Lucrella; the latter died March 9, 1883.

Mrs. Springer is the daughter of Daniel and Mary Slaughbough, natives respectively of Maryland and Germany. Her father was born in 1827, and her mother in 1822. They were married in 1849, and became the parents of six children—Eliza, John, Catherine, Mary, Anna and Susan. Mr. and Mrs. Slaughbough live in Danvers Township and are members of the Mennonite Church. Mr. Springer is Democratic in politics, a temperate and law-abiding citizen and a worthy member of the community.



**F**REDERICK MEYER, senior member of the firm of Meyer & Martens, merchant tailors of Bloomington, is a gentleman skilled in his trade and occupying a good position in the business community. He is a native of Germany, having been born in Prussia, March 17, 1840. His parents, Christopher and Dora T. Elizabeth (Thiede) Meyer, emigrated to America in 1852, landing in New York City, whence they came immediately West and located in Bloomington, this State, where they settled permanently and spent the remainder of their lives. The mother departed this life Jan. 28, 1881, and the father Nov. 17, 1885. Their four children, all sons, are still living.

Frederick Meyer of this sketch was started to school when six years of age and continued until fourteen. He then commenced to learn the tailor's trade, at which he served an apprenticeship of three years, and then worked as a "jour" while in his native country. After his arrival in Bloomington he continued at his trade, and in 1872 went into business on his own account as a merchant tailor. In this he was eminently successful, having a good knowledge of the business and being skilled in all its departments. He entered into partnership with Charles Martens in 1873, and they have since operated together profitably and harmoniously.

Mr. Meyer was married in 1864, to Miss Dora

T. Pagels of Bloomington, and they have three sons: Edward F., in the grocery business; Otto C., a tailor by trade, and Albert W., still a youth and attending the High School. The family residence is pleasantly located at No. 606 West Jackson street, and our subject and his family enjoy the esteem of many friends. Mr. Meyer is a member of Uhl Lodge No. 305, I. O. O. F., the German Free School Society, Mutual Aid No. 6, the Turner Society, and Rebecca Degree Lodge No. 85. In many of these he has occupied all the chairs and has often represented various fraternities at the meetings of the Grand Lodge. He is serving his second term as President of the Turners.



**J**OHAN R. BENJAMIN a prominent and influential farmer of Padua Township, occupies a fine homestead on section 7, comprising 230 acres of finely cultivated land, upon which is erected a handsome modern dwelling and all the other buildings required by the progressive agriculturist. Mr. Benjamin took possession of this farm in 1854, where he has since lived, and has firmly established himself in the confidence and esteem of his community. He is a gentleman of fine abilities, an extensive reader, and one who takes an active interest in current events whether they concern his county, or the State and Nation at large. He is a native of New York, born in Columbia County, Oct. 17, 1824, and is the son of Darius Benjamin, a native of the same county and State, where he followed agricultural pursuits successfully and spent his entire life. He was married in early manhood to Miss Martha Rogers, also a native of Columbia County, N. Y., who survived her husband several years, and finally removing to the West, died at the home of her son in Old Town Township, this county, in 1884, after arriving at the advanced age of ninety years.

John R. Benjamin was the fourth of six sons born to his parents, and remained under the home roof until twenty-one years of age. He then journeyed into Chester County, Pa., where he located, and three years later was united in marriage

with Miss Sarah Beaver, who was born and reared in that county. Her parents, who were of Pennsylvania birth and German descent, after marriage passed their lives in Chester County, and there their remains are buried. Of the union of our subject and wife there were born six children, two of whom died in infancy. Deborah became the wife of T. J. Moore, a farmer of Padua Township; Timothy married Miss Agnes McBarns, and is carrying on farming in Old Town Township; by his former marriage he was united to Miss Anna Coole, by whom he had one son, Arthur; Martha, Mrs. Willis B. Mills, resides with her husband in Putnam County, this State, the latter being a tile manufacturer; George D. operates with his father on the homestead.

Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin are active members of the Society of Friends, with which they have been connected for thirty-seven years, being charter members of the first organization in Padua Township, in 1861. Of this church our subject is one of the pillars, and has been an Elder for many years. He is Republican in politics, and has occupied the offices of Road Commissioner and Overseer of the Poor.



**S**AMUEL H. BROWN, a successful farmer and stock-raiser of Dry Grove Township, owns and occupies a fine homestead on section 14. He has been a resident of the Prairie State since 1836, and an interested witness of its growth and development. Our subject is the son of Nathaniel and Dollie (Benedict) Brown, who were both natives of Vermont. Nathaniel Brown was born in 1784, and died in 1843. He served in the War of 1812, holding a commission as Captain, and was also Captain in the Vermont State Militia. He afterward settled down to agricultural pursuits in Windsor, Vt., where he spent about forty years, and in 1838 removed to McLean County, where his death occurred.

The birth of our subject took place on the 12th of August, 1815, and he was bereft of the tender and affectionate care of his mother when a child

six years of age. His earlier years were spent on his father's farm near the town of Rochester, Vt., where he pursued his primary studies at the common schools. At the age of twenty-one years he came West, driving a team to Buffalo, whence he took a steamer to Detroit, Mich., arriving after a trip of four days, and walked from there to Chicago in company with three others. After two weeks spent in Chicago, our subject struck out for Peoria, and from there to Clermont, in Tazewell County, these wanderings taking him late into the fall of the year. He remained in Tazewell County six years, being employed most of the time as a farm laborer. When he landed in Peoria he had but \$1.50 in his pocket. At the close of his first two years of labor he found himself the possessor of \$400, but the third year he met with misfortune in the loss of his health, and spent nearly the whole of these hard earnings for medicine aid in the payment of doctors' bills, being disabled for a period of ten months. As soon as able he resumed his former occupation, and soon afterward, in 1843, entered forty acres of Government land in Dry Grove Township, McLean County, and entered industriously upon its improvement and cultivation. He then became interested in a steam sawmill, which he operated for two years and sold at a loss. In 1854 he purchased a half-section of land from the Illinois Central Railroad Company, and sold 160 acres of it at a profit of \$100. The 160 acres left he has now converted into a valuable farm, and occupies a fine dwelling, in the rear of which is a good barn and all necessary out-buildings for the storing of grain and the shelter of stock.

The marriage of Samuel H. Brown and Miss Fidelia Munsell took place June 22, 1840. Mrs. Brown was a native of Vermont and remained the companion of her husband only five short years, dying on the 1st of April, 1845, leaving three children—Sarah, George and Angeline. On the 25th of December, 1850, Mr. Brown married for his second wife, Miss Mary E. Henry, and they became the parents of six children—Norman E., Charles E., Fred S., John J., Lincoln H. and Truman E. Mrs. Brown was born in Butler County, Ohio, March 23, 1828, and came to Illinois with her parents when a child four years of age. Mr. and Mrs.

Brown are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mr. Brown has held the office of Justice of the Peace for twelve years, and was Assessor three years and School Trustee eighteen years. Politically, in former times, he affiliated with the Whig party, and now votes with the Republicans.

George Brown, the eldest son of our subject, served as a soldier in the Union army in the 94th Illinois Infantry. He was mortally wounded at the siege of Vicksburg on the 16th of June, 1863, but lived until the 11th of November following. Of the children of our subject there are now only two living—Fred S. and Angeline. Fred S. married Miss Ella Stevens, the daughter of Mrs. Kepner by her first husband. They carry on the home farm. Angeline married George Brown.



**J**OSEPH BAKER, a prominent and highly respected resident of Funk's Grove, came to the Prairie State in September, 1835, accompanied by his parents, after an overland journey from Ohio with horses and wagons. Mr. Baker was born in McConnellsville, Morgan County, that State, Feb. 21, 1834. His father, Samuel C. Baker, was also a native of the Buckeye State, born in Washington County, in 1807. The grandfather of our subject, Samuel Baker, Sr., was a native of Connecticut, born April 25, 1775, and removed to Ohio at an early day, being among the pioneers of that State. He first located near Marietta, and in company with other settlers made his home in a block house so as to be protected from the Indians. After removing to Illinois he settled in DeWitt County, on a tract of wild land, from which he improved a farm and established a comfortable home, where he remained until his death, which occurred June 21, 1852, at the age of seventy-seven years, one month and twenty-one days. The grandmother died Nov. 3, 1870, aged ninety-six years and three days.

Samuel C. Baker, the father of our subject, grew to manhood in Ohio, and was there married to Miss Mary Murphy, a native of Virginia. He learned the cooper's trade in early life, at which he worked

a part of the time, and when not in demand at that, chopped wood, and was employed at the salt works near his home. In September, 1835, accompanied by his wife and two children, he removed from Ohio to Illinois, purchasing land in what is now known as Waynesville Township, DeWitt County. There were two log cabins on the land and the family took up their abode in one of these, which was equipped with homemade furniture. Mr. Baker kept the cabin in good repair, enlarged it as was necessary, and occupied it with his family until after the war, when he erected a frame house. He was prospered in his agricultural and business pursuits, and at one time was the possessor of 280 acres of land. Both himself and wife are still living, and make their home with one of their sons near Waynesville. Four of their five children are now living: Rhoda A., the wife of Joseph Robb, lives in Waynesville Township, DeWitt Co., Ill.; Joseph, our subject, is the next eldest; William died in 1839, when six months old; Isaac and John live near Waynesville, Ill.

Joseph Baker was the eldest son of his parents, and was one year old when they removed to Illinois. After becoming of suitable age he attended the pioneer school at Rock Creek Grove. The school-house was built of logs with puncheon floor and seats; the chimney was built outside, of dirt and sticks, and light was let into the structure through panes of greased paper. His education was carried on mostly during the winter season and in the summer he assisted his father on the farm. When seventeen years of age he bought four yoke of oxen and commenced breaking prairie. This he followed four seasons, and in the meantime was also occupied in assisting to grade the track of the Illinois Central Railroad. He remained under the parental roof until his marriage, and afterward purchased a tract of school land in Barnett Township, DeWitt County, from which he improved a farm and lived there until 1860. He then sold out and purchased 120 acres on section 11, of Funk's Grove Township. This land was partly fenced, and upon it stood a small frame house into which he removed with his young wife and lived there until 1865. He then sold out and purchased the farm which he now owns and occupies. This

contains 209 acres all in one body, enclosed with good fences. Mr. Baker has also put up a good set of farm buildings and keeps everything in good shape. The homestead is a model of neatness and taste.

The wife of our subject was formerly Miss Margaret Taylor, and they were married on the 25th of September, 1856. Mrs. Baker was born in Perry County, Ohio, April 1, 1836, and is the sister of Mrs. H. Baker, of whom a sketch is given in another part of this volume. Of this union there were born ten children. The record is as follows: Rhoda A., Mrs. W. J. Rayner, and Letha Ella, Mrs. Frank Stout, live in Funk's Grove Township; George C. married Miss Anna Larison, and lives in Funk's Grove. The remainder are—John W., Samuel, Benjamin, Hattie, Arthur and Joseph Howard.

Mrs. Baker belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. B., formerly a Whig, now casts his vote with the Republican party. He has filled various offices of trust in his township and held the office of School Director many years. He has always taken an interest in educational matters and in every enterprise which has had for its object the welfare of his county and community. He was Township Collector two years and a member of the Board of Supervisors for the same length of time. Besides the home farm he owns 200 acres on section 34 of Funk's Grove Township, and devotes his attention principally to the raising of grain and graded stock.



**J**AMES McTWIGGAN, Superintendent of the Bloomington Electric Light Company, in which he is a stockholder, is a gentleman well fitted for the responsibilities which devolve upon him in this capacity, having a thorough knowledge of the requirements of his position. He is well posted on all matters connected with the electric system, having been associated with some of the best works in this and other States. He has had the supervision of the plant in this city since the works were started, and is probably the most

competent man in the city for the office which he occupies.

Mr. McTwiggan is a native of Scotland, and was born in August, 1847. His parents emigrated to America, and after arriving at suitable years James returned to his native country, where he learned the trade of a millwright and pattern-maker. After returning to the United States he spent some time in the city of Boston, among the leading firms, representing his trade, and in connection with this acquired a good knowledge of the electric light system. In 1884 he came to this county and began the construction of the Bloomington Electric Light Works. After getting everything in running order they started by furnishing 100 lights, and continued until they had 240, of which 211 were exclusively for the lighting of the city. The works now have a capacity of 300 lights. They are put up in the best style and equipped with the latest improvements.

Mr. McTwiggan became interested in the electric light system when it was first brought to the notice of the public, in 1877, and since that time has given it his close attention. The result of this has been that he has become an expert in all its departments, and possesses the best of judgment in his capacity as Superintendent.

**C**OX BROS., dealers in general merchandise at Hudson. Harry W. and Herbert M. Cox are twin brothers and youngest sons of James H. and Mary A. (Chadbourne) Cox, and were born in Bloomington, July 17, 1861. After receiving such instruction as is afforded by the common schools they attended the High School department of the Illinois State Normal University three years. Their father being engaged in general mercantile business, they grew to manhood accustomed to and experienced in the same in connection with completing their school studies. In 1881 they became associated as partners with their father, and carried on the business under the firm style of J. H. Cox & Sons until Jan. 1, 1884, when they became sole proprietors, and are now conducting an extensive trade successfully and profitably.

The "Cox boys" are upright young men, of excellent character and habits, and enjoy the confidence of the people among whom they have lived their entire lives. In politics they are Republicans, the friends of law and good order, and are rapidly becoming important factors in the business interests of this section. Harry W. is a member of Custer Division, No. 22, Uniformed Rank, Knights of Pythias; Herbert M. is a member of Company G, 4th Regiment I. N. G. The latter was married on the 1st of October, 1885, to Miss Downey, the daughter of William H. and Laura W. Downey, of Atlanta, Logan County, where she was born. They have one daughter—Edith M. Mr. and Mrs. Cox are members in good standing of the Baptist Church.



**J**OHN J. MITCHELL, a highly respected and successful farmer of Dale Township, is pleasantly located on section 23, where he is carrying on general agriculture after the most approved methods. Mr. Mitchell is a native of the Dominion of Canada, and was born on the 28th of October, 1832. While still a youth he removed with his parents to Ohio, where they lived until about 1838, and then proceeded still further westward, to the prairies of Illinois, stopping in Paris, Edgar County, and from there moved to McLean County. (See sketch of Isaac P. Mitchell.) Soon after arriving in this State the subject of our sketch began to assist his father in the labors of the farm, driving a breaking team of four yoke of oxen, and being otherwise employed as circumstances demanded. In the meantime he also attended the pioneer school of Bloomington, then an humble hamlet of a few houses, pursuing his education mostly in the winter season. He remained with his parents until after his marriage, and with his brother Andrew managed the home farm.

Mr. Mitchell settled upon the place which he now owns and occupies in 1880. It is comprised of 225 acres, being partly located on sections 22 and 23. His land is all enclosed, under a good state of cultivation, and is supplied with a substantial set of frame buildings, which Mr. Mitchell erected after taking possession of the property. In addition to

the ordinary pursuits of agriculture he is giving considerable attention to stock-raising, and has a herd of grade cattle.

The marriage of John J. Mitchell and Miss Charlotte English was celebrated in Clinton, DeWitt Co., Ill., on the 12th of February, 1861. Mrs. M. is a native of Erie County, Pa., and the daughter of John and Eliza (Harris) English, the date of her birth being Feb. 1, 1843. The family circle of our subject and his wife has been completed by the birth of nine children, all living, and named as follows: Isaac P., Mary E., John D., Jeanette S., Jessie C., Robert A., Elisha M., Edna J. and Nellie D. Isaac married Miss Nettie Rogers, and lives at Covell, this county; Mary E. became the wife of Frank Fonger, and lives in Hand County, Dak. Mrs. Mitchell is connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in politics Mr. M. uniformly casts his vote with the Republican party.

The comfortable home of Mr. Mitchell exhibits the evidences of cultivated tastes and ample means; his children are being carefully trained and educated, and as successful, energetic and valued citizens he and his family are held in the highest respect by their community.



**A**NTONE MEYER, deceased, a late member of the brewery firm of Meyer & Woelner, was a native of Baden, Germany, and born on the River Rhine, in April, 1832. He was educated in his native country, and when sixteen years of age sailed for America, landing at New York City. There he learned the brewing business, and then proceeded to St. Louis, Mo., afterward to Muscatine, Iowa, and thence to Springfield, Ill., remaining in the latter city two years. In July, 1862, he came to Bloomington and purchased a small brewery on the site of where the present large one is now located. He formed a partnership with his brother-in-law, Francis X. Woelner, which continued until the death of our subject, in April, 1883. They were prospered in their undertaking, and in due time erected a large building where they operated an extensive and profitable business.

Mr. Meyer was married in 1862, to Miss Sophia M. Woelner, second daughter of Francis X. and Elizabeth (Maurer) Woelner. She was born in Sangamon County, Ill., and by her marriage with our subject became the mother of six children—Henry, Sophia, Antone, William, Edward and Oscar Joseph. Mrs. Meyer and all her children are members of St. Mary's Catholic Church. Since the death of the husband and father, there has been no change in the name of the firm, the widow representing her husband in the business in a creditable and efficient manner.



**D**R. GEORGE W. MASON, a leading physician and surgeon of Bloomington, has been a resident of the city since the spring of 1880, and has built up an extensive and lucrative practice. Dr. Mason was born in Polo, Ogle Co., Ill., Aug. 8, 1850, and is the son of Allen C. and Nancy A. (Wilcoxson) Mason, natives respectively of Rhode Island and Portsmouth, Ohio.

Allen C. Mason left his native State in childhood and removed with his parents to Cayuga County, N. Y., where they located upon a farm, and he was there reared to manhood and received a practical education. In 1834 he set his face westward, and coming into Ogle County, Ill., entered a tract of land, and also engaged in carpenter work. On the 21st of August, 1849, he was married to the mother of our subject, and they located at Polo, Ogle County, until 1865, when Mr. Mason removed to Normal, where he engaged in mercantile business and spent the remainder of his life, his decease occurring April 17, 1870. He was a prominent man in the community, a member of the first official board at the organization of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Normal, and Superintendent of the Sabbath-school for a number of years. Politically he was a strong Republican, greatly interested in educational matters, his chief reason for removing to Normal being that it afforded better facilities for the education of his children. He was a member in good standing of the A. F. & A. M., and highly respected by all who

knew him. The mother is still living, and a resident of Normal. Of the four children which completed their household circle, three are now living: Dr. George W., our subject; Lettie A., Mrs. Dr. William E. Quine, of Chicago, and Allen C., a resident of Tacoma, W. T., the latter being engaged as an attorney, and in the real-estate business, and until recently was editor of the *Tacoma News*.

The subject of this biography commenced attending school when four and one-half years old, which he continued in the winter seasons until fourteen. He was a bright and studious boy, and at this early age entered the model department of the State Normal University. At the end of two years he went into the Normal Department of the same institution, from which he graduated in 1869. The course of study and training in this department admirably fitted him for the profession of a teacher, and he was chosen as Principal of the High School of Paris, Edgar County, where, however, he remained but a short time, leaving this to take a similar position in the High School at Charleston, Coles County. At the expiration of his term here he was placed in charge of the Kramer School at Little Rock, Ark., and after a year in the South went to Pekin, Tazewell County, and graduated in the first class from that institution in 1873. He then went to Hannibal, Marion Co., Mo., and conducted the High School there for three years. In the meantime he was married to Miss S. Jennie Rudd, of Little Rock, Ark., and the daughter of Henry and Mary Rudd, residents of that State.

Dr. Mason and his young wife located at Little Rock in the fall of 1876, and our subject commenced the study of medicine with Dr. James A. Dibrell, Jr., being at the same time engaged as Principal of schools. Dr. Mason, after a thorough course of study in the Medical College at Chicago, graduated with high honors in 1880, and delivered the Valedictory address. He served a term as Intern of Mercy Hospital. The following spring he came to Bloomington, and entered actively upon the practice of his profession, which he has followed continuously since that time. He was the first President of the Bloomington Microscopical Society, and is a Staff Surgeon and Secretary of St. Joseph's Hospital.

Dr. Mason has won for himself a high position in the profession here, and belongs to the American Medical Association, the Illinois State, the Central Illinois and the McLean County Medical Societies, and the Physicians' Club of Bloomington. He is Republican in politics, and socially is identified with the Masonic Lodge, Wade Barney No. 512, also Remembrance Lodge No. 77, of the I. O. O. F., is Past Regent of E. O. Haven Council of the Royal Arcanum, and is Past Grand of the Odd Fellows. He was a charter member of the Y. M. C. A., of Bloomington, and with his wife is a member in good standing of the First Methodist Episcopal Church.

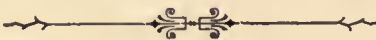
Dr. and Mrs. Mason became the parents of two children, of whom only one is living—Mary C. Their residence is located at No. 201 North Main street, the Doctor having his office at his residence. He is a gentleman of fine education, aside from his proficiency in his profession, and numbers among his friends and associates the most cultured people of the city. He is an extensive reader, a close student, and bids fair to become one of the leading lights of the profession in the Prairie State.

WILLIAM T. M. MILLER, a farmer, and at present making his home in Bloomington, was born in Christian County, Ky., Aug. 17, 1831. His parents were James and Isabella (Moore) Miller, natives of Rockingham and Rockbridge Counties, Va., who became residents of Kentucky in 1808. In the spring of 1835 they removed to McLean County, Ill., settling in Bloomington, where James Miller engaged in both merchandising and farming, also having a branch store in DeWitt County. He became prominent in public matters and was State Treasurer from 1856 to 1858. The latter year he was elected to the same position, but was obliged to resign soon afterward on account of failing health. He donated the lot and contributed much of the money to build the first Methodist Episcopal Church in Bloomington, in about 1837. He was Class-Leader and Steward for many years, and indeed, one of the pillars of the church until his decease. He withdrew from

active business in 1854, and spent the remainder of his life in the enjoyment of the society of his friends and in doing good as he had opportunity. Of the five children born to James and Isabella Miller, only three are living—Robert A., William T. M. and James E. The father departed this life Sept. 23, 1872, and the mother Dec. 29, 1885.

The subject of this biography remained at home until he was twenty-four years old, and commenced dealing in real estate in 1852. He was thus occupied a number of years in Bloomington, when he purchased 400 acres of land in Randolph Township, and although he never lived there, was busily occupied in its care and cultivation. In 1857, in company with Col. Hogg, he purchased fourteen acres within the city limits and laid out his portion in lots, which he disposed of at a fair price and which enabled many a mechanic with humble means to secure a good home. He built his present home in 1867, and in 1868 engaged in partnership with George D. McElhiney in the real estate business, which relationship continued until the death of his partner in 1871, when the business was conducted by himself until 1878. He is the owner of valuable city property aside from his home residence.

Mr. Miller was married in 1856, to Miss Belle Lee, the daughter of Robert McCart, of Kentucky, and they became the parents of nine children, all living—Ida B., Cleon, Juliet, Marcus A., Wave, Estella, Homer, Maude and Lola. Mr. Miller is an independent Democrat and one of the solid and substantial men of McLean County. He was Assistant Supervisor of Bloomington Township from 1878 to 1884, and in other respects has been identified with its growth and prosperity.



**D**R. F. H. McINTOSH, D. D. S., a highly esteemed member of the dental profession in the city of Bloomington, has a finely appointed office, located on the corner of Main and Jefferson streets, and has built up a profitable and lucrative business. Our subject is a native of Bureau County, Ill., and was born on the 12th of March, 1856. His parents were John C.

and Lydia A. (Hoyt) McIntosh, both natives of New York State, and his father was engaged in farming pursuits and railroading. They settled in Bureau County in 1849, where the father died in 1881, and where the mother still resides. Of their family of eight children, four only are living: Albert E. married Miss Annie Gettings, and is engaged in farming near Lamoille, Ill.; George married Miss Luey R. Randall, and is engaged in farming near Dover, Ill.; Fred H. is the subject of our sketch; Margaret B. resides in Bureau County, Ill. John C. McIntosh was essentially a self-made man and possessed of considerable ability. He obtained a fair education through his own persistent efforts, and was beloved and respected by all for his genial sympathies and his liberal and hospitable traits of character. The poor and needy always found in him a friend ready to aid. Both parents were members in good standing of the Congregational Church.

The subject of this history passed his youthful summers in the manner common to most farmers' boys, and attended school during the winter seasons until he was nineteen years old. He then assumed the duties of a teacher, his first school being near Arlington, in Bureau County. After one year thus employed he engaged with the I. M. B. Society of Princeton as Assessment Clerk, which position he occupied for two years, and then commenced the study of dentistry under the instruction of Dr. G. T. Smith, of Princeton. Four years later he completed his course of study in the Philadelphia Dental College, from which he graduated in the class of 1881. He then came to Bloomington, and formed a partnership with Dr. Will X. Sudduth. After a few months Dr. S. left to finish his studies, and our subject, purchasing his interest in the business, has since that time practiced alone. It is safe to say that he ranks among the best dental surgeons in the State, as his large practice fully indicates.

Dr. McIntosh is a valued member of the profession, being a member of the Illinois State and the Central Illinois Dental Societies. Notwithstanding the arduous duties of a pressing business he has found time to identify himself with the social amenities of life where he believed he would







Elizabeth Stubblefield



Yours truly  
John Stubblefield

be the means of doing good. He is now President of the Y. M. C. A., is Superintendent of the First Congregational Sabbath-school, also Treasurer of the church, and a member of the Board of Trustees. Socially Dr. McIntosh is a member of the Royal Arcanum, and in politics casts his vote in support of the principles of the Republican party. He has recently invested in real estate in the city by purchasing a house and lot at No. 408 East North street. Whether this is indicative of any further interesting event, remains to be seen.



**J**OHAN STUBBLEFIELD, son of the late lamented Robert Stubblefield, one of the best known men of McLean County, was born in Fayette County, Ohio, June 4, 1820, and came to Illinois with his parents when four and one-half years old. Robert Stubblefield was born in Halifax County, Va., and was the son of Edward Stubblefield, Sr., who was the son of John Stubblefield. The latter, with two brothers, Edward and William, came from England. Edward Stubblefield, Sr., married Miss Mary (Lightfoot) Munford, daughter of William Green and Ann (Stanhope) Munford. She was of English birth and ancestry, and acted as a private secretary to her father during the Revolutionary War, in which Mr. Munford served as Colonel. He not only devoted his personal energies, but loaned the Government a large amount of money to assist it in freeing his adopted country from the British yoke. An extended history of Robert Stubblefield, the father of our subject, will be found in another part of this work.

John Stubblefield was reared to manhood in McLean County, and remained under the parental roof until 1842. His father then gave him the use of twenty acres of land, and he rented a log cabin of Isaac Funk, and in it commenced house-keeping with his young wife. He had already entered forty acres on section 5, of what is now Funk's Grove Township, and during the latter part of the time he lived with his father, had made some improvements on his own land. He subsequently erected a frame house 16x18 feet, into

which he moved his family in December, 1846. He was prospered in his labors, and from a comparatively modest beginning is now the owner of 2,000 acres of land in McLean County.

The marriage of John Stubblefield and Miss Ellsannah Houser took place in December, 1842. Mrs. S. was born in Harrison County, Ind., and is the daughter of David and Elizabeth (Dillman) Houser. Of her union with our subject there were born the following children: Sarah E., Mrs. Rayburn, lives in Funk's Grove; David R., in Dale Township; George W., in Bloomington; Phineas, in Funk's Grove Township; Mary Frances, Mrs. Crum, lives in Cass County; Henry B., in Dale Township; Simon Peter, at Funk's Grove, and John W., at home. The family homestead is one of the finest in McLean County, and Mr. Stubblefield, with his household, is widely and favorably known throughout this section of the State. He has held the various offices of trust in his township, and has always taken great interest in educational and religious matters. He was Trustee for several years, and a member of the Board of Supervisors. Mr. and Mrs. S. are both members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, with which our subject has been connected for nearly fifty years. He has been among its most liberal supporters and held its most important offices. He ranks among the best men of an old and honorable race, and will be remembered by the citizens of this locality long years after he shall have been gathered to his fathers.

David R. Stubblefield, the eldest son of our subject, was born in the pioneer log cabin of his parents in Funk's Grove on the 13th of April, 1846. He first attended school a distance of three miles from his home, and pursued his studies in winter until seventeen years of age. His summers were mostly employed in herding his father's cattle on the prairies, which are now occupied by beautiful homesteads and all the indications of prosperity and thrift. In those early days wolves and deer were abundant, but David, imbued with the courage of his forefathers, felt little fear of any living creature, and he pursued the even tenor of his way until called to other duties. In politics Mr. S. is Republican; prior to the formation of the Republican he affiliated with the Whig party.

Among those represented in the portrait department of this volume, none are more worthy than Mr. and Mrs. John Stubblefield.



**J**ACOB MAURER, a prosperous and intelligent German farmer of Montgomery Township, Woodford Co., Ill., owns and occupies a good homestead on section 26, where his industry and energy have caused him to become successful in his business transactions and established him in the esteem and confidence of his fellow-citizens. Mr. Maurer was born in the little Kingdom of Bavaria, Germany, Nov. 1, 1834. He is the son of Samuel and Magdalena (Schwartzentruber) Maurer, natives of Germany, the father born in 1795, and the mother in 1800. Samuel Maurer was a farmer by occupation and emigrated from his native country with his family in 1860. They landed in New York City, and immediately came westward to the Prairie State and to McLean County. Here Mr. M. purchased eighty-five acres of land and erected a small dwelling, which he occupied with his family until his death, which occurred in 1863. The wife and mother departed this life Nov. 3, 1884. Their eight children were, Phebe, the wife of Frederiek Heidenfelter; Christian; Peter; Elizabeth, Mrs. Eckhart Wendrath; Jacob of our sketch; John, who married Mrs. Barbara Imhoff; Daniel, who married Miss Helen Otto, and Catharine, who became the wife of Earnest Linneman.

Jacob Maurer preceded his parents to this country five years, his arrival being in 1855. He first located in Pennsylvania and engaged as a farm laborer by the month for two years following. He then went into Butler County, Ohio, where he was similarly occupied, and thence journeyed westward to this county, where he first located in Dry Grove Township, and worked by the month. He was married in 1859, to Miss Catharine Maurer, and in 1872 purchased 160 acres in Woodford County, which constitutes his present homestead. The wife of our subject is the daughter of Peter and Mary Maurer, natives of France, the former being born March 24, 1787, and the latter, Dec. 3, 1795. They

were married in France in 1825, and in 1830 came to the United States and located in Butler County, Ohio. They remained there eight years, and thence removed to Woodford County, Ill., where Mr. M. purchased 160 acres of land and where both parents resided until his death. Their nine children were, Joseph, Barbara, Mary, Anna, Magdalena, Peter, Christian, John and Catharine.

Jacob Maurer and his wife have become the parents of nine children—Magdalena E., Daniel E., Mary L., Emiel J., Erwin J., Feodor W., Emma C., Elma A. and Etta D. Our subject is a Democrat in politics, and both he and his wife are worthy and valued members of the Mennonite Church.



**S**ILAS HUBBARD, M. D., a skillful and popular physician of Hudson, this county, has been a resident of the Prairie State since 1855, at which time he located in McLean County, and during a period of over thirty years has been widely and favorably known as a conscientious practitioner and a good citizen. Dr. Hubbard was born near Maysville, Chautauqua Co., N. Y., on the 9th of May, 1821. His parents were Solomon and Hannah (Willard) Hubbard, also natives of the Empire State. His earlier days were passed on the farm, and at the age of ten years the family removed to Buffalo, N. Y. Here, eight years later, our subject commenced the study of medicine, and at the age of twenty-one, in 1842, graduated from Casselton Medical College of Vermont. He commenced the practice of his chosen profession at Buffalo, continuing there until 1855, and then came to Illinois. For three years he was located at Bloomington, whence he came to Hudson, and is now the oldest physician in this place. He has been a close student, an extensive reader, and a valuable contributor to the prominent medical journals. Politically he affiliates with the Republican party, but finds little time in an extensive practice to devote to political matters. Religiously he has been connected with the Baptist Church for a period of thirty-two years, working actively in its maintenance and support and to advance generally the cause of religion.

Dr. Silas Hubbard was united in marriage with

Miss Julia Frances Read in New York City, in 1849. Mrs. H. is the daughter of William and May (Hoye) Read, natives of Pennsylvania and the District of Columbia, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of five children, of whom the record is as follows: Hannah Frances, the wife of John D. Larkin, resides in Buffalo, N. Y.; Albert G. is also a resident of that city; Daisy M., Mrs. Alvin W. Carlock, lives in Hudson, this county; Mary E. and Honor A. are at home. The family are widely and favorably known throughout this section and are valued as among the most intelligent and useful members of the community.



JUDGE J. E. McCLUN, a highly respected resident of Bloomington, now living in peace and comfort, retired from the active duties of life, is a native of Frederick County, Va., where he was born in 1812. He is the son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Bailey) McClun, who were natives of Pennsylvania, and moved when children to the Shenandoah Valley with their parents. The ancestral McCluns came from the North of Ireland, and were of Scotch-Irish descent. The first members of the family in this country settled in Pennsylvania at an early period in the history of that State, and located in Lancaster and Chester Counties. The grandfather of our subject, Thomas McClun, was there born, and reared a Quaker, and became prominent in the affairs of that locality. He moved to the Shenandoah Valley in about 1770, settled upon a farm, and reared his family in those principles by which his forefathers had distinguished themselves.

The maternal grandfather of Judge McClun, William Bailey, was a Revolutionary soldier, and died in the service of the colonies. He was of English ancestry and parentage, and one of the early pioneers of Chester County, Pa. Thomas McClun, the father of our subject, was the parent of seven sons, of whom the Judge was the youngest born. Thomas McClun died at the old homestead in Virginia, in 1820. The mother survived her husband for a period of twenty-three years, spending her last days with her son, in Bloomington, her death

occurring on the 1st of June, 1843. She was reared an Episcopalian, but in the latter years of her life was identified with the Methodist Church.

Judge McClun, of our sketch, distinctly remembers many of the incidents connected with his childhood, and other matters which he noticed with the interest of a bright and intelligent boy, among which was the election of John Quincy Adams, in 1824, and the contest which occurred between Adams and Jackson. He witnessed the inauguration of Gen. Jackson, who received the oath of office from John Marshall, and he well remembers hearing a sermon by old Bishop Asbury, who preached at a camp-meeting near his mother's house when our subject was only three and one-half years old. His education was begun in the old cabin school-house, nearly two miles from his home, with puncheon floor and slabs for seats and desks, and where he taught school when he became a young man, for a period of three years. He had forty pupils under his charge, who ranged all the way from six to twenty-two years old.

Some two years after he had attained his majority young McClun removed from his native State to Springfield, Ill., whence he came to McLean County, in 1836, and located in Bloomington. He was greatly impressed by the scenes then surrounding the spot, the deer roaming over the prairie, the howling of wolves at night, and the abundance of all kinds of wild game, with thousands of prairie chickens flying over and amidst the tall grass. At Springfield he became acquainted with Abraham Lincoln, and also Stephen A. Douglas, who was just commencing the practice of law at Jacksonville, Ill. Mr. McClun, during his first years in Bloomington, was engaged in mercantile pursuits, and also established a stage-line, running from Danville to Peoria. He was energetic and industrious, and at an early day gave indications of his ability to become a leader in his community. After filling various minor positions, in 1849 he was elected Judge of the Probate Court, and afterward a representative to the General Assembly of Illinois. These positions he held with great credit to himself and satisfaction to his constituents. Afterward, in connection with a few other gentlemen, he established the Home Bank, which for many years transacted

an extensive business, and has been largely identified with the growth and prosperity of the city.

The marriage of Judge McClun and Miss Hannah Harkness took place on the 31st of January, 1839. The wife of our subject is a native of Ohio, and the daughter of Samuel and Esther (Evans) Harkness, of Rhode Island. Of this marriage there were born eleven children, six of whom died in infancy; the others are Elisha H., a real-estate agent of Englewood, Ill.; Isaac B., who died at the age of thirty-one years; Edward is connected with the Board of Public Works of Chicago; Robert, who is a miller, and lives in Chicago; Esther E., Mrs. Martin, who lives in Bloomington. The Judge and his amiable and excellent lady are prominent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, he having been connected with this denomination for sixty years. They occupy a handsome residence at No. 405 West Jefferson street, and enjoy the society and friendship of the most cultivated people in the city.

Judge McClun has been one of the moving spirits in developing the resources of this section, and to him the city of Bloomington is greatly indebted for her standing and position among other prominent cities of the Prairie State. The wife of our subject is noted for her refinement and kindness of heart, and the entire family are widely and favorably known for their high character and personal worth. In politics Judge McClun is a Prohibitionist, and is praying for the extermination of the liquor traffic.



**D**R. WILLIAM McKNIGHT, one of the honored pioneers of Illinois, has been a practicing physician of the State for many years and a resident of Normal since March, 1883. He has been a close student, an extensive reader, and has enjoyed a large and lucrative practice in other portions of the State. Here, the longer he is known the more he is respected as a skilled and reliable practitioner, and as a citizen is one of the most valued members of the community. Dr. McKnight was born in Allegheny County, Pa., May 20, 1823, his parents being Jacob and Isabella (McNeil) McKnight, also natives of the Key-

stone State. In about 1826 the family removed to Guernsey County, Ohio, where they settled upon a farm and where the father died at the age of sixty-eight years; the mother survived until she was seventy-six years old, and then passed peacefully from earth, dying upon the homestead which they had established in Ohio. The parental family embraced six children, one of whom died in childhood and one son at the age of sixteen. A daughter, Julia Ann, became the wife of James Atchison, of Muskingum County, Ohio, and died in her prime, leaving a family of little children. The three living are: Neil, a farmer residing on the homestead in Guernsey County, Ohio; Margaret, who lives with him, and the subject of our sketch, the latter being the eldest of the family.

When the parents of Dr. McKnight removed to Ohio he was but a child three years of age. His youth and boyhood were passed upon the farm and in attendance at the district and a select school. At the age of twenty years he commenced the study of medicine with Dr. Stephen B. Clark, of Cambridge, Ohio, who continued his preceptor for three years following. He then took a course of lectures at Miami Medical College, Cincinnati, and engaged in the practice of his chosen profession in Muskingum County, Ohio. In the fall of 1848 he came westward to Illinois, and located in Granville, Putnam County, where he practiced until 1861. He then entered upon a course of study at Rush Medical College, Chicago, from which he graduated the following year and resumed his practice in Granville. In 1868 he removed to Clayton, Adams County, returned to Granville three years later, where he built up an extensive and lucrative practice, and later came to Normal for the better education of his children.

Dr. McKnight was first married in 1847, to Miss Elizabeth Henderson, of Muskingum County, Ohio, who became the mother of five children, viz., Herman L., now a banker in Battle River, D. T.; Hannah, a resident of Normal; Jennie, the wife of George M. Adams, of Bloomington, and Emma and George, residing at home. Mrs. Elizabeth McKnight departed this life at Clayton, Ill., in 1870. The second marriage of Dr. McKnight occurred Dec. 20, 1871, his present wife having been Miss

Amanda Moore, who was born in Putnam County, this State, and is the daughter of Sheperd and Margaret Moore. Of this union there were born two sons—William and Joseph. Their residence is pleasantly located and they count among their friends and associates the cultured people of the little city of Normal. Politically Dr. McKnight inclines to the principles of the Republican party, but confesses that his practice engages too much of his attention to enable him to give any portion of his time in assisting the politicians.



**J**OHAN P. McLEAN, junior partner of the firm of Steere & McLean, is assisting to conduct a prosperous boot and shoe trade, and ranks among the enterprising and representative business men of Bloomington. The house is located at No. 117 North Main street, and they enjoy the patronage of the best citizens of Bloomington and vicinity. Mr. McLean is the oldest retail boot and shoe dealer in the city. He was born in Wellsville, Columbiana Co., Ohio, in 1845, and is the son of John and Rachel (Wiley) McLean, natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Ohio. The father of our subject removed to the Buckeye State when a young man. While yet a boy he commenced running on the Mississippi River, engaged in flat-boating and trading in the Southern States, and followed the rivers for fifteen years. At different times he was Captain of five steamboats—the “Germantown,” “New Lisbon,” “North Queen,” “Hibernian” and the “Kentucky.” He was on the Illinois River for a period of five years, and ran from Pittsburgh to New Orleans, and also from La Salle to St. Louis. He finally abandoned the river in 1855, and coming to Illinois, settled in Normal Township, this county, and engaged in farming and stock-raising. He is still living, as also are the five children of the parental household; the latter are all residents of Bloomington. Rebecca A., Mrs. Rugg, is the mother of five children—Anna, Josephine B., Grace, Orra and John; Cynthia T., Mrs. Temple, has one child, a son—Dwight; Josephine, Mrs. Moore, is the mother

of two children—Annie and William; the two youngest were John P. and Emma B. The father of our subject was Supervisor and Road Commissioner of Normal Township, is Republican in politics, and a member of the Masonic fraternity. Both parents are connected with the Presbyterian Church.

The subject of this history remained at home until 1865, and while in Ohio pursued his studies at the Wellsville Union School. After coming to Illinois with his parents he attended the Normal University and the Commercial and Western Colleges. His first experience in the boot and shoe line commenced as clerk with O. Rugg, with whom he remained for a period of eighteen years, being head man and book-keeper during the last two years. He then engaged with W. J. Brownell & Co., and remained with that firm over five years. On the 22d of February, 1862, Mr. McLean, in company with Mr. Steere, established the present business, which they have continued to this time (1887) with marked success. They employ from four to six men and carry the heaviest stock of any firm of the kind in the city.

Our subject was married, in 1869, to Miss Clara D., the daughter of E. B. and Frances (Dean) Steere, natives of New York, and of this union there was born one son—Arthur D., now a clerk in his father's store. The family residence is located at No. 306 East Locust street, and the home of our subject is in all respects indicative of culture, taste and ample means. He has become considerably interested in the purchase and sale of city property, and in all respects ranks among the enterprising business men of McLean County. He is Republican in politics, and a member in good standing of the A. F. & A. M., Blue Lodge Chapter and DeMolay Commandery No. 24, K. T.



**E**DWIN W. BAKEWELL, a highly respected resident of Normal, where he is engaged in the pursuit of agriculture, was born in Wellsburg, Va., on the 20th of July, 1812. His parents, Samuel R. and Ann Maria (Bean) Bakewell, were natives of England, and were united in

marriage previous to their emigration to the United States. The father was an inventor and manufacturer, and educated to mercantile pursuits. Among other useful and desirable inventions which he has produced was that of a press for making brick out of dry clay. After a busy and prosperous life he died in his native England, while from home on a business trip, at about the age of sixty-six years; the mother survived him a number of years, and died at the age of seventy-seven years. The parental family included six children, all of whom attained their majority, and three are yet living: Salina, the wife of Rev. Alexander Campbell, of the Campbellite Church, and now a resident of Alabama; Edwin W., our subject, and Theron H., of Moundsville, W. Va.

Mr. Bakewell of this sketch received a common-school education, and served an apprenticeship at the printer's trade. He afterward followed farming and hotel-keeping in his native State. In 1845 he emigrated to Illinois and settled in Normal, where he purchased 360 acres of land and engaged in farming. When the State Normal University was located at that place he donated forty acres of land to be used for the purpose of teaching agricultural chemistry, but as the land was never used for the purpose, it was in consequence forfeited.

Mr. Bakewell followed farming for a number of years successfully, and then retired upon a competency. He ranks among the early pioneers of the Prairie State, and has watched its development and growth with interest and satisfaction. Although his life has been a quiet and unostentatious one, he has performed the obligations of a law-abiding citizen, and has exerted a good influence upon those with whom he has come in contact. In early life, politically, he was a Whig, but is now independent, voting for the best man irrespective of party. He has never been an aspirant for office, and has occupied his time principally in attending to his business affairs. Religiously he has been connected with the Christian Church since seventeen years of age.

Mr. Bakewell was married on the 17th of March, 1833, to Miss Julia Ann Parshall, who was born in the State of New York. Of this union there were born six children, as follows: Campbell N.

resides in Farmington, Ill.; Irvin H. is at home; Melvin was killed by a railroad train, at the age of thirty-eight years; Salina H. is the wife of Will S. Erett, and resides at Ash Grove, Mo., her husband being President of the college at that place; Lutie M., the wife of James M. Dawson, resides at Lexington, Ill., and one daughter died when two years of age.



THOMAS H. EWINS, Supervisor of Hudson Township, is a native of this county, and was born in Danvers Township, Oct. 2, 1837. His father, James P. Ewins, was born in the Old Granite State, where he grew to manhood and learned the trade of a shoemaker. He was married to Miss Elizabeth Stiekney, also of New Hampshire, and they soon afterward started for the West, locating first in Cook County, Ill., whence they afterward removed to this county, settling in Danvers Township in 1836, and engaging in agricultural pursuits. There the father died in 1849, and the mother a few months later, in the same year. Of their nine children, eight grew to mature years, and five are still living. John A. is a resident of Danvers Township; Mary P., the widow of James A. Allison, of Eureka, Ill.; Eliza, the wife of Samuel Ramsay; Alice, Mrs. William Harbord, lives in California, and Thomas H.

The subject of this history was reared in Danvers Township, and educated in the district schools. After the death of his parents he lived with his brother John on the old homestead, where he worked at farming a part of the time and afterward became clerk in a store. At the breaking out of the late war he enlisted as a Union soldier in Co. C, 20th Ill. Vol. Inf., and with his comrades first met the enemy at the battle of Fredericks-town, Mo. He was next at Ft. Henry, and afterward at Donelson, where he received a gunshot wound in the left wrist, which disabled him for further service, and he was consequently honorably discharged, in July, 1862.

After returning from the army, Mr. Ewins pursued his studies for one term in Wesleyan University, and then engaged in clerking at Danvers. In 1866 he purchased eighty acres of land in Hudson



Township, which he occupied until 1881, and followed agricultural pursuits. He then sold out, and removing to the village of Hudson, engaged in general merchandising until 1886. He is Republican in politics. He served two terms as Collector in Danvers Township, and is now serving his second term as Supervisor in Hudson. The only society with which he has ever connected himself is the G. A. R.

Mr. Ewins was married in Danvers Township, Nov. 1, 1866, to Miss Emeline Wallace, who was a native of Mercer County, Pa., and in early childhood came to Illinois with her parents. They were Hugh and Catharine (Lotzenhauzer) Wallace. Of this union there have been born three children, of whom one died in infancy, and two, Edwin S. and Katie A., are at home.



**M**L. MOORE, one of the enterprising business men of Bloomington, is extensively engaged in the manufacture of harness and saddles, of which he keeps constantly on hand a full line, with collars, robes, whips, nets, trunks, etc. Mr. Moore is a native of Menard County, Ill., and was born Feb. 6, 1829. He is the son of John N. and Phoebe (Scott) Moore, natives of Virginia and Kentucky, respectively, who, after their marriage, located in Menard County, Ill., in 1821. This was a part of Sangamon County at that time, and John Moore entered land and also purchased a farm, becoming finally the possessor of 440 acres. He and his wife shared in common with the other pioneers the hardships and difficulties incident to a new settlement. Their family included ten children. The mothers of that day spun and wove the cloth which they made into garments for their families, Mrs. Moore doing the same, and being one of the most busy as well as one of the most excellent of housewives and mothers. Both parents were members of the Presbyterian Church, of which John Moore was an Elder, and to the support of which he contributed liberally and cheerfully of his means. He was Justice of the Peace in his township for many years, and joined in wedding scores of couples who came many miles to

have him say the few words that would complete their happiness. He was universally loved and respected by all, and after the record of a worthy and useful life folded his hands for his final rest in 1848. The mother survived until 1870, departing this life at her home in Menard County, Ill., where they first settled, at the age of seventy.

The subject of this sketch was the fifth child of the family and remained under the parental roof until eighteen years old, receiving a common-school education. He then left home and went to Jacksonville, Ill., and apprenticed himself to learn harness-making. In 1857 he hired a horse and rode to Bloomington, a distance of sixty miles, where he rented a shop on the southwest side of the square and proceeded to engage in business for himself. He operated alone for the following two years, and then took in Mr. P. Whitmer as partner. After two years Mr. Moore purchased the interest of Mr. W., they having in the meantime moved to the corner where the People's Bank now stands.

Here Mr. Moore remained until 1858, being prospered in his business and giving employment to from four to six men. He then removed to North Main street, and four years later, during the progress of the late war, sold out and enlisted as a Union soldier in Co. K, 94th Ill. Vol. Inf. He was appointed Regimental Quartermaster, which position he held until the close of the war. He participated in the battle at Prairie Grove, Ark., and the siege of Vicksburg, when his regiment was sent to the Rio Grande to take charge of the forts along the river. With his comrades he was then sent to Ft. Morgan, of which they took possession, and afterward to Spanish Fort. At the close of the war Mr. Moore returned to Bloomington and purchased back his old business from the man to whom he had sold, and has continued it successfully since that time. In 1870 he removed to his present location, and his business has increased so that he now employs from six to ten men, his transactions being the largest of any house of its kind in the city. He is a straightforward business man and forms one of the important factors in the industrial elements of the city.

Mr. Moore was married, in 1852, to Miss Joanna Beaty, a native of Champaign County, Ohio, and

the daughter of John Beaty. Of this union there have been born seven children, four of whom are still living—Laura, James, John and Ruth. The family residence is located on West Washington street at No. 508, and its inmates are surrounded by all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life. Mr. and Mrs. M. are members of the Presbyterian Church, of which our subject is an Elder. Socially Mr. Moore belongs to the G. A. R., and uniformly casts his vote with the Republican party.



**P**W. BENTLEY, gunsmith and dealer in sporting goods at No. 206 West Front street, Bloomington, is a native of Kentucky, born in 1831. Young Bentley, during his earlier years, worked on the farm in summer and attended schools through the winters until nineteen years of age. He then learned the carpenter trade, which he followed from 1849 to 1854, in the meantime also being engaged as a contractor and builder. He came to McLean County in 1855, settling first in the village of Heyworth, and thence, in 1864, removed to Bloomington, soon afterward engaging in his present business. He subsequently purchased a lot, put up a substantial brick building, and employs two men.

Mr. Bentley was married in 1853 to Miss Mary J. Hooton, a native of Clark County, Ky., and the daughter of Nicholas Hooton, who now makes his home with our subject. The residence of Mr. Bentley and his family is pleasantly situated at No. 519 West Jackson street, and they enjoy the confidence and respect of the community in a marked degree. Mr. B. is independent in politics, and socially belongs to the Masonic fraternity and Knights of Pythias.



**J**AMES T. GILDERSLEEVE, one of the peaceable and unostentatious citizens of Hudson Township, occupies a comfortable homestead on section 26, owned by his father, where he is carrying on agricultural operations with fair success. Our subject is the son of

Charles T. and Mary A. Gildersleeve, and was born in Hudson Township on the 10th of March, 1861. He was partially educated in the common schools, pursued his studies at the Illinois State Normal University five terms, and completed his school days by an attendance of two years at the University of Wooster, Ohio. After his return to Hudson Township our subject was married, on the 8th of December, 1883, to Miss Nettie A., the daughter of J. J. and Elsie M. Ham. Mrs. G. was also a native of Hudson Township, born on the 26th of March, 1865, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of one daughter, Elsie, born Oct. 15, 1885.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. G. settled upon the farm where they now reside and which belongs to the father of our subject, the latter having full charge. It comprises 320 acres of finely cultivated land and yields a handsome income for the tilling of the soil. Mr. Gildersleeve is 'in all respects a praiseworthy citizen', and although young in years bids fair to become a prominent man in his community. In politics he is strongly Democratic, and in religion a firm adherent to the Baptist faith.



**C**HARLES E. COX, of the firm of Hasenwinkle & Cox, of Hudson, owns and operates the Hudson Elevators, which are a great convenience to the citizens of this locality, and yield their proprietors a handsome income. The subject of this history is the eldest son of James H. and Mary A. (Chadbourne) Cox, and was born in Waterford, Me., Sept. 25, 1848. The family came to Illinois in the fall of 1851, settling at Hudson in this county. Here Charles E. grew to manhood and completed his education in Shurtleff College, at Upper Alton, where he took a three years' course. His tastes were inclined to mercantile pursuits, and he had previously clerked in the store of his father, beginning, in fact, as soon as he was large enough to reach the top of the counter. His school days ended in the spring of 1866, and he then established a drug business in Hudson, which he operated for one year and then became associated with his father, the firm name being J. H.



RESIDENCE OF TIMOTHY KRAFT, SEC. 3, TOWANDA TOWNSHIP .



RESIDENCE AND FARM PROPERTY OF JOHN A. HEFNER, SECS. 15 & 22, MONEY CREEK TP .



RESIDENCE OF WM LEMKE, SEC. 34, BLUE MOUND TOWNSHIP.



Cox & Son, and afterward Cox & Aldrich. Then Charles E. Cox and J. W. Aldrich formed a partnership under the firm name of Cox & Aldrich, in the drug business, while at the same time they operated in live-stock, lumber and grain. On the 11th day of November, 1884, our subject having withdrawn from the aforesaid business, became a partner of William Hasenwinkle, with whom he has continued since that time.

The marriage of Charles E. Cox and Miss Effie Dart was celebrated in September, 1871, at Hudson. Mrs. Cox is the daughter of William Dart, and was born in this State in 1854. By her union with our subject she became the mother of six children, one of whom died in infancy, and the five living are Merton D., Lena Mabel, Claude Herbert, James H. and Charles W.

Mr. Cox is Republican in politics and has been School Treasurer of the township for several years, although he prefers to give his attention to his own private concerns. Religiously he is connected with the First Baptist Church, and as a man and a citizen he is held in the highest esteem by the people of his locality.



**G**EORGE H. MILLER, architect, and a highly respected resident of Bloomington, first opened his eyes within the limits of this city on the 7th of May, 1856. His parents were George and Louisa (Sheurer) Miller, who were of German birth and parentage and natives of the Province of Wurtemberg. They emigrated to America in 1855, after their marriage, and after a brief season spent in the State of New York, came to Illinois and settled in Bloomington, where the father of our subject engaged in business and continued successfully for a number of years. He is still living, but now retired from active labor, and resides at No. 318 South Madison street. The parental family consisted of eight children, seven now living, viz., John M., George H., Harry H., William B., Andrew, Charles and Ida. Sophia died in 1868, at the age of ten years. Before coming to this country George Miller, Sr., served in the German Cavalry for a period of five years. He

was a good business man and gave each of his children a practical education.

George H. Miller at the age of fifteen engaged to learn the business of an architect with R. Richter, of this city, with whom he remained four years, and then went into the employ of J. T. Harris, of Columbus, Ohio, as draughtsman. Thence he journeyed northwest to Chicago, and was there employed by the firm of F. & E. Baumann in the same capacity for six months. He then came to Bloomington and engaged with H. A. Miner, with whom he remained ten years, and in 1882 commenced business for himself. He employs two men, and being one of the leading architects of the city enjoys a fine patronage. His business office is located at the corner of Main and Front streets.

Mr. Miller occupies a good position among the citizens who have known him from his earliest youth, and has been intrusted by them with various important offices. He was elected City Treasurer in 1883, and is now serving as Alderman of the Third Ward. In politics our subject is a conscientious Democrat, and in all respects is fulfilling his obligations as a good citizen. A great many of the finest buildings of Bloomington and surrounding country have been designed by Mr. Miller, among which may be mentioned the McLean County Jail, German Catholic Church, German Lutheran, German Methodist Episcopal Church, Turner's Hall, Odd Fellow's Hall, George Brand Building, B. S. Green, H. J. Higgins & Co., E. B. Gridley, L. H. Kerriek, and numerous other buildings, and has a great amount of work throughout this entire State.



**G**EORGE FOREMAN, a prominent resident of the little city of McLean, is a blacksmith by trade, and has obtained quite a reputation as an importer of English draft horses. He was born in Norfolk County, England, Jan. 23, 1841, and is the son of George and Hannah (Lods) Foreman. His father was also a dealer in horses, and spent his entire life in Norfolk County. At the age of fifteen years our subject was apprenticed to the blacksmith trade, at which he served four years, and was afterward employed at "jour" work until

1863. He then came to America, locating first in Toronto, Canada, where he worked until 1865. He then came West to Illinois, and passed the following winter in McLean County. In the spring he returned to Canada, where he spent the summer, and then, in the fall of 1866, he returned to this locality, rented a shop at McLean, and commenced business on his own account, carrying on horse-shoeing and general repairing. He is a natural mechanic, and soon gathered about him numerous friends and patrons, becoming one of the most popular artisans of the kind in this vicinity. In 1872 he commenced dealing in horses, first purchasing the Norman stallion, Louis Napoleon. The following year he purchased a Clydesdale stallion, imported from Canada. In 1883, accompanied by his wife and daughter, he returned to England, where he combined business with pleasure, visiting among his old friends and acquaintances for several months, and in the meantime looking around among the fine stock of his native county and vicinity. While on this trip he purchased the celebrated English draft horse "Stowbridge," which he still owns. In 1885 he made another trip to England, and brought back with him four valuable animals, two of which he sold at a high price, and the other two still remain in his possession.

Mr. Foreman was married, in October, 1867, in New York, to Miss Emily Bunton, who was born in his own county and there reared to womanhood. They became the parents of one child, a daughter, Alice, who still remains at home with her parents. Mr. Foreman is in all respects an enterprising and progressive citizen, and a valued member of the community. In politics he is Republican, and socially belongs to McLean Lodge No. 469, A. F. & A. M.



**H**ENRY W. McCORMICK, Ph. D., of Normal, is one of the self-made men of the Prairie State, who has, through his own perseverance and love of learning, obtained a fine education under adverse circumstances, and from a humble position in life, now takes his rightful place among the intelligent minds of the age.

Prof. McCormick is a native of Ireland, born in County Mayo on the 5th of February, 1837. His parents were Edmund Burke and Betty (Rowan) McCormick, also of Irish birth and parentage. The former came to the United States in 1851, and engaged as clerk in New York City. He only lived, however, two years after coming here, his death occurring in 1853.

That same year our subject crossed the waters to join his father, and upon arriving here found that he had died ten days before. Henry then occupied himself in various pursuits. After a brief visit with relatives he went to Ohio, and in Washington County was employed for one year as a laborer on a railroad. He then went onto a farm in Guernsey County, Ohio, where, for his services, he received \$11 per month. After a few months he was taken ill and remained in feeble health until the following spring. He then went to Walworth County, Wis., and was there employed as a farm laborer during the summer of 1855, at the rate of \$100 per year, attending school during the winter season, and "doing chores" for his board. Determined upon securing a good education, he alternated his farm work with the pursuit of his studies, and in due time entered Wayland University at Beaver Dam, Wis., where he took a thorough course of one year, and at the expiration of this time again resumed his farm labors. In November, 1859, he commenced teaching in a district school in Walworth County, near the State line, where he was employed four months at \$16 per month, and "boarded round." The following Christmas he was united in marriage with Miss Numantia B. Kinyon, who was born in New York State, but in childhood removed with her parents to Wisconsin. In the spring of 1860 Mr. McCormick located on a small farm owned by his wife, and situated in Le Roy Township, Boone Co., Ill. To this he removed with his wife, cultivated his land in summer and taught school in the winter seasons, continuing thus employed until the spring of 1865.

The mother of our subject, in the meantime, who had remained in Ireland when her first husband came to the United States, was married the second time in her native country, and with her daughter and husband came, in 1863, to the United States,

and settled in Athens County, Ohio. Of the first marriage there had been only two children, our subject, and his sister Aliee, who became the wife of Peter Deane, and now resides at Lake View, Ill. The step-father of our subject was Anthony Dunlavy, and of the marriage of his mother with this gentleman, there were born two sons—Christopher and James.

In 1866 our subject concluded to adopt the profession of a teacher for the future, and in order to prepare himself more thoroughly for its duties and requirements, he entered the Illinois State Normal University, where he remained for the following three years, and from which he graduated in June, 1868. He was then elected Principal of the Normal Public Schools, which position he occupied for a year, and in the summer of 1869 was elected to a professorship in the University, first as Professor of Geography, to which has since been added history. After graduating at the Illinois State Normal University, Prof. McCormick took the Post Graduate course at Illinois Wesleyan University, and received the degree of A. M., to which was afterward added that of Ph. D. In his history have been illustrated the results of resolution and perseverance in a marked degree. When landing in New York City young McCormick possessed but a half crown (sixty cents) and even this small sum he loaned to a lady before leaving the vessel, so he practically began life at the foot of the ladder in the New World. Too much credit cannot be given to the possessor of such wise determination, and such courage amid many difficulties.

Prof. and Mrs. McCormick have become the parents of five children, as follows: Aliee is the wife of Oliver R. Trowbridge, Principal of the Lacon Schools; Nelson K. is a practicing physician at Bloomington; Edmund B., Ferdinand C. and Henry G. are at home. The family residence is pleasantly located between Bloomington and Normal, and its inmates are surrounded by all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life. They enjoy the friendship and association of the most cultured people of this vicinity. Although not a politician, Prof. McCormick upholds the principles of the Republican party, with which he uniformly casts his vote. He is an active member of the

Methodist Episcopal Church, belongs to the A. F. & A. M., and is an Alderman of the city of Normal. His intellectual and social attainments have constituted him one of the most valuable members of society, and one of the bright lights of a rarely intelligent community.



**R**OWLAND N. EVANS, City Clerk of Bloomington, has been a resident here since 1856. He was born on a farm in Cambria County, Pa., in June, 1834, being the son of David R. and Ann (Jervis) Evans, both natives of Wales, who emigrated to the United States early in life and located in Pennsylvania. There the father died in 1847; the mother is still living. The parental household included four children, of whom our subject was the eldest. He remained under the home roof until fifteen years of age, assisting his mother in the duties around the farm, and then served an apprenticeship to the carpenter's trade. Upon completing this he went to Ohio, where he staid one year, and in the fall of 1856 pushed on further westward to the Prairie State. He worked at his trade in Bloomington until the outbreak of the late war, and then enlisted as a Union soldier in Co. C, 20th Ill. Vol. Inf., serving four and one-half years in the Western army. He was engaged with his comrades at the battles of Ft. Donelson, Shiloh, the siege and capture of Vicksburg, and marched with Sherman from Atlanta to the sea. He served as a private one year, and was then promoted First Lieutenant, being afterward given a Captain's commission. Afterward he became Major of the regiment, with which rank he was mustered out at Louisville, Ky., in July, 1865.

At the close of his military career Maj. Evans returned to Bloomington, and engaged as book-keeper for the Bloomington Stove Works, and J. W. Evans & Son, with whom he remained until May 1, 1886, when he was elected to his present office. He served as Alderman from the Sixth Ward two years, and in other respects has been prominently identified with the affairs of the city.

Mr. Evans was married in May, 1870, to Miss Mary L. Parke, who was born in 1842, and the

daughter of Samuel S. Parke, an old resident of Bloomington. Mr. and Mrs. E. have one child, a daughter, Ida Lueretia. They occupy a pleasant home on Douglas street and enjoy the society of many warm friends. Mr. Evans is connected with the G. A. R.



**E**R. MORSE, political and city editor of the Bloomington *Leader*, first opened his eyes to the light on the rugged New England coast, being born in the town of Jay, Franklin Co., Me., Sept. 14, 1850. His parents were Moses and Louisa (Cooper) Morse, natives of the same State, where his father was a prominent citizen and largely engaged in railroading and as a stock dealer. He emigrated West to Minnesota, and died in the city of Minneapolis, in 1861. The mother is still living and resides with her daughter in Wisconsin. Of their seven children three only are living, as follows: Reuben S. is a resident of Beetown, Wis.; Mary J., Mrs. Pierce, resides in Cassville, Wis.; our subject and the two above mentioned are the only living children. The mother of our subject received a fine education, and after the death of her husband gave her children all the advantages in her power. She possessed fine abilities as a writer and was a contributor to several publications in the East. She is regarded with the highest respect and admiration by all who know her as having done her part well, and having overcome difficulties before which many others would have been discouraged.

Young Morse attended the common schools until thirteen years of age, and then began to learn the "art preservative." In the meantime he pursued his school studies under the instruction of a private teacher, so that at eighteen years of age he was prepared to enter college. When he had completed his apprenticeship at Farmington, Me., he was made foreman of the *Chronicle* office and afterward became editor. He was also connected with the *Liberal Republican* of Augusta, and afterward with the *Portland Daily Advertiser*, and was city editor of the *Sunday Times* for a period of seven years. Mr. Morse came to Bloomington in

February, 1881, and assumed the position which he now occupies. He "stamped" the State of Maine for the Garfield ticket in 1880, and was heartily urged to speak in many other States through which his fame had spread.

Mr. Morse was married in 1872, to Miss Eunice Newell, a native of Halifax, N. S., and they have seven children, all living—Fred. R., Annie L., Florence P., Clinton W., Harvey R., Adlai S. and Gertrude. The family residence is pleasantly located at No. 1106 North East street, where its inmates enjoy the society and friendship of the cultured people of the city. Mr. Morse is Republican in politics, and a member in good standing of the A. F. & A. M., and the Modern Woodmen. He is also a member and was one of the organizers of the Knights and Ladies of the Round Table. He has been prominent in city affairs, and was elected Alderman of the Sixth Ward in 1886.

Mr. Morse, as a writer, possesses fine abilities and has already placed himself among the leading journalists of the State. He has also indulged in the lighter literature of the day, and as a story-writer has gained considerable popularity. His connection with the *Leader* has lent added interest to that striking sheet, and he is universally regarded as a favorite among newspaper men and a useful and worthy member of society.



**J**OHN A. MILLER, a resident of McLean County since 1857, was born in Carroll County, Ohio, June 17, 1831. His father, Dr. Thomas Miller, was born in Maryland in 1801, whence he removed to Ohio with his parents when a boy. The mother of our subject, Rebecca (Harrington) Miller, was also a native of Ohio, and was the second wife of Thomas Miller. Of her marriage with him there were born ten children, and of these eight are still living, John A. being the eldest.

The subject of our sketch received a common-school education, and at the age of twenty years commenced work at the carpenter's trade. He was married in 1854, to Miss Eliza J. McGiffen. She was born in Guernsey County, Ohio, Feb. 14,



1829, her parents being William and Lydia (Butterfield) McGiffen. Three years later they came to Illinois, locating first at Shirley, whence they removed two years afterward to Hudson, where our subject now resides. He followed his trade until about 1882, and since that time has occupied himself with an apiary, consisting of sixty stands of bees, which lighter labor affords him much satisfaction and serves to furnish employment for his active mind and hand which would not be content in idleness.

Before laying aside his active labors as a carpenter, Mr. Miller for twenty-five years was engaged as a contractor and builder, frequently employing a force of twelve or fifteen men, and many of the most important buildings in the vicinity of Hudson stand as monuments of his skill and handiwork. He has been uniformly successful in life, and has fairly earned the reputation of an honest man and a good citizen.

Of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Miller there were born four children, viz.: Sarah M., the wife of George Hasselton of Hudson; Mary R., Mrs. James Middleton of Whiteside County; Emma F., the wife of Stephen B. Houghton of Hudson, and Harvey, who is at home with his parents.

In politics Mr. Miller is a staunch Republican, and religiously has been connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church for many years as one of its most active and useful members.

**C**HRISTIAN C. MARTENS, of Bloomington, is a member of the firm of Hyde & Martens, who are successfully engaged in the manufacture of buggies, spring wagons and carriages, and also handle all kinds of farm machinery, carriage iron and wood stock. Mr. Martens is a native of Prussia, and was born in 1854, being the son of Charles J. and Henrietta (Schroder) Martens, natives of the same country. Charles J. Martens emigrated to America in 1869, and proceeded directly westward, settling in Bloomington the following year, where he followed his profession as a musician. The parental family consisted of eight children, five now living.

The subject of this biography was the seventh child of his parents' family. He attended school until fourteen years old, then worked upon a farm one year, and afterward at blacksmithing in his native country. After arriving in Bloomington he continued as a journeyman for six years, and then formed a partnership with Mr. Hyde, which has remained until the present. Their new block was erected in 1876. They give employment usually to about fifteen men and are doing a fine business.

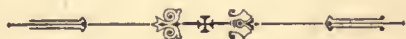
Mr. Martens was married in 1882, to Miss Carrie, daughter of Frederick Agle, of Bloomington, and they have one son—Ernest W., who was born in 1883. Mr. Martens is Democratic in politics, and with his wife belongs to the German Lutheran Church. Their residence, situated at No. 320 South Main street, is the home of refinement and cultivated tastes, and they enjoy the friendship and association of the cultured people of Bloomington.

**J**OHAN H. SPANGLER owns and occupies a comfortable homestead in Allin Township, on section 28, and has been a resident of the Prairie State since 1856. He was born in Franklin County, Ohio, March 15, 1829, being the son of Eli and Mary (Barbee) Spangler, natives of Virginia, the father born March 12, 1795, and the mother March 25, 1802. Eli Spangler was a farmer by occupation and followed that calling all his life. The parents were married March 14, 1822, and at once removed from the Old Dominion to Franklin County, Ohio, and located upon rented land, where the father died not quite ten years later, on the 1st of January, 1832. Mrs. S. survived her husband over fifty years, and died in this county Aug. 23, 1886. Their children were Susan, Margaret, Mary A., John H. and Eli. The mother of our subject was a member of the United Brethren Church. After the death of his father John H. resided with his mother until he was sixteen years old, and worked out by the month on a farm until his marriage, which occurred in 1850, the maiden of his choice being Miss Caroline Haines. The young couple went to housekeeping upon rented land, and in 1864 our subject pur-

chased the present homestead of 160 acres. This is finely cultivated and improved, with a tasteful and substantial farm dwelling, a good barn and all necessary out-buildings required by the intelligent and progressive farmer.

The parents of Mrs. Spangler were Jacob and Sarah Haines, natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Virginia. Her father was born Sept. 17, 1794, and her mother Dec. 15, 1802. They were married July 5, 1821, first locating in Belmont County, Ohio. Thence they removed to Illinois in 1856, locating in Mt. Hope Township, this county, where they passed the remainder of their lives, the father dying in 1870, and the mother in 1871. Their ten children were Martha, Adeline, Samuel, Horatio, John, Susan A., Robert, Levi, William J. and Jane B.

Mr. and Mrs. Spangler are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and in politics our subject is a strong Republican. Of their seven children three died in infancy unnamed; William S. married Miss Sarah A. McReynolds, Jan. 14, 1880, and lives in Allin Township; Eliza F. married Benjamin Kauffman, Dec. 24, 1874; he is deceased, and she lives in Allin Township; John married Miss Mary E. McReynolds, Dec. 23, 1880; they have one child which died in infancy unnamed; Margaret E. was the youngest of the family.



**A**LLEXANDER McELFRESH, a retired farmer and resident of Le Roy, has been a resident of the Prairie State for nearly thirty years. He was born in Ohio County, W. Va., Sept. 22, 1817, his father being Jesse McElfresh, a native of Maryland. His grandfather, Richard M., is also believed to have been a native of that State and there spent his declining years. The father of our subject was reared on a farm in his native State and when a young man went to Pennsylvania. He remained there about two years and in the meantime removed to West Virginia, settling on Short Creek, in Ohio County, where he engaged in farming and spent the last years of his life. The mother of our subject before her marriage was Miss Ann E. Murphy, who was born in

Pennsylvania and was the daughter of Alexander Murphy, a native of the North of Ireland, who came to America when a young man and was married to a German lady. Mr. Murphy teamed across the mountains, and met his death by a fall from his wagon, receiving injuries from which he soon died. His widow, the grandmother of our subject, afterward removed to Holmes Co., Ohio, and died there at the home of her daughter, at the age of one hundred and two years. The parental household included seventeen children, ten sons and seven daughters, of whom our subject was the fourth son and seventh child. His parents were poor, and as soon as large enough he assisted in the support of the family. His first work was in a wood-yard on the Ohio River, where he commenced when ten years of age, and received for his labors from \$5 to \$8 per month. He worked in this way for about six years, and then in company with a brother, rented a farm, which they operated for about five years, and then our subject decided to learn the cabinet-maker's trade. After two years at this and two more at carpentering he resumed farming with his brother-in-law. When twenty-six years of age he was married, in Jefferson County, Ohio, and rented a farm there. He had about \$200, which he had saved from his earnings, and this enabled him to carry on a farm. He operated in this manner until 1858, and then came to Illinois, making the journey with two horse-teams and being accompanied by his brother-in-law, Robert Hanson. The family came by rail. He first rented land in Downs Township, this county, two years, then purchased eighty acres upon which was a small house and a straw shed. He moved with his family into the house, and they continued to reside there until 1876, the first house in the meantime having been replaced by a comfortable frame dwelling and the straw shed by a good barn. In the year last named, Mr. McE. rented his farm and purchased the place which he now owns and occupies in Le Roy. He is now living retired from active business and surrounded by all the comforts of life, and is reaping the reward of his early industry.

The marriage of Mr. McElfresh took place Jan. 4, 1843, the lady of his choice being Miss Lydia Hanson, who was born in Jefferson County, Ohio,

Nov. 10, 1825. Her father, John Hanson, a native of Ireland, came to the United States with his parents when five years of age and was reared in Pennsylvania. He learned the trade of a blacksmith in Lancaster County, and after his marriage removed to Ohio, settling in Jefferson County, where he spent the remainder of his life. The mother, formerly Miss Lydia Galloway, was a native of Pennsylvania. They became the parents of ten children, three sons and seven daughters.

Mr. and Mrs. McElfresh have no children of their own. Their adopted daughter, Almira, became the wife of Charles Roach, now deceased. Mr. McE. belongs to the Cumberland Presbyterian and Mrs. McE. to the Methodist Episcopal Church. The paternal grandmother of our subject's wife was a sister of Gen. Montgomery, who fell in battle at Quebec during the Revolutionary War.



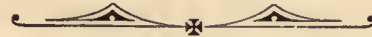
**P**ETER KING. The subject of the following brief history, who is successfully engaged in farming pursuits on section 2, Dry Grove Township, is principally occupied in the breeding of Norman and Clydesdale horses, of which he keeps in stock about twelve head, and exhibits some of the finest animals in this section. His farm estate consists of 320 acres of choice land, with three good farm houses and all necessary barns and out-buildings. He has been a resident of the township since 1865, and has fully established himself in the confidence and respect of his neighbors.

Mr. King was born in Butler County, Ohio, Feb. 6, 1838, and is the son of Christian and Phœbe (Barnett) King, of German ancestry, and who were reared and married in the Fatherland and emigrated to America at an early day. They located in Butler County, Ohio, a short time, and then came to McLean County, Ill., where they spent their declining years and both are now buried. Their eight children were Christian, John, Jacob, Daniel, Peter, Barbara, Samuel and Joseph. Peter King, at the age of five years, came with his parents overland to Illinois. They first located in Woodford County, whence, after three years, they

removed to Dry Grove Township in McLean County, and located upon the farm of 160 acres which the father had purchased. Here our subject grew to manhood, engaged in farming pursuits. Christian King religiously adhered to the Mennonite belief, and reared his children in the same religious faith. He lived to the age of seventy-eight years, and passed away leaving a record of an honest and worthy life. Our subject was married on the 5th of February, 1860, to Miss Barbara Hodler, who was born in Ohio Feb. 8, 1838. She came with her parents to Illinois in 1854, and they located in Dale Township, this county, where they passed the remainder of their days, both being now deceased. Ten of their children are now living, and the record is as follows: Imhoff was born in 1839; Mary, Dec. 13, 1840; Magdaleua, Feb. 7, 1842; Annie, Dec. 13, 1843; Joseph, Oct. 9, 1845; Peter, Nov. 20, 1847; Elizabeth, March 29, 1850; John, Feb. 27, 1853, and is now deceased; Lydia, Aug. 31, 1854; Daniel, April 28, 1857.

Mr. and Mrs. King of this notice became the parents of eight children, as follows: Luey A., born July 8, 1864, married Daniel King, and lives in White Oak Township; Emma N., born Sept. 10, 1866, married Daniel Augustine, of White Oak; Phœbe L. was born Feb. 7, 1869; Amelia M., July 16, 1871; Rosa E., Sept. 27, 1873; Lewis I., Jan. 30, 1876; Mary M., deceased, was born Jan. 8, 1861, and died Nov. 29, 1864; Christian, deceased, was born Aug. 9, 1862, and died Nov. 26, 1864.

Mr. King takes an active interest in all matters pertaining to the welfare of his township. He has served two terms as School Director, and in other ways has assisted to advance the cause of education and morality. He is a peaceable and law-abiding citizen, and held in great respect by his fellow-townsmen.



**B**ENJAMIN BEDELL, living on section 1, Old Town Township, and a gentleman who has followed agricultural pursuits thus far in life, is a son of William and Hannah (Bradbury) Bedell. The father was born on Long Island, and the mother in England. They were

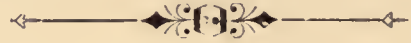
married in this country, and settled in Greene County, N. Y., where the father followed the vocation of a farmer, and where both heads of the family continued to reside until their death. Seven children were born of this union, named William, Hannah, Phebe, Abram, Benjamin, Ellen and Elizabeth.

Benjamin Bedell was born in Greene County, N. Y., April 12, 1820. He was reared to farm labor on his father's farm, and when twelve years of age his parents removed to Athens, on the Hudson, and there our subject continued to reside until 1848. He then settled on a farm in the neighborhood of Athens, and for nine years was employed in its cultivation and improvement, when he sold it and moved to Oneida County, N. Y. There he purchased another farm, and continued his labors until the fall of 1866. Disposing of this place with the hope of bettering his financial condition in a country farther west, he came to this county, locating in Old Town Township, where he remained for one year. He then purchased a farm in Blue Mound Township, where he lived and industriously labored until 1871. During that year he bought a place in Old Town Township, moving upon it in the spring of that year, and has made it his home until the present time. His farm consists of seventy-one and a half acres, is well stocked, and has good buildings upon it.

The marriage of our subject with Miss Mary A. Cook was solemnized in Albany County, N. Y., Dec. 14, 1848. She is the daughter of Charles H. and Sarah (Armstrong) Cook, natives of New York. Her parents settled in Albany County after their union, and there the father engaged in farming and wagon-making, carrying on quite an extensive business in both branches of his occupation. He died in the city of Albany, N. Y., and she in the same county. The issue of their union was four children—Ransom, John W., Alexander and Mary A. Mary A., the youngest of the family, was born in Albany County, N. Y., Jan. 26, 1826. She lived at home until her marriage with our subject, and by that union nine children have been born, the record of whom is as follows: Elizabeth is the wife of Justine Pierson, and they are living at Bennet, Neb.; Charles H. died when seven years old; Will-

iam departed this life when two years of age, and Edward died in infancy; Alice is the wife of Samuel Cole and they are living in Old Town Township; Adelaide died in the latter-named township in 1883, when twenty-three years old; Clara is the wife of William N. Cole, a farmer of Old Town Township; Hannah and Sarah both died in infancy.

Mr. B. has held some of the minor offices of his township. He and his wife belong to the sect known as Friends, and in politics our subject is an earnest and faithful supporter of the principles of the Prohibition party, but prior to its birth was a staunch Republican.



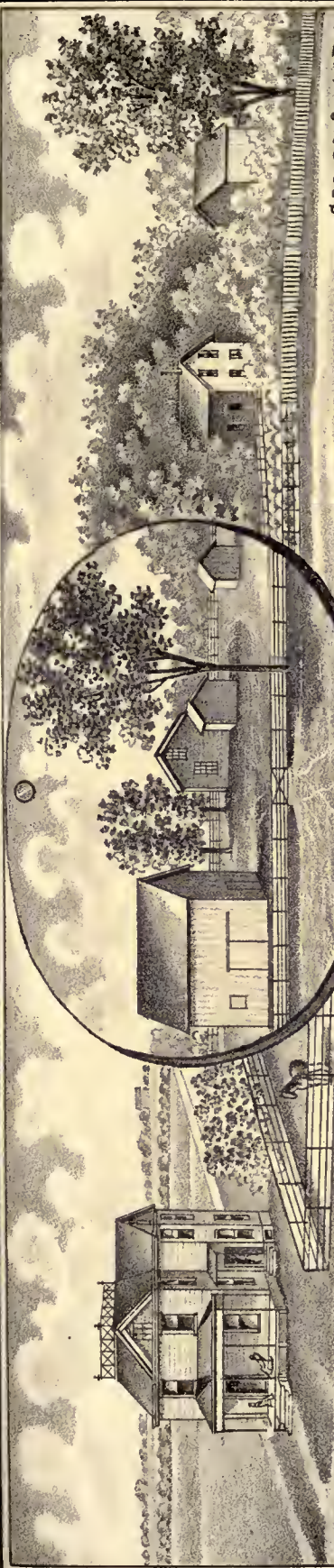
**R**OBERT S. McINTYRE, engaged in the insurance and real-estate business, with his office and residence at Bloomington, is a native of Rhode Island. He was born in Providence, Sept. 20, 1836, and his parents were Samuel and Elizabeth (McFarland) McIntyre, natives of Ireland and of Scotch descent, who came to the United States at an early day in their lives. Our subject's father was a farmer by calling, and Robert S. passed his boyhood days on the farm in St. Clair County, Ill., and there lived until he was twelve years of age. He accompanied his parents to this county in 1848, and located with them in Bloomington. In that city he entered the printing-office of Jesse W. Fell, and learning the trade continued at the same until 1861.

During the year last named our subject enlisted in Co. A, 94th Ill. Vol. Inf., as a private. He was soon promoted Quartermaster Sergeant of his regiment, in which capacity he served till the expiration of his term of enlistment. He was mustered out in July, 1865, and returned to Bloomington; that same fall he was elected County Clerk of McLean County. Assuming the duties of his office in December of that year he continued faithfully to serve the citizens of the county for a term of four years. On retiring from the County Clerk's office Mr. McIntyre engaged in the insurance and real-estate business. In 1880 he was elected Assessor of Bloomington, city and township, and has held





Jacob Sholty



SEC. 33. SON'S RES.

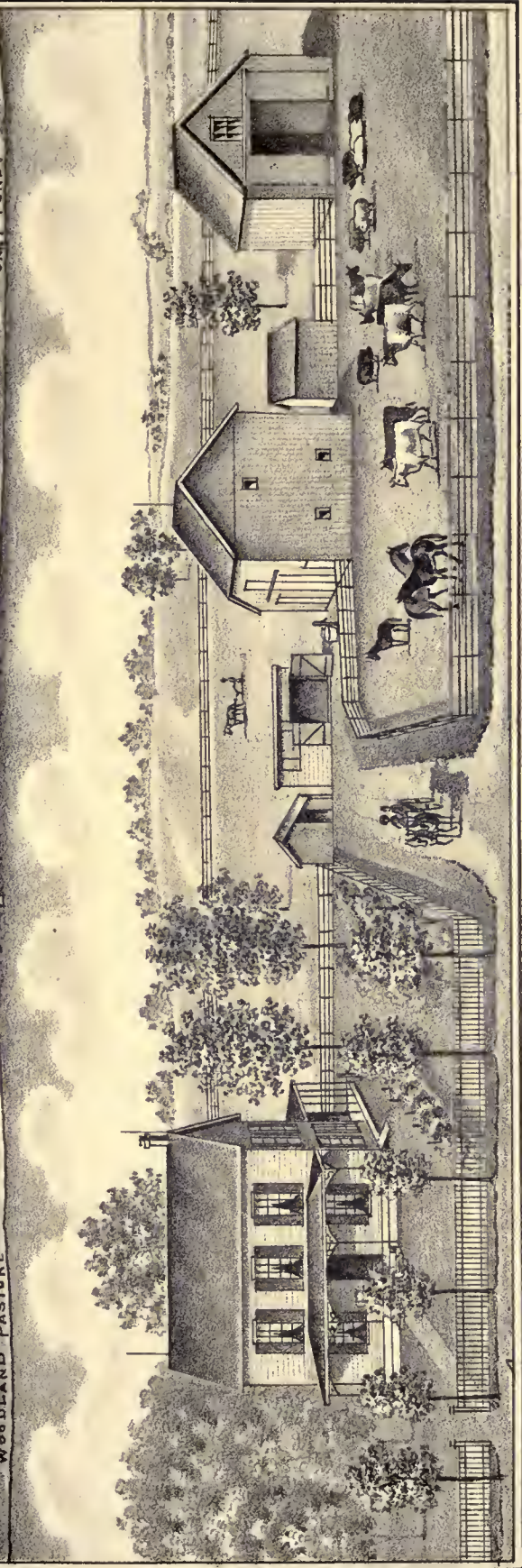
SEC. 32. SON'S RES.

SEC. 26. SON'S RES.



WOODLAND PASTURE

CARP POND.



RESIDENCE AND FARM PROPERTY OF H. C. SHOLTY, SEC. 28. DALE TOWNSHIP.





that office continually since. Mr. McIntyre is Secretary of the Bloomington Loan and Home Association, and is one of the thorough-going and enterprising business men of the city.

Robert S. McIntyre was united in marriage with Sarah E. Worley, of Taylorsville, Christian Co., Ill., in 1865. This union has been blessed by the birth of the following children, namely: Florence M., Jessie I., William, Donald and Ralph S. Socially Mr. McIntyre is a member of the Knights of Pythias, also of the G. A. R., the A. O. U. W., the Royal Arcanum and Improved Order of Red Men.

**H**ENRY C. SHOLTY, one of the most extensive farmers of Dale Township, came to the Prairie State during the period of its early settlement and has watched the growth and progress of this section with the interest which every intelligent man feels in the development of the country or State which he calls his home. Mr. Sholty was born in Lancaster County, Pa., on the 7th of March, 1833. His father, Jacob Sholty, was also a native of the Keystone State, and was born in the county of Lancaster in 1805, and his grandfather, William Sholty, was a native of Holland and came to America when a young man. He was poor, and not having money enough to pay his fare over, the ship's Captain sold his time and he worked three years and nine months to liquidate the debt. After coming into Pennsylvania he purchased a small tract of land in Lancaster County, upon which he carried on farming operations for the balance of his life. While a young man he had learned the blacksmith's trade and also engaged in this in connection with his agricultural pursuits.

Jacob Sholty, the father of our subject, was reared in his native county and assisted his father in the blacksmith-shop until he was twenty-one years old. He then learned the milling business, in which he was occupied the greater part of his time until 1837, when he removed to Indiana. It was before the days of railroads, and he started overland to Dayton, Ohio, where he stopped six months and then completed his journey, locating in Delaware County, Ind. He had with him \$100 in cash, and he purchased eighty acres of land at \$2 per

acre, paying only a part down. He built a log cabin on the place and commenced to clear a farm. About this time he received a letter from home upon which was due twenty-five cents postage. He had no money, and his wife took six chickens to the nearest village and sold them for twenty-five cents, thus raising money to pay the postage.

Mr. Sholty worked out days to earn money upon which to support his family, and at night labored at home improving and cultivating his land. In 1845 he bought a small flouring-mill, and soon afterward, in company with another man, erected a larger mill on White River, three-fourths of a mile from Selma. He lived there with his family until 1849, when he sold out and started for Illinois, accompanied by his wife and seven children. Their traveling outfit consisted of one yoke of oxen, three horses, two wagons and a carriage. They carried their household goods with them and camped and cooked by the wayside. They arrived at Bloomington, Ill., in about twelve days from the time they started, and camped on the spot which is now occupied by the First National Bank. They had selected Fulton County for their location, but meeting a friend, Mr. John McGoun, were persuaded by him to settle in McLean. Mr. S. consequently rented a log house near town into which he moved his family, and then purchased 125 acres of land on section 34, Dale Township. Upon this there was a log house, into which Mr. S. moved his family and commenced the improvement of his land. This remained his home until his death, which occurred in October, 1880. Jacob Sholty was very prosperous, and as time passed on added to his acreage, and at his death was the possessor of 551 acres, mostly under improvement, a beautiful residence, and the finest barn in the county. He was a straightforward business man, a substantial and reliable citizen, and highly respected in the community which he had assisted in building up. The maiden name of his wife, the mother of our subject, was Mary Kaufman, a native of his own county in Pennsylvania, and of German ancestry and parentage. She was the daughter of Michael and Annie (Funk) Kaufman, and is still living, making her home with her son, the subject of this sketch.

Henry C. Sholty was the second child of his par-

ents, and was four years old when they removed from his native State to Indiana. He was a youth of seventeen years when they came into McLean County, Ill. He had been reared to farming pursuits and also assisted his father in the mill. At the age of twenty-one he commenced to learn the carpenter's trade, at which he worked a part of the time for ten years. He was skillful at his trade, and among other fine buildings which he erected was his father's barn, already spoken of, and which was the largest building of its kind in McLean County.

In 1854 Mr. Sholty settled upon the farm which he now owns and occupies. He followed his trade only a part of the time afterward and devoted the remainder of his time to the improvement and cultivation of his land. He built the house in which he now lives in 1855, but subsequently, in 1874, remodeled, enlarged and improved it, and it is now one of the finest farm residences in this section. His estate embraces one of the most splendid tracts of land in McLean County, comprising 720 acres, all in one body, and with a living stream running through the farm, which is in a fine state of cultivation with a generous tract of pasture, upon which roams some of the finest stock exhibited in this section.

The subject of our sketch was united in marriage with Miss Susan Swinehart, in March, 1859. She is the daughter of George and Susannah (Saylor) Swinehart; they were also natives of Pennsylvania and farmers. They both died on their farm near Harrisburg, in York County, Pa. Mrs. S. was born in Montgomery County, Pa., July 30, 1828, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of four children. Mary died Oct. 11, 1880, aged twenty years; William married Annie Bozarth, and lives on a part of the homestead; Jacob married Florence Staley, and they also live on a part of the home farm; Elizabeth married Elmer Zeiters, and likewise lives on the home farm. Thus it will be seen that the children of this esteemed couple are married and settled around them. From their own door they can see each of their residences. Mr. and Mrs. S. are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in politics Mr. S. is a staunch Republican.

Everything in and around the Sholty homestead is indicative of cultured tastes and ample means, and he and his family are surrounded by all of the comforts and many of the luxuries of life. Like his father before him, Mr. S. is possessed of unlimited enterprise and energy. He is straightforward and systematic in his business methods, prompt to meet his obligations, and occupies a prominent position among the business and industrial interests of this section. He is highly esteemed by a large circle of friends and acquaintances, and by his fellow-citizens as possessing, in a marked degree, all the qualities of an honest man and a good citizen. His success in life has been largely due to his own energy and industry, and he is but reaping the reward of what is justly due him for worthy effort.

A fine lithographic view of the residence, out-buildings and farm of Mr. Sholty appears in the work. We also show a portrait of Jacob Sholty, the father of Henry C. Sholty, who during his lifetime was one of the honored settlers of McLean County.



**H**ENRY A. DOTY, one of the most successful contractors and skillful builders of Bloomington, is a native of Carlisle, Cumberland Co., Pa., and came to Illinois with his parents in 1850, when a child of thirteen years, his birth having occurred Sept. 26, 1837. The parents of our subject were Henry A., Sr., and Elizabeth (Livenger) Doty, also natives of the Keystone State. The father followed the business of a contractor and builder for fifty-five years. He moved to Illinois in 1850, and lived in Bloomington until 1859, thence went to Ottawa, where he passed the remainder of his days, his death occurring in 1876. The mother died in Bloomington in 1855. Of the seven children of the parental family three only are living—Catharine, Henry A. and Rebecca.

The subject of this history attended school until fourteen years of age, then learned the carpenter trade of his father in Pennsylvania. He came West with his family, and was an inmate of the parental household until 1859. The following year he went to Ottawa, and engaged in contracting and build-

ing for two years. In 1861, the Rebellion then assuming alarming proportions, he enlisted in Co. E, 104th Ill. Vol. Inf., was promoted Orderly Sergeant, and continued in the service three years.

At the close of his military service Mr. Doty came to Bloomington, and engaged at his former occupation as contractor and builder. Among other important structures he superintended the building of the shaft for the Vermilion Coal Company, the Streator Coal Shafts, and the Pekin and Southwestern Railroad bridges, together with many of their depots. He then built the Union Depot on the Wabash Railroad at Howard Station, and has put up many of the finest structures in the city of Bloomington, frequently employing over 100 men and nine teams.

Henry A. Doty and Miss Effie M. Sackett were united in marriage at Bloomington, in 1885. Mrs. Doty is the daughter of Sabina and Martha E. (Hill) Sackett, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of one child, a son—Earle E. By a former marriage Mr. Doty has two sons—Willie H. and Charlie A.

Our subject in politics affiliates with the Republican party, and socially belongs to the Masons, the Odd Fellows, the G. A. R. and the Seven Wise Men.

**G**EORGE W. GASTMAN is a native of the city of New York, where he was born on the 12th of July, 1837. He is the son of E. A. and Margaret Ann Gastman, who, with their family, came to Illinois in 1838. On the 8th of April of the same year, they located in McLean County, where their son, our subject, grew to manhood, in the meantime receiving careful home training and a fair education in the common schools. His studies were completed at Enreka College, but having been bred to farm life, he engaged in agricultural pursuits after his marriage, and was thus occupied until 1885, when he removed into the village of Hudson.

Mr. Gastman was married, April 5, 1860, to Miss Elizabeth J. Woolen, a native of McLean County, and the daughter of James and Catharine Woolen. Of this marriage there were born four children:

Margaret Ann, the wife of William A. Hiteh; Francis M., Angenetta and Hattie E. They have a pleasant residence in the village, and Mr. Gastman still owns his farm of 145 acres in the township of Hudson.

In politics Mr. Gastman is usually Democratic, but in local affairs endeavors to cast his vote for the men best fitted for the offices. He served as Deputy County Surveyor four years in McLean and eight years in Livingston Counties, although at the same time residing in this county continuously. He served as Justice of the Peace for many years, and has held the various local offices. The brother of our subject, E. A. Gastman, is Superintendent of the city schools of Decatur.

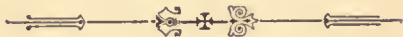
**D**A. CREED, editor and publisher of the Heyworth *Standard*, is a resident of Bloomington, and the son of Austin G. and Minerva S. (Shannon) Creed, his mother being the daughter of Capt. Shannon, of Bloomington, now deceased. Austin G. Creed is a contractor and builder, and the parental household included two children only, our subject and his brother Shannon.

The subject of this sketch was born at Berryville, Highland Co., Ohio, Aug. 10, 1853. He resided there with his parents until twelve years of age, and the family then removed to Hillsboro, where he attended school in winter and worked on a farm during the summer season. He graduated from Hillsboro High School in the spring of 1868, and the following year removed with his parents to Chillieothe, Mo., where he taught school for several months, and then, having a desire to be a printer, entered the office of the Chillieothe *Tribune* to learn the trade. He served a full apprenticeship, and was afterward made local editor of the *Tribune*, which position he held until his removal to Bloomington, where he arrived Nov. 25, 1874. He worked at the ease in the *Leader* and other printing-offices in Bloomington until December, 1875, when he formed a partnership with Mr. F. M. Doxsee, and purchased the outfit of a job office, which they operated until the following June.

They then removed to Ford County, and for six months were occupied in the printing of a Democratic campaign paper. After the election they returned to Bloomington, and Mr. Creed, purchasing the interest and stock of his partner, established the *Democratic News*, which he edited and published until the fall of 1879. He then sold out to Mr. L. L. Burr, who merged the paper into the *Bulletin*, the present Democratic organ. In 1880 Mr. Creed purchased another printing-office, and has since carried on job and newspaper business.

The Heyworth *Standard* was established January 16, 1880, by our subject. It was a five-column quarto, issued every Friday, but is now a six-column folio. In politics it is independent. The *Standard* has a liberal advertising patronage, and a good circulation. Its local columns are well filled with interesting news from different parts of the county, and it also contains all the important news from the various parts of the country. It is a lively paper and a credit to town and county.

Mr. Creed was married, Oct. 7, 1879, to Miss Jessie E. Stump, and of this union has been born a daughter—L. H. They occupy a pleasant and attractive home at No. 715 South Water street.



**E**ZRA F. BRAMWELL, of Dry Grove Township, is pleasantly located on section 14, where he is carrying on the peaceful pursuits of a farmer's life, and passing the latter days of a busy life in the enjoyment of a comfortable home, and the respect of hosts of friends. Our subject was born in Vernon, Jennings Co., Ind., Oct. 4, 1820, and is of Scotch-English parentage, his parents being William C. and Catharine (McDonald) Bramwell. They were born in the counties of Mercer and Garrett, Ky. William C. Bramwell first opened his eyes to the light on the 27th of October, 1788, and the greater part of his life followed his trade as spinning wheelwright and chair builder. The parents were married in Kentucky in 1810, and came to Indiana the following year, where the father took up the carpenter's trade and became prominently connected with the affairs of his adopted State. At the time of his marriage

he could neither read nor write, but he afterward became proficient in astronomy and logarithms, and mastered Greek and Hebrew. He was a man of great force of character, fond of argument, and became one of the bright lights in the politics of the State. He served one term in the Legislature of Indiana, and came to McLean County, Ill., in the fall of 1856. He afterward turned his attention to religious matters, and occupied the pulpit for many years, first as a Baptist, and afterward espoused the doctrines advocated by Alexander Campbell. In politics he was an old-line Whig, but after the abandonment of that party practically withdrew from political work.

The mother of our subject, Mrs. Catharine Bramwell, was born on the 25th of March, 1791, and died in Johnson County, Ind., July 2, 1865, three weeks after the death of her husband. Their marriage took place in Kentucky, and they became the parents of eight children, seven sons and one daughter, as follows: John M., James H., Solon C., Jesse V., Ezra F., Zenas F., William A. and Nancy M.

The subject of our history went to Iowa from Indiana in 1837, with a surveying party, and stopped at Keokuk, where he remained three weeks. He then returned home and remained until 1857, when he came with his parents to this county. During his childhood he attended the common schools, and at the age of fourteen years went to the city of Madison, and was employed as clerk in a dry-goods store for four years following. He then commenced the study of medicine under the instruction of Dr. Philo Andrews, of New York City, with whom he remained for three years, and then commenced practice. He followed his profession until 1844, but not finding it sufficiently lucrative, abandoned it. He then took a contract on the Madison & Indianapolis Railroad, for laying track, and after the completion of this, became, first fireman, then engineer, and afterward conductor on that road, being thus engaged four years, in the meantime losing an eye by a scale from the smoke stack.

Mr. Bramwell was married on the 6th of February, 1842, to Miss Rebecca C. Griffith, a native of Steubenville, Ohio. Mrs. Bramwell was the daughter of Hezekiah and Lydia (Mobley) Grif-

fifth, natives of Maryland, but of Welsh ancestry and parentage. Their family included ten children. The father of Mrs. Bramwell was born March 1, 1790, and died in Indiana, Aug. 13, 1840. The mother was born Jan. 24, 1795, survived her husband thirty-four years, and died in Indiana on the 16th of April, 1874. Mr. and Mrs. Bramwell have become the parents of eleven children—Henrietta, Rachel, Alice, William C., Daniel D., Charles L., Lydia, Kate, Esther, Frank L. and Eugene F.

Mr. Bramwell came to McLean County in 1857, and for the first six years cultivated rented land, then purchased eighty acres of his present homestead. He prospered in his agricultural operations, and afterward doubled the amount of his real estate, so that he now has 160 acres under a fine state of cultivation. His stock includes some fine specimens of Jersey cattle, and his residence, barns and out-buildings, are indicative of the thrift and enterprise of the proprietor. Mr. Bramwell has held the office of Township Trustee for a period of twelve years; has been Town Clerk over seven years, and has served as Constable and Commissioner of Highways. In politics he is a staunch Republican, and a man of influence in his party in this section. The various members of the family are connected with and regular attendants of the Christian Church.



**M**RS. EMELINE G. BARNETT, of Leroy, is the daughter of Elisha and Theda (Woodruff) Gibbs, and the widow of the late Thomas J. Barnett. She was born in Belpre, Washington Co., Ohio, Aug. 11, 1818. Her father, Elisha Gibbs, was a native of Connecticut, and also her grandfather, Elisha Gibbs, Sr., the latter spending his entire life in his native State. Elisha Gibbs, Jr., was reared in Connecticut, and learned the trade of a carpenter and millwright. He was there married, and soon afterward removed to New York and located near Lake Geneva, where he followed his trade until 1816. He then removed with his family to Ohio, the journey being made on a raft via the Ohio and Alleghany Rivers. They first located in Belpre, whence

after two or three years they removed to Mt. Vernon, Knox County, where, in company with another man, Mr. Gibbs erected a saw and grist mill three miles from the village. After a time he purchased the interest of his partner and operated the mills by himself until the fall of 1838, when he decided to move further West. After reaching Illinois he came into McLean County and purchased land in what is now Empire Township. The following year he removed a part of his family here, his wife and two children, two sons, having preceded him. He located in Leroy and put up the first mill in the village. His sons operated the mill and Mr. Gibbs pursued his trade in different places, putting in mill machinery wherever required and erecting a number of buildings in this locality, many of which are now standing.

The mother of Mrs. Barnett, who before her marriage was Miss Theda Woodruff, was born in Connecticut, and a daughter of Philo Woodruff, also a native of Connecticut, and who served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War. He spent the last years of his life with his daughter, Mrs. Gibbs, near Mt. Vernon, Ohio. He was a prominent Abolitionist, and both parents were members of the Presbyterian Church. The mother of Mrs. Barnett died in Leroy in March, 1854. The parental family consisted of seven children, of whom the record is as follows: Maria became the wife of Luther Hill, and died in Akron, Ohio; Philo died in Deatur, Ohio, when thirteen years old; David died in Ottumwa, Iowa; Simeon lives in Leroy, this county; Enoch, in Kansas City, Mo.; Mrs. Barnett was the sixth child; Julia married Rev. Austin Rogers, a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and lives in Heyworth.

Mrs. Barnett spent her youth and childhood with her parents, and attended the subscription schools. When of suitable age and attainments she entered Oberlin College and graduated from there when twenty-five years of age, after her parents had removed to Illinois. After joining them there she engaged in teaching, and continued three terms after her marriage. This event occurred in February, 1845. Her husband, Thomas J. Barnett, was a native of Bourbon County, Ky., and born Jan. 21, 1818. His father, Moses Barnett, was a

native of Pennsylvania, also his mother, who was formerly Miss Catharine Ellis. In 1831 Moses Barnett, with his family, emigrated to Illinois and settled in what is now Empire Township, this county, where their son Thomas was reared to manhood. He received a limited education, and, his parents being without worldly wealth, he worked out by the day or month. He broke prairie and engaged in teaming, making frequent trips to and from Chicago, making the tedious journeys with oxen. The Garden City then was but an unpretentious hamlet, and the experiences of Thomas J. Barnett, together with the interesting scenes which he witnessed from time to time would make an interesting volume. After his marriage with our subject they lived with her father's family for a time, and Mr. Barnett cultivated a portion of the land. He was industrious, enterprising, and possessed of excellent judgment, and was soon in a condition to become the owner of 100 acres, which he secured and engaged as before in general agriculture. After a few years he abandoned farming to engage in the grocery and hardware business, and later merged his stock into dry-goods. He was a thorough and successful business man, straightforward and honest in his transactions, prompt to meet his obligations, and became a useful and honored member of the community. He continued in business until the summer of 1874, and then, on account of failing health, disposed of his interests and retired from active business. He departed this life in September, 1882.

Mr. and Mrs. Barnett became the parents of six children, of whom the record is as follows: Alice married John Young, and lives in Chicago; Emma became the wife of Denton Young, a clothing merchant of Leroy; Orvin died in infancy; Orrin is a resident of Lewistown, Fulton County, this State; Laura, Mrs. Dixon Brown, lives in Downs Township, this county, and George in Chicago. Mrs. Barnett's son Orrin possesses unusual musical talent which has been finely cultivated. He attended the Conservatories of Music at Oberlin and Boston, and is well qualified for the position which he occupies as leader in the musical circles of his locality.

Mrs. Barnett is a lady of more than ordinary

ability, has been a wise and judicious mother, attending closely to the training and the education of her children, and has fitted them to become good citizens and useful members of the community. She is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and greatly respected by those among whom she has lived for so many years. As a member of society, a neighbor and friend, she has fulfilled her duties creditably and conscientiously, and has built for herself a good record of womanly virtues.



**EZEKIAH R. BENSON**, an intelligent member of the legal profession in the city of Bloomington, is a native of the Empire State, having been born in Onondaga County, N. Y., in May, 1826. His father, Lyman Benson, who was born in Washington County, N. Y., traces his ancestry as having come from the north of England, but being of Scotch-Irish descent. The paternal grandfather of our subject was one of the early settlers of New York State, and other representatives of the family were scattered in Washington and Rutland Counties, the town of Benson in Rutland County having been named in honor of them. They were good business men generally, and the possessors of comfortable homes and a good amount of property.

Lyman Benson, the father of our subject, removed with his family to the West in 1849, first settling in Belvidere, Ill., which was then the county seat of Boone County. Here he carried on the manufacture of wagons, at the same time being engaged in farming, and spent the remainder of his days there. In early manhood he married Miss Cornelia Osborn, of Hartford, Conn., and they first located in New York State. They became the parents of eight children, seven of whom lived to maturity. Two brothers were sacrificed during the late war.

Our subject was the fourth child of the parental family, and came with his father and mother to this State. He pursued his early studies in the common schools of Boone County, and completed them at Manlius Academy, N. Y. Later he at-

tended the law department of the University at Chicago, from which he graduated in 1864. He then came to McLean County, and opened an office in Chenoa, where he began the practice of his chosen profession, following it there six years, in the meantime serving as City Clerk and Attorney.

Mr. Benson came to Bloomington in the fall of 1871, and was soon afterward united in marriage with Miss Anna, daughter of Henry Gruzzelle, a farmer residing in the east part of the county. They located in Bloomington, where our subject has since followed his profession. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and belongs to Bloomington Chapter No. 26, Royal Arch Masons. For the last eight years he has been Secretary of the Republican Central Committee, and is a member of the Board of Directors of Canton Masonic Mutual Benevolent Society. Religiously he is identified with the Presbyterian Church, and in all respects is pursuing the honest and upright course of a good citizen and worthy member of society. Mr. and Mrs. Benson have become the parents of one child—Nellie.



**W**ILLIAM A. ARROWSMITH, a well-known and highly esteemed resident of Padua Township, owns and occupies a fine farm estate comprising 110 acres on section 24. His land is valuable and finely improved, the residence of modern style of architecture, and the barns and out-buildings shapely and substantial structures, in all respects adapted for the purpose for which they were intended. He has been a resident of this section since 1856, and held the office of Supervisor for a period of six years, and in all respects is a representative citizen, taking a genuine interest in the welfare of his county and community.

Mr. Arrowsmith came to this county a single man, being only eighteen years of age, locating first in Padua Township. He is a native of Ross County, Ohio, and was born in Green Township, July 6, 1838. His father, John Arrowsmith, also a native of Ross County, came of Kentucky parentage, and married a lady of that State, by name Miss Phebe Ritter. After marriage they settled on a farm in Ross County, Ohio, and there passed the remainder

of their days. John Arrowsmith was born in 1806, and departed this life in 1846. His wife, Phœbe, was born in 1801, and died two years before her husband, in 1844. Of their six children, our subject was the eldest son and third child, and was quite young when his parents died. He afterward lived with an older sister, for whom the father had provided in his will on condition that she should take the place of mother to the children until they were able to care for themselves. This trust she nobly fulfilled. Our subject received a good public-school education and made his home with his sister until he started for the West. After arriving here he lived with another relative until he reached his majority.

After coming to this county, Mr. Arrowsmith, being in possession of some means and desiring to still further perfect himself in his studies, entered Wesleyan College, where he remained until the outbreak of the late war. On the 6th of August, 1862, he enlisted as a Union soldier in Co. D, 94th Illinois Regiment, which was then commanded by Col. W. W. Orme, of Bloomington. He is now deceased. The first destination of the regiment after it left Illinois was Prairie Grove, Ark., and young Arrowsmith participated in all engagements thereafter, being at the siege of Vicksburg and the battle at Ft. Morgan, Ala., besides minor engagements. He was afterward in the fight at Yazoo City, Miss., Brownsville, Tex., Ft. Morgan and Spanish Fort. He escaped injury, although his coat was at one time pierced by a ball from the enemy. He has now in his possession a hickory cane which bears marks of the enemy's bullets and which indicates that they fired close to the ground. After a period of brave and faithful service, during which time he shared uncomplainingly the privations and hardships of a soldier's life, Mr. Arrowsmith received his honorable discharge at Galveston, Tex., July 17, 1865. After being mustered out he returned to this county and purchased the tract of land which constitutes his present homestead.

The marriage of our subject occurred Dec. 21, 1865, in Padua Township, the maiden of his choice being Miss Martha J. Martin, who was born on the farm where she now lives, July 22, 1840. Mrs. A. is the daughter of Areher and Jane

(Lewallen) Martin, who were natives of Virginia, but while young removed to Ohio and were there married. The mother was born in New Jersey. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. M. settled on a farm in Champaign County, Ohio, whence they removed West in 1834 and located upon the farm where our subject and his wife now live, and which Mr. Martin improved from its original condition. Here both parents died, the father, July 28, 1868, at the age of seventy-nine years, having been born Oct. 10, 1789. The mother, who was born May 30, 1802, died June 25, 1872. They were most excellent people and greatly respected wherever known.

Mrs. Arrowsmith was reared and educated in Padua Township and remained under the home roof until her marriage. Of her union with our subject there were born five children, two of whom, John and Mary, died when less than one year old. Those surviving are Sarah J., the wife of Ennis Wheeler, a farmer of Empire Township; Laura and William M. at home. Mr. Arrowsmith is strongly Republican in politics, and takes an active interest in the establishment and maintenance of schools. He is an extensive reader and possesses a large fund of general information. Besides the home farm, he owns twenty-four acres of valuable land in Empire Township, and is in all respects a fine representative of the thrifty and intelligent citizen who is contributing his full share toward the prosperity of his county.



**H**A. MINER, manufacturer of sash, doors, blinds, etc., and general contractor and builder, has his office and planing-mill on Northeast street, which occupy Nos. 408, 410, 412 and 414, Bloomington, Ill. Mr. Miner has been a resident of the Prairie State since 1856, when he left the home of his childhood, and coming West settled first at Galesburg, this State, whence he soon afterward came to McLean County. He was born in Ontario County, N. Y., in 1835, and is the son of Seth and Abigail (Phelps) Miner, natives respectively of Connecticut and New York. Seth Miner was extensively engaged in farming in the Empire State, and was a man of great force of

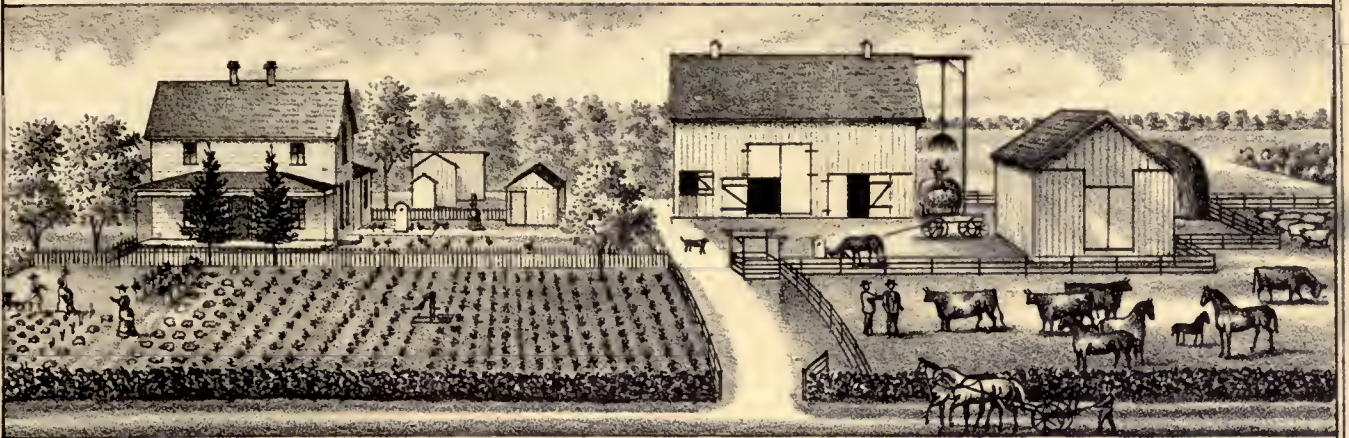
character, and universally respected by all who knew him.

The Miner family trace their ancestry back to the sixteenth century, when two brothers came from England and settled in Connecticut. We only date back in this biography of the Miner family to Ezra, the father of Seth and grandfather of our subject. This gentleman was born in Connecticut, and followed the sea for many years as Captain of a merchant vessel. He finally abandoned the ocean, and spent the last years of his life in the peaceful pursuit of farming. He removed from Connecticut to Canandaigua, N. Y., and thence, in 1840, to Michigan, where he spent the remainder of his life, dying when about seventy-seven years of age. He served as a soldier in the War of 1812, and always interested himself in the welfare and prosperity of his country.

Seth Miner, the father of our subject, was for many years Justice of the Peace, and held various other offices in Steuben County, N. Y., where he was a leading and prominent man and Captain of the State Militia. He was deeply pious, and in early life connected himself with the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he was a Class-Leader and Chorister for many years. He died at Honeoye, Ontario Co., N. Y., lamented by all who knew him, as having been a good and useful citizen, whose loss could scarcely be replaced. The mother died at Prattsburg, N. Y. Of the six children which composed the parental family only three are now living: Henry A., of our sketch; Gertrude, Mrs. Wing, of Grand Rapids, Mich., and Jane, of Bloomington, Ill.

Henry A. Miner attended the common schools during his childhood, but remained with his parents until only thirteen years of age, when he started out in life for himself. He first apprenticed himself to learn harness-making, but not being satisfied with this trade he took up that of a carpenter, at which he worked until 1856, in his native county. He then came to Illinois, as before stated, and devoted about six months to learning architecture and building. After coming to Bloomington he worked first as a journeyman carpenter, and then engaged as contractor and builder, in which he was successfully occupied for ten years follow-

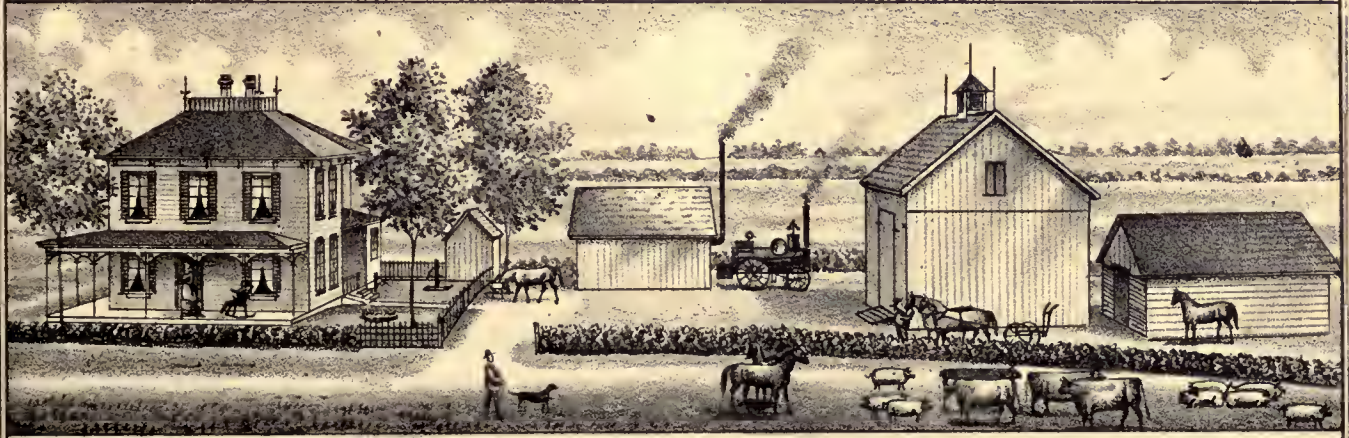




RESIDENCE OF GOTTLIEB ARNOLD , SEC. 21., TOWANDA TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF W<sup>M</sup>. TYSON, SEC. 22., MT. HOPE TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF W<sup>M</sup>. SCHWÄRZEL, SEC. 28., TOWANDA TOWNSHIP.



ing, often having under his employ from twenty-five to fifty men. Finding it necessary to increase his business facilities he rented the building now occupied by the Walton Plow Company, where he operated successfully for fifteen years. He then sold out at a profitable figure to a company which had been formed to carry on the same business, and was their manager for three years. He then purchased the ground upon which his present office and shops are located, and built these and the mill in 1881. They occupy about 6,000 square feet of ground, are built of brick, being solid and substantial structures, admirably adapted to the purpose for which they were erected. Mr. Miner is also the owner of a fine farm west of the city, and takes a genuine interest in agricultural affairs. He has furnished designs for many of the best buildings in McLean County. He has taken a deep interest in the welfare and prosperity of his adopted city, and has furnished his full quota toward bringing it to its present proud position among the growing cities of the West. Politically Mr. M. is a Republican, and is a member in good standing of the Masonic fraternity.

Our subject was married in Bloomington, in 1885, to Miss Emma Thomas, and they occupy a beautiful residence at the corner of McLean and Locust streets, being surrounded by all the comforts of life and many of its luxuries. By a former marriage of our subject there were born three children: Frank, of Kansas City; Belle, who became the wife of C. A. Clement, of Springfield, Mo., and Willie, at home with his father.



**D**R. JOHN W. FISHER, D. S., of Bloomington, Ill., is a native of Flushing, Belmont Co., Ohio, where he was born in a log cabin on the 2d of October, 1829. His parents were John and Hannah (Thompson) Fisher, natives of Virginia, who came to Ohio after their marriage and engaged in farming pursuits. John Fisher, Sr., in early life had learned the trade of a cooper, but practically abandoned it after removing westward. The parents established a comfortable home in the Buckeye State, upon which they passed

the remainder of their lives, the mother dying in 1881, and the father two years later. The parental family included nine children, five now living, as follows: Martha, Mrs. Smith, resides in Ohio; the next oldest is our subject, Dr. John W.; Asa B. is in Wichita, Kan.; Maria, Mrs. Baldertson, is in Washington, Kan.; Anna, Mrs. Holloway, lives in Ohio.

Dr. Fisher was reared on the farm of his parents, and well remembers how the snow drifted through the cracks of their humble cabin as he lay in his bed in the winter time. He received a fair education in the primary schools, and remained under the parental roof until he was twenty-two years of age. He then read medicine for one year, and commenced the study of dentistry a year later, first engaging in practice in his own town. He was without capital, but was desirous to go to St. Clairsville, the county seat of Belmont County, where he believed he could find a better field of operation. An old Quaker, Daniel Huff, knowing of his desires, stopped him on the road one day, and holding out \$100 invited him to help himself. Young Fisher accepted \$50 at eight per cent interest, and six months after settling in St. Clairsville paid the indebtedness in full, both principal and interest.

Dr. Fisher practiced in St. Clairsville for over eleven years, with fine results, then, desiring to see something of the western country, he started for the Prairie State, and in 1869 came to Bloomington. He did not commence practice, however, until two years later, but since 1871 has followed his profession continuously. On the 24th of July, 1861, he was united in marriage with Miss Mary E. Clemens, who was born in Harrison County, Ohio, and was the daughter of James and Pleasant (Merritt) Clemens, natives of Pennsylvania. Of this union there were born two children, a son and daughter—James E. and Mary A. Their pleasant home is located at No. 514 East Locust street, and the office of Dr. Fisher is at No. 402 North Main. In addition to his dwelling in the city he has a farm of 120 acres in Blue Mound Township, which is cultivated and improved, and quite valuable. Dr. Fisher is Republican in politics, and a regular attendant of the Presbyterian Church. He is a

member of the Illinois State Dental Society, and belongs to the Masonic fraternity. He is highly esteemed as a citizen, and in his profession ranks among its most skillful and successful members.



**O**TIS T. HALL, a retired farmer now a resident of the village of Danvers, is a native of the Old Granite State, having been born in Salem, N. H., April 3, 1828. He is the son of Israel W. and Polly (Stiekney) Hall, natives of the same State, both of whom were born in 1798. Israel Hall was a shoemaker by trade, and came into the Prairie State in 1834, locating in McLean County at an early period in its history. He purchased 120 acres of good farming land, upon which he located and commenced its improvement and cultivation. He was married to the mother of our subject in 1824, and remained upon the homestead which he had first established until his death, which occurred in 1865. The mother is still living, and makes her home with her son, the subject of this notice. The parental household consisted of three children: Alice, who married Jacob McClure, and died in 1884; Otis, of our sketch, and Cynthia, who married for her first husband, Thomas Dodge, now deceased, and she was then married to John Morrison. The father of our subject was an outspoken Democrat in politics, and both parents were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Otis T. Hall was reared by his parents and remained with them until he had attained his majority, in the meantime receiving a common-school education. He came with them to this county, and remained under the home roof until the father's death. The marriage of our subject and Miss Eliza Wilson took place in this county in 1870. The parents of Mrs. Hall were James and Susan J. (Whiting) Wilson, natives respectively of Virginia and Kentucky. Her father was born in 1800, being twenty years the senior of his wife, who was born in 1820. He had been reared to farming pursuits, and before his marriage removed to Indiana and purchased 200 acres of good farming land. He was then married, in 1840, and after remaining

there a number of years, came to this State and county with the view of establishing a permanent home. Mr. Wilson purchased 300 acres in Danvers Township, which he cultivated and occupied until 1881, and then removed into the village and practically retired from active business. Here, two years later the mother died, June 9, 1883. The death of Mr. Wilson occurred Feb. 8, 1886. Their fourteen children were named as follows: Sarah, William, John, Joseph, James, Mary, Alfred, Eliza, Anna, Manley, Charles, George, Margaret and Adelle. Both parents were members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

Mr. Hall and wife have had born to them one child, Gertie W., who is twelve years old. In politics Mr. Hall is a Democrat. Mrs. Hall is a member of the Presbyterian and Mr. Hall of the Methodist Church.



**I**SAAC P. MITCHELL, deceased March 26, 1887, was an honored member of McLean County, and first opened his eyes to the light in the Old Dominion, having been born in Frederiek County, Va., on the 14th of October, 1811. His father, Thomas Mitchell, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and a commissioned officer in the Naval Department. After the independence of the colonies was established he settled on a farm in Frederiek County, Va., where he followed agricultural pursuits the remainder of his life. He was a slaveholder, but a man of humane and generous instincts, and in his last will and testament made provision for the freedom of all his colored people. One of the slaves was quite young and he was to be sold and freed at a certain age. Isaac P., our subject, purchased this one and freed him at the time appointed. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Deborah Perkins, and she also was born in Frederiek County, Va., and died there on the farm which she had inherited from her father.

Isaac P. Mitchell was the sixth child and second son of his parents. He was reared on his father's plantation and received his primary education in the subscription schools. He remained at home until the death of his mother, when he was nearly

twenty-one years old. He then joined an older brother in Clarke County, Ohio, and remained there until 1838, in the meantime having assumed domestic ties, and was now a man of family with a wife and two children. He now determined to seek a more western location, and accordingly started for the prairies of Illinois. His outfit consisted of two horses and a wagon, into which they loaded their household goods and packed provisions, and started on their journey overland, camping and cooking by the way. They spent their first year in the Prairie State in the little town of Paris, Edgar County, and then rented a tract of land in McLean County, which is now included in the heart of the city of Bloomington. He was thus occupied for the following three or four years, and then entered a tract of Government land which is now included in the old homestead. He had just money enough to enter eighty acres, and as he wanted double that amount he visited the office of a lawyer, stated his case, and by giving the gentleman security on the eighty acres already entered, managed to raise the money required, upon which he paid forty per cent interest. He earned money to pay for his land by breaking prairie and then renting it, and continued this labor during the summer season, and while not thus employed was engaged in teaming for merchants between Bloomington, Chicago and St. Louis, using oxen for his motive power. He also hauled wheat to Chicago, 125 miles distant, which he sold at twenty-five cents per bushel, the trip consuming from eight to ten days. During this time he lived very economically, saved what he could of his earnings, and after a few years was enabled to build and locate on his farm. In the spring of 1868 he removed to Kansas, settled in Wilson County, and together purchased and entered nearly 800 acres of land, remaining a resident of that State until 1880, when he returned to the old homestead in Dale Township. Mr. Mitchell was very successful as a farmer, and has been the possessor of 920 acres of land in Dale Township beside his land in Kansas. The greater part of this he has deeded to his sons, beside providing for his daughters.

The subject of our sketch was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Johnstone in 1837. This lady was born in Dumfriesshire, Scotland, her father, John

Johnstone, having been a native of the same country and a farmer by occupation, where he spent his entire life. The maiden name of her mother was Jeanette Johnstone, and she lived and died in her native Scotland, in Dumfriesshire. Mr. Mitchell was her second husband, her first being David Irving, to whom she was married in Dumfriesshire and with whom she came to America in 1832. They first located in Canada and afterward removed to Ohio. Mr. I. died in the South in 1833, leaving one child, John J., whose name was afterward changed to Mitchell. Mr. Mitchell and his wife had five children born to them, viz: Andrew T., Robert P., Jeanette, Mary (deceased), and Isaac. The three eldest are residents of Dale Township, this county; Jeanette is the wife of E. H. McClung, and lives in Englewood, Ill.; Isaac is a resident of Dallas, Tex.; Robert P. is unmarried and carries on the home farm. He served four and one-half months during the Rebellion, in the 70th Illinois Infantry.

Mr. Mitchell was a Republican in politics after the organization of that party. He was naturally possessed of energy and industry, and was actively employed until 1884, when in the fall of that year he was thrown from a carriage, and a broken hip made him a cripple for the balance of his days. His mind, however, was as bright and intelligent as ever, and he directed the affairs of his homestead with the same judgment as of old. Mrs. Mitchell is a lady of great intelligence and business talent, and has been well fitted for the helpmeet of such a man as her husband. She occupies a pleasant homestead and is surrounded by all the comforts of life.



**G**EORGE BRAND, wholesale and retail dealer in furniture, located at the corner of North and Main streets, Bloomington, is carrying on a profitable and steadily increasing trade. Mr. Brand is a representative German citizen, who has identified himself with the interests of his adopted country, and has become a valued factor in the business of this city. He was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, on the 25th of August, 1829. In accordance with the laws and customs of his native

country he commenced attending school when six years of age, and continued diligently until fourteen. He then engaged to learn the baker's trade, at which he worked two years, then sailed for the United States, which he reached after a prosperous voyage of forty-one days, landing in the city of New York. Thence he proceeded westward to Holmes County, Ohio, where he resumed work at his trade and remained three years, thence going into Somerset County, the same State. From there he proceeded to the city of Cleveland, and afterward to Detroit and Chicago.

In 1853 Mr. Brand came to Bloomington, and engaged with J. DePew, with whom he remained for eight years following. He then became the partner of his employer, with whom he operated two years, at the expiration of which time he went into the employ of the Chicago & Alton Railway Company, with whom he remained three years. In the spring of 1870 he commenced business on his own account, with a capital of \$190, \$100 of which he paid out for a stock of lumber. He then commenced to manufacture furniture on a small scale, and in the course of time began to prosper and business to increase. He was soon compelled to enlarge his stock and capacities for work and employ men to assist him. He possessed good business abilities, was prompt in meeting his obligations, and before long secured a good patronage. He is now carrying on an extensive factory, his business operations extending throughout this and other States.

In 1885 Mr. Brand put up his present business house, which is four stories in height, and covers an area of 24x98 feet, all of which is occupied in carrying on his manufactures. The building was erected at a cost of \$18,000, and is all paid for, which, considering the modest beginning of our subject, speaks well for his industry, perseverance and good management. This structure is one of the neatest business houses in the city, and an ornament to the block whereon it is located. Besides this Mr. Brand has a good residence handsomely finished and furnished, where he enjoys the society of his friends and acquaintances and dispenses a generous hospitality.

Mr. Brand was married in 1862, to Miss Lena

Kocht, of Ohio, and they have become the parents of six children, two sons and four daughters. Our subject is a member and Steward of the First Methodist Episcopal Church, and socially belongs to Remembrance Lodge No. 77, I. O. O. F. In politics he affiliates with the Republican party.



**E**RSKINE M. HAMILTON, attorney-at-law, at Bloomington, is giving particular attention to the pension business, and has his office at No. 101 West Jefferson street. He came to this county in March, 1870, and soon afterward located in Bloomington, where he has since resided, and followed the practice of his profession in a manner indicative of ability and good judgment.

Mr. Hamilton was born in Schenectady, N. Y., Jan. 8, 1839. His father, F. H. Hamilton, was a native of Massachusetts, and descended from excellent Scotch ancestry. The grandfather of our subject, Joseph Hamilton by name, served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War. F. H. Hamilton removed from his native State to New York when a young man, and there married Miss Ruth Ann Cady, of Schenectady, by whom he became the father of seven children, two of whom died in childhood, and five lived to mature years. Our subject was the second son.

Mr. Hamilton remained in his native county until about fifteen years old, then removed with his parents to Ohio, where he grew to manhood. The war then coming on he enlisted as a soldier of the Union, in Co. F, 84th Ohio Vol. Inf. He proceeded with his regiment to Cumberland, Md., to guard the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, and was thereafter on detached duty, which consisted most of the time in fighting guerrillas. He served two years, and was neither wounded nor taken prisoner, and received his honorable discharge in the fall of 1865.

Mr. Hamilton commenced reading law in Stenbenville, Ohio, in 1861, in the office of R. S. Moody, and was admitted to the bar in September, 1863. After his return from the army he was elected City Attorney and served two years. Thereafter he practiced law in a general way, and in March,

1870, turned his face toward the Great West. After reaching Bloomington he opened a law office, and to the duties of this has given his close attention since that time, making a specialty of pensions and other war claims.

The father of our subject is still living, at the advanced age of over eighty-three years, having been born March 31, 1804. He makes his home in Bloomington, at the residence of his son Erskine. The mother died in 1882. She was born Sept. 12, 1812, and was the daughter of Peter Cady, one of the earliest settlers of New York State.



**D**R. ALEXANDER T. DARRAH, Grand Master of the Masons in Illinois, and a skilled physician and surgeon of Bloomington, has been a resident of the Prairie State since 1838, and of Bloomington since 1883. He is of Scotch-Irish extraction and a fine specimen of physical manhood, being the largest in stature of a family noted for its development both physically and intellectually.

Dr. Darrah was born in Delaware County, Ohio, on the 17th of March, 1836. His parents were John and Elizabeth (Orr) Darrah, natives of Ohio and Pennsylvania respectively, the father born in 1811 and the mother in 1803. His grandparents, James and Nancy (Kent) Darrah, were natives respectively of Virginia and Ohio. When a young man James Darrah removed from Virginia to Ohio, where he became a large landholder, and lived until 1856. He then sold out, and coming to Griggsville, Ill., retired from active labor, and with his wife spent the remainder of his days there. James Darrah died in 1866, aged ninety-nine; his wife departed this life in 1862, at the age of ninety-five years. Both were connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and useful, honored members of society. Of their family of eight children all lived to mature years, and the records of the family for generations back indicate a long-lived race. On the mother's side, the grandfather, James, and grandmother, Mary (Thompson) Orr, were natives of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Orr was a farmer by occupation, and the

owner of a fine homestead in Pennsylvania. This he afterward sold, and removed to Ohio, purchasing a farm in Harrison County, upon which he remained until 1838. He then came to Pike County, Ill., and passed his declining years free from care. Mrs. Orr departed this life in 1834, and James Orr ten years later, in 1844. Their family of seven children lived to become men and women, and almost without exception the children of both families were engaged in farming pursuits.

John Darrah, the father of our subject, was reared to farming pursuits, and after his marriage removed from Ohio to Illinois, purchasing 640 acres of land in Pike County, which he occupied until 1865, and then sold this and purchased a farm in Champaign County, whence, after a year, he removed to the village of Tolono, where he died in March, 1886. The decease of the mother took place in Champaign County, in 1868. Of the parental family of ten children, three died in infancy and six are still living, the record being as follows: Lucinda, Mrs. Curfman, resided in Douglas County until January, 1887, the date of her death; James W. and his sister, Jane Taylor, are in Tolono, Ill.; Dr. A. T. is our subject; Thomas is an extensive farmer, and a member of the Board of Supervisors of Champaign County, Ill., having his residence at Pesotum; Matthew S., of Pittsfield, Ill., has been occupied both in farming and mercantile pursuits, and is now Deputy Sheriff of Pike County; William H. is a farmer and stockraiser of Sadorus, Ill.

John Darrah was for a number of years Justice of the Peace in Champaign County, and held other minor offices within the gift of his townsmen, being also County Commissioner. Politically he was a staunch Democrat. Both parents were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the father of our subject for many years was Class-Leader, Steward and Superintendent of the Sabbath-school, a useful man in his church and his community, beloved and respected by all who knew him.

Dr. Alexander T. Darrah spent his boyhood years on the farm and in attendance at the district school, and remained under the parental roof until he was twenty-four years of age. In 1858, while still pursuing his studies in school, he became one of the Directors, and before the expiration of the

term he was Principle of the school. At this time he determined to see something of the world, and accordingly, leaving the parental roof, became engaged as a surveyor for a map publishing firm of Buffalo, N. Y., and was thus employed two years.

From youth the subject of our history had determined to become a physician, and while teaching school and vocal music he employed his spare moments in the study of medicine. In due time he entered the office of Dr. A. J. Miller, of Stone's Prairie, Adams Co., Ill., and after close application for two years entered Rush Medical College at Chicago, from which he graduated with high honors on the 25th of January, 1865, and commenced practice at Tolono, Ill. On the 14th of March, 1866, he was married to Miss Elizabeth H. Fugate, a native of Missouri, and the daughter of Wilbourne and Euphema (Thomson) Fugate, both natives of North Carolina. Mr. and Mrs. F., after their marriage, located on a farm in Missouri. The father of Mrs. Darrah was a man of fine abilities, possessing both musical and literary talents, and commenced teaching while a very young man. They removed to Illinois in 1838. In his younger years Mr. F. was a student in the William and Mary College, of Virginia, and became a historian of great excellence. He always took a deep interest in educational matters, and after a worthy and useful life ceased from his earthly labors in 1885. The mother is still living, in Urbana, Ill., aged seventy-five. Of their family of six children, the record is as follows: John T. is a practicing physician of Urbana, Ill.; Jerome W. is following the same profession in Lawrence, Kan.; Elizabeth H. is the wife of our subject; Lyeurgus W. is practicing medicine at Colechester, McDonough Co., Ill.; David W. is a resident of Camp Point, Ill., and Martha M. also resides at the latter-named place.

Dr. Darrah commenced the practice of his profession at Tolono, Champaign County, and continued for eighteen years there. For two terms he was President of the Champaign County Medical Society; has served as Secretary of the Judicial Council Illinois State Medical Society a number of years, and was Vice President and then President of the same during 1882-83. He is also a member of the Champaign County, McLean County, Cen-

tral Illinois and Illinois State Medical Societies; is identified with the American Medical Association, and an honorary member of the Southern Illinois Medical Association.

Dr. Darrah came to Bloomington in 1883, but his reputation had already preceded him, and he stepped at once into a lucrative and extensive practice. His office is located at No. 109 East Washington street, and the attractive residence of himself and family is at No. 614 East Front street. The household circle includes three children—Delmar D., Nellie E. and Ada M.

During years of pressing business cares Dr. Darrah has been greatly interested in the success of Masonry, and has been a prominent figure among its councils since 1863. Besides passing all the degrees up to his present high position in the fraternity, he is one of the Trustees of the Illinois Orphans' Home, is Associate Chief of the Illinois Masonic Veterans, and honorary member of Star Lodge No. 240, in Champaign. He now occupies the highest position within the gift of the fraternity of Illinois, to which he is amply entitled by his long experience, mature judgment and wise councils. In politics Dr. Darrah uniformly casts his vote with the Democratic party.



**E**DWARD BUNN, an extensive stock-dealer of Danvers, and having his residence in the village, has been a resident of the Prairie State since 1852. He has a good knowledge of the business in which he is engaged, and is meeting with fair success. Our subject was born in Ross County, Ohio, Sept. 2, 1835, being the son of Jefferson and Mary (Madden) Bunn, of Ohio and Virginia respectively. Jefferson Bunn was of German ancestry and parentage, but born in Ohio Sept. 16, 1802. He was a cabinet-maker by trade, having served his apprenticeship at Chilliothe, in his native county, where he was married. He removed to Illinois in the fall of 1852, and located at Bloomington, whence, after two years' residence he removed to Table Grove, Fulton County. There he followed farming pursuits for five years, and then removed to Macomb, where he was employed in the



cabinet-shop of Messrs John and Thomas McElrath for two years. From there he came to Danvers, where he passed the remainder of his days and departed this life Dec. 29, 1885.

Jefferson Bunn was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church for a period of forty years. The mother of our subject was also connected with the same church. Her birth occurred in 1800, and her death on the 22d of July, 1872. The parental household included six children, three now living. The record is as follows: Lewis died in 1829, and Maria L., Feb. 16, 1830; one died in infancy unnamed; George lives in Bloomington, and married Miss E. Rayburn; Susan resides in Danvers, and Edward is the subject of this sketch.

The marriage of Mr. Bunn occurred Jan. 1, 1857, the lady of his choice being Miss Eliza Wilfong. The wedding took place at Macomb, Ill., John O. C. Wilson, Esq., officiating. Mrs. Bunn was born in North Carolina, May 18, 1833, and is the daughter of William P. and Sarah (Marley) Wilfong. The former was born in Rawleigh, N. C., in September, 1798, where he was reared and married. He came to Illinois with his family in 1843, and located in Hancock County, where they lived one year, thence removing to Birmingham, Schuyler County, and from there to Macomb, where the death of the father occurred on the 8th of June, 1877. The mother of Mrs. Bunn was born in Randolph County, N. C., in 1809, and was married in 1832. She is still living, and makes her home with her daughter in Danvers. The parental household consisted of ten children, viz., Eliza, Isabel, Ann, Sarah, Emeline, Martha, Rosa, James, John, and one who died in infancy.

Of the marriage of our subject and his wife there have been born six children—Ida, Laura, Clarence, Nora, Mattie and Orin. Ida became the wife of John Musselman, a druggist of Danvers; Laura married William Shorthose, a farmer of Danvers; Nora married Harry Swearengin, a railroad man; Clarence married Miss Nettie Montague, and is foreman of a lumber-yard at Bloomington, Ill. Mr. Bunn came to Illinois with his parents in 1852, and in a period of over thirty years has been an interested witness of the development and progress of the Prairie State. He may not have distin-

guished himself by any remarkable deeds, but he has been a law-abiding, enterprising and worthy citizen, living at peace with his neighbors, and performing all the obligations of a valued member of the community.



**G**B. CHRISTIAN P. NAFZIGER, an excellent representative of the worthy German farming element of this region, is comfortably located in Allin Township, on section 18, where he is carrying on the peaceful pursuits of agriculture, and by his upright and honest course in life has secured the respect and esteem of his fellow-citizens. Mr. Nafziger was born in Prussia, July 26, 1819, being the son of Jacob and Catherine (Nafziger) Nafziger, both natives of the German Empire, the father born in 1797, and the mother the following year. They were married in their native county in about 1817, and remained there until 1853, when they set sail for the New World. After landing in New York City, they proceeded immediately westward to this State and county, where the father of our subject purchased eighty acres of fine farming land, upon which he resided until his death, which occurred in 1884. The mother had died previously in 1863, after they had become the parents of seven children, named as follows: Augustus, Eliza, Helen, Helena, Katie, Henrietta and G. B. Christian P. of our sketch. They were most excellent and worthy people, members of the Mennonite Church, and trained their children to habits of industry and principles of honor.

The subject of this history remained under the parental roof until he had attained his majority and in 1855 was united in marriage with Miss Kate Nafziger, in McLean County, Ill. He reached the United States in the spring of 1840, and first went to Butler County, Ohio, where he lived three years. He then returned to Germany, and after a sojourn of nine years in his native land, set out once more for America. Then Mr. N. came to the Prairie State and this county, where he was married and where he purchased the farm upon which he now resides. Here he is engaged in general agriculture, and is devoting much time and attention to the

breeding of graded stock. The eight children of our subject are recorded as follows: Augustus married Miss Lizzie Ehrman, of Allin Township; Eliza became the wife of Christian Otto; Minnie married Arnold Unziger; Emila married a gentleman of the same name; Katie, Julia, Bertha and Ferdinand are at home with their parents. The latter are members of the Memmonite Church, and our subject, politically, affiliates with the Democratic party.

**P**RESLEY T. BROOKS, a retired farmer now living in ease and comfort in the village of Stanford, is wisely enjoying the fruits of his early toil and taking satisfaction in the consciousness of a well-spent life. He was born in Hart County, Ky., Nov. 9, 1821, being the son of Miles and Luey (Pullian) Brooks, both natives of Virginia. The father was born Dec. 1, 1781, and the mother Aug. 5, 1784. Miles Brooks disposed of his possessions in Kentucky in 1828, and started for the prairies of Illinois, stopping during the winter of that year and the summer of 1829 in Indiana. In the fall of 1829 he came into Sangamon County, where he remained until December, and then entered a tract of land in what is now Allin Township, this county, to which he removed his family and where he established a comfortable home. There he spent the remainder of his days, dying in 1840. He prospered in his farming and business transactions, and at the time of his death was the owner of 500 acres of choice land with modern improvements. Mrs. Brooks survived her husband about three years and died Feb. 11, 1844. They became the parents of eleven children, as follows: America was born March 12, 1806; Elizabeth, April 2, 1807; Virginia, Oct. 10, 1808; Millie, June 16, 1810; Benjamin P., March 24, 1812; Elzey, Oct. 12, 1814; Sarepta S., Aug. 26, 1817; Zerilda, Oct. 19, 1819; Presley T., Nov. 9, 1821; Luey A., May 17, 1825; Martha D., March 21, 1823. In Kentucky the parents were connected with the Baptist Church, but after their removal to Illinois became members of the Christian Church.

The subject of this history was reared by his

parents, received a very limited education in the common schools, and after attaining his majority was married, Dec. 29, 1842, to Miss Eliza S. Larison. They located in Allin Township, on Government land, and in 1848 entered the land that he located on in 1842. Mr. Brooks purchased additional land, until he became the possessor of 480 acres, which he brought to a state of good cultivation and erected upon it a handsome and commodious farm dwelling, with a good barn and all necessary out-buildings. He donated one acre of this for a cemetery and for a school building. He has been a useful and valued citizen since coming to this community and held the offices of Constable, Justice of the Peace, Township Supervisor, Assessor, and Treasurer, being the incumbent of the latter office for a period of eighteen years. As a Magistrate he officiated twenty-five years. He has always been greatly interested in the temperance movement. In early life he affiliated with the Democratic party but has now identified himself with the Prohibitionists. Both Mr. Brooks and his wife are members of the Christian Church.

The family of Mr. and Mrs. Brooks consisted of ten children, of whom eight are living, namely, Catherine, Miles, Mary, Abel, Rachel, Luey A., Millie and Ella. The deceased are, America A. and an infant son which died unnamed. Besides his town property Mr. Brooks owns 480 acres of land in Allin Township, on sections 29 and 32, 160 acres of which land he purchased on a soldier's warrant for the sum of \$112.

**R**OBERT LOUDON is widely known throughout this section as one of the solid men of McLean County, and as a gentleman who is intimately identified with the industrial interests of Bloomington. During the years of a busy life he has accumulated a competency and is still engaged with his active duties, being proprietor of the Eagle Machine Works, located on North Main street, which occupy forty-four feet front, and run through to Center street. These works include blacksmith-shops with all the other accessories of a factory, and an extensive yard for storage. The business





*Robert Loudon*



*Nathaniel Luskop*

was established in March, 1870, and the products of the shops are shipped to all parts of this and adjoining States.

The family record of our subject extends back to some of the earlier members of the family who were of Scotch ancestry, possessing all the admirable traits of that nationality. His grandparents on his father's side were Hugh and Margaret (Houston) Loudon, and on his mother's side, Robert and Margaret (French) Kennedy. Hugh Loudon was a shoemaker by trade and worked in Kilmarnock, Ayrshire, where he married and became the father of five sons and four daughters. Of these the father of our subject was the third son. All learned the shoemaker's trade except him, and he was apprenticed to learn the machinist's trade with Bailey Morton, of Kilmarnock, who was famed all over Scotland for making telescopes. He had an observatory of his own, mounted with a fine telescope, and people came from all parts of Scotland to view the stars through it. While working here Allan Loudon became very proficient, and assisted in the manufacture of telescopes, one of which was made for Sir John Ross, and formed a part of his outfit when he went in search of the North Pole. Another is still in use in the observatory of Dumfries, which stands beside the monument erected to the memory of the poet Burns. He also made a small locomotive about 1834, which could be enclosed in a space of six inches square, and was a great curiosity. He often amused visitors by raising steam in it and making it run around the kitchen floor. This was before the days of railroads, but the little locomotive is still in good running order, being in possession of our subject's father. Previous to this he constructed an eight-day clock, which was then set running and has been kept in motion since that time, being as correct as ever in its indication of time.

Allan Loudon became master machinist in the celebrated woolen-mills of Blackwood Bros., at Kilmarnock. In 1839 he moved to Dalry, in Ayrshire, to take charge of Bridge End Mills, which position he held for about forty years, and was noted for his fidelity to duty and being reliable in his vocation. He also invented an engine governor, which was a great improvement over the old

ball governor, and the lap machine for wool, the first which ever worked successfully, and which is running to-day; the doubling for twisting woolen yarn, and a carding-machine which involved a saving of about twenty per cent. These inventions were of comparatively little benefit to Allan Loudon, but assisted the proprietors of the mill to a fortune.

The great-grandfather of our subject, whose name was French, was a fine violinist and musical composer, and was known all over the west of Scotland. He and Neal Dow often played together at the fancy balls of the Lords and Dukes of that region, and one of his pieces of sacred music, which bears the name of French, is still sung by many congregations. Robert Loudon states that he has heard his grandmother relate that when her father died Neal Dow appropriated all of his music and published it as his own productions, reaping all the honors and profit that should have been her father's. Dow lived in Old Cumnock, near Dumfries.

The parents of our subject, Allan Loudon and Jeanette Kennedy, were married in Kilmarnock, Scotland, and lived there until 1839. The mother was born in Old Cumnock, where her ancestors had lived. They became the parents of three sons and five daughters. Our subject was born in Kilmarnock, March 18, 1833, and removed with his parents to Dalry in 1839. He commenced attending school when four years old and continued until twelve, when he was considered old enough to do something for himself. He was accordingly apprenticed to learn silk weaving by hand loom, and served an apprenticeship of three years. The business, however, did not suit him, for, having inherited the talents of his father, he desired to become a machinist and was bound to learn this trade, the agreement being that he should serve five years. At the expiration of that time, on the 8th of April, 1857, he was united in marriage with Miss Jeanette Johnston, and soon afterward, with his wife, concluded to try his fortune in the New World. Taking with them their only child, a babe six months old, they secured passage on the steamship Edinburgh, which sailed from Glasgow to New York. After landing, they at once set out for

the West, first coming to Alton, Ill., where the brother of Mrs. L. had previously located. Our subject engaged to work for the Terre Haute & Alton Railroad Company, and continued with them until after the removal of their shops to Litchfield, Ill.

In the fall of 1859 Mr. L., in company with two others, started a machine-shop at Jacksonville, Ill., beginning business under the firm name of Ellis, Shields & Loudon. This proved an unfortunate venture, as times were hard, and the following year being no better Mr. L. sold out and returned to the railroad shops in Litchfield, where he worked until 1863. He then went to Cairo as a Government employe, and had charge of a gang of men who were engaged in repairing the dispatch boats which ran between Cairo and Vicksburg and up the Yazoo River. In December, 1863, he was solicited to come to Bloomington and take charge of the C. & A. R. R. machine-shops. He arrived there the first week in January, 1864, being delayed on account of the snow blockade. From here he engaged with the J. M. Ollis foundry and machine-shops, but this move proving unsuccessful, he concluded to begin business for himself, which he did in 1870, having for his partner Mr. N. Diedrich. After one year they dissolved partnership, and then Mr. L. established his present business, which he has operated alone since that time, and in which he has been remarkably successful.

Of the six children of Mr. and Mrs. Loudon the record is as follows: Allan K. married Miss Carrie, daughter of William Gillespie, of Bloomington; David J. is at home; Robert W. married Miss Minnie, daughter of Shelby Hodge, now deceased; Emma J., a graduate of Normal University, is a teacher in the ward schools; Jeanette M. and Agnes G. are at home with their parents. The handsome and substantial family residence is located at No. 812 North Prairie street, and all its appointments indicate the presence of cultivated tastes and ample means. Mr. L. politically affiliates with the Republican party. He is a member in good standing of the Masonic fraternity, and belongs to the Improved Order of Red Men. Both he and his wife are members of the Christian Church, of which our subject is a Deacon, and has contributed liber-

ally and cheerfully to its support. He is a stockholder in the Bloomington Chair Factory, and generally a leading man in every enterprise which is calculated to advance the welfare and prosperity of his city and county. We present in this volume, as a representative business man, the portrait of Mr. Loudon.



**M**AHLON BISHOP, one of the large land-owners of Le Roy Township and a successful and progressive farmer now living at Le Roy, was born on his father's homestead on section 15, Empire Township, this county, June 13, 1849. His father, Hon. Mahlon Bishop, was born Dec. 25, 1810, in Clarke County, Ohio, and his father, John Bishop, was a native of Virginia and a pioneer settler of Clarke County, Ohio. The grandfather cleared a farm in the latter county, on which he lived and labored and reared a family, and there died. Our subject's father was reared on this farm and received his education in the common schools. He was one of ten children born to his parents, and at twenty years of age rented land in his native county and began to do for himself. He was there married, and in 1834, accompanied by his wife and one child, started for this State with a cash capital of \$200 in his pocket and two teams and six head of sheep. The journey was made overland, and on his arrival here he found a log cabin near the farm of William Bishop, in Old Town Township. He lived in this cabin a short time, and while there entered eighty acres of Government land, the same being located on section 15 of what is now Empire Township. There was a log cabin with one room on the claim, and in this the family made their home for four years before our subject's father was enabled to build another. He then erected a small frame house, and a few years later a commodious frame dwelling, and continued to reside upon this land until his death. He was possessed of a wonderful amount of energy, and at one time was the proprietor of upward of 1,000 acres of land in Empire and West Townships. He filled many of the local offices and was for a number of years Justice of the Peace and also one

of the Supervisors of his township, and in 1842 represented his district in the State Legislature. His death occurred Feb. 13, 1883. His wife, Catherine Foley, was born in Clarke County, Ohio, Aug. 30, 1812. Of her union with Mr. Bishop eight children were born, and four of the number are yet living. The record is as follows: Naney J. is the wife of Mark Craig, of West Township; Stephen Lewis (whose sketch is also given); Kate is the wife of William Hammond, a farmer of West Township, and our subject completes the four children who are yet living. James F., third in order of birth, died aged twenty-five years; Elizabeth, the fifth child, died when twenty-four years old, and Elias departed this life when twenty-two years old; Sarah A. died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Bishop were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The former was always active in church and school matters and was a Class-Leader in his church for many years. In politics he was a conservative Democrat. As a representative of the old pioneers of the county, as well as one of her most distinguished citizens, we give the portrait of Mr. Bishop in this connection. The mother of our subject is still living on the old homestead at the advanced age of seventy-five years.

The subject of this notice was the youngest child of his parents' union. He received his early education in the district schools, and later in life attended a graded school at Le Roy, and also one term at Wesleyan University, and likewise a commercial course at Bloomington. He made his home with his parents until his marriage, and in addition to farm labor was occupied in dealing in stock. About a year after his marriage he left the parental homestead and moved to Le Roy, where he is at present living. He is the owner of 380 acres of the old parental homestead and, although he lives at Le Roy, manages the farm. He has it well stocked with horses, cattle and hogs, and is also interested in the buying and shipping of stock, and is extensively engaged in buying wool during the proper season, which business he has followed for the past fifteen years.

The old Indian trail running from the head of Old Town—the old Indian fort—passed diagonally across Mr. Bishop's farm and through the north-

west corner of Le Roy. One of the old Indian landmarks is still to be found also on Mr. Bishop's homestead, which is a hole cut by the Indians in an oak tree from which they had taken honey, but at present the orifice is almost grown over with a new growth. Mr. Bishop has an Indian relic, a veritable tomahawk, found by the father of our subject fifty years ago on his homestead.

Mr. Bishop was married Jan. 30, 1878, to Emma Smith. She was born in Licking County, Ohio, Oct. 30, 1860, and is the daughter of Wesley and Mary (Evans) Smith. Mr. and Mrs. Bishop have two children—Mahlon L. and Aaron Leslie. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in politics he is a Democrat.



**S**TEPHEN L. BISHOP, residing in Empire Township, is a native of this county, and was born in Old Town Township, Jan. 14, 1835. He is the eldest son of Mahlon and Catherine Bishop; a portrait of the former is given in this ALBUM. The great-grandfather of our subject was a native of England, and came to this country in company with two brothers. The three brothers had been in the military service of the mother country, and on arrival in this country they separated, one of them settling in New York, another in Virginia, and the third in South Carolina. The great-grandfather of our subject was the brother who settled in Virginia.

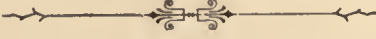
Mr. Bishop of this notice was but three months old when his parents removed to Empire Township, and has made that his home since, a period of upward of fifty-two years. He received his education in a pioneer school-house of this county, and he remembers that the first school he attended was held in a little log building on section 22, and it was taught by James Lincoln. The neighbors made a "bee" and erected the building, which had split puncheons for floor and clapboards for roof, which were held in place by poles. There was a fireplace in the end of the building, made of dirt and sticks. It was in this rudely constructed building that he received his education. He assisted his father on the farm, and when large enough,

teamed to Chicago and Peoria, it taking about two weeks to make the trip to Chicago with an ox-team. The most tedious trip our subject ever had to the now great metropolis was in driving hogs to that city on foot.

In 1854 our subject bought Mexican soldiers' land-warrants of Judge David Davis, which he laid on land in West Township. That same year he commenced to improve his land and continued to "squat" farm there until 1862. He then removed to Le Roy and embarked in the mercantile business, and was thus occupied until 1868, when he resumed farming in Empire Township. He has a large and well-improved farm located on sections 16 and 17, Empire Township, his residence being one mile north of Le Roy.

Mr. Bishop has been three times married; his first union occurred in 1855, and was with Miss Cynthia C. Craig. She was born in Old Town Township, this county, and departed this life before they had been married quite a year. The second marriage was with Miss Cynthia Rice, and took place in 1858. She was born in Empire Township, this county, in 1837, and came to her death by the explosion of an oil can in her hand, being so badly burned that she only lived five hours after the terrible accident. Our subject in trying to save her nearly lost his own life. He was very badly burned, and was confined to his bed for nearly a year. His life was only saved by the best medical skill and care. The third marriage of Mr. Bishop took place Feb. 2, 1882, Kate Crumbaugh being the other contracting party. She was born in Frederick County, Md., in 1839, and is the daughter of Esquire Gideon Crumbaugh, whose sketch will be found in this work. Mr. Bishop has two children living: Franklin, a son of his first wife, occupies a part of the homestead. He married Matilda Wamsley, and they have three children. The second child of our subject, Myra, is a daughter of his second wife, and is the wife of George Schrigley, and they are living in Empire Township. Mr. Bishop was a Democrat until 1864, when that party proclaimed that the war was a failure, and he then became a Republican, and has since voted with and worked for the success of that party, and is at present Chairman of the Republican Central Committee. He has held

the offices of Assessor and Collector of West and Empire Townships. Socially he is a member of the Masonic fraternity, holding fellowship with the Le Roy Lodge No. 221.



**J**OHN A. FULWILER, attorney at law and Justice of the Peace, is one of the most worthy representatives of his profession in the city of Bloomington. He is a native of the Keystone State, having been born in the city of Shippensburg, Cumberland Co., Pa., June 17, 1843. His father, John Fulwiler, was a merchant of that city, and of excellent German ancestry. The mother, who before her marriage was Miss Mary Mahon, was of Scotch-Irish ancestry, and both parents possessed the excellent qualities for which those races are eminently noted. The parents of our subject after their marriage remained in Shippensburg until 1854, then coming West to Illinois, located first in Lexington, McLean County, where John Fulwiler, Sr., embarked in mercantile pursuits, which he is still following with success. The ten children which comprised the parental household included five sons and five daughters, of whom only seven are now living. John A. was the fifth child, and was about fifteen years old when his parents came to this county. His early education was conducted in the common schools of Lexington, and when eighteen years of age, the late war being in progress he entered the Union army, becoming a member of Co. G, 33d Ill. Vol. Inf. There he served faithfully for three years, receiving his honorable discharge in October, 1864.

After returning from the army, young Fulwiler for a short time engaged in general merchandising at Forest, Livingston County, this State. This business not being in accordance with his tastes and inclinations, he began the reading of law, in which he made rapid progress, and was admitted to the bar at Ottawa, in 1870. He commenced the practice of his profession at Pontiac, Ill., and associated himself in partnership with E. M. Johnson, and they continued together until 1874. Our subject then returned to this county, and in 1876 opened a law office in Bloomington, since which time he



has devoted his entire attention to his profession, in which he has attained success and a good position in the profession in this county. He was elected Justice of the Peace in 1881, and has continued in the office by successive elections since that time.

Mr. Fulwiler was united in marriage with Miss Mary, the only daughter of Robert and Mary A. Fell, in 1865, and they have three children—John Walter, Leonard Fell and Roberta May. Mr. Fulwiler is Republican in politics, and socially a charter member of the G. A. R. and the Union Veterans' Union, also a member of Jesse Fell Lodge, K of P.



**J**AMES HENRY LYON CRUMBAUGH, living on section 7, Empire Township, was, before he divided his property among his children, one of the largest land-owners of that township. The financial success in life which he has met with has been due to his own energy, good judgment and perseverance, as he was never the recipient of any legacy whatsoever. Mr. Crumbaugh was born in Henderson County, Ky., May 1, 1826. His father, Henry Crumbaugh, was born in Frederick County, Md., April 25, 1789, and his father, grandfather of our subject, Solomon Crumbaugh, was likewise a native of Maryland. Henry Crumbaugh was reared to manhood in his native county, and while yet young in years learned the blacksmith's trade. On becoming his own man he went to Kentucky, and locating in Scott County, worked at his trade and also at farming. He was there married to Sarah Baldoek, a native of Kentucky, and a daughter of James D. Baldoek, born in Virginia, and her mother, whose maiden name was Hogan, was a native of Kentucky.

Three or four years after his marriage, Henry Crumbaugh moved to Henderson County, Ky., and there lived until 1828. During that year he disposed of his interests in Kentucky and started west for Illinois, accompanied by his wife and two children. The journey was made overland, the father driving his stock, and his good wife making the journey mostly on horseback. They termin-

ated their trip at Elkhart, Sangamon County, in the neighborhood of which place he was a farmer on rented lands until 1830. He then came to Tazewell County, and selected a claim in what is now Empire Township, McLean County, and located on section 14. He built the customary log cabin, and returned to Elkhart for his family and brought them to his new home. The cabin was incomplete when the family arrived, there being no floor, and Mr. Crumbaugh piled the household goods inside and went to split puncheon for the floor, and also made a door. There was not a foot of sawed lumber used in the construction of this cabin, and the chimney was of mud and sticks. This was the season before the deep snow which is so well remembered by the few people who were in the county at that time. The nearest mills were miles away, and the snow was so deep and crusted that for weeks travel was entirely impeded. Nearly half his stock died during that winter, and had it not been for the wild game in the country at that time many a family would have perished with starvation.

Mr. Crumbaugh continued to live on that place until his death in 1877. He had lived to see the country develop from a wild and uncultivated prairie to one of the most productive counties in the State, and profited by its progress to the extent of possessing a competency at the time of his death. He was a Democrat in politics, and always voted for Democratic presidential nominees except once, when he cast his vote for Henry Clay. His good wife died in February, 1885. Twelve children were born to them, six of whom grew to attain the age of man and womanhood. Narcissa married Simpson E. Thompson, and they live in Empire Township; our subject was the next in order of birth; John E. is a resident of Le Roy; Andrew J. is a farmer of Empire Township; Lewis C. lives on the old homestead.

The subject of this notice was but two years old when he came to this State with his parents. Here he received his education in the common schools, attending the first school ever taught at Le Roy, James H. Lincoln being the teacher. On attaining a suitable age he made a full hand in the cultivation of the farm, and continued to reside with the old folk until his marriage, and then

bought 100 acres of land east of Le Roy, on which he lived for five and a half years. He then sold it and bought where he is at present residing. His first purchase here was 160 acres, and he added to it by subsequent purchases until at one time he was the proprietor of 1,000 acres in Empire and Downs Townships. A goodly portion of this is divided among his children, but he has sufficient left to support him in his retirement from active labor during the latter years of his life.

Mr. Crumbaugh was married, Sept. 28, 1851, to Amanda M. Buck. She was born in Switzerland County, Ind., Feb. 10, 1828, and is a daughter of Hiram and Mary (Karr) Buck. Of the union of our subject and Miss Buck three children were born: Laura E. is the wife of William Lafferty, a farmer of Downs Township; Edith May married Charles S. Lafferty, and they are residents of Weldon, DeWitt Co., Ill.; Hiram H. is living at home. Mr. Crumbaugh has held the various offices of his township, including Collector, Commissioner of Highways and also Township Supervisor. He and his daughter May are members of the Universalist Church.



**L**AFAYETTE ARCHER, Deputy Sheriff of McLean County, is a native of Genesee County, N. Y., and was born June 13, 1832. His father, David Areher, was also a native of the Empire State, and his grandfather, Basil Areher, also born in New York, served as a soldier in the War of 1812, and was held as a prisoner by the British for some time. After peace had been declared he engaged in farming pursuits and passed the remainder of his days in the State where he was born. His son David, the father of our subject, was reared upon a farm and remained in New York State until 1834. He then came to Illinois, and locating in Bureau County operated a sawmill there until the following spring, when he returned to New York for his family. He proceeded with them to the headwaters of the Alleghany River and they went on a raft to Pittsburgh, and from there via the Ohio, Mississippi and Illinois Rivers, reached Hennepin, where they took a private conveyance into Bureau County. Mr. Areher pro-

ceeded with his mill operations a few years, then purchased a tract of wild land and commenced the improvement of a farm. The principal market for grain and pork at that time was Chicago, 110 miles distant, and it usually took seven days to make the trip. Upon these journeys the pioneers carried their provisions, camping and cooking by the way-side. David Areher was a man of resolution and courage, overcame all the difficulties which he encountered, and lived to see the county developed into prosperous farms, and railroads running through it. As years passed by the city of Princeton was started and grew, being located five miles from his farm. After laboring for a period of over forty years upon the homestead which he established in the wilderness, he passed his declining days in peace and comfort, and having arrived at the advanced age of eighty-four years, departed this life in August, 1885. The maiden name of his wife was Climenta Grovier, who was also a native of New York State, and lived the faithful and affectionate companion of her husband until within a few months of his death, her decease occurring January 18 of the same year. Of their union there were born twelve children, of whom ten grew to mature years.

The subject of this history was a child three years of age when his parents came to Illinois. He attended the pioneer schools and grew to manhood in Bureau County, assisting his father in the duties of the farm. He then served an apprenticeship at the carpenter's trade, which he followed in Bureau County until 1858, and then coming into McLean County was similarly occupied until 1862. The late war being then in progress he enlisted as a Union soldier in Co. A, 117th Ill. Vol. Inf., Capt. Kinsey commanding, and served until the close. He participated with his comrades in the battles of Pleasant Hill and Meridian, Miss., and at the battle of Nashville received a gunshot wound which compelled him to remain in the hospital for a number of weeks. After several other engagements and skirmishes he received his final and honorable discharge in May, 1865. He then returned to McLean County and resumed work at his trade, at which he has been occupied since that time.

Mr. Areher was married, Dec. 31, 1855, to Miss

Louisa Kinsey, a native of Ohio, and daughter of John and Elinore (Bevans) Kinsey, a sketch of whom will be found in another part of this work. Of this union there were born six children, as follows: Cicero H., a resident of Ft. Niobrara, Neb.; F. Aurelian; Addie, the wife of Bert Riee; William Lewis, of this county; Hattie L. and Eva E., at home with their parents. Mr. Archer has served as Collector of Mt. Hope Township, and is fulfilling the duties of his present position as Deputy Sheriff in an able and efficient manner. He belongs to McLean Lodge No. 469, A. F. & A. M., and to Harrison W. Ward Post No. 173, G. A. R.

The children of David Archer and his wife, the parents of our subject, are recorded as follows: Emily became the wife of John L. Wilson, and died in Kansas; George W. served as a soldier in the 64th Illinois Regiment, known as Yates' Sharpshooters, and now lives in Dakota; Lafayette was the third child; Peru and LaSalle (twins) also served with their brother George in the 64th Regiment; Peru died while in service at Iuka, Miss., in 1863; LaSalle lives at Joplin, Mo.; Martin V. served in the 8th Missouri Infantry, and now lives at Rock Island, Ill.; Milton resides on the homestead; Lewis C. served in the 146th Ill. Inf., and lives at Ft. Niobrara, Neb.; Ellen became the wife of Edward Nottingham, and occupies a part of the old homestead. The maternal grandfather of our subject was a native of New York and served in the War of 1812. He was of English and German ancestry.

Mr. Archer cast his first presidential vote for John C. Fremont, and has voted for each Republican candidate for that office since that time.



**W**ILLIAM D. HALLETT, of Bloomington, who is engaged in mercantile pursuits at the corner of Olive and Center streets, is a useful factor of the business community. He was born in England in April, 1841, being the son of James and Lydia Hallett, who are now living in retirement in Bloomington, and of whom a sketch is given in another part of this work.

William Hallett was educated in his native England and emigrated to America with his parents

when about twelve years of age. He was early trained to habits of industry, and soon began to make himself useful, being variously employed until the outbreak of the Rebellion. He then enlisted in the 39th Illinois Infantry, and was in the service three years and two months. He fought with his comrades at the battles of Charleston Harbor, Drury's Bluff, and at Weirc Bottom Church was wounded in the hip. After remaining in the hospital for some time and his term of service having expired, he received his honorable discharge, and returning to Bloomington soon afterward engaged in the restaurant business, which he followed for fourteen years, and then engaged in the grocery trade, which he has pursued since that time. He purchased the lot on which his store was built in 1883. This structure is of brick, 21x60 feet in area, and is finely fitted up for the transaction of business.

Mr. Hallett was married in 1865, the lady of his choice being Miss Emma R. Harley, and they have four children—Carrie M., William D., Harley J. and Ethel. The family residence is at No. 1008 South Lee street, where in 1866, Mr. Hallett purchased several lots. Here they have a convenient and comfortable home, and dispense to their many friends a generous hospitality. Mr. Hallett is Republican in politics, and a member of the I. O. O. F. He is a straightforward and methodical business man, and greatly respected by those who have dealings with him.



**J**M. FORDICE, proprietor of the lumberyards at the corner of Market and Howard streets, Bloomington, also deals extensively in sash, blinds and doors, besides hard and soft coal. He is one of the prominent business men of the city, always ready to assist in every good work and purpose, and is esteemed alike for his straightforward business methods and his kindly Christian character.

The subject of this history is a native of Bloomington, and was born March 14, 1840, his parents being James M. and Letitia (Saterfield) Fordice, the former of New York and the latter of White-

side County, Ill. The grandfather of our subject, Stanton Fordice, was one of the pioneer settlers of Illinois, coming into McLean County in 1822, and taking up a tract of Government land in what is now Bloomington Grove. Upon the farm which he eliminated from the wilderness he erected a comfortable dwelling, which constituted the permanent home of himself and family, and where he remained until his death. His four children were: Stanton, Daniel, John and James M. (the father of our subject). The latter learned the blacksmith's trade in Bloomington, which he followed.

The Fordice family trace their ancestry back to the Mohawk Dutch, and on the mother's side from Scotland. Our subject received his early education in the city schools of Bloomington, finishing with a term at the High School, and during the summer seasons worked out by the month farming. He handled his first lumber on the 4th of July, 1857, and has continued since that time with short intervals in the lumber business. On the 1st of January, 1867, he came into possession of a one-third interest in a lumber-yard, and in 1875 purchased the entire interest, which he has conducted successfully and profitably to this time. His transactions now extend over a wide range of territory, and he is known throughout McLean County as one of its most reliable and prosperous business men.

During the late war Mr. Fordice enlisted in the service of his country, becoming a member of Co. C, 33d Ill. Vol. Inf., and was mustered in in August, 1861, as Second Sergeant, and promoted Orderly Sergeant at the siege of Vicksburg, serving until October, 1864. With his comrades he was engaged in the battles of Frederickstown, Magnolia Hills, Raymond, Champion Hills, the siege and capture of Vicksburg, and the two battles at Jackson, Miss. He performed his part as a soldier in a brave and faithful manner, as he has performed all other duties in life.

The subject of this history was united in marriage with Miss Mattie Dixon, on the 10th of October, 1871. Mrs. F. is a native of Ripley, Brown Co., Ohio, and the daughter of William Dixon, a native of the same State. Of this union there was born one child, Lewis J., who died at the age of

seven years. Mrs. Mattie Fordice only remained the companion of her husband five short years, departing this life at their home in 1876. For his second wife Mr. Fordice married, in 1878, Miss Martha J. Henry, of Brown County, Ohio, and the daughter of J. W. Henry, also of Ohio. She became the mother of two children, Ettie L. and Lena M., and passed from the scenes of earth in 1881.

The present and third wife of our subject was Miss Carrie Herman, to whom he was married in Bloomington in 1882, and who was born in this city in 1860. The family residence is located at No. 605 North Madison street, and in all its appointments denotes the abode of cultivated tastes and the refinements of life.

Mr. Fordice, in his political views, warmly indorses the principles of the Republican party, with which he uniformly casts his vote, and socially belongs to the I. O. O. F. and the G. A. R.

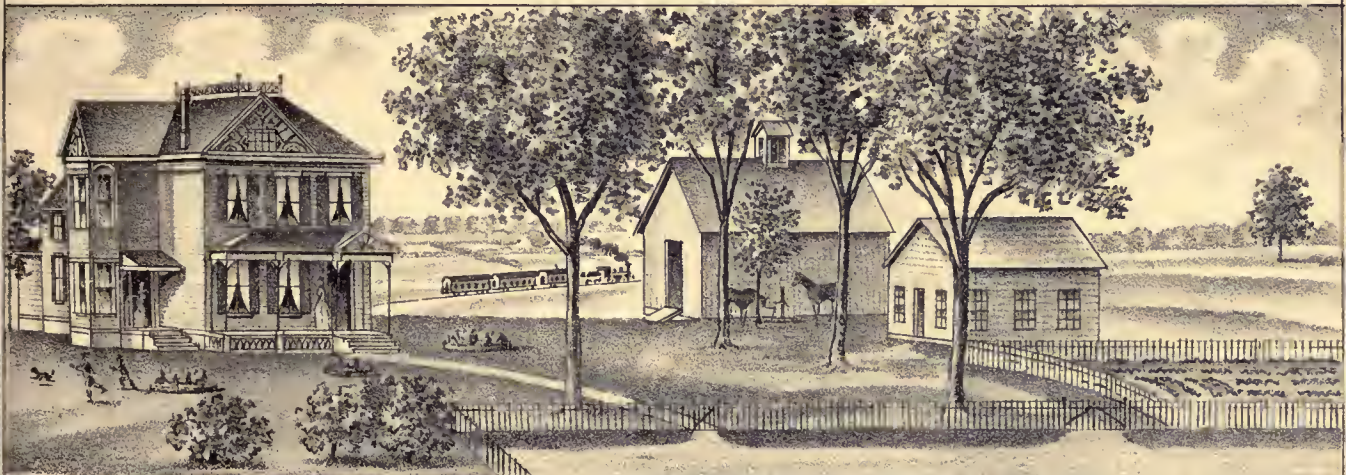


REV. JAMES D. FRY, of Bloomington, a fine representative of the culture and education of the city, is a native of Chester County, Pa., where he was born May 16, 1834. His parents, George and Anna (Sonder) Fry, removed from Pennsylvania to Richland County, Ohio; when their son, our subject, was a lad of eight years of age. From there, five years later, they removed to Lorain County, where James D. grew to manhood and completed a good English education. Later he attended Oberlin College, where he took a classical course through the Sophomore year and later became a member of the Ohio Conference during its session at Gallipolis. He preached for four years following, in the meantime having been ordained Deacon and Elder. Desiring to still further perfect himself in his ministerial studies, he entered upon a course in the Ohio Wesleyan University, Delaware, Ohio, whence he graduated in 1865, and entered upon the career in which he afterward became distinguished as an eminent and devoted laborer in the Master's service.

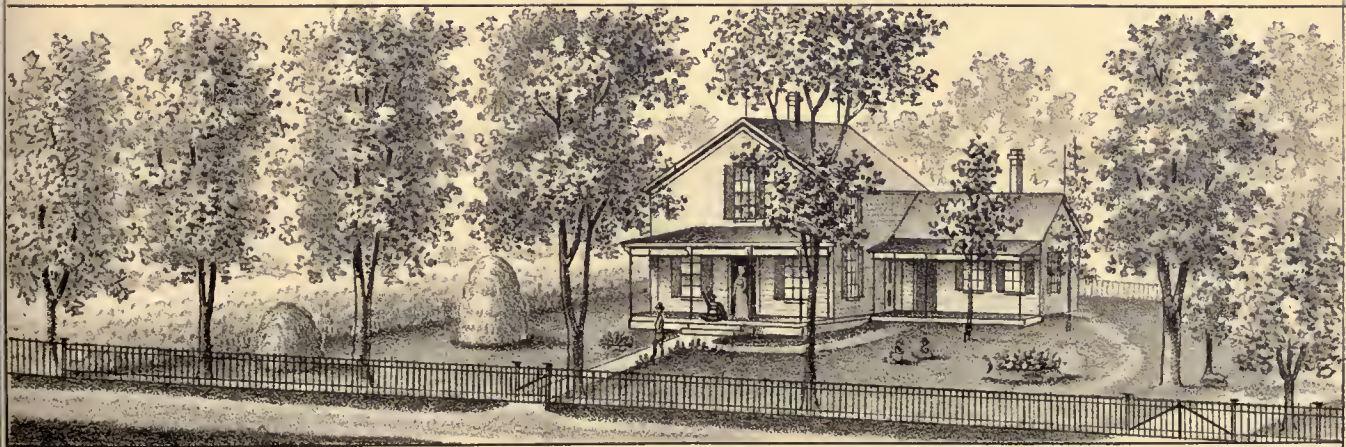
James D. Fry was united in marriage with Miss Margaret Susanna, the daughter of James David-



RESIDENCE OF JOHN ALLISON, SEC 15, DALE TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF ALEX. BRYANT, SEC. 6, BLOOMINGTON TP.

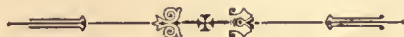


RESIDENCE OF A. J. WILSON, SEC. 11, DALE TOWNSHIP.



son, on the 21st of June, 1868, in Lawrence County, Ohio. In 1872 he became Financial Agent for the Ohio Wesleyan University. He spent the year 1873-74 traveling through Europe, accompanied by his wife. He remained some months at Halle University, Germany, studying the German language and attending theological lectures. In 1874, returning to the United States Mr. Fry resumed his labors in the ministry, and in the fall of the year following was elected to the chair of Moral Philosophy and German in the Illinois Wesleyan University. Two years later he resigned this position and resumed his work in the ministry.

Mrs. Fry, wife of our subject, is finely educated. She was elected to the Chair of Belles Lettres in the Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington, Ill., in 1875, which position she still holds. At the age of eighteen years she graduated with honors from Oxford Seminary, at Oxford, Ohio. She received the degree of A. M. from the Ohio Wesleyan University, Delaware, Ohio, in 1878, and the degree of Ph. D. by examination in 1881, from Syracuse University, Syracuse, N. Y. She possesses literary ability of a high order, and has been an occasional contributor to the first-class periodicals.



**W**ILLIAM BALDRIDGE, a highly respected citizen of Oak Grove Village, and formerly a farmer of White Oak Township, is a native of the Buekeye State, having been born in Adams County, Jan. 7, 1805. He is the son of Samuel and Mary (McGarrah) Baldrige, natives of Westmoreland County, Pa. Samuel Baldrige remained on his father's farm and attended the common schools until reaching his majority, and then started out to do for himself. He first went into Adams County, Ohio, and was employed on a farm for several years. He was industrious and economical, and saved his earnings, and in due time found himself able to purchase 160 acres of land near Manchester, Ohio. He had been married in his native county in Pennsylvania and removed with his wife to the new farm, upon which they remained the balance of their lives. The father of our subject died in about 1847, in the sixty-ninth

year of his age. The mother survived her husband many years, living to the advanced age of ninety. They were members of what is known as the Reform Presbyterian Church, and in politics Samuel Baldrige was a staunch supporter of the old Whig party. The household circle was completed by the birth of ten children—Mary, William, James W., Martha, Sarah, Elizabeth, Samuel, Robert, Catherine, and one who died in infancy unnamed.

William Baldrige remained on the homestead of his parents during his childhood and youth, and received a common-school education. When twenty-two years of age he was united in marriage with Miss Margaret Kane, Aug. 29, 1827. The young couple remained on the father's farm until the spring of 1852, when our subject came to Illinois and purchased eighty acres of fine farming land on section 22, White Oak Township, ten acres of which is timber. Two years later he increased his landed interests by the purchase of 160 acres on section 24, and in 1862 traded this latter for the ninety acres which he now owns, and which is under a high state of cultivation. Mr. and Mrs. B. became the parents of six children—Mary J., Samuel, James W., Martha, William J. and George T. Mary became the wife of William Ramsey; Samuel was twice married, his first wife having been Miss Elizabeth J. Kendall, and the second, Miss Elizabeth Kirkpatrick; James W. married Miss Martha Johnson; Martha became Mrs. Robert Patterson; William J. married Miss Caroline Wright; George T. was twice married, first to Miss Mattie Ewing, and second to Miss Amanda Leach. The mother of these children died Aug. 14, 1867, and William Baldrige was the second time married, Miss Nancy P. Ewing becoming his wife. Of this union there were no children.

Mrs. Nancy Baldrige is the daughter of James and Mary (Darwin) Ewing, who were natives of York County, Pa., where they were reared and educated, and married in 1775, and removed the same year to Virginia, where they remained until 1819. Thence they removed to Adams County, Ohio, where the mother died that same year. They had eight children. Our subject and wife are worthy members of the Reform Presbyterian Church, and in politics Mr. B. is a staunch Repub-

lean. In 1874 he bought a fine two-story dwelling in Oak Grove Village, but subsequently traded for the place where he is now living retired from active labor, surrounded by all the comforts of life and enjoying the reward of his early toil and industry, having a sufficient competency for himself and wife.



**J**OH<sup>n</sup> A. JONES, of Danvers Township, is pleasantly located on section 14, where he has a fine homestead, and is enjoying with his family the comforts of life and many of its luxuries. Mr. Jones is a native of the Prairie State, and was born in Dry Grove Township, this county, Oct. 12, 1845. He is consequently in the prime of life, and has already established himself in the confidence and esteem of the community.

The parents of our subject were Benjamin L. and Mary A. (Anderson) Jones, natives respectively of Kentucky and Ohio. The father was born Aug. 31, 1812, and the mother in 1815. Benjamin Jones followed agricultural pursuits the greater part of his life. When a young man he removed from his native State to Ohio, where he made his home with his uncle, and was married to Miss Mary A. Anderson, in Clermont County, in 1835. In the fall of 1837 they came to Schuyler County, Ill., and Mr. Jones farmed on rented land two years there, then came to this county and was similarly employed for some time. In February, 1849, he met with a great affliction in the loss of his wife. Mrs. Jones died at the home of her husband in Danvers Township, and her remains were laid to rest in Stout's Grove Cemetery.

Mr. Jones at an early day purchased 320 acres of timber land, at \$1.25 per acre. After the death of his wife he made his home with his children and with his brothers, one of the latter being in Schuyler and the other in Mason County, this State. He has now resided with our subject for the last four years. He and his wife united with the Presbyterian Church many years ago. He is greatly interested in the success of the temperance movement, and a pronounced Prohibitionist. The household circle was completed by the birth of seven children,

of whom John A. (1st) died in infancy; James L. married Miss Alice Crum, and lives in Topeka, Kan.; Sarah A. and her husband, Alexander Fowler, died in Neosho County, Kan.; George W. married Miss Hattie Dunnaway; John A. (2d) of our sketch was the fifth child; Mary J., Mrs. Sears, is now deceased; Milton was married in Missouri.

After the death of his mother, our subject being only four years of age, went to live with Andrew J. Mason, with whom he remained until he was fourteen years old. He received a fair education in the common schools, and after leaving Mr. Mason made his home with N. C. Carlton in Danvers Township. In 1860 he went to Texas, making the trip to that State by wagon, and being six weeks on the journey. The late war soon coming on, our subject being a Union man, was obliged to leave Texas and seek a place of safety in the Indian Territory, which he with several others reached by following a hog-path through the woods. While on this journey the rebels captured nine of the party, and the others made their way into Kansas. There our subject enlisted in Co. C, 2d Kan. Vol. Cav., and with his comrades engaged in many of the principal battles of the war in that section. During the engagement at Sabine River, a sabre stroke right in front of his left ear cut a part of it, but further than this he received no serious injury and was never taken prisoner. After his retirement from the army he went to Ft. Riley, and engaged in bailing hay for the Government, at \$60 a month and board. In the fall of 1865 he returned to Illinois and engaged in farm work until 1881. He had been economical and saved what he could of his earnings, and was able to purchase fifty acres of good farming land, situated three-quarters of a mile west of Danvers; the I., B. & W. R. R. runs through the center of the farm.

Mr. Jones was married, Oct. 24, 1878, to Miss Fannie O., the daughter of Henry C. and Permelia (McClure) McClure, who were natives of Indiana. Mr. McClure was born May 9, 1828, and his wife, Permelia, April 18 of the same year. The record of their six children is as follows: Robert A. married Miss Anna McLaughlin; Louisa A. died when a child; Horace A. was united in marriage with Miss Ella Martin; Herman W. married Miss



May Vance; Fannie, now Mrs. Jones, was the next child, and George L. was the youngest. Mr. and Mrs. McClure are still living, and now residing in Gibson City, Ford Co., Ill., where Mr. McClure and his sons are engaged in the banking business, also in grain buying and dealing in lumber. They came to Illinois at an early day. They are members in good standing of the Presbyterian Church, in which Mr. McC. has held the office of Deacon for many years. Politically he is a straight Republican.

Mr. and Mrs. Jones have had three children: Freddie died when nine months old, and one died unnamed. The one living is Marshall, who was born July 16, 1884. Mr. J. belongs to the Congregational Church, and his wife is connected with the Presbyterian. Our subject was elected to the office of Township Collector in 1882, and again in 1884. He has been School Director for the last three years. He is a member in good standing of the A. F. & A. M., in which he has held the office of Junior Deacon in Lodge No. 746, Danvers Township, and in politics is a staunch Republican.



**J**OSEPH KEENAN, banker, and Mayor of Le Roy, is one of the enterprising and self-made men of McLean County, who have contributed so materially to its present prosperity and importance. Mr. Keenan was born in Marion Township, Clinton Co., Ohio, March 10, 1828. His father, Peter Keenan, first opened his eyes to the light a few miles from Lexington, Ky., and his grandfather, Patrick Keenan, was a native of Dublin, Ireland, where he was reared to manhood, and soon afterward emigrated to America. He located in Kentucky in the early settlement of that State, and was married to a lady of American birth and English ancestry. He engaged in farming pursuits, and after several years spent in the Blue Grass regions, removed to Warren County, Ohio, and purchased a farm near Lebanon; where he spent the remainder of his life.

Peter Keenan, the father of our subject, was a youth of fifteen years when his parents removed from Kentucky to Ohio. He grew to manhood in the latter State, and was married in Clinton County

to Miss Nancy Mitchell, who was born in Kentucky, but was of Scotch and English ancestry. He carried on farming in Warren and Clinton Counties, in the latter of which he owned a farm. After the death of his wife he made his home with his children, coming West in later years, where his death occurred at the home of his son John, in Monticello, Ill., in about 1873. The parental household was completed by the birth of ten children, of whom the record is as follows: Elizabeth A. married William Hudson, and died in Clinton County, Ohio, when twenty-seven years of age; Mary J. became the wife of C. Y. Hannen, and died in Clinton County in September, 1885; Emeline was first married to John Thonhill, who died in 1845; her second husband was Cyrus Steans, who is also deceased, and Mrs. Steans lives in Clinton County, Ohio; John lives in Santa Barbara, Cal.; Joseph, our subject, was the fifth child; Melissa married John Tribby, and died in Polk County, Iowa; Samuel lives in East Portland, Ore.; William died in Decatur, Ill., in 1882; Henry served in an Ohio regiment during the late war, and died in the service while in Virginia; Nancy married George Hannen, and lives in Iowa.

The youth and childhood of Joseph Keenan were passed in a manner common to farmers' boys. His opportunities for an education were limited, but he made the most of them, and tramped two or three miles in the winter season to the temple of learning, which was an humble log cabin built upon one of the lonely roads of Clinton County, Ohio. His education could only be carried on during the winter season, while his summers were employed in such duties as he could perform around the homestead. He assisted his father in clearing the heavy timber from the farm which they opened up in the wilderness and in cultivating the soil. When eighteen years old he started out in business for himself, buying produce and shipping to Cincinnati. He was employed at this for about six months, and then went to work in a cooper's shop. He was industrious and economical, and saved his money, and in due time found himself with sufficient means to purchase a partly improved farm. Upon it was a log house, of which he took possession with his wife, and they lived there until he was enabled to

put up a more pretentious dwelling, this latter being two stories in height and of hewed logs. He continued his improvements upon this land and occupied it until 1854, when he sold out and started for Illinois, via the Ohio, Mississippi and Illinois Rivers to Alton, and from there to Sangamon County, where he stopped a few weeks with his wife's brother, and in the meantime visited McLean County and prospected for a location.


After coming to this county Mr. Keenan rented land, the first season near Le Roy, and then purchased 178 acres three miles southeast, paying therefor the sum of \$22 per acre. He added to his landed interests by subsequent purchases, but in 1864 sold the original tract, and the following spring removed to Le Roy. About that time he purchased 160 acres of timber land of the late Judge David Davis, which he divided into small lots and sold nearly all of them before the close of the year. In 1866, in company with T. J. Barnett, he engaged in the dry-goods trade until August of the following year, when he disposed of his interests in the business, and renting a store building in December, 1867, opened up in the same business alone, continuing until 1882, when he sold out.

In 1872 Mr. Keenan opened a private bank which was familiarly known as J. Keenan's Bank, and which he managed in connection with his store for several years. Of this, his son, Arthur J., has been the manager since 1880. He is part owner with S. F. Barnum, of the Empire Flouring-Mills, and is also interested with the same gentleman in the coal and lumber trade, and in general farming and stock-raising. In 1879 he erected a brick block in which is conducted the only first-class hotel in the town, which is known as the Keenan House, and in addition to this also owns the block where he first opened up in business in Le Roy.

Mr. Keenan was married in October, 1848, to Miss Hannah Sidles, who was born in Clinton County, Ohio, and is the daughter of Israel and Nancy Sidles. Of this union there have been born four children: Walter M. took a course of study at the State Normal University, and also at the Michigan University in Ann Arbor, graduating from the latter in 1874, and is now engaged in a dry-goods commission house in Chicago; Clara B.

married L. A. Reynolds, and lives in Le Roy; Arthur Jay attended the State University at Champaign, Ill., and has managed the banking business of his father since 1880; Luther C. is a brick manufacturer, and lives in Northwestern Nebraska. The family residence is a model of taste and convenience, and its inmates are surrounded by all the comforts of life and many of its luxuries. Mr. Keenan identified himself with the Republican party at its organization, and still casts his vote in support of its principles. He has filled various positions of trust, and is one of the most honored and respected citizens of this county. His farming operations include the breeding of Norman horses, of which he has thirty-eight in number, four of them being imported animals which were secured at great expense, and the others are high grade. He is also interested in Short-horn cattle, and has a herd of nearly 150 hogs of the Poland-China breed. His landed estate now embraces 900 acres lying in West and Empire Townships, each farm being supplied with good buildings and managed by reliable men.

Mr. Keenan is one of those public-spirited and enterprising citizens which are the life of a community, and without which it is impossible to build up a country or a locality. He has contributed his full share toward the agricultural and industrial interests of this section, and receives his reward in the esteem and confidence of his fellow-citizens.

  
**M**RS. ELIZA M. FRENCH was born in Preble County, Ohio, in 1849, and is now a resident of Bloomington, Ill., making her home with her daughter, Mrs. T. J. Read, at No. 816 East North street. Eli H. French was a native of Belmont County, Ohio, and the son of William and Mary (Bundy) French. His early years were spent upon a farm in Ohio, and he came to Illinois when a young man, where he purchased a farm in Randolph Township, this county. He was married to Miss Eliza Mason of McLean County. In 1854 he removed with his family to Story County, Iowa, where he purchased a farm of 360 acres. Mrs. French subsequently returned to Bloomington, where she has since lived.

The subject of this biography was the daughter of Solomon and Elizabeth (Frier) Mason, natives of Ohio. They came to Illinois in 1830, and settled in McLean County, where the mother died in Downs Township in 1851; the father is still living, having arrived at the advanced age of eighty-five years. The parental family consisted of eleven children, of whom Mrs. French was fifth in order of birth, and of these only six are living. Mrs. French some years ago connected herself with the United Brethren, and still remains a member of that church.

Mary E., the daughter of Mrs. French, was married to Mr. T. J. Read in 1870, and they have four children—Arthur C., Carrie M., Ida B. and Julia W. Mr. Read was born in Philadelphia in 1848, being the son of Benjamin and Elizabeth (Behring) Read, natives respectively of Maryland and Pennsylvania. They came to Bloomington in 1856, and Mr. R. has been a resident of the city since that time. He is connected with the *Pantagraph* as collector and circulator, is a good business man and a worthy citizen. He built his tasteful and convenient residence in 1883. Mr. and Mrs. R. are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is Republican in politics and a thorough newspaper man, having been associated with some of the city journals for the last thirty years.



**G**EORGE F. HAY, a resident of Danvers Township, where he is engaged in farming pursuits on section 24, is a native of Todd County, Ky., and was born Sept. 18, 1814. His parents were Peter and Elizabeth (Finley) Hay, natives respectively of Massachusetts and Virginia. Peter Hay was born in 1770, and died on the 24th of August, 1824, at the age of fifty-four years, in Christian County, Ky. He was by trade a tinsmith, but the latter years of his life were spent in farming pursuits. Religiously he was connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church. The wife followed her husband to the better land on the 1st of September, 1824. She was connected with the Old-School Presbyterian Church. The parental household consisted of eight children—Jane, John, Su-

sau, Mary, Mareia, Rachel, Catharine B., and George F., our subject.

The early life of George F. Hay was spent on the farm and in attendance at the common schools. When twenty years of age he came to Illinois with Mr. Benjamin Major, settling near Eureka, and assisted Mr. Major in driving cattle from Kentucky to Walnut Grove. In February, 1836, he was appointed to the office of Deputy Surveyor of McLean County, which position he held for four years. Subsequently he engaged in farming pursuits, and at all times employed his leisure moments in the perusal of good and instructive books. In this manner he obtained a fund of useful information which served him well in lieu of a college education, and enabled him to engage successfully as a school teacher, which calling he followed for several winters. The first purchase of land by Mr. Hay consisted of thirty-seven acres of timber, and his next of eighty acres, which he obtained from the Government. He is now the owner of 217 acres, and has a good set of farm buildings, being occupied in mixed husbandry. In 1856, thinking a change would be desirable, Mr. Hay removed to Woodford County and resided four years, during which time he became Assessor of the county, but finally returned to the old home in McLean, where he has been content to stay since that time.

The marriage of our subject took place March 17, 1836, when he was united with Miss Elizabeth E. McCullough, the sister of Col. William McCullough, of Bloomington, who was killed at the battle of Coffeeville, Miss. Mrs. Hay was born in Fleming County, Ky., in 1821, and came to Dry Grove Township, this county, with her parents five years later, in 1826. Her father was the first man who erected a house in said township. Of this township Mr. Hay has also been Assessor at two different times, and served as School Trustee for fourteen years. Mr. and Mrs. Hay are the parents of one child—Elizabeth L., who was born Dec. 27, 1836, and married J. W. Owen, of Chicago, in September, 1853. Mr. O. is doing commission business at the Union Stock Yards. They have had five children, one of whom is deceased.

Mr. Hay became a member of the Christian Church at Noah Springs, Tenn., in 1832. Mrs. Hay

became a member of the Christian Church in Danvers, Ill., and they have since been connected with that denomination, Mr. H. having held the offices of Deacon, Elder and Clerk. Politically he is a staunch Democrat. The parents of Mrs. Hay were Peter and Levina (Crooks) McCullough, natives respectively of Maryland and Kentucky, who located in the former State after their marriage, and removed to Kentucky when Mrs. H. was but a small child. They came to Illinois in 1826, where the father died in January, 1858 or 1859, at the age of seventy-seven years. The mother of Mrs. Hay died in 1846, aged fifty years. Of their family of nine children two only are living: Mary M., now Mrs. Perry, of Allin Township, and Mrs. Hay of our sketch. Peter McCullough was a Universalist in religious belief, but the mother of Mrs. Hay was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mr. Hay relates an incident of his early life which is of considerable interest. While roaming around the country with a young companion and schoolmate they came to the mouth of a cave which had never been explored, but with true juvenile bravado they entered and proceeded some distance, coming out about a quarter of a mile from where they went in. Much credit was given the young heroes for their spirit of adventure.

**B**ENJAMIN F. PARKS, deceased, was formerly a merchant of Le Roy, and one of its prominent and reliable business men. He was born near Bloomington, Ind., Feb. 21, 1827, his ancestors being among the early settlers of that State. Mr. Parks grew to manhood in his native county, and in company with his brother, L. H. Parks, engaged in the manufacture of tobacco until 1853. Both brothers then came to Illinois, and locating in Le Roy, this county, established a dry-goods business, which they conducted until after the war. Then our subject purchased the interest of his brother in the business and operated it alone until his death, which occurred Jan. 7, 1871.

The marriage of Mr. Parks with Miss Martha J. Brown occurred on the 1st of September, 1858.

Mrs. Parks was born in Knox County, Ohio, March 12, 1840. Her father, Aaron Brown, was a native of Pennsylvania, where he pursued the occupation of a farmer for some years, finally removing to Knox County, Ohio, where he died in 1846. In 1852 his widow removed with her children to this county, and settled near Le Roy. Mrs. Brown before her marriage was Miss Isabella Pollock, and she was born in Ohio. She made her home with Mrs. Parks until the last years of her life, her death occurring about 1876, aged eighty-four. Mrs. Parks has three sons living: Theophilus and Charles live in Le Roy, the former engaged in the grocery trade; Fred is at home with his mother. Mrs. P. is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

Mr. Parks in politics belonged to the Democratic party, and socially was a member of Le Roy Lodge No. 149, I. O. O. F.

**C**HARLES E. BAKER, President of the Evergreen City Business College, of Bloomington, is a graduate of Evansville Commercial College, and has been mainly instrumental in bringing it to its present prosperous condition. He is a gentleman of fine education and good business capacity, having the rare faculty of adapting his attainments to practical uses.

Mr. Baker is a native of Indiana, and was born in Knox County, July 13, 1852. His father, Nathan Baker, a farmer by occupation, still resides in Knox County, Ind. His mother, who was formerly Miss Lueretia Wyant, was a native of Illinois, and died in 1855, at the home of her husband in Knox County, Ind. Of their three children only one is living, the subject of this sketch, who was the youngest of the family.

The boyhood of Charles E. Baker was mostly spent upon his father's farm, his primary education being carried on in the schools of his native county. After graduating from Evansville College he became book-keeper for the firm of French & Co., with whom he remained two years, and was then tendered the position of Assistant Principal of Crescent City Commercial College at Evansville,

which position he occupied eighteen months. He came to Bloomington in the summer of 1874, and was soon afterward elected to his present position. The school, which was then in its infancy, under his efficient management has become one of the important institutions of McLean County, and since its establishment has enrolled over 2,000 students, 100 of whom are now prominent and useful citizens of Bloomington, occupying various positions among its business and industrial interests.

The marriage of President Baker and Miss Lyda Beek was celebrated in 1872. Mrs. B. is a native of the Prairie State, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of four children, two sons and two daughters—Cora, Clarenee, Maude and Walter. Mr. Baker is Secretary and a prominent member of the Independent Church of Bloomington, assisting greatly in its Sunday-school work, and contributing of his time and means toward its maintenance and prosperity. He is also identified with the Knights of Honor as their Secretary, and is an active and efficient brother.



**D**R. LEE ALLIN, a prominent and popular member of the dental profession of McLean County, is located in Bloomington, where, during a period of thirty-three years he has built up an extensive and lucrative practice. Dr. Allin is a native of the Prairie State, having been born in Vandalia, Fayette County, Nov. 27, 1828. He is the son of Hon. James and Catharine (Livingston) Allin, natives respectively of North Carolina and Boone County, Ky. James Allin, while a small boy, removed from his native State with his parents to Indiana, and they settled on a farm near a small village called Rising Sun, in Ohio County.

Here the father of our subject passed his boyhood and youth, assisting his parents around the homestead and receiving a fair education in the common schools. He remained at home until twenty-one years old, and then, anxious to see something more of the world, engaged on a flatboat, which floated grain and produce down the Mississippi River to New Orleans. After arriving

there he would sell his flatboat, and purchasing a pony ride back through the Indian Territory. He followed this for several years, and then engaged in mercantile pursuits at Rising Sun. After a few years he went to Edwardsville, Madison Co., Ill., for a short time, and then purchased a farm near Vandalia, which, after a short time, he sold and moved into town, where he perfected his arrangements for laying out a town in Sangamon County, that State. He started from Vandalia in the summer of 1828, to prospect for his pet idea, and going north reached the farm where the city of Bloomington now stands. He said to himself, "This is the place," and purchased 160 acres of land from a man named William Evans. He returned to Vandalia to spend the winter, and in the spring removed with his wife and four children to his farm.

Before starting Mr. Allin purchased a stock of goods in St. Louis, which he conveyed overland to the place, and also had a building in readiness to receive his goods and family. This was built of hewed logs, but it abundantly answered the purpose in those days. Thus was inaugurated the first store on the present site of Bloomington, and James Allin was the first merchant in the present limits of McLean County. After becoming comfortably settled he proceeded to put his idea into execution, and laid out the original town plat between Front and North, and East and West streets, an area including twenty-two and a half acres of land. This he proffered to the county, if its officials would locate the county seat here, which proposition they accepted. To this he added what was called the "first addition to the town plat," and afterward made several other additions. He was a man of great liberality, and gave a great many lots to people who were too poor to buy, upon the condition that they would locate and remain there.

James Allin, Sr., was the first Postmaster of Bloomington, and the first Circuit Court was held in his hewed log cabin. After he located here his household was increased by the birth of a daughter, Catharine A., making in all a family of five children: William died in July, 1857, at the age of forty-two years; he was through life, until his retirement in 1855, one of the most prosperous merchants of Bloomington, commencing

business with his father in 1836. James, also a merchant for many years, was appointed Postmaster under President Lincoln, and after his term of service had expired removed to Kansas in 1882, where he now resides; John, who was engaged in farming in McLean Township, departed this life in 1865; Lee is the subject of this sketch; Catharine A. became the wife of Dr. Z. L. Hoover, who died in 1886; he was formerly a prominent physician of Bloomington.

Hon. James Allin, Sr., died in 1869, at the age of eighty-one years. He was a man of great force of character, and became prominently identified with the political and other important matters of this section. He was elected State Senator about the year 1837, and in whatever position he was called to fill acquitted himself faithfully and creditably. He was a hearty supporter of the church, and materially assisted in the establishment of Wesleyan University and other institutions of learning. With his wife he belonged to the Methodist Episcopal Church, and was its liberal and cheerful supporter until the close of his life. In early manhood he was united in marriage with Miss Catharine, the daughter of Judge John Livingston, of Rising Sun. This lady died at Bloomington in 1872, when seventy years of age.

Dr. Lee Allin of our sketch ranks among the pioneer settlers of McLean County, being seven months old when his parents removed to this vicinity, in 1829. His boyhood days were spent alternately in the subscription school and his father's store, in which he was given an interest when twenty years of age, which he retained for four years, and then abandoned to commence the study of dentistry. In 1852 he was married to Miss Julia McFarland, who was born in Jacksonville, Ill., in 1834, and was the daughter of James and Mary (Noble) McFarland, who removed from Philadelphia to Illinois in about 1840. The parental family consisted of five children, of whom Mrs. Allin was the youngest born. Mrs. McFarland died in 1875; the father of Mrs. Allin is still living in Peoria, having arrived at the advanced age of ninety years.

The Doctor and Mrs. Allin became the parents of three children, only two of whom are living: Lee D. married Miss Josephine Garvey, and they

have two children—Winfield S. and a babe unnamed; this son is a conductor on the C., B. & Q. R. R. Clayborn is at home. Their pleasant and comfortable residence is located at the intersection of East and Front streets, where the Doctor also has his office. During his long residence here he has fully established himself in the confidence and esteem of his fellow-citizens, and ranks among the most valued members of the community. He has witnessed great changes since his boyhood, and has contributed his full share as a good citizen toward the development and prosperity of McLean County. He is independent in politics, and served as Deputy Clerk of the county in 1848-49. Both the Doctor and his wife are connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church.



**M**RS. M. A. CAMPBELL, the widow of James Campbell, owns and occupies a snug homestead, consisting of eighty acres of land and a good farm dwelling on section 35, White Oak Township. She is a native of Morgan County, Ohio, and was born in 1840, being the daughter of John and Mary (Fry) Ray. Her father was born in Virginia, Dec. 30, 1803, and the mother near Wellsburg in the same State in 1813. They were married there in 1836, whence they removed shortly afterward to Ohio, and Mr. Ray purchased 160 acres of land in Morgan County. There he established a comfortable home, upon which he remained until his death, which occurred April 10, 1861. Mrs. Ray is still living on the old homestead. They became the parents of the following children: Rachel J., now Mrs. Thomas Hempfield; M. A. of our sketch; George V., who married Miss Elizabeth Wilson; Thomas, who married Miss Eliza Ray; Samuel, who married Miss Elizabeth Gordan, and Sarah E., unmarried and living with her mother. The parents belonged to the Presbyterian Church, and politically Mr. Ray was a staunch Democrat.

The subject of this history was married Oct. 5, 1865, in McComellsville, to James T. Campbell. Mr. C. was a native of Pennsylvania, and born in 1838. After their marriage they came westward,





Thos. J. Redynoway.



Wm. W. Garrison, C. S. G. H.



and located on eighty acres of land in this county, which Mr. C. improved and cultivated. His death occurred Dec. 4, 1878. During the late war Mr. Campbell enlisted as a Union soldier, becoming a member of Co. C, 122d Regiment, Ohio Volunteers. He served three years, and participated in the battles at Warrensburg, Port Royal, Kelley's Ford, Brandy Station, Locust Grove, and other engagements and skirmishes. He was also at the battle of Winchester and the siege of Vicksburg, and performed his duties bravely and faithfully, escaping without a wound or being captured. As a citizen Mr. Campbell was highly valued in his community, and when among his family and friends displayed those genial and lovable traits which endeared him to all. He was a regular attendant of the Presbyterian Church, although he never connected himself with any religious organization.

Mrs. Campbell lived with her parents during her childhood and youth, and until she was married, and received a fair education in the common schools. Since the death of her husband she has carried on the farm with good judgment and in a business-like manner. She is a very intelligent and pleasing lady, and highly respected by all who know her.



**T**HOMAS S. RIDGWAY, a prosperous and influential farmer of Funk's Grove Township, whose portrait is shown in connection with this sketch, is one of the most intelligent citizens of this locality, who has learned much from a large experience in life, and keeps himself well posted upon all matters of general interest. He is an extensive reader, and has made the most of his time and opportunities all through life.

Mr. Ridgway is a native of Venango County, Pa., and was born in Franklin on the 11th of March, 1819. His father, John Ridgway, was a native of Virginia, and his grandfather, Joseph Ridgway, of England, and descended from excellent English ancestry. The latter came with his parents to America in about 1794, locating first in Pennsylvania, whence they removed later to the Old Dominion. Joseph Ridgway was a millwright by trade, and possessed in a marked degree the

skill and thoroughness in his work and system in his business transactions, for which his ancestry were noted. His son John, the father of our subject, also learned the trade of a millwright, but after following it a number of years purchased a tract of land in Venango County, and spent his later years in the peaceful pursuits of agriculture. Early in life he was married to Miss Susan Titus, who was a native of Crawford County, Pa., and the daughter of Peter Titus, who was born in Germany and emigrated to America previous to the Revolutionary War. He became a soldier in that struggle, and was with Gen. Washington at Valley Forge. After the independence of the colonies was established he engaged in farming pursuits, and spent his last days in Crawford County, Pa., where he died at the advanced age of one hundred years.

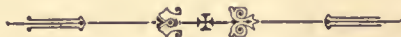
Thomas S. Ridgway was reared in his native town under the home roof and attended the subscription schools as opportunity offered. When twenty-two years of age he entered Venango Academy in Franklin, and fitted himself for a teacher. He followed this profession three years, and in the meanwhile occupied his leisure time in the study of law, making such proficiency that he was admitted to the bar at Franklin in 1842. He soon afterward opened an office in Franklin, but the confinement within doors undermined his health, and he was obliged to abandon his profession. In 1849 he went to New Orleans and was employed as clerk in a lumber-yard there until he engaged in the same business for himself, and was thus occupied for eight years following. In 1857 he went to Nashville, Tenn., and opened a wholesale store of general merchandise, which he operated for one and one-half years. He then conducted the same business in St. Louis for the same length of time, and afterward engaged in the wholesale grocery and liquor trade in Memphis, Tenn., until 1864, whence he came to McLean County in June of the same year. He then purchased the farm which he now owns and occupies, and upon which he has followed agricultural pursuits and stock-raising.

The marriage of Thomas S. Ridgway and Miss Frances Shelley was celebrated in New Orleans on the 6th of July, 1853. Mrs. R. is a native of

France, and the daughter of Joseph Shelley, who came to the United States with his family when the wife of our subject was a child six years of age. They located in Richland County, Ohio, where Mrs. R. was reared and received her education. Of this union there has been no issue. They have an adopted daughter, Josephine, now the wife of A. D. Lawrence, of Le Roy.

The farm estate of our subject includes 405 acres of valuable land, in a fine state of cultivation, well drained with tile. It is stocked with fine grades of the domestic animals, and supplied with all the appliances necessary for the carrying on of agriculture after the most improved methods. The family residence is a handsome and substantial structure, and the barns and out-buildings are in all respects fully adapted to the storing of grain and the shelter of stock. Everything within the house and about the premises indicates the exercise of cultivated tastes and ample means, and the homestead presents one of the most attractive features in the landscape of McLean County.

In politics Mr. Ridgway casts his vote in support of the principles of the Democratic party, and in his religious views is liberal. He has been prominently identified with the business and agricultural interests of this section since his arrival here, and has aided materially in its prosperity and advancement.



**H**ARRISON C. LOTT, Superintendent and Manager of the County Poor Farm of McLean County, was placed in charge of this institution on the 1st of March, 1882, and has occupied it since that time with credit to himself and satisfaction to all concerned. The farm is located on section 33, Bloomington Township, and within the last four years has had an increase of inmates at the rate of about eight persons per annum. The farm consists of 220 acres, and is beautifully located. The main building is of brick, with slate roof, and furnished with all the conveniences necessary for the care and comfort of a large household. The barns and out-buildings are in keeping with the asylum, and do credit to the

benevolence of the people of McLean County.

The subject of our sketch was born in Jefferson County, Ind., Aug. 18, 1848. His father, Abner Lott, was a native of Kentucky, and when a young man went to Jefferson County, Ind., where he married Miss Mary Orrill, who was born in Virginia, of German descent. The parents succeeded in opening up a good farm in Jefferson County, where they are now living a comfortable and happy old age among the friends and associates of many long years, and loved and respected by all who know them. Abner Lott is now sixty-eight years of age, and his wife, Mrs. Mary Lott, sixty-three.

Harrison C. Lott was the fourth child of a family of five sons and seven daughters. He was reared at home, applied himself contentedly to farm life, and attended the district schools of his native county. At the age of fifteen years he enlisted in the 146th Indiana Infantry, and served seven months, the war then closing, which terminated his soldier life. During the short time he was in the service they were compelled to march forty-eight hours without food. At the age of nineteen, he started out to battle for himself, and came to McLean County, Ill., where he engaged in agricultural pursuits.

On the 29th of January, 1873, Mr. Lott was married to Miss Mary J. Waddington, a native of Williamson County, Ill., who was born May 12, 1848, and was the daughter of George and Elizabeth (Kershaw) Waddington. Her parents were natives of England, and came to the United States before their marriage, settling in Williams County, where they were married, and afterward removed to McLean, locating in Downs Township, where they established a permanent home and passed the remainder of their days. Mrs. Lott remained with her parents until her marriage, and by her union with our subject became the mother of six children, the two eldest of whom, Ida M. and one unnamed, died in infancy. The living are George A., William H., Jessie E. and Elsie B.

Mr. and Mrs. Lott have lived in McLean County since their marriage, and in his business and farming operations our subject has been uniformly successful. His management of the Poor Farm has been wise and judicious, and he has proved him-

self fully equal to the duties of a difficult position. He has held various minor offices in his township, and in politics is a solid Republican. Both Mr. and Mrs. Lott are members in good standing of the Christian Church. Mr. Lott is a member of the G. A. R., Post 146, of Bloomington, Ill.

It is with pleasure that the publishers of this work present the portrait of Mr. Lott, as being that of an honored and worthy representative of Bloomington Township.



**D**R. JOHN SCOTT, of Bloomington, is a registered veterinary surgeon, and received the gold medal of a class of eighty-five students, who graduated from Ontario Veterinary College, at Toronto, Canada, in 1886. He is also a member of the Ontario Veterinary Medical Society, and the Illinois Veterinary Medical Association. His office in Bloomington is at No. 408 West Front street, where he is prosecuting the practice of his profession intelligently and successfully.

The subject of our sketch is a native of Western Canada, and was born Feb. 16, 1862. His parents were William and Margaret (Smith) Scott, the former a Canadian of Irish descent, and the mother, of excellent Scottish ancestry, was born in the land of the thistle and came to Canada with her parents when eight years of age. She was married to the father of our subject in 1858, and they located upon a farm. Since that time William Scott has been industriously engaged in farming and stock-raising, and now has a fine estate of 200 acres near Orangeville, Canada. The parental household consisted of four children, of whom Isaac is a student at the Ontario Veterinary College; John, our subject, was the second son; Jeanette and Thomas are in Canada. William Scott is one of the prominent men of Western Canada, and has been intimately identified with the growth and progress of that portion of the Dominion. He belongs to the Reform party, and with his wife is a member of the Presbyterian Church.

Dr. John Scott remained at home with his parents until he was twenty-one years of age, assist-

ing in the labors on the farm, and pursuing his studies in the High School where he received a fine education. He attended the Ontario College for a period of two years, giving his principal attention to the details of the branches which he is now pursuing, and in the meantime engaged in practice under the instruction of Dr. O'Neill, one of the leading veterinary surgeons of Canada. Our subject came to Bloomington on the 22d of April, 1886, and even in this comparatively short time has built up a fine practice with rare prospects for the future. He is a young man, ambitious to excel in his profession, and if he continues in the manner in which he has begun, will become one of the leading men in his profession in this State. He is independent in politics, and keeps himself well posted upon all matters of general interest.



**J**AMES H. ROBINSON, deceased, was one of the most active and prominent business men of Bloomington, and greatly respected for his excellent moral character and genial social qualities. He was a native of the Empire State, born in Washington County, March 11, 1808. He removed from Saratoga Springs to Bloomington in the fall of 1836, and from that time was intimately identified with the business interests of this section.

The father of our subject was Benjamin Robinson, a native of New England, and the mother was formerly Miss Ruhanna Wood, who was born in Westport, Mass., Dec. 9, 1778. James H. Robinson was the fifth of a family of eleven children, and entered upon his business career in Bloomington, Ill., as a clerk with James Allen in general merchandise. He afterward became the partner of his employer, and they continued business until 1840, when the business was sold out. Four years later Mr. Robinson went into business on his own account, which he operated very successfully until 1852. His next venture was in the lumber trade, which he conducted successfully for about six years. In 1860 he became President of the Bloomington Bank, in which he was one of the principal stockholders, and which position he occupied until his

death, which occurred in December, 1874. This is now known as the First National Bank, and under his wise management were laid the foundations which have been the secret of its success.

Mr. Robinson was married in 1842, to Miss L. M. Drake, who was born in 1821, and is the daughter of Rev. B. B. Drake, a minister of the Presbyterian Church. Of their children the following survive: Charles W. is Cashier of the First National Bank of Bloomington; John D. is a florist; James and Benjamin are pursuing their studies at Harvard College.

The fine brick residence on East Clay street, which constitutes the present homestead of the family, was erected in 1869. It is built after the modern style of architecture, and is surrounded by beautiful and extensive grounds, embellished with native forest trees and choice shrubbery. All its appointments both within and without are indicative of refined tastes and ample means, and the family is held in the highest respect throughout the county, where they are widely known.



**J**OHAN D. ROBINSON, florist, at Bloomington, is the second son of James H. and Latreeia (Drake) Robinson, the date of his birth being Aug. 16, 1852. He was educated in the public schools of his native city, and in early years indicated by his tastes in floriculture, the business to which he was best adapted in life. With this end in view he spent two years in the Bloomington Nursery, which was then known as the Phoenix. During that time he acquired a thorough knowledge of plants and trees and the care and treatment required in their successful propagation and growth. After graduating from this department he spent one year with William C. Wilson, a noted nursery-man of New York, and completed the experience required in the successful operation of the business of a florist.

Returning to Bloomington, in 1871, Mr. Robinson established the grounds and greenhouse which have now become familiarly known as the largest and most thoroughly equipped of anything of the kind in the city. In the construction of his green-

house there were employed 16,800 feet of glass, which furnishes ample room for the multitude of plants and flowers which he keeps constantly on hand. The establishment is warmed by a complete system of hot water pipes attached to three boilers, in which the water is kept at an even temperature.

Mr. Robinson has built up a fine trade, and besides the bulbs and roots which he furnishes by the thousand, he also deals extensively in cut flowers, large numbers of which he furnishes for funerals, weddings, and other important events. He also ships large orders of these to Kansas City, Peoria, and intermediate points, besides having a good home trade. Mr. Robinson is unmarried, and makes his home with his widowed mother in the family residence at the intersection of Clay and East streets.



**A**BEL GALE SMITH, editor of the *Le Roy Free Press*, is a native of Westmoreland County, Pa., and was born Oct. 13, 1832.

His father, Jacob Denton Smith, was a native of the same State, where he followed farming pursuits until 1833, when he removed with his family to Ohio and located on a farm in Erie County. His decease occurred at Sandusky City in 1849. His wife, the mother of our subject, was formerly Elizabeth Conger, also a native of Pennsylvania. She was married to Jacob D. Smith in Pennsylvania, and removed with him to Ohio and died at Shelby, Richland County, on the 30th of April, 1877. They were the parents of six children, of whom the record is as follows: Cordelia married Harrison Miekey, of Shelby, in 1846; Mrs. Robert A. Smith lives in Chicago; Abel G. was the third child and eldest son; Miss Doecia B. Smith lives in Chicago; Emma, Mrs. Silas Abbott, lives in Kentucky; Robert is engaged in printing in Chicago.

The subject of this history was one year old when his parents removed from his native State to Ohio. He remained with them until he was seventeen and then adopted the printer's trade. In 1855 he purchased the *Free Press* at Milan, which he conducted for six years, and then, removing to Watseka, Ill., became owner of the *Iroquois Republican*,

which he conducted for five years. He then removed to Danville and entered upon the publication of the Danville daily and weekly *Times*, continuing there until 1881. Thence he came to Le Roy.

The *Le Roy Free Press* was founded by A. G. Smith, Sept. 29, 1882. It is a neatly gotten up six-column folio paper, Republican in politics and has a fair circulation. Mr. Smith is an old and experienced newspaper man and has established a good many papers in his time, all of which have done good service in the journalistic field. The *Free Press* is well edited and a very readable paper, and devoted particularly to the building up of the thriving town of Le Roy.

The marriage of Abel Gale Smith and Miss Charlotte B. Paige was celebrated on the 15th of September, 1875, at Alexander, Genesee Co., N. Y. Mrs. Smith is a native of Owego, Tioga Co., N. Y., and became a resident of Illinois in 1872. Of this union there have been born two sons—Paul and Gale. By a former marriage Mr. Smith has one son—Dudley, of Chicago.



**T**ALMADGE ROSS, deceased, was a native of Pickaway County, Ohio, and born Feb. 11, 1820. He departed this life near Le Roy, July 23, 1882, having made for himself a good record as a worthy citizen, a kind husband and father, and one whose name is held in kindly remembrance for his sterling worth in all the relations of life. The father of our subject, Moses L. Ross, was one of the early pioneers of Pickaway County, Ohio, where he purchased a tract of timber land, opened up a farm in the wilderness, and established a comfortable home where he spent the remainder of his days. In early manhood he was united in marriage with Miss Mary Frazee, who survived her husband a number of years and died in McLean County, while on a visit to her son in 1882.

Talmadge Ross was reared on his father's farm in Ohio and remained under the parental roof until his marriage. He then purchased 160 acres of land in Pickaway County, upon which was a hewed log house and a barn, and about two-thirds of the land

was under cultivation. He had been reared to habits of industry and economy, and proceeded with the improvements of his new purchase with the hope and courage of youth, meeting with success. In a little more than two years he obtained a clear title to his purchase and thus, while a young man, had a good start in life. In 1855 he sold out and came to Illinois, accompanied by his wife and two children. They located in Champaign County, where Mr. Ross rented a hotel which he conducted for one year and then, coming to McLean County, purchased 225 acres of land in Empire Township. As time passed on he added to his landed area and became the possessor of 480 acres, all enclosed and improved, and supplied with a fine set of frame buildings. In addition to general farming he gave considerable attention to stock-raising and became one of the most prominent and successful farmers of this section. His death occurred upon the homestead, which he had improved and beautified, and where he had surrounded his family with all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life.

The marriage of Talmadge Ross and Miss Margaret E. Thomas was celebrated in Pickaway County, Ohio, Dec. 25, 1850. Mrs. Ross was born in said county Jan. 10, 1830, being the daughter of Edward and Fannie (Lair) Thomas, natives respectively of Maryland and Pennsylvania. Her grandfather, Nicholas Thomas, was a native of Maryland, and emigrated to Pickaway County, Ohio, at an early day. He settled upon a timber tract from which he cleared a farm and where he spent his last years. His son Edward, the father of Mrs. Ross, was reared to farming pursuits and spent his entire life in Pickaway County, Ohio, engaged in agriculture. The mother also died in that county. The parental household consisted of six children, as follows: Davis C. is a resident of Bloomington, Ill.; Mary E., the wife of William Ross, lives in Empire Township, this county; Josephine E., Mrs. Clark W. Davis, also lives in this township; Pamela F. married Henry Crumbaugh, and they live in Monarch, this county; James E. lives on the homestead, and Talmadge J. resides with his mother. In September, 1883, the year following her husband's death, Mrs. Ross removed to Le Roy, where she purchased a residence and lived one year. She then

returned to the farm for two years, and in 1886 went back to Le Roy, which is her present home. She is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and greatly respected by a large circle of friends and associates as having been the worthy helpmeet and companion of one of the most worthy men of this county.



**J**OSEPH KING, a well-to-do farmer of Oak Grove Township, is a native of the Prairie State and of this county, born Oct. 15, 1844. His parents were Christian and Phebe (Barnett) King, both natives of Baden, Germany. Christian King emigrated to America in 1830, and went directly to Butler County, Ohio, where he rented a tract of land and carried on farming for ten years. He emigrated to this State in 1840, and engaged here in farming pursuits until his death, which occurred in April, 1882. The mother accompanied her husband to Illinois, and departed this life in 1876. Politically Mr. King, in later years, was independent, and both parents were worthy members of the Mennonite Church.

The subject of this history was reared on his father's farm, and received a common-school education. He was married in 1868, to Miss Anna Hodler, and they lived upon his father's farm for five years. He then purchased eighty-four acres of good land which constitutes his present homestead. He has a handsome and commodious residence, with a good barn and all necessary out-buildings, and is making a specialty of raising fine horses of Hambletonian stock. Of these he has now about twelve head, and some fine specimens of Norman.

Mr. and Mrs. K. have become the parents of four children—Emanuel A., Joseph A., Walter F. and Charles. Mr. K. is one of the progressive farmers of this section, a gentleman in the prime of life, and possessing those excellencies of character which have gained him the confidence and esteem of those who know him.

The children of Christian and Phebe King, the parents of our subject, were as follows: Christian married Miss Barbara Saltzman; John married Miss Lydia Troyer; Jacob married Miss Anna Nenhanser;

Daniel married Mary Hodler; Peter, Miss Barbara Hodler; Joseph, Miss Anna Hodler; Samuel, Miss Mary Sehad; Barbara became the wife of David S. Ropp.

Joseph Hodler, the father of Mrs. King, was a native of France and born in 1820, and departed this life in March, 1881. His wife, formerly Miss Barbara Schertz, was born in Germany. Both parents came to America when quite young, settling in Pennsylvania, where the mother was married the first time and removed to Butler County, Ohio, with her husband, where he died. She was also married in that county to Joseph Hodler and they lived there for some years afterward, removing thence to McLean County, this State, and locating in Dale Township, where they spent the remainder of their days. Joseph Hodler departed this life in March, 1881. The mother had died in 1868.

Joseph Hodler was twice married, his first wife having been Miss Mary Schertz, and his second, the mother of our subject. Mrs. Hodler by her first marriage became the mother of one child, a son, Christian Imhoff.

Mr. K. is Republican in politics, but latterly has voted the independent ticket at local elections. Both he and his wife are members in good standing of the Mennonite Church.



**W**ILLIAM JONES, one of the self-made men and energetic citizens of Le Roy, is a native of Liverpool, England, and born Sept. 20, 1836. His father, John Jones, a tailor by trade, was a native of the same country, his birth having occurred July 4, 1800. He followed his trade in Liverpool in early life, and in about 1840 emigrated to America. He first located in Springfield, Ohio, and in company with another gentleman engaged as a merchant tailor, and two years later was joined by his wife and son. They lived in Springfield until 1851, then came to Illinois and located in Danville, where John Jones opened a tailor-shop, and carried on business until his death, which occurred in 1857. In early life he was married to Miss Betsey Wood, a native of his own country, who was born July 10, 1804. They be-

came the parents of five children, two now living, of whom our subject was the second. His sister Maggie, who was born in Ohio, married Joseph Taut, and they live in Terre Haute, Ind.; Martha died in Vincennes, Ind., a few months after her marriage. The mother survived her husband a few months, and died in Danville, Ill., in 1857.

William Jones was a child of six years when he came to America with his mother to join his father in Ohio. He remained under the parental roof during his childhood and youth, and received careful home training, and attended a private school in Springfield. When fifteen years old he commenced working in a blacksmith-shop at Selma, but after a few months proceeded to Danville, Ill., whence, later, he went to Higginville, but finally returned to Danville, and from there went to Decatur. He possessed natural mechanical talent, and after a short apprenticeship of two years was so skillful and correct in his work that he commanded journeyman's wages. He also became quite a traveler, and visited various places in Indiana, Iowa, Missouri and Texas. In the latter State he established business near Ft. Graham, on the Brazos River, in 1858. At that time this was on the frontier, and about 225 miles from any railroad station. From there, in 1860, he went to Decatur, Ill., thence, in 1861, to Newburg, and then to Le Roy, and established a blacksmith-shop, which he operated four years, and then removed to Gillespie, in Macoupin County, establishing a shop there also. After eighteen months he returned to Le Roy, and engaged as a machinist in the shops of the I. B. & W. R. R., where he remained until the spring of 1871. In March of that year he started a blacksmith-shop, and engaged in horse-shoeing and general repairs for four or five years, and then established the machine-shop which he has managed until the present time. He is industrious, energetic and wide-awake, and has uniformly met with success, being now in the enjoyment of a handsome competency.

The marriage of William Jones and Miss Elizabeth Johnson took place in Decatur, Ill., on the 9th of January, 1857. Mrs. Jones was born in Springfield, Sangamon Co., Ill., and is the daughter of Benjamin F. and Elizabeth Johnson, of Kentucky.

Of their union have been born five children, of whom the record is as follows: Emma is the widow of Dr. A. C. Fisk, and lives in Le Roy; John F. married Miss Sallie Allensworth, and lives at Minier, Tazewell County; Charles G. is associated with his father in business; Ada died in infancy; Edith is the youngest, and at home with her parents.

The great-grandfather of Mrs. Jones, Graneier Johnson, was a native of Germany, and came to the United States prior to the Revolutionary War, settling in "Old Virginia." He was there married, and became the father of three children—James, Stephen and William. Stephen became a Baptist preacher, while the other two followed farming. William, the grandfather of Mrs. Jones, married Miss Tabitha Boller. They reared six children, namely, Sarah, James, Benjamin, Edmund, Younger and Thomas. They removed to Kentucky in 1797, being among the first settlers of the Green River country, where they were neighbors of Daniel Boone, the famous Indian fighter and hunter. The daughter, Sarah, became the wife of Jonathan Broomback, a native of Germany. They came to Illinois in 1835, and settled at the old trading-post, twelve miles east of Decatur, in Macon County, before the Indians had left that part of the country. Both Mr. and Mrs. B. died there, having had one son, James, who married Miss Polly Turpin. He was drowned in the Kentucky River.

Benjamin Johnson, the father of Mrs. Jones, was born in Virginia in 1791, and was six years old when his parents removed to Kentucky. He remained with them until his marriage, in 1816. His wife, formerly Miss Elizabeth Agee, was also a native of the Old Dominion, and the daughter of Adler and Rejoice Agee, the former a native of Ireland. Mr. Johnson followed farming until 1834, but after his removal to Grant County, Ky., engaged in tobacco raising until 1837. He then removed with his family to Illinois, and lived one year at the old trading-post in Macon County. Thence, in 1838, he removed to Decatur, where he purchased a farm and again resumed agriculture until his death. Only three of their ten children are now living—Willis, Louisa and Elizabeth (Mrs. Jones.) Willis Johnson was born in Madison County, Ky., in 1820. He came to Illinois with

his parents in 1837, and on the 14th of July, 1842, was married to Miss Damaras A. Sinclair. He also engaged in tobacco raising for three years, but is now carrying on a farm near Decatur, Ill. Louisa became the wife of James Abrams, and is also a resident of Decatur, Ill. The grandfathers of Mrs. Jones on both sides served in the Revolutionary War.

Politically our subject is Republican, and socially is a member of Le Roy Lodge No. 221, A. F. & A. M. Mrs. Jones is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The family residence is a handsome and tasteful structure, located on the corner of Walnut and Green streets, and Mr. Jones and his family enjoy the friendship and association of the best class of the community.



**J**AMES K. NOBLE, Constable of McLean County, has his residence at No. 604 East Taylor street, Bloomington, his office being at No. 221 North Main street. Mr. Noble is a native of Hamilton County, Ohio, and was born June 28, 1829. He is the son of David and Rebeeca (Karr) Noble, the father a native of Ohio and the mother of New Jersey. They came to Illinois in 1831, and settled in Randolph Grove, Randolph Township, this county. Here, David Noble purchased a farm which was but slightly improved, and carried on the pursuit of agriculture until about 1850. He then sold out and took possession of 160 acres in another part of the township, this latter being Government land. He built a comfortable farm house and all necessary out-buildings, planted an orchard and shrubbery, and established a comfortable home, upon which he spent the remainder of his days, dying in 1865. The mother died in this State in 1838. Their family of six children are as follows: William C., Sarah J. (Mrs. Munson), Stephen K., Mery A. (Mrs. Rust), James K. and Thomas J. David Noble was for many years Postmaster of Randolph Township, and a member of the Masonic fraternity. He was a man of great personal worth and highly respected wherever he made his home.

The subject of this biography was reared on a

farm until twenty-one years of age, receiving a common-school education. After becoming his own man he first rented a farm in Randolph Township, which he operated for a few years, and in 1858 purchased eighty acres in the same township, which he cultivated and occupied until 1870. He then disposed of his farm property and moved into Bloomington, which has since remained his home. He purchased his present residence in 1872.

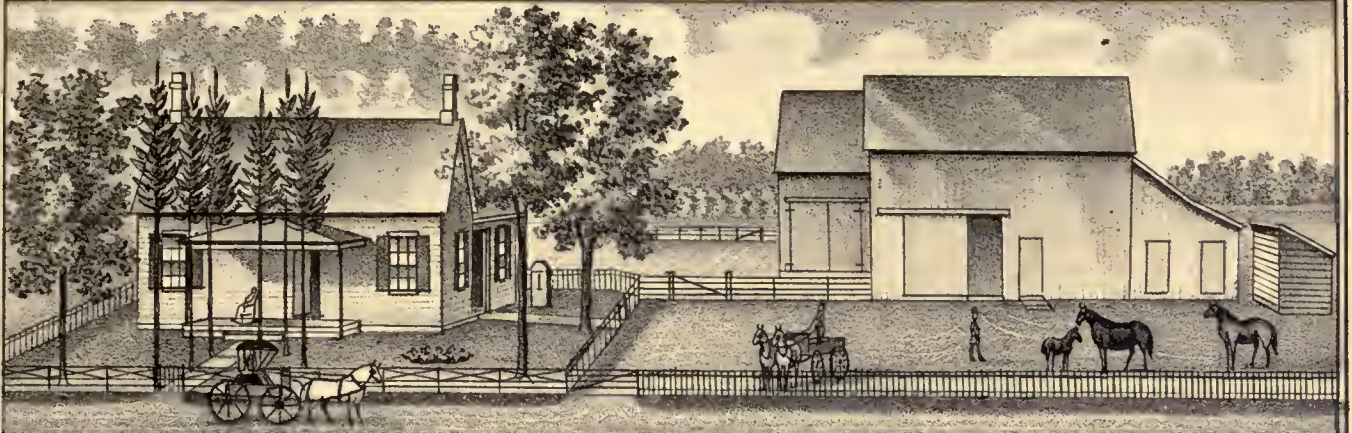
The marriage of James K. Noble and Miss Sarah A. Johnston took place in this county in 1872. Mrs. N. was a native of New Jersey, and the daughter of William and Rebeeca Johnston. Of her union with our subject there were born the following: Mark is a resident of Chicago; Rebeeca, Mrs. LaBelle of Bloomington, is the mother of one child, a son, Stanley; Frank is janitor of the county jail in Bloomington; William J. is telegraph operator and press reporter for the Western Union at Bloomington; Charles A., also a telegraph operator, is stationed at Springfield; Lillie, Carrie, Hattie and Clyde are at home.

Mr. Noble in earlier years learned the plasterer's trade, at which he worked a few years after coming to Bloomington. In 1874 he was appointed Deputy Sheriff under James Hoodhart, which position he occupied four years, and was elected County Constable in 1882, holding the position until the present (1887). While in Randolph Township he served as School Director, and has always taken an active interest in whatever was calculated to advance the growth and prosperity of his county. Both Mr. and Mrs. Noble are connected with the Christian Church, and our subject in all respects is rated as a representative citizen and business man.



**R**UDOLPH R. REEDER, Principal of the Grammar Department of the Illinois State Normal University, is a native of Ohio, being born in Warren County, Jan. 5, 1859. His father, George W. Reeder, was a native of the same State and county, and his mother, Jane (Thompson) Reeder, was born in New Jersey. The family came West in 1866, and settled near Mattoon, Ill., whence they afterward removed to Moul-





RESIDENCE OF JOHN T. HILL, SEC. 36, DRY GROVE TP.



RESIDENCE OF AUGUSTUS HILL, SEC. 19, PADUA TP.



RESIDENCE OF WM. YOUNG, SEC. 21, PADUA TP.



trie County, and from there in 1874 came to Normal. Here the father died in January, 1883, at the age of seventy-two years; the mother is still living and resides with her children. Of these there were seventeen in number, all but three having lived to attain their majority. Four sons served as soldiers in the late war; one fell at the battle of Ft. Donelson, mortally wounded, and one died in the service. At the present writing (1887) ten of the family are living.

The subject of our sketch was the fifteenth child of his parents' family, and the youngest who lived to adult years. His boyhood and youth were passed upon the farm, and his first studies were conducted in the district school. His school life during those early days numbered about three months annually. When the family settled at Normal he was a youth of fifteen years. He attended the public school one term and then entered the grammar grade, whence he was almost immediately promoted to the High School department. One year later he was engaged as a teacher in one of the country schools of McLean County, and subsequently attended the State Normal University during the spring terms for five years. In summer he worked in the harvest field and did whatever else he could find to do, and taught school during the winters. He was obliged to pay his own way through school, but his ambition and his gratifying success encouraged him to persevere. His education cost him about \$1,200, all of which he paid from his own earnings.

In the fall of 1880 Prof. Reeder was chosen Principal of the Public Schools in Rutland, which position he held three years, and employed his leisure time in the further pursuit of his studies, and in due time passed the examinations and graduated from the State Normal University with honors, although he had not attended school for three years. Prof. Reeder for two years and one-half was associated with Prof. J. W. Cook as editor and publisher of the "Illinois School Journal," and has otherwise contributed much of his time and means to further the cause of education, for which he has a genuine love and a deep and abiding interest.

Prof. Reeder was married on the 20th of June, 1883, to Miss May Hewett, daughter of Dr. E. C.

Hewett, of Normal, and they have become the parents of two children—Irene May and Ruth Angeline. The family are regular attendants of the Baptist Church, of which Prof. Reeder has been a member for four years. He is held in the highest esteem as an educator and a citizen, and does honor to the position which he occupies.



**J**OSIAH RICHARDSON, a highly respected resident of Bloomington, is now retired from active business, and living in the enjoyment of a competency accumulated by the industry and good management of earlier years. He is a native of Watertown, Jefferson Co., N. Y., and the son of Josiah and Cynthia (Tolman) Richardson, natives respectively of Massachusetts and New Hampshire, who spent their entire lives engaged in farming pursuits, and died on the old homestead when well advanced in years.

The subject of this history remained on the farm until nineteen years old, attending school during the winter seasons. In 1851 he started for the West, and located in Bloomington, then a little city of 1,000 souls. In 1854 he purchased a piece of ground, put up a good building, and engaged in the manufacture of wagons and carriages. The building with its contents was destroyed by fire the following year, and Mr. Richardson lost the greater part of his worldly possessions. He then engaged in the drug business with Orin Waters for one year, then sold out and engaged in his former business on Front street, which he continued until 1876. He then purchased a farm in Belleflower Township, where he raised stock and grain, and at the same time dealt considerably in real estate. He became prominent in the city affairs, and for two years was Alderman in the First Ward.

Mr. Richardson was married, in 1855, to Miss Lovina Dimmett, who was born in Bloomington, and is the daughter of William and Mary (Ervin) Dimmett, both natives of Ohio. They came to Illinois in 1825, first settling in Danville, whence they removed a few months later to Bloomington, and purchased 160 acres of land east of the city. A part of this was laid off in city lots, and upon the

balance Mr. D. engaged in farming. The record of their ten children is as follows: Catherine, Mrs. Von Elsner; Lovina, Mrs. Richardson; and Melissa, Mrs. McCracken, reside in Bloomington; Mary, Mrs. Wade, lives in Butler, Mo.; Carrie, Mrs. Melvain, and Pauline, Mrs. Bettenger, were twins; the former lives in West Point, Kan., and the latter in Bloomington; William H. is also in the latter-named city; Lee and John are in Kansas City, and Susan, Mrs. W. H. Grantly, lives in Appleton, Mo. Mr. Dimmett died Feb. 19, 1879. The mother still lives on the old homestead, where she has resided for the last fifty years.

Our subject and wife have an adopted daughter, Maude B. The family residence is a handsome and substantial structure, which was erected at a cost of \$7,000, and combines all the comforts and conveniences of a modern dwelling. Mr. R. is a Republican in politics, and with his wife attends the Unitarian Church.



**C**ALVIN BARNES, a pioneer settler of Illinois, was born in Herkimer County, N. Y., on the 13th of April, 1805, thus having arrived at the venerable age of over eighty-two years. His father, Elijah Barnes, was of New England parentage and a native of Massachusetts, and his mother, Miss Luey Hunter, was a native of the same State. Their family included seven children. The forefathers of our subject were of Scotch and English descent, and the Hunters, of English origin, were among the early settlers of the Bay State. Elijah Barnes served three years in the Revolutionary War and received a pension from the Government. The maternal grandfather of our subject was Capt. Hunter, a native of England. Elijah Barnes, soon after his marriage, removed from Massachusetts to Herkimer County, N. Y., making the trip overland with an ox-team. There they established a permanent home, where they passed the remainder of their lives, the father of our subject dying at the age of eighty-four years and the mother at eighty-six, the families of both having been noted for longevity.

The boyhood of Calvin Barnes was passed mostly upon the farm of his father, and in the meantime he received a limited education. At the age of twenty-one years, after spending two summers running on a packet on the Erie Canal he purchased fifty acres of land adjoining his father's farm, and engaged in the pursuit of agriculture, meeting with success. As time progressed he added to his first purchase until he became the owner of 280 acres, all in one body, and became one of the most prosperous and prominent citizens of that locality.

Our subject was married on the 26th of January, 1836, to Miss Lucinda Keyser, of Herkimer County, N. Y., by whom he became the father of six children. In the fall of 1853 he emigrated with his family to McLean County, Ill., and settled in Bloomington, where he lived for two years. In the meantime he had purchased a section of land in Towanda Township, and during these two years had been making ample preparations to take possession. After the removal was effected he engaged principally in raising grain, his first wheat crop yielding 1,700 bushels. The wheat crop, however, for the following three years was a failure, and the fourth year the army worm swept away the grain while it was green. Mr. Barnes, however, by good management weathered the storm, while many of his neighbors were ruined. He then seeded his farm to grass, and then, the war coming on, he found a good market for the 300 tons of hay which he cut in one summer, and which he sold at \$16.25 per ton. This assisted him out of his difficulty. He then started a dairy, having sixty-five cows, and found a ready sale for the products thereof, butter and cheese, never selling the cheese for less than fifteen cents a pound, and during one season of the war sold it at twenty-five cents.

In the meantime Mr. Barnes was giving all his spare time to the raising of cattle, of which he had 250 head at the close of the war. Three years in succession he raised 100 calves. He purchased two tracts of land adjoining the main farm, which gave him 1,000 acres, all in one body. After the war he abandoned the dairy business, sold off a part of his cattle, and engaged extensively in raising corn. The first amount worthy of notice was 12,000 bushels, and he kept increasing the acreage devoted

to this purpose until one year he had 700 acres planted in corn, which yielded 35,000 bushels which, when husked and cribbed, he sold at prices ranging from forty to seventy cents per bushel. He had four sons to assist him in his farming operations, but finally, desiring to change his occupation somewhat, he rented a part of his land and engaged with his four sons in the importation of full blood Norman horses, and at this time they have about sixty-five head of high grade and full blood, and sell quite a number from the farm each year.

At the time Mr. Barnes took possession of his farm there was no place to hitch a horse, so he set a post in the ground for that purpose, which is now the present site of Barnes Station on the Illinois Central Railroad. The farm is now laid out into convenient fields, the boundaries marked by beautiful hedges, there being twelve miles in all of this kind of fence. An artesian well furnishes water for nearly all the stock on the farm. The water is raised by means of a wind-pump and deposited in a large tank, whence it is conducted wherever required by means of pipe.

Mr. Barnes reared a family of six children, four sons and two daughters, all of whom were born in Herkimer County, N. Y., and five are still living. The record is as follows: Elizabeth is deceased; Franklin; Alden; Monroe; Lucy, the wife of Joseph Thomas, and Calvin, Jr.

Mr. Barnes started in life at the foot of the ladder, and his accumulations are the result solely of his own enterprise and industry. He furnishes a striking illustration of what may be accomplished by resolution and perseverance, and as one of the landmarks of McLean County is held in high esteem as having contributed largely to its wealth and prosperity.

**J**AMES A. WELCH, one of the most progressive and skillful farmers of Randolph Township, owns and occupies a fine homestead on section 12, which comprises 227 acres of valuable land, under a good state of cultivation. Upon this he erected a set of shapely and substantial farm buildings, which with their surroundings, form one of the finest farm estates in this part of

McLean County. Most of the land is under the best of cultivation, and is well stocked with good grades of the domestic animals. Mr. Welch took possession of this farm in 1871, which he has since made his home. Besides this he owns eighty acres in West Township.

The subject of this history was born in Downs Township, Jan. 6, 1849, and is the eldest son of Henry Welch, deceased. The latter was a large land-owner and very successful farmer of McLean County. James A. was educated in the public schools of this county, and lived at home until his marriage with Miss Myrtila J. Bishop, which was celebrated at the home of the bride's parents in Randolph Township, on the 23d of November, 1871. Mrs. Welch is the daughter of James and Mary Bishop, her father being an extensive farmer of Randolph Township. She was born on the homestead, Sept. 29, 1852, educated in the common schools, and remained under the home roof until her marriage. Of her union with our subject there have been born four children—Henry A., Florence B., Mary M. and Nellie J., all at home, stout, hearty and full of life. Mrs. Welch is prominently connected with the United Brethren Church, and politically our subject uniformly casts his vote with the Republican party.

**W**ILLIAM C. NOBLE, the son of David and Rebecca (Karr) Noble, of Cincinnati, Ohio, was born in Hamilton County, that State, Feb. 25, 1818, and came to Illinois with his parents in 1831. He was reared to agricultural pursuits, which he followed the greater part of his life, but is now retired from active labor and lives at No. 508 East North street, Bloomington.

The father of Mr. Noble was born Sept. 30, 1795, in Cincinnati, Ohio; the mother, a native of New Jersey, was born March 12, 1796. They were married in Ohio, and came to Illinois in 1831, locating upon a claim of eighty acres which the father had entered near Randolph Grove. To this he subsequently added, and in 1836 entered another tract about four miles from his first claim, upon which he removed and where he spent the greater part of

his declining years. His death occurred Sept. 15, 1863. The mother had passed to her long home on the 24th of November, 1838. David Noble was Postmaster of Randolph Grove for a number of years, and a member of the Masonic fraternity. Of their seven children, six are still living—William C., Stephen K., Sarah J., Mercy A., James K. and Thomas J. David Noble was married the second time, in 1840, to Mrs. Jane Arnold, and by this union had five children, four of whom are living: Mariah L., now Mrs. William Custer, of Homer, Ill.; Eliza Ann married Milton Hollis, of Homer, Ill.; Martha E. is now Mrs. Vance Custer, of Danville, Ill.; Harrison D. lives in the latter-named city, and remains in a state of single blessedness.

William C. Noble attended school near the place of his birth, in Hamilton County, Ohio, until their removal to this county. The temple of learning was built of logs, and was similar to that where the other pioneers, whose history has been detailed in this work, received their rudimentary education. He was naturally fond of his books, and pursued his studies after coming to Illinois. He remained with his parents until 1839, and then commenced farming on his own account on a tract of 160 acres in Randolph Township, this county, which he occupied until 1873. He then practically retired from active labor, and purchased his present home in Bloomington. He was Assessor in Randolph Township three years, also School Director and Roadmaster.

Mr. Noble was married on the 31st of October, 1839, to Miss Isabel J. Stewart, and they became the parents of four children, two now living—Rebecca J., Mrs. Cutter, of Hatfield, Mass., who has two children, William and Bernice, and Seth S., who married Miss Esther Mereer, and they have two children, Cora Bell and Herbert C. Mrs. Isabel Noble departed this life at the home of her husband, May 12, 1855.

Mr. Noble for his second wife married Mrs. Eunice (Burley) Hughes, a native of Scioto County, Ohio, who was born Feb. 27, 1823, and is the daughter of John and Nancy (Anderson) Burley, natives of Ohio. Her father was a farmer by occupation, and came with his family to Illinois in

1833, settling in Jersey County, where the parents lived the remainder of their days, the father dying in 1846; the mother survived him thirty years, and passed to her final rest in 1876. Of their eleven children, eight are now living—James, Daniel, Newton, Eunice, Mary, Sarah, Joel and Lueinda.

Mrs. Noble, by her former husband, became the mother of three children, as follows: John N. Hughes was born Dec. 8, 1845, and died March 9, 1874; he was finely educated and a promising young man, beloved and respected by all who knew him. James A. was born Aug. 5, 1850; Mary A., Mrs. F. B. Chase, has one child, a daughter, Edna, and resides in Chicago. By her union with our subject, Mrs. Noble has had four children, three now living: Annie S., Mrs. P. A. Guthrie, who has two children—Sidney A. and Dudley R.; Ida J. became the wife of L. G. Bronson, of Chicago, and Cora B., who is at home with her parents.

Mr. Noble is Republican in politics, and with his wife a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He has been Steward, Class-Leader and Trustee of the church in Randolph Township, and is in all respects a representative man of McLean County, and one who has been fully identified with its growth and prosperity.



**P**ROF. L. C. DOUGHERTY, Principal of the Preparatory Department of Wesleyan University, and youngest child of John and Elizabeth (Waltower) Dougherty, was born in Westmoreland County, Pa., Aug. 27, 1847. The mother of the subject of our sketch died while he was an infant and his father when the lad was seven years old. A few weeks after this sad event the boy was taken by his oldest brother, Joseph, to Ohio, and the next year the two brothers went overland in a one-horse wagon to Warren County, Ill., where they arrived in June, 1855. In the autumn of the same year young Dougherty voluntarily cast his lot among strangers in a strange land, cheerfully doing all a stout rustic lad might, such as dropping and covering corn, pulling weeds, collecting bundles for the "shockers" and

later, harrowing with oxen, plowing, binding, cutting up corn and the usual work of the farm, receiving in return for such services a minimum amount of kindness, schooling, clothes and food.

The Professor still remembers the primitive log school-house in Indiana County, Pa., where he first attended school and learned to read and write, having for a text-book only McGuffey's Speller. In addition to this term the boy went to school at various times until 1861, but the aggregate time spent at school amounted to a few months only, so when he enlisted in the army his knowledge was limited to a slight acquaintance with mental arithmetic and the ability to fairly read and write. In 1860 he became a man to the degree that he made a formal contract to work one year for \$40, and two months' schooling. He did a man's work, bought his own books and clothing, a literary work for \$4, and when the year closed had a balance of \$8 on hand.

When Ft. Sumter was fired upon, young Dougherty resolved if possible to assist in the preservation of the Union. A military company was organized in the neighboring village of Young America, now Kirkwood, Warren County, which he joined, no questions being asked as to age, though it appeared that his friends put it down at nineteen years. On July 17, 1861, the company was mustered into the U. S. service and became known as Co. B, 59th Ill. Vol. Inf. The young volunteer was, at this date, thirteen years and eleven months old. Private Dougherty performed all the duties of a soldier in the ranks acceptably, and was soon selected for posts of unusual responsibility, and was one for whom both officers and comrades had words of praise only. He marched with his regiment 10,000 miles, and participated in nineteen regular engagements beside many skirmishes. He took part in the more prominent battles of Perryville, Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge and all the battles of the Atlanta campaign, during which he was for sixty days under fire, either of artillery or musketry, and lastly Nashville. On the first day of this struggle he, with a comrade, took eight prisoners, including a Captain, in one squad. At night he found that a blanket which he carried had seventeen bullet holes in it. The sole of one of his shoes

also was partially torn off by a minie ball. In a charge upon the rebel works on Overton Hill on the second day of the battle he was wounded twice, when within two rods of the enemy. On Jan. 12, 1863, at Whiteside, Tenn., he re-enlisted as a veteran, being one of thirty-two in a company which contained, all told, during the war 159. Veteran Dougherty was promoted Corporal and bearer of the regimental banner, in which capacity he was mustered out at New Braunfels, Tex., Dec. 8, 1865.

Mr. Dougherty remained in Texas nine months afterward, studying the situation, with a view to making that State his future home. On a ranch in the hills some thirty miles from San Antonio he took a position as shepherd, where he remained nine months. Afterward rejecting several business offers he, with a companion, turned his face toward the North, and after a horseback ride of more than 1,200 miles, found himself again in Warren County, Ill. In the spring of 1866 Mr. Dougherty entered Monmouth Academy, taking his place, through the grace of the Principal, in the lowest class. He completed the two years' course in twelve months and afterward for several years taught school, worked on a farm and clerked in a general store. His leisure time, however, was given to his books, and in the winter of 1871 he entered the Illinois Normal University, where he spent over three years and graduated in 1876, fourth in rank in a class of twenty-eight. During this time he took Latin as an extra study, and in the meantime taught school seven and one-half months in the Barr School, in Warren County; was one year at Rutland, LaSalle County, as Principal, and one year as Principal of the schools at Ironton, Mo.

After graduating, Mr. Dougherty became Principal of Lacon schools, Marshall County. He remained there two years, when he became Principal of the Minonk schools in Woodford County, which position he held seven years, and was unanimously elected for the eighth year, but resigned to accept the position which he now holds.

Prof. Dougherty was married at Lacon, Aug. 5, 1879, to Miss Olive E., daughter of the late William Trench, for many years editor-in-chief of the *Peoria Democrat*, and later editor and proprietor of the *Illinois Statesman*, published at Lacon. Of this

union one child has been born, Ethel Lucretia, aged six years. Mrs. Dougherty on her mother's side is descended from Peregrino White, the first white child born in New England.

Mr. Dougherty was converted at the age of ten years, and joined the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which both he and his wife are valued members. Mr. D. was chorister and Mrs. D. organist of the churches at Lacon and Minonk, and our subject is now Precentor at the First Methodist Episcopal Church. In politics he has always been a Republican, is an advocate of prohibition, and a member of the G. A. R. and also of the Masonic fraternity. He was without doubt the youngest soldier who became a veteran, or who served during the War. He is essentially a self-made man and never possessed a dollar that he did not earn. He occupies a pleasant residence with his family at No. 915 North West street, where they enjoy the society of the cultured people of the community, and are surrounded by all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life.



**h** C. RICHARDSON, of the firm of Tryner & Richardson, manufacturers and wholesale jobbers of cigars is, with his partner, transacting a successful and growing business on East Front street, Bloomington, occupying Nos. 108 to 110. Mr. Richardson was born in Jefferson County, N. Y., Sept. 19, 1848, his parents being Charles and Chloe (Gillett) Richardson, natives of the same county and State as their son. They were married in 1847, and the father of our subject engaged in farming for many years, but is now retired from active labor. The paternal grandparents were Josiah and Cynthia (Tolman) Richardson, natives of Connecticut and New Hampshire respectively. They settled in Jefferson County, N. Y., before the War of 1812, and engaged in farming pursuits through life. The great-grandfather of our subject, Capt. Tilley Richardson, who was also a native of Massachusetts, likewise removed to Jefferson County, N. Y., and was engaged there in farming until his death. The Rich-

ardsons were of solid and substantial character, and made their mark in the community wherever they located. They were possessed of high moral principles, and universally respected. Charles Richardson held various positions of trust in both his native and adopted counties. The parental family consisted of three children: Horace C., our subject; Charles L., of Watertown, N. Y., and Cynthia Z., now Mrs. Morrison, of Watertown, N. Y.

The subject of this history remained at home and engaged in farming until he was twenty-two years old. He completed his studies at the Business College of Watertown, and after leaving home accepted a position as clerk in a life insurance office at that place, and remained in that position until he came to Bloomington, in October, 1872. Soon afterward he was taken into the firm of Thompson, Andrus & Co., produce and commission merchants, with whom he remained until they closed out their business. He then became book-keeper for the pork packing house of Tryner, Van Schoick & Co., with whom he remained two and one-half years, and then formed a partnership with Mr. Tryner, in the flour and provision trade, on South Main street. The firm of Tryner & Richardson operated in these commodities for a few years, then closed out and engaged in the manufacture of cigars. They moved to their present location on East Front street, in February, 1886, where they were enabled to extend their business facilities and accommodate a rapidly increasing trade. This building is three stories in height, with basement, and covers an area of 44x70 feet. They give employment in the busy season to fifty men, and usually have four men on the road. It is hardly necessary to state that the products of their manufacture are unexcelled, and becoming widely known throughout the West.

Mr. Richardson was married in May, 1875, to Miss Julia Murray, formerly of Rochester, N. Y., but a resident of Illinois since a young child. They have no children. Their pleasant and attractive home is at No. 501 East Washington street, and their friends and associates include the cultured people of the city. Mr. Richardson for many years has been prominent in the business and social affairs of the city, and has been an encourager and



supporter of every measure calculated to advance the intellectual and moral interests of the community. Politically he belongs to the Republican party, and is a worthy member of the Masonic fraternity as High Priest of Bloomington Chapter No. 26, and Eminent Commander of DeMolay Commandery No. 24.



**G**ILBERT R. WOOLSEY, M. D., the oldest practicing physician of Normal, has been a resident physician of that place since 1868, where he has built up a large and lucrative practice. He is freely adjudged as a skilled and reliable physician, with large sympathies and a conscientious devotion to duty. He is a native of this State, and was born in Henry County, Sept. 21, 1840. His parents were Jesse and Freelove (Rogers) Woolsey, both natives of Long Island, N. Y., where they were reared to years of maturity and united in marriage.

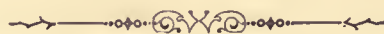
Jesse Woolsey, a hatter by trade, although he never followed the business after serving his apprenticeship, for some time carried on mercantile pursuits in the vicinity of his birthplace. In 1836 he emigrated to Illinois, and entered a tract of land in Henry County, which he settled upon after his marriage. He then became engaged as a real-estate dealer, and kept a hotel for some time at Andover. He spent the remainder of his days in Henry County, dying about 1869, and the mother in 1867. They had only two children—Marietta, the widow of Edwin Buck, of Cambridge, Ill., and Gilbert R., our subject.

Young Woolsey, at the age of sixteen years, and after having received a fair common-school education, spent a few months in traveling through the Eastern States, and afterward pursued his studies, and being fond of his books acquired a good literary education. The war being now in progress, and his travels having landed him in the Prairie State, he enlisted in Co. D, 112th Ill. Vol. Inf., and served until the close. He was with Burnside in East Tennessee, through the Atlanta campaign. He was in the fight at Franklin, and received a scalp wound, which, however, did not disable him.

He recovered sufficiently to be in the fight at Nashville, and the capture of Wilmington, N. C., and received his honorable discharge at Greensboro, N. C., in 1865, being mustered out as Adjutant of his regiment.

After his return to the ranks of civil life our subject returned to Henry County, Ill. He had already resolved to locate in the West, and in 1865 entered upon a course of study in the old Hahnemann College of Chicago, whence, after graduating, he located in Normal, where he has since remained.

Dr. Woolsey is a strict temperance man, and politically a staunch supporter of the principles of the Republican party. He is a member in good standing of the Congregational Church, to the support of which he contributes liberally and cheerfully. He has a pleasant home in Normal, and enjoys the society and friendship of hosts of acquaintances.



**E**DWARD W. KING, of the firm of King & Parks, is, with his partner, engaged in the grocery trade at Le Roy. Mr. K. was born in Toronto, Vermillion Co., Ind., July 22, 1848. His father, Alexander C. King, was a native of Connecticut, born in Suffield, Hartford County, May 20, 1803. His grandfather, John A. King, was also a native of Suffield, and his great-grandfather, Dan King, was the owner of a small farm near that town, where he spent the last years of his life. The grandfather of our subject was a practicing physician, and removed from Suffield to Phelps-town, N. Y., before the day of canals or railroads. He had hardly become fairly settled in his new home when he was seized with fatal illness, and died soon afterward. His wife was formerly Miss Caroline Rose, a native of his own town, and a daughter of Gad Rose, also a native of Suffield, where he spent his entire life, with the exception of the time in which he served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War.

After the death of his father, Alexander C. King who was then but a boy, lived with a neighboring farmer in Suffield until eighteen years of age. He had improved his advantages for education, and at

this time had taught two terms of school. He afterward attended an academy at Westfield and Lenox, Mass. He taught and studied in the academy alternately as his means would allow until twenty-four years of age. He then went to New Jersey, where he taught two years, and thence to Montgomery County, Md., where he followed the same occupation two years, and afterward returned to New Jersey, continuing his vocation of teaching. He was one of the fortunate few who invested in a lottery ticket and drew a prize of \$3,750 in cash, which enabled him to educate his sisters and start himself in business. In 1830, resolving to leave New England and try his fortunes in the West, he removed to Terre Haute, Ind., and engaged in mercantile business until the latter part of the year 1846, when he removed to Vermillion County, the same State, where he pursued the same business in Clinton and Toronto until 1851.

Mr. King then came to Le Roy, this county, and renting a suitable building, opened it for an hotel. The following summer he put up a building and purchased a stock of groceries. He operated the hotel and grocery store three years, then sold the former and devoted his time exclusively to merchandising. In due time he added a stock of dry-goods, and finally abandoned the grocery trade, continuing the dry-goods business until 1874, when he sold out and is now living in retirement. The father of our subject was a man of strict integrity, and possessed the confidence and esteem of his business associates in a marked degree. In early times, before large scales were in use here, he was the authority in measurements of wagon-loads of corn brought to town to sell. He possessed a fund of general information, and until failing eyesight compelled him to abandon it, was an extensive reader.

Alexander C. King was three times married. His first wife, to whom he was united in September, 1831, was Miss Emeline F. Stebbins, who was born and reared in Springfield, Mass. She departed this life Oct. 21, 1842. His second marriage occurred in 1845, with Miss Mary Lyon, who was born in Newark, N. J., accompanied her husband to this State, and died at Le Roy in 1870. His third and last marriage was on June 8, 1875, with Mrs. Emeline (Booth) Coekran, the widow of William Coekran.

Of the first marriage there were born three children: James, now a practicing physician of Decatur, Ill.; Caroline R., who became the wife of Dr. J. W. Coleman, and lives in Monticello, Piatt Co., Ill., and William R., who died in Toronto, Ind. Of the second marriage there were two children: Ellen, who became the wife of David Simms, and died Jan. 6, 1881, at Watseka, Ill., and our subject.

Edward W. King was but three years old when he came to Illinois with his parents. He pursued his primary studies in the schools of Le Roy, and later attended the academy at Hillsdale, Mich. After graduating from there he became a clerk in his father's store, and continued with him until the latter sold out. He remained with his father's successor two years, and was similarly employed in other places until 1880. He then purchased a one-half interest in the store of Robert Murray, and a year later purchased the interest of his partner, and soon afterward Mr. Parks became associated with him in business. They have operated together since that time, and carry a large stock of groceries and queensware. The firm is wideawake and enterprising, and forms a prominent factor in the business element of this community.

The marriage of Edward W. King and Miss Nellie Smith was celebrated Dec. 26, 1871. Mrs. K. was born in Licking County, Ohio, being the daughter of Wesley and Mary A. (Evans) Smith. They have three children—Alpheus C., Mary and Le Gran. The family residence is pleasantly located, and its inmates are surrounded by all the comforts of life. Mr. K is a member of the City School Board, and uniformly casts his vote for the Republican party.

**J**AMES P. KNIGHT, a general farmer and stock-raiser of Bloomington Township, resides on the old Knight homestead on section 19, where he has forty-five acres of land, most of which is in a good state of cultivation. He was born in Jackson County, Mo., Aug. 9, 1845, where he spent his earlier years, aside from some time spent in Madison County, Ky. His father came North in 1863, accompanied by his family, on account of troubles incident to the





James H. Cox

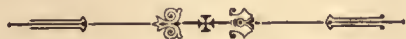


John F. Rusak

breaking out of the Rebellion. James P. was then nearly eighteen years of age. He was the only son and the second of three children born to his parents. He remained with his parents until 1864, and then resolved to become a soldier of the Union army. He was not yet of age, but succeeded in gaining admission to the ranks, becoming a member of Co. G, 146th Ill. Vol. Inf., under Capt. Williams. This regiment was not called upon for active service, it being near the close of the war, but was detailed to provost duty. After a service of eleven months our subject received his honorable discharge. He then returned home to his father's farm, where he has since been engaged in agricultural pursuits.

Mr. Knight was married on the 10th of November, 1870, in Blue Mound Township, to Miss Mildred G. Stagner, the daughter of Rev. John S. and Julia A. (Golden) Stagner. Her parents were natives of Madison County, Ky., and coming to Illinois after their marriage settled in Blue Mound Township, where the father is yet living with his second wife. The mother of Mrs. K. departed this life Nov. 10, 1872.

Mrs. King was the third child of a family of ten, all of whom lived to mature years. She was born in Blue Mound Township, this county, June 21, 1853, and educated in the public schools, remaining under the parental roof until her marriage with our subject. Of this union there were born five children, all living—Mary, Florence, Loa A., George W. and Aldena. Our subject and his wife are members of the Christian Church, and in politics Mr. King affiliates with the Republican party.



**J**OHAN F. RUST, a pioneer settler of Randolph Township, is now engaged in general farming and stock-raising on his fine homestead of 190 acres, located on section 16. He has been a resident of the Prairie State for over fifty-three years, coming here when a young man and unmarried. He first came to Hamilton County, Ill., in 1828, and in the spring of 1834 came to McLean County.

Mr. Rust was born in Maury County, Tenn.,

Aug. 11, 1816. His father, William Rust, was a farmer all his life and died at the residence of his son, our subject, in August, 1873. He had married, in early life, Miss Nancy McGee, who was born in the same county as her husband, Granville County, N. C. She died at the residence of her son, George Rust, in Randolph Township, in August, 1868.

The grandfather of our subject, Mathew Rust, died in North Carolina in the prime of life when his son William was a small boy. His grandfather McGee, whose name was Nathan A., was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and after his retirement from the military service settled in North Carolina, where he engaged in farming and raised his family to man and womanhood, and after his daughter married William Rust, he removed with them to Tennessee, living there for a time, when he moved to Smith County, Middle Tennessee, where he died.

John F. Rust lived until eight years of age on the homestead of his father in Middle Tennessee. When he arrived at that age his father, who was of a roaming disposition, went to Mississippi for a few years, then returned to Tennessee, and later emigrated to Illinois, locating in Hamilton County with his family as early as the winter of 1828. There our subject lived until he was eighteen years old, when he came alone to McLean County and settled in Randolph Township, which since then has been his home. He employed himself at whatever his hands could find to do, and was quite prudent in expending his money. He was principally engaged with stock dealers and from them learned the art of buying and selling and feeding live stock. In a few years he was enabled to purchase eighty acres of land, which he began to stock, and profiting by his experience purchased and sold live stock to good advantage. His land was unimproved when it came into his possession, but he worked upon it industriously and soon brought it to a fine state of cultivation. He has now an excellent set of farm buildings and all necessary implements and machinery required for the carrying on of agriculture and stock-raising in a first-class manner. The homestead presents one of the attractive points in the landscape of Randolph Township.

Mr. Rust was married in Bloomington Township,

Oct. 22, 1840, to Miss Elizabeth Lindley, who was born in Christian County, Ky., Aug. 27, 1823, and came North with her parents in 1831 when a child of seven years, and they settled in Blooming Grove, which remained the home of the parents until their death. The father of Mrs. Rust was John Lindley by name; and his wife, before her marriage, Miss Elizabeth Gray. The former was born in North Carolina and the latter in East Tennessee. Their daughter, the wife of our subject, lived with her parents until her marriage.

Mr. and Mrs. Rust became the parents of eleven children, three of whom are deceased. Those living are: G. W., of Bloomington, where he is engaged in the grocery trade; Thomas J. and J. Lee are carrying on agriculture and are large farmers of Randolph Township; Jennie is the wife of Martin L. Bishop, a farmer of Randolph Township; Alice married John Kelley, a farmer, also of Randolph Township; William D. is carrying on a farm in Greene County, Iowa, and also merchandising; Minnie married John Fitzpatrick and lives in Randolph Township; B. F. remains with his father and assists in operating the farm. Most of the members of the family are connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church and all are regular attendants. Mr. Rust in politics is an uncompromising Jacksonian Democrat. Mr. Rust during his life has been a large landholder, but has reserved, including his timber, 190 acres for a homestead. A lithographic portrait of Mr. Rust is shown on another page.



**J**AMES H. COX, who has retired from an active business career, has resided in this county for upwards of thirty-six years. He is now living at Hudson, where he is highly respected. He was born at Norway, Oxford Co., Me., April 21, 1822. His grandfather, William Cox, was a native of Wales, and our subject's father, William Cox, Jr., was born in Massachusetts, and was a merchant by vocation, and as such, met with signal success. He died in Oxford County, Me., in the seventy-second year of his life, having done business there for many years. Eliz-

abeth (Phipps) Cox, our subject's mother, was born at Chatham, N. H., and there lived until her marriage. She also died in Oxford County, Me., and was seventy-two years old at the date of her demise. Fourteen children were born of the union of our subject's parents, twelve of whom grew to attain the age of man and womanhood, and six are living at the present writing, namely: Caroline E., widow of Capt. W. A. Sweetzer, resides at Boston; Mary, widow of A. Sweetzer, is a resident of Bloomington; William is a farmer by calling, and a resident of Oxford County, Me.; Samuel P. resides in Bloomington; Rowena C. became the wife of C. A. Noies, and they are living in Boston, Mass.

The subject of this notice was the twelfth child born to his parents, and next to the youngest of those now living. He received his education in the common schools, and during his early life worked on his father's farm, preferring such labor rather than clerking in his father's store. In 1851 Mr. Cox came to Bloomington where some of the family had previously made a settlement. His intention at that time was to purchase land and engage in farming, but, in accordance with the advice of his brothers, he abandoned his plans and engaged in mercantile pursuits at Hudson. That place was then without a store, and Mr. Cox purchased an empty building in the village, which had been previously occupied by an unsuccessful merchant, and in it placed a stock of general merchandise and was the only merchant in that place for several years. His motto was "never spend more than you earn," and by fair and honest dealing he soon established a well-paying business. He soon associated his sons with himself, and continued in active business until Jan. 1, 1885. Being of a nervous temperament, our subject found that it was impossible for him to be idle after he had turned his business over to his sons, and soon thereafter established a large apiary, to which he attends for his own amusement, more than the profit he derives therefrom, although the latter is not insignificant. The home of our subject is one of the most pleasant within the boundary of McLean County, and it is a great comfort to Mr. Cox to know that his children have all grown up and occupy honor-

able positions in the busy world, and are well-to-do financially.

In early life Mr. Cox was an old-line Whig, and continued to vote for the success of that party until 1856, when the Republican party sprang into existenc, since which time he has voted and worked for its success. For almost thirty years he held the position of Postmaster at Hudson. He was also the first Supervisor of Hudson Township, and was the inenmbent of that office for several terms. Religiously he is a Baptist and has been a Deacon in a eongregation of that denomination at Hudson, for over thirty years, and has also done good work in the Sunday-school.

Feb. 5, 1846, at Waterford, Mc., the marriage of our subject with Miss Mary Chadbourn was solemnized. She was born in Oxford County, Me., Oct. 16, 1824, and is the daughter of James and Mercy (Scribner) Chadbourn. Their union has been blest by the birth of five children: Charles E., Flora S., wife of J. W. Aldrich, and Nettie, wife of Rev. F. M. Smith, a resident of St. James, Minn., and Harry W. and Herbert M., twins. For over forty-one years Mr. and Mrs. Cox have lived together as man and wife. Together they have toiled and struggled, always lending an attentive ear to true eharity, and doing their part toward the advancement of the cause of the Master. Now in their old age they are enabled to pass their lives in peace and quiet, and in the enjoyment of a competency earned through years of honest toil, and, looking back over the record of the history of their lives, none can point to pages darkened with deeds of unkindness or wrong to their fellowmen. Aecompanying this brief personal history, we present the portrait of Mr. Cox, as that of a leading and representative man of the county.

**J**OHN H. SALZMAN, a native of Butler County, Ohio, became a resident of Illinois in 1875, and is now located on a good farm in Danvers Township, on section 12. He was born July 15, 1848, and is the son of Christian and Mary (Imhoff) Salzman, natives respectively of France and Germany. His father was born in 1811,

and his mother in 1806. Christian Salzman was a farmer by occupation and left his native land in 1831, settling in Butler County, Ohio, and cultivating rented land until 1850. He then removed to Tippeeanoe County, Ind., where he purchased eighty acres of land and where he still resides. Mrs. S. emigrated from Germany to the United States with a brother and sister. They located in Pennsylvania, whence Mrs. S. removed to Ohio, and was there married, in Butler County, in 1837, to the father of our subject. They became the parents of six children: Melinda, now Mrs. Christopher Haag; Mary, Mrs. Christian Ehresman; Catherine, Mrs. John B. Zook; Elizabeth, Mrs. John Ummel; Anna, Mrs. Joseph Ehresman, and John H., of our sketeh. Mr. Salzman was Democratie in politics, and both parents were members in good standing of the Mennonite Church.

John H. Salzman remained on his father's farm and attended the common schools until he was twenty-one years of age. He then crossed over from Indiana to Illinois, and coming to this county, worked on a farm for one year. He was then united in marriage with Miss Magdalena Strubhar, their wedding taking place in the spring of 1870. They located on a rented farm for three years and then returned to Indiana, and our subject worked with his father for three years. He then returned to this county and rented land in Danvers Township four years, where he purchased 200 aeres of his present homestead. Upon this he has made extensive improvements, all the land being now under good entivation and well stocked with the better grade of domestic animals. The farm dwelling, barn and out-buildings are fair and substantial structures, and everything about the premises indicates the enterprising, industrious and thrifty agriculturist. Mrs. Salzman is the daughter of Valentine and Barbara Strubhar, natives of France, the father born in 1817, and the mother in 1828. The latter was a child of two years old when she came to America. Mr. Strubhar came to this county in early youth, and located in Butler County, Ohio, where he followed farming until 1832, when he removed further westward and located in this county. Here he was married, in 1847, to Miss Barbara Gingerieh, and they became the parents of eleven

children, as follows: Joseph died when a young child; Magdalena, Mrs. Salzman, was the second of the family; Mary became the wife of John Schaffer; John W. married Miss Catherine Forney; Valentine died in infancy; Peter A. married Miss Elizabeth Angsberger; Rosa became Mrs. James F. Tobias; Elizabeth A., Mrs. Jacob Ehresman; Emile; Jacobine C. and Ulysses. Mr. Strubhar died Nov. 29, 1881. The mother and children are members of the Mennonite Church except Emile, and the father was also a member of the same church.

To Mr. and Mrs. Salzman have been born eight children—Sylvester, Emanuel E., Simon R., Newman A., Dora May, Ada B., Azalia M., and Lulu M.; Sylvester, Newman and Dora May are deceased.

Mr. and Mrs. Salzman are members of the Mennonite Church, and Mr. Salzman is in politics a Prohibitionist.



**J**OHAN T. RUTLEDGE, a prominent farmer of Empire Township, owns and occupies a fine homestead on section 11, township 21. He is a native of this township, and was born Nov. 13, 1833. His father, James Rutledge, was born in Kentucky, and his grandfather, Robert Rutledge, in South Carolina. The latter removed to Kentucky at an early period in its settlement, and in 1820 proceeded north to Illinois, settling first in White County, whence he removed to that part of Tazewell now in McLean, and located at Randolph Grove. With his brother Thomas he made a claim, a part of which he improved and occupied a year or two, and then made another claim on sections 33 and 34, on what afterward became Empire Township. There he erected two log cabins, one for himself and one for his mother. At the time of his marriage he settled on his claim and commenced housekeeping. There was no saved lumber used in the construction of this cabin, the floor being made of puncheon and the roof of clapboards made with the draw-shave, and in this humble abode our subject was born, and the father lived until his death, which occurred Dec. 15, 1863. The nearest markets at that early day were Peoria and Chicago, which were also the depots for supplies, and it took about eleven days

to make the round trip to Chicago. In 1845 the father of our subject took a load of wheat to Chicago, and on his return brought back a load of lumber, with which he finished the frame house in which he spent the last years of his life. He, however, built a brick addition to the house some years before his death. He was successful in his agricultural and business operations, and at the time of his death owned over 500 acres of land. He was married, in McLean County, Ill., to Miss Prudie Vandeventer, who was born in Tennessee, and was the daughter of John Vandeventer, an early pioneer of this county. Mrs. Prudie Rutledge died at the home of her daughter, Melinda Sageser, at Le Roy, on the 27th of November, 1881.

John T. Rutledge was the eldest child of his parents' family. He attended school in the pioneer log cabin with puncheon floor and benches, and chimney of dirt and sticks, built up on the outside. The fireplace occupied nearly the entire end of the cabin, and light was admitted through a square hole in the logs and covered with greased paper. He finished his education, however, in a frame school-house, the erection of which was considered quite an event. Our subject assisted his parents on the farm, and remained under the home roof until his marriage. He then cultivated a part of the old homestead for two years, whence he removed to the farm which he now owns and occupies on section 11. At the time of taking possession of this, it was wild prairie, with the sod yet unturned. He labored industriously for its improvement and cultivation, and now has a fine estate with a good brick house, frame barn and all other necessary and convenient out-buildings.

The marriage of our subject with Miss Sarah Gilmore was celebrated on the 15th of February, 1855. Mrs. Rutledge was born in Harrison County, Ohio, and was the daughter of William and Phoebe (West) Gilmore. Her father was a native also of Harrison County, Ohio, where he was reared to farming pursuits. In 1850 he emigrated to McLean County, Ill., first settling in Downs Township, whence he removed to Empire Township and purchased land on section 10. Both he and his wife are still living and are now residents of West Township. Mr. and Mrs. Rutledge became the



parents of twelve children, seven now living, the record of whom is as follows: Flora Belle married George W. Wilson, and lives in Empire Township; Cynthia, Prudie, Maggie, Presley, Bertha and Joseph are at home with their parents; Belle, Cynthia, Prudie and Maggie are highly educated, and are all teachers. Cynthia will graduate from the State Normal this season; two died in infancy; James William when six weeks old; Mary, the third child, was born July 1, 1860, and died March 7, 1881; Lelia, the tenth child, was born Jan. 19, 1875, and died July 30, 1881. Mr. and Mrs. Rutledge are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and our subject politically is an uncompromising Prohibitionist.



**D**R. F. J. PARKHURST, one of the foremost practitioners of Danvers, is a native of Jefferson County, Wis., where he was born on the 13th of February, 1857. His parents were Hiram and Lois (Morgan) Parkhurst, natives of Vermont, who came to Wisconsin in about 1853. Hiram Parkhurst was a blacksmith and machinist, skillful in his profession, a man of great industry, and strictly temperate habits. He followed his trade in this section of country for a number of years, and passed his declining years in Watertown, Wis., his death taking place in March, 1885, in Iowa, while there on a visit. The mother is still living. The household, by two marriages, included the following children. Of the first marriage there were: Lucian, Helen and Elizabeth. Of the second there were: Daniel, Hiram, Lois, Fred and Frank (twins).

Dr. Parkhurst was reared in the city of Watertown, Wis., and pursued his early studies in the common schools. After becoming of suitable age he entered the Northwestern University at Watertown, and after spending one year there, commenced teaching, which he followed for some years. He then began the study of medicine with his uncle, Dr. H. Parkhurst, of Danvers, with whom he remained one year. He then entered Chicago Medical College, where he studied for three years, and gained a valuable experience in the college and

hospitals of Cook County, attending clinical lectures in both, and graduated at the head of his class. He commenced the practice of his chosen profession in Danvers in 1880, and made a specialty of surgery. In this comparatively brief time he has built up a large and lucrative practice, and is now classed among the leading physicians of McLean County. He is a close student, an extensive reader, and ambitious to excel.

Dr. Parkhurst was united in marriage with Miss Mary Abbott, Oct. 27, 1881. Mrs. H. is the only daughter of Ira Abbott, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of one child, Arthur A., who was born May 29, 1883. They occupy a pleasant and attractive home, and enjoy the society of the first residents of Danvers.

Dr. Parkhurst has been a member since 1881 of the A. F. & A. M., Danvers Lodge No. 742, of which he is also filling the position of Senior Warden. He has been connected with the Congregational Church for the past fourteen years, and in politics is a staunch Republican. He holds membership with the American Medical Association, Illinois State Medical Society and McLean County Medical Society.



**G**EORGE W. PUMPHREY, a farmer of Randolph Township, is pleasantly located on section 30, where he owns 160 acres of valuable land, which is finely improved and supplied with a handsome and substantial set of farm buildings. These have been mainly erected by our subject. He took possession of his present home in 1882, and since then has been industriously engaged in adding to its attractions and increasing its value. Mr. Pumphrey was born in Carroll County, Ohio, Feb. 20, 1859, and was four years of age when he came with his parents to Illinois. Of his father, R. Pumphrey, a sketch will be found in another part of this work.

Our subject was reared in Randolph Township, improved his opportunities at school, and became possessed of a first-class education. He remained with his parents until his marriage, which occurred Feb. 23, 1882, at the home of the bride's parents,

near Heyworth. The lady of his choice was Miss J., eldest daughter of Jacob and Mary E. (Cameron) Boyd, both of Knox County, Ohio, and of excellent Scotch and Irish ancestry. They were reared in Knox County, and there also occurred their marriage and the birth of their daughter, Mrs. P. This latter event took place Aug. 26, 1862. A few years thereafter they came to Illinois and located on a farm in the south part of Randolph Township, where the parents are now living and engaged in farming. Mrs. Pumphrey received a fair education, and remained with her parents until her marriage. Of her union with our subject there has been one child—Mary E.

Soon after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. P. located on their present homestead, and there is every indication of a prosperous and happy future before them. They have not yet reached the noon of life and still possess the courage and the hope of youth. Mr. Pumphrey is connected with the Presbyterian Church, and in politics is a Democrat.



**J**OHAN S. POPPLE, who is widely and favorably known throughout this section of the State, is a gentleman in the prime of life, and has already distinguished himself as one of the most useful citizens of Danvers, having been intimately identified with its business and industrial interests since 1860. Mr. Popple was born in Boston, England, Jan 24, 1841, and when a lad of ten years old started for America with his parents, arriving here in August, 1851. The family first settled in Oswego, N. Y. The father of our subject, Rev. Samuel Popple, was a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and died at Watertown, N. Y., in 1855. John S., a bright and ambitious boy, attended school at Oswego and Watertown, and secured for himself a good English education. He came to Bloomington, Ill., in 1858, whence he removed two years later to Danvers. He was engaged in the milling business until 1870, but being possessed of more than ordinary musical talent, was desirous of perfecting himself in this art, and accordingly went to Chicago, where he entered the Normal Musical Academy, conducted by Prof.

Palmer. Under the instruction of this eminent musician and teacher, he devoted himself to the study of music for five years, and then became a teacher of the same, which he followed with success for five years. In 1875, in connection with his brother, M. Luther Popple, he bought out the hardware stock of William Estes in Danvers, and since that time has been successfully engaged in this branch of trade.

Soon after the establishment of the Bloomington *Leader* Mr. Popple became its Danvers correspondent, which he continued without the intermission of a single week until April 3, 1880. The *Leader* frequently called attention to him as a model for all correspondence, both in the brevity and terseness of his style, and his manuscript, which, distinct and handsome as copper-plate, was the delight of the composing-room. Upon severing his connection with the *Leader* Mr. Popple, in company with Prof. John P. Yoder, established the Danvers *Dispatch*, April 1, 1881, which at once commanded public attention and invited public patronage. At the end of two years, Prof. Yoder withdrew, and Mr. Popple has since been sole editor and proprietor. The *Dispatch* is a five-column folio, independent in politics, and has now probably the largest circulation of any paper in McLean County, outside of Bloomington, and has become quite indispensable in this locality. Mr. Popple is a concise and interesting writer, and exhibits more than ordinary ability as a journalist and business manager, and receives honorable recognition from the fraternity, which largely copies from the interesting matter in the *Dispatch*.

In addition to the many arduous duties of his business affairs Mr. Popple has been pressed into service in connection with many important enterprises affecting the welfare and progress of Danvers and vicinity. His clear head and wise judgment are in constant requisition. He has been elected Secretary of the Rock Creek Fair Association for ten consecutive years, and for nine years served as Secretary of the Danvers Mutual Fire Insurance Company. He is also Agent for the *Ætna*, Underwriters', Hartford, Phoenix, Springfield and Queen Insurance Companies.

The marriage of John S. Popple and Miss Jennie

E. Franks, a native of Danvers, was celebrated at the home of the bride's parents, June 4, 1868. Of their union were born four children—Edwin G., Mabel W., Ethel F. and Park W. The home of our subject and his family is pleasantly located on Main street, and in all its appointments is indicative of cultivated tastes and ample means.

Socially Mr. Popple is Secretary of Danvers Lodge No. 742, A. F. & A. M., which honored office he has held since its organization, March 10, 1873. He is an efficient Sabbath-school worker, and officiates as organist for the Presbyterian and Baptist Sabbath-schools, where his vocal and instrumental talents are a source of great pleasure and satisfaction to the people who attend. It is seldom that in one individual there is combined extraordinary business talent and the most cultivated and refined tastes, but Mr. Popple is a brilliant exception to this rule. His energy and industry are uniformly exercised in all departments of life, and he can devote himself fully as closely to its sober business as to its lighter and more pleasing tasks. He is yet in the prime of life, and great things are expected of him. At his home in Danvers he is honored and esteemed by all, and possesses that genial disposition which is careful not to wound a friend and avoids creating an enemy.



**W**B. MOORE, one of the old and honored residents of Bloomington City, in earlier years carried on the granite, marble and stone business, which is now operated by his son, J. K. Moore, at No. 311 West Washington street. The subject of this history was born in Perry County, Ohio, near Somerset, Dec. 8, 1832, and is the son of John K. and Sarah C. (Ballou) Moore, the father a native of Westmoreland County, Pa., born near Greensburg, in April, 1803, and the mother of Rhode Island, born the same year. They were married in Guernsey County, Ohio, and settled upon a farm in Perry County, where the father taught school in the winter season.

The grandfather of our subject, Rev. Thomas Moore, was a gentleman of much learning and fine abilities, having been educated at Dartmouth Col-

lege, N. H., and took the degree of D. D. at Yale. He labored as a Presbyterian minister in Pennsylvania and Ohio, and was a Chaplain in the Revolutionary War, being with Gen. Washington at Valley Forge in 1776. He also considered it his duty to carry a musket, and be ready to fight if it was necessary. After the independence of the colonies had been established, he located in Pennsylvania, and moved to Ohio in 1811 with his family. His children were four in number—Thomas, James P., Catharine and John K. Of these, only one is living, Catharine, Mrs. Downey, whose home is in White County, Ind.

The maternal grandfather of our subject was Welcome Ballou, a boot and shoe maker by trade, who removed to Ohio prior to the War of 1812, where he purchased land near Chandlersville, where he carried on agriculture and his trade alternately. His family included seven children: Sarah C., Mrs. Moore, now deceased; Aurelius, of Newark, Ohio; Aurelia, and Welcome, M. D., both deceased; Celia A., Mrs. Foster, living in Shirley, Ill.; Lorinda, Mrs. Wartenbee, and Leander, M. D., deceased.

John K. Moore, the father of our subject, in early manhood moved to Fairfield County, Ohio, and engaged in general merchandise. In 1843 he removed to White County, Ind., and there farmed and taught school alternately, finally locating in Monticello, where he departed this life in March, 1845. The mother had died in Warren County, Ind., when about seventy years of age. Their children were: Thomas, now of Santa Fe, N. M.; Welcome B., in Bloomington; John K., of Sumner County, Kan.; Lorinda B., of Warren County, Ind.; Matilda, who died in Kansas, and James P., of St. Paul, Minn. The parents were members of the Presbyterian Church. In earlier years, John K. Moore commenced studying for the ministry, but was obliged to abandon it on account of his health.

W. B. Moore of our sketch remained at home until twenty-one years old, in the meantime receiving his education principally under his mother's instruction. He was reared to habits of industry, and when sixteen years of age began to chop wood and split rails, and with the money thus earned, secured a small amount of live-stock. Then, in company with his brother John K., he purchased a

team, and they began to farm on rented land. They operated thus the following three years, and then our subject went to Covington, Ind., and apprenticed himself to learn the marble business. He soon afterward had the management of a shop, and in 1863 came to Bloomington, where he established the present business.

The marriage of W. B. Moore and Miss Eliza E. Lamb was celebrated in 1855. Mrs. Moore is a native of Fountain County, Ind., and was born near Newtown, being the daughter of William and Lucinda Lamb. Of her marriage with our subject there have been born seven children, one of whom is deceased: Alice A., Mrs. Flanagan, lives in Logansport, Ind.; the others, at home, are John K., William L., Fannie B., Sarah C. and Grace.

Mr. Moore has also operated as a contractor and builder, and has superintended the construction of some of the most important buildings in the city, among them being the Methodist Church, which is a model of architectural beauty. Eight men are employed about the works, and their patrons are among the best business men of the city and county. Mr. Moore is held in the highest respect by his fellow-citizens, and has built up for himself a good reputation for honor, integrity, and straightforward business principles.



**W**ILLIAM L. VOCKRODT, a carpenter and cabinet-maker, now living in the village of Danvers, this county, was born in Twin Grove, Sept. 5, 1849. His parents, John C. and Mary (Deal) Vockrodt, were natives respectively of Germany and Waynesboro, Va. John Vockrodt was born in 1815, and came to America when a youth of eighteen years, landing in Baltimore on the night made memorable by a great fall of meteors. He soon afterward proceeded to Waynesboro, where he worked at carpentering and cabinet-making until 1848. He then came to McLean County, Ill., and followed the same vocation until his death, which occurred in this village on the 28th of July, 1873, of which he had been a resident since 1852. The parents of our subject were married in Virginia in July, 1844; the mother was born in April, 1822, and is still living, in fair health. Of

the seven children born to the household three are now living. The record is as follows: John, the eldest, is deceased; William L. of our sketch is the second child; Elinore (1st) is now deceased; Elinore (2d) is now Mrs. Culbertson, and resides in Danvers; Charles E. is deceased; Walter L. married Miss Adelaide Kanffman, and lives in Danvers; Susan is deceased.

Mr. Vockrodt remained under the parental roof until his marriage. On the 20th of December, 1876, he was united with Miss Margaret Crist, who was also a native of Illinois, and was born in Tazewell County, Oct. 28, 1845. Mrs. V. is of German and English ancestry, being the daughter of Hiram and Clarinda (Brown) Crist, natives of Ohio and New York respectively. Hiram Crist was born May 22, 1809, in Hamilton County, Ohio, where he spent his childhood and youth, coming to Illinois in 1842. He located in Pekin, but after a few months removed to Tremont, in Tazewell County, where, with his family, he remained a few years, then moved to Bloomington, and thereafter to Danvers Township, where he died in 1871. Mrs. Crist was again married in 1879, to Mr. Philo Washburn, a resident of this township. Mrs. Crist by her first husband had nine children: John O. B.; Nathaniel; Franklin, who died at the age of eleven years; Abraham; Margaret L.; Eliza A. and Mary E. (twins) are living; Eliza married Mr. John Ament, and lives in Bloomington, Ill.; Mary E. married James H. Deal, a farmer near Baxter Springs, Kan.; Loyd married Miss Annie Dickinson, and Harriet died at the age of six years. Mr. and Mrs. Vockrodt are the parents of two children: Clara M., born Oct. 29, 1878, and John C., July 25, 1881. The father of our subject served as Justice of the Peace for twenty years in Danvers, holding the office at the time of his death. William L. was thereafter elected to fill the vacancy, and has occupied the position for thirteen years. He is a member of the Town Board, of which he has been President for three years, has been Notary Public for the last twelve years, and in the fall of 1873 was elected a member of the Board of Supervisors. He is now upon two committees, one having charge of the paupers in Western District, and the Committee on Education.



RESIDENCE OF D. F. BIDDLE, SEC. 1., TOWANDA TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF ALBERT OGDEN, SEC. 9., MONEY CREEK TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF ELIAS B. JOHNSON, SEC. 21., BLUE MOUND TOWNSHIP.



Mr. Voekrodt is strictly Republican in politics, and Mrs. V., taking the other side of the question, upholds Democratic principles. The latter has been a member of the Christian Church since she was fourteen years of age. Mr. V. is not connected with any church organization. Mrs. Voekrodt is a lady of good musical talent, and has quite a reputation as a singer in this community, having occupied the leading position in the choir of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. She recalls many pleasant incidents of her childhood, having been an especial pet of Abraham Lincoln, who used to stop at her father's hotel, which he carried on at Tremont, and where Mr. Lincoln often stopped. Mrs. V. was then a child of three or four years old, and used to dance and sing for "Uncle Abe," who trained and encouraged her in these accomplishments.

Mr. Voekrodt became a resident of Danvers in 1852, and here received his education. He has been a thorough-going business man, and by his own industry has accumulated property consisting of three lots and a fine dwelling-house. His attractive home is the abode of peace and plenty, where he lives in the enjoyment of the comforts of life, and the confidence and esteem of his fellow-citizens.



**D**R. JAMES McCANN is one of the successful practitioners of Normal, and has made that his home since 1879. He was born in Connersville, Fayette Co., Ind., May 24, 1832. The parents of our subject, James and Barbara (Dary) McCann, were natives of Fayette County, Pa. In 1818, the parents, accompanied by Daniel Yantes, founder of Indianapolis, took passage on a flatboat down the Ohio River for Cincinnati, whence they removed to Fayette County, Ind., and the same year, accompanied by Mr. Yantes and twenty other men, went to what is now Indianapolis. There, all except Mr. McCann were taken down with the ague, and as soon as they recovered he (being the only cook and nurse), becoming displeased with the locality, returned to Fayette County to his family, where he followed farming and stock-raising during the remainder of his life.

He was very successful in a financial point of view. Religiously, he was a member of the Christian Church, and was one of a number of those who organized a congregation of that denomination at Connersville.

Mr. and Mrs. McCann became the parents of twelve children, one of whom died in infancy, and eleven lived to attain the age of man and womanhood, and of that number six (all the younger) are living at the present time. Isaac is a farmer and lives in the neighborhood of Connersville, Ind.; James, our subject, was the seventh in order of birth; Sarah is the widow of Lewis Oliver, and is living at Connersville; Julia is the wife of Andrew Fowler, and they reside at Goshen, Ind.; Mary and Martin Barker were married, and are living at Connersville, Ind.; the youngest sister, Ellen, married Thaddeus Scofield, of Connersville, Ind., and they are now residents of Bloomington, Ill.

The subject of this notice lived on his father's farm until he was sixteen years old, when he entered the State University at Bloomington, Ind., and was there a classmate of Judge J. Q. Gresham. He remained in the University for four years, and then going to Connersville, the same State, entered the office of G. R. Chetwood, and under his preceptorship began the study of medicine. Subsequently, in 1856, he graduated from the Medical College of Cleveland, Ohio. He then located in his native town, and after a few weeks' residence there came to this State and entered upon the practice of his profession at Joliet, where he resided for ten years. At the commencement of the late Civil War he was appointed U. S. Examining Surgeon of Pensions, and stationed at Joliet. He was successful in business while a resident of Joliet, built two store buildings, and was looked upon as one of the enterprising young men of that place. In 1866 he removed to El Paso, where he was re-appointed as U. S. Examining Surgeon for that locality, and where he continued to practice his profession until 1879, holding his Government appointment for seventeen consecutive years.

During the year last named Dr. McCann came to Normal, where he succeeded T. S. Mills in the drug trade. Subsequently, in 1885, he purchased his present location, paying \$1,000 for the ground,

which is 22 x 75 feet, and on which he has erected a two-story brick business house, 22½ x 60 feet in dimensions, the lower floor being used for the drug business, and the upper one for a residence. The Doctor was Secretary of Will County Medical Society four years, and is a consistent and respected member of the Baptist Church, and in politics Republican. He has never consented to be a candidate for any political office, but has devoted his entire time to the practice of his profession and his drug business.

Dr. McCann was married at Joliet, Nov. 15, 1866, to Martha Isabel, the fourth child and third daughter of James C. Kercheval, now deceased. She was born in Will County, Ill., and they now have three children, one boy, Berte H., and two daughters, Bessie and Emma. In 1880 Dr. McCann was one of a committee of five on organization of the Illinois State Pharmaceutical Association, and this committee memorialized the State Legislature, and had the present Pharmacy Law enacted. The clause in said act imposing a fine of \$50 for any adulteration of medicine was especially commended by Dr. McCann, and no part of the law has been more praised than this. The Doctor is an exceedingly sociable and courteous gentleman, and endowed with the happy faculty of making and retaining friends, and by honorable dealing and true manliness has gained a front rank among the respected citizens of McLean County.



**D** G. RYBURN. The subject of this history is one of the successful breeders of fine stock in Randolph Township. His homestead is located on section 2, and embraces 200 acres, and is watered with an ever-flowing mineral spring. The farm residence and out-buildings are substantial. Mr. Ryburn makes a specialty of thoroughbred Short-horn cattle, in which he has had an experience of over twenty years. He is a member of the American Short-horn Breeders' Association, and exhibits the register of 400 calves, many of which have been unexcelled on the best stock farms of the State. His stock for sixteen successive years, has been on exhibition at about

eight different fairs per year, and at each fair they have carried off their share of the blue ribbons. His success in this direction has been phenomenal, and his cattle have been disposed of at large prices in five different States. The head of his herd, "Matchless Prince" No. 4657, was recently sold at a large price, and "Geneva," which has recently come into his possession, possesses all the qualities of the highest grade. He was reared by Col. J. W. Judy, of Menard County, Ill., and is only about eighteen months old. Mr. Ryburn, with two exceptions, has raised all the animals of his present herd, and those which he has sold have commanded the best market prices. Mr. Ryburn established his business in 1866, in connection with his brother, with whom he operated for eight years.

The subject of our sketch was born in Harrison County, Ohio, Jan. 30, 1843. His father, James Ryburn, who was born and reared in Pennsylvania, was a farmer by occupation. After his marriage there and the birth of several children, he removed with his wife to Harrison County, Ohio. His wife, before her marriage, was Miss Mary Bigley, who was also born and reared in the Keystone State. The families are both of Scotch descent. All came West in 1853, and settled in Randolph Township, this county. Our subject was the youngest but one of a family of eleven children, eight sons and three daughters. The parents both died in Randolph Township, the father in 1857, and the mother in 1881. In former years the father was possessed of a good property, but met with misfortune before leaving the State of Ohio. This compelled the boys to look out for themselves, and to begin at the foot of the ladder. They, however, had been trained to habits of industry, and all have secured a good amount of property.

After the death of his parents, our subject lived with his older brothers until the breaking out of the Civil War, when he enlisted in the Union Army, in May, 1862, joining the three-months' men, Co. G, 68th Ill. Vol. Inf., Capt. Moore. After his first term of service had expired, he re-enlisted in the three years' service, becoming this time a member of Co. B, 94th Ill. Vol. Inf. He was with the army of the southwest, and participated in several active engagements, being at Ft. Morgan and Mobile. In



July, 1865, he was transferred to the 37th Illinois Infantry, and afterward discharged from this regiment at Springfield, Ill., after having been in service four years. He then returned to Randolph Township, and began the business which he has since followed.

Mr. Ryburn was married at the home of the bride's parents in Randolph Township, to Miss Iris Karr. She was born in Randolph Township, March 6, 1852, and is the daughter of William Karr, one of its earliest settlers and most extensive landholders. She was reared and educated in this township, and remained under the parental roof until her marriage with our subject. Mrs. Ryburn has been connected with the Presbyterian Church since fourteen years of age. Our subject, in politics, is a staunch adherent of the Republican party, with which he uniformly casts his vote.



**J**ACOB H. RITCHIE, a well-to-do farmer of Martin Township, is pleasantly located on section 35, where he has been successfully engaged in farming since the spring of 1865. He is a native of Rockingham County, Va., and was born Dec. 24, 1838. He is the son of John and Magdalena (Fawley) Ritchie, both natives of the Old Dominion, of which his grandfather, Jacob Ritchie, Sr., was also a native. The father of our subject, who was a farmer by occupation, emigrated from his native State after his marriage, and accompanied by his children, came to this county, in the fall of 1855. The wife and mother had died in Virginia in 1854. After reaching this county, Mr. Ritchie located in Brown's Grove, west of Bloomington, where he continued the pursuit of agriculture, and spent the remainder of his days, his decease occurring in 1860. The parental household included four sons and six daughters, of whom only two sons and two daughters are now living.

The subject of this biography was the youngest of his parents' family, and passed his childhood and youth in his native State, receiving in the meantime a common-school education. He was married in this county when twenty-one years of age to Miss Sallie, daughter of John and Casandra

(Casey) Hurt, who descended from an old Kentucky family and were among the earliest pioneers of this section. Mr. Ritchie settled with his bride in Brown's Grove, near his father's farm, where he remained until 1865, then removed to his present homestead. This consists of 160 acres of finely cultivated land, the soil of which is naturally very rich, and adapted to the growth of all farm products. Mr. Ritchie has been largely engaged of late years in raising and shipping hogs, the proceeds of which have yielded him a fine income. He has also raised a few Norman horses. The farm buildings are of modern style, and kept in good repair, and the whole premises present an air of neatness and thrift which is delightful to the eye. The ten children of our subject and his wife, five sons and five daughters, are all living except one, and named as follows: Ida, George, Anna B., Emma, Addison, Jay, Mary A., Florence A. and Grover Cleveland; John W. was the eldest, and died in infancy.

Mr. Ritchie, politically, is a reliable Democrat, and a strong supporter of the present administration. He has held the offices of Supervisor, Collector and School Trustee, filling each with credit to himself and satisfaction to all concerned. Both he and his wife are prominently connected with the United Brethren Church.



**A**NDREW J. JOHNSTONE, Supervisor of Dale Township, claims it as the place of his birth, the date thereof having been Oct. 28, 1850. His father, Dr. Andrew Johnstone, was a native of Dumfriesshire, Scotland, born on the 21st of May, 1800, and possessed all the substantial and worthy traits of the typical Scottish character. The father of our subject was educated in the schools of Edinburgh, and at the age of eighteen years determined to emigrate to the New World. After reaching American shores he proceeded directly to the young and rapidly growing State of Ohio. He was a man of fine abilities and had taken a scientific course of study in his native country, which he had afterward reduced to practice, and after his arrival within the bounds of

the State mentioned, accepted a post as civil engineer in the military district of Ohio, being in the employ of Gen. McArthur, a large landholder in that tract.

After two or three years' residence in this country Andrew Johnstone returned to his native Scotland, and decided to enter upon the study of medicine. After pursuing a three years' course under the best of instruction he returned to America, and locating near Chillicothe, Ohio, became associated in partnership with Gen. McArthur, and while engaged in the practice of medicine gave all his leisure time to the pursuit of farming, of which he was very fond, and took great pleasure in witnessing the growing and ripening of grain, the pleasant sight of domestic animals, and everything that appertained to the pursuits of agriculture.

Dr. Johnstone lived in Ohio until 1840, and then setting his face further westward, came to the Prairie State, and located upon the site of what is now the city of Bloomington. Here he rented a tract of land which is now included within the city limits. He was one of the first to break the sod in that vicinity, and carried on farming and stock-raising for about five years thereafter. He then entered a tract of Government land in Dale Township, on section 14, and purchased a small frame house near Hudson, fifteen miles distant. This he removed with oxen to his land, and moving his family into it, established them comfortably and made a permanent settlement, where he remained the balance of his days, departing this life on the 31st of August, 1873. He did not resume the practice of medicine to any extent after coming to Illinois, but was considerably engaged in civil engineering and surveyed a large portion of the land in the county. He superintended the improvements on the farm, and at the time of his death had his land all enclosed and under a good state of cultivation.

Dr. Andrew Johnstone, the father of our subject, was married in his native Scotland, to Miss Jane Carlyle. She was a native of Dumfreisshire County, in Scotland, and was born on the 17th of May, 1804. She, with her husband, is still living, and retains her mental faculties to a remarkable degree. The parental household consisted of three children,

Jane and Andrew J., the subject of our sketch, being the only ones living; Mary is deceased.

Mr. Johnstone of our sketch was the youngest child of his parents, and spent the greater part of his childhood and youth upon the homestead farm. He pursued his primary studies in the district school, and subsequently attended Wesleyan University at Bloomington. Although fond of study and reading, he has always had a love for the peaceful occupation of agriculture, and to this has devoted the greater part of his life. He is also engaged in breeding draft horses, and cattle feeding quite extensively. At the death of his father, he took charge of the homestead which he now owns and occupies, and upon which he has made all needed improvements. The family residence is tasteful, convenient and comfortable, and he has a good barn, with all necessary out-buildings and farm machinery.

The subject of our sketch was married on the 28th of October, 1875, to Miss Dora Karr, also a native of Dale Township, and who was born April 16, 1858. Mrs. J. is the daughter of Thomas J. and Elizabeth (Lowe) Karr, a sketch of whom appears on another page of this volume. Mr. and Mrs. Johnstone have only one child living, a son—Guy Carlyle. Lizzie, the only daughter, who was born March 15, 1877, died on the 6th of January, 1880. Mr. J. is Republican in politics, is highly respected as a business man, neighbor and citizen, and is serving his second year as Supervisor of Dale Township.

**C**HARLES J. NORTHRUP, proprietor of the dry-goods house at No. 118 N. Center street, and 208 West Washington street, Bloomington, was born in Lisle, Broome Co., N. Y., May 20, 1847. He is the son of Solomon J. and Annie Lavantia (Buell) Northrup, natives respectively of Lenox, Mass. and Fairfield, N. Y. The father was born Dec. 6, 1811, and the mother, May 16, 1815. Both were deeply religious people, and contributed liberally and cheerfully to the support of the Congregational Church, with which they were connected when quite young.

Solomon Northrup was Superintendent of the

Sabbath-school for many years. He was a farmer by occupation, and removed from his native town to Lisle, N. Y., in 1840, where he remained for a period of thirty years, then sold out and engaged in merchandising in the same town. Thence he removed to Binghamton, in response to a call to take charge of the Susquehanna Valley Home for the Poor, which office he held for several years. He resigned the position finally on account of failing health, and died at Long Branch, while visiting there, Aug. 1, 1882. The mother departed this life on the 21st of September, 1847. The record of their four children is as follows: Julia, Mrs. G. W. Livermore, was born Sept. 4, 1837, and died May 4, 1883; James E., a resident of Binghamton, during the late war enlisted in Co. F, 89th N. Y. Vol. Inf., of which he was made First Lieutenant, participated in many battles, and was wounded at Antietam. He was married to Miss Ruth Sykes, of Berkshire, N. Y., and they have one child, a daughter, Hattie E. They belong to the Congregational Church, and he is a prominent Mason, having taken all the degrees. Ira W. enlisted in Co. F, 89th N. Y. Vol. Inf., but before engaging in active service was taken ill from exposure, and brought home by his father, dying soon afterward, Feb. 22, 1863, when not quite twenty-one years of age, his birth occurring Dec. 28, 1842. C. J. of our sketch is the youngest living.

After the death of his first wife, Solomon J. Northrup was united in marriage with Miss Luey E. Carroll, of Springfield, N. Y., Jan. 10, 1849, and of this union there were born two children: Emma L., Mrs. B. L. Osborne, of Camden, N. Y., and Lydia C., who died Feb. 24, 1862. The father of our subject was essentially a self-made man, and started out in life at the foot of the ladder. He was employed first as a farm laborer, and received his education by attending school during the winter seasons. After his marriage he farmed on rented land, his first purchase being in Lisle, N. Y. He became prominent in the political affairs of that State, and a citizen greatly respected for his moral and intellectual worth. Politically he was a strong Republican. He held the office of Supervisor several years, was Deputy Sheriff of the county, and Trustee of the school at Lisle, and took an active

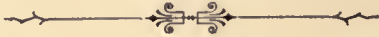
part in all measures calculated to promote the interests of his adopted county or State. He put forth every effort to educate his children, often remarking that he would prefer leaving them a good education rather than gold.

The subject of this history was born in a log house, on his father's farm in Lisle, and remained there until eighteen years of age, attending the common schools. He studied two years at Owego Academy, and afterward went to Springfield, N. Y., engaging as clerk in a country store at \$5 per month, for one year. He then removed with his father to Canandaigua, Ontario Co., N. Y. He attended the academy there under the tutorship of Prof. Clark, and in the spring of 1867 entered the dry-goods store of William Richardson & Co. He remained there until fall, then came West with Mr. Richardson, and settled at Bloomington. He continued with his former employer, who had associated himself with partners, Messrs. Wilcox Bros., and carried on the dry-goods business. Our subject remained with the firm over seven years, which then became Wilcox Bros., by the withdrawal of Mr. Richardson.

Mr. Northrup established his present business Feb. 15, 1876, on the spot where he is still located. He began with one clerk and an errand-boy, and was prospered from the beginning. His business increased each year, and in 1882 he secured the extension of his store to Washington street. In 1885 he purchased a stock of goods at Lexington, where he established a branch house. In 1886 he purchased another stock, in the same place, and consolidated the two. He employs from ten to fifteen clerks in Bloomington, and from five to seven at Lexington.

The subject of our sketch was married, Sept. 27, 1877, to Miss Rose Whipp, of Normal, who was born in 1850, and is the daughter of John W. and Elizabeth (VanNess) Whipp. Her father was a banker for many years at Bloomington City, but is now in Springfield, employed by the State Board of Charities. Mr. and Mrs. N. have three children—Fred W., Charles B. and Julia E. They occupy an attractive home at No. 510 East Front street, and enjoy the association and friendship of the cultured people of the city. Both our subject and his wife

are members in good standing of the Second Presbyterian Church, of which Mr. N. has been Trustee for the last six years, and is Assistant Superintendent of the Sunday-school. He contributes liberally and cheerfully to the support of the church, and takes a deep interest in its welfare and prosperity. He is in all respects a representative citizen.



**I**RA MERCHANT, a civil engineer of Bloomington, is the son of Daniel P. and Anna E. (Carey) Merchant, and was born in Morris County, N. J., in February, 1837. His father, a native of Connecticut, was taken by his parents when an infant to New Jersey, of which latter State the mother was a native. The Merchant family are of English ancestry, and the father of our subject was a farmer by occupation.

The boyhood and youth of Ira Merchant were passed on his father's farm in New Jersey, while he pursued his studies in the district school. When eighteen years of age he left his native State, and going across the Mississippi River into Missouri, was employed as an engineer on the North Missouri Railroad, under James P. Lowe, a noted engineer from Massachusetts. From this gentleman our subject obtained most of his knowledge of surveying. He continued with Mr. Lowe until the outbreak of the Civil War, and then enlisted as a Union soldier in Co. C, 28th Ill. Vol. Inf., serving faithfully for two and one-half years. He was wounded at Holly Springs, Miss., his left wrist being pierced by a ball from the enemy. He also took part in the battles of Ft. Henry, Donelson, Shiloh, the advance on Corinth, Hatchie River, and the siege of Vicksburg. After receiving his honorable discharge he was mustered out in the fall of 1863.

After his retirement from the army Mr. Merchant came into Sangamon County, Ill., where he was soon afterward elected County Surveyor, in which position he served for a term of two years. He was then employed to survey what at that time was called the Burr Oak Farm, owned by M. L. Sullivan, of Ford County, the greatest farm at that time in the Western States. He was then employed to make a preliminary survey on the Peoria & Rock

Island Railroad in the fall of 1868. After completing this work he came to Bloomington, being soon afterward employed as City Engineer, which position he has held nearly ten years. He was Superintendent and Engineer when the water works were constructed, and has been connected professionally with most of the important improvements in the city since coming here. Although holding office under different administrations Mr. Merchant never directly or indirectly solicited any appointment to the office he filled. He is also engineer of farm drainage, of which department he makes a specialty, laying during the year 1886 over sixty miles of tile.

Mr. Merchant was married in Cass County, Ill., to Miss Mary Arenz, and they became the parents of one child, a daughter, Ella, born in 1860, and now the wife of Charles H. McWarter, of Mason City, Iowa. Politically Mr. Merchant is a Mugwump, and socially is a member in good standing of the G. A. R.



**D**R. CHARLES T. ORNER, of the firm of Barnes & Orner, is located at No. 220 North Center street, Bloomington. He was born in Reading, Pa., Sept. 17, 1846, his parents being Jesse and Eveline P. (Pettit) Orner, both natives of Chester County, Pa. The father was Superintendent of the Iron Rolling Mill of Reading until the outbreak of the late war, when he enlisted in the 50th Pennsylvania Infantry, and was made Captain and chief of transportation in the 9th Army Corps. He was in the service from the capture of Beaufort, S. C., until the winter of 1864-65, and was then transferred to Chattanooga and made Superintendent of the United States Rolling Mill, which he retained until after the close of the war. He then resumed the position which he had left in the rolling-mill at Reading, Pa., and continued until his death, in 1873.

Politically the father of our subject was a Republican, and one of the early temperance workers of his locality. He was skilled in his calling and prominent among the councils of his craft, and oe-

cupied the office of National Counselor of the United American Mechanics. Religiously he was connected with the Lutheran Church. The mother is still living at the old homestead at Reading, Pa. They had a family of three children. One daughter married Rev. W. E. Snyder, and went with him as a missionary to India, where he died in 1859; Mrs. S. afterward returned to her old home in Reading, Pa., where she still lives. The other sister married Capt. F. M. Yeager, of Reading.

The subject of this biography received his education in the schools of his native city, and remained under the parental roof until after the outbreak of the late war, when he enlisted in Co. M, 198th Pa. Vol. Inf., and was appointed Steward of the 1st Brigade and 1st Division, 5th Corps, in the Army of the Potomac, which position he held until the close of the war. He was engaged in the battles before Petersburg and at Hatchers' Run, Gravelly Run, Five Forks, High Bridge, and at the surrender of Appomattox. After being mustered out he returned home and commenced the study of medicine under the instruction of Dr. S. D. Gross, of Philadelphia. He afterward attended lectures at Jefferson Medical College, from which he graduated on the 9th of March, 1867. He soon commenced practice, and received the appointment of Dispensary Surgeon, which he held until August, 1868, when he went to Springfield, Ohio, and for a year following spent most of his time in travel, afterward resuming practice in his native town, where he remained until May, 1871.

In the year last mentioned Dr. Orner came to Illinois, and locating in Saybrook, this county, entered into partnership with Dr. J. L. Ballard, with whom he continued one year. He then practiced alone until September, 1884, and coming to Bloomington City, associated himself with his present partner, Dr. Barnes, and they have operated together since that time. Dr. Orner stands high in his profession in this State, being connected with the National, State, Illinois Central, McLean County and DeWitt County Medical Societies, and for a time was President and is now Secretary of the Illinois Central Medical Society. He was Pension Surgeon at Saybrook for four years under President Arthur's administration, and is a corres-

ponding member of the Academy of National Science at Reading, Pa.

Dr. Orner was married in 1868, to Miss Mattie E., the daughter of William L. Crothers, of Springfield, Ohio. Their residence is located at No. 7011 North Evans street, where they enjoy the society and friendship of the most cultured people of the city. Our subject and his wife are members of the First Presbyterian Church, to the support of which they contribute liberally and cheerfully, and are deeply interested in its prosperity. Socially the Doctor belongs to the G. A. R., of which he is Commander, the United American Mechanics and Improved Order of Red Men. He is also Captain of the Sons of Veterans.



ISAAC McBEAN, late proprietor of the Bloomington omnibus, carriage and transfer line, whose decease occurred March 31, 1887, was one of the representative men of the city, full of energy and enterprising, and conducted his business in a manner profitable to himself and satisfactory to his patrons. The subject of this biography was a native of Virginia, and was born in Frederick, (now West) Virginia, Jan. 2, 1829. When quite young he removed with his parents, Charles and Sarah (Harrison) McBean, to Newark, Lieking Co., Ohio, where they located and remained until 1857. They then removed further westward to Canton, Ill., where they remained until the close of their lives. The McBeans were of Scotch-Irish ancestry, and the Harrisons among the first families of Virginia.

Isaac McBean, during his earlier years, attended the city schools of Newark, Ohio, and after removing with his parents to Illinois, became employed in the marble works of Peoria for three years. Thence he went to Canton and engaged in the livery business until 1857, and from there to a farm in Fulton County. Here he was successfully engaged until the opening of the late war when, in August, 1862, he enlisted in Co. D, 103d Ill. Vol. Inf., his regiment being assigned to the Army of West Tennessee. He participated with his comrades in the siege of Vicksburg, the battles of

Black River, Mission Ridge, and other important engagements, and went with Sherman on the march to the sea. In the meantime he was wounded in the head by bushwhackers, and was subsequently promoted to the rank of First Lieutenant and served on the staff of Brevet Brig.-Gen. Pugh.

Lieut. McBean finally resigned his commission, and in June, 1864, returned to Canton, Ill., and locating in Piatt County again engaged in agricultural pursuits. He was thus occupied until 1875, when he disposed of his stock, implements, etc., and coming to Bloomington purchased what was known at that time as the McKissen & Page Omnibus Line, to which he added carriages and mail-wagons, and by this means acquired control of the most profitable business of the city, carrying and transferring all the mail coming into Bloomington since 1876. In this latter department alone he used about fifty-two horses during the twenty-four hours. The stables are constructed of brick, 66x100 feet in area and two stories in height, and have two divisions, one for carriages and the other for horses. There is also a private barn at No. 605 East Front street, which is built of brick, three stories in height and 46x56 feet in area. In this stable is kept the blooded stock, roadsters and stallions, the latter for speed and breeding purposes. Of the latter one is the son of King Almont and Wilkes, the son of the great George Wilkes. These beautiful animals will bear comparison with any others in this part of the State.

Isaac McBean and Miss Mary J. Hall, of Canton, Ill., were united in marriage Dec. 24, 1866, and of the union there is one child—Charles, who was born July 7, 1869.



**L**EWIS B. THOMAS, Mayor of Bloomington, was born within the precincts of the city which he now presides over, on the 27th of September, 1838. His parents were William and Catharine (Haines) Thomas, natives of Xenia, Ohio, who removed to Bloomington in 1835, where William Thomas served as County Treasurer from 1853 to 1866. During the progress of the Rebellion he was also agent for the war fund, and for a

period of twenty years was extensively engaged in buying and shipping stock and pork-packing. At the commencement of the building of the Illinois Central Railroad he took a heavy contract for getting out ties, and in the meantime built and equipped two steam sawmills, one in Lytleville and one in Bloomington. In 1872 he went to Texas, and starting a beef-packing establishment north of Galveston, for two years transacted an extensive business. He then went into Kansas and Missouri, and was engaged in money loaning for Eastern capitalists for four years. He then returned to McLean County, and was elected City Treasurer of Bloomington, which office he occupied at the time of his death in 1881, being seventy-five years of age. Upon first coming to Illinois he engaged in farming on ground now occupied by the city of Bloomington. His wife, the mother of our subject, is still living in this city, and is seventy-three years of age. The parental family consisted of twelve children, of whom only three are living: Lewis B., our subject; Belle M., Mrs. Elder, of Randolph, in this county, and Joseph A., engaged in life insurance business in Iowa.

Lewis B. Thomas spent his earlier years under the parental roof and attended the city schools until fifteen years of age. He then entered Jubilee College, at Eureka, Ill., and after an attendance there of one year took a course in Antioch College, of which Horace Mann was President. He thus spent another year, and then returning to Bloomington was soon afterward appointed Deputy Clerk of the Circuit Court, which office he occupied for three years following. He then engaged in the insurance business, and now represents many of the best companies of the East and West.

Our subject has been prominent in the affairs of his native city since old enough to fill a position of trust and responsibility. He was a member of the City Council from 1880 to 1886, and elected Mayor during the latter year. In 1861 he was City Treasurer, and also held the same office in the Merchant's Association for three years. In 1879 he became a member of the Board of Education, being still connected therewith, and socially belongs to the Masonic fraternity and the Union League, being Secretary of the latter.





John Edson D.

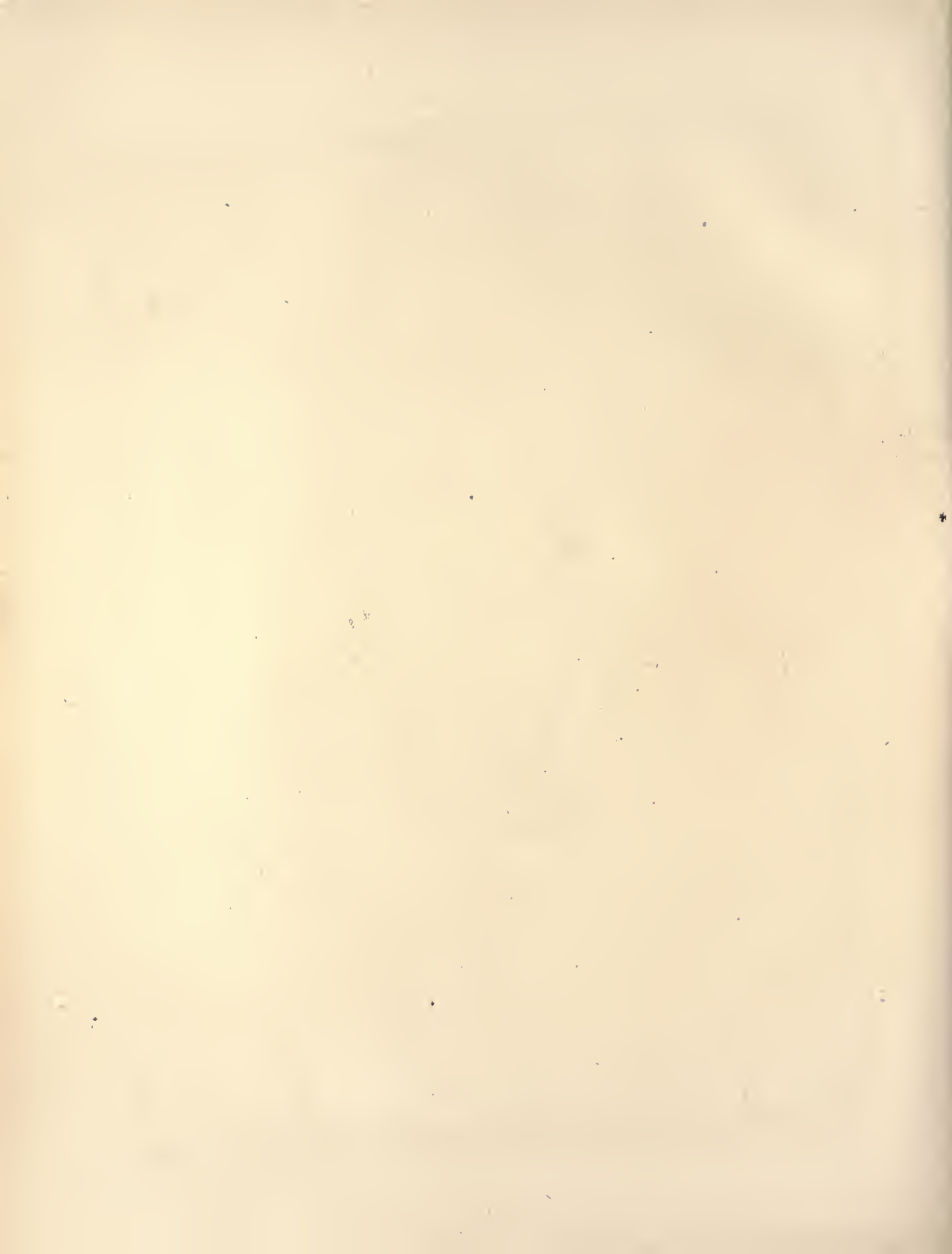


Charles Ellsworth





*Laura Ellsworth*



The marriage of Lewis B. Thomas and Miss Belle M. Moore took place in September, 1859. Mrs. Thomas was born in Naples, Ill., and is the daughter of John and Margaret Moore, of Ohio. By her union with our subject she has become the mother of two children—Harry M. and Wilbur F. Mayor Thomas and his lady are among the most esteemed residents of McLean County. He is the nominee of the Republican party this spring for reelection to the office of Mayor.



**J**OHAN & CHARLES ELLSWORTH, Bloomington Township, own and operate one of the most finely improved farms of this section. It is located on section 11, and embraces 320 acres. In addition to this they also own another tract of equal dimensions, located in Old Town Township, and also under a high state of cultivation. The brothers possess all the appliances of modern agriculture, and these, coupled with their wise judgment, energy and industry make them the leaders in this department of industry in this section.

John, the eldest of the Ellsworth brothers, came to this township in 1838. His brother Charles had visited this section two years before and made a purchase of some choice land which embraces the present homestead, and upon which he has remained since that time. He was joined in his purchase by his youngest brother, Oliver, who died Nov. 27, 1871, at the age of fifty-nine years. This brother was twice married and lost both wives before his own death. They had become the parents of one child, a daughter who died in girlhood,

Gurdon Ellsworth, the father of John and Charles, was a native of Connecticut, and born near Windsor, April 17, 1773. Early in life he left his native town and became a resident of Ellington, where he remained until he came to years of manhood, and was there married to Miss Martha Stoughton, Jan. 9, 1800; she was a native of the same State, and was born in the year 1777. Gurdon Ellsworth was a farmer by occupation and spent the remainder of his life on his homestead near Ellington. His wife came to reside with her sons in McLean

County about 1854, and died Nov. 1, 1857. The father of Gurdon E., Capt. Daniel Ellsworth, in early manhood married Miss Lydia Makepeace, and it is supposed they were descended directly from English ancestry, the grandfather having obtained his title of Captain on account of services in the Revolutionary War. He returned home after the independence of the colonies had been established, and died in 1782, at the advanced age of eighty-two years. The early partner of his joys and sorrows, and the mother of his children, also attained to a ripe old age, and died in Connecticut.

To the parents of John and Charles Ellsworth there were born eleven children, of whom the record is as follows: Sophia died, unmarried, in February, 1883; Laura, also unmarried, was born March 25, 1802, and although eighty-five years of age, preserves her strength of body and mind to a remarkable degree. She lives with her brothers, the subjects of our sketch; Martha became the wife of George E. Knapp, deceased, and died in October, 1882; they were the parents of three children, of whom Charles is deceased; the survivors are George and Carrie; Minerva married Simon Carew, and they are both deceased, the former dying in 1882, and the latter about 1874; Lydia became the wife of Joseph Spalding; they are both now deceased, dying at a ripe old age; Gurdon, Jr., died at the age of about twenty years, in Connecticut; John, born Feb. 6, 1809, is one of the subjects of our sketch; Charles, the younger brother, was born Feb. 9, 1811; Oliver died in 1871, as before stated; Eunice S. died in childhood; Eunice, the younger, became the wife of Abe Brokaw and resides in Bloomington, her husband being one of the wealthiest men in McLean County.

The Ellsworth Brothers, still unmarried, have mainly been the architects of their own fortune, and although having reached an advanced age are still hale and hearty and capable of much endurance. They have taken good care of their health, have been strictly temperate in all things, and in their later days are reaping the just reward of blameless lives. The property which they possess has mostly been accumulated by stock-raising and general farming, and their straightforward methods of doing business, with their honesty and integrity

have secured for them the profound respect and esteem of their associates and fellow-citizens. They are prominently connected with the Presbyterian Church, and are solid Republicans, as have been all the male members of this remarkable family since the organization of that party.

The homestead of the Ellsworths is one of the finest farm estates in McLean County, and invariably attracts the eye of the traveler passing through this section. The residence, barns and out-buildings all give evidence of refined tastes and ample means. Their farm machinery is of first-class description, and in every respect the homestead is a model one and reflects credit upon those who have built it and brought it to its present condition. The portraits of John and Charles Ellsworth, which are shown in connection with this brief outline of their lives, will be gladly welcomed by a host of friends throughout the county. It is with pleasure that we also present the portrait of their sister Laura, as that of one of the most esteemed ladies in McLean County.



**S**OLOMON STUTZMAN, a worthy representative of the substantial and reliable Pennsylvania farmer, transferred his residence from the Keystone State to Illinois in December, 1849, while he was yet a young man, and is now operating as a successful farmer of Danvers Township, on section 2. Mr. Stutzman was born in Juniata County, Pa., in 1829, being the son of Henry and Magdalena (Lantz) Stutzman, both natives of the same State and born in 1797 and 1795, respectively. They were married in their native State in 1821, and followed farming there for about twelve years afterward. They then removed to Fairfield County, Ohio, where the father of our subject operated on rented land until his death, which occurred Sept. 22, 1845. The mother survived him a number of years and died about the 1st of March, 1866. The record of their children is as follows: Joel is married and residing in Fairfield County, Ohio; Samuel married Miss Sarah Lantz, and they are now living in Hudson, in this county; Solomon of our sketch was the third child; Moses

married Miss Garland, and lives in Christian County, Ill.; Isaac married Miss Catherine Barnes, and is a resident of this county; David married Miss Belle Wolf, and is a resident of Bloomington; Jonathan married Miss Anna Fray; he died in about 1876, leaving a wife and six children; Lydia became the wife of Eli Lantz, and lives in Nebraska. The parents were members of the Memmonite Church, and in politics Henry Stutzman was an old-line Whig.

Solomon Stutzman remained at home until the death of his father and then served four years in a distillery. He came to Illinois in December, 1849, stopping over winter in Woodford County, and in the spring came to McLean County, where for three years following he farmed on rented land. He then purchased 120 acres, to which he subsequently added, and is now the owner of 280 acres, all improved and under a good state of cultivation. His attention is mostly devoted to the raising, buying and selling of cattle. The family residence of our subject is a convenient and commodious building, covering an area of 18 x 22 feet, with an L 20 feet square. His barn and out-buildings are substantial and kept in good repair, and everything about the premises indicates the supervision of a thorough and intelligent business man. Mr. and Mrs. Stutzman have become the parents of five children, as follows: Joshua H. married Miss Miller, and is a resident of this county; Simeon married Miss Tillie Lantz; Abraham also married a Miss Lantz, and Irene is the wife of C. C. Habecker; Jonathan Y., who also married a Miss Lantz, lives in McLean County, Ill.

The wife of our subject is the daughter of Jonathan and Magdalena (Wagoner) Yoder, both natives of Schuylkill County, Pa. Jonathan Yoder, a carpenter, followed his trade for a number of years in his native State, and later purchased a large farm, upon which he removed and occupied it until the spring of 1852, when he came to Illinois and purchased forty acres of land in Dry Grove Township, this county, where he passed the remainder of his days. The mother departed this life in 1865, and Mr. Yoder then resided with one of his daughters until his death, in 1868. His marriage took place in 1817, and they became the parents of eleven children,

as follows: Leah, Joash, Elias, Elizabeth, Sarah, Amos, Jonathan (who died Jan. 10, 1833), Magdalena (who died Dec. 17, 1832), Asa, Catherine and Anna. Mr. and Mrs. Y. were members of the Mennonite Church, of which he was a minister for many years, and they were most worthy people, who trained their children to lives of industry and virtue. In politics Mr. Stutzman is a staunch Republican.



**J**OSEPH F. PANCAKE, attorney-at-law and Justice of the Peace at Bloomington, is a native of this county, born in Bloomington Township, Aug. 7, 1841. His father, Isaac Pancake, who is still living in McLean County, was born in Madison County, Ohio, about 1811, and there married Miss Elizabeth Steele, of Clarke County, that State, and daughter of William Steele. Isaac Pancake left Madison County, Ohio, in the fall of 1837, and coming to this State and county located first at Lexington, whence after one year he removed to Bloomington, where the mother died in 1873. The parental household included five children, three sons and two daughters, the former of whom still survive. The subject of our sketch was the third child and second son.

Joseph F. Pancake passed his boyhood in the city of Bloomington, where his father was engaged in the lumber trade and milling. This gave employment to the bright and ambitious boy, while at the same time he attended the city schools and supplemented his studies by a later attendance at Wesleyan University, from which he graduated in 1864. He then taught school two terms, after which he entered the office of Judge O. T. Reeves and commenced the study of law. In this he made good progress and was admitted to the bar in 1867. He commenced practice at once, and soon became the partner of C. B. Butler, Esq. After operating together one year the firm was dissolved and Mr. P. continued his business singly until 1870. He was then elected Justice of the Peace, to which office he has been continuously elected since that time. During that time he has disposed of 1,300 cases in each of ten docket, and while many have

been appealed to higher courts his decision has usually been affirmed.

Our subject was first married, in 1867, to Miss Ella A. Campbell, of this county, who became the mother of three children—Elmer, Clara and Lloyd. The wife and mother departed this life Feb. 5, 1883. Mr. P. was afterward married to Mrs. Ella T. Schiek, who was at the time of marriage Superintendent of Schools in Nemaha County, Neb. Her former husband was Theodore Schiek, and they were the parents of two children—Murray and Jessie.

Mr. Pancake, during the late war served as a soldier in the Union army, having enlisted in Co. G, 68th Ill. Vol. Inf. He is a member in good standing of the G. A. R., belongs to the K. of H. and is connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church of Bloomington.



**M**RS. EMILY PREY, widow of the late Le Roy W. Prey, of Empire Township, owns and occupies a beautiful farm estate of 540 acres on sections 5, 7 and 8, where she is surrounded by all the appliances of cultivated tastes and ample means. The family residence is finely located, and the barns and out-buildings are handsome and substantial structures, always kept in good repair. The farm forms one of the most attractive spots in the landscape of McLean County.

Mrs. Prey is the second daughter of James and Margaret (Cannaday) Bishop (see sketch of J. Q. Bishop.) She was born on her father's homestead in Empire Township, Aug. 30, 1843, and received careful home training and a fair education in the public schools. She remained under the parental roof until she arrived at years of womanhood, and on the 6th of February, 1862, was married to William Evans, a native of this county, who was born in 1837, and the son of Francis M. and Mary Evans, who were among the early pioneers of this region. William Evans was reared on his father's farm, and followed agricultural pursuits during his lifetime. His death occurred in Empire Township, Jan. 4, 1865. Of this marriage there were born

two children—Mary M., who died in infancy, and Josephine, who died when nearly six years old.

Mrs. Emily (Bishop) Evans was united in marriage with Le Roy W. Prey on the 7th of August, 1877. Mr. Prey had been previously married to Miss Mary Gilbert, Sept. 14, 1864. She departed this life June 14, 1876, leaving one child, John H., who at present is living in Le Roy. Mr. Prey was born in Franklin County, Ohio, Feb. 21, 1840, being the son of Daniel and Hannah Prey. When about twelve years of age his parents removed to Illinois and settled in Empire Township, where he grew to manhood, remaining with his parents until there came a call for troops to assist in the preservation of the Union. In 1861 he enlisted in an Illinois regiment, but the quota in this county being full he repaired to St. Louis, and joined the Missouri Infantry, in which he served three years. He participated in many of the battles of the war, being at Ft. Donelson, Shiloh, Vicksburg, Jackson, Miss., Champion Hills and Mission Ridge. With his comrades he joined the command of Gen. Sherman at Chattanooga, and participated in most of the engagements between that point and Atlanta. On the 17th of May, 1862, he was wounded in a skirmish before Russell House, and was confined for a time in the hospital at St. Louis. Beyond this he escaped unharmed and received his honorable discharge after the surrender of Lee.

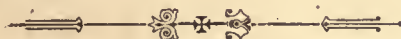
After his return to civil life Mr. Prey resumed farming for a few years in Empire Township. In 1873 he went to Nebraska and entered a claim, which he occupied for two years, and then returning to Empire Township located upon his farm and remained a resident here until his death, which took place on the 7th of July, 1884. Mr. and Mrs. Prey became the parents of one child, William Le Roy. Mr. Prey was a gentleman of more than ordinary business capacity, was enterprising and possessed of excellent judgment, and was uniformly prosperous in his undertakings. He took a genuine interest in all matters pertaining to the welfare of his county and community, was honest in his transactions, prompt to meet his obligations, and in all respects a praiseworthy citizen and valued member of the community. Mrs. Prey, since his death, has conducted the business of the estate with rare good

judgment, and will maintain it in its present style by her wise management and knowledge of its requirements.

ROBERT GREENLEE, one of the prominent contractors and builders of Bloomington, is of staunch Pennsylvania birth and parentage, having been born in Crawford County, on the 12th of May, 1831. His parents were Owen and Margaret (Townley) Greenlee, natives of the Keystone State, where the father was engaged in agricultural pursuits and operated a sawmill on his farm for a period of thirty years. This homestead he occupied until his death, which occurred in 1875, he having survived the partner of his youth twenty-five years, the wife and mother dying in 1850. They had a family of fourteen children, only six of whom are living, as follows: Robert, Sarah, Cyrus, Harrison, Margaret and Frances. The parents were members of the First Presbyterian Church and descended from excellent Scottish ancestry.

Robert Greenlee remained under the parental roof until he was twenty years old and then set out for the West to seek his fortune. His first location was in Clay County, this State, where he was engaged in building and trestle work on the Ohio & Mississippi Railroad. After three months thus employed he went to Hancock County, thence to Jacksonville, and in 1856 came to Bloomington. In the meantime he followed his original occupation, and is now possessed of a wide experience which has become a source of profit and yields him a handsome income. His business office is located at No. 409 North East street, and he has been engaged in the construction of some of the best buildings in the city, among them being the residence of the late Judge David Davis, the house and barn of James Robinson, the same for George Davis, and the residences of Messrs. William Withers, John Cheney, J. P. Smith and other handsome structures, besides the McLean County Jail, in 1882. Besides several large business houses he also superintended the erection of the boiler works for the Orphans' Home at Normal, and has had as many as thirty-five men in his employ.

The subject of our sketch, in 1858, was united in marriage with Miss Sallie Carman of Kentucky, and their union has been blest by the birth of six children, viz.: Frances A., Adelia, Theodore P., John W., Ulysses L. and Cora. The family residence is a handsome structure located at No. 806 North Evans street, and within and without is indicative of the skill and the cultivated tastes of its proprietor. Mr. Greenlee is a Prohibitionist in politics, a straightforward business man, and a useful and valued citizen.



**E**DWIN C. HEWETT, LL. D., President of the Illinois State Normal University, is the eldest of the four children of Timothy and Levina (Leonard) Hewett. He was born in the town of Sutton, Worcester Co., Mass., on the 1st of November, 1828. His father was a wheelwright by trade, and owned a small farm, on which the family resided. Edwin attended the district school in his childhood, afterward studied in an academy, and at the age of twenty-one years engaged as teacher in a country school of his native town (not in the same district) where he gave instruction for two terms and then, being pleased with the work, decided to fit himself for the profession of a teacher. He accordingly entered the Normal School at Bridgewater, where he took the regular course which required one year, and graduated in 1852. The school at that time was in charge of the well-known educator, Nicholas Tillinghast.

After leaving Bridgewater, Mr. Hewett became the assistant of Jonathan Tenney in the High School of Pittsfield, where he remained one year, and at the end of that time, by the request of Mr. Tillinghast, returned to Bridgewater and engaged as a teacher in the Normal School, where he remained four years. In the fall of 1856 Prof. Hewett took charge of the Thomas Grammar School at Worcester, which school had an attendance of 500 pupils and employed ten teachers. There were, at that time, only two grammar schools in the city.

In the fall of 1858 Prof. Hewett came West to become a teacher in the Illinois State Normal University, which was then entering upon the second

year of its existence, and was located at Bloomington, the present building not being completed. Dr. Hewett taught various subjects at different intervals until 1876—his special class being that of geography and history—when he was chosen President, *vice* Dr. Richard Edwards, resigned, and has since occupied the Chair of Mental Science and Didactics.

This school has now grown to be one of the best in the country, and its present prosperity is due in no small measure to the efforts of its present able President. The degree of A. M. was conferred upon President Hewett by the University of Chicago in 1863, and the degree of LL. D. by Shurtleff College in 1878. He has contributed some valuable literature to the various educational periodicals of the day, and is the author of a "Key to Guyot's Wall Maps" and "Hewett's Pedagogy." In politics our subject is a staunch Republican, and religiously is a Baptist, and has given much time and attention to the progress and prosperity of the Sabbath-school of his church.

Edwin C. Hewett was united in marriage with Miss Angeline N. Benton in August, 1857, who was born in Buckland, Mass., and married in Sublette, Ill. Of this union there were two children, one of whom, Paul, died in 1870, at the age of five months, and May, who graduated at Normal in 1880, and is now the wife of Prof. Rudolph R. Reeder, of Normal.



**I**RA ROWELL, a prosperous and highly respected farmer of Danvers Township, has been for many years engaged in agricultural pursuits on section 36, where he has met with success. He is a native of the Old Granite State, born in Grafton County, May 20, 1831. His parents were Jonathan B. and Cynthia (Abbott) Rowell, natives of the same State as their son. Jonathan Rowell engaged in farming pursuits the greater part of his life. He was born Feb. 3, 1800, and his wife, Cynthia, March 5, 1806. They were married Jan. 22, 1828, in New Hampshire, and resided there, with the exception of three years, until 1849. In July of that year they started for the West and located in Dry Grove Township, this county, where the father de-

parted this life Sept. 28, 1850. The mother survived her husband fifteen years, dying in Danvers, Feb. 5, 1866.

Of the ten children of Jonathan and Cynthia Rowell, the record is as follows: Mary J. was born June 29, 1829, and died Sept. 8, 1848; Ira of our sketch was the second child; Jonathan H., born Feb. 10, 1833, is now Member of Congress from this district, and married Miss Marie Woods; Lucy M., born Jan. 27, 1835, died April 16, 1849; Charles C., born Dec. 11, 1836, married Miss Margaret Rabern; William L. was born Sept. 5, 1838, and married Miss Belle Dickinson; Milo, born Dec. 13, 1840, married Miss Lou Carver; George B., born Dec. 13, 1842, married Miss Dellia Warlow; Chester, born Oct. 7, 1844, married a Mrs. Rowell; Albert A., born May 30, 1846, married Miss Nellie Booth. The mother was a member of the Congregational Church, and Jonathan Rowell, politically, was an uncompromising Democrat.

Ira Rowell received a good common-school education, remaining with his parents until eighteen years of age. He then started out for himself and engaged as a farm laborer at \$10 per month. He was united in marriage with Miss Lavina Carlock Nov. 16, 1869, having already secured 130 acres of good land, and being able to offer a comfortable home to his bride. This first purchase constitutes his present homestead. He has industriously cultivated the land, and added improvements each year until he now has one of the good farms of this section. Besides general farming he is giving much attention to the raising of cattle and horses. He has beautified his homestead by the planting of handsome shade and fruit trees, and has sold from time to time numbers of evergreen and apple trees.

The wife of our subject is the daughter of Abraham W. and Mary (Goodpasture) Carlock. Mr. C. was born April 7, 1800, in Hampshire County, W. Va., and his wife, Jan. 24, 1804, in Overton County, Tenn., about fifteen miles from Livingston, the county seat. In the spring of 1827 he removed with his family to Dry Grove, and subsequently moved to White Oak Township. Mr. C. at one time was the owner of 1,000 acres of land, 200 of which he afterward disposed of. Their

twelve children were, John G., Madison P., Sarah, Mahala, Lavina, William B., Abraham H., Margery, Martha, Reuben, Nancy J., and Mary. The four last named are deceased. Mr. C. was a staunch Democrat politically. He died at the age of eighty-four years; his widow still survives.

After the death of his father, Ira Rowell took charge of the estate, straightened up the business of the old homestead, and took his mother and brothers into his own household. He has been the architect of his own fortune, and what he possesses is the result of his industry and economy. He keeps himself well posted upon matters of general interest. Formerly he was Democratic in politics but is now mostly independent, aiming to cast his vote for the man whom he deems best fitted for the various offices. He has been School Trustee and Road Supervisor since his twenty-first birthday, having thus early in life established himself in the good opinion of his townsmen.

The household circle of our subject and his wife has been completed by the birth of five children, as follows: Lillie was born Sept. 27, 1870; Laura B., Dec. 20, 1871; Lulu J., Nov. 21, 1875; Edith I., June 30, 1879; Ira H., Oct. 10, 1885.



**E**DWARD WILSON, one of the honored pioneers of McLean County, owns and occupies a fine estate in Dale Township, on sections 14 and 15, and in his agricultural and stock-raising operations has met with abundant success. He is an industrious and enterprising business man, conducts his farming operations with discretion and judgment, and is strictly honorable and reliable in his transactions with his neighbors and fellow-citizens.

Mr. Wilson is a native of Madison County, N. Y., and was born on the 6th of August, 1827. As soon as old enough he attended the public schools of his native county, and during the summer seasons assisted his father on the farm. At the age of seventeen years he came to McLean County with his parents, and often recalls the incidents of the overland journey. The family stopped a few days in Chicago, which was then a city of only a



few thousand inhabitants, with muddy streets and cheap frame buildings. From Chicago the family proceeded to Joliet, where they were obliged to stay until the fall of the year on account of the high water and absence of bridges. In the fall they resumed their journey and came into McLean County. He made his home with his parents until they removed to Bloomington, and his first start in life was like that of Abe Lincoln, as a rail-splitter. Mr. W. split rails at fifty cents per hundred, and boarded himself, but even at that small profit he managed to save something, and in due time became a landed proprietor. He added to his first purchase as time and means permitted, and is now the possessor of 375 acres, all of which, with the exception of fifteen acres, is in Dale Township and all in one body. His farm is enclosed with good fences, the soil is finely cultivated, and the whole presents a picture of a first-class farm estate. In 1861 Mr. Wilson put up his first frame building, and in 1873 built the handsome residence in which he now resides. He has good barns, valuable machinery and implements, and all the appliances of a first-class agriculturist.

The marriage of Edward Wilson and Mrs. Louisa (Perry) McWhorter took place June 2, 1864. Mrs. Wilson was born in Jessamine County, Ky., May 29, 1832, and is the daughter of John and Charity Perry, and the widow of Stephen McWhorter. Of her first marriage there was born one son, Stephen A., who married Miss Dolly Millikin, and is now a commission merchant in Omaha, Neb.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilson have become the parents of four children—William L., Esther M., John and Walter C.; the latter died in 1872, when two years and four months old. Mr. W. is connected with the Baptist and his wife with the Christian Church. He is Republican in politics, and has been identified with this party since its organization. He was formerly a Whig, and cast his first Presidential vote for Zachariah Taylor.

During the progress of the Mexican War Mr. W. enlisted as a soldier, and also proffered his services to the Union Army in the late Civil War, but was rejected in both instances on account of physical disability. He has been called to fill various offices of trust in his township, having served as Assessor

and School Director, and was twice elected Justice of the Peace, which office he still holds. He has always been warmly interested in educational matters, and has uniformly given his support to the cause of morality, sobriety and good order, and in all respects is esteemed one of the most valued citizens of his township. He has lived to see great changes in the Prairie State since he first chose it for his home, and has contributed his full quota as opportunity permitted toward the establishment of a later civilization which has constituted Illinois one of the wealthiest and most prosperous States in the Union.



**R** PUMPHREY, deceased, was one of the most successful farmers of Randolph Township. In addition to the pursuit of general agriculture, he gave much attention to the raising of fine stock. In all his transactions, whether of a business or social nature, he bore the reputation of an honest man and a good citizen. He had been a resident of the county since 1863. During his early manhood he was one of the most industrious and energetic men of Randolph Township. These qualities in due time were amply rewarded. From a limited beginning, he became the owner of 1,000 acres of land, part of which, however, he afterward disposed of.

The Pumphrey homestead comprises 400 acres of land, and a handsome and commodious set of farm buildings. He put up one of the best brick houses in this part of the county, and the other buildings on the premises correspond in all respects to the main one. There was also other valuable property belonging to the estate, and which was divided up among the heirs.

Our subject was born in Brooke Co., W. Va., Aug. 23, 1810, and died at his home in Randolph Township, May 11, 1884, of paralysis. He spent three winters in Florida, where it was hoped his failing health would be recovered, but in vain. Mr. Pumphrey was reared in Brooke County, W. Va. His parents, Reason and Ann (Boone) Pumphrey, were natives of Maryland, but of Welsh ancestry and parentage. The mother of our subject was the daughter of Richard Boone, a relative of the well-

known Kentucky hunter and pioneer, Daniel Boone. She was married to Reason Pumphrey in Virginia whence they removed, in 1828, to Ohio, settling in Harrison County. There the mother died, at the age of sixty-five and one-half years, and a few years later the father passed away at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Emily Holmes, in Carroll County, Ohio, at the advanced age of eighty-five years. While in Virginia he was engaged in milling and accumulated a fine property, and was also successful in his farming operations, later, in Ohio.

The subject of this history received a good education in the schools of his native county in Virginia and after arriving to suitable years, worked with his father in the mill. He subsequently went to Fayette County, Pa., where he met Miss Ann G., the daughter of Charles and Ann (Combs) Griffin, to whom he was married on the 8th of December, 1835. The parents of Mrs. Pumphrey were natives of Delaware and Eastern Pennsylvania respectively. They were married in Fayette County, the latter State, and soon afterward located upon a farm and engaged in agricultural pursuits in that county, and there lived the remainder of their lives. The mother departed this life on the 10th of August, 1846, aged sixty years. The father survived her several years and died the latter part of December, 1862, having arrived at the advanced age of eighty-five years. The parental family consisted of eight children, six sons and two daughters. Two of the sons died young and five are yet living. Mrs. Pumphrey of our sketch was the third child and second daughter, and was born in Fayette County, Pa., Aug. 1, 1816. She received careful home training from excellent parents, and remained with them until her marriage, having also enjoyed the advantages of a good education.

Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. P. there were born eight children, one of whom, Mary M., died at the age of sixteen months. Of the living, all but two are married. One is a minister of the Presbyterian Church, having charge of a parish at Armourdale, Kan. This son was educated at Bloomington, Chicago, and Crawfordsville, Ind., and possesses more than ordinary ability as a pastor and orator. Each member of this intelligent family is possessed of those excellent qualities for

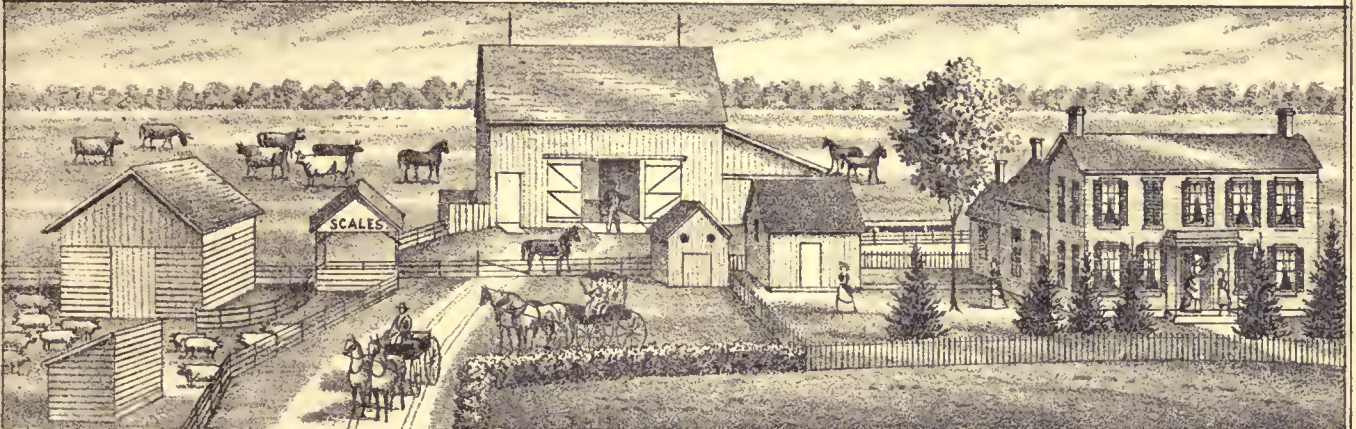
which their parents have been long and favorably known in this section. Soon after his marriage Mr. Pumphrey united with the Presbyterian Church, with which he was prominently connected afterward, having been Deacon for many years. During the latter years of his life he was connected with the church at Heyworth, of which his wife and family are now members and regular attendants. Politically Mr. Pumphrey was a Democrat.



**THOMAS J. STOREY.** The history of our subject presents a fine illustration of what can be accomplished by a course of persevering industry and the determination to "get on in the world." He commenced life at the foot of the ladder without means or influence, and by his own efforts climbed up step by step until he is now a prominent and honored member of society and the owner of a fine property. Thomas J. Storey was born in Lincolnshire, England, July 27, 1843. His father, Thomas Storey, Sr., who all his life followed agricultural pursuits, was accidentally killed while driving a fractious horse attached to a cart. The animal became frightened, ran away, and Mr. Storey was thrown to the ground with such violence that he suffered dislocation of the neck, and only lived thereafter three days. Our subject was then a little lad of about ten years old. The mother was left with eight children, the family having included ten, two of whom died in infancy. Mrs. Storey was a woman of great force of character, and intensely anxious for the welfare of her children. Not being satisfied with their condition or prospects in their own country she determined to emigrate to the United States. They first located in Delaware, whither she had been preceded by her eldest son. In less than a year, however, they started for the West, and coming into Illinois, located at Brimfield, Peoria County. The mother only survived about ten years, dying when less than fifty years of age from cancer in the breast. She had been a great sufferer and bore her afflictions with courage and fortitude. Of the eight children who survive her all are married; two living in McLean County, one in Livingston County,



RES. OF ARTHUR S. CATRON, SEC. 25, TOWANDA TOWNSHIP.

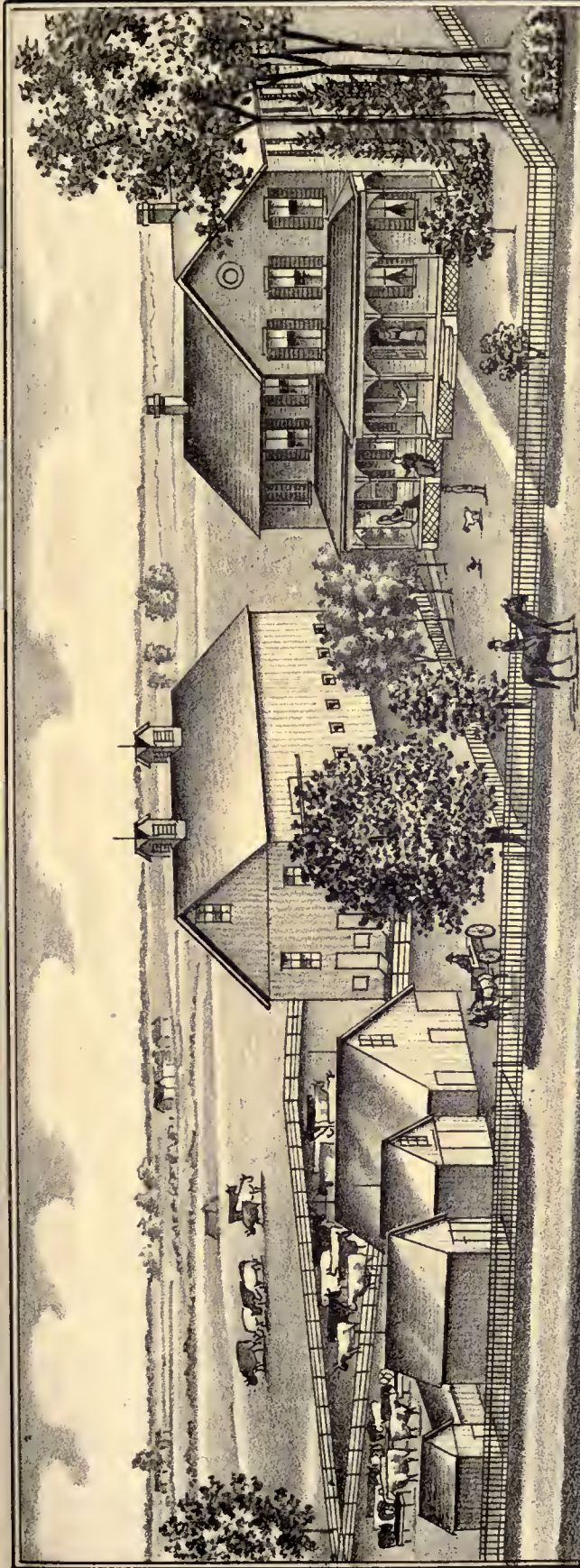


RESIDENCE OF PETER H. JAMES, SEC. 22, MONEY CREEK TOWNSHIP.

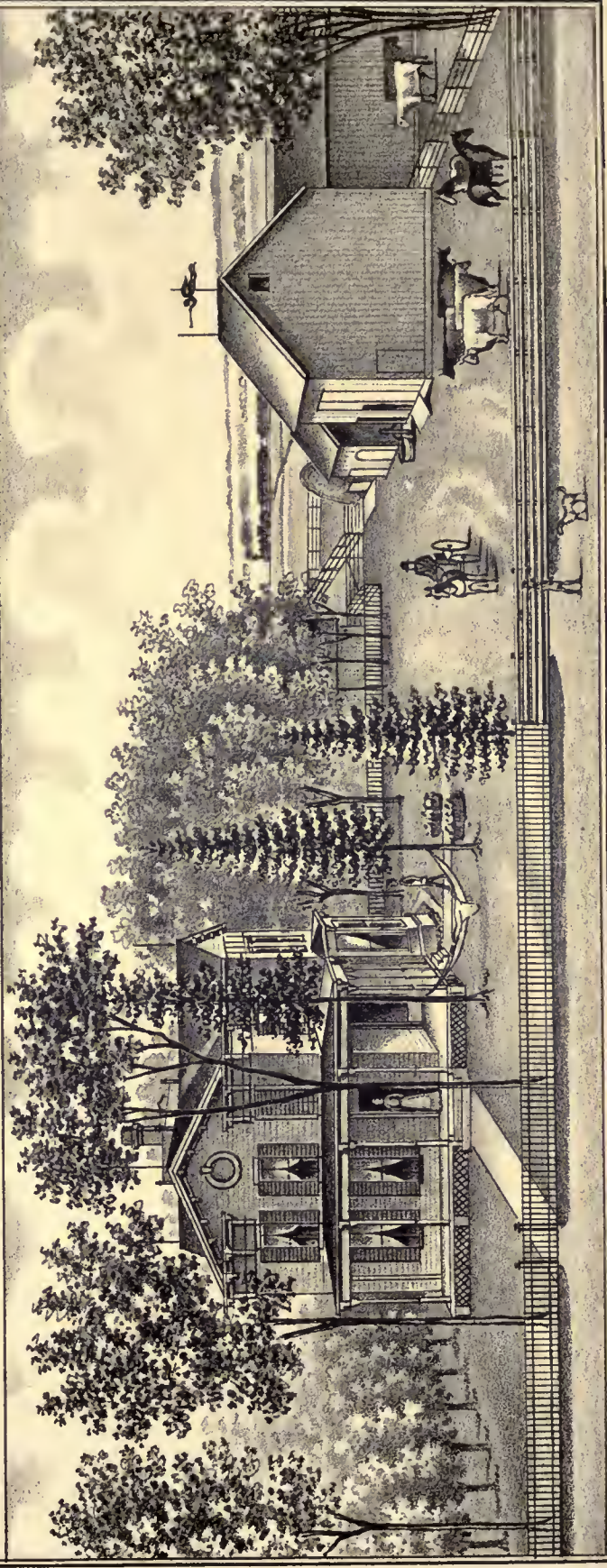


RESIDENCE OF THOS. C. HASTINGS, SEC. 11, BLUE MOUND TOWNSHIP.





RESIDENCE OF J. WALLACE JOHNSON, SEC. 34, DANVERS TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF EDWARD WILSON, SEC. 14, DALE TOWNSHIP.



one in Fulton County, Ohio, two in Woodford County, Ill., two in Nebraska. Their names are Tunnard, Joseph, Elizabeth, Thomas J., Hannah, Jacob, Mollie and Sarah J.

The subject of our sketch made his home with his mother until her death and then lived with relatives until his marriage, which occurred in 1863. The lady of his choice was Miss Florida D. Rodgers, who was born in Peoria County, June 12, 1845, and was the daughter of Joseph and Rebecca M. (Keyser) Rodgers, natives of Pennsylvania. They removed to Illinois after their marriage and settled in Peoria County, where the mother now lives, the father having died about 1871. Mrs. Rodgers makes her home with her younger son, Napoleon B., who is married, and employed on a railroad. The wedding of our subject and his wife took place in Eugene, Knox Co., Ill. They lived in Peoria County for two years afterward, and then our subject purchased eighty acres of good land on section 1, Padua Township, this county, where he has made fine improvements and established a permanent homestead. He possesses all the elements of an honest man and a good citizen, and has been remarkably successful in his farming and business transactions. Mr. and Mrs. S. are members in good standing of the United Brethren Church, in which he has been prominent as a Trustee and in other official positions. Politically he is a solid Republican and uniformly casts his vote in support of the party in which he believes. The two living children of Mr. and Mrs. Story are daughters, Emma D. and Lizzie B. Their little son, George E., died when two years of age.

**J**ACOB STOREY, an enterprising young farmer of Padua Township, where he is also successfully engaged in stock-raising, owns and occupies eighty acres of valuable land on section 2, and operates another eighty acres on section 1. He became a resident of this county in 1866. He is of English birth and parentage, being the son of Thomas Storey, who was a farmer by occupation and spent his entire life in his native England. Jacob was born Nov. 8, 1849, and was

a little lad of five years when his father died. His mother afterward emigrated to the United States with her eight children, and located first in Delaware. They only lived a year there, however, then started for the West and coming into this State settled first in Peoria County, where the mother died in September, 1859.

After the death of his mother our subject went to live with his guardian in Peoria County, with whom he remained a few years, and then started out to make his own way in the world. When but eighteen years of age, he enlisted as a soldier in Co. I, 146th Ill. Vol. Inf., in 1864. He served eleven months, not being in any active engagement. After returning from the army, he was employed as a farm laborer until his marriage, which occurred in Arrowsmith Township, this county, May 2, 1871. His wife, who was formerly Miss Isabella Maurice, was born and reared in Ohio, and came to Illinois with her parents when a child, remaining in this county until her marriage. Of this union there have been born two children—William A. and Charles E. Mr. Storey is a solid Republican, and bids fair to become one of the prominent farmers and citizens of McLean County. His energy and industry are surely deserving of entire success.

**E**BENEZER WRIGHT, of Normal, apprenticing agent of the New York Juvenile Asylum, is a native of Hampden County, Mass., and was born on the 19th of September, 1830. His father, Rev. E. B. Wright, was also born in the Bay State, was liberally educated and at the age of seventeen years graduated from Williams College. He then entered Andover, graduating from there three years later, receiving a ministerial education. Upon attaining his majority he became pastor of a Congregational Church and remained as such for a period of thirty years thereafter. Afterward he served as Chaplain in the State Primary School at Palmer, Mass., and departed this life at the advanced age of seventy-six years.

The mother of our subject, Mrs. Harriet (Goodell) Wright, was a native of the same State as her husband and son, spent her whole life in New England,

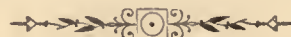
and died at the age of fifty-nine years. The parental family consisted of three children: Eunice, the wife of Rev. W. F. Avery, pastor of a Congregational Church at Huntingdon, Mass.; Theodore G., a physician of Plainville, Conn., and Ebenezer, the subject of this sketch, who was the second of the children.

Ebenezer Wright entered upon his primary studies in the common schools of his native town, and received his preparatory course at Easthampton, Mass. He then entered Williams College, where he attended several years, and was about to graduate when he accepted the position of Superintendent of the City Department of the New York Juvenile Asylum. He afterward attended the Columbia Law School, where he took the full course, but did not graduate on account of irregular attendance. In 1867 he accepted his present situation, and was located at Chicago until after the great fire of 1871, since which date he has resided at Normal.

The New York Juvenile Asylum was chartered in 1851. It receives truant and disobedient children, and such as are surrendered by their parents and friends, between the ages of seven and fourteen years. They are left in the Asylum about two years, during which time they attend school daily, and are afterward sent to the apprenticing agent who finds homes for them. The girls are apprenticed until eighteen years old, and the boys until twenty-one. Only about one-fourth of the children of the Asylum are brought West, and these are all distributed in the State of Illinois. The whole number brought thus to this State from the time of establishing the agency, in 1851, to Dec. 31, 1866, is 4,557, an annual average of 142. The important work of providing suitable homes for these waifs of humanity is wholly intrusted to Mr. Wright, and it is sufficient to state that he has performed it with credit to himself and the institution which he has represented for nearly twenty years. He is a gentleman in the fullest sense of the term, kind-hearted, sympathetic, and admirably adapted to the business which he has in hand.

Mr. Wright was married in November, 1860, at Amherst, Mass., to Miss Mary D. Cowles, who was born in that city in 1839, and is the daughter of L. D. Cowles, of Amherst. Of this union there

were born eight children, of whom five are living—Charles S., Frederick C., Mary D., Robert and Harry. Mr. and Mrs. Wright are worthy members of the Congregational Church, and enjoy the friendship and esteem of the best citizens of Normal.



**J**OHNS USSELTON LYONS, who became a resident of the Prairie State when a child four years of age, is now pleasantly located in Martin Township on a fine farm of 160 acres. Here he has a tasteful and substantial residence and all the accessories of a first-class country estate. He has proven himself a thorough and progressive farmer and stock-raiser, and has brought his homestead to its present position by the exercise of cultivated tastes and ample means. In the meantime he has also distinguished himself as an honest man and a good citizen, and for many years has been prominent in the affairs of his township and county. He has been the firm friend of religion, education and morality, and has contributed generously of his time and means to whatever enterprise was set on foot for the advancement of the interests of this section.

John U. Lyons was born near Frankfort, Ky., Oct. 22, 1830, and is the son of William and Catharine (Eddings) Lyons. The father of our subject, who was a native of Virginia, removed to the Blue Grass regions when a young man, where he afterward married. After a few years he removed with his family to Indiana, and thence to Edgar County, Ill., where the mother died. He afterward returned to Indiana and died in Switzerland County, in 1860.

A short time before the death of his father, John U., our subject, came again to the Prairie State and purchased a farm of 160 acres, but the following year rented his land, taking possession of his farm in 1860. This latter was formerly owned by Dr. Martin. Mr. Lyons, on the 8th of September, 1853, took to himself a wife and helpmeet in the person of Miss Mary J., daughter of Thomas R. and Rhoda (Smith) Wiley. Mrs. Lyons was born in Switzerland County, Ind., Oct. 24, 1837. Her father was a native of Virginia, and her mother of Kentucky. The wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Lyons




took place in Switzerland County, Ind., and they settled on a farm near the Ohio River, opposite Warsaw, Ky., where they remained until 1860, then removed to McLean County, Ill.

When Mr. L. purchased his farm in this county he could pay but \$400 down and gave a mortgage on it for the balance, but by incessant industry and the exercise of a naturally good judgment and rigid economy, in due time he succeeded in clearing himself from debt. His first crop consisted mainly of onions, he having brought a large quantity of "sets" from Indiana, from which he raised 200 bushels and which repaid him handsomely for his labors. As time progressed he branched out into the various products of the farm, and in his grain raising and other farm operations has uniformly met with success. He has been prominent in the affairs of his township and has served as Road Commissioner two terms. Before the war he was Democratic politically, but during that period considered that he had reason to change his views and cast his Presidential vote first for Lincoln and then for Grant. He was a strong Union man during the war, and contributed generously of his means in aid of its preservation.

The record of the children of Mr. and Mrs. Lyons is as follows: Thomas R. was born Sept. 17, 1854; Rhoda C., March 16, 1856, and is living at home with her parents; John D. was born March 30, 1858; William A., March 14, 1860; Lytle R. W., now deceased, was born Nov. 15, 1862; Ulysses S. G. was born Aug. 11, 1864; Sarah C., now the wife of L. W. Baldwin, of Colfax, was born Aug. 31, 1866; Mary E. was born March 26, 1869, and is living at home with her parents; Emma J. was born Feb. 14, 1871; Hannah M., Jan. 1, 1873, and E. S., April 22, 1876.

Mrs. Lyons is prominently connected with the Methodist Church, of which she was elected a Steward in 1885, and both she and our subject have contributed cheerfully and liberally to the support of the Gospel in this vicinity. John U. Lyons is a forcible illustration of the self-made man, having by the death of both parents been thrown upon the world at the tender age of eleven years. He possessed more than ordinary intelligence, however, and as soon as old enough to reflect decided to ob-

tain a good education. This he accomplished by working days and studying nights, and possesses a fund of practical knowledge which has proved an invaluable aid to his business transactions and has enabled him to secure and maintain a good position as a member of the community. He is universally respected wherever known, and now in the enjoyment of a comfortable home is receiving the reward of his early toil and sacrifices.



**W**ILLIAM R. PATTON. The gentleman whose history is briefly sketched in the following lines, is an active and practical farmer, in the prime of life, and the proprietor of a snug homestead in Martin Township, on section 6. He is a native of this State and county, his birth taking place on the 11th of August, 1852. He comes of a good family, his grandfather being John Patton, who was a native of Kentucky, whence he emigrated in early life to Switzerland County, Ind., and thence after his marriage, to McLean County, taking up his residence here in 1838, near where Pleasant Hill is now located, which at that time was an Indian town. In this locality he, in due time became the owner of a large tract of land, and remained there until his death. His son, William W., the father of our subject, came to this county with his parents when a boy. He was here reared to manhood and received a limited education in the pioneer schools. He married Miss Catharine, daughter of Jesse Cain, and a native of Rush County, Ind. William W. Patton was born in Switzerland County, Ind. After his marriage he settled on a farm in McLean County, where his son, our subject, was born, and which farm the latter now owns and occupies.

The subject of this history is the only one living of three children born to his parents. His father died when he was but two years of age. The mother subsequently married Charles Griffin of Indiana. Her death took place in this township, in 1868. Mr. Griffin died ten years later in 1878. Young Patton remained on the farm with his mother, and during the winter season pursued his studies in the district schools. Later he attended

Wesleyan University for eighteen months, and when his education was completed engaged in farming pursuits. He was married in the twenty-third year of his age, to Miss Anna Woodard, a native of this county, and the daughter of James and Luanna Woodard, of Morgan County, Ind. After marriage the young people went to live on the old homestead, which they have occupied since that time. It lies on the south side of the Mackinaw, and comprises 200 acres of the finest farming land in the county. Mr. Patton has given much attention to the growing of fine stock, and has also been extensively engaged in the raising of corn and hay. The homestead presents an air of comfort in all its appointments, everything about the place being in good order and well cared for.

Of the three children born to Mr. and Mrs. Patton there is only one living, a son, Tilden; the other two died in infancy. Our subject is a staunch Democrat politically, and is in all respects regarded as a praiseworthy and reliable citizen, who has contributed his full share toward the prosperity and progress of his native county.



**W**ILLIAM EVANS. The gentleman whose name stands at the head of this sketch has been a resident of the Prairie State for over thirty years. His first location was in this county, six miles west of his present homestead, where he purchased a one-half interest in 120 acres of land, which he operated in company with Thomas Rawlings for three years. He then purchased the interest of his partner, and operated the whole for the thirteen years following, in the meantime adding forty acres adjoining and opening up a good farm. In about 1872 he exchanged this for a tract of land on section 115, which comprises a part of his present homestead. He is now the owner of 340 acres, under a good state of cultivation, and besides general farming is giving much attention to the breeding of high-grade Short-horn cattle and Norman horses. The homestead of Mr. Evans in all its appointments indicates the supervision of the modern and progressive farmer. He has a fine residence and all necessary buildings for the shelter of

stock and the storage of grain. His fences and machinery are kept in good repair, and his farm presents one of the most attractive spots in the landscape of McLean County.

William Evans was born in Fleming County, Ky., Nov. 26, 1829, his parents being Jesse and Hannah (Pitts) Evans, natives respectively of Virginia and Kentucky. Jesse Evans was born in 1795, reared to farming pursuits, which he followed the greater part of his life, and died in his native county in Kentucky, in June, 1870. He was a member of the old Whig party, and with his wife prominently connected with the Christian Church. The mother of our subject was born in 1800, and departed this life in 1879. The parental family included three sons and six daughters, as follows: Susan became the wife of William Hurst, and lives in Kentucky; William of our sketch was the second child; Mary was united in marriage with James Dodds, and lives in Missouri; Nancy, Mrs. Thomas Rawlings, is deceased; Margaret married William Lewis, of Kentucky, and both are deceased; Lucinda married Jacob Walk, of Kentucky; he died, and she was again married, to a Mr. Darnell; Helen became the wife of William Pitts; John A. married Miss Amanda Plumer; James married Miss Lou Perkins.

Mr. Evans after coming to this State and laying the foundation for a future home, was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth T. Ball, in Cheney's Grove Township, on the 25th of November, 1862. Mrs. E. is a native of this county, born Feb. 27, 1844, and the daughter of Hilleary and Calista (Hildreth) Ball, natives of Kentucky and New York respectively. Her parents' family consisted of six children, as follows: Henry, the eldest, married Miss Mary Harrison, and is a resident of this township; Elizabeth, Mrs. Evans, was the second child; Julia A. became the wife of Samuel Gallagher; Amos married Miss Hannah C. Stephens; Harriet became the wife of Robert Means; Alfred died in June, 1852, when fifteen months old.

Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Evans there have been born five sons and four daughters: Jesse is now in Florida; Arthur married Miss Hester Coile; John died when three years of age; Villa, Charlie C., Julia, Harry C., Lelia and Matie are at home

with their parents. The family are all members of the Christian Church at Saybrook, in which our subject has held the office of Elder for many years. He has also been Trustee, and in all respects prominently identified with its maintenance and prosperity. He and his wife have been connected with this church for a period of twenty-two years, and Jesse, the eldest son, is following closely in the footsteps of his father, and taking a lively interest in Church matters. Villa, the eldest daughter, is organist of the church at Saybrook, having held the position for the last three years. Jesse and Arthur have received a particularly good education, and attended Eureka College several years. Mr. Evans is a thorough business man, prompt to meet his obligations, and politically an uncompromising Democrat.



**D**R. CHARLES R. PARKE, a leading physician and surgeon of Bloomington, is prominently connected with the State Medical and Central Illinois Medical Societies, and holds the position of Special Pension Examiner for the eye and ear. His office is located at No. 13 West Jefferson street, and his residence at No. 306 East Walnut. Socially he is surrounded by hosts of friends, and professionally is a favorite member of the fraternity in this section.

Dr. Parke was born in Chester County, Pa., June 25, 1823, and is the son of George W. and Mary (Ross) Parke, both parents having been born and reared in Chester County. The grandfather of our subject was Joseph Parke, whose ancestors were Scotch-Irish from the North of Ireland, and who emigrated to the United States at an early day, locating in Chester County, Pa., where they were pioneers and became prominently identified with the history of that section as among its most worthy and prosperous citizens.

George W. Parke, the father of our subject, was an extensive owner of farm property, and built a sawmill and plaster-mill, while at the same time he was engaged in agricultural pursuits. He was prospered in his undertakings and accumulated a fine property. He was a Justice of the Peace and served as Register of Wills in Chester County for three

years. Both he and his wife were prominently connected with the Presbyterian Church, and they passed their declining years upon the farm which had remained so long in their possession, the father dying there in 1860, and the mother in 1866.

The subject of this history was the seventh child of his parents' family and remained upon the homestead until eighteen years of age. He had been fairly educated, and at this time went into the city of Westchester, where he entered upon a course of study in Hoops' Academy, and during his leisure hours assisted his father in his office there. He soon afterward entered upon the study of medicine, and after taking a course at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, graduated in the spring of 1847, and commenced practice in Delaware County, Pennsylvania.

In 1848 Dr. Parke turned his face toward the Prairie State, and coming into Whiteside County located in Como. The following spring he crossed the plains to California as surgeon for a Como company, where he remained two years, and returned by the way of Nearaugua. He then located near Peoria whence, in 1852, he came to Bloomington where, until 1855, he engaged continuously in practice and became well and favorably known to the people of this section. That same year he crossed the Atlantic, and going to Russia became a surgeon of the Russian army during the Crimean War, remaining in the service until its close. He then made a tour of Europe, visiting a large number of hospitals and gaining valuable information. In the fall of 1857 he returned to the United States and to Bloomington, where he practiced until 1869, and then, on account of the failing health of his wife, went South to Arkansas, and locating on a plantation, engaged in the culture of cotton until 1873. He then returned to Bloomington, and has pursued his practice continuously since that time.

Dr. Parke is chief of the medical staff of St. Joseph's Hospital, Bloomington, which is owned and conducted by the 3d Order of the Sisters of St. Francis. The Doctor was instrumental in the establishment of this institution.

The wife of our subject was formerly Mrs. Luey Keith, of Winchester, Ky., to whom he was married on the 3d of October, 1865. They occupy a

pleasant home on Walnut street, and enjoy the confidence and esteem of a circle of acquaintances which include the most cultured people of the city. Dr. Parke is a close student, and has conducted his practice with unqualified skill and success.



**G**EORGE A. RUSSELL, a native of the Prairie State, was born in Newark, Kendall County, on the 9th of September, 1858. He is now a resident of the city of Bloomington and successfully engaged as a contractor and builder. He is a fine representative of the skillful and industrious citizens who have contributed to the prosperity of Bloomington and assisted her in maintaining her position among the other prominent towns of a wealthy and populous State. The parents of our subject were Henry E. and Sarah (Niblo) Russell, the father a native of New York, and the mother of Connecticut. They came to Illinois in 1853, and settled in Kendall County, where Henry E. Russell engaged as a contractor and builder until 1872. He then moved to DeKalb County, where he remained three years, and thence to Livingston County in 1875, which is still his home. He served as a soldier in the Union army during the late war and had charge of a commissary department. The parental family included three children: Elizabeth, Mrs. Enoch Davis of Anrora, Minnie E., living in Dwight, and George A. of our sketch.

George A. Russell remained at home with his parents until twenty-one years of age, in the meantime receiving a practical education. When a lad of thirteen years he commenced work with his father and assisted him in his building and business operations for five years, and was then made a partner. He came to Bloomington in 1880, and first engaged with the C. & A. R. R. in the construction of water tanks, and then on passenger coaches. Afterward he worked in a planing-mill for eighteen months, and since that time Mr. Russell has carried on business by himself and gives employment to several men. In 1884 he purchased the lots included in his present homestead and erected a comfortable and tasteful residence, which he has

occupied with his wife and their only child—Edith M.

Mr. Russell was married in July, 1879, to Miss May, daughter of Martin and Amarilla (Rockwell) Wilks, natives respectively of New York and Ohio, Martin Wilks was occupied in farming pursuits, and there were only two children in the family—Lucius and the wife of our subject. Mr. and Mrs. Russell are connected with the First Congregational Church of Bloomington, and socially Mr. R. belongs to the Modern Woodmen. He is Republican in politics, a successful business man and in all respects a good citizen. His headquarters are at No. 910 Linden street and he has a pleasant family residence.



**W**ILLIAM OLIVER, a pioneer settler and well-to-do farmer of Empire Township, owns 235 acres of valuable land on section 1, all of which with the exception of a few acres of timber is finely improved and under good cultivation. Mr. Oliver is of Irish ancestry, his grandfather, William Oliver, Sr., having been born in County Derry, in the north of Ireland, where he married Miss Naney Jackson, who was own cousin to Gen. Jackson, President of the United States. William Oliver, Sr., followed the pursuit of agriculture, and spent his entire life in his native county, arriving at the advanced age of nearly one hundred and one years. In the meantime he had made two trips to the United States, spending altogether about seven years in this country before his marriage. His son, John Oliver, the father of our subject, was also born in County Derry, where he remained until twenty-one years of age, then emigrated to the United States. He settled near Hagerstown, Washington Co., Md., and seven years later was united in marriage with Miss Mary Boek. Mrs. O. was a native of Washington County, Md., as also were her parents. After the birth of three children, John Oliver and his wife removed from Maryland to Ross County, Ohio, about 1811, where they located upon a farm and passed the remainder of their days, the father being seventy-seven, and the mother sixty-two years old at the time of decease. They were most excellent Christian people,

and John Oliver politically was a staunch Democrat.

The subject of this history was the eldest of five sons and four daughters born to his parents. His birthplace was near Hagerstown, Md., and the date thereof June 30, 1808. He was but three years of age when his parents removed to Ohio, and he lived with them until his marriage. This event occurred on the 24th of April, 1834, the maiden of his choice being Miss Mary Cowgill. She was born in Ross County, Ohio, May 14, 1805, and was the daughter of Eleazar and Jane (McFarland) Cowgill, natives respectively of Virginia and Maine. They settled in Ross County at the beginning of the present century, and there passed the remainder of their lives. Mr. and Mrs. O. became the parents of six children, three now deceased: Mary became the wife of Benjamin T. Hall, of Empire Township, to which he removed when a child with his father from Champaign County, Ohio. He died Dec. 4, 1884, when nearly fifty-one years of age. They had no children. Mrs. H. at present lives with her father, our subject; John Oliver married Miss Ruth McDaniel, of Ross County, Ohio, and they reside on a farm in Empire Township, this county; Henry H., now a resident of Le Roy, was first married to Miss Dunlap, who died about 1863. His second wife was formerly Miss Nancy J. Farver. Those deceased are Willie, Jr., who died when twenty-one years old, and two infants unnamed. Mrs. Oliver departed this life at her home in Empire Township, March 21, 1884, aged nearly eighty-one years, mourned by a large circle of friends.

The paternal grandmother of Mrs. Oliver, who before her marriage was Miss Martha Curry, was a native of London, England, whence she emigrated to this country, married Mr. Daniel Cowgill, and died in Ross County, Ohio, at the advanced age of one hundred and thirteen years.

Mr. Oliver became a resident of Empire Township in the fall of 1853, making the journey from Ohio to this county overland with teams. He first purchased 200 acres of land, which was in its original condition, and which he brought to a fine state of cultivation, adding to it since that time 200 acres; a part has been divided among his children. The farm buildings are substantial and convenient

structures, and the out-buildings, stock, fences and machinery indicate the care and supervision of the intelligent and progressive modern farmer. Mr. Oliver has contributed his full quota toward the agricultural interests of this section, and is held in high esteem throughout his township and county.

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**J**OHAN J. FOLLICK, a retired farmer now living in Saybrook, this county, was born in Hamilton County, Ohio, July 22, 1823. He is the son of Isaac and Mary Folliek, the former a native of Ohio and of German descent and parentage, and who followed farming all his life. Politically he was a Jacksonian Democrat. He departed this life in 1837 in Hamilton County, Ohio. The mother of our subject was born in England, and died in Indiana in 1854. The record of their children is as follows: Eliza became the wife of James Marsh, who is now deceased; John J., our subject, was the second child; one died in infancy; the remainder were Rachel, Oliver T. and Isaac.

After the removal of Isaac Folliek and his family to Ohio, our subject pursued his studies in the common schools for a brief time and at an early age commenced assisting his father on the farm. He came to this county in 1854, having the year before purchased 160 acres of land in Old Town Township. This he afterward sold, and then purchased 245 acres which he cultivated and improved until 1881. He then desired to retire from active labor, and purchasing a fine dwelling in Saybrook, removed thither, where he has since made his home.

John J. Folliek was united in marriage with Miss Ann M. Stewart. Of this union there were born four children: Sarah J. became the wife of Fred Snyder and lives in Saybrook; Mary E. married Henry Farris, and is now deceased; Laura A. became the wife of John Weakman, and is deceased; and Francis M. is carrying on the hardware trade in Saybrook. The mother of these children died Jan. 15, 1870, at the home of her husband near Saybrook. She was a faithful wife and affectionate mother, and a member in good standing of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. The second

marriage of Mr. Follick occurred Oct. 19, 1875, with Mrs. Martha (Maxwell) Chambers. The Maxwell family located in Montgomery County, Ind., at an early day, where they became widely and favorably known.

The parents of Mrs. Follick were David C. and Betsey (Hood) Maxwell, of Irish and German descent. Mrs. F. was born in Warren County, Ky., March 16, 1825. The following year her parents came to Indiana, settling in Montgomery County, where they passed the remainder of their lives. Of their five children, Martha M. was the eldest; Zerilda M. became the wife of Joseph Philips, and both are deceased; Paradine M. married Dennis Rusk; she is now deceased; Ann M. is the widow of Elisha Pierce, who died in May, 1886; Juliette is the widow of John H. Phillips, and has two children—Albert and Ella; Albert is now living in Kankakee, Ill.; Rosella, Mrs. McCauly, has one child—Mabel E., born Oct. 6, 1886. Miss Martha Maxwell was married Sept. 29, 1845, to Richard Chambers, a native of Delaware. He was born Nov. 10, 1816, followed agricultural pursuits, and died in Indiana. Of this marriage there was one child, a son, William H., who died when thirteen months old.

Mr. and Mrs. Follick are greatly respected wherever known, and bear the reputation of kindly Christian people, always ready to lend a helping hand to those in need. Mr. F. has been a staunch Democrat since old enough to know the difference between parties, and with his excellent wife is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Saybrook. Of this he has been Trustee for several years, and has in all respects proved himself worthy to be classed among the honest men and good citizens of McLean County.



**L**EVI DEISINGER, one of the intelligent and industrious citizens of Cheney's Grove Township, formerly a miller and carpenter, is now engaged in the occupation of a farmer, and has a pleasant homestead located on section 3. This comprises eighty acres of good land, which is

watered by three fine springs, and Mr. D., beside his other employments is quite extensively engaged in the breeding of foreign horses and cattle, of which he makes a specialty, and in which he takes great pride. His horses are Morgan and Clydesdale, and his cattle graded Short-horns. Of the latter he has eleven head, and also fifty-one head of hogs.

Mr. Deisinger may be properly termed a self-made man in every respect. He was but fourteen years old when he was obliged to look out for himself, but he had been trained to habits of industry and honesty, and found friends wherever he made his home. He was born in York County, Pa., in 1833, and is the son of John and Lydia Deisinger. He remained in his native State until twenty years of age, then proceeded to Dayton, Ohio, where he worked one year at milling, and then came to this county. He was engaged as a carpenter for eight years following, and was then enabled to purchase forty acres of land in Anchor Township, which, however, he sold two years later. He then purchased his present homestead, and since that time has been industriously engaged in its improvement and cultivation. He has performed faithfully all the duties of a good citizen, and contributed his share toward the business and agricultural interests of his township. Mr. Deisinger has never married. He has been prominently connected with the Saybrook Methodist Episcopal Church for a period of over twenty years, and has contributed liberally and cheerfully to its support.



**A**LFRID FREEMAN, who is engaged in the harness and saddlery business at No. 215 West Jefferson street, Bloomington, has been a resident of McLean County since 1876. He is a native of Johnson County, Ind., and was born on the 14th of June, 1828. He is the son of Matthias and Sarah (Bowers) Freeman, natives of New Jersey. Matthias Freeman, when a young man, went with his parents to Cincinnati, Ohio, and there worked at wagon-making and black-





Harvey Bishop



A. Freeman



smithing. In 1826 he moved on westward into Indiana, where, to his former business he added the manufacture of plows. He then took up 204 acres of land; in Johnson County, Ind., where he permanently located and remained until his death, which occurred in 1859. The wife and mother survived until 1875. The parental household included seven children, four of whom are now living—George W., Alfred, Sarah J. and Hannah C.

Alfred Freeman remained on the farm until fourteen years of age, and then learned harness-making. After he had gained a good knowledge of the business he had a shop erected on the farm, purchased a team, and there manufactured the articles of his trade, and when he had secured a load carried it around and sold it to the people in that vicinity. He operated thus until 1849, when he went to Cedar Rapids, Iowa, where for one winter he operated a shop, then returned home, and until 1858 carried on a harness-shop in Franklin, giving employment to eight boys and six men. This enterprise he finally abandoned, and for two years afterward engaged in milling. For this purpose he built a mill in 1858, which he subsequently moved to Texas, and located in Cameron, the county seat of Milam County. There he took in two partners, and they added a distillery and gristmill, all three operating together for four and a half years. While in Texas Mr. Freeman bought sixty-six acres of land, which he laid out in town lots which he sold at good figures, and after his return to Franklin, Ind., he also made purchases of land and platted some town lots, which were also disposed of to a good advantage. Mr. Freeman then sold out his interest, went first to Mexico and then, returning to Indiana, engaged in mercantile pursuits for two years, and afterward built a sawmill, which he operated for over four years. In connection with this he also had a stove factory. He then abandoned this to engage in farming and the raising of seeds for market. He was particularly fortunate in the raising of vegetables also, and at the State Fair of 1869 received twenty-two first premiums for all kinds of vegetables and farm produce, and in 1870 received nineteen first premiums. After seven years thus occupied he engaged in the hardware trade at Martinsville, and also resumed his harness

and saddlery business, which, after continuing six years, he sold to remove to Indianapolis. Thence he went to Mt. Carmel, Ill., and opened up a harness and saddlery shop, which, with other property, was swept away in a cyclone in 1876. He then came to Bloomington, where he established his present business, at which he has continued since that time.

Alfred Freeman and Miss Mary W. Candy were married in 1876, at Mt. Carmel. Mrs. F. is a native of Maryland, and removed with her parents to Lexington, Ky., when a small child. The residence of our subject and his wife is pleasantly located at No. 511 South Madison street, and they enjoy the society and friendship of a large circle of acquaintances. They are members in good standing of the Unitarian Church, and Mr. F. politically belongs to the Greenback party, and is a strong temperance man, and a vigorous advocate of woman suffrage. A lithographic portrait of Mr. Freeman is shown on another page of this work.



**H**ARVEY BISHOP. One bows almost with reverence in the presence of a pioneer of over half a century, and envies him what his eyes have seen and ears have heard, of the sketches and incidents of his early days. The gentleman of whom we now write has witnessed in the fifty-four years of his residence here wonderful changes. When he came there were no school-houses, churches, costly residences, or ample barns; no railroads, telegraph or telephone lines spanned these broad acres, and in fact few if any evidences of civilization existed, while now the prairies blossom as the rose, and the fertile acres yield abundance and to spare.

Our subject, of whom we give a portrait in this connection, is respected for his sterling worth and integrity, and the honest record he has made since his long residence in the county. He is at present living on section 32, Old Town Township, and is retired from the active labor of life, and passing

its sunset in peace, and the quiet enjoyment of a sufficiency obtained through years of labor and economy. The parents of our subject were William and Margaret (Lake) Bishop, natives of Virginia, where they spent their early lives and where they were united in marriage. Soon after this event they removed to Clarke County, Ohio, where the father followed farming for a time, and in November, 1833, disposing of his interests in that county, came to this, and made settlement in Old Town Township. There the father and family lived, and there he died in 1855. The wife survives him, and has attained to the age of eighty-three years. Their children were nine in number, six sons and three daughters. The subject of this notice is the eldest in order of birth. He first saw light in Clarke County, Ohio, Aug. 2, 1821, and was about twelve years old when he came with his parents to this county. Here he received his education in the common schools, and lived with the old folk, assisting his father in the maintenance of the family until he was twenty-eight years of age. He then left the parental home, married and settled down in Old Town Township with his bride, and there engaged in the vocation he has followed thus far in life. He has been a resident of McLean County, as stated, since 1833, and has witnessed the wonderful advancement it has made during the past fifty-four years.

Our subject was married in Bloomington, Ill., Feb. 21, 1850, to Miss Mary A. Depne, who bore him one child, Margaret A., who died when about eleven years of age. Mrs. Bishop departed this life in Old Town Township, Nov. 26, 1856, and Mr. Bishop was a second time married, in the same township, Jan. 1, 1861, to Miss Mary A. Hart. She is the daughter of William and Sarah (Sharp) Hart, natives of South Carolina and Kentucky respectively. Her parents after their marriage settled in Indiana, whence they moved to Greene County, this State, and where they both died. Their children were nine in number, seven sons and two daughters, of whom Mrs. Bishop was the eighth in order of birth. She first saw light in Indiana, March 28, 1823, and by her union with our subject one child, William H., was born. He is at present agent for the I., B. & W. R. R. at Gillum

station. Mr. Bishop has held the office of Road Commissioner and other minor offices of his township. In politics he claims to be a Democrat, although he is inclined to vote for the best men for the office.

**J**AMES W. QUINN, an extensive and prosperous farmer of Dale Township, owns and occupies a fine estate on section 34, and is one of the reliable and representative citizens of McLean County. He was born in Madison County, Ky., May 10, 1827, two months after his father's death, and was the youngest son of Hiram and Elizabeth (Moberly) Quinn.

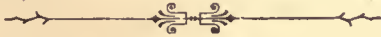
The subject of our sketch was reared by his mother on the old homestead and educated in the subscription school. He remained at home until his marriage, in 1849, and then purchased land near by upon which he carried on agricultural operations until 1854. He then, accompanied by his wife and one child, started overland for the prairies of Illinois. They were equipped with one pair of horses, a wagon and a buggy, and after stopping a few days in Indiana, arrived in McLean County, Ill., on the 9th day of October of the above year. They moved into the house with his brother, H. W. Quinn, and our subject purchased 160 acres on the southeast quarter of section 33, in Dale Township. There was upon it a frame house 16x26 feet in dimensions, a log stable, and fifty-five acres broken.

The following spring Mr. Quinn disposed of this property and removed to the farm which he now owns and occupies. He has greatly improved the condition of this since it came into his possession, and now has all the land well improved and fenced, and supplied with excellent farm buildings. He purchased the quarter section adjoining him on the east and also the southwest quarter of section 30, in the same township, these latter being operated by tenants, and they yield to their owner a handsome income.

The marriage of James W. Quinn and Miss Elizabeth S. Dozier took place on the 8th of November, 1849. Mrs. Quinn is a native of the same State and county as her husband, and was born Aug. 20, 1833. Her parents were Yetman and Susan (Mo-

berly) Dozier, of Madison County, Ky. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Q. there have been born three children: Nancy J. became the wife of Fayette Barelay, and lives in Dale Township; Leonard F. married Salley Park, of Irvine, Ky., and lives on section 34, Dale Township; Sidney is at home. Mr. and Mrs. Q. and all their children are connected by membership with the Christian Church, and politically our subject uniformly votes the Democratic ticket.

Mr. Quinn is one of the substantial and reliable business men of this county, and has assisted materially in the development of its resources and in the march of civilization and progress. The homestead is one of the finest in the county and invariably attracts the eye of the traveler through this section by its air of comfort on all sides. The residence, within and without, is tastefully finished and furnished, and the barns and out-buildings possess all the conveniences for the storing of grain and the shelter of stock. Everything about the place is in good order and all operations are carried on in a systematic manner, which denotes the exercise of wise judgment and ample means.



**C**HATHAM H. D. HARRIS, one of the early settlers of the Prairie State, came from the Blue Grass regions of Kentucky in 1857. He now owns and occupies a comfortable homestead in Allin Township on section 2, where he is fulfilling the obligations of a good citizen, and carrying on the peaceful occupation of a farmer with fair success.

Our subject is the son of Rev. William and Nancy Harris, natives of Virginia. The former was born in Roekbridge County in 1767, and the latter in 1770. They were married in Green County, Ky., in 1797, and located upon a farm there for a short time. Thence they removed to Warren County, and in about 1845 to Simpson County, Ky. Here the father died, July 9, 1845; the mother survived until November, 1863, having spent her last days in Warren County. Of their family of twelve sons and five daughters six sons were ministers; the names of the seventeen are as

follows: James, Sarah, John, Thomas H., David R., Rev. Alexander C., Anna, Harvey, Mary, Susan, Rev. William B., Finis E., Rev. Josiah G., Chatham H. D. Nancy L., Louie L. D. and Cyrus L. The parents were members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, of which the father of our subject was a minister for fifty years. He belonged to the Whig party politically, and was a man of sound judgment and great force of character.

The subject of this history completed his education in the High Seminary in Springfield, Tenn., which he attended for over three years. After he had completed his college course, which had been devoted to clerical studies, he was ordained to the ministry in Simpson County, Ky., in 1842, becoming a pastor in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and in which he still continues his ministrations. After coming to Illinois he was united in marriage with Miss Eliza J. Johnson, in Dale Township, this county, in 1858. He afterward preached four years at Danvers, and in the winter of 1860 held a large revival, during which the church received an addition of ninety-six members, beside a conversion of sixty-five, who went elsewhere. The membership of the church at Danvers became very large in numbers, and there were enough withdrew from it to form a congregation of Congregationalists, who have a good house for worship in Danvers, and are prospering in the good cause. This withdrawal did not cripple the mother church from which they withdrew, but to the contrary, as both churches are in a prosperous condition. Several of the members of the Danvers congregation organized a church near Stanford, built a large house for worship, and the church at this point numbers over 200 members. They also organized a church west of Danvers, and it is in a flourishing condition. There were also a number of families went from Danvers to Gibson City, and established a church there, erected a fine house of worship, and are prospering in the good cause.

Mr. Harris now preaches in Hopedale, Tazewell County, where he has conducted a large meeting successfully. He has also assisted at revivals in Lincoln, Logan County, and Le Roy, this county.

Mr. Harris is the owner of 160 acres, with all modern improvements, the family residence being

pleasantly located and its inmates surrounded by all the comforts of life. He is an earnest Prohibitionist, and served as Supervisor of his township for two years. Mr. and Mrs. H. became the parents of one child only, Cora A., who died in infancy.

**A**DAM GUTHRIE, who is identified with the industrial interests of Bloomington as a tobacconist, is located at the corner of Main and Jefferson streets, Northwest Side. Mr. Guthrie is a native of the Buckeye State, his birth having taken place in Pickaway County, March 10, 1825. He is the son of Robert and Catharine (Spawr) Guthrie, natives of Pennsylvania. The paternal grandfather of our subject was of Scotch-Irish descent, while the mother's ancestors were from Germany. Robert Guthrie came to Illinois and settled in Funk's Grove in September, 1826. He took up a Government claim of 160 acres, built a log cabin and made some improvements, then sold it and made another claim in Money Creek Township. After partially improving the latter claim he sold this to the Ogdens, then in 1831, with his family, moved on land belonging to James Allin, which is now in the city limits of Bloomington. After occupying this two years, the father of our subject moved into what is now the city and built a house of split boards on the corner of Lec and Front streets. The floor of this structure was of puncheon and the weather boarding was rived and shaved by hand. A door was improvised out of a poplar box, which Mr. G. had brought with him from Ohio, full of goods. Into this house the family removed, where the father remained until his death, in 1846. The mother survived ten years and died in 1856.

When the father of our subject first moved into Funk's Grove he took his ax on his shoulder and went out to work. Not far away he found two buck deer, which had been fighting and were locked together by their horns. He slipped up to them and killed them with an ax and the bodies furnished his family with meat and oil for light during that winter. Upon removing to Money Creek, Robert Guthrie, in company with Frederick Trimmer,

journeyed to St. Louis after goods for James Allen, being equipped with one ox-team and a horse-team. After they had secured their merchandise and arrived near Edwardsville, on the return trip, they were obliged to stop on account of the deep snow. They put their goods under shelter and turned their oxen into a corn-field and made their way home laboriously on the backs of the horses. In the spring they went back and got their goods and oxen. At this time the parental family included seven children, who remained on the farm and lived on hog and hominy all winter, having no bread in the house. Afterward four more children were added to the household circle and of the eleven which completed the family, only four are now living: Rev. Robert E., of Wichita, Kan.; Margaret, Mrs. Steele, of Kansas City; Adam of our sketch, and Peter, formerly of Normal but now a constable in Bloomington City. Robert Guthrie was a steady and energetic man, and in addition to his farm and other business, was employed as a contractor, bricklayer and plasterer. Politically he affiliated with the Whig party and was a great admirer of Henry Clay. Upon first coming to Illinois, both parents were connected with the Presbyterian Church, but after the older children joined the Methodists the parents went with the latter and adhered to this denomination the balance of their lives.

Adam Guthrie remained at home until after the death of his parents, in the meantime receiving a good education in the subscription schools. He then worked with his father at plastering and followed the same until 1862. Then, the Civil War being in progress, he enlisted as a Union soldier in Co. A, 94th Ill. Vol. Inf., where he soon became Corporal and was in the service eight months. He engaged with the enemy at Prairie Grove, Ark., in December, 1862, and when he returned home was quite content with his experience of army life. The following year he was made a member of the police force of the city of Bloomington, being thus employed for two years and then resumed his trade until 1866. In that year he was elected Township Assessor, in which office he continued fifteen years and then established his present business, in which he has been engaged since that time. Being one of the oldest settlers of the county now

living, he is accorded that peculiar deference and respect which is involuntarily shown toward those who saw this country in its virgin state and assisted materially in bringing it to its present prosperous condition. Our subject is Republican in politics, and with his wife, is a worthy member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Adam Guthrie was married in 1849, to Miss L. L. Butler, of New York, daughter of Ira and Lydia (Thrasher) Butler, of the same State. Of this union there were born three children: Eva, now Mrs. Kimball, of Bloomington, has three children—Bernie, Cora and Lucian; Permeno A. married Miss Anna Noble, a native of this county, and they have two sons, Sydney A. and Dudley; Permeno A. is Deputy County Clerk; Oscar F. is a ticket broker, having his office at the corner of Main and Jefferson streets. The residence of Mr. G. is pleasantly located at No. 802 North Center street.



**T**HOMAS Z. CHICK, of the firm of Chick & Covey, grocers of Le Roy, was born in Empire Township, on section 21, Aug. 28, 1857. His father, Zachariah Chick, a native of Somersetshire, England, was born June 6, 1826, and was the son of John and Harriett (Combs) Chick, both natives of Somersetshire. The great-grandfather of our subject, Thomas Chick, was a native of Dorsetshire, where he carried on farming the greater part of his life, and later removed to Somersetshire, where he spent the remainder of his days. His son John, the grandfather of our subject, followed the trade of a carpenter and joiner, and finally became a contractor and builder, and spent his entire life in Somersetshire, as also did his wife. The former died in 1858, and the latter in 1884. Their seven children, who grew to become men and women, were named Jane, Thomas, Harriett, Mary, Zachariah, John and Louisa Ann. Zachariah and John were the only ones who came to America. The latter lives in Essex County, Ontario, Canada.

Zachariah Chick, the father of our subject, learned his trade of his father, and lived with him until he was twenty years old. He then went with a cousin to the Isle of Jersey, where he worked at

his trade one year, and then volunteered in the Great Britain naval service, and was assigned to duty as carpenter and joiner on the man-of-war Penelope. They set sail from Portsmouth, Jan. 9, 1847, and went via the Western and Cape Verd Islands to the west coast of Africa, the mission of the vessel being to suppress the African slave trade. After fifteen months' service, Zachariah Chick was sent home on account of failing health. During this trip he visited the Madeira Islands, Cape Palmas and the Island of Fernando Po, and was invalided at Ascension Island. After his return to Portsmouth he was discharged, and resumed his trade, being employed part of the time for the Government.

On the 6th of April, 1851, Mr. Chick set sail from Plymouth, bound for America, and landed at Quebec May 9. He went thence to Montreal, where he worked four months at his trade, then proceeded to Chicago in the fall of the year, and after four months spent there, went to Griggsville, Ill., and later to Maysville, Pike County, where he worked at his trade until September, 1854. In the meantime there had been waiting in England, a lady who was expecting to become the sharer of his home and fortunes. Considering now that his prospects for the future justified the step, Zachariah Chick returned East to New York City, from which he set sail on the 5th of October, for his native England. He landed at Liverpool on the 16th of November following, and on the 16th of December was united in marriage with the maiden of his choice, Miss Caroline Bond. She was born in Barrington, Somersetshire, being the daughter of Thomas and Edith (Swain) Bond, who were natives of the same shire. The paternal grandparents of Mrs. Chick were Charles and Sarah (Upstill) Bond, natives of Coventry and Shipton respectively. Thomas Bond during his lifetime was a very prominent contractor and builder in Southern England, and at times had as many as thirty men in his employ.

The 1st day of March following their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Zachariah Chick set sail from Liverpool, and landed at New York City April 16. Thence they came directly to Illinois, locating first at Ottawa, where they lived until June, 1856.

They then removed to this county, which Mr. Chick had visited the fall before, and had purchased 120 acres of wild prairie land in West Township, on section 24. He did not settle upon this at once, however, but located at Le Roy and worked at his trade. Two years later he traded his land for eighty acres on section 28, of West Township, to which he removed, and engaged in farming until 1863. He then sold and returned to Le Roy, where he opened a wagon-shop, and has been engaged in the manufacture of road vehicles since that time. He has a pleasant residence on Center avenue, at the corner of Cherry street, owning the entire block on which he lives, with the exception of two lots occupied by our subject. He erected his present dwelling in 1876. It is a handsome and tasteful structure, and the yard is planted with choice shrubs and ornamental trees. Mr. and Mrs. Chick became the parents of six children—Thomas Z. (our subject), John B., Sarah B., Carrie B.; William L., the youngest child, died at the age of one year and six months; the eldest died in infancy unnamed. The parents are members of the Episcopal Church.

The mother of our subject was the ninth of eleven children born to her parents, and the only one who came to the United States. Her brother William went to Australia in 1848, where he carried on the business of a merchant tailor at Sidney, New South Wales, and was very successful. He died there in March, 1885. The rest of the family remained in England. Zachariah Chick has always been Democratic in politics and prominent in the affairs of this locality since coming here. He served one term as Mayor of Le Roy, and three terms as Alderman and Collector. He has been an Odd Fellow thirty-eight years, and has attended the Grand Lodge in this State.

Thomas Z. Chick remained with his parents during his childhood and youth, and received a fair education in the public schools of Le Roy. At sixteen years of age he commenced clerking for N. I. Umphrey & Son, and was thus employed for this and other firms the greater part of the time until 1880. He then established himself in the dry-goods trade. After a few months he visited Dakota with a view of removal in case the country

sued him, but not being satisfied with the outlook, returned, and resuming his occupation as a clerk, continued until December, 1885. He then, in company with a partner, purchased the grocery store of N. I. Umphrey, and since that time they have operated under the firm name of Chick & Covey. They carry a good line of groceries, queensware and notions, and are building up a good trade.

Mr. Chick was united in marriage with Miss Clara Laekey, Sept. 6, 1881. Mrs. Chick is the daughter of Richard and Matilda (Kirby) Laekey, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of two children—Edith B. and Edwin Z. Mr. Chick is Democratic in politics, and belongs to Le Roy Lodge No. 149, I. O. O. F., also Legion of Honor of Bloomington.



**C**HARLES R. PARK, Justice of the Peace in Normal Township, is a native of Tioga County, N. Y., where he was born on the 24th of January, 1819. His father, Daniel R. Park, was a native of Connecticut, a farmer by occupation, and died on the farm in Tioga County when nearly ninety years of age. The mother, Elizabeth (Dougherty) Park, was of Irish birth and parentage, and emigrated to the United States with her parents when a child. She was educated in New York City, whence she removed to Tioga County, and was there married to Daniel R. Park. She became the mother of ten children, and died at the old homestead, aged about seventy years. Of the children, three are now living: James E., of St. Louis, Mo.; Charles R., our subject, and George W., a resident of Owego, N. Y.

The subject of this history was reared on his father's farm, in the meantime receiving a fair education, and remained in his native State until about twenty-five years of age, his time being occupied mainly in farming pursuits. He also carried on a grocery business at No. 546 Grand street, New York City. In 1854 Mr. Park emigrated West, and has since been a resident of the Prairie State. He followed railroading on the Illinois Central Railroad for a few years, and then engaged in

the commission business at Chicago until the opening of the Rebellion. He then removed to Panola, and engaged in general merchandising, whence he removed to El Paso and embarked in the hardware business. He afterward carried on a trade in lumber, and in the meantime served under President Johnson as Deputy Revenue Collector for Woodford County.

In about 1871 Mr. Park removed to Gilman, Ill., and for eighteen months engaged in the hotel business. He then went to Chicago and occupied himself in the grocery business until December, 1874, when he came to Normal which has since been his residence. Here he served as Justice of the Peace for eight consecutive years, has been Notary Public, and also carried on an insurance business and a real-estate agency.

In politics Mr. Park is strongly Democratic. In 1886 he was the candidate of his party for County Treasurer, but was defeated with the balance of his ticket. Previous to the war our subject was connected with the State Militia of New York, where he held the rank of Captain, Ensign and Lieutenant Colonel, serving with the military for a period of eight years.

Mr. Park was married in 1856, to Miss Martha J. Bennett, their wedding taking place in the city of Chicago. Mrs. Park was a native of Wilkes Barre, Pa. She died on the 19th of January, 1885. By this union there was one child, a daughter, who died in infancy. Fannie, an adopted daughter, is the wife of L. B. Fuller, of Normal. Mr. Park is a member of Normal Lodge No. 673, A. F. & A. M., having been connected with the fraternity since 1860.



**S**IMON CAVANAUGH, a leading farmer of Cheney's Grove Township, owns and occupies a fine homestead on section 32. He has been a resident of this county since 1856, and is a representative of the warm-hearted Irish nationality, so many of whom have emigrated to this county and assisted in its development and colonization. The birthplace of our subject was in Wicklow County, Ireland, where he first opened his eyes to the light on the 9th of September, 1836.

His parents were Thomas and Mary (Ryan) Cavanaugh, both of whom are now deceased. They left their native land in 1848, and after a safe ocean voyage landed at New Orleans, whence they at once proceeded to Greene County, Ohio, where they took up their residence and spent the remainder of their lives. Thomas Cavanaugh engaged in agricultural pursuits, and the parental household was completed by the birth of seven children, six of whom are now living, namely, Mary, Bridget, John, Simon, Annie and William. Andrew was killed by the fall of a tree, in Ohio, when twenty-three years of age.

The subject of this history remained with his parents until twenty-one years old, receiving a common-school education and assisting his parents in the duties around the farm. Soon after attaining his majority he was united in marriage with Miss Julia Stansbury, on the 10th of September, 1857. Mrs. Cavanaugh was born in Tennessee in 1836, her parents being Isaac and Ruth (Lacey) Stansbury. They removed to Kansas, where the father died in 1877; the mother is still living. Our subject and his wife are the parents of ten children, of whom the record is as follows: Mollie became the wife of N. McCarty, and lives in Piatt County, Ill.; William H. married Miss Mary McCoy, and they are residents of Nebraska; Annie became the wife of William McCoy; Ida, Rosa, Harry and Maude are at home with their parents. Three died in infancy.

When Mr. Cavanaugh first came to this county he was employed as a farm laborer two years. He had been trained to habits of industry and economy, and at the end of this time found himself with sufficient means to purchase eighty acres of land. This he cultivated, improved, and added to, so that he now has a fine farm of 120 acres under an advanced state of cultivation. The residence is a substantial and shapely building. He has a good barn and all other buildings necessary for the successful prosecution of agriculture, the shelter of stock and the storage of grain. Everything about the premises is kept in good repair and denotes the enterprise of its proprietor. He has been upright and methodical in his business transactions, and by this course has secured the esteem and confidence

of his fellow-townsmen, who have from time to time honored him with the various township offices, including that of School Director.

Politically Mr. Cavanaugh is a staunch Republican, and he and his family are members and regular attendants of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Socially he belongs to the Masonic fraternity, being a member of Saybrook Lodge No. 468, in which he has held the office of Junior and Senior Deacon for some years. He is a great admirer of the principles of the fraternity, which he upholds with honest zeal.



**S**AMUEL WADDLE, an esteemed resident of Normal, is a native of the Prairie State, having been born in Monroe County on the 10th of August, 1835. His father, James H. Waddle, of Kentucky, was reared in his native State to farming pursuits, and after arriving at years of manhood, was married to Miss Elizabeth Mundy, also a native of the Blue Grass State. Soon afterward, in 1827, they emigrated to Illinois, and were thus among the pioneer settlers. They located in the southern part of the State, and there passed the remainder of their lives. Of their family of twelve children, only two sons and two daughters are now living, and three of the children died in infancy.

The subject of this narrative was reared on his father's farm, and received his education in the school of forty years ago. After attaining his majority, he purchased a farm in Monroe County, Ill., which he occupied and cultivated until 1874. Then, desiring better opportunities for the education of his children, he removed to Bloomington, and one year later to Normal. Since residing in McLean County, he has given considerable attention to the buying and selling of stock, which yields him a handsome income. Mr. Waddle still owns real estate to the extent of 500 acres, 350 of which are in a fine state of cultivation. The land lies near old Ft. Charter, on the American Bottoms in Monroe County. While living there he chiefly gave his attention to the raising of wheat.

The subject of our sketch was married in Sep-

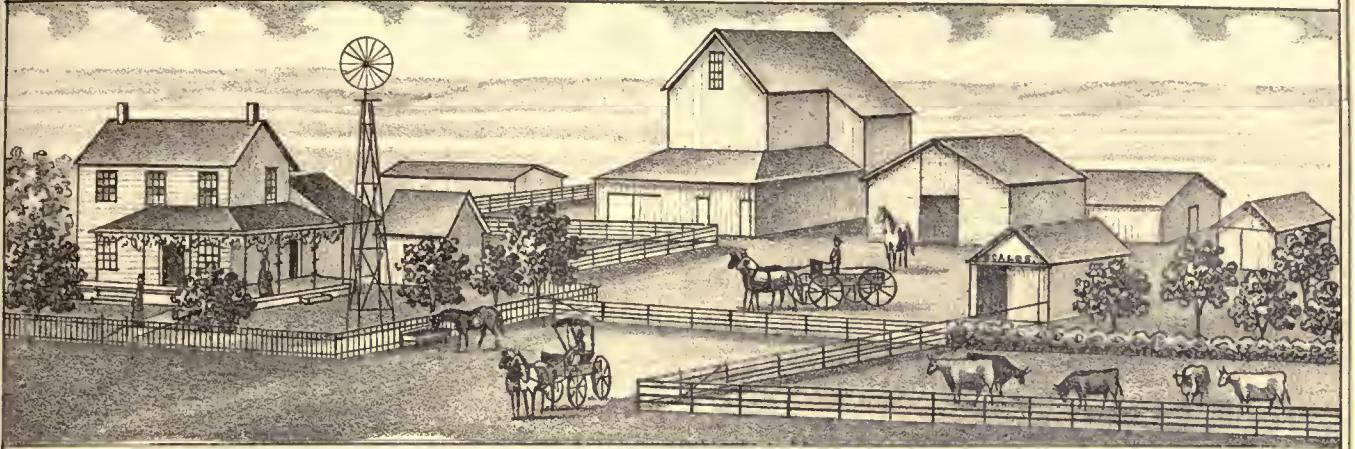
tember, 1857, to Miss Christine Cline, who died in 1864, leaving three children, two now living: John A., book-keeper of a wholesale house at Portland, Ore., and Wellington, Assistant Postmaster at Normal. The second marriage of Mr. Waddle occurred in 1865, when he was united with Miss Jane C. Morris, who bore him four children, of whom one daughter died in infancy; James is a book-keeper in Chicago; Herbert C. is engaged in teaching, and Leman is attending the Illinois State Normal University.

Our subject and his family occupy a handsome and comfortable home, and enjoy the friendship and esteem of a large circle of acquaintances. Mr. Waddle ranks among the representative citizens of Normal, and is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, with which he has been connected for the past thirty years. Socially he is a Knight Templar, and politically casts his vote with the Democratic party. He has steadily declined becoming an office-holder, although several times solicited to take the responsibility. He is essentially the architect of his own fortune, and his possessions have been acquired solely by his industry and wise management.

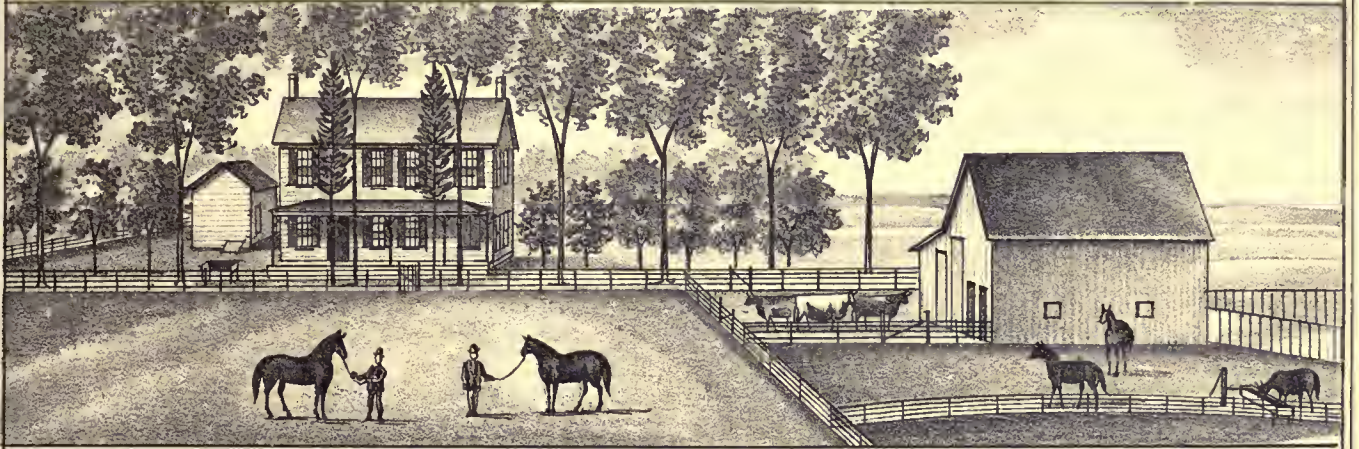


**W**ILLIAM L. POLLOCK, M. D., one of the most successful physicians and surgeons of McLean County, is a graduate of Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, where he secured his "sheepskin" on the 8th of March, 1871. He commenced practice at Normal, in this county, whence, in 1872, he came to Heyworth, of which he has since been a resident, and has built up an extensive and lucrative practice. Dr. Pollock was born in Bellefontaine, Logan Co., Ohio, on the 4th of May, 1850, and lived in his native town until sixteen years of age, pursuing his early studies in the primary schools and graduating from the High School. Before he was seventeen years old he began to receive special instruction under Rev. Mr. Shaw, a druggist of Bellefontaine, and not long afterward came to Illinois, locating in this county. Here he entered the office of Drs. Stephen Noble, and R. D. Bradley, of Bloomington, eminent and





RESIDENCE OF HUGH VAUGHAN , SEC . 36, CHENOA TP.



RESIDENCE OF H. HORNEY , SEC. 29 , LEXINGTON TP.



RESIDENCE OF JAS. S. BLAND , SEC. 7. (S) EMPIRE TP.



well-known physicians, and before he was twenty-one years old, had graduated from Jefferson College, Pennsylvania.

The father of our subject, John Pollock, was a native of Richland County, Ohio, where he was educated and grew to manhood. There, also, he was married to Miss Elizabeth J. Furgeson who, like himself, was of Scottish ancestry. After his marriage, John Pollock began the practice of law at Bellefontaine, Ohio, where he resided for sixteen years. In 1867 he came with his family to Ford County, Ill., and settled at Paxton, the county seat. There, also, he pursued his law practice until 1872, when the Republicans of that county elected him as their representative to the State Legislature. For many years he was associated in partnership with Judge Semple. He is now retired from practice, and for the last six years has been enjoying the fruits of his early labors in a comfortable home at Paxton. The mother is also yet living, and both parents are over seventy years of age.

William L. Pollock was the youngest of four children, three sons and one daughter. The eldest son is now deceased. The living are: John E., an attorney of Bloomington; Mary E., the wife of J. U. Marlow, of Denver, Col., who is engaged as a hotel-keeper and is proprietor of one of the finest houses in the city, and our subject. He was married in 1872, on the 24th of December, at Normal, to Miss Lillie Bingham. Mrs. P. was born March 24, 1851, in Vernon, Ind., and was educated at Eureka, Ill., to which she came with her parents when thirteen years of age. Her father, Lucius Bingham, died in Indiana, in about 1864, and the mother, Mary A. (Eldridge) Bingham, in Kansas, in 1879. Both were natives of New York State, and Mrs. B. was the sister of Edwin Eldridge, owner of Eldridge Park at Elmira, N. Y., and who, at his death, bequeathed this to the city.

Mrs. Pollock was finely educated, and was for some time a teacher of music, in which she possessed great taste and skill. She is in all respects an accomplished lady and an ornament to society. She has been connected with the Presbyterian Church since twelve years of age, in whose doctrines our subject was also reared by a pious and devoted

mother. Since coming here, Dr. Pollock has been prominent in local affairs, his intelligent and well-informed mind at once securing him a passport to public favor. He has been President of the Village Board for some time, and is one of the solid Republicans of this locality who has been of great assistance in building up and maintaining the local standing of this party. He is also connected with the A. F. & A. M., having been Master of Blue Lodge, and one of the most earnest workers of the fraternity.



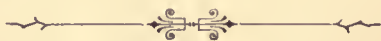
**J**OSEPH G. RANNEBARGER, of Cheney's Grove Township, is pleasantly located on section 14, where he is successfully engaged as a farmer and stock-breeder. He came to Illinois in 1851, first locating in Cumberland County, and has been a resident of McLean County since 1876. His birthplace was in Franklin County, Ohio, and the date thereof, Feb. 27, 1844. He is the son of Stephen T. and Susan (Michaels) Rannebarger, both natives of Maryland. His father was born in 1802, and died at his home in Macon County, Ill., in October, 1874. He was a farmer by occupation, and Republican in politics. The mother was born in 1801, united with the Baptist Church early in life, and died in Sangamon County, Ill., in 1865. Their eleven children are as follows: Henry W., Andrew B., Adam, Sarah, Harriett J., Susan, Phillip, Mary, Stephen T., who died in infancy; Joseph, of our sketch, and John.

Mr. R. of this notice was but seven years of age when his parents removed from Ohio to this State. They lived in Cumberland County six years, thence removed to Sangamon County, and afterward to DeWitt County. Joseph G. remained under the home roof until the breaking out of the late war, then enlisted in the 130th Illinois Infantry. Six weeks later he was taken ill and compelled to return home, where he remained thirteen months. He then decided to try again, and became a member of the 10th Illinois Cavalry, with which he remained two years and four months, his regiment being assigned to the Western Division. He was in the battle at Little Rock, Ark., and in various other engagements and skirmishes, escaping with-

out a wound. He received his honorable discharge in January, 1866, at San Antonio, Tex., and at once returned to his home in this State.

Mr. Rannebarger made his home with his parents until his marriage with Miss Sarah A. Conn, which occurred Nov. 30, 1871. Mrs. R. was born in De Witt County, Ill., Aug. 19, 1851, and was the daughter of David and Elizabeth (Bennett) Conn, natives respectively of Germany and Ohio. The mother died in DeWitt County, Ill., in 1853. Their four children were Luey A., Albert, Sarah A. and James M. Mr. and Mrs. R. have six children—Perry F., Rosetta A., Nora L., Lna M., Roy R. and Lottie B.; the latter was born Nov. 15, 1886.

The homestead of our subject includes eighty acres of finely cultivated land, with a good residence, barn, and all the necessary out-buildings for the shelter of stock and the storing of grain. His horses and cattle are of the best grades, and models of beauty and symmetry. Mr. R. is a member of the G. A. R., and the County Vigilance Association organized for the purpose of detecting and punishing horse thieves. He has held the offices of Road Commissioner and School Director for many years, and politically casts his vote with the Republican party.



**J**OHN W. FUNK, of Randolph Township, is the second son and fourth child of Jesse and Fannie U. (Stringfield) Funk, his mother being the sister of Capt. A. M. Stringfield, a sketch of whom is given on another page of this work. The parental household included the following children: Sarah J. is the widow of John A. Brittonham; he was formerly a farmer; Mrs. B. is living at Monticello, in Piatt County, Ill., aged sixty-one years; John W.; Thomas C. married Miss Julia Childs, and is now a live-stock dealer of Crawfordsville, Kan.; Delilah is the wife of James F. Brown, now living in Heyworth, this county; Absalom C. resides at Belleflower; he married Miss Chloe C. Bishop, and is engaged in farming and stock-raising; Naney A., now deceased, first married John Wilson, who died of smallpox; she after-

ward married John Thompson, who now lives in Santa Barbara, Cal.; Adam was fatally injured by being run over by a loaded wagon, when eleven years of age; he was a promising boy, and his death was a great affliction to the family.

The grandfather of our subject, Adam Funk, it is supposed was born on the Atlantic Ocean while his parents were crossing from Germany to the United States, his mother, it appears, having died on the ocean, probably at the time of his birth. The father after landing upon American shores settled near Philadelphia, Pa., and after a few years disappeared from the knowledge of his parents. The child, Adam, was placed with a family near Philadelphia, with whom he lived for a number of years, and subsequently went to Strasburg, Va., where he remained until his marriage with Miss Moore, the daughter of an old pioneer of that State, who lived at Mooresville, and who was of German parentage and ancestry. Adam Funk and his young bride after marriage removed to the Blue Grass regions of Kentucky, where was born their son Jesse, the father of our subject. Later the family came North to Ohio, and after a few years' residence there removed to Illinois, in 1824, locating in what is now known as Funk's Grove, McLean County, where he lived with his brother Isaac a few months, and there, after a few years the parents died.

Jesse Funk, after arriving at years of manhood, was united in marriage with Miss Fannie U. Stringfield, Feb. 16, 1825. The following spring they came to Randolph Township, where Jesse Funk in time secured 8,000 acres of the best land in this section, and improved a large portion of this before his death, which occurred Feb. 6, 1865. The mother of our subject survived her husband a few days over five years, dying Feb. 21, 1870. They were members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and possessed in a marked degree those admirable traits of character for which the entire family is celebrated, and by which they have obtained their reputation as among the best citizens of McLean County. Their son, John W., performed his filial duties in the most praiseworthy manner. He lived with his father until his death, and tenderly cared for his widowed mother until she followed her husband to the better land.

John W. Funk was reared in Randolph Township, where he pursued his primary studies. Later he entered Wesleyan University, where he attended three years. He then returned to the farm, and employed his time in agricultural pursuits until his marriage, which occurred July 30, 1867, at the home of the bride's parents in Lincoln, Logan County, this State, the maiden of his choice being Miss Elizabeth C., the daughter of John and Nancy A. (Glover) Fryer. Mrs. Funk had two brothers who served under Gen. Jackson in the War of 1812. Her parents were natives of Ohio, and of German and English descent. They removed to Logan County, Ill., in 1865, whence they came to McLean County, and settled in Randolph Township on one of the farms of Mr. Funk. The father of Mrs. F. was a carpenter by trade, and is now about seventy years of age. The mother is also living, being sixty-six years old on the 7th of February, 1887. Both are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The grandfather of Mrs. Funk, Benjamin Fryer, was reared by the Jefferson family, of which Thomas, the President, was an early member, and was married to Miss Catherine Jefferson. She was a cousin of President Jefferson. They settled in Portsmouth County, Ohio, among the early pioneers of that section, and became intimately identified with its welfare and progress, aiding by every means in their power the religious and educational element which was struggling for recognition. Benjamin Fryer became an invalid many years before his death, but bore his sufferings with resignation and patience, and closed his eyes upon the scenes of earth in 1868, when about eighty-five years old. He served as a soldier in the War of 1812.

Mrs. Funk was the eldest of her father's four children, and the only daughter of the family, all the children being yet alive; Randolph B., Samuel B. and John F. are married and settled in homes of their own. Mrs. F. was born in Portsmouth, Ohio, Aug. 30, 1843, and received her education in her native town. She was twenty-one years of age when she came to this State, and was employed in teaching music until her marriage with our subject. Of this union were born two children, Jessie A. and John W., both at home. All the

members of the family are connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which Mr. F. has been Trustee and Steward for many years. Politically he is a staunch Republican. Mr. Funk is largely engaged in stock-raising (high grades), in connection with his farming operations. His farm comprises 900 acres.

JOSEPH HABECKER, an intelligent young farmer of Danvers Township, located on section 4, is a native of this county, and born in 1856. He is the son of John and Magdalena (Roth) Habecker, natives of France, where the father was born in 1825, and the mother in 1822. The father of our subject emigrated to the United States in 1830, with his parents. They landed in New Orleans, whence they proceeded to Butler County, Ohio, where their son remained until his marriage, which occurred in 1845, the lady of his choice being Miss Magdalena Roth. After marriage they located upon rented land in Ohio, and there lived until 1847. John Habecker then decided to seek the farther West, and coming into the Prairie State settled near Peoria, Tazewell County, and cultivated a tract of rented land. After about six years they removed to McLean County, where Mr. H. purchased eighty acres, to which he added in a short time forty acres more. He prospered in his farming and business transactions, and in due time found himself the owner of 225 acres of valuable land and a comfortable home, which he occupied until his death in 1877. The mother still survives, being now sixty-three years of age and in good health. The household circle included six children, three deceased: Barbara became the wife of Amos Yoder, and died in May, 1885; Catherine married Peter S. Gerber, of Oak Grove; Christian married Miss Irene Stutzman, and resides in this county; Joseph, of our sketch, was the fourth child; Johnnie and Lena both died when young. The parents were members of the Mennonite Church. The father of our subject was a Republican in politics, and in all respects a worthy and reliable citizen.

The subject of this history was reared on his

father's farm, receiving a fair education in the common schools until he attained his majority. Then, by the death of his father, the supervision and operation of the farm fell upon him for about three years. He was soon afterward married to Miss Catherine Burkey, in 1880, and purchased a farm of 112 acres, upon which he has erected a fine dwelling, two stories in height, with an L, handsomely finished and furnished. He also has a good barn and all necessary out-buildings, and if appearances are correct, is destined to be one of the prominent and influential farmers of this section.

The parents of Mrs. Habecker were Frederick and Catherine (Creek) Burkey, natives of Switzerland, whence her father emigrated when he was twenty-five years of age, and located with his family near Belleville, in the southeastern part of this State. After a two years' residence there they removed to Woodford County, and in 1866 came to this vicinity, and engaged in the cultivation of rented land. Frederick Burkey died in 1871. His wife survived him until May 18, 1885. Their remains lie side by side in the Imhoff Cemetery in this county. The parental household included seven children: Frederick, Catherine; Johnnie, who died Oct. 1, 1870; Mary, who died in 1867; William, Mary (2d), and Christian. Mr. and Mrs. B. were formerly members of the Lutheran Church. After the death of her husband Mrs. B. united with the Mennonites.

Mr. and Mrs. Habecker have two children—Jessie, born June 7, 1883, and Eddie, Sept. 22, 1885. Mr. H. and his wife are members of the Mennonite Church, and politically our subject is a straight Republican.



**H**W. ULBRICH, manufacturer of harness and saddlery, is located at No. 512 North Main street, Bloomington, where he has built up a good trade, and established himself as one of the first business men of the city. Our subject was born in the Kingdom of Prussia, on the 26th of June, 1845, and is the son of Frank and Theresa (Kaps) Ulbrich, natives of the same country as their son. The father was a cabinet-maker by

trade, and emigrated to America in 1853, landing on our shores on the 25th of June. He located in Chicago, and worked at his trade there for twelve years, since which time he has lived with his son, our subject, in Bloomington. The mother died in Chicago, in 1879. Their family consisted of four sons, only two of whom are living, our subject and his brother August; the latter is a furniture finisher and a resident of Chicago.

Mr. Ulbrich lived in the city of Chicago from the time he was eight years of age, and came to Bloomington in 1882. He attended school until twelve years old, and then went to work in a brickyard. He was thus occupied for a year, and thence went into a shingle-mill for eighteen months, then made brushes for six months, and subsequently worked in a furniture factory for twelve months. He was then employed in a sash and door factory for fifteen months, and then served an apprenticeship with his brother, Joseph F., in the harness business. In 1864 he went to Louisville, Ky., where he worked in the harness-shops of the Government for ten months. The war being then in progress he established a sutler's stand, and after one month's experience at this was quite satisfied with army life, and returning to Chicago purchased the harness-shop of his brother, which he operated for ten months, in the meantime employing three workmen. He then went to Milwaukee and worked at his trade for two months, thence to Portage City for two months, and from there to Chicago again, where he engaged at his trade for fifteen months, and then went into business, which he continued until 1882, employing six hands. In that year he came to Bloomington, and has since been carrying on his business successfully and employing two workmen.

Mr. Ulbrich was married in 1867, to Miss Elizabeth Schnur, who was born in New York City, of German parentage. They were the parents of seven children: Henry A. and Frank are in the office with their father, and the others at home are Annie, William, Alphonso, Anthony and Aloysius. They are comfortably located in a pleasant residence at No. 530 West Grove street, the property of our subject; he also has two lots on West Fourteenth street, Chicago, and four lots in the suburbs of Des

Plaines. Mr. U. belongs to the Democratic party, and with his wife and children is connected with the German Catholic Church. He is highly esteemed by his fellow-townsmen, and is in all respects a representative German citizen, possessed of the honesty and industry characteristic of his race.

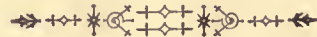


**C**HRI**STIAN** GINGERICH, a prominent farmer of Allin Township, is pleasantly located on section 8, where he is following his chosen calling in an intelligent and successful manner, and pursuing the life of a peaceful and law-abiding citizen. He is a representative of that valued German element which has so materially assisted in developing the resources of the Great West, being a native of the German Empire, and born Oct. 28, 1820. His parents were Michael and Barbara (Heinanan) Gingerich, natives of the same country, the former born in 1789, and the latter ten years later. They were married in 1816, and the father followed farming pursuits all his life. Both parents died in their native land, Michael Gingerich in 1854, and the mother thirteen years previously, in 1841. They were members of the Mennonite Church, and the parents of seven children, namely: Jena, Barbara, Catharine, Christian, Jacob (deceased), Margaret and Andrew.

The subject of this history remained in his native country until he was thirty years of age, and sailed for America in the spring of 1850. He landed in New Orleans, and proceeded at once to Butler County, Ohio, where he was employed by the month on a farm. Four years later, on the 4th of March, 1854, he was married in the Buckeye State to Miss Elizabeth Miller, and they immediately came to Illinois and located upon rented land in this county. In 1865 Mr. G. purchased 120 acres, and is now the owner of a half section, upon which he has made fine improvements and which has become valuable. He has given much attention to the raising of fine horses, and also purchased and sold in this line, which business has yielded him a handsome income. Upon first coming to Illinois he was without means. There was

little market for produce, and this was far away, he having to haul his grain to Bloomington. He was, however, blessed with good health, and in due time overcame the various difficulties which beset him.

Mrs. Elizabeth Gingerich departed this life on the 5th of September, 1865, leaving two children, John and Daniel; one died in infancy unnamed. He was married the second time, Sept. 7, 1866, to Miss Catharine Gingerich, and they have become the parents of seven children—Christian, William, Ellen, Edward, Emma, Bertha and Joseph A. The family residence is a substantial two-story building, and the farm is supplied with a good barn and all other modern improvements. Mr. and Mrs. G. are connected with the Mennonite Church, of which our subject has been a minister for the last thirty-two years. He has been very successful in his ministrations, and still preaches every Sunday. Politically he is independent, aiming to cast his vote for the best man.



**J**OH**N** PETERS, of Heyworth, is senior member of the firm of Slagel & Peters, manufacturers of all kinds of farm implements, repairing the same, and also in connection with this, operating a feedmill. The firm was established in the spring of 1872, and has been successfully engaged since that time. Mr. Peters was born in Shenandoah County, Va., Aug. 8, 1845. His father, Daniel Peters, was formerly a shoemaker and later in life a farmer. He, also, was a native of the Old Dominion, and descended from excellent Irish and German ancestors. He was married in his native State to Miss Rebecca Blake, a Virginia lady, whose parents were among the earliest settlers of that region. They were natives of Pennsylvania and of pure German descent. The grandfather of our subject, William Peters, lived and died in the Shenandoah Valley. He was a shoemaker by trade and very ingenious with the use of tools.

The parents of our subject located in Virginia after their marriage, and the father died there in 1859. Seven years later the mother, with her family of seven children, emigrated West, and coming into McLean County, Ill., settled in Lexington

Township. There the mother is yet living and there our subject learned his trade of blacksmith, serving his apprenticeship under the instruction of his uncle, E. C. Blake. After working five years for his board, clothes, and \$150 in money, he decided to set up in business for himself. He first located in Martin Township in about 1866, and the following fall came to Heyworth, where he worked as a "jour" for about three years. In 1872 he became associated with his present partner, and they have since operated together harmoniously and successfully. Mr. Peters has a record as a shoe setter on horses which is seldom equaled or excelled. In the space of eight hours he has set and finished up ninety-six shoes, and in all departments of his business is equally skillful and expeditious. He has been industrious and made a wise investment of his profits. Besides his half interest in their large shop he also has eighty acres of land located on sections 34 and 17, and also has a nice village property.

Mr. Peters was married in Bloomington, Ill., Aug. 23, 1871, to Miss M. E. Slagel, who was born in Pendleton County, Va., Sept. 12, 1853. Mrs. Peters came West with her parents while yet an infant, and they first located in Coles County, this State, whence they removed to Randolph Township, this county. Of this marriage there is one child only, a son—Herbert J. Mr. P. is a member and chorister of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In politics he is a Democrat and has been a Councilman in the village government. Mrs. Peters is an amiable and accomplished lady, finely educated, being a graduate of Wesleyan University in both classes and music.



**W**ILLIAM H. H. ADAMS, President of the Illinois Wesleyan University, at Bloomington, is a native of this State, having been born in Effingham County, March 30, 1840. He is the son of Christopher B. and Sarah (Gannaway) Adams, and is descended from English ancestry, the Adams family being a branch of that from which President John Q. Adams sprang. The grandfather of our subject, Eli Adams, of London,

Madison Co., Ohio, was one of the early settlers of the Buckeye State. The Gannaway family settled in Virginia two centuries ago. One of the most prominent representatives in this country was John Gannaway, the maternal grandfather of our subject, who was an extensive slaveholder and carried on a large plantation in the Old Dominion. During the early years of his life he removed to Illinois, where he liberated his slaves and departed this life at the advanced age of eighty-six years. Eli Adams married the daughter of Christopher Beeks, who emigrated from England during the Revolutionary War, enlisted in the service of the colonies, and fell at the battle of Bunker Hill. His son, Christopher B., the father of our subject, was born in Xenia, Ohio, and was principally reared in Madison County, whence he emigrated to Illinois in 1837. He was married the following year to Miss Sarah Gannaway, and they became the parents of six children.

President Adams was reared principally in Coles County, this State, and entered upon his primary education in the pioneer schools conducted in the log cabin. After having attained sufficient progress, he entered the Northwestern University, at Evanston, Ill. He began his theological course at Garrett Biblical Institute, Evanston, and was licensed to preach when a mere youth of seventeen years, being placed in charge of North Avenue Church, at Chicago, Ill., a position which he held during the last two years of his college course. Soon after graduating, in 1870, he joined the Illinois Conference, his first appointment being at Monticello for two years, and was then sent to Clinton, Ill., whence after three years he was called to Wesleyan University, and in 1875 became its President and the successor to Bishop Fallows, now of Chicago.

Dr. Adams was united in marriage in 1867, with Miss Hannah Coneklin, of Plymouth, Ohio, and they became the parents of four children, three daughters and one son—Lula May, Grace, Charles C. and Katie.

During the late war Dr. Adams enlisted as a private in the Union service in Co. A, 111th Ill. Vol. Inf., and in 1863 he was promoted First Lieutenant and served as such until near the expiration of his



term of enlistment, when he was brevetted, first as Captain and afterward as Major of the regiment. As Captain he commanded the 4th Battery, U. S. Artillery. Previous to this, however, he drilled the first 2,000 colored troops, formed them into companies, and turned them over to the service. His commission as Major was signed by President Lincoln. He was stationed for a time at Columbus, Ky., whence he went to Mobile, and from there to Little Rock, Ark. He was in the battle at Nashville, Tenn., under Gen. Thomas, and took part in several minor engagements against Gen. Forrest. He resigned his commission July 4, 1865, and returning to Evanston completed his college course. Early in life he identified himself with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and is a member in good standing of the Masonic fraternity.

When Dr. Adams first came to Bloomington he had received no information of the honor about to be conferred upon him. Wesleyan University was then in debt about \$60,000, but under his wise and efficient management, the most of this has been liquidated, and it now has an endowment of \$85,000. In 1886 there were 670 students enrolled, and its course of study is considered the most thorough and efficient of any institution in the State. Dr. Adams has proved himself equally able as an instructor and an executive, and is rightly regarded as one of the pillars of an institution in which the intelligent people of McLean County are vitally interested.



**E** W. TILLOTSON, of the firm of Tillotson & Fell, engaged in the real-estate and insurance business, also examiners of abstracts and titles, with their office at the northwest corner of the court-house, Bloomington, is a native of Delaware County, N. Y. Mr. Tillotson was born Feb. 28, 1847, and is the son of Napoleon and Annie (Quackenbush) Tillotson, natives of New York. There the father was extensively engaged in farming, and followed that calling with success until his death, which event occurred in 1850. Six children were born of the parental union: Julia, who became the wife of L. A. Bodine, and lives in Wellsburg, Pa.; Lucy, now Mrs. Lloyd, of Bloss-

burg, Pa.; Mary. Mrs. Drake, of Almira, N. Y.; James K., residing at Toledo, Ohio; E. W., our subject, and Almira, who became Mrs. Dr. Gammond, and is residing at Corning, N. Y. The mother survives her husband, and is yet residing in Blossburg, Pa.

E. W. Tillotson followed the labor common to a farmer's son on his father's farm until he was seventeen years old, receiving his primary education in the common schools. In 1864 he went to Chicago, and for three years occupied his time in the insurance business. He then accepted the position of State Agent for the North American Life Insurance Company for Iowa, and moving to Burlington, that State, he made it his home until 1870.

Mr. Tillotson was united in marriage with Miss Cecelia N. Copp, Oct. 14, 1870. She was a daughter of Nathaniel and Fanny (Foster) Copp, and a native of Fredonia, N. Y. Her father, during his younger years, was engaged in mercantile pursuits, but later in life occupied his time in locating and developing mines in Nevada, and died in San Francisco in 1880. He had a family of nine children, four of whom are living; Fleta, Mrs. Stahl, of Bloomington; Andrew J., a manufacturer of furniture at Chicago; Cecelia N., Mrs. Tillotson, and Frank P., a wholesale grocer of San Francisco, Cal.

After the marriage of our subject he returned to Chicago and accepted the position as General Agent for the Western States of the Mutual Life Insurance Company of Chicago, and held that position for one year. In 1871 he moved to Bloomington, this State, and purchased the insurance business of T. J. Bunn, and in 1874 obtained the financial agency of the Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company of Springfield, Mass. During the year 1875, Mr. M. C. Wait became associated with our subject as an equal partner, and the firm name became Tillotson & Wait. This relationship continued until March 1, 1879, when Mr. H. C. Fell purchased Mr. Wait's interest, and the firm name was changed to Tillotson & Fell. The new firm purchased the abstract books of Mr. Larrimore, and in 1880 the firm became agents for Selroder's Opera House, and in 1882 took charge of the Durlley Theater, which they still conduct.

In addition to the other branches of business

enumerated Mr. Tillotson is engaged in the raising of fine trotting stock, and is owner of Ripton, 2977 of Hambletonian stock. He had the management of the McLean Fair grounds during the year 1886. His residence is on Franklin avenue, at the corner of Second street and Normal avenue. In politics he is Republican, and in religion Presbyterian, and is in all respects one of the foremost citizens of McLean County.



**E**LIJAH C. BLISS, formerly a prosperous farmer of McLean County, is now living in ease and retirement in his pleasant home in Bloomington. His earlier years were passed in industrious and honorable toil, during which he built up for himself a reputation as an honest man and a good citizen. He comes of excellent New England parentage and was born in Bristol County, Mass., Nov. 27, 1822. His parents were Elijah and Sarah (Perry) Bliss, also of Massachusetts, and engaged in agricultural pursuits their entire lives. The household circle included eleven children, six now living, viz., William H., Frances, Cornelius, Zenus, Marshall and Elijah C.

Our subject was reared to farming pursuits, and remained under the parental roof until twenty-two years of age, receiving careful home training and a common-school education. After leaving home he learned the carpenter's trade, at which he worked in his native State until 1851. He then came to Illinois, and locating in Jacksonville followed his trade there for five years. He then purchased a farm, which he cultivated and occupied for four years, when he sold out and came to McLean County, becoming a resident here in 1861. He purchased 120 acres of land in Blue Mound Township, upon which he lived and labored until 1883, then purchased the five acres in Bloomington where he now lives, and which constitutes a pleasant and commodious home.

The marriage of our subject with Miss Lucy A. Harmon took place at St. Louis, Mo., in 1852. Mrs. Bliss is a native of Connecticut, and the daughter of Phineas and Mary (Grosvenor) Harmon, natives of the same State. Her father was also a builder

and contractor, and died in Suffield, Conn., in 1833. The mother is still living at the advanced age of ninety years, and makes her home in Bloomington. Of their three children only two are living—Lucy A., Mrs. Bliss, and Sarah G., Mrs. C. E. Reed, of Bloomington. Mr. and Mrs. Bliss are the parents of two children: Herbert E. married Miss Sadie Owens, and has one child—Emery; Leonard H. is at home; Zenus F. Moody, Governor of Oregon, is a step-brother of Mrs. Bliss.

Our subject is a strong Prohibitionist, and with his wife, a member in good standing of the Presbyterian Church. He has been School Director and occupied other prominent positions in his township. He is in all respects a representative citizen, and a credit to the county which has been his home for so many years.



**W**S. DEPEW, builder and contractor at Bloomington, has been a resident of the Prairie State since 1835, when, a child of three years, he came to this county with his parents. He was born in Indiana, Aug. 12, 1832, and is the son of James and Judah (Hill) DePew, natives respectively of Virginia and North Carolina.

James DePew removed from his native State, to Indiana when sixteen years of age, and remained a resident of that State until April, 1835. He then came to Illinois, and settling south of Bloomington Grove, engaged in farming pursuits for a period of over thirty years. In 1866 he abandoned active labor, and is now living a retired life in the city of Bloomington. The parental family consisted of six children, two now living, W. S. and James Albert, the latter a resident of Missouri. The mother died a few years after coming to Illinois, in 1846. James DePew is a Republican in politics, and has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church since 1824, his wife also having been connected with the same.

The subject of this history spent his younger days in school until eighteen years old, and then learned the trade of cabinet-making, which he followed for eight years. He then became a carpenter and joiner, and in 1863 commenced as a





A. B. Bazar



John Feltner

contractor and builder, and was soon giving employment to from three to six men. He has followed this continuously up to the present, and has been very successful in his business transactions.

Mr. DePew was married on the 4th of June, 1854, to Miss Fannie M. Schaum, who was born in Indiana, and was the daughter of Jacob P. Schaum, who came to Illinois in 1849, and settling in Bloomington, engaged in the hatter's trade. His family included six children, five now living: Fannie M. is the wife of our subject; Henry L. is a resident of Lawrence, Kan.; Henrietta, Mrs. West, of Bloomington; John J., of St. Paul, and Rosella, Mrs. Worthsmith.

Of the union of our subject and his wife were born four children: James P. married Miss Hesser, and they have three children—Mabel, Ethel M. and Earle R.; Ida M., Mrs. Heafer, is the mother of three children—Stella P., Edgar M. and Roseoe C.; Etta M. married Mark D. Drum, and William E. is at home. Our subject and his wife and children are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he has been Class-Leader four years. The family residence is pleasantly located at No. 803 West Olive street, and their friends and associates are numbered among the best residents of the city. Mr. DePew is Republican in politics, and a valued factor in the business and industrial interests of the city. His office is located at No. 218 South Main Street.



**J**OHAN TALLON, an industrious and enterprising farmer and stock-raiser of Mt. Hope Township, is what may properly be called a self-made man. He commenced life at the foot of the ladder, and by the exercise of his own native energy and perseverance has climbed up to a good position among his fellowmen. The worldly goods of which he is possessed have been accumulated by the work of his hands and the sweat of his brow, and the confidence and esteem in which he is held by his fellow-citizens are the result of his straightforward business transactions and upright course in life.

The subject of this history is a native of West-

morelandshire, England, and was born Aug. 17, 1833, his parents being Thomas and Rebecca (Jackson) Tallon. The father was a blacksmith, of substantial English ancestry and parentage, and followed his trade all his life in his native England, spending his last days in Lancashire. The subject of our sketch was but two years old when his parents removed to Lancashire, where they lived for ten years, and then returned to Westmoreland, where their son grew to manhood. At an early age he commenced working with his father in the blacksmith-shop, where he remained for three years, and subsequently engaged in agricultural pursuits. When he was sixteen years old he received \$30 per year for his services, and a few years later his wages were raised to \$100 a year and board.

Not being satisfied with his condition or prospects in his own country, Mr. Tallon resolved to seek the New World. In the meantime he had been married, and in April, 1855, accompanied by his wife, he set sail from Liverpool and landed at New Orleans on the 18th of May. They proceeded directly up the river to Pekin, Ill., reaching there two months from the day they sailed from Liverpool. Upon arriving here he found himself possessed of \$9 in cash. He had an uncle living in Pekin, who kindly employed him to plow corn two or three days so that he might replenish his slender exchequer, and he subsequently procured a job in a brickyard at the munificent wages of seventy-five cents a day and board. He was thus occupied until August of that year, and then engaged in harvesting.

From this time until 1856, our subject worked industriously at whatever his hands could find to do, and in the spring of that year rented a farm in Tazewell County, which he occupied and cultivated until the fall of 1870. He then came to Mt. Hope Township, purchased eighty acres of land on section 16, and has been a resident here since that time. He has been uniformly successful in his agricultural pursuits and business transactions, and subsequently added to his first purchase until he is now the possessor of 360 acres of some of the finest land in McLean County. It is all enclosed and improved, a portion of it being devoted to pasture and grass. His stock-raising operations have yielded him a handsome income, and he exhibits some of the fin-

est animals to be found in this section of the Prairie State. In 1885 he revisited his native England and while there, in partnership with one of his neighbors, purchased four English draft stallions at a great price. They are magnificent animals, models of symmetry and beauty. Mr. T., understanding fully the care of such animals, will doubtless utilize them in producing some of the finest stock along the Mississippi Valley. He is a good judge of horses, and takes genuine pride in his skill as a breeder. One of the horses, named "What's Wanted," he keeps at his home farm; he is a magnificent black animal with a white stripe in face, and weighs 1,900 pounds.

The marriage of John Tallon and Miss Agnes Ellwood occurred on the 10th of March, 1855. Mrs. T. is also of English birth and parentage, her native place being Lancashire, near the early home of Mr. T. Of this union there have been born ten children, the record of whom is as follows: Mary E. became the wife of Andrew Lucas, and lives in Piatt County, Ill.; Christina R. married Charles Dillion, and lives in Nebraska; Agnes J. is deceased; Charles W. is a resident of Mt. Hope Township; Lillie J. became the wife of William Tyson, and lives in Mills County, Iowa; Margaret A. married Elmer Ethel, of Mt. Hope Township; Cora Idella, Ida L. and Abigail S. are at home with their parents; Georgiana is deceased.

Mr. Tallon is Democratic in politics, and takes an intelligent interest in local and general matters. He is well read and informed, and is the encourager and supporter of every project calculated to promote the welfare of his county and community. A lithographic portrait of Mr. Tallon is shown in connection with this sketch.



**A**LFRED B. BOZARTH, deceased, formerly a prosperous farmer and stock-raiser of Allin Township, located on section 26, was a worthy member of a well-known family, being the son of John and Cynthia (Taylor) Bozarth. He was born in Christian County, Ky., Feb. 25, 1837, and when a child of two years old was brought by his parents to McLean County,

where the father subsequently became the owner of 2,300 acres of land. He departed this life in 1859. The mother survived him for over twenty-five years, and died Jan. 6, 1887, when over eighty years of age. Their remains are interred in the old homestead cemetery, side by side, near where they first settled.

The subject of this history received a fair education in the common schools, and remained under the parental roof until he had attained his majority. He was then united in marriage with Miss Harriet Brooks, a native of this county, who was born May 7, 1840. Mr. Bozarth purchased 675 acres of valuable land, and settled upon it with his family. He followed farming pursuits and stock-raising until 1871, and then, on account of failing health, abandoned active labor and removed into the village of Stanford; he died of consumption in 1872, while traveling for his health in Indiana. His remains were followed to the old home cemetery, and were laid to rest by the side of his parents. He was a good man in every sense of the word, and his name is held in kindly remembrance by a large circle of friends and acquaintances. Mr. Bozarth was a man of large stature, his height being six feet two inches, and his weight was over 200 pounds. His eyes and hair were black. He left a wife and six children to mourn their loss, and two of the latter have since joined him in the other life. Their son, Charles J., now twenty-five years of age, is a resident of this county; Dora J. was born June 12, 1864, became the wife of H. L. Russmell, and lives in Stanford, this county; Cynthia E. married Theodore Caullin, he was a farmer and stock-raiser of Greene County, Ohio; George William was born May 29, 1868; Albert W. and Alfred W. (twins) lived less than one year, dying in November, 1871.

The parents of Mrs. Bozarth were Albert and Elizabeth Brooks, natives of Kentucky. The date of the father's birth is not known, but the mother was born in 1806. After their marriage they came to Illinois, locating in this county in about 1837, and engaged in farming pursuits until the death of the father, which occurred about 1840. His wife, who still survives, is a resident of Stanford. Their children were Harriet, Miles, George, William,

Lucia and James. To the parents of our subject there were born the following children: Louvina, April 3, 1829; Addison, March 1, 1830; Milton, Jan. 1, 1832; George, Jan. 9, 1834; Isabella, Feb. 9, 1835; Alfred, Feb. 25, 1837; John, Jr., June 4, 1839; James, July 15, 1841; Josiah, born Jan. 28, 1843, enlisted as a soldier in the late war, and died in the army of smallpox in 1864; William was born March 5, 1845; Robert, Oct. 23, 1847; Hettie, Aug. 3, 1850. When the funeral sermon of his grandmother was preached, George William handed the Bible to the minister, Rev. J. G. White.

A portrait of Mr. Bozarth is shown on a preceding page of this work.



**J**OHN J. PEIRSON, a prosperous and well-to-do farmer of McLean County, residing on section 12, Old Town Township, is a son of Henry J. and Ann J. (Brown) Peirson, natives of New York, who, after a residence in Columbia County until 1857, came and made settlement in Bloomington Township, this county. During the winter of 1885 the parents removed to the thriving city of Bloomington, where they are at present residing in quiet retirement, having accumulated a sufficiency to keep them during the remainder of their lives. Of their five sons and one daughter, John J. is the eldest.

Mr. Peirson of this notice was born in Columbia County, N. Y., March 11, 1853, and was but four years of age when his parents brought him to this county. Here he received his education in the common schools, and here he has lived and labored at his chosen vocation, farming, until the present time. Living with the old folk until he was twenty-one years old, he then engaged with his father as an equal partner in the product of the farm, which relationship continued until 1881. During that year he purchased 160 acres of land located on section 12, Old Town Township, and on which tract he has since lived. He is now the owner of 240 acres of valuable and productive land, and is meeting with more than ordinary success in the prosecution of his vocation.

Mr. Peirson was married in Old Town Township,

Oct. 28, 1875, to Gertrude C., daughter of Edwin and Saloma Loomis. She departed this life Sept. 26, 1876, in Bloomington Township. Mr. Peirson was again married, at Bloomington, Ill., Oct. 18, 1883, to Miss Annie K., daughter of Presley and Mary E. (Robinson) Saains, natives of Pennsylvania. Her parents settled in Fayette County, that State, after their marriage, and there the mother died. The father afterward, in 1868, came to this county and settled in Towanda Township, where he died in 1877. Mrs. Peirson was the only child born to her parents, and first saw the light in Fayette County, Pa., April 3, 1864. Of her union with our subject two children have been born: Nellie S., Oct. 7, 1884, and an infant daughter, March 2, 1887.

Mr. Peirson has held the office of Township Collector and also that of School Director. Religiously he is a member of the Baptist and his wife of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In politics he is Republican.



**M**ICHAEL RUPP, of Danvers Township, located on section 4 in 1871, and has been a resident here since that time. He is a native of the Buckeye State, having been born in Butler County, Ohio, in 1844. His parents, Christian and Phebe (Rober) Rupp, were natives of Germany, the father born in 1817, and the mother in 1820. Christian Rupp came to the United States in about 1831, locating first in Butler County, Ohio, where he rented eighty acres of land and carried on farming. He was married to the mother of our subject in 1841, and they resided in Ohio until 1858. They then removed westward to Illinois, and Mr. Rupp rented land until 1865. He then purchased 160 acres, which he improved and cultivated, and which remained his home until his death, which occurred in 1877. The mother was afterward married to Joseph Augspurger, who died April 10, 1887, and she now lives in McLean County, Ill. Of her first marriage there were born six children: Elizabeth who married Nicholas Struber, and Christian, Joseph, Samuel and Michael;

one died unnamed in infancy. The parents belonged to the Mennonite Church.

Michael Rupp worked on his father's farm and attended the common schools until reaching his majority. He was married in 1871, to Miss Susan Zook, and that same year purchased 130 acres of land in Danvers Township, upon which he removed and has since resided. He was prosperous in his farming and business transactions and added to his original purchase so that now he is the owner of 218 acres, under a good state of cultivation and provided with a good farm-residence and all the necessary out-buildings.

Mrs. Rupp is the daughter of Bartholomew and Barbara (Stacker) Zook, natives of Germany and members of the Mennonite Church. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Rupp there were born eight children—Magdalena, Susan, Joseph, John, Christian, Samuel, Benjamin and Eli. Mr. R. is Republican in politics, and in all respects a law-abiding and worthy citizen.



**T**HOMAS C. KERRICK, of the law firm of Kerrick, Lucas & Spencer, was born in Franklin County, Ind., April 24, 1848. He attended school until twelve years of age in Indiana, and after coming to Illinois with his parents, worked on his father's farm in summer and pursued his studies during the winter season. In 1868 he entered Wesleyan University, where he took a two years' course and afterward read law in the office of McNulty & Aldrich. He received his diploma in 1875, and was admitted to partnership with his former instructors, McNulty & Aldrich. The following year the firm was dissolved, but Aldrich & Kerrick continued until 1878. Mr. K. then practiced alone until December, 1881, when the firm became Kerrick, Lucas & Spencer.

Mr. Kerrick was elected by the Council, City Attorney in 1878, serving two terms. Besides his law business he has interested himself in the rich and fertile lands of Illinois, having a fine farm four miles north of Bloomington, and another in Ford County, Ill., which is chiefly devoted to stock-raising. He is prominently identified with the business

interests of the city, and is a stockholder in the gas company.

Mr. Kerrick was married in 1871, to Miss Tollie Armstrong, who was born in Clarke County, Ohio, and is the daughter of David and Sarah Armstrong, formerly residents of Virginia. Mr. and Mrs. K. are the parents of two children—Leonidas and Alice. The family residence is at No. 324 East Locust street, and they number among their friends and associates the best people in the city. Mr. K. belongs to the Republican party, and is in all respects fulfilling the obligations of an enterprising citizen. He is now President of the Business Men's Club of this city.



**H**ORACE S. WHITNEY, a resident of McLean County since 1869, is now living a retired life in the city of Bloomington, where he owns and occupies a pleasant and comfortable homestead, having retired from his labors as an agriculturist in 1883. Our subject was born in Pennsylvania in 1833, and is the son of Horace and Lucinda (Cole) Whitney, the father a native of Vermont and the mother of Pennsylvania. Horace Whitney, a prominent resident of Erie County, Pa., was there engaged as a lumber dealer and sheep trader, and removed from the Keystone State to Wisconsin in 1843, locating upon a farm in Dane County, where he engaged in agriculture.

The parental household consisted of five children, of whom our subject was the second in order of birth. During the progress of the late war he enlisted as a Union soldier in Co. F, 36th Wis. Vol. Inf., and was in the service twenty-two months. He participated in the battle of the Wilderness, Turner's farm, Weldon Railroad, and many skirmishes, and escaped comparatively unharmed. At the close of the war he returned to his parents in Wisconsin, where he remained until 1869. He then came to McLean County, and located in Padua Township, where he was married to Mrs. Elizabeth (Ganoe) Baddeley, the daughter of Elijah and Elender (Evans) Ganoe. The parents of Mrs. W. were natives of Ohio and early settlers of Bloomington City. Of their five children, four are still



living, Mrs. Whitney being the eldest. Her first husband, William H. Baddeley, was a native of England, and came to America with his parents when a lad eight years of age. They settled in McLean County, Ill., and engaged in merchandising at Le Roy. Their son William was reared on a farm and married when twenty-five years of age. After this event, with his young wife, he settled upon a farm in Padua Township, and continued there until his death in 1863. Mr. and Mrs. Baddeley became the parents of three children, two now living: Josephine, Mrs. Rodman, is the mother of two children—Elmer P. and George S.; William H. married Miss Virginia Fulton, and they have one son, named after his father.

Mr. and Mrs. Whitney, in their pleasant home at No. 506 South Evans street, are highly respected in their community and number as their friends some of the best people of Bloomington. Our subject is Republican in politics, and while in Padua Township served as School Trustee and was otherwise honored with positions of trust. He has in all respects fulfilled the obligations of a good citizen and a useful member of society.

**J**ACOB COOPER, one of the honored pioneers of McLean County, after a life of industry has now retired from active labor, and is enjoying a competency at his pleasant home in the village of Danvers. Mr. Cooper was born in Hardin County, Va., Jan. 12, 1828, and is the son of John and Eve (Sites) Cooper, both natives of Virginia. After their marriage they removed to Greene County, Ohio, in 1838, where they spent the remainder of their lives upon a farm, the father dying in about 1846, and the mother in 1853. Their family consisted of eight children, as follows: John married Miss Rachel Clemons, and is now deceased; Susan, Mrs. Thomas, lives in Ohio; Elizabeth married Mathias Sparr, and they removed to Indiana; both are now deceased. Samuel married Miss Mary Fudge, and Kane married Miss Goris; Amos took to wife Miss Sarah A. Maxwell; Margaret E. is unmarried; one child died at the age of three years.

The subject of our sketch was united in marriage

with Miss Mary J. Pierce, Oct. 16, 1848. Mrs. Cooper was born Aug. 22, 1829, in Greenc County, Ohio, and is the daughter of William and Margaret (Davids) Pierce, both natives of Ohio, whence her father removed to Indiana in 1832, and died there in 1838. He was a blacksmith. His widow remained there one year after his death, and then returned to Ohio, where the wife of our subject was reared to womanhood, remaining with her mother until she was married. The following year Mr. and Mrs. Cooper came to this county, and our subject purchased forty acres of land in Allin and Danvers Townships. To this he subsequently added until he has now 270 acres about six miles southwest of Danvers, under a fine state of cultivation, with a handsome and substantial farm dwelling, two good barns and machine shed, and all other necessary out-buildings. Here he successfully carried on his agricultural operations until 1885, and then, selling off his cattle and other stock, purchased two lots and a house in the village and prepared to establish a permanent home. He improved and renovated the old house, and has now a fine two-story residence which, with its surroundings, makes a comfortable and attractive home. Mr. and Mrs. C. are members in good standing of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, with which they have been connected since 1878. Mr. C. has been an Elder in his church for some years, and most of their children belong to the same. The parents of both Mr. and Mrs. C. were identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church. In politics our subject is a staunch Republican, and in all respects a useful and valued member of society.

The household circle of Mr. and Mrs. Cooper was completed by the birth of five children, the record of whom is as follows: Charles W. married Miss Martha Dehart, of Iowa; Margaret E. became the wife of Emmett Williams, who died on the 17th of December, 1883; Louisa B. is single and at home; Parrazaid A. is also unmarried, and residing at home; Henry F. was married to Miss Jane M. Haynes on the 30th of December, 1885. These children were carefully trained and educated, and have become good citizens and valued members of the community.

To the parents of Mrs. Cooper were born the

following children: James C., who married Mrs. Parthena Mitchell; Elizabeth A., Mrs. William Mitchell; Parrazaid A., who married Michael Cook; John A., who married Miss Nancy Mitchell, Mary J., wife of our subject, and Isabella A., a half-sister of the others, who married George Waney, and died in 1883.



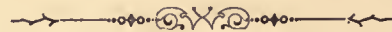
**J** B. WHITE, a representative citizen of Bloomington, is successfully engaged as a contractor and builder, and has his office at No. 506 East Graham street. Mr. J. B. White is a native of the Prairie State, and was born at Smith Grove, this county, Sept. 26, 1844. His parents were James and Lovina (Smith) White, his father a native of New York, and his mother of North Carolina. The former came to Illinois in 1830, and settled in McLean County, where, after attaining to suitable age he engaged in contracting and building, which he followed for twenty years. He then purchased a farm of 280 acres, near Holder, this county, which he has since occupied and been industriously engaged in raising stock and grain. He was one of the pioneer Abolitionists of the county, and since the war has been a strong Republican in politics. He has always taken an active part in educational and religious matters, and been a Class-Leader and Trustee of the Methodist Episcopal Church for many years. His family included three children: Mary C., Mrs. Keeney, of Kansas; J. B., of our sketch, and Asa E., also of Bloomington.

J. B. White remained with his parents until he was seventeen years old, and upon the outbreak of the late war enlisted as a Union soldier in Co. K, 39th Ill. Vol. Inf. With the exception of a few months, during which he remained at home on account of a crippled knee, he served from Sept. 19, 1861, to Dec. 16, 1865. He participated in the battle of Winchester, and other engagements in the Shenandoah Valley, and along the James River, and endured bravely and faithfully the privations and vicissitudes of war, receiving an honorable discharge at the close. After his return home he

worked at the carpenter's trade, and in 1869 engaged as a contractor and builder. In the fall of that year he was married to Miss Mary, the daughter of Benjamin and Elizabeth H. (Edwards) Coale, of Holder, this county. Of this union there have been born five children—William Lloyd (deceased), Elizabeth H., James L., Laura A. and Annie C.

Mr. White became a resident of Bloomington in 1870, and at once established his present business, which has now grown to large proportions, and gives employment to thirty men. He is thoroughly skilled as an artisan, and is his own architect, making his drawings, plans, etc. The family residence is a handsome structure, and was erected in 1886, at a cost of \$4,000.

Politically Mr. White is a Republican, and greatly interested in the cause of temperance. He is prominently connected with the First Methodist Episcopal Church, and Mrs. W. belongs to the Society of Friends at Benjaminville. Our subject is a member in good standing of the G. A. R., and both socially and as a business man occupies an enviable position among the first citizens of Bloomington.



**R**OBERT SWAN, of White Oak Township, has a good farm of 120 acres on section 28. He has been a resident of Illinois since the spring of 1854. He was born in Millfield, Northumberland Co., England, in 1823, being the son of Robert and Elspeth (Mitchell) Swan. His father was born in 1790, and was married in his native England, where he spent his entire life, dying Aug. 22, 1859. Both parents were members of the Presbyterian Church. The mother of our subject died in about 1825, and Robert Swan, Sr., was the second time married, in 1833, to Mrs. Donaldson. Of the first marriage there were born three children—Elizabeth and Andrew, who died in infancy, and our subject, the only one living. Of the second marriage there were four children—James, Nicholas, Thomas and William. The second wife of Robert Swan, Sr., died April 26, 1867, when sixty-two years old.

Mr. Swan of our sketch remained under the par-

ental roof until he attained his majority, receiving a common-school education. After emigrating to this country he located first at Otsego County, N. Y., where he was employed as a farm laborer for two years. He then went into Harrison County, Ohio, and was there married, Jan. 25, 1855, to Miss Martha Hilton. They located upon rented land, which our subject cultivated for two years, and then came to Illinois, working again by the month in this county. This was one year prior to his marriage. He subsequently rented land for five or six years, then purchased forty acres in White Oak Township, which constitutes a part of his present homestead. To this he subsequently added eighty acres more, and now has it all under good cultivation, with a fine residence, good barns and all necessary out-buildings. He has been industrious and economical, and richly deserves his present reward.

Mrs. Swan is the daughter of Thomas and Agnes (Swan) Hilton, natives of England, the father born July 17, 1790, and the mother in Northumberland County, in 1791. After their marriage they came to America in about 1818, settling in Washington County, Pa., where they remained for six years. They then removed to West Virginia, and in 1832 to Harrison County, Ohio. The mother died there in 1864, and the father in the fall of 1866. They were most worthy and excellent people, and devoted members of the United Presbyterian Church.

Mr. Swan is engaged in general farming, in which he has been quite successful. He is greatly respected in the community, being the friend of law and order, and has contributed his full share towards its growth and prosperity.



**G**EORGE F. LOAR, Postmaster of Cropsey, and senior member of the firm of Loar & Hayward, druggists, is a native of Pennsylvania, and born in Greene County, Oct. 5, 1858. His parents, John and Maria (White) Loar, were natives of the same State, whence they removed, in 1867, to Illinois, and settled in Belle Prairie Township, Livingston County, where they engaged in farming pursuits. The homestead upon which the parents still reside contains 160 acres of land, which John

Loar during his earlier and active years redeemed from an unimproved tract and converted into a fine and fertile farm.

The parental family of our subject included nine children, of whom George was the fifth in order of birth. He was a lad of nine years when the family came to Illinois. He was reared to manhood in Livingston County, pursued his studies in the common schools, and when nineteen years of age commenced teaching, a vocation which he followed for five years. In the meantime, in 1881, in partnership with his brother, David W., who is a druggist, he established a drug business at Cropsey, which was continued under the firm style of Loar Bros. until December, 1885, at which date Dr. C. E. Hayward purchased the interest of David W. Loar, and the firm became Loar & Hayward.

Mr. Loar is one of the active and enterprising business men of this section and is reckoned among its substantial young citizens. He was married, Nov. 20, 1884, to Miss Clara M., daughter of A. G. and Jane (Moore) Green. Mrs. L. was born at Cedar Falls, Iowa, in 1861, and they have one son, Lloyd Alaire. Mr. Loar was appointed Postmaster at Cropsey in December, 1885, *vice* David W. Loar resigned, and is fulfilling the duties of his position with credit to himself and satisfaction to all concerned.



**B**ILLEARY BALL. The subject of our sketch is widely and favorably known throughout McLean County as being a representative farmer and business man of more than ordinary ability. He occupies a fine homestead on section 21, Cheney's Grove Township, and since 1831 has been identified with the agricultural interests of the Prairie State. He was born in Lewis County, Ky., March 8, 1817, and is the son of Richard C. and Katie (Clary) Ball, natives of Maryland. His father was killed by a fall from a tree on the 25th of September, 1817; the mother afterward removed to Illinois, and died in this county, Jan. 25, 1849. They were not connected with any church but lived worthy and excellent lives, and were greatly respected by all who knew them. Their eleven children were as follows: William,

the eldest born, died in infancy; Mary is deceased, her death taking place at the home of our subject, aged nearly eighty-six; Hilleary, Elizabeth, Annie, Eleanor, Harriett, Rhoda, Henry, David and Snowden, all of whom are deceased except our subject.

Hilleary Ball was only about six months old when his father met his death. He was reared by his mother and remained in his native county until 1831, then came with her to Illinois, and has been a resident of this county since that time. After arriving at years of manhood he was united in marriage with Miss Calista Hildreth, Nov. 22, 1838, the ceremony being performed by Rev. Jonathan Cheney. Mrs. Ball was born in Lewis County, N. Y., May 27, 1817, and was the daughter of Aaron and Betsey (Maeomber) Hildreth, both natives of Massachusetts, born near the city of Boston. Some years after their marriage they removed West to Illinois, and spent their last days in this county, the mother dying in February, 1860, and the father in September, 1867. Mr. H. was Republican in politics, and both were consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Their five children are recorded as follows: Calista, Mrs. Ball, was the eldest; Julia married Abijah Westover, now deceased, and lives in this county; Amos married Miss Maria Harteastle, and is a resident of Kansas; Charles married Miss Polly Owens, and is now deceased; Alfred married Miss Annie Kender, and is living in Texas. The six children of Mr. and Mrs. Hilleary Ball were as follows: William H., born Nov. 24, 1841; Elizabeth T., Feb. 27, 1844; Julia A., July 2, 1846; Amos, Feb. 12, 1849; Alfred, born March 9, 1851, died June 5, 1852; Hattie was born Oct. 21, 1856. Most of these children are married, and settled in comfortable homes of their own, and Mr. Ball is quite proud of the fact that he has nineteen grandchildren.

The farm estate of our subject comprises 150 acres of land and besides this he has given his children each a fine setting out. He has seen the time when his taxes were less than \$1, and also when they were over \$300. He has preserved his various land warrants, and with them the autographs of several Presidents of the United States, which he considers beyond any value in dollars and cents. In addition to general farming he has of late years

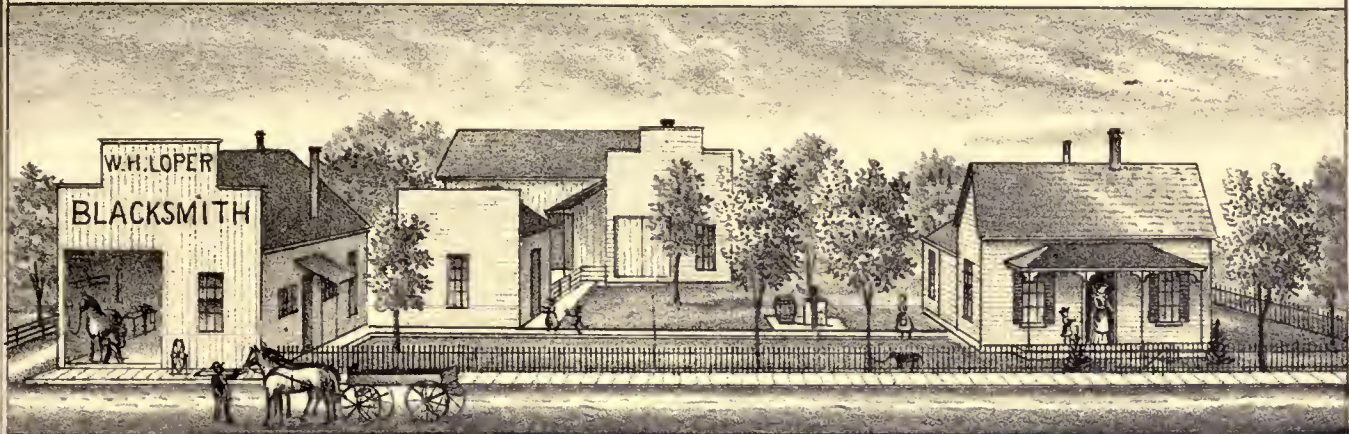
given much of his attention to the breeding of Norman and Clydesdale horses, many of his animals having been sold at the high price of \$1,300. He has been uniformly prosperous in his agricultural and business operations, and besides his fine extent of valuable land has a handsome and substantial dwelling, good barns and other out-buildings, and all the accessories of a modern country gentleman, surrounded by all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life. He is Republican in politics, and takes a lively interest in everything pertaining to the welfare and progress of his county and community. Mr. Ball has a remarkably intelligent face, is in stature five feet and eleven inches, and weighs 140 pounds.



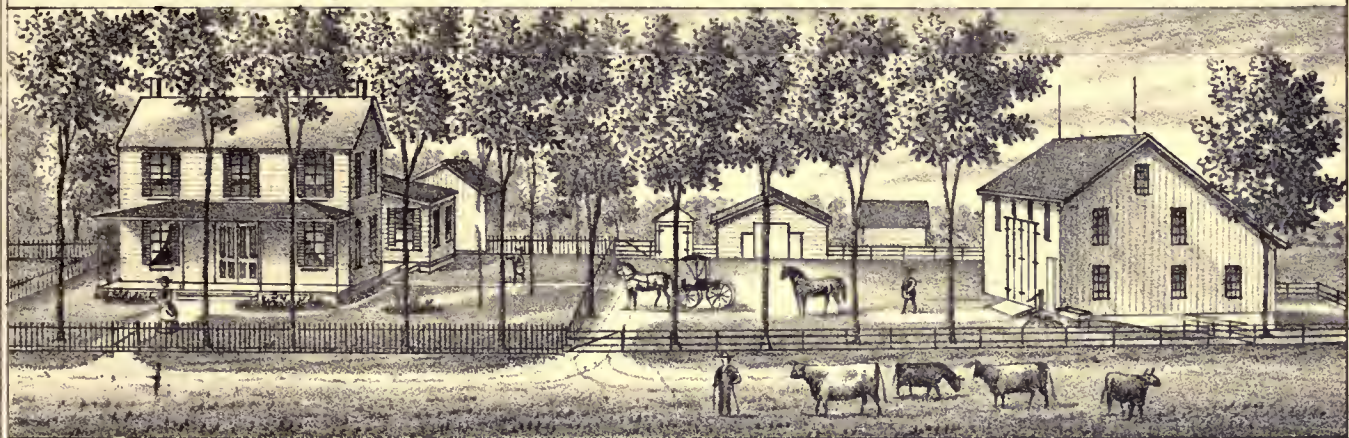
**R**OBERT MOORE, deceased, was formerly a resident of Old Town Township, his home being located on section 12. He was a prosperous farmer and respected as a citizen, and left no dark spot upon any page of the history of his past. His parents were John and Jane (Williamson) Moore, natives of Virginia, where they settled after their marriage, and where they continued to reside until their death. The parental union was blest by the birth of ten children, our subject being the youngest.

Robert Moore was born in West Virginia, Sept. 21, 1813, and spent upward of forty years of his life in that State, engaged the while in agricultural pursuits. In 1853, accompanied by his wife and four children, he came to McLean County, and taking up his residence in Normal Township, made that his home for thirteen years. He then traded the farm which he owned in Normal Township for one located on section 12, Old Town Township, to which he removed in 1866, and where he lived and labored at his chosen calling until his death, which occurred Dec. 4, 1883. At the date of his demise he was the owner of 165 acres of good land, which he left to his family free of all incumbrances.

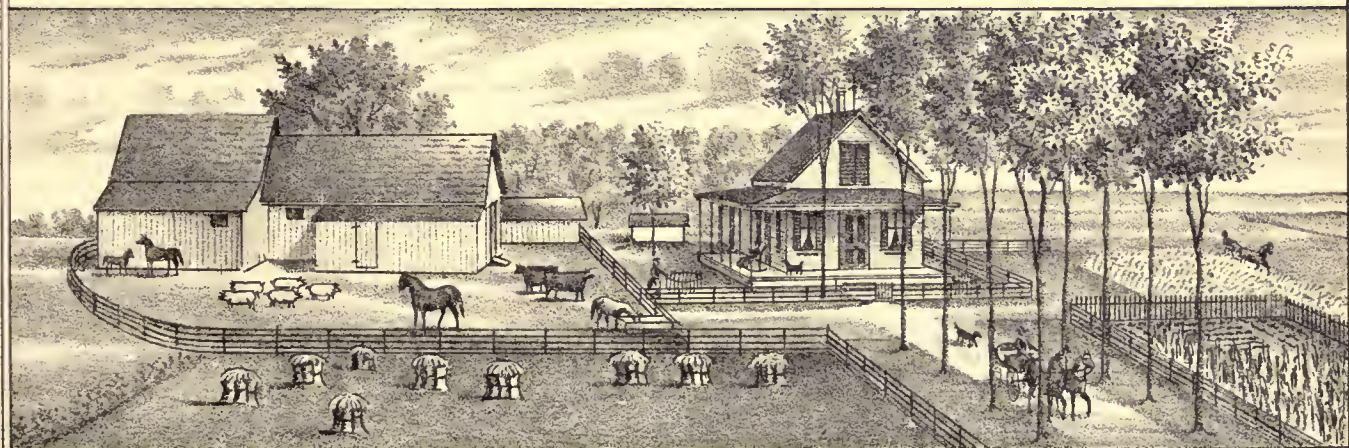
Mr. Moore was married in what is now West Virginia, May 6, 1840, to Miss Eliza J. Wells. She was the daughter of Charles and Margaret (Munsey) Wells, likewise natives of West Virginia. Her father was a farmer, and followed his calling in the



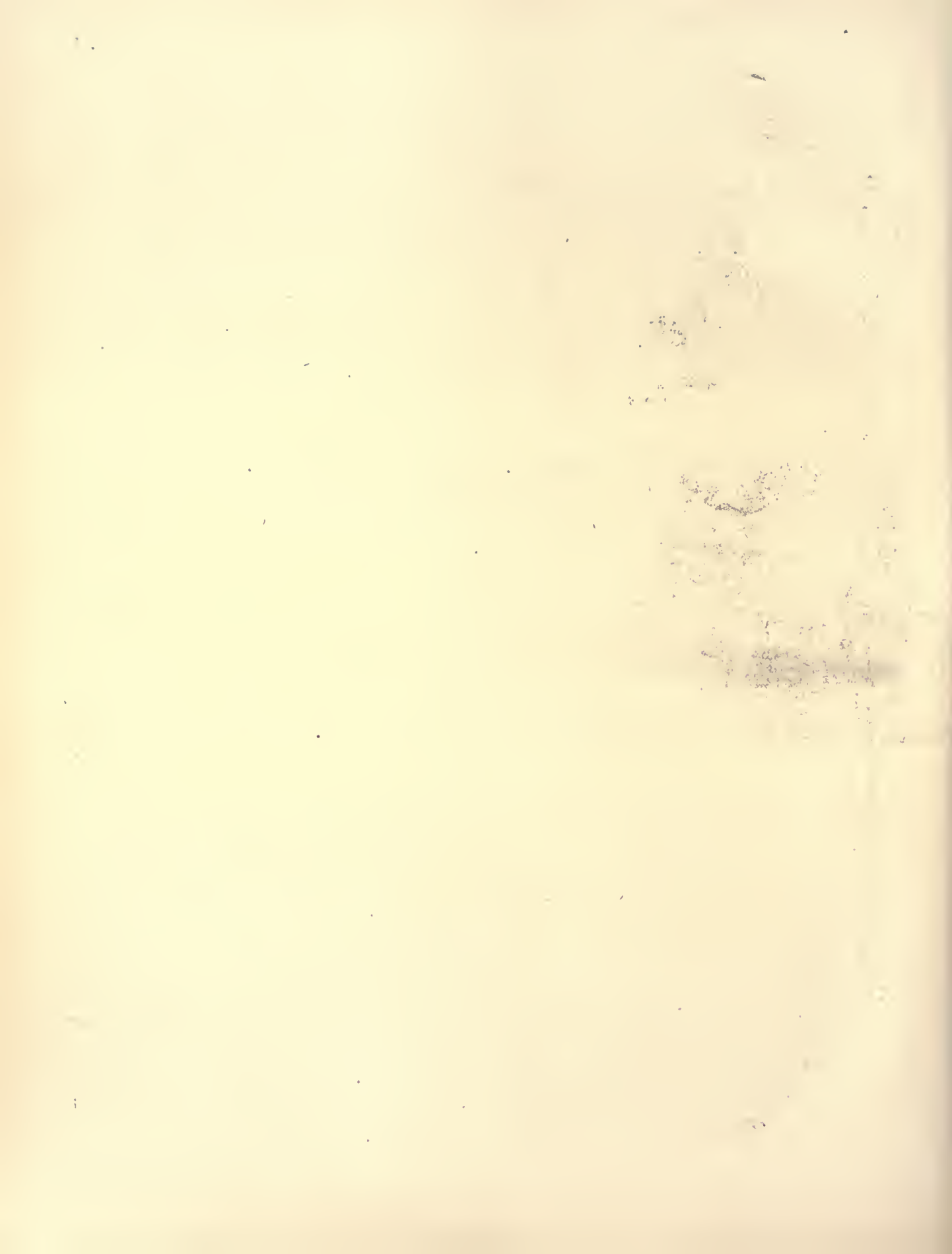
SHOP & RES. OF W<sup>th</sup>. H. LOPER, HAZEL ST., WESTON.



RES. OF THOMAS HATFIELD, SEC. 7., TOWANDA TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF S. F. BARNARD, SEC. 21., MONEY CREEK TOWNSHIP.



State of his nativity until his death; his good wife also died there. Of the three children born to them Mrs. Moore was the youngest, the date of her birth being Jan. 30, 1822. By her marriage with our subject eight children were born, the record of whom is as follows: Charles W. married Miss Emma Dean, and they are living at Storm Lake, Iowa; Jane is living at home with her mother; Martha is the wife of A. R. Arbuckle, and they reside in Nebraska; John died while in his eleventh year; George lives at home; Taylor departed this life when thirteen years old; Arthur married Miss Alice Craig, and resides in Nebraska, and Edwin L. died when seven years of age.

Mr. Moore was a prominent member of the Christian Church, and a worthy laborer in the cause of the Master. He also held several of the minor offices of his township, and was respected and loved for his straightforward and manly dealings with his fellowmen, as well as for his sterling worth and integrity. Mrs. Moore is also a member of the Christian Church, and has belonged to that denomination for upward of forty years. Her husband was immersed by Alexander Campbell, and during his lifetime was an Elder in a congregation in this county; all of the children now living are members of the same church.



**J**OHN D. DOWNS is one of a family of six brothers, who were the sons of Larson and Sarah Downs, the family record being as follows: William, the eldest, is married and living at Heyworth; he was born Oct. 18, 1837, reared and educated in Randolph Township, and followed agricultural pursuits. His wife, formerly Miss Matilda Scott, a native of Ohio, was born May 8, 1839, and came to Illinois with her parents in her girlhood. This brother served as a soldier of the Union, being a member of Co. H, 39th Ill. Vol. Inf., which was known as the Yates Phalanx, and was commanded by Col. Thomas Osborne, now of Chicago. This gentleman was formerly Minister to the Argentine Republic, South America. After enlistment this brother went with his regiment to Jefferson Barracks, Mo., whence he pro-

ceeded with his regiment to Williamsport, Md., and thereafter participated in about seventeen engagements, including the siege of Charleston. He served out his term of enlistment, then veteranized, and endured with his comrades, bravely and faithfully, their later hardships and privations. He was also engaged in the battle of Drury's Bluff, and followed Grant into Richmond at the final surrender of Lee. After his discharge he returned home, and for five years was a resident of Miami County, Kan. He then returned to this State, and since 1873 has made his home in this county. George W. Downs, the second son of the family, owns 180 acres of valuable land in Rand and Downs Townships, upon which he is farming successfully. He also was in the army three years.

John D. of our sketch was born in Downs Township, Nov. 11, 1845. He received a fair education in the common schools, and lived with his parents until his marriage with Miss Eliza Cowden, which took place in Old Town Township, Feb. 20, 1868. Mrs. Downs was born in the latter-named township, March 10, 1850, and remained under the home roof until her marriage. Her father is now deceased; the mother is still a resident of Old Town Township. Our subject and his wife are the parents of seven children, all living at home, namely: Frank E., Mary M., Albert R., Frederick L., John C., Fannie G. and Blanche.

Mr. and Mrs. Downs after their marriage located in Downs Township, where they remained until 1878, in which year they removed to their present home in Randolph Township, which is located on section 12. The estate includes 337 acres of finely cultivated land, and in all its appointments indicates the best of management.

Solomon F. Downs, a younger brother of our subject, is a resident of Saybrook, this county, and the owner of 190 acres of good land; he was married in early manhood to Miss Anna E. Reid. Another brother, Albert P., owns 160 acres of land in Downs Township; he married Miss R. Lemon. Alfred E., who also owns a quarter section of land in Downs Township, married Miss Ellen A. Miller.

Larson Downs, the father of our subject, was born in Tennessee, April 30, 1808, and remained in his native State until thirteen years of age. His father

died while he was still in his childhood, and his mother was married the second time, becoming the wife of William McGee. Afterward the family all came to Illinois, Larson Downs locating in what is now Downs Township, in 1829. He was the first permanent settler of that section, the township being named after him. He died here Sept. 7, 1860, in the fifty-second year of his age. Politically he was a Whig, and with his wife, a worthy member of the United Brethren Church. The mother of our subject, who was formerly Miss Sarah Welch, died at the old homestead in Downs Township, in 1866, aged forty-eight years. Five sons of the parental family are solid Republicans, and with the exception of Solomon F., are connected with the United Brethren Church.



**L**eonard Chase, a wealthy farmer and stock-raiser of Belleflower Township, is also one of its most reliable and substantial citizens. He owns a beautiful homestead on section 9, which is finely improved, under a good state of cultivation, and well stocked with choice grades of cattle and other farm animals. Our subject is a native of Dearborn County, Ind., the date of his birth being Aug. 26, 1831. His father, Leonard Chase, Sr., and his grandfather, Anthony Chase, were natives of Massachusetts, the latter of English ancestry, and a descendant of one of three brothers, Thomas, William and Aequilla, who emigrated from England. The grandfather of our subject was a seafaring man and died in Yarmouth, Mass. His son, Leonard, the father of our subject, commenced life as a sailor with his father, who was commander of the vessel, and followed the sea until twenty-one years of age. At this time, during the War of 1812, he was taken prisoner by the British and released after six weeks. He then started West, stopping first at Cincinnati, which was then a small place, and engaged with a farmer by the name of John Ferris. While there he made the acquaintance of Miss Mary Lee, and they were married. He then went into Dearborn County, Ind., and entered Government land in what is now

Lawrenceburg Township, five miles from the present town of that name. Here he built a log cabin, and commenced housekeeping. After a few years this was replaced by a larger dwelling, but built of logs and covered with clapboards rived by hand. In that house the subject of this sketch was born.

Leonard Chase, Sr., cleared a good farm, upon which he remained until his death, which occurred in October, 1841. His first wife, mother of our subject, was formerly Miss Mary Lee, and of this union there were born seven children: Reliance became the wife of Sherwood Blasdel, and died in Dearborn County, Ind.; Louisa became the second wife of Mr. Blasdel, and died in Champaign, Ill.; Catharine married Henry Blasdel, and lives in Dearborn County; Mary became the wife of Jedediah Scogin, and lives in Champaign County, Ill., which is also the residence of Maria, Mrs. William P. Sweet; Anthony died in Dearborn County, Ind., while on a visit from Champaign, Ill.; Leonard, our subject, was the youngest child. The second marriage of Leonard Chase, Sr., was Miss Sallie Blasdel, who died in 1878. Of this marriage there were born two children—Jacob B., a resident of Belleflower Township, and Sallie, who married William Curtis, and lives in Dearborn County, Ind.

The subject of this history was a child of two years when his mother died and ten years old when his father died. He lived with his step-mother for a short time, and then became an inmate of the home of his sister Mary, for the following two years, when he started out for himself. He was employed at farm pursuits until twenty years of age, and then engaged on a flatboat and made two trips down the river as far as New Orleans. One of these was made on a coaster, which traded at different points along the Mississippi. He made his home in Dearborn County until January, 1855, and then started on horseback for Illinois. When near Indianapolis, the ground being covered with snow, he stopped and built a cutter, which he used in conveying him to Piatt County, this State. After two weeks spent there he went into La Salle County, and purchased a quarter section of land four miles north of Utica. He broke a few acres of the land, but in the fall sold out and returned to Dearborn County. In the spring of 1856 he



purchased a lot of horses, which he drove to La Salle, and remained in that place until the following fall, thence returning to Dearborn County.

In the spring of 1857, accompanied by Enoch Nowlin, Mr. Chase went to Kansas, and they entered claims in Calhoun, which is now Jackson County. Our subject built a log house, and broke sixty acres and fenced the entire quarter section. In 1860 he went to Colorado with six pairs of oxen, and with goods for Central City 700 miles distant, the trip occupying forty-five days. He remained until the 10th of January following, then started back to Kansas, arriving in Omaha eighty days later. Soon afterward he fitted up another team, made a return trip to Colorado, and engaged in mining. He remained there until the fall of 1863, then started for Montana, where he engaged in mining until 1866, when he started eastward. The first 1,000 miles over the mountains and plains was made on horseback, 200 miles alone. He arrived in Dearborn County, Ind., in February, and engaged in farming with his brother on the old homestead. He then came to Illinois and traded his Kansas land for personal property. In the spring of 1868 he located on the farm of his brother-in-law in Champaign County, whence, after two years he came to Belleflower Township, in McLean County, where he farmed on rented land for two years and then purchased the farm which he now owns and occupies. This was wild prairie when it came into his possession, but he now has it all improved and enclosed, has planted fruit and shade trees, and erected a good set of frame buildings.

The marriage of Leonard Chase and Miss Jane E. Smith took place on the 25th of March, 1868. Mrs. C. was born in Dearborn County, Ind., and is the daughter of John and Catherine (Tucker) Smith, being one of eleven daughters and four sons born to her parents. The daughters are all living and with one exception married: Sarah, Mrs. William Shaw, lives at Moore's Hill, Ind.; Eliza, Mrs. Robert Haddock, lives in Harrison, Ohio; Jane E. is the wife of our subject; Matilda is unmarried and lives with her father; Mary, Mrs. Amos Liddle, lives in Dearborn County, Ind.; Adeline H. married Alonzo Jackson, and lives in Champaign County, this State; Albina E., the wife of Dr. John

Spencer, lives at Moore's Hill, Ind., also Maria, the wife of Thomas Jennings; Ellen F., Mrs. Martin Ewbank, is a resident of De Witt County, Ill.; Flora B., Mrs. Ezra Guard, lives in Hamilton County, Ohio; Eva B. married Charles Ward and lives in Dearborn County, Ind.; Mark, the only son now living, married Miss Anna Sutton, and resides on the old homestead in Indiana. Mrs. C., her parents and all her brothers and sisters, are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The male members of the family are Republican in politics, as is also our subject.



**B**URR P. HEREFORD. The subject of the following history, who was born in Culpeper, Va., March 22, 1826, came to Illinois with his parents when a boy ten years of age. They first located in Tazewell County in 1836, and in 1837 moved to Clarke County, where he remained until reaching his majority, in the meantime attending the subscription school in winter and working on his brother's farm in summer. He was the youngest child of his parents, and in the twenty-second year of his age was united in marriage with Miss Aseneth Campbell, Oct. 22, 1848. His first purchase of land consisted of 107 acres of timber in Clarke County, upon which he labored for a short time, and then lived in Woodford County for twenty-four years following. He became a resident of this county in 1875, and is now pleasantly located in Cheney's Grove Township, on section 30. He has brought his land to a good state of cultivation, and has provided himself with suitable and convenient farm buildings. He has in all respects performed the part of a good citizen, and is held in high esteem by his neighbors and acquaintances.

Our subject is the son of Ammon and Amelia N. (Powell) Hereford, who were both natives of Loudoun County, Va. Ammon Hereford, born in 1791, followed farming as an occupation all his life, and died near Flint Hill, Va., Nov. 2, 1825. He was a man of strong character and excellent principles, and endeavored to follow out the precepts of the Golden Rule in his dealings with his fellowman. He never belonged to any religious

organization. He became connected with the Masonic fraternity at Leesburg, Va., of whose doctrines he was a great admirer. His wife Amelia was born in 1790, and by natural disposition and education was well fitted to become the companion of such a man as her husband. She possessed a more than ordinarily good education, and was a lady of rare intelligence and kindness of heart. Like her husband, she descended from the F. F. V's. Their five children included four sons and one daughter, the record of whose births is as follows: William T. was born Aug. 16, 1814; Leven P., Feb. 3, 1816; Thomas A., Feb. 13, 1818; Sidney A., the daughter, Feb. 23, 1821; the birth of our subject has already been given.

Mrs. Aseneth C. Hereford was born Sept. 24, 1827, in Cabell County, W. Va., and is the daughter of Thomas and Susan (Bradshaw) Campbell, natives of Virginia. Her father was born Aug. 25, 1805, and the mother in 1815. Both parents are still living, and are members of the Christian Church. Mr. C. has followed farming all his life, and fulfilled in all respects the duties of an honest man and a good citizen. He is Republican in politics. Their children were, Aseneth, James O., Nancy E., Mary, Hannah, John F., William E., Zachariah T., Oliver P., and Elnora (deceased). James O. Campbell served in the Union army three years, being a member of Co. E, 29th Ill. Vol. Inf. He escaped unharmed until upon his journey homeward, when he became engaged in a skirmish and was instantly killed.

The twelve children of Mr. and Mrs. Hereford are as follows: William T., who was born May 26, 1850, married Miss Helen F. Camp, a lady of German extraction, July 25, 1872; Daniel B., born Sept. 15, 1851, married Miss Maggie L. Powell, Dec. 21, 1873; Albert, born Dec. 14, 1852, married Miss Mary J. Mohr, Dec. 21, 1873; Eugene W., born March 2, 1855, married Miss Sarah Emmett, Aug. 1, 1876; Cuthbert P., born May 7, 1858, married Miss Elizabeth Prather, Sept. 4, 1879, and died March 18, 1881; Abraham L., born April 29, 1860, died December 21, of the same year; Susan A., born Oct. 4, 1862, married John M. Power, Sept. 2, 1885; Aseneth M. was born April 10, 1865; Clara E., born Sept. 17, 1867, became the

wife of Frank H. Bradshaw; George H. was born Oct. 4, 1869; Edgar L., April 4, 1872; Maggie, born May 3, 1874, died May 10 of the same year.

The early life of Mr. Hereford was spent in hard labor and poor fare. He started out for himself early in life, his father having died before our subject was born. He often worked for thirty-seven and one-half cents per day, and when grown to manhood received \$9 per month. He knows how every dollar of his present possessions was obtained, and has learned the secret of contentment with his lot, which is the surest guarantee of happiness. The children of Mr. and Mrs. H. were reared in Woodford County and with their parents are connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which our subject has been Class-Leader for several years, besides Sunday-school Superintendent and Steward. He has been a staunch adherent of the Republican party since its organization, and has held the minor offices of his township.



**J**OHAN KLINE, one of the intelligent citizens of Le Roy, a self-made man in every respect the word implies, and a gentleman who has added to his fund of knowledge obtained in early years in the public schools, by continual reading, was born in Greene Village, Franklin Co., Pa., Feb. 27, 1827. His father, Nicholas Kline, was also born in that State and of German ancestry. The paternal grandfather of our subject emigrated from Lancaster County, Pa., to Franklin County, the same State, in an early day, and it was in the latter county that the father of our subject was reared to manhood. When a young man he learned the trade of a blacksmith and carried on that business at Greene Village. He owned a small tract of land adjoining the village, and during the last two years of his life did nothing except a little gardening on this place. He died there in October, 1849. The mother of our subject, Elizabeth Nafsger, was born in Lancaster County, Pa. She was of German ancestry, and departed this life at Greene Village, Franklin County, that State, in 1857. There were eight children born to the parents:

Jeremiah died in Livingston County, Ill., in 1883; Rebecca married Peter Kreighbaum, and as his widow, is living at Chambersburg, Pa.; Eliza died in youth; Samuel was a pioneer, settled in Illinois, and was drowned in Spoon River about 1843; our subject was next in order of birth; Nicholas is a resident of Kansas; Catherine and Sarah were twins; the former became the wife of Norval Dixon, and they are living in Padua Township, this county, and Sarah died when quite young.

The subject of this notice was the fifth in order of birth of his parents' children. He attended the common schools during the winter season, and worked on a farm through the summer. When twelve years old he engaged in working on a farm for a neighbor at \$3 per month, and was thus occupied for nine months. The two following seasons he received for his services \$4.50 per month. This was only during the summer season, and in the winters he went home and attended school. In the spring of 1842 our subject commenced work in the shop with his father, and continued to work with him until he was twenty-one years old. Then, in company with another gentleman, he bought the shop and they carried on the business for two years, when Mr. Kline disposed of his interest by sale, to his partner.

In 1850 our subject made a visit to California, and set sail from New York City April 25 of that year. While on the way the vessel ran on a reef, and they were compelled to abandon it. All the passengers escaped and reached the island of Anchachs, where they hired schooners to take them to Turk's Island, and there chartered a brig to take them to the Isthmus. They reached California without any further accident, on the 13th of August, and our subject found employment in a lumber-yard at San Francisco. He was almost out of means, and worked thereat long enough to replenish his exchequer, when he went to the mines in Calaveras County, where he was engaged for nearly a year and a half. After this he engaged in the provision business, procuring his supplies from Stockton, about forty-five miles distant, and was thus occupied until 1853. He then started on his way home, via the Isthmus, and after his arrival came to this county, and purchased land in Downs

Township. He only remained a short time when he went to Caseyville, St. Clair Co., Ill., and worked at blacksmithing until the following spring. Then, returning to Pennsylvania he remained there until the following fall, when he came to this county and located at Le Roy, and became an employe of Gilmer & Wright, blacksmiths. He worked for them a few months, and then bought Mr. Gilmer's interest, and a year later sold out and bought a farm adjoining the village. For two years he was engaged in agricultural pursuits, and then bought a half interest in the shop of a Mr. Wright, and they continued in the business together until the breaking out of the late Civil War. They then sold out, and our subject resumed farming, which vocation he has continued to follow until the present time. His residence and part of his farm is inside the village corporation, and he is meeting with signal success in the prosecution of his vocation.

Mr. Kline was married to Miss Ellen Buek, Jan. 15, 1856. She was born in Fayette County, Ind., Dec. 1, 1830. Mrs. Kline is the daughter of Harmon C. and Lusena (King) Buck, natives of New York. Her father was born March 1, 1795, and died in Le Roy, Ill., Feb. 8, 1858. The mother was born Jan. 1, 1810, and departed this life Nov. 17, 1841. Mr. and Mrs. Buck were the parents of eight children: Ellen, wife of our subject, is the eldest; Ann, born March 31, 1832; Benson, Oct. 12, 1833; Eliza Emily, May 10, 1835; Napoleon B., Feb. 19, 1837; Dudley, Sept. 17, 1838; Merriek York, July 12, 1840; Martha, Nov. 17, 1841. Harmon C. Buck and Lusena King were united in marriage, Jan. 21, 1830, in the city of Connersville, Fayette Co., Ind.

The union of Mr. and Mrs. Kline was blest by the birth of eight children: Lydia E. married Dr. J. A. Tuthill, and they are living at Le Roy; Leonora is the wife of George W. Simpson, also a resident of Le Roy; Clara was next in order of birth; Charles and Grace are twins, and Harry B. The latter four are living at home. Clara is a teacher in the public schools at Urbana; Charles has a ranch in Norton County, Kan., and Grace is teaching in the schools of Mansfield, Piatt Co., Ill.; Irvin, the second child born to our subject and wife, first saw light Jan. 1, 1858, and departed this

life April 4, 1879; Irene, born Aug. 4, 1869, died Aug. 31, 1869; she was a twin of Harry B.

Mr. Kline cast his first presidential vote for Zachary Taylor, and on the formation of the Republican party joined it and voted for its success until 1872, since which time he has voted with the Democratic party.



**J**EROME B. HENDERSON, a minister of the Baptist Church in Arrowsmith Township, but who lives in Cheney's Grove Township, where he also owns and cultivates a valuable farm, is a native of Lewis County, Ky., and was born Oct. 30, 1821. He is the son of William P. and Elizabeth (Hendrickson) Henderson, the former a native of Washington County, Pa., and the latter of New Jersey. William P. Henderson was born Jan. 1, 1792, and in early life removed from his native State to Kentucky, where he followed the trade of gunsmith, and died Sept. 15, 1841. His wife, Elizabeth, was born Aug. 5, 1784, and died in this State Oct. 11, 1858. Both parents were members of the Baptist Church. The little household included five children—Thomas O. (now deceased), Richard S., Eveline B., Rebeeca J. and Jerome B.

Mr. Henderson of our sketch came to this county in November, 1852, and located on a quarter section of land which he now occupies. Ten years later he commenced his ministerial labors, having received a good education in the common schools and academies of Kentucky. He was also ordained in the year last named, and has occupied the pulpit since that time, giving his leisure hours to the occupation of farming, of which he has always been very fond. For his Christian labors he has never accepted any salary, and has probably officiated at more funerals and marriages than any other minister in McLean County. He was the first Supervisor of Cheney's Grove Township, and served in this capacity for a number of years, with credit to himself and satisfaction to all concerned. He has also been Justice of the Peace for a number of years. He has organized several church so-

cieties, and been the means of great encouragement to the support of the Gospel in this locality. He is Republican in politics, and a valued citizen, whose influence has always been east on the side of truth and justice.

The marriage of Jerome B. Henderson and Miss Mary Means was celebrated in Lewis County, Ky., on the 24th of July, 1845. This lady was a native of Kentucky, born Feb. 6, 1824, and died at the home of her husband April 27, 1881. She was prominently connected with the Baptist Church, a lady greatly respected for her noble qualities of character, and became the mother of seven children, as follows: Mary J., born May 2, 1846, became the wife of I. T. Miller; William E., also a minister, was Chaplain of the 94th Illinois Infantry during the late war; Katie O., born Dec. 11, 1847, married J. L. Arbogast; Cora B., born June 17, 1849, became the wife of William H. Harris, also a minister; Willie M., born April 3, 1851, married Miss Sarah Hall; Emma T., born Nov. 29, 1853, married Stephen C. Murphy; Sarah M., born Nov. 11, 1855, died when seven years of age; Richard P., born Aug. 9, 1861, married Miss Jennie Gillis. The second wife of our subject, to whom he was married Nov. 29, 1883, was Miss Alice M. Murphy, who was born June 11, 1852, and is the daughter of Joseph and Annie (Smith) Murphy, natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Maryland. Of this latter union there have been born two children—Thomas O., Nov. 4, 1884, and Blanche O., June 16, 1886.



**M**RS. ELIZABETH STEPHENS, who is the widow of Wesley Stephens, owns and occupies a comfortable homestead of 160 acres in White Oak Township, on section 4. Mrs. S. has been a resident of the Prairie State since 1856. She was born in Brown County, Ohio, in 1822, being the daughter of John and Jane Baird. Her father was born at Columbus, Ohio, and died in White Oak Township in about 1870. The mother was a native of Virginia, and died at the home of her husband in Twin Grove, this county, in 1866. They were members of the United Presbyterian Church, and Mr. Baird in

politics was strongly Republican. Their thirteen children were Jeremiah, John, Margaret, Elizabeth, Sophia, Mary J., James, Joseph, Maria, Martha, Robert, William and Lucinda.

The subject of our sketch was reared under the home roof, and became the wife of Wesley Stephens in March, 1853. They came to Bloomington, Ill., in 1856, when there was only one blacksmith-shop, one grocery-store and a few little houses scattered around. Mr. Stephens was a painter by trade, which he followed for a time after coming to Bloomington, and then purchased 160 acres of good land, which is still the home of Mrs. S. and one of her sons. Mr. Stephens was born in Ohio, Aug. 3, 1820, being the son of John and Martha Stephens. He was in all respects a good husband and father, and a worthy citizen. He departed this life in White Oak Township, in 1863, and his remains were laid to rest in Oak Grove Cemetery. Mr. and Mrs. S. became the parents of six children: Martha J. departed this life in 1872; Alice C. became the wife of Wilson Selders; John married Miss Savilla Webster, and resides with his mother on the old homestead; America died Aug. 19, 1860. Mrs. Stephens is a member of the United Presbyterian Church, to the support of which she has contributed cheerfully and liberally for many years. The church edifice stands just across the road from her home. She is a lady of excellent character, and greatly esteemed among her neighbors and associates.



**HENRY W. ELLINGTON.** In a country which was originally inclined to swamp land the manufacture of tile has been one of its most important industries, and among the firms which have made this a specialty, is that of Stoops & Ellington, of Colfax, in Martin Township, this county, of whom the junior member is the gentleman whose name stands at the head of this sketch. The works were established in 1880, and have been carried on in an eminently successful and praiseworthy manner. It is probable that millions of rods of the products of this manufactory now underlie the soil of McLean County, and probably as

many more will be laid in a corresponding number of years.

Mr. Ellington of this sketch is a native of the State of North Carolina, and was born in Randolph County on the 2d of July, 1848. He is a son of Henry and Elizabeth (Eubanks) Ellington, who emigrated from North Carolina to Indiana when their son Henry was five years of age. They settled in Shelby County, where the subject of our sketch grew to manhood, receiving the advantages of a common-school education. In 1872 Henry Ellington started out in life for himself, and desiring to see something of the Prairie State, came into this county, and locating in Blue Mound Township, turning his attention to farming. He pursued this for six years following and then became interested in a tile manufactory, after perceiving that this industry would probably be of great benefit both to the farmers around and to himself.

Mr. Ellington first located his factory in Padua but was afterward persuaded that Chenoa would be the better point for operations. He remained in Padua until 1879, then formed a partnership with Justus Castle, and with him established the Chenoa Tile Works, which they operated together for two years. Mr. Ellington then disposed of his interest in the business and established a livery stable in Chenoa, which he carried on in connection with farming until the fall of 1884. He then came to Colfax, and purchased a half interest in the tile works with which he is at present connected. These now have a capacity of half a million tile annually. Their machinery is of the most approved pattern, and 6,000 feet of steam pipe assists in facilitating the business. The boiler and engine are of fifty-five horse power, and in short everything about the factory is calculated for doing the best work in the most expeditious manner. They have a good home market for all they can produce. The works are conveniently located on the Kankakee branch of the Illinois Central Railroad, which affords excellent shipping facilities.

The marriage of Henry W. Ellington and Miss Alice Stoops, of McLean County, was celebrated at the home of the bride's parents in Blue Mound Township, in 1874. Mrs. E. was born in Fulton County, Ill., June 22, 1856, and of her marriage

with our subject there is one child, Emma Elleanor, born Dec. 4, 1875. The pleasant residence of the little family is located on Grove street, and they enjoy the society of a large circle of friends and acquaintances.



**R**EBUBEN L. PORTER is favorably known in Arrowsmith Township as an intelligent and industrious farmer, and occupies a snug homestead on section 21. He comes of substantial ancestry, and, like his parents, was born in Fayette County, Pa., the date thereof being July 4, 1825. He is the son of John and Eliza (Lowrey) Porter. The first representatives of the family in this country emigrated from England and Scotland respectively, and possessed in a marked degree the reliable characteristics of those races. John Porter was born Aug. 16, 1800, and became a resident of Iowa while in the prime of life. He followed farming, shoemaking and tanning, and died in Appanoose County, Iowa, in 1855. His wife, Eliza L., was born in 1803, and died in the latter-named county the same year as her husband. The children of John and Eliza Porter, the parents of our subject, were, Francis M., Renben L., Sarah; Mary, now Mrs. Payne; Moses; Eliza, Mrs. Gally; Susan, Mrs. Dr. Bunker; Catherine, now Mrs. Monroe, and all live in Appanoose County, Iowa, except Mrs. Bunker, who lives in Missouri.

Our subject remained with his parents until their removal to the West, and became a resident of this county in 1852. He cultivated rented land for a number of years, and in 1853 purchased eighty acres in Arrowsmith Township which constitutes his present homestead. This he has brought to a good state of cultivation and upon it has a substantial and convenient set of buildings. He was married, Sept. 2, 1851, to Miss Susan Young, a native of Butler County, Ohio, who was born April 15, 1833. Her parents were John and Rebecca (Britton) Young, both now deceased. Their family of five children is recorded as follows: Maria, Mrs. Francis, is a resident of Ohio; Hannah, Mrs. Armacost lives in Ohio; Rebecca, Mrs. Hollinger, lives in Ohio; and Benjamin lives in Nebraska. Mr.

and Mrs. Porter became the parents of ten children, of whom the record is as follows: Eliza died when one year old; Virtue, Mrs. Scott, is a resident of Nebraska; Temperance, who married William Johnson, is deceased; Patrick H. married Miss Esther Welch; the remainder are William O., Mary E., John F., a teacher, Almeda, Susie and Eunice. Mr. Porter is Democratic in politics, and for many years has been a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he has served as Class-Leader for twenty years, has been teacher in the Sunday-school and is Trustee of the church and parsonage property. With his son, John F., he is at present Superintendent of the Sunday-school.



**C**AROLINE M. BRINING, widow of Hamilton Brining, is the possessor of a fine property consisting of three farms, the main one being located in Mt. Hope Township, and which constitutes the present homestead of the subject of our sketch. The other two lie in Downs Township and consist of 160 acres each. They are all finely improved and cultivated, and bear evidence of having been superintended by an intelligent mind.

Mrs. Brining was born in Orange County, Ind., Dec. 25, 1833. Her father, Eli Jones, was a native of North Carolina, and her grandfather, Allen Jones, a native of the same State, was a descendant of English and Welsh ancestry, and emigrated from North Carolina to Indiana at an early period in the history of that section. He made the journey overland, and after locating in Orange County, followed his trade of carpenter and cabinet-maker for many years, and spent the latter part of his life there. His son Eli, the father of our subject, was quite young when his parents removed from his native State. He grew to manhood in Indiana, and was united in marriage with Miss Hannah Snyder, the daughter of Jacob and Mary (Hawse) Snyder.

Mr. Jones learned the trade of his father, and in addition to the work of a carpenter and joiner also became an experienced millwright. In 1853 he purchased a tract of land in Greene County, Ind., upon which he lived until 1862, and from there removed to Owen County, whence after three years





*Hamilton Boring*



*James H. McGreggor*



he proceeded to Illinois and located in Logan County. From there he moved into McLean County, of which he is now a resident, having his home in Allin Township. He is now in his seventy-ninth year.

Mrs. Brining remained with her parents during her childhood and youth, receiving careful home training and a fair education in the common schools. On the 6th of February, 1861, she was united in marriage with Hamilton Brining. He was a native of Spencer County, Ky., and the son of Jacob F. and Barbara (Hawse) Brining. He was born on the 13th of June, 1830, and was but six years old when his parents removed from Kentucky to Illinois. The entire journey was made overland with wagons, and they camped and cooked by the way. They were among the first to make settlement in Logan County, and there Mr. B. grew to manhood, and was educated in the pioneer schools. He lived there until 1867, when he sold his property and purchased 160 acres of land in Mt. Hope Township, McLean County, on section 8. This land was wild and uncultivated, but he was a man of great energy and industry, and in due time had effected a remarkable change in its original condition. He erected a good set of farm buildings, planted fruit and shade trees, and subsequently added to his possessions, until at the time of his death he was the possessor of 320 acres here, and two farms of 160 acres each in Downs Township. He departed from the scenes of his earthly labors on the 16th of March, 1886, while still active and little past his prime.

In early manhood Mr. Brining was married to Miss Sarah Mountjoy, and of this union there were three children—Martha, May J. and Alice. Of the second marriage there were born seven children, viz., Charles E., Imo G., Minnie M., Owen L., Leslie C. and Lyman T. (twins), and Luther V. Mr. and Mrs. B. were both connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in politics he was an uncompromising Republican.

Since the death of her husband Mrs. Brining has superintended the management of the estate with ability and success. She is a lady of rare intelligence and courage, and was well fitted to be the helpmeet of such a man as her husband. The family resi-

dence and the entire homestead is first-class in all its appointments, and bears evidence of the thrift and enterprise which first established it and by which it has been perpetuated. It is one of the attractive spots of McLean County, and invariably attracts the eye of the traveler through this section.

The portrait of Mr. Brining, which accompanies this sketch, will be recognized by all as that of a worthy and honored representative of McLean County.



JAMES H. MCGREGOR, President of the Arctic Ice Company of Bloomington, Ill., whose portrait is shown on page 504, ranks among the enterprising business men of the city, and as one who has contributed his full share toward the advancement of its business and industrial interests. Mr. McGregor was born in Washington County, N. Y., on the 16th of March, 1830. His father, Peter McGregor, was a native of Scotland, who came to America in 1828. All his children except James H. were born there. The father was a farmer by occupation, and located with his family near the city of Montreal, Canada. The mother of our subject, before her marriage, was Miss Mary Stuart, and the family of herself and husband consisted of seven children, five sons and two daughters.

In August, 1853, the subject of this history left the parental roof and coming into the States located in Bloomington, Ill., and engaged at the bricklayer's trade, which he had previously learned. This he followed for many years, and is still engaged as a contractor and builder. In this capacity he has superintended the erection of some of the most important buildings of this locality and in the city of Chicago. In 1863 he associated himself in partnership with N. B. Heafer, of this city, with whom he operated for a period of twenty years. During this time the firm was interested in some of the best improvements in this city, having built the C. & A. R. R. shops, and afterward the McLean County court-house, which latter was erected at a cost of over \$300,000. They also built the First Methodist Episcopal Church, one of the finest church edifices in the city, and afterward laid the


street pavements and built the water-works, together with the tower, which is 200 feet in height. At the same time they were engaged in the manufacture and laying of brick, also street pavements. The partnership was dissolved in 1883, by mutual consent, the two gentlemen still retaining a lifelong esteem for each other. Mr. McGregor has been since that time carrying on the same business alone and was elected to his present position as President of the Arctic Ice Company in 1884.

Our subject was married in 1866, to Miss Mary A. Barnes, a native of Ohio, and they have two children—Mary and Edith. Mr. McG. is a member in good standing of the I. O. O. F., Remembrance Lodge No. 77. The family occupy a handsome and attractive home and enjoy the society and esteem of a large circle of friends.

Duncan McGregor, deceased, a brother of our subject, was one of the most active railroad men of the West. He was born in Scotland, and after the death of his father in Canada, he and his brother, James H., went to Kalamazoo, Mich., where Duncan had charge of a force of men employed in the construction of the Michigan Central Railroad, their part of the line stretching from Michigan City, Ind., to Chicago, and employing them during the summer of 1852. Duncan McGregor next went to LaSalle, Ill., where he superintended the laying of the track of the Illinois Central Railroad to Bloomington, it being the first road to enter the latter city. He then made his home at Bloomington for several years, holding the position of conductor on the I. C. R. R. In 1858 he went to Texas to take charge of the track laying of the Texas Central which ran to Huston.

During the Rebellion Duncan McGregor assisted in building the Brazos River Railroad. While in that section of country he was pressed into the service of the Confederates in constructing and repairing railroads, and also ran a locomotive for them over different roads until the engine was so worn and the boiler so leaky that he was compelled to abandon it. At this the Confederates became enraged and were going to hang him, but by determined effort he made his escape toward the Gulf, where he was picked up by a Northern vessel and reached a place of safety. He then came North to

Logansport, Ind., where he was employed as an engineer and conductor on the C. C. & I. C. R. R. for several years. On the night of his death he had taken the place of another engineer to run out an extra. When nearing the city of Columbus, Ohio, an obstruction upon the track threw the locomotive from the rails, and in the wreck he was instantly killed. This terrible accident occurred in 1874. Duncan McGregor was classed among the best railroad men of the West.

 **M**RS. MARY C. KIRKPATRICK, widow of Thomas K. Kirkpatrick, owns and occupies a good home in White Oak Township, on section 34, and has been a resident of the Prairie State for nearly forty years. She was born in Rockbridge County, Va., Sept. 14, 1809, being the daughter of George and Ellen (Lowry) Guylinger. Her father was born in New York about the time of the Revolutionary War, and her mother, a native of Scotland, was about six years the senior of her husband. They were married in Rockbridge County, Va., in 1807, and remained there until 1840, when they removed to Ohio, and rented land in Adams County, where Mr. Guylinger died in the seventy-second year of his age. The mother preceded him three years, living to be seventy-five years old. They were members of what was known as the Seeders' Church. Mr. Guylinger was Republican in politics. They had a family of three children: John married Miss Martha Finley; Susan became Mrs. Richard Kirkpatrick, and Mary C. of our sketch was the eldest.

Mrs. K. was reared under the home roof and received a fair education in the common schools. She was married to Thomas Kirkpatrick in Adams County, Ohio, Sept. 6, 1831, and they remained in Ohio until 1849, when they removed to this State and county, and located on the farm which is now the home of Mrs. K. This comprises 160 acres of good land, with substantial farm buildings.

Mr. K. was born in Bourbon County, Ky., in 1805, and departed this life at his home in White Oak Township, Feb. 3, 1857. Mr. and Mrs. K. became the parents of eleven children, of whom

only four are living, as follows: Ellen J. became the wife of Adam Kirkpatrick, and they live in Bloomington; Adeline married John Kirkpatrick; George married Miss Catherine Wright, and Robert W., Miss Margaret Hilton. The seven deceased are Samuel, who died April 30, 1859; James, Nov. 16, 1860; Margaret C., Aug. 25, 1885; John died in 1862; Thomas M. died in 1863, and Sarah M. in 1865; Elvia A. was born Oct. 6, 1855, and died in 1873.

Mrs. Kirkpatrick is an active member of the United Presbyterian Church, and takes much interest in missionary work. She has been a good mother, a kind neighbor and friend, and enjoys the esteem and friendship of a large circle of acquaintances.



**H**IRAM BUCK, one of the honored pioneers of McLean County, has now attained to the age of fourscore years and six. He is a hale and hearty old gentleman, in full possession of his mental faculties, active as most men at sixty, suffers no bodily infirmities, and can still hold the plow and ride on the back of spirited horses. His form has been a familiar one upon the streets of Empire Township for many years, and he is held in that peculiar veneration and respect tacitly accorded those who first pushed their way into the Western wilds and marked out the track of a later civilization.

Mr. Buck was born in the town of Ulysses, N. Y., which was then in Seneca but is now in Tompkins County. He first opened his eyes to the light on the 20th of March, 1801. His father, William Sherman Buek, was born in New Milford, Litchfield Co., Conn., Feb. 17, 1764. His grandfather, James Buek, was also a native of the Nutmeg State and of English descent. The latter engaged in farming pursuits and spent his entire life in his native State. He married Miss Elizabeth Sherman, who was a native of his own town and the sister of Roger Sherman, who was famous in that day as a philosopher and a man of talents and learning.

The father of our subject learned the trade of tanner and currier in New Milford and worked

there until after he had attained his majority. He then went into Luzerne County, Pa., remaining there until about 1798, whence he removed to Phelps and Graham's Purchase in New York, and settled in the part now included in the township of Ulysses. The removal from Pennsylvania was effected with ox-teams, part of the route lying through a trackless wilderness. He purchased timber land and on a part of his first purchase now stands the village of Trumansburg. He had been there but a short time when, after clearing a part of his land, he established a tanyard and engaged in dressing hides and in shoemaking. For twenty years he did business without the assistance of railroads or canals. The only way of reaching market was to go overland along the rivers. There William S. Buek remained until 1818, and then selling his property proceeded further westward to Ohio. The journey to the headwaters of the Alleghany River was made overland, and he arrived there the 1st of March, 1818. On account of the great amount of ice in the river his journey was here delayed until the 13th of April. While thus waiting he built a boat and as soon as it could be launched, moved with his family upon it, down to North Bend, Ohio. He had sold his land in New York on time, and was obliged to rent land in order to pursue his further operations. He located in Hamilton County, Ohio, and rented land from President Harrison, until he could get pay for his own in New York State. He remained there eleven years, and then pulled up stakes again and started for Indiana, purchasing a farm in Switzerland County, where he located and spent the remainder of his days, his decease occurring on the 4th of August, 1844. His wife died in Hamilton County, Ohio, in October, 1827. The parental family consisted of thirteen children, eleven sons and two daughters.

Hiram Buck was the eighth child and seventh son of his parents. He was seventeen years old when they removed from New York to Ohio. He assisted his father in clearing the farm and tilling the soil, received a limited education in the subscription schools, and remained under the parental roof until 1826. He had inherited much of the energy and enterprise of his forefathers and at this time had engaged considerably in speculation on his own ac-

count. He made three trips down the river with a flatboat, transporting produce to various points. He had improved his leisure time with his books, and in this manner had become well fitted for a teacher of those days, and employed his time during the winter season in dispensing knowledge to the sons of the early settlers, in the log school-house of those days. He possessed considerable musical talents and also taught singing as well as day school. In 1826 he bought a stock of goods and commenced merchandising in Switzerland County, Ind. After two years thus occupied he purchased a tract of timber land and found a ready market for wood which was used on the steamboats, coal not then having been discovered or mined in that region. In 1833, after having considerably enhanced the value of his property he sold out, and started for Illinois, via the Ohio, Mississippi and Illinois Rivers. Leaving his family in Beardstown, Ill., he came on to McLean County, where he procured two teams and returned for his family and household goods. His means were limited, but he purchased eighty acres of land at \$1.50 per acre in Randolph Township, and after building a log cabin, removed his family, and raised a crop upon rented land that year. The following year he raised his first crop on his own land and proceeded with its cultivation and improvement. In 1837 he sold out and came to Le Roy, where he purchased village property and also farm land. He built the first hotel in the place, naming it after the town. He soon succeeded in securing a post-office and officiated as the first Postmaster. He conducted this hotel for eight years and was remarkably successful in his farming and business operations. In 1851 he removed to the farm he now owns and occupies and on which he has been a continuous resident since that time, a period of thirty-six years.

The first purchase which Mr. Buek made in this vicinity consisted of 172 acres, to which he added as time passed until he became the owner of 965 acres, all in Empire and Downs Townships. It is now all improved and under a fine state of cultivation, being operated mostly by tenants, but Mr. Buek has always exercised a general oversight of the whole, and its valuable condition to-day is owing to his remarkable energy and foresight. The land has been devoted to mixed husbandry and stock-raising

and has yielded its owner a handsome income. It is beautifully located and its broad acres stretch over a fine tract of country, forming one of the most attractive spots in McLean County.

The marriage of Hiram Buek and Miss Mercy Karr was celebrated in Ohio on the 5th of April, 1827. Mrs. Buek was born in that part of Sussex which is now Warren County, N. J., on the 16th of November, 1806, being the daughter of Capt. John and Mary (Lee) Karr, natives of Pennsylvania. Her father commanded a company under Wayne's Legion in the Revolutionary War and after his retirement from the military service returned to New Jersey and engaged in farming pursuits. His death occurred at the home of our subject in Le Roy in 1840, after he had become eighty-two years of age.

Mrs. Mercy Buek died at the home of her husband in Le Roy Township, Aug. 6, 1886. They had become the parents of six children, five now living: Amanda M. married James Crumbagh and lives in Empire Township, which is also the residence of Thomas L.; Elizabeth died when three years of age; Martha E. became the wife of John McConnell and lives in Downs Township; Nancy J. married Isaac T. Dawson and lives in Downs Township; Charles Albert is on the home farm. Mr. Buek has been Postmaster of three different offices—of Patriot, Ind., and Randolph and Le Roy, in McLean County. He received his first appointment from President John Q. Adams, and served in this capacity under Jackson, Van Buren, Harrison, Tyler and Polk. He was School Trustee in Indiana, and Clerk and Treasurer of the Board several years. He was Deputy County Surveyor and School Trustee under the Constitution of 1848, and elected a County Judge in 1851, to fill a vacancy. Two years later he was elected for the full term of four years, and re-elected in 1857. He joined the State Militia in Ohio, and when twenty-three years of age was elected Captain of the first company of the 1st Regiment, 1st Brigade and 1st Division of the Militia of that State. The same year he came to Illinois he joined the militia of this State, being soon promoted Adjutant, and in the late war he endeavored to enlist as a Union soldier but was rejected on account of his age.

In politics Mr. Buek was formerly identified with

the Whig party and cast his first presidential vote for John Q. Adams, in 1824. He has voted at sixteen presidential elections, and continued a Whig until the abandonment of the old party by the organization of the Republicans. Then he cheerfully indorsed the principles of the latter and has since cast his vote with that party. Mr. Buek was Supervisor of Empire Township four years and served as Justice of the Peace eighteen years. In 1874 he was appointed a Trustee of the Industrial School at Urbana by Gov. Beveridge, and the following year elected a Trustee of Lombard University.

The mother of Mr. Buek, who before her marriage was Miss Berentha York, was a native of Stonington, Conn., and born Sept. 27, 1770. Her father, Amos York, also a native of Connecticut, afterward removed to Pennsylvania, locating in Luzerne County, and being among the earliest settlers of that region, when the country was peopled largely by Indians. In February, 1778, the Indians surrounded his house, took all his goods and cattle, made him prisoner and carried him to Canada, where he was held in captivity for two years. He was then released, but died soon after his return home. His wife was thus left a widow with ten daughters and one son, the youngest a babe at the breast. She removed to Wyoming with her children and was there at the time of the Indian massacre, being one of the few who escaped in a canoe down the Susquehanna River. She afterward made her home in Luzerne County, Pa., and died at the age of ninety years. Mr. Buek is a devout Universalist and contributed largely toward building the chapel in Le Roy; it is named after Mrs. Buek, being known as "Merey Chapel."

**GARRIGUS BROS.** Wilbur C. and Joseph C. Garrigus are conducting a livery, boarding and sale stable at Nos. 423 and 425 North Main street, Bloomington, having also a feed-yard in connection. Although comparatively young in business, having established in 1886, they have been successful from the start. Their stock comprises from twelve to twenty fine horses, and their vehicles are of first-class description. They

also conduct an undertaking business, having a fine hearse and all other accessories.

Wilbur C. and Joseph C. Garrigus were born in Marshall County, Ill., being the sons of Jacob and Matilda (Chandler) Garrigus, natives of New Jersey, the former of whom came to Illinois with his parents when a boy, and they settled in Marshall County. The father was engaged in general merchandising, and became County Treasurer and Postmaster. He resided there until 1872, then removed to Chicago, and for a number of years was engaged in the real-estate business. Later he was appointed United States Gauger, which office he still holds. He has always been an active and prominent business man and takes an interest in all matters pertaining to the public welfare.

The two brothers received a fine education and bid fair to follow in the footsteps of their father as regards business talent and enterprise. Their younger brother, Charles, is in their employ, and the firm is becoming favorably known in this locality as reliable, prompt to meet its obligations, and in all respects ranking with the first-class business interests of the city. One of the brothers is Democratic in politics, one Republican, and one a Prohibitionist. Wilbur C. married Miss Belle Clark, of Wisconsin, and they are the parents of one son—Roy. Their residence is at No. 1104 North Prairie street.

**JAMES COOPER**, one of the pioneers of MeLean County, respected and loved by all who know him, and a progressive farmer of Funk's Grove Township, is a resident on section 1. He was born in Ross County, Ohio, July 24, 1828, and his father, Michael Cooper, was a native of Lancashire, England. The latter grew to manhood in his native land, was there married, and came to this country about 1820. He had come to America with the intention of seeking a home for his family, but while here his good wife died in the old country, and his mother took charge of the children, who always lived in England. Mr. Cooper was again married, in Ross County, Ohio, and the lady selected as his life companion was Mrs. Ruhanna Hiekle. She was born in Virginia,

and was the daughter of Abraham VanMeter and the widow of Jacob Hiekle.

Michael Cooper was a wagon-maker by trade, but after his second marriage engaged in the vocation of a farmer. In 1830 he bought land in Madison County, Ohio. The tract contained 160 acres and was military land and heavily timbered. His title to this property proved to be worthless, and after clearing quite a portion of it he lost the entire property. In 1837, accompanied by his wife and five children, he started for Illinois. The journey was made overland with a team of horses and a wagon, occupying three or four weeks' travel, and terminated at Bloomington, this State. Soon after his settlement there he rented land of Col. Gridley, at Lexington, a portion of which is now included in that city. This he worked until 1841, when he moved to Towanda Township and rented a farm, which he worked for three years. He then went to Hudson Township, where he was a renter until 1847, during which year he started on his return to England, and it is supposed he was lost on the voyage as he has never been heard from since. His wife died at the home of our subject in 1872.

Of the second marriage of Michael Cooper five children were born, the subject of this notice being the third in order of birth. He was nine years old when he came to this county with his parents, and here attended the pioneer school and assisted his father in the labors of the farm. After his father's death he worked out, receiving \$7.50 per month for his services. He saved his earnings, and in time was enabled to carry on farming on rented land, and made money by so doing. In 1867 he bought 210 acres of land on section 1, Funk's Grove Township. There were no buildings on the place in which to live, and he rented until 1873, when he moved on to the place and has since made it his home. He has a good farm under an advanced state of cultivation, and has been successful in the prosecution of his labors. In 1878 his residence was destroyed by fire and he then erected the one in which he is now living. The place at present consists of about 300 acres, all of which is enclosed and well improved.

Mr. Cooper was married, Jan. 23, 1866, to Fran-

ces Veateh. She was born in this county Nov. 18, 1842. Her father, Covington Veateh, was a native of Indiana, and her paternal grandfather was born in Tennessee of Scotch-Irish ancestry. Mrs. Cooper's father lived in Indiana until nineteen years old, and then, in 1836, came to this county with his parents and settled with them in Randolph Township. His father entered Government land and improved several farms. He was a carpenter by trade, and he would build a house on a small tract of land and then dispose of the place and buy another. He spent the last days of his life in Quiney, Ill. He was also a Baptist preacher, and labored in the pulpit on Sundays for the conversion of souls. He died in 1878, aged eighty years. The mother of Mrs. Cooper, Eliza Branton, was born in Virginia in 1823, and came to this State with her parents in 1834. They located in Champaign, where their demise occurred. Covington Veateh, after living some time on his farm in Randolph Township, sold out and went to Kansas, settling in Kingman County, where he lived a retired life.

Socially Mr. Cooper is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and holds fellowship with Lodge No. 251, of Heyworth. He is also a member of Robert T. Harvey Post No. 606, G. A. R. He enlisted in August, 1862, in Co. B, 94th Ill. Vol. Inf., and was in the service sixteen months, participating in the battle of Prairie Grove, Ark., and several other minor engagements. He was discharged on account of an affection of the eyes, from which he never recovered, and has lost the sight of one of them entirely.

CAPT. E. C. MYERS, one of the successful farmers and stock-growers of Randolph Township, is located on section 8. His farm estate consists of 160 acres of highly improved and valuable land. Mr. Myers is the eldest son of Joseph and Keziah Myers, the former now living at Loda, Iroquois Co., Ill., being seventy-one years of age. The mother of our subject died many years ago in McLean County, and the father is now living with his second wife. He became a settler of this county in 1851, and at one time was a large

property holder in Randolph Township, most of which is still in the family.

The grandfather of our subject on his father's side was John Myers, a native of Pennsylvania, who was the son of Casper Myers, a native of Germany, who with six other brothers emigrated to the United States prior to the Revolutionary War. Five of the brothers engaged in that memorable conflict, and the two younger were in the War of 1812, one of whom fell mortally wounded at the battle of Plattsbnrg, N. Y. The survivor became the ancestor of our subject. Casper Myers, after his retirement from the army, engaged in agricultural pursuits in Lieking County, Ohio, and died there at an advanced age. The grandfather of our subject, John Myers, was born and reared in Pennsylvania, his birth occurrng about 1790. He emigrated from his native State to Ohio, being among the early settlers of Lieking County, where he secured a farm and established a comfortable home. He afterward came to Illinois, and spent the remainder of his days. His son Joseph, the father of our subject, was born in Pennsylvania, and was carried in the arms of his mother to their home in Lieking County, Ohio. This lady before her marriage was Miss Mary Gosnell, who was of English descent and born in Pennsylvania. The family came to Illinois in 1855; the father died in Randolph Township, this county, June 1, 1869. Her husband followed her to the silent land in December of the same year.

Joseph Myers, the father of our subject, remained with his parents until he had attained to years of manhood, and was united in marriage with Miss Keziah Barriek. She was born in Pennsylvania, and when about sixteen years of age removed with her parents to Lieking County, Ohio. She subsequently came with her family to Illinois, and died in Randolph Township, this county, in 1875.

Capt. Myers was born in Lieking County, Ohio, Feb. 27, 1838. When fourteen years of age he was brought to Illinois by his parents and located in this county with them in 1851. He remained under the parental roof until April, 1861, in the meantime receiving a practical business education. In April, 1861, he enlisted as a Union soldier in Co. C, 20th Ill. Vol. Inf., under command of Capt.

J. O. Pullen. After serving his term of three months, he re-enlisted, becoming a member of Co. K, 39th Ill. Vol. Inf., under Capt. Joseph Woodruff. The company was organized at Chicago, Aug. 14, 1861, and proceeded at once to Benton Barracks, Mo., and thence to join the Army of the Potomac. Their first engagement with the enemy, who were led by Stonewall Jackson, was at Bath, Va., on the 4th of January, 1862. Our subject with his comrades participated in the famous march of Gen. Landers, in which they traveled over a mountain road of forty miles, in sixteen hours. He was afterward transferred to the celebrated Shields' Division, which assisted in the battle of Winchester, where the enemy was routed. They afterward met the enemy in several engagements around Suffolk, Va., thence going to Port Royal, S. C., in February, 1863, where our subject witnessed the engagement between the iron-clad fleet and Ft. Sumter. The company sustained a serious loss in the death of its Captain (Woodruff), who fell at the entrance of Ft. Gregg, killed by a bursting shell.

At that time, Jan. 1, 1864, many of the company re-enlisted as veterans at Hilton Head, S. C. Young Myers had been serving as First Sergeant since January, 1862, and on the 24th of December, 1864, was made First Lieutenant and the following year Captain. He afterward took an active part in many engagements and skirmishes, and was always on duty. During the summer of 1864, he killed, missing and captured aggregated 653 men of their regiment. Capt. Myers was present at every engagement of the regiment from the time Ft. Sumter was reduced until the surrender of Lee at Appomattox Court-House. Through all these dangers he escaped unharmed and received his honorable discharge Dec. 16, 1865.

Capt. Myers was married in McLean County on the 3d of March, 1864, to Miss Martha Crose, their wedding taking place at the home of the bride in Downs Township. Mrs. Myers was born in Downs Township, Oct. 27, 1844, and was reared on her father's farm, receiving a fair education in the common schools. Her parents came to this county at an early day, and assisted with their fellow pioneers in its growth and advancement.

Capt. and Mrs. Myers became the parents of nine children, of whom one, Leota, is deceased. Those living, and all at home are, Ella M., Edith S., David, Joseph P., Thomas E., John J., Mabel and George. Capt. Myers is a member of the Republican party, although in political, as well as religious views, he is extremely liberal.



**J**OSEPH W. ZOOK, Postmaster of Oak Grove, came to McLean County in 1849, with his parents, and spent his youth and childhood on his father's farm. He has been a resident of this vicinity since that time, and one of its most valued citizens. Mr. Z. was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, Feb. 7, 1837. His parents were David and Barbara (King) Zook, natives of Pennsylvania, the father born Jan. 6, 1806, and the mother, Nov. 24, 1814. David Zook received a common-school education, and when a young man removed with his parents to Fairfield County, Ohio. He was married in Wayne County, that State, in 1834, and they remained in Fairfield County until the fall of 1849. The family then came to Illinois and located in McLean County, where the parents spent the remainder of their days, the father dying in 1872, and the mother in 1880. David Zook in early life was a staunch adherent of the Whig party, but later became a strong Republican. Both parents were members of the Omish Mennonite Church. Their family consisted of four sons and four daughters, as follows: Nancy died in infancy; Joseph W. of our sketch was the second; Rebecca became the wife of Christian Kenagy; Susan E. married Henry Gephart; John K. married Miss Mary King; Sarah A. became the wife of Barton W. Stone; David A. married Miss Barbara Kinzinger; Levi W. married Miss Emma Reynolds; Rebecca and Sarah are deceased.

The subject of this history resided with his parents until his majority, having received a common-school education. He was studious and fond of his books, and engaged one term in teaching school. The state of his health prevented him from working upon the farm, and he started the first store of general merchandise in Oak Grove, in 1864. He aft-

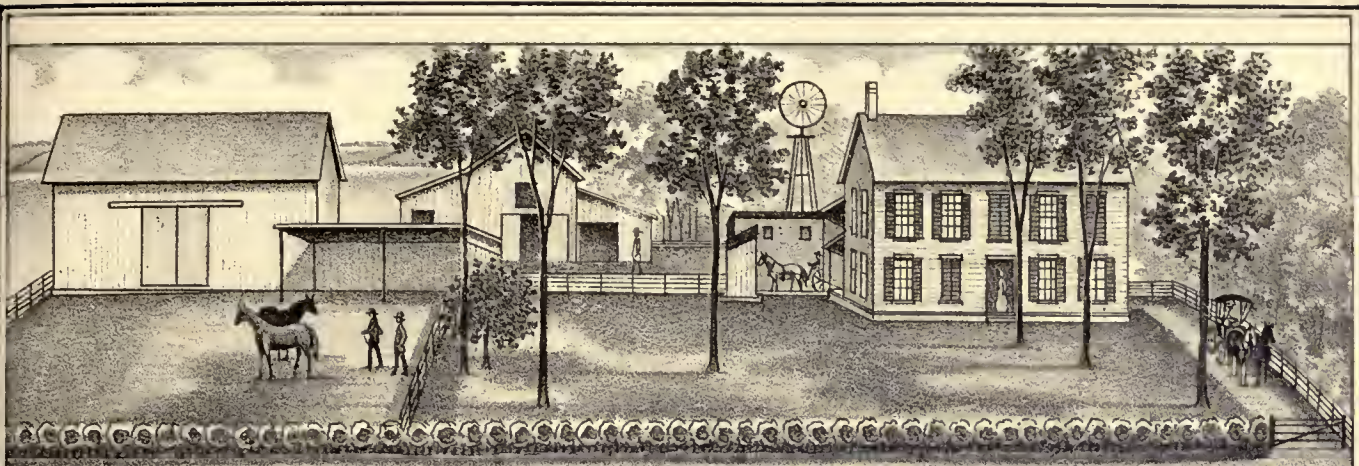
ward sold this and engaged in teaching writing and painting classes. At the age of thirty-three years he was married to Miss Leah E. Plank, of Danvers, Ill., who has been a true and devoted wife and helpmeet in all his prosperity and adversity. After marriage the young people removed to Ford County and located on a farm. Our subject taught penmanship, and after two years returned to Oak Grove, of which he was subsequently appointed Postmaster, which office he has now held for six years. He is also Justice of the Peace, Notary Public, Township Clerk and Collector, performing the duties of each with credit to himself and satisfaction to all concerned.

Notwithstanding he has been afflicted with rheumatism, and his health is otherwise impaired, Mr. Zook has lived a busy life, never content to be idle. He has been afflicted with the rheumatism since fourteen years of age, being compelled to use crutches for the last twenty-five years. He is Republican in politics, and both himself and wife are worthy members of the Mennonite Church. They became the parents of four daughters, two deceased: Lillian Olive was born July 21, 1871, and died Sept. 7, 1872; Katie Belle was born Sept. 8, 1873; Barbara May, born Jan. 21, 1876, died Jan. 26, 1877, and Lydia Maude, born June 25, 1878.



**J**OHAN J. MYERS, a native of McLean County, is now one of its most promising young farmers, and the son of a former resident of Randolph Township. The latter, Joseph Myers, was a native of Pennsylvania, and when an infant was carried by his parents to the home which they had selected in Ohio. The family were of German ancestry and parentage. Joseph Myers was reared in Lieking County, Ohio, and after arriving at years of manhood was there married to Miss Kesiah Barriek, who was a native of Pennsylvania and removed to Ohio with her parents when a young girl. By her marriage she became the mother of ten children, of whom the subject of our sketch was the youngest but two. Of these there were six sons and four daughters, of whom five sons and three daughters are yet living, all

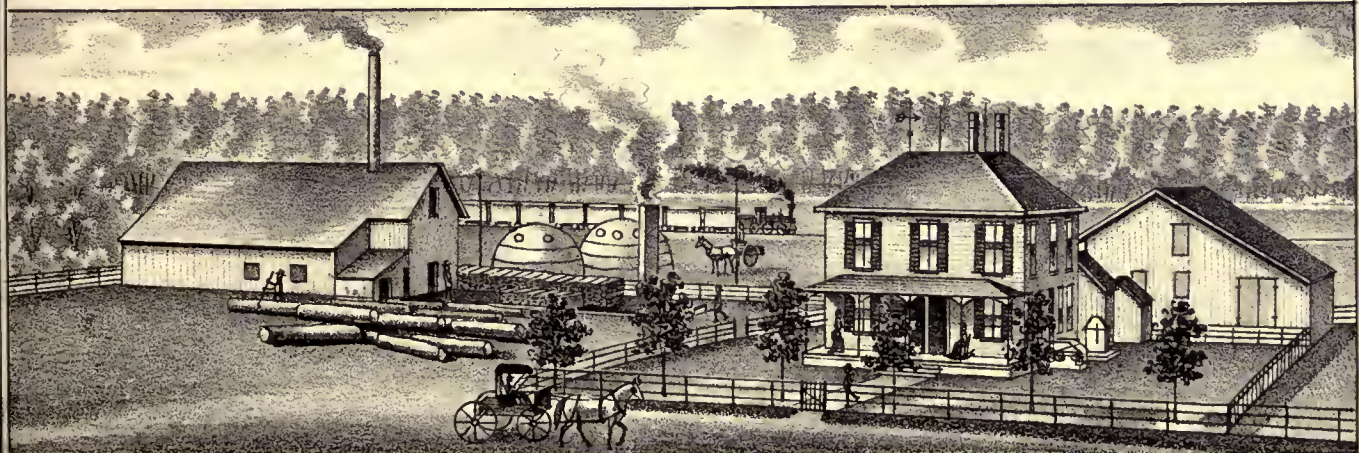




RESIDENCE OF D. L. WHITE, SEC. 21, BLOOMINGTON TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF EDGAR BLAISDELL, COR. THIRD & OAK STS. WESTON, ILLS.



RESIDENCE, MILL & TILE WORKS OF JOSEPH DORLAND, SEC. 21, RANDOLPH TP.



married with the exception of two. She died at the home of her husband in Randolph Township, this county, in 1875. The father is now living near Loda, Iroquois Co., Ill., where he owns a comfortable home. He and his sons were at one time proprietors in this township of about 600 acres of land.

The paternal grandfather of our subject, John Myers, was born in Pennsylvania, and was the son of Casper Myers of Germany, who, with six brothers, emigrated to the New World prior to the Revolutionary War. Five of the brothers engaged with the colonies in the struggle for independence, and two of the younger ones were in the War of 1812, one of these being mortally wounded at the battle of Plattsburg, N. Y. One of the survivors was Casper Myers, who, after his retirement from a military life, became a farmer in Licking County, Ohio, and died there at an advanced age. His son John, the grandfather of our subject, was born in Pennsylvania in about 1790. He remained there until he attained to years of manhood and then emigrated to Licking County, Ohio, being among the earliest settlers of that region. He purchased a tract of land and opened up a farm, upon which he lived for a number of years, but finally came to Illinois and spent his last days in McLean County, dying in Randolph Township in 1869. His wife, Miss Mary Gosnell, was of English descent and born in Pennsylvania. She also died in Randolph Township before her husband but in the same year.

The subject of this history was the seventh of a family of ten children. He was born in Randolph Township, this county, May 17, 1853, and remained with his parents until his marriage. This event occurred Sept. 24, 1879, in Normal, the lady of his choice being Miss Tina Hadley, who was a native of Collinsville, Madison Co., Ill. She was born Sept. 9, 1856, and is the daughter of Dempsey and Martha (Penney) Hadley, natives respectively of North Carolina and Illinois. They removed northwest while young and were married in Collinsville, where they afterward located upon a farm. There the father died in 1862. Eleven years later the mother and children removed to Normal, Ill., where the mother died in 1876, aged fifty-four years. Mrs. Myers completed her education in

the Normal University and began teaching when eighteen years of age. She followed this five years and until her marriage. Of this household there were three children, all living, Mrs. M. and one brother being twins; Charles W. is married and a resident of Poehontas, Ill.; John J. is single and is a teacher.

Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Myers there have been born three children, one of whom, Claude L., is deceased. Those surviving are Clyde H. and Alpha E. The homestead of our subject and his family is finely located on section 8 and comprises 160 acres of finely improved land, and a substantial set of frame buildings. Besides the home farm he also cultivates 160 acres on section 7. Of late years he has been giving considerable attention to the breeding, purchase and sale of fine stock. He is in all respects one of the thrifty and enterprising agriculturists of Randolph Township, who is contributing his full quota toward the advancement of its farming and industrial interests. Mrs. Myers is a member in good standing of the Baptist Church, and in politics our subject affiliates with the Republican party.



**H**ENRY M. MILLER, for many years a practical and successful farmer, is now living within the limits of the village of Heyworth, where he has resided for the past twenty years. He was born in Jessamine County, Ky., on the 13th of March, 1830. Both his father and grandfather before him engaged in agricultural pursuits, and both were natives of the same State and county as our subject and spent their entire lives there, where their remains are laid to rest. The father was William Miller, and the grandfather, Franklin Miller; the family were of German descent.

The subject of this history grew to manhood on his father's farm in Kentucky, and when a young man came to the Prairie State, purchased a tract of land of sixty acres in this county, and began its improvement and cultivation. He was successful in his undertakings, and besides his farm, which has now become quite valuable, he has also a desirable

village lot upon which are good improvements. Soon after coming to this county he was united in marriage with Miss Lydia A. Hooton, who was born and reared in Madison County, Ky., and came with her parents to Illinois in her girlhood. Her father, Nicholas Hooton, is still living in Bloomington, and is eighty-five years of age. The mother died in Heyworth some years ago.

Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Miller there were born six children, two now deceased, Eddie and Mary; Smiley became the wife of Charles Robershaw, who operates a cabinet-shop in Heyworth; Henry is out West; Callie and Hattie are at home with their parents. Mr. and Mrs. Miller are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in politics our subject is a reliable Democrat.



**J**OSEPH M. EASTERBROOK, a resident of Belleflower, and one of its most solid and substantial citizens, has been a resident of this locality since 1865 and during this time has fully established himself in the confidence and esteem of the people of this county. Mr. E. is a native of Ross County, Ohio, where he was born June 3, 1830. His father, George W. Easterbrook, was born on the Atlantic Ocean while his parents were on their journey from England to the United States. His grandfather, John Easterbrook, was born in the city of London and was a leader in Gen. Proctor's band during the Irish rebellion; he also figured prominently in the War of 1812, having come to the United States during its progress. He was captured by the troops of Gen. Harrison during the battle of the Thames. He had been forced into the English army when quite young, against his own wishes, and after his capture by the Federals he foreswore allegiance to the King and joined the colonists, being given a Captain's commission by Gen. Harrison. After peace was declared he located at Cincinnati, Ohio, and followed the profession of music in the schools of that city for a number of years, until he became quite aged. His death occurred in Fayette County, Ohio, after he had attained the advanced age of ninety-six

years. His son, George W., the father of our subject, was reared in Cincinnati and Ross County, and having received a good education, adopted school-teaching as a profession, which he followed nearly all his life. He came to Illinois and this county in 1867, spending the last years of his life in Belleflower Township. He died here in 1875.

The mother of our subject, who before her marriage was Miss Elizabeth Pursell, was born in Ross County, Ohio. She became the mother of two children, our subject and his sister Mary. The latter married Rev. Samuel Middleton, and died in Barnesville, Ohio. Joseph M. was reared on his father's farm and assisted in the labors around the homestead. This was originally a tract of timber land and as soon as our subject was old enough he had to work upon the land, while his father added to the family income by teaching school. Our subject remained on the homestead until nine years after his marriage, and then, in 1865, purchased the farm which he now owns and occupies in Belleflower Township. Upon this there was a dilapidated frame house, and a part of the sod had been broken. The old house has now been replaced by a handsome and substantial farm dwelling, with a good barn and all other necessary out-buildings. He has been prospered in his business and farming transactions, and has added to his first purchase until he now owns 240 acres, all finely improved and under a good state of cultivation, with a fine area of pasture. The farm and its belongings constitute one of the attractive spots of the township.

Mr. Easterbrook was married, Oct. 5, 1854, to Miss Hannah J. Middleton, who is the daughter of Jacob and Rebeeca (Bathurst) Middleton, natives of Center County, Pa. Her grandfather, James Middleton, of Pennsylvania, descended from English ancestry, followed agricultural pursuits, and spent the last years of his life in Ross County, Ohio. Jacob Middleton was reared in his native State, and after his marriage removed to Ohio, in 1821, settling in Ross County upon a tract of timber land. He cleared a farm from the wilderness, where he remained until 1866, and then came to McLean County, Ill., but returned to Ohio in 1873, and there died two years later. The maternal grandfather of our subject, Lawrence Bathurst, was

a native of Pennsylvania, whose grandfather, Allan Bathurst, a native of England, emigrated to the United States and located in Center County, Pa., where he was engaged in teaching school. The mother of Mrs. Easterbrook is still living; she makes her home with our subject and his wife, and is now ninety-three years old.

Mr. and Mrs. E. are the parents of five children, as follows: Ada, the wife of John T. Brokaw, lives in Belleflower Township; Harry is at home; Carey and George W. are at Saybrook, and Jacob is also at home. Mr. and Mrs. E. and four of the children are connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church. In politics our subject is a staunch Republican.

The grandfather of Mr. Easterbrook was left an orphan when quite young and was taken in charge by his uncle, Rev. Joseph Easterbrook, who was a minister in the Church of England. This gentleman gave him a father's care and sent him to school. About three months prior to his graduation he was out with other students "sky-larking" in Lincoln, and he with six others were found with the King George sixpence in their pockets, and were forced to leave school and go into the army.

**D**R. DAVID A. WHITE, a prominent and successful physician of McLean County, residing at Oak Grove, White Oak Township, is a native of Jackson County, Ohio, and was born March 22, 1847. His parents were William and Anna (Wade) White, natives respectively of Maryland and Pennsylvania. William White was born in 1804, and Anna, his wife, July 4, 1812. They were married in Beaver County, Pa., Dec. 30, 1830, and resided there until 1845, when they removed to Jackson County, Ohio, in company with the family of Isaac Scott and Nancy Bryan and her father, Elisha Veasy. They came down the Ohio River on a flatboat. The water was very low, and they spent eleven days on the river from Logstown to Gallipolis, from which latter place they continued their journey in wagons.

The grandparents of our subject, Arthur and Elizabeth (Bell) White, were natives of County Down, Ireland, where they were reared, and mar-

ried in 1799. They emigrated to America early in their married life, and became the parents of fourteen children, as follows: Their first child died while crossing the ocean but was buried in America; John and Johnson (twins), William, Mary A., James, Alexander, Arthur, Ellen, Andrew (died in childhood), Samuel, David, Robert and Andrew. They all married and reared large families except Johnson, who never married. John, Johnson, William and Robert are deceased. James, Alexander, Arthur and Samuel are living in Pennsylvania. David, Andrew and Ellen, in Ohio; Mary A., in Kansas. The mother of these children died in 1827, at the age of fifty years. Arthur White settled in Beaver County, Pa., in an early day, where he followed farming and weaving. He was married three times, and was the father of nineteen children. His second marriage was with Jenny Horner in 1831, and they had two children; the first, a daughter, died when a few months old, and the second was a boy (imbecile), the mother dying a few days after his birth. The third wife of Arthur White was a widow, Mrs. Brown, with five children. The first birth of this marriage was twin boys, one of whom died when a few months old; the other, Joseph, grew to manhood and died in the Union army during the Rebellion. The second born, Elizabeth, is still living in Pennsylvania. His third wife lived to the advanced age of ninety years. Arthur White died in 1853, at the age of eighty-four years. His parents, Arthur and Mollie (Ingram) White, were natives of Ireland. They had two sons and one daughter, as follows: Henry, Mollie and Arthur.

The father of our subject, William White, died in Jackson County, Ohio, March 17, 1878; the mother is still living in that State, and is in her seventy-fifth year. The household circle included eleven children, eight sons and three daughters, of whom the record is as follows: Samuel married Miss Mary R. Ransom in 1855; they are now living in Jackson County, Ohio, and have become the parents of thirteen children, one deceased. James married Miss Amy Groosman, and they are living in Carroll County, Mo.; they have five sons and one daughter, two boys deceased. Arthur died in his youth; John W. married Miss Margaret Harper;

they had seven children, one deceased. William W. married Miss Millie Keiser; they have three sons and one daughter. Johnson A. married Miss Margaret Aeton, and they have six sons and three daughters living, one son dead. Alexander L. married Miss Jenny McDowell, and they became the parents of seven children, one now deceased, a twin daughter. Sarah E. and Mary E. are unmarried. Anna M. married Albert Kelley, and they now live in Missouri. The parents and all the children were at one time members of the United Presbyterian Church. William White was a ruling Elder in the church. In politics he was a staunch Republican, as were all his children.

Dr. White of this notice was the eighth son of his parents' children. He received his early education in a log school-house with slab benches for seats. It was his father's rule that his boys should stay at home and work for him on the farm until they were twenty years of age, that they might in a measure pay for their rearing, and the subject of our sketch stayed on the farm the required time. During the rebellion his brothers were all in the army, in consequence of which fact he was subjected to unusual exposure on the farm, which caused an abscess of the liver, from which trouble he did not recover for a year. His physicians and friends gave him up to die, but although he suffered a great deal and was brought to the verge of the grave, he recovered. This circumstance inclined him to the study of medicine. From this time on he used every means to secure a knowledge of the healing art. After leaving the farm he spent eight months as clerk in his brother's store, receiving his board and clothes as wages. Not being inclined to the mercantile business, and realizing that teaching was more in the line of his aspirations, he at once commenced teaching school. He continued teaching during the winter and attending the National Normal School at Lebanon, Ohio, during the summer, for about four years. He had by this time become a successful teacher, and it was with some difficulty that he broke off from this calling to pursue his higher calling of a physician. Having accumulated some money by teaching, he entered the Ohio University and took a preparatory course to the study of medicine. He read medicine under Dr

A. B. Monahan, of Jackson, Ohio, and entered the Medical College of Ohio at Cincinnati, from which institution he graduated March 1, 1875, and commenced the practice of his profession in Jackson County, Ohio. From there he removed to Scioto County, and after a residence of three years at each place, turned his steps westward, coming to this State in April, 1882, and locating in Oak Grove. Here he has become a prominent and valued citizen. Having to rely entirely on his own resources, not having a dollar excepting as he earned it, he had to encounter many difficulties in life, and therefore did not graduate until he was twenty-eight years of age.

Dr. White was married in Jackson County, Ohio, Sept. 10, 1874, to Miss Eliza E. Vandervort. Mrs. White accompanied her husband to Illinois in 1882, and has been his cheerful and faithful assistant in all his undertakings. Both are members of the United Presbyterian Church, and enjoy the friendship and association of the most cultured people of this vicinity. They have one daughter, Florence E., born Aug. 28, 1875.

James Vandervort, the father of Mrs. White of our sketch, was born April 20, 1818, and married Sept. 22, 1846, to Miss Eleanor Glison, who was born April 30, 1821. Both were natives of Pennsylvania, where Mr. Vandervort followed the trade of a carpenter and farmer until about the year 1866, when they removed to Jackson County, Ohio, where they now reside. Their family of ten children were named as follows: John G., Jane Y. (deceased), Robert (died in infancy), Robert A., Eliza E., James M., Martin (deceased), Albert A., Mary R. and Benjamin F. Dr. White is a Republican but favors prohibition of the liquor traffic.

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**N**EWTON J. BATTERSHELL, the successful jeweler of Heyworth, established himself in business here Nov. 15, 1877. Since that time he has devoted himself actively to his business and has met with deserved success. He commenced in a modest manner, but by industry and close attention to the preferences of his patrons, has built up a profitable and steadily increasing

trade. He commenced without capital, but is now the owner of a good brick building, and carries a fine line of first-class goods.

Mr. Battershell served his apprenticeship under that skillful and well-known watchmaker, Cyrus Stall, of Elgin, Ill., remaining with him three years. Later he worked as a "jonn" in Hillsdale, Mich., afterward in Chicago, whence he came to Heyworth, and determined to establish in business for himself. He came here without money and comparatively without friends, in fact his sole possessions consisted of a good reputation and an honest purpose to deal fairly, and he purposed starting in a business at which several others before him had failed. The result has shown what may be accomplished by resolution and perseverance.

The subject of this history was born in Bryan, Williams Co., Ohio, April 3, 1853. His father, Moses Battershell, was a shoemaker, and did business in Williams Center, Ohio, for a number of years. He died while still a young man, being only twenty-seven years of age, leaving a widow and two children. The mother died one year later. On the same night our subject was born his brother Edwin died. The sister remaining, whose name was Mary, became the wife of Eli Culbertson, and now lives near Grand Rapids, Ohio, on the banks of the Maumee River, where her husband is successfully engaged in farming. The maiden name of the mother was Cordelia Beam, and by her death our subject was left an orphan in early childhood. He was taken into the home of an uncle, John N. Ryan, of Bryan, Ohio, where he remained for some years, and received a common-school education. When thirteen years old, his aunt having died, he set out to make his own living, and was variously engaged until seventeen, when he entered upon an apprenticeship at his present trade.

Our subject was married on the 3d of May, 1883, in Heyworth, to Mrs. Aliee Battershell, the daughter of John Wakefield, of Randolph Township. Mrs. B. was born in this township, Nov. 9, 1854, pursuing her early studies in the schools of Heyworth, and completing them at a college in Ohio, and made her home with her parents until her first marriage to W. V. Battershell, a cousin of our subject. He was born and reared in Defiance County, Ohio,

and died at the home of his father in that county, with consumption, on the 1st of August, 1880. He had been engaged in the grocery trade in Heyworth, and was a successful and capable business man. Of this union there was one child, a daughter, Grace, who died a few months after her father. Our subject is Democratic in politics, and with his wife, is a worthy member of the Presbyterian Church.



**J**UDSON WILSON, Clerk of Dale Township, is pleasantly located on section 11, and is well known and highly respected as a public-spirited man who has filled many offices of trust in the township, and has fully merited the confidence which his fellow-citizens have imposed in him. He comes of an excellent family, noted for their enterprising public spirit, their education, intelligence and refinement. The subject of our sketch is a native of Madison County, N. Y., and was born on the 26th of December, 1829. His father, William Wilson, was of English birth and ancestry, having first opened his eyes to the light in Newcastle-upon-Tyne in 1791, being the son of Thomas and Mary Wilson, of the same country, and descended from a long and honorable line.

In 1801 Thomas Wilson, accompanied by his wife and seven children, emigrated to the United States, locating in Schenectady, N. Y. They only remained there for a brief period, however, and then, boarding a flatboat on the Mohawk River, proceeded to a point near the city of Utica, that State, which was then called Baggs Tavern. From there Thomas Wilson went into the wilderness and purchased a tract of heavy timber land near what has been since known as Fenner Corners, in Madison County. Here he cleared a farm, cultivated and improved the soil, and established a comfortable homestead, upon which he remained until his death, which occurred in 1825. His son William, the father of our subject, there grew to manhood and inherited forty acres of land from his father's estate. He purchased eight acres adjoining, erected a good set of buildings, and lived there until 1844, when he decided to remove to the West where he could secure a larger area of land. He started via

canal to Buffalo, thence by the lake to Chicago, where he purchased a span of horses and a wagon and then proceeded overland to McLean County.

After arriving here William Wilson purchased 160 acres of land on the southwest quarter of section 11. Of this there had been forty acres broken and fenced, and a good frame house finished with black walnut shingles, and sideboards of the same within and without. In 1858 he practically retired from active labor, rented his farm and removed to Bloomington, where he spent the remainder of his days, his death occurring in 1872. The wife of his youth was Miss Lydia Main, who was born in Ashford, Windham Co., Conn., Aug. 6, 1799. She was the daughter of Thomas and Luey (Tyler) Main, and the grand-daughter of Joseph and Luey (Fish) Tyler. She remained the faithful and affectionate companion of her husband through many years of changes and labors, and survived him until March 20, 1884, dying in Bloomington at the advanced age of over eighty-five years. Their household circle was completed by the birth of nine children, of whom the record is as follows: Mary became the wife of W. H. Holmes, and died in Bloomington, Ill.; Adelia married Samuel Landor, a pioneer of Bloomington, and they now live in Texas; Luey became the wife of Hiram Hart, of Utica, N. Y.; Lydia was married to Charles W. Godard, and died in Brooklyn, N. Y.; Walter departed this life while on a visit to Clinton, N. Y., and his remains were interred at Bloomington; Edward is a resident of Dale Township; A. Judson, the subject of our sketch, was next in order of birth; Elizabeth became the wife of C. C. Holmes, and died in Bloomington. The parents of Mr. Holmes were among the earliest pioneers of Bloomington, locating there in 1835, when the present flourishing city was but an humble hamlet of a few houses. Mr. H. was a carpenter and a skilled mechanic, and erected the first brick house in the town. Henry C. Wilson is a resident of St. Louis, Mo., but is now traveling in Europe.

A. Judson Wilson of our sketch was the third son of his parents, and spent his early years under the parental roof. He attended the district school and assisted his father in the lighter duties of the homestead until 1844, when he went to live with

his uncle, Edward Wilson, of Madison County, N. Y., with whom he remained for six years following. Then in 1850 he turned his face westward and came to Illinois, making his first location in McLean County. He commenced teaching school in Randolph Township, and the next summer taught in Dale Township. In the fall of 1851 he entered the employ of Robinson & Betts, who were engaged in general merchandise at Bloomington while the town was yet in its infancy. Their stock included almost everything that could be named for use about the farm and household, and young Wilson remained with these and other firms until 1862. He purchased the south half of his father's homestead in 1866, upon which he located, and has been engaged in farming since that time. His land was comparatively uncultivated, but he set himself industriously to work to improve its condition and raise the crops upon which he depended for his profits and livelihood. He was soon rewarded for his labors by the picture of smiling fields and growing grain, and as time passed on he added beauty to utility, erected a handsome residence and good out-buildings, planted fruit and shade trees, and is now possessed of one of the prettiest homesteads in McLean County. The land is subdivided by green and handsome hedges, and is well stocked with good breeds of domestic animals. He is engaged mostly in mixed husbandry, and is supplied with all the implements and appliances for carrying on agriculture after the most approved methods. A fine view of the residence of Mr. Wilson is shown in this work.

The marriage of A. Judson Wilson and Miss Ellen Cornell was celebrated in September, 1860. The wife of our subject was born in Providence, R. I., on the 24th of April, 1839, and was the daughter of Serril and Elisa (Hopkins) Cornell. Of this union there were born nine children, of whom the record is as follows: Nellie is the wife of John A. Cobbs and lives in Olney, Richland Co., Ill.; Charles W. is a resident of Wichita, Kan.; Edward M., Elizabeth, Abbie, Mary, Robert, Frank and Harry are at home with their parents.

Soon after coming to this county the natural abilities of our subject received due recognition, and he was called upon to fill the offices which usu-



ally devolved upon the leading and best qualified citizens. For nineteen years he has served as School Director, was Supervisor for a period of six years, and has held the position of Town Clerk for nearly two years. He is giving his children the advantages of a good education, the older ones having attended the Wesleyan Academy at Bloomington and the Normal School of Valparaiso, Ind., and Libbie is at the High School in Olney, Ill. The parents and four of their children are connected with the Baptist Church of Bloomington. Mr. Wilson is Republican in politics, uniformly casting his vote in support of the principles of that party, and in all respects is fulfilling the duties of a conscientious citizen.

Edward M. Wilson, son of our subject, is a young man of more than ordinary ability, a fine scholar, and possessed of literary and artistic talent. He has compiled a history of Dale Township with biographical sketches of early settlers, having printed it with a pen and illustrated it with lead pencil drawings of the pioneer homes and those of the present day. The whole makes a remarkably interesting volume, and is admired by everyone who has seen it. It not only shows great skill with the pen and pencil but is a marked illustration of persevering industry, the work expended upon it having consumed many weeks of careful and trying labor.

**D**ANIEL ROSE. Located on section 6, Cheney's Grove Township, lies one of the prettiest homesteads in McLean County, the property of the gentleman whose name stands at the head of this sketch. It consists of 220 acres of valuable land under a fine state of cultivation, with a handsome and substantial residence, a good barn, and all necessary out-buildings for the storing of grain and the shelter of stock. The fences and farm machinery are kept in good repair, and everything about the premises indicates the supervision of the progressive and enterprising farmer and citizen.

Mr. Rose is a native of this State, born in Clark County, Sept. 6, 1846. His parents were Ira B. and Julia (Martin) Rose, the former a native of

New York State, and the mother of Indiana. Ira B. Rose was born Oct. 6, 1805, spent his childhood and youth in his native State near the city of Rochester, and when about twenty years of age became a resident of Kentucky. There he followed the trade of a carpenter until 1831, then came to Illinois and located in Clark County. Here he followed his trade the remainder of his life, his death occurring Dec. 3, 1880. The mother was born Aug. 30, 1820, and was married to Mr. Rose in 1836. She departed this life at her home in Martinsville, Clark Co., Ill., on the 10th of August, 1855. She was a member of the Winebrenarian Church. The record of their nine children is as follows: Elim died in infancy; Martha J., born July 31, 1839, became the wife of David C. Myers; John N., born Jan. 31, 1842, married Miss Drury A. Tudor; William H., born April 25, 1844, married Miss Mary A. Ashby; Daniel of our sketch was the fifth child; Didama, born April 15, 1849, became the wife of George Harris; David, born April 20, 1851, married Miss Ellen McIntire; Emeline P., born Dec. 22, 1854, died April 31, 1866.

The subject of our sketch remained with his parents until the breaking out of the late war, and although only about sixteen years of age, enlisted as a soldier, becoming a member of Co. G, 123d Illinois Mounted Infantry. He was mustered into service at Martinsville, Clark County, and participated with his comrades in the battle of Stone River, and many other engagements and skirmishes. He served his full term of three years and received his honorable discharge at Springfield in 1865. He again took up his residence in Clark County, from which he removed in 1868 to McLean County.

Mr. Rose was married, on the 7th of November, 1876, to Miss Rhoda E. Tudor, who is a native of this county, born April 4, 1858. She is the daughter of Thomas H. and Sophia (Hunter) Tudor, the former a native of Madison County and the latter of Jessamine County, Ky. Thomas H. Tudor was born July 4, 1828, and departed this life at the home of our subject, Sept. 14, 1885. In 1846 he enlisted in the regular army and engaged in the Mexican War, being a member of the 1st Kentucky Regiment. He was at the battles of Buena Vista

and Palo Alto, and escaped unharmed. He then returned to his farming pursuits until the breaking out of the late Civil War, when he enlisted in the 11th Kentucky Cavalry, serving three years. Although not wounded he never recovered from the hardships which he endured as a soldier, his health being completely undermined.

The mother of Mrs. Rose was born March 24, 1833. The parental family included six children—Richard P., Thursey, Rhoda E., Drury A., and two who died in infancy. Mr. Tudor was a strict Republican in politics, and a member of McPherson Post No. 79, G. A. R., at Saybrook, Ill.

Daniel Rose came to McLean County in 1868, first locating at Funk's Grove, where he was employed as a farm laborer by the month for two years. He then rented a farm six years, and at the expiration of that time purchased 160 acres of land, to which he subsequently added, and formed his present fine homestead. His three children are as follows: Frankie was born Feb. 18, 1878, and died Jan. 19, 1879; Lora M. was born Nov. 10, 1880, and Charles E., Oct. 25, 1882.

The father of our subject was one of the earliest settlers of Clark County, this State, where he purchased a tract of land and laid a portion of it off into town lots, forming a village which was afterward named Martinsville, where he spent the remainder of his days. He was a Republican in politics, and was widely and favorably known throughout that section as a man who generously identified himself with its interests and worked for its prosperity and welfare. The beautiful residence of Mr. Rose is handsomely lithographed on another page of this volume.



**J**OSHUA J. GRAYSON. This gentleman is closely connected with the industrial interests of Saybrook, where he has been occupied for a number of years as a carpenter and joiner. He is a native of Dayton, Ohio, born Jan. 2, 1836, and the son of Joshua and Margaret (Mullen) Grayson, the father a native of Virginia, and the mother of Kentucky, and of Irish ancestry. Joshua Grayson followed the occupation of a

farmer all his life. He was a member of the Christian Church, and Democratic in politics until during the progress of the late war, when he considered he had reason to change his views, and became a zealous Republican. He departed this life at Maysville, Ky., in 1878. Mrs. Margaret Grayson survived her husband until the fall of 1883, and also died in Maysville, having been a member of the same church as her husband. Their five children were Joshua, Joseph, Mary, Margaret and Francis M. The first wife of Joshua Grayson, Sr., was a Miss Cory, who lived about ten years after their marriage, and they had three children—John, Reason and Elizabeth.

The subject of this history learned his trade in Kentucky, and with the exception of a short time spent at farming, has followed it up to the present time. He came to Illinois in 1864, and is considered one of the finest workmen in McLean County, besides possessing more than ordinary business ability and intelligence. He is an extensive reader, well posted in theology and politics, and possesses a large fund of general information. He is essentially a self-made man, and commenced life at the foot of the ladder, without a cent except his own earnings. Through the exercise of the strictest economy and untiring industry he has secured a fair competency, and is in possession of a good home.

Mr. Grayson was married, Feb. 9, 1865, to Miss Matilda J. Rigdon, a native of Lewis County, Ky., and born Dec. 5, 1842. She is the daughter of Eli T. and Dieie (Hurst) Rigdon, both natives of Kentucky. Mr. R. is still living, making his home in Lewis County, Ky., where he is prominently connected with the Christian Church as one of its Elders. He is Republican in politics, and in all respects a worthy and valued citizen. He has been twice married. The children of his first wife, the mother of Mrs. Grayson, were James, Matilda, William, Malinda, Clayborn, Lewis and Sanford. Mrs. Dieie Rigdon died, and Mr. Rigdon then married Miss Louisa Plummer. Of this union there were born five children—Ida, Taylor, Hattie, Jasper and Osear; the latter two are deceased.

Mr. and Mrs. Grayson have no children of their own, but adopted a niece, Miss Nora C. Rigdon, a bright and interesting girl of about fourteen years.





*S. Ferre*

Mr. and Mrs. G. are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Saybrook, of which our subject is a Trustee, and has contributed liberally toward its support. He has been President of the City Council for about six years, and served as School Trustee three years.

During the progress of the Rebellion Mr. Grayson enlisted as a Union soldier in the 10th Kentucky Cavalry, serving one year, during which time he participated in several general engagements, and was taken prisoner at the battle of Mt. Sterling. His exchange, however, was effected six weeks afterward; he then returned to his command. Mr. G. was Fourth Sergeant of his company. Previous to enlisting in the volunteer army he had been identified with the Home Guards of Fleming County. He has always been a staunch Republican in politics. A lithographic view of Mr. Grayson's residence is shown on another page.



**L**YMAN FERRE, a capitalist of Bloomington, whose portrait is shown on the opposite page, is one of its most highly respected citizens, and one to whom its intelligent people invariably turn in all matters affecting its general interests. His has been a busy and industrious life, upon which he can look back with satisfaction as having done a great work among the business and industrial interests of his adopted State, and contributed in a large measure to her wealth and prosperity.

Mr. Ferre was born in Springfield, Mass., in 1821. His father, Solomon Ferre, was also a native of the Bay State and a descendant of ancestors who came from the South of France and settled in this country at an early period in its history. His father, Solomon Ferre, married Miss Margaret Rumrill, of Springfield, Mass., who descended from English stock, and whose father's people were among those who first settled in Massachusetts. Solomon Ferre was a shoemaker by trade, and became one of the most skillful manufacturers in that locality, his business operations extending eventually over a large territory. He was a man of great energy and force of character, his perseverance being proverbial,

seldom abandoning anything which he undertook. He continued in business in Springfield, Mass., for many years and there spent the remainder of his days. The parental household included eight children, five sons and three daughters, only two of whom survive, our subject and his brother Goodman, now a resident of Bloomington. He was born in January, 1806, and was for many years a manufacturer of carriages and wagons in this city.

Lyman Ferre was the seventh child of his parents' family. He passed his boyhood in his native State, and in later years went to Western New York. From there, in 1840, he turned his steps westward, coming into Bloomington, a stranger without means or friends. He was willing to work at whatever his hands could find to do, and this, with his strong arms and honesty of purpose, soon secured for him the friendship of all honest men. He was variously employed until the fall of 1850, when, the gold excitement being at its height, he resolved to travel across the plains to California. He had saved what he could of his earnings and had a small amount of capital when starting for the Pacific slope. After arriving in Sacramento he sought the mining districts, and spent the following year searching for the yellow ore. This not proving as remunerative as he hoped, he determined to make a change and began to buy cattle, for which he exchanged a portion of gold dust. Some of these he allowed to run on the range and fatten on the grass, then sold to freighters at a good price. After sufficient experience in this manner of living he concluded to return within the bounds of civilization, and started for the old camping-grounds in Illinois, via the Isthmus of Panama to New Orleans, thence by steamer to St. Louis where, after arriving, the crew were not allowed to land under twenty-four hours on account of cholera. After finally reaching terra firma, our subject made his way to Pekin and thence to Bloomington.

Here, in 1852, Mr. Ferre opened up a carriage and wagon shop, and engaged in the manufacture of all kinds of road vehicles. His energy, industry and good judgment soon placed him on the high road to prosperity, and it was not long before he was enabled to provide twenty men with employment. His first shops were located on the corner

of Front and Center streets. In August, 1856, the stock and building were destroyed by fire and Mr. Ferre lost heavily. He did not sit down to mourn, however, but immediately erected some cheap sheds, and getting together stock and tools, commenced again. He continued in this manner for two years, meeting with success, and then commenced building a brick structure which was to be three stories in height, covering an area of 22x66 feet. Into this he removed soon after its completion. His manufactures increasing steadily in numbers and quality, he was then obliged to put up another building of the same size in which to accommodate his extensive business. This he occupied until 1876, and then put up the structure now familiarly known as the post-office block, which is three stories in height, and 44x85 feet. The first floor of this is occupied by the post-office and the third floor is devoted to the use of the Masons. Besides these buildings and other valuable city property he is the proprietor of a good farm, and is a large stockholder in the People's Bank of Bloomington, with which he has been connected since its organization.

In 1840 Mr. Ferre made the trip by wagon and horse-team from Springfield, Mass., to Bloomington, Ill., camping out. In 1850 he made another overland trip, from Bloomington to California, by horses to Salt Lake, thence by ox-team the remainder of the way. In the meantime he had made a round trip from Bloomington to the Genesee Valley, N. Y., camping out both ways. He started out with a good team and wagon, a few provisions, and \$12 in money, and made the journey on that amount to Western New York.

Mr. Ferre was united in marriage with Miss Jeanette E. Hayes, of Bloomington, in 1841. Mrs. F., like her husband, comes from New England, having been born in Connecticut in 1823. Of this union there have been three children, two daughters and one son: Ada died when about eighteen years of age; Belle is the wife of William G. Taylor, a prominent attorney of Cleveland, Ohio; the son, George, died in infancy. The residence of our subject is a handsome and convenient structure, finely finished and furnished, where Mr. F. and his family dispense a generous hospitality to scores of friends, embracing the most cultured people of

the city. Mr. Ferre is a member of Bloomington Lodge No. 43, A. F. & A. M., Chapter No. 24, and De Molay Commandery, and Chicago Consistory, having taken the 32d degree in Masonry. In politics he is a staunch Republican and has been since the organization of that party.

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**J**OSEPH A. PITTS, one of the most skillful and intelligent farmers of Mt. Hope Township, and a gentleman of more than ordinary capacity, is possessed of an excellent education, is an extensive reader, and keeps himself well posted in regard to the important questions of the day. He has made a science of his farming operations, and while carrying on the tillage of the soil has at the same time cultivated his intellect, and in this vicinity is looked upon as one eminently fitted to be a leader and counselor in the ordinary affairs of life.

Mr. Pitts is a native of Bristol County, Mass., and first opened his eyes to the light in the town of Dighton on the 14th of November, 1823. He comes from a line of excellent ancestry, his father having been Hon. Joseph Pitts, who was also born in Dighton, Mass., on the 14th of July, 1794. His grandfather, Capt. George Pitts, of English ancestry, was a native of the same locality, and of substantial English ancestry. He was a ship carpenter by trade, and at one time owned a vessel which operated in the merchant service. During the struggles of the colonies for their independence, he engaged in the Revolutionary War; when peace was declared, he returned home and died in his native town of Dighton, on the 31st of October, 1839. He was an energetic business man, and established a store in Savannah, Ga., where he spent a part of each winter.

Joseph Pitts, the father of our subject, in early life learned the trade of a shoemaker, but abandoned it after a short time. Thereafter he spent his winters at his father's store in Savannah until 1833. Previous to this he had been appointed Collector of Customs by President Jackson for the Fall River District, and served until the election of Gen. Taylor as President, when he returned to his

home in Dighton. He was the owner of a small farm there, and afterward for some years devoted his time to the culture of his land. He served a number of years as Justice of the Peace, and represented his district in the State Legislature for four terms. In 1868 he came to McLean County, Ill., and the following year engaged in the hardware trade, until 1874, when he retired from active business, and lived with his son, our subject, until his death, which occurred Jan. 30, 1878.

The father of our subject was twice married, his first wife being Mrs. Elizabeth Slade, who was born in Somerset, Bristol Co., Mass., in March, 1795. She departed this life on the 20th of November, 1839, leaving two children: John, who was born May 20, 1820, became a sailor, and died at sea in 1843; Joseph A. is the subject of our sketch. The second wife of Joseph Pitts, Sr., was Miss Harriet Briggs, to whom he was married Nov. 25, 1840; she also was born in Dighton, Mass., Nov. 22, 1809, and after becoming the mother of one child, died Nov. 10, 1886. Her son, James K., now lives in Topeka, Kan., where he is engaged in the hardware business.

Joseph A. Pitts was placed in school at an early age, and continued his studies uninterruptedly until he was fifteen years old. He was then apprenticed to the blacksmith trade at Dighton, Mass., and after one year of service met with an accident which deprived him of the sight of one eye, the ball having been pierced by a piece of steel which flew from the anvil. He suspended operations one year, then went back to his trade, this time at Mansfield, Mass., for two years, during which he completed his apprenticeship, and worked as a journeyman for the three years following. He then went to Taunton, where he was employed in the locomotive shop for a short time, and was afterward placed in charge of a stationary engine at Dighton, where he remained until 1849. Then, in company with twenty-five others, he purchased a sailing-vessel, organized a company, and on the 9th of March started for California, and while passing the Straits of Magellan, on the 26th of June, they were shipwrecked and their vessel destroyed. The crew was picked up by a Boston brig, and taken to Callao, Peru, whence the American Minister sent them on

to San Francisco. Mr. Pitts there entered the mines, and spent one year searching for the yellow ore, and then with the assistance of twenty-one mules, packed goods from the trading-posts to the mines. He remained at the mines selling the goods, and his partner attended to the transportation. He was thus employed until February, 1852, and then started homeward via the Isthmus to New York, and thence by rail to Dighton.

On the 24th of March, 1852, Mr. Pitts was married to Mrs. Betsey V. Briggs (*nee* Peck), and on the 24th of May started for Chicago where he expected to meet his partner from San Francisco. Their plan had been to purchase horses and take them across the plains, but his partner having been taken sick, the project was abandoned. Mr. Pitts then came to Bloomington to look at the country in that vicinity, and concluded that it would be a good place in which to locate. There was some Government land and a great many unimproved claims for sale at from \$1.50 to \$3 per acre, much of it being owned by Eastern parties. In June, Mr. Pitts returned to the East, and from parties there purchased 640 acres of land lying on sections 27, 28, 33 and 34, of what is now Mt. Hope Township, and in October he returned to McLean County, accompanied by his wife.

The land which Mr. Pitts had purchased was unimproved, and he and his wife set up housekeeping in a rented dwelling, which they occupied for a year, Mr. Pitts in the meantime erecting a frame house 16x26 feet in dimensions, and hauling the lumber from Pekin, forty miles distant. In 1854, the residence being completed, Mr. Pitts and his wife moved into it on the 14th of March. Mr. Pitts then engaged vigorously in the improvement and cultivation of his land, and established the homestead which he at present owns and occupies. It is now all improved and supplied with good buildings. The first little house has given place to a handsome and commodious farm residence which, within and without, gives evidence of cultivated tastes and ample means. The barns and out-buildings correspond with the residence, and the estate presents one of the most attractive spots in the landscape of the Mississippi Valley. It is especially adapted to stock-raising, and to this Mr. Pitts

has given considerable attention. The farm is well watered by Sugar Creek, a never-failing stream which passes through it. It is supplied with the requisite amount of timber, and adjacent to the residence are orchards of fine fruit, and patches of choice shrubbery. He has continued to add to his farm estate until it now comprises 800 acres.

Mr. Pitts was deprived of the partner of his youth, by death, on the 24th of November, 1867. They had become the parents of four children, as follows: John J. is a practicing attorney of Bloomington; Elizabeth S. is an invalid and remains in her father's home; Lemira is the wife of Emmons Snow, of Mt. Hope Township; Augustus D. is engaged as clerk for a druggist of Brooklyn, N. Y. Mr. Pitts was the second time married, on the 16th of May, 1876, to Miss Augusta A. Starbuck, who was born in Cumberland County, Ill., in 1851. Of this union there have been born five children—Herbert A., Sarah A., Lewis E., Ralph L. and George W.

Mr. Pitts has always been Democratic in politics, and cast his first presidential vote for James K. Polk. He is one of the representative men of McLean County, and in all respects is fulfilling the obligations of a man of influence, and a valued citizen. A fine lithographic view of the residence of Mr. Pitts is shown elsewhere in this work.



**J**OHN CARLYLE, widely and favorably known as the proprietor of Pleasant Park Farm, is one of the self-made men of the Prairie State, and has in all his operations distinguished himself as one of the most worthy representatives of his excellent Scottish ancestry. He was born in Dumfriesshire, Scotland, Feb. 18, 1822, on a farm named "Millbank," in the parish of St. Mungo. His father, Walter Carlyle, and his grandfather, John Carlyle, were natives of the same parish, the latter being a farmer and stock-raiser and a man of note. He spent his entire life in his native parish. His son Walter was reared on the farm, and became an expert plowman, taking the prize at several county fairs. His fame became so great

that finally no one would compete with him, and he was then appointed one of the judges at these trials. He also spent his entire life in his native country. His wife, the mother of our subject, was formerly Miss Jeanette Bell, a native of his own parish, her father, Thomas Bell, being formerly the owner of Millbank Farm. This lady also died in her native parish. The parental household included six children, of whom the subject of our sketch was the second, and the only one of the family who came to America.

John Carlyle was reared to farming pursuits, and remained under the parental roof until 1855, when he married, rented land, and commenced farming on his own account. He operated thus for six years, and then, in May, 1861, started for the United States, accompanied by his wife and three children. After a voyage of four weeks they landed in New York City, the head of the family possessing but a few dollars. They made no stay there, but proceeded directly westward to Illinois, and located in this county, where the husband and father was employed as a farm laborer at 50 cents per day. In 1862 he rented land in Funk's Grove Township, and his first crop of corn yielded him 15 cents per bushel. He occupied that farm five years. Corn in the meantime had advanced in price till it was worth \$1.10 in Bloomington. Mr. Carlyle, however, had not confined his operations to grain growing exclusively, but purchased calves and fed them until, in 1867, he was possessed of a good herd of cattle. The most of these he sold at a good price, and with the proceeds purchased a tract of land in Belleflower Township, which included the north half of section 25. There was a small frame house on the place, and in this the family lived for a time, and then Mr. C. erected a more commodious dwelling. He has also a good barn and other necessary out-buildings. From time to time he added to his landed possessions until finally he became the owner of 560 acres of land, which he improved, and continued its cultivation until 1885, and then practically retired from active labor.

The marriage of our subject and Miss Mary Smith was celebrated at the birthplace of the bride, Linn Hall Farm, in the parish of Tundergarth, Dumfriesshire, March 6, 1855. Mrs. Carlyle was



born Feb. 7, 1827. Of this union there were born seven children, the record of whom is as follows: Ellen B., who married Robert Ritchie; Walter, who married Miss Edith Warner, and John, who married Miss Annie Smith, all live in Belleflower Township; Jane became the wife of Samuel Pollock, and they reside in Foolsland, Champaign County, this State; Margaret died Oct. 10, 1864, in infancy; Jemima died April 27, 1865, in infancy, and Mary J. M. died June 12, 1877, at the age of eleven years. Mrs. Mary Carlyle departed this life on the 17th of August, 1881, deeply mourned by her husband and a large circle of friends. Mr. and Mrs. C. connected themselves with the United Presbyterian Church many years ago, our subject being one of the three who organized the Belleflower Church, of which Rev. J. G. Fairley is the pastor. Politically Mr. Carlyle is a staunch supporter of the Republican party.



**C**HARLES E. BISHOP owns and occupies a beautiful farm of 160 acres finely located on section 29. Mr. Bishop is a native of McLean County and was born and reared on the homestead of his father, where the latter first located after becoming a resident of the Prairie State. The birth of our subject occurred Jan. 23, 1841. His childhood and youth were spent after the manner of most farmers' boys until he had attained to years of manhood. He had received careful home training and a fair education in the district schools. At this time, the war coming on, he was one of the first to volunteer his services to aid in the preservation of the Union. In common with hundreds of others he responded to the first call for troops but family matters prevented his entering the service until August, 1862. Mr. Bishop enlisted in the 94th Ill. Vol. Inf., Co. B, under command of Capt. McFarland. The regiment first proceeded to the southwest and from there to the Gulf States. Our subject was employed in detached service and consequently did not come in direct contact with the enemy. Much of the time he was engaged in driving the ambulance, and at the battle of Prairie Grove, Ark., received the body of the first

Union man who was wounded at that point who had to be hauled away, and the first one shot outside the ranks. Our subject left his wagon and ran through the thickest of the fight to rescue his comrade. He also transported the first man who died, of Company A, to Rolla, Mo. Arrangements had been made by the company before leaving that the dead should be returned to their homes, and in accordance with this our subject accompanied the body spoken of from Springfield to Rolla, Mo., a distance of 120 miles. In due time Mr. Bishop acted as Orderly. He served bravely and faithfully until the close of the war and was mustered out at Galveston, Tex., July 27, 1865. Before his enlistment his younger brother, William J., had entered the service, and at the battle of Jackson, Miss., was wounded by a gunshot which passed through his head from the side of the nose to the base of the brain. This wound, however, did not prove fatal. The victim recovered, returned home, and is now Deputy Sheriff of this county.

At the close of the war our subject returned home to Randolph Township, and on Jan. 11, 1866, was united in marriage with Miss Frances Lake, at Heyworth, this county. Mrs. B. was born in Sangamon County, Ill., Sept. 2, 1841, and from the time she was fifteen years of age was a resident of McLean County. Her father, John Lake, a farmer, was a native of Virginia and removing to this county, departed this life in 1872. The mother, a native of Virginia, is still living in Heyworth at the advanced age of sixty-seven years. Mrs. Bishop is a careful and systematic housewife and takes a pardonable pride in her handsome home, whose neatness and attractiveness within is due to her own refined tastes and industry. By her marriage with our subject she became the mother of eleven children, eight living, as follows: Netta, Edward, Albert, Frank, Ella, Jessie, Ora and Ethel.

The parental history of our subject is closely identified with that of Randolph Township. His father, M. L. Bishop, who is now spending his last days in Heyworth, with the exception of a few years has been a resident of the county since 1841. In 1883 he made a trip to California. He at one time owned a large body of land in this township. The mother, formerly Miss Matilda J. McRoberts,

was of Scottish ancestry and parentage and is now deceased. The parental household included four children; William, whom we have before spoken of, shouldered his musket at seventeen years of age and went to fight for his country; Emeline, Mrs. Merryman, and Mary, Mrs. D. O. Myers, are now deceased.



**M**RS. SARAH SLOANE. This lady is the widow of Ezra Sloane, and occupies the homestead which her husband established in 1854, in Danvers Township. Ezra Sloane was a native of Maryland and was born Oct. 18, 1816. He departed this life in the above-named township on the 5th of November, 1884. Mr. Sloane received his early education in his native State, and remained there until twenty years old. He then removed westward to Pickaway County, Ohio, where in due time he was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Davidson, their wedding taking place in March, 1840.

Mrs. Sarah (Davidson) Sloane was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, Sept. 26, 1816, where she spent the days of her childhood and youth. After her marriage to Ezra Sloane and the birth of four children they emigrated to Illinois. Mr. S. purchased eighty acres of land in Danvers Township, this county, and in his subsequent farming and business transactions was greatly prospered. As time passed on he added to his acreage, and at the time of his death was the owner of 320 acres of finely cultivated land, with residence, barns and out-buildings, of tasteful and substantial character. Mr. Sloane, after the war, took no part in politics, although he was well read and informed, and liberal in his political and religious views. He was a prominent and useful citizen, and contributed his full share toward the building up of the various interests of this section.

Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Sloane there were born four children, of whom one died unnamed and another, a daughter, Jane, died at the age of two years and five months; Magdalene, now Mrs. David R. Harris, lives in Danvers Township, and has two children—P. Eugenie and N. Maud; George N. was the youngest of the family, and was born May

16, 1852. He married Miss Julia A. Smith, Feb. 15, 1877; his wife was born in Tazewell County, Aug. 1, 1855, and is the daughter of John and Elizabeth (Haybarger) Smith, natives respectively of Maryland and Illinois. Her parents were of German parentage, and are now among the wealthy families of Tazewell County. Mr. George Sloane is now largely engaged in the breeding of Short-horn cattle, of which he has a herd numbering sixty-three fine animals. He also operates in draft horses, of which he has some fine specimens. He is one of the promising citizens of this section, has held the offices of School Director and Deacon of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, of which he has been a member for twenty years, and with which his wife and mother are also connected. He is Republican in politics, and thoroughly interested in everything tending to the welfare of his community. He is the father of one child, Edwin, born Nov. 30, 1882.



**J**AMES M. HALLETT, deceased, was a highly respected resident of Bloomington, enjoying the esteem and confidence of a host of friends. Mr. Hallett was a native of England, his birth taking place in 1814. His parents were Joseph and Sophia (Meech) Hallett, natives of the same country, the father being a baker by trade, which business he followed the greater part of his life. They had a family of three children, all of whom are deceased. Our subject attended school until nine years of age, and then began to assist his father in the bakery, continuing with him until twenty-five years of age. At that time his father died, and the son carried on the business until 1852. He then departed from his native land to the New World, first locating in Cincinnati, Ohio, where he remained five years engaged at his trade. In 1857 he came to Bloomington, still pursuing his early occupation. In 1861 he purchased the home where his family now reside; he was successful in his business operations, and made for himself a good reputation as a thorough business man and reliable citizen.

James M. Hallett was united in marriage with

Miss Lydia Davy in 1837, in his native England. Mrs. H. was the daughter of William and Lydia (Raindel) Davy, also natives of England, and the father a tailor by trade. The parental family embraced seven children, of whom Mrs. Hallet is the only one living. By her union with our subject she became the mother of eight children, three of whom died in childhood; the record is as follows: William married Miss Emma Hartley, and they have four children—Carriè, William, Harley and Ethel; Joseph, a physician, married Miss Ella Rodenbeck, and they have two children—James and Addison; James married Miss Elizabeth Wilson, and they have had three children—Rose (deceased), Edith and Edna; Lydia is a teacher in the McLean County public schools; Elizabeth is at home with her parents. Mr. Hallett departed this life Feb. 21, 1887, aged seventy-two years. He was a Republican in politics, and a member of the I. O. O. F. Mrs. H. is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

**M**ARQUIS L. QUINN, one of the progressive young farmers of Bloomington Township, is successfully engaged in cultivating 250 acres of land, and has a handsome farm residence located in the southwest part of the township on section 31. Mr. Quinn was born upon the homestead where he now resides, April 17, 1860. He received his primary education in this township and completed his studies in the High School at Shirley. He took possession of the farm in the spring of 1882, and has operated it successfully since that time.

Mr. Quinn was married at the home of the bride's parents in Funk's Grove, to Miss Addie, the daughter of H. L. Jackson, who has been a resident of Funk's Grove Township for a period of eighteen years. Mr. Jackson came from Kentucky to this county soon after his marriage with Miss Margaret Thomas, who became the mother of nine children, of whom the wife of our subject was the sixth in order of birth. Mrs. Addie Quinn was born in Shirley, this county, Oct. 1, 1863, and remained

with her parents until her marriage. Of her union with our subject there have been born two children—Lee, who died when eight months old, and Georgia L., born Dec. 6, 1886.

Mr. Quinn was the eighth of a family of ten children. His parents, Sidney M. and Sallie A. Quinn, came from Kentucky in 1851, and the father died at his home in this township in 1882, having been a resident of the Prairie State for a period of thirty years. The mother is still living, making her home at No. 907 West Wood street, Bloomington.

Since his marriage Mr. Quinn has been conducting the affairs of his mother's large farm, and has given much attention to the raising of fine stock. He is a solid Republican in politics, and with his wife, a worthy member of the Christian Church.

**J**OHAN HAY, one of the honored pioneers of the Prairie State, came to Illinois in the spring of 1834, and has witnessed with keen interest and satisfaction its rapid development and prosperity. During a long residence in Danvers Township he has become widely and favorably known as one of its most reliable and valued citizens. He is now far down the sunset hill of life and remembers many of its interesting events with vivid distinctness, possessing all his faculties to a remarkable degree. He has been a member of the Christian Church for a period of over fifty-five years. He owns and occupies a fine homestead of 120 acres of valuable land, and is an ever welcome and familiar figure in the vicinity which has known him so long and known nothing of him but good.

The subject of our sketch was born in Washington County, Va., March 18, 1797, and is consequently now over ninety years of age. He is the son of Peter and Elizabeth (Finley) Hay, natives respectively of Massachusetts and Virginia. His mother was born in Augusta County in the latter State, and Peter Hay, in Boston, Mass. The latter, when a young man, went to Richmond, Va., and there followed the business of a tinner, with which he was occupied at intervals through life, in the

meantime also being engaged in farming pursuits. After their marriage the parents removed to Logan County, Ky., in about 1801, and resided there for nearly twenty years. Thence they removed to Christian County in the same State, where the father died in 1824, and the mother followed him after a few months. They were both connected with the old-school Presbyterians. Their children were named as follows: Jane B., Mary F., Marcia S., Rachel, Catharine, John and George F., the two latter being the only representatives of the family living.

Mr. Hay remained under the parental roof until after attaining his majority, receiving a common-school education and learning to spell from the "Old Dillworth." In the spring of 1834 he came West, in the meantime having been married, and purchased a section of land near his present home, to which he removed his family the following spring. His marriage occurred in October, 1821, when he was twenty-four years of age, the maiden of his choice being Miss Seley Killebrew, who remained his companion for a period of nineteen years, and departed this life on the 9th of August, 1840. Their children were: Samuel S., Peter G., Sarah E., John W., Mary J., Susan G., Seley E., Joseph E., and one daughter who died unnamed.

Mr. Hay for his second wife married Mrs. Sarah Daniels, of South Grove, Ill., who was born Sept. 5, 1810. This lady died on the 22d of February, 1858, leaving one child, Alpha, who was born March 5, 1843. In 1860 our subject married Mrs. Cynthia Rowell, the mother of Hon. J. H. Rowell, Member of Congress, and this lady died Nov. 4, 1867. Of the four children of Mr. Hay living, all are residents of Illinois. Soon after coming here John Hay became actively interested in the affairs of this section. At the time of his arrival, the township was not organized, although a Justice of the Peace was required, and he filled the position with credit to himself and satisfaction to all concerned. He was also School Director and Township Trustee for a number of years.

Susan G. Hay, a daughter of our subject, who was born in Illinois in 1835, became the wife of George Moe on the 5th of January, 1868; the latter was born in Michigan in 1837, and during the late

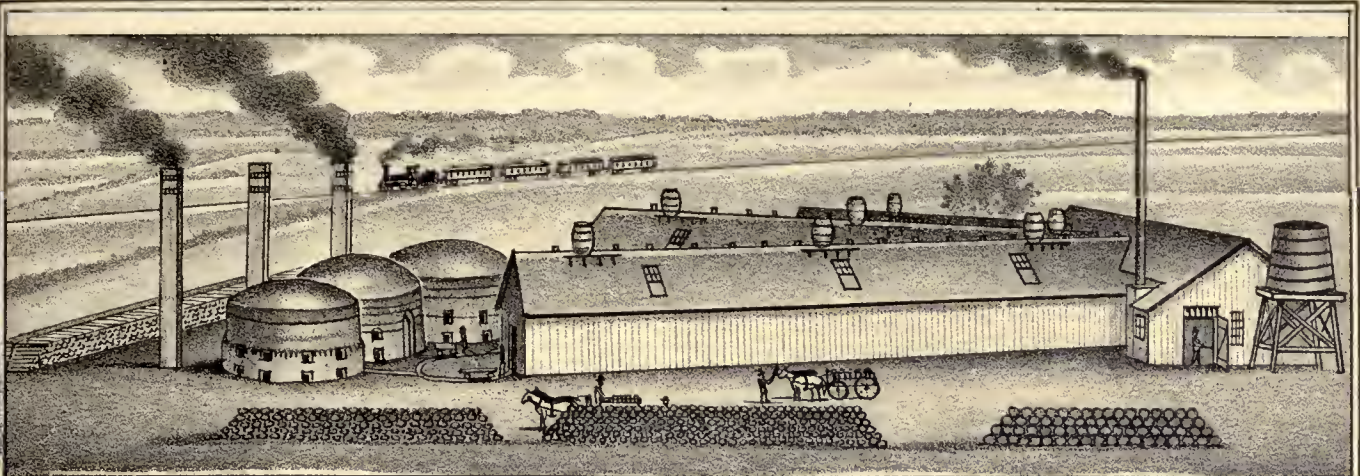
war enlisted as a Union soldier in the 4th Michigan Cavalry. He was wounded at the battle of Kenesaw Mountain and afterward, on account of this, received his discharge and is now drawing a small pension from the Government. Mr. and Mrs. Moe are now living in Colorado, the former being engaged in mining. Mr. M. is Republican in politics and belongs to the Masonic fraternity, being a member of a Bloomington Lodge. Mrs. Moe belongs to the Order of the Eastern Star and is also a member in good standing of the Christian Church.



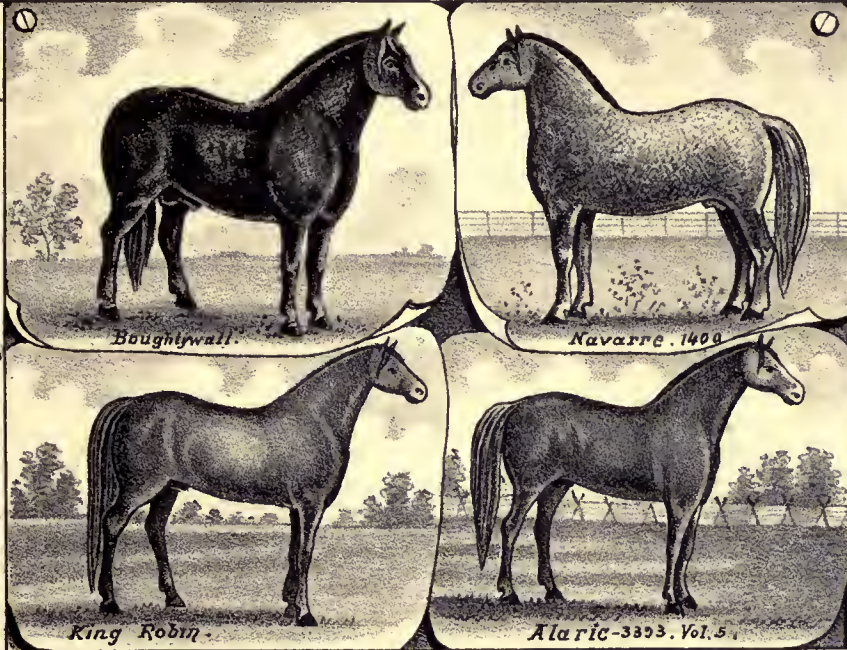
**B**ENJAMIN F. NICKERSON is engaged in the livery business and as a breeder of fine horses. He owns at present the celebrated Almont King, a roadster stallion, destined to be the finest specimen of his kind in this locality. He was sired by the well-known Mammoit, dam by Powers Denmark, and was foaled June 9, 1881. This animal weighs about 1,150 pounds, is a bright, rich bay in color and a model of beauty and symmetry. The record of his half-brother, Louis R., is 2:23½. Mr. N. also has in his possession the beautiful horse, Paul Bego, the 2d. This is a dark bay, sixteen and one-half hands high, eight years of age, and weighs 1,400 pounds, with the kindest disposition of the breed of which he is a member. The other animals in the stable of Mr. Nickerson are of the best and most popular breeds, and their proprietor fully understands their care and requirements. He has a genuine love for his business, and is fast making for himself an enviable reputation as a breeder and a judge of fine horses.

Mr. Nickerson has been a resident of Heyworth since the fall of 1881, when he established his business. He had previously been engaged in farming in Funk's Grove Township, on section 31, where he located in March, 1875, upon a tract of land of eighty-three acres which he had purchased and which was well improved. He yet retains his farm property, and has other real estate in the village of Heyworth.

Mr. Nickerson was born in Randolph Township, Sept. 8, 1851. His father, Albert N., was one of the early pioneers of McLean County, coming here



TILE WORKS OF BARTELS & STOLL - LEXINGTON, ILLS.



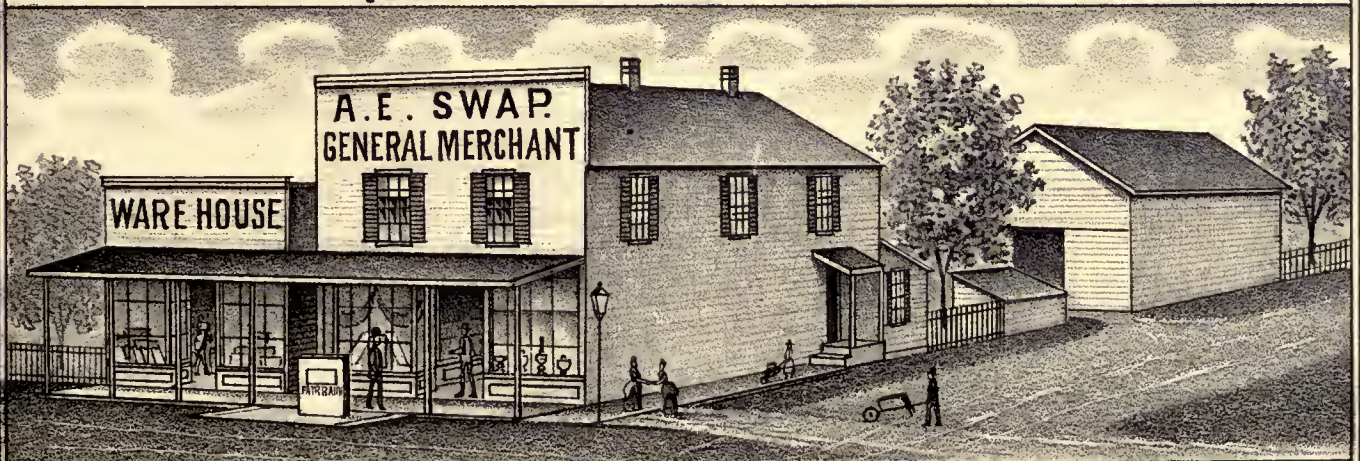
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King Robin.

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D. VANCE & SON, { BREEDERS & DEALERS OF NORMAN, GLYDE, } CHENOA, ILLS.  
BELGIAN AND TROTGING HORSES



RESIDENCE & BUSINESS PROPERTY OF A. E. SWAP, COR. HAZEL & SECOND STS., WESTON, ILLS.



nearly half a century ago, and establishing himself in Randolph Township. He had previously with his family spent a few months in Missouri, which was then an unbroken wilderness through which Indians and other wild game roamed in plenty. The family lived in a covered wagon, intending at first to locate there, but the outlook was too discouraging and they recrossed the river to this county. There were then only a few settlers in this locality, but the father of our subject believed that it would develop into something great in the future, and with the sturdy resolution common to the pioneers of that day resolved to make his location here. He cultivated and improved his tract of land in Randolph Township and established a comfortable home for his family, remaining there until 1871, when he removed to Heyworth and lived retired from active labor until his death, which occurred in November, 1886, when he was seventy-seven years old.

The father of our subject was one of the most highly respected and substantial citizens of Randolph Township, an Elder in the Christian Church, and Democratic in politics. His wife, formerly Miss Ellen Cook, was his faithful and devoted companion and is still living, making her home with her children in Heyworth. She was the sympathizer of her husband in all his undertakings, and with him united with the Christian Church, being noted for her womanly sympathies and kind deeds.

The subject of this history was the seventh child and youngest son of a family of ten, seven sons and three daughters. Of these there are yet six sons living, but the daughters are all deceased. Mr. N. was reared in the manner common to most farmers' boys, and received only three months' schooling annually, until he was eighteen years old. He was reared to habits of industry, and at an early age commenced to work upon the farm, remaining under the parental roof until his marriage, which occurred Feb. 11, 1875, the maiden of his choice being Miss Fidelia A. Washburn, who was a native of Heyworth and born Aug. 7, 1853. Mrs. N. received her education in her native village, became a teacher of music before her marriage, and has since occasionally applied herself to this profession. She possesses much talent in this direction, being a

skillful performer on the piano. Mr. and Mrs. N. have become the parents of six children, four now deceased—Maudie, Claude, Homer and an infant unnamed. Those surviving are Lena M. and John A. Mrs. Nickerson is a member in good standing of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. N. is an energetic and straightforward business man; politically he is a reliable Democrat.



JESSE OGDEN, a well-known citizen of McLean County and a large land-owner and progressive farmer of Money Creek Township, and also Supervisor of that township, resides on section 32, where he is engaged in general farming. His parents were Benjamin and Sarah Ogden, the former born in what was known as the "Pickaway Claim," Ohio, and the latter in Pennsylvania. The parents resided in Pickaway County, Ohio, where the father was engaged in farming, and whence they removed to Fayette County, that State, and there resided until the fall of 1830, when they came to this county, making the trip overland. They settled on section 28, Money Creek Township, and there the father continued his labor as a farmer until his death, which event took place Sept. 27, 1873. The mother died in the same township in the latter part of October, 1883. Six of their ten children lived to attain the age of maturity, namely, Maria, Amanda, Jesse, Margaret, Elizabeth and Mary. Maria is the widow of Dr. Ethan McAfferty, who died in Money Creek Township Nov. 27, 1884, and she is still living in that township; Amanda is the widow of Jonathan McAfferty, who died Dec. 11, 1863; Margaret is the wife of Wade Hayworth, a resident of Money Creek Township; Elizabeth married J. W. Stover, a farmer of that township, and Mary died in the same township.

Jesse Ogden was born in the township in which he at present resides, July 26, 1834. He was reared to manhood on the old homestead of his father and received his education in the schools of this county. He has known no other vocation in life than that of a farmer, and is at present the owner of 500 acres of valuable land, nearly all of which is under

an advanced state of cultivation. He has held the office of Supervisor of Money Creek Township for several years, and has also been Assessor of the township for two terms. Socially he is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and in politics votes the Republican ticket.



**M**RS. SARAH B. AYERS, widow of Rev. Hiram Ayers, formerly of Bloomington City, occupies a pleasant and comfortable home at No. 610 East Mulberry street, and has been a resident of this city since 1875. Rev. Hiram Ayers was born in Pennsylvania in 1840, being the son of Benjamin and Lucinda (Wass) Ayers, also natives of the Keystone State, and engaged in farming pursuits. They came to Tazewell County, Ill., in 1842, and located upon a farm which remained their permanent home. There the father departed this life in 1880; the mother is still living on the old homestead.

Hiram Ayers remained an inmate of his father's house until seventeen years of age, and then came to Bloomington for the purpose of attending Wesleyan University. From this institution he graduated in 1863, and soon afterward became a circuit preacher of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He was devotedly attached to the cause of Christ, and continued to preach and labor for the Master until his death, in 1870. He was a man possessed of the rare faculty of making and retaining friends, and at his death was universally lamented.

The marriage of Rev. Hiram Ayers and Miss Sarah S. Bishop took place in Bloomington, Nov. 17, 1864. Mrs. Ayers was born in 1843, in Old Town Township, McLean County, and was the daughter of William and Margaret (Lake) Bishop, both natives of Virginia. They came to Ohio in 1821, and engaged in farming until 1833. They then removed to Illinois and located in Old Town Township, which remained their home during the lifetime of the father, his death having occurred in 1855. Mr. Bishop at one time was an extensive land-holder, and purchased in all about 2,000 acres. He was one of the substantial and prosperous men of his community, and in all respects a

useful citizen. The mother of Mrs. Ayers, after the death of her husband, removed to Bloomington, where she now lives at the advanced age of eighty-three years. The parental family of eight children are all living, and were named Harvey, Henry, Samuel, George, William, Elizabeth (Mrs. Roop), Susan (Mrs. Rayburn), and Sarah B., our subject.

Mr. and Mrs. Ayers became the parents of two children—Albert E., born in 1868, and Lottie V., in 1869. The subject of this history is a most estimable lady, greatly esteemed by her friends and associates, and earnestly devoted to her children and her home.



**A**B. IVES, a worthy member of the legal profession in Bloomington, is a native of the Empire State, and was born in Chautauqua County, N. Y., in 1816. He is the son of Almond and Nancy (Tombling) Ives, natives respectively of Vermont and New York, the father being engaged in farming in the latter State during the earlier years of his life. He came with his family to Illinois in 1834, settling in Kendall County, near Yorkville, where he had purchased 300 acres of Government land. This remained the home of the family until 1854. They then came to this county and lived in Bloomington three years, thence removed to Amboy, Lee County, where the mother died in 1861, and the father in 1863. Of their ten children, seven are now living—Almond B., Simeon P., William E., Franklin B., Enos J., Sarah M. (Mrs. Tooker), and Nancy M. (Mrs. Sears). Mr. Ives was County Judge of Kendall County, and Justice of the Peace for thirty years; he also served as County Surveyor and Recorder. Both parents were members of the Baptist Church, in which the father was a Deacon for many years. He served as a soldier in the War of 1812, as also did the maternal grandfather of our subject, the latter receiving honorable wounds.

Mr. Ives of our sketch descended from excellent English ancestry, the first representatives of the family in this country having been noted for their usefulness as citizens and their energy and enterprise as business men. Young Ives remained



on his father's farm until he was seventeen years old, then came westward with his parents to Illinois. He was a resident of Chicago some months in 1834, and in 1836 took up a claim in Kendall County, near Plano, which he cultivated and improved until 1848. He then sold out and removed to Oswego, the county seat, where he engaged in the practice of law five years, and then came to Bloomington, where he has continued his practice since.

Mr. Ives was married in 1835, to Miss Sarah Ervin, of Kendall County, Ill., and of this union there were born six children—Mary P. (Mrs. Gage), Almira S. (Mrs. Burnham), William W., Almond T., Isaac N. and Nellie C. Mrs. Sarah Ives died at the home of her husband, in Bloomington, June 14, 1854. He was subsequently married to Miss Lucinda Barber, of New York, of which union two children were born, only one of whom is now living, a son, Ellis L. Mr. Ives is Republican in politics, and one of the representative business men of Bloomington, respected for his moral and intellectual worth.

**J**ACOB P. JUNG, one of the prominent business men of Bloomington City, is a member of the firm of Higgins & Co., marble and granite manufacturers, whose place of business is located at Nos. 227 and 229 East Front street. The subject of this history was born in Nauvoo, Hancock County, this State, on the 9th of February, 1850. He is the son of Christian and Elizabeth (Brandenberger) Jung, natives respectively of Coblenz and Bergen, Germany. They emigrated to the United States before their marriage, the father in 1838. He first located in New Orleans whence, after a brief stay, he proceeded to New York and thence southwestward to St. Louis, Mo., where he remained until the Mormon troubles of 1848. Thence he removed to Nauvoo, and engaged as a contractor for plastering and stonework, and where he now resides, retired from the active labors of life.

The parental family included ten children, six now living, as follows: Julia, Mrs. John Erb, re-

sides in Keokuk, Iowa; Maggie, Mrs. Nifer, in California; Jacob P., in Bloomington; Lizzie, in Keokuk, also Mary M., Mrs. Carmichael; Henrietta is in Chicago. Christian Jung has been a prominent man in his community since coming to this State. He was President of the City Board of Nauvoo, and has also served as Alderman. He built the first German Lutheran Church there, and after the settlement of the Mormon troubles brought the first Lutheran minister from St. Louis there to preach, and kept him in his own family for a year. He early became identified with the Democratic party. He was one of the first to settle in Nauvoo after the Mormons had practically been driven out, and while engaged with others in armed opposition to them, was taken prisoner and held six weeks in the Temple, whence he finally made his escape.

Jacob P. Jung left the parental roof at thirteen years of age, and going to Keokuk, Iowa, first engaged with H. K. Love, a banker. After two months he was employed to ride horses across the line from Missouri into Illinois for one summer, the Civil War then being in progress. He then returned to Keokuk for a short time, and from there went to Quincy, Ill., and served an apprenticeship in the drug business with Dr. John W. Ritter, for two years and five months. Thence he went to St. Louis and engaged in business whence, after four months, he returned to his home in Nauvoo. From there, in 1869, he came to Bloomington, Ill., and engaged with Peter Greenwalt as a stone-cutter, with whom he remained five months, and was variously engaged until May of that year, when he became an apprentice to a marble cutter, at which he served three years. Then, after a short time spent at each of the cities of St. Louis, Indianapolis and Cincinnati, he established business for himself in Nauvoo, where he remained for two years and until 1876, when he went to South Alabama, and was employed in the Government Works in July, 1877. He then came to Bloomington, where, after being employed at his trade for four months, he became associated with his present partner in September, 1878. Eight years later [1886] they put up their present marble front, and are now doing an extensive and profitable business.

Mr. Jung was married in 1881, to Mrs. Mary

Cannon, of Pittsburgh, Pa., and the daughter of Hugh and Mary McLean. By her former husband Mrs. J. became the mother of two sons—William and John—and of her union with our subject there have been born a son and daughter—Gracie E. and Jacob P. The family residence is located at No. 713 East Front street, where its inmates are enjoying all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life. Mr. Jung is Democratic in politics, and socially is a member in good standing of the K. of P.



**C**HRISTIAN UMMEL, a resident of Danvers, and an extensive importer of fine horses, is widely and favorably known throughout this section. He is a native of Switzerland, born in the Canton of Neuchâtel, Jan. 22, 1852, being the son of John and Mary A. (Slatter) Ummel, the father a native of Switzerland, born Feb. 7, 1801, and the mother of France, born June 13, 1811. John Ummel was a farmer and stock-raiser, and spent his entire life in his native land, dying there June 28, 1877. The decease of the mother had occurred previously, June 13, 1869. The parental household included nine children, as follows: Mary A., Mrs. Christian Ranseyer; Anna, Mrs. John Ranseyer; Rosina, Mrs. Abraham Kohler; Elizabeth, Mrs. Phillip Kohler; Susan, Mrs. David Ummel; David, who married Anna Kohler, and John, who married Elizabeth Saltzman; Henry for his first wife married Miss Anna Ummel, who died, and he was again married, to Miss Louise Nussel; he still lives in Switzerland; Christian, of our sketch, was the youngest of the family. The parents were connected with the Mennonite Church, and were most worthy and excellent people, and greatly respected by all who knew them.

Christian Ummel was reared to manhood in his native land, and after reaching his majority, set sail for America in 1870. He landed in New Orleans, and from there went to Butler County, Ohio, where he was employed on a farm by the month for three years following. He then came to Illinois, rented land in this county, and commenced farming on his own account. In 1875 he was married to Miss Lydia Kohler, and they became the

parents of one child, which died when but seven months old. This lady was the daughter of Christian and Susanna Kohler, natives of Switzerland. She departed this life Nov. 22, 1878, having died of consumption, and her remains were laid to rest in Imhoff Cemetery. She was a lady highly esteemed for her excellent qualities of mind and heart. She was an affectionate wife and a kind mother, and her name is held in kindly remembrance by a large circle of friends and acquaintances.

The second wife of our subject, to whom he was married in 1883, was Miss Catherine, the daughter of John and Barbara (Slatter) Slanaker, natives respectively of France and Switzerland. The father was born April 19, 1809, and the mother May 22, 1810. They were married in Butler County, Ohio, in 1833, each having come to this country early in life, the father in 1824. Their six children were, Mary, Louisa, Barbara, Catherine, John and Joseph.

After his marriage Mr. Ummel continued farming until 1884, when he removed into the village of Danvers, having purchased there a good residence which made a pleasant and convenient home for his family. He is dealing principally in Norman stock, and has two especially fine animals, besides a black Norman which he prizes very highly, and is considered by those well posted, one of the finest that has ever been imported into this country. Mr. Ummel, formerly Republican, is now independent in politics.



**J**UDSON R. MASON, Secretary and General Manager of the Bloomington Mutual Life Benefit Association, and one of the self-made and wealthy men of Bloomington, is a native of New York, having been born on a farm in Oswego County, in September, 1841. His parents were Stephen R. and Sallie (Johnson) Mason, both of whom were born and reared in Massachusetts. Stephen R. Mason was a farmer of modest means, with a family of ten children, of whom our subject was the youngest. The latter remained on the farm with his parents until he had nearly reached his majority, having pursued his primary studies in

the common schools and completing them in the academy at Mexieo Village near his home. He then went to Syracuse, N. Y., where he became book-keeper for the firm of Phelps & Chase, manufacturers of pianos and organs, in whose employ he remained until 1865, in which year he came to Bloomington. He still continued in the employ of the old firm after reaching this city, as a salesman of their pianos and organs.

Mr. Mason was afterward employed by Gillett & Steere, and in 1866 began operating in local fire insurance. During that year he was also appointed State Agent for the Phoenix Fire Insurance Company, of Hartford, Conn., and in this capacity proved himself master of the situation. He had charge of about 800 agents, and was the principal adjuster in case of loss. The insurance business proved very remunerative, and Mr. Mason continued in it for a period of seventeen years. The company lost heavily in the great Chicago fire of 1871. In May, 1883, Mr. Mason was appointed General Manager of the Bloomington Mutual Life Benefit Association, which is fast becoming one of the substantial institutions of the city, principally owing to the discreet and wise management of our subject. The company operates over a wide extent of territory, including the States of Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota and Dakota.

Judson R. Mason was united in marriage with Miss Mary E. Rowan, of Bloomington, in 1865. Mrs. M. is the daughter of Martin B. Rowan, Esq., and grand-daughter of Dr. Isaac Baker, of Bloomington. Of this union there was born one child—Harry R.

Mr. Mason has served in many important positions connected with the Masonic fraternity, and has held all of the offices in the Sunday-School Union in the State Sunday-School Association, and is one of the most active members of the First Baptist Church of Bloomington, having officiated in its Sabbath-school as Superintendent for the past ten years. He is also President of the Board of Water Works, and at present acting Mayor of the city, also Chairman of the Financial Committee and Alderman of the First Ward. The association with which Mr. Mason is connected has grown from a few members to the number of 9,000 and is represented

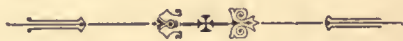
by nearly 1,000 agents. Mr. Mason has evinced financial ability equally well in his private affairs, as he came to Bloomington with scanty means and is now the possessor of a fine property, including one of the finest residences in the city. He has in contemplation the erection of a fine business block the coming season, and is accounted one of the most useful and enterprising members of the community.

JOHN A. MACE, editor and proprietor of the *Saybrook Weekly Gazette*, has been a resident of the Prairie State since 1869, in which year, when a youth of sixteen, he came to this county with his parents. His birth took place in Chester County, Pa., Oct. 10, 1853, and he is the son of Joseph and Mary E. (Thornbury) Mace, natives of the same county and State as their son. Joseph Mace was born Feb. 12, 1829, and learned the trade of a miller early in life, which he has followed since that time. Upon coming into this State he located first in Bloomington, whence after three years he removed to Shirley, and subsequently to Cheney's Grove, where he rented a farm and also purchased 120 acres, operating the two tracts of land for two years thereafter. He then sold the farm and removed to Saybrook, where he resided one year. In 1876 he went to Michigan and located in Durand, Shiawassee County, whence he removed in 1886 to Baneroft, that State, of which he is still a resident. He is a faithful adherent of the Republican party, and became a Mason before leaving Pennsylvania. The mother of our subject was born April 17, 1834, and married to Joseph Mace in 1850. Her parents were Yearsley and Elizabeth (Valentine) Thornbury, also natives of the Keystone State, and of English ancestry. Mrs. Thornbury is still living, having arrived at the advanced age of eighty-six years; her husband died in 1886. Their six children were Thomas, John, Mary E., Phebe, Pascal and Clara. Joseph and Mary E. Mace became the parents of Benjamin P., Marshall T., John A., Sarah Ella B. (deceased), Mary P., Joseph C., Paul V., Lizzie L., Hanson T., Clarence (deceased) and Nimrod.

John A. Mace commenced business for himself as

clerk in a drug-store. He soon afterward took up the study of pharmacy, and was employed three years in the drug-store of E. H. Shores, Saybrook, Ill., during which time he gained an excellent insight into the business, and was registered as a competent pharmacist. He was afterward connected with the drug establishment of Creed McDaniel, of Saybrook, with whom he remained until 1882. His attention in the meantime had been directed to journalistic matters, and he decided to change his occupation to one which he felt was more suited to his taste. He accordingly purchased the Saybrook *Herald*, afterward changing it to its present title. He is a clear and forcible writer, and has evinced rare business talent in the management of the *Gazette*, which has now become one of the leading papers of the county. He is of that happy turn by which he can adapt himself to almost all circumstances, and has been successful in his various undertakings, being possessed of unusual energy and the resolution which admits of no such word as "fail."

The subject of our sketch was married to Miss Mattie S. Crigler, Feb. 20, 1884, and to them has been born one child, a daughter, Ruth E., the date of her birth being Oct. 15, 1886. Mr. Mace is what is called a genuine mossback Democrat, and for faithful service to the party was appointed Postmaster at Saybrook, Ill., Aug. 11, 1885, which position he still holds, and is proving himself a capable and efficient public servant.



**F**RANK HENDER, the proprietor of one of the finest farms in Belleflower Township, is located on sections 8 and 9, where he has made his home since 1871. He has a handsome and substantial residence, a good barn and all other necessary out-buildings, and a good supply of fruit trees. Around the dwelling are planted handsome shade and ornamental trees, and the homestead in all respects presents one of the most attractive spots in the landscape of this section. Mr. Hender is very actively engaged in stock-raising, and at present has eighty head of cattle, 100 head of Cotswold and Southdown sheep, besides about fourteen head of horses. Owing to cholera his hog crop is

rather light at present, he having only about twenty head.

Mr. Hender is an Englishman by birth, and possesses in a marked degree the reliable and substantial elements of his countrymen. His birth occurred in Hull, Yorkshire, Feb. 13, 1831. His parents were Matthew and Eleanor (Holingsworth) Hender. The father of our subject followed the sea for many years on a merchant vessel, and came to the United States in about 1854. Coming to the vicinity of Quincy, Ill., he purchased a small farm, which he occupied until 1859, when he started overland for Pike's Peak, Col., accompanied by his son, Thomas. There they purchased claims and dug for gold, and the father remained there the greater part of the time for three years following, in the meantime, however, visiting his family two or three times. He returned to this State during the war, and removing to Davenport, Iowa, lived there for a time, and thence removed to De Witt, Clinton County, where he spent the last years of his life. His widow now lives with her daughter, Mrs. Fred P. Kittenring, at De Witt, Clinton County.

The parental household included nine children, of whom the record is as follows: James, the eldest, is a resident of Washington Territory; Frank, our subject, is the second son; Mary, Mrs. Dixon, lives in Washington Territory, and Walter in Davenport, Iowa; Thomas, when last heard from, was in one of the Territories; Matthew during the late war served in the 8th Iowa Infantry and was wounded and taken prisoner at Shiloh; he died at his home in Davenport about 1878; Henry, now of Washington Territory, also served as a soldier in the 7th Missouri Cavalry; Holingsworth, also in Washington Territory, served in the 28th Illinois Infantry; Eleanor, Mrs. Kittenring, lives in De Witt, Iowa.

Our subject commenced the life of a sailor on a coaster with his father when young, which he continued until sixteen years old. He was then placed in charge of five small vessels called "lighters" and which were used in removing the cargoes from large ships to the land, via the rivers. He was thus employed till 1849, and in December of that year set sail from Liverpool for the United States, landing in New York City after a voyage of forty-nine days. His first business there was in assisting to dig a canal at

Bordentown, N. J. Thence he soon afterward went to Pittsburgh, Pa., and was employed in a warehouse, of which he had charge for one year, and then started for the Southwest. Arriving at St. Louis, he engaged on the steamer "Arizona," which plied between St. Louis and Memphis. After making four trips, winter coming on the steamer became ice-bound in the river, and he with others went on shore and chartered an ox-team to take them to St. Louis. This mode of locomotion being too slow, they abandoned the team and pushed ahead on foot. There were no houses on the road, and one night they were obliged to lay out on the ground and this in mid-winter. The second night they arrived at the route of the Iron Mountain Railroad then in process of construction, and there our subject engaged to superintend the cooking for 300 men. He was thus employed for six months, and then returning North to Quincy, Ill., engaged with Samuel Holmes, who was a contractor, and with whom he remained three years.

Mr. Henden then engaged with Comstock Bros., stove manufacturers, two years, after which his employers sent him to Galesburg in charge of a stock of stoves and tinware, and he there opened a store, which he managed for the firm until they sold out. He then engaged with another firm, with whom he continued six years and after this, in company with two partners, carried on the same business four years, the firm name being Hender, Zigler & Andrews. At the expiration of this time he disposed of his interest in the business to his partners and erected a building in connection with the Union Hotel, where he established in business alone. This building was destroyed by fire in 1871, and he then concluded to try farming. Coming to McLean County he purchased 140 acres, to which he has added until he now has 300 acres, which constitutes his present homestead, and upon which he has made great improvements since taking possession. The history of our subject thus briefly told, indicates him as a man possessed of more than ordinary ability, with a remarkable faculty of adapting himself to circumstances. He has been uniformly prosperous in his business transactions, as the fine property which he now owns amply testifies.

Mr. Hender was married, April 12, 1858, to Miss

Lucretia McCrary. Mrs. H. was born in Alabama, her father, Joseph McCrary, being a native of South Carolina and of Scotch descent. He removed to Alabama when young, where he was married and lived until 1843. He then removed to this State and settled in Jefferson County, where he lived two years, whence he removed to Peoria County and from there to Galesburg, where he spent the last years of his life. His wife, the mother of Mrs. H., also died there. Mr. and Mrs. H. have five children—Frank, Albert M., Lulu, Mary and Gertrude. The parents and three of the children are members of the Episcopal Church.

The mother of Mrs. Hender, who before her marriage was Miss Elizabeth Carter, was born in Virginia, and was married first in her native State to Mr. Philgo, and went with him to Alabama, where he died about six months later. She departed this life at Galesburg in 1884.

**D**R. JAMES F. MYERS, a prominent druggist and practicing physician of Saybrook, is a native of Ohio, born in Licking County, Dec. 29, 1856. He is the son of Henry A. and Lovina (Schechter) Myers, both natives of the Buckeye State. Henry Myers in his prime followed farming pursuits, and at one time officiated as a minister of the Methodist Protestant Church. He is now retired from active labor, and pleasantly located on a farm in Randolph Township. The wife and mother still survives, and continues to be the faithful companion and sympathizer of her husband. She shared with him his earlier toils, and is now enjoying with him a deserved rest. Their ten children are recorded as follows: Theodosia A. became the wife of George W. Downs, and lives in Downs Township; Henry S. went to Washington Territory in 1883, and is now Street Commissioner of Spokane Falls; Margaret C. is at home and single; James F., of our sketch, was the fourth child; William A. is deceased; Rose L., Mrs. Kershaw, is a resident of Empire Township; Otta died in infancy; Anna J., Mrs. Fisher, resides in Fairmount, Ill.; Stanley, the youngest, is still with his parents.

Young Myers received his early education in the common schools, and when quite young evinced a

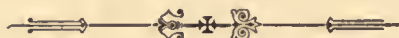
decided taste for music. When eighteen years old he gave close study to this art, which he taught at intervals for four years afterward, meantime attending Westfield College, and the Evergreen City Commercial College of Bloomington. After leaving this institution he began the study of medicine with Drs. Hill & Barnes, of Bloomington, the two most noted physicians of the country, where he studied three years, and in the meantime taking lectures in Rush Medical College at Chicago. He graduated from the latter institution in February, 1883, and immediately commenced the practice of his profession at Farmer City, De Witt Co., Ill. The third year he took in a partner, with whom he operated one year, then disposed of his practice to his partner and removed to Saybrook, which has since been his home. Here he has one of the finest drug-stores in the county, and numbers among his friends and patrons its most wealthy and intelligent people.

Dr. Myers was united in marriage with Miss Sarah J. Johnson, March 15, 1882. Mrs. M. is a native of this county, the daughter of J. C. and Elizabeth (Hargitt) Johnson, and was born Nov. 11, 1860. Her father, who is now a resident of Heyworth, was born in 1822, and the mother, March 3, 1827. They were married and came to Illinois in 1858. Their eleven children are recorded as follows: Malinda is now Mrs. G. A. Niekerson; Thomas A. is the eldest son; Mary E., Mrs. Passwaters, lives in Kansas; George S., Richard M., William R.; Sarah J., wife of our subject; Charles W., Alfred E. and Albert W. (twins), and James A. complete the list. The father of Mrs. Myers crossed the plains several times to California, and was richly rewarded for his labors in the mines. He has been a great traveler, and there are few States in the Union which he has not visited. He has the faculty of observing the peculiarities of people and sections, and in this manner is possessed of a valuable fund of general information. His father before him was an astronomer, and his grandfather a highly educated gentleman.

Mr. and Mrs. Myers have two children: Dacie L., born Dec. 27, 1882, and Nettie E., Sept. 14, 1885. The family residence of our subject is pleasantly located, and is a home where refinement

and cultivated tastes are apparent in all its appointments. The Doctor is Republican in politics, and as a citizen, neighbor and friend is highly esteemed among his townsmen.

In addition to his regular college course Dr. Myers has taken great pains to instruct himself in the intricacies of his profession by employing private tutors. He has received certificates from the Central Free Dispensary of West Chicago, Illinois Charitable Eye and Ear Infirmary, and for a special course in each of the following: Surgical Anatomy, Clinic Diagnosis, Diseases of Women, Venereal and Skin Diseases, Diseases of Throat and Chest. The same are framed and adorn the walls of his office. His hospital practice and instruction have tended to make his medical education and proficiency much above the average.



**J**ONATHAN J. LANTZ, a native of the Buckeye State, but now a resident of McLean County, is carrying on farming operations in Danvers Township, on section 3, where he has uniformly met with success. His birth-place was Knox County, Ohio, and the date thereof 1839. His parents, Jonathan and Nancy Lantz, were natives of Pennsylvania, where Jonathan Lantz, Sr., was born, in 1804, and his wife, Nancy, four years later. They were engaged in farming pursuits, to which he had been reared from early childhood. He left his native State with his parents when about three years of age, and they located in Knox County, Ohio. There, after attaining his majority, the father of our subject purchased seventy acres of land and was soon afterward united in marriage with Miss Anna Yoder, the wedding taking place in Knox County, in 1827. Five years later they removed westward to Illinois, and located in White Oak Township, McLean County. Here Mrs. Anna Lantz departed this life in 1847, and the father of our subject made his home with his children until his death, which occurred Aug. 13, 1885. The parental household consisted of the following children: Gideon married Miss Catherine Yoder and lives in Oregon; Benjamin died in infancy; Jonathan of our sketch





Maranda Collins



Robert Collins



was the third in order of birth; Jacob married Miss Rebeeca Yoder; Lydia became the wife of Jacob Zook; Jephtha married Miss Mary Yoder; John died in the ninth year of his age.

Jonathan J. Lantz, Jr., remained with his parents until the death of his mother, when he became employed on a farm and thus continued until his marriage. This event occurred Nov. 9, 1862, the lady of his choice being Miss Elizabeth Ehrisman. He then purchased 128 acres of land in Danvers Township, on section 4, which remained their home for a period of seventeen years. Mr. L. then sold out and purchased 160 acres upon which he has erected a fine dwelling, a good barn and all necessary out-buildings. He owns a half interest in a large saw-mill, the proceeds of which yield him a handsome income. He has been prominent in public matters since coming to this vicinity and has taken a genuine interest in the growth and advancement of his township. He held the office of Road Commissioner for nine years and is holding his third term as Township Assessor. He is Republican in politics, and with his wife, a worthy member of the Mennonite Church.

The parents of Mrs. Lantz were Daniel and Catherine Ehrisman, natives of Germany, where they were married in 1841. Eleven years later they sailed for the United States and New York City, whence they immediately proceeded to Illinois and located in Tazewell County, where they spent the remainder of their lives, Mr. E. dying in 1870, and his wife in 1872.

Mr. and Mrs. Lantz became the parents of one child only, a son, Christian, who was born Jan. 5, 1864.

**G**EORGE BOHRER, a prominent farmer of McLean County, owns and occupies a comfortable homestead on section 10, which comprises 165 acres, an attractive farm residence, a good barn and out-buildings, and all the appliances of a first-class agriculturist.

Mr. Bohrer has been a resident of McLean County since he was a child of eighteen months old, when he removed with his parents from Brown County, Ohio, where he was born on the 26th of

December, 1854. His father was Frederiek C. and his mother, Maria (Ziegler) Bohrer, and after coming to Illinois they settled upon a farm in Normal Township, this county, where our subject was reared and received his education in the common schools. He remained under the parental roof until his marriage, which took place on the 26th day of December, 1878, the lady of his choice being Miss Anna E. Bittner, a native of Butler County, Ohio. She was born June 30, 1856, and was the daughter of Conrad and Catharine (Lanz) Bittner. They removed from Ohio to McLean County when the wife of our subject was an infant ten weeks old.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. B. settled upon the farm which constitutes their present homestead. They have become the parents of three children—Anna, Hattie and Edwin. Mr. Bohrer devotes much of his time to stock-raising, and his pens and stables are supplied with some of the finest specimens of farm stock in this part of the county. He has in all respects distinguished himself as a useful citizen, is Republican in politics, and has lived a quiet and unostentatious life, doing good as he had opportunity, training his children in those principles which will constitute them an honor to their parents and to society.

**R**OBERT COLLINS, one of the honored pioneers of Downs Township, is now a resident of Le Roy, where he lives retired from active labor, and is enjoying the comforts obtained by early industry and economy. He has watched with deep interest the growth and prosperity of his adopted county, and has contributed his full share toward its prosperity. Mr. Collins is a native of the Buckeye State, having been born in White Water Township, Hamilton Co., Ohio, Jan. 25, 1819. His father, Robert Collins, settled in Hamilton County at an early period in the history of that section, upon a tract of timber land, where he cleared a farm and established a comfortable home, which he occupied with his family until his decease, in 1826.

After the death of the father, our subject was bound out to a shoemaker in Harrison Township,

with whom he served an apprenticeship of four years. Then, on account of the death of the wife of his employer, young Collins went to live with a brother of the same man, who was a farmer, and in company with him and his family came to Illinois. The journey was made overland, and after sixteen days' travel they arrived in this county on the 16th day of October, 1836. Our subject lived with his employer, Amos A. Miller, one year after their settlement in Randolph Township, and the two years following with John Mayberry. He then engaged with a carpenter in Empire Township, with whom he worked one year, and then purchased a claim of forty acres on section 25 of what is now Downs Township. Upon this there was a log cabin, in which our subject, who had already taken unto himself a wife, removed and they commenced housekeeping. He had no money with which to enter the land at this time and was obliged to earn it, and worked at whatever he could find to do. He used to take jobs of splitting rails, and in due time by close economy had earned enough to pay for the land. Mrs. Collins had a spinning-wheel and loom, and manufactured the cloth, then made the clothing for her family. For a number of years they kept sheep which provided them with yarn for stockings, and they raised flax, and in this manner kept the household supplied with linen. Mrs. C. also did considerable weaving for her neighbors, and thus earned much of the money which served to support the family, while her husband applied his toward the payment of their land. For a number of years the nearest market was Peoria, sixty miles away, it requiring four days to make the trip, and they carried their provisions along and cooked and camped by the wayside. Wheat sold at different prices, sometimes as low as 35 cents per bushel, and for corn at times they would only receive 15 cents per bushel. Mr. Collins with his family remained upon their first purchase for a period of nearly forty-six years, or until February, 1886. He had been prospered in his farming and business transactions, and is now the owner of 224 acres, all in a good state of cultivation and furnished with a shapely and substantial set of frame buildings. Mr. Collins, in 1884, purchased the residence he now owns and occupies in Le Roy.

In connection with it there are six lots, this being in block 137, and he also has six lots in block 135.

The marriage of our subject occurred June 25, 1840. Mrs. C. before her marriage was Miss Miranda Buckles, and she was born Aug. 23, 1825, in White County, Ill. Her father, Abraham Buckles, was a native of Kentucky, and her grandfather, John Buckles, was one of the pioneers of McLean County and spent the last years of his life in Empire Township, where also his son, Abraham Buckles, the father of Mrs. C., died. His wife, formerly Miss Mary Williams, departed this life in Empire Township.

The household circle of Mr. and Mrs. Collins was completed by the birth of seventeen children, as follows: John A. is a resident of Empire Township; Andrew J. lives in Monroe County, Mo.; Sarah E., the wife of Thomas Phillips, is a resident of Jefferson County, Mo.; Miranda P., Mrs. George W. Johnson, lives in Downs Township; Mahala L. married George Mayberry, and they live in Gage County, Neb.; Clarissa Bell became the wife of John Vanhohentien, and is a resident of Paxton, Ford Co., Ill; Barbara F., Mrs. Alvin Carr, lives in Downs Township, this county; Rosetta lives at home with her parents; Mary A., the third child, was born Jan. 29, 1848, and died April 20, 1879; Tabitha J., born March 31, 1849, died July 20, 1880; Americus E., born May 31, 1850, died in March, 1882; William R., born March 26, 1855, died March 25, 1864; Alfaretta, born Feb. 26, 1857, died Jan. 20, 1880; Ira, born Nov. 3, 1860, died March 24, 1862; George E., born Oct. 12, 1862, died Aug. 16, 1863; two died in infancy unnamed.

Mr. and Mrs. C. and all but two children, are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, which our subject joined in 1838, and his wife in 1841. Mr. Collins has been Steward and Class-Leader thirty-eight years, and has contributed liberally and cheerfully to the support of the church at this place. The church edifice, called Pleasant Hill Chapel, was built on his farm in Downs Township in 1865; services were held in his own house prior to the building of the church.

For many years Mrs. Collins cooked by a fireplace and her wash-tub was a trough dug out of a log by Mr. Collins; he also made the wash-board.

The farm implements were the old-fashioned wooden mold board plow, and the harrow was likewise homemade. Wolves and deer came near enough to be distinctly seen by the inmates of the cabin. The family, in common with their brother pioneers, distinctly remember the winter of 1836, which was unusually severe and opened with a violent change of weather. Mr. C. had just returned from a rabbit hunt at the time. Ice covered the ground so that his horses refused to travel, and for days he was obliged to carry corn three-quarters of a mile to feed his stock. He then thought that as soon as he could travel he would leave the country never to return, but circumstances would not permit of this, and he does not now regret that he was compelled to stay.

To such men as Robert Collins is McLean County indebted for the present proud position which she holds in the Prairie State. The energy and perseverance of the old pioneers can scarcely be realized by the people of the present day who are surrounded by all the conveniences and comforts of modern life. Too much credit cannot be given to those old heroes, who, with their lives in their hands, as it were, made a pathway through the forests and prepared the prairies for a prosperous civilization. Mr. Collins cast his first presidential vote for Van Buren in 1840 and since that has been a full-fledged Democrat.

As an honored pioneer of McLean County, and an esteemed and worthy citizen of Le Roy, the publishers are pleased to present the portrait of Mr. Collins in this connection. That of his wife is also given as a fitting accompanying picture.



**J**OHAN NICKERSON, who first opened his eyes to the light on a farm south of the city limits of Bloomington, Ill., on the 16th of March, 1839, is now a prominent and successful farmer and stock-raiser of Martin Township. He is the son of Albert R. and Ellen (Cook) Nickerson, natives respectively of Maryland and Ohio. The former removed from his native State with his parents to this county in 1834. The father of Mrs. Nickerson died in Ohio when she was a young child, and she came to this county with

her mother. After their marriage, Albert Nickerson and his young wife first located in Missouri, where they lived five years and then returned to McLean County, where Mr. Nickerson engaged in farming, in Randolph Township, and where he departed this life in November, 1886, in the seventy-sixth year of his age. The wife and mother is still living, is a resident of Heyworth, and has now arrived at a good old age. The parental household included ten children, seven sons and three daughters, six now living. Of these, our subject, John, was the eldest.

John Nickerson passed his boyhood days on the farm, and began his education in a log school-house in Randolph Township. He remained under the home roof until reaching his majority, and was not quite twenty-one years old when he was married to Miss Julia A., daughter of Willis Willhoite, of this county. After their marriage the young people remained on the old homestead for a short time, then removed to their present farm on section 28, Martin Township. This embraces a fine body of land 240 acres in extent, all improved and under a good state of cultivation. In addition to the homestead, he has an interest in another tract of land embracing 1,340 acres. The farm is well supplied with the best grades of domestic animals, but Mr. Nickerson has made a specialty of the Poland-China hog, and has been remarkably successful in this branch of business, which has yielded him a fine income from the start. He put up his handsome and convenient dwelling in 1885, in the rear of which is a fine barn and all other necessary out-buildings. The homestead in all its appointments forms one of the most attractive spots in the landscape of this section, and is observed with admiration by the passing traveler, the fine grove adjacent to the residence adding greatly to its other attractions.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Nickerson, six in number, are as follows: Mary C., who became the wife of Milton Sharpless, and has four children; Luella, the wife of John Arnold, of Fairbury, Ill.; Ida, at home; William H., James H. and Georgia E. The parents and all the children are connected with the Christian Church, of which they are regular attendants, and to the support of which Mr.

Nickerson contributes liberally and cheerfully. Politically our subject is a staunch supporter of the Democratic party, and has a genuine admiration for President Cleveland, and the manner in which he is conducting National affairs.

ISAAC B. JACKSON, a representative citizen of Padua Township, and a valued member of the community, is pleasantly located on section 28, where he has resided for over thirty-five years. His farm comprises 128 acres of valuable land, under a good state of cultivation, and supplied with a good set of frame buildings. Mr. Jackson is a native of the Old Dominion, born in Fauquier County in 1824. His father, William, was a native of the same State, a tailor by trade, and served as a soldier in the War of 1812. He descended from Welsh ancestry, and met and married a Virginia lady, Miss Elizabeth Bishop. They settled in Loudoun County, Va., for a few years, and thence removed to Fauquier County, where our subject was born and reared, being the ninth of eleven children which completed the household circle. Of these, five are sons. Six of the children are living, one in Missouri and five in Illinois. The latter are all residents of McLean County.

Isaac B. Jackson was seven years of age when his parents removed to Ohio, where they settled in Warren County. In 1841 they came to Illinois, locating in Empire Township, this county, which remained the home of the parents the remainder of their days. The mother departed this life in 1847, and the father two years later, in 1849, both being quite aged. Our subject remained under the parental roof until he reached his majority, and assisted his father in the duties around the homestead. On the 12th of November, 1846, he was united in marriage with Mrs. Elizabeth C. (Brannaman) Dawson, who was born in Augusta County, Va., March 2, 1823. She was the second daughter of David and Mary (Haldiman) Brannaman, also natives of Virginia, and of German descent. They came North in 1837, and the father purchased 240 acres of land in Padua Township, this county, which was then mostly in timber. There both par-

ents died, the father in 1846, and the mother twenty-four years later, in 1870, the latter having arrived at the age of seventy-four years.

Mrs. Jackson remained with her parents until her first marriage, of which there was born one child, a daughter, Calista, now the wife of Henry Grim, who resides in Gibson, Ford Co., Ill. Of her marriage with our subject there were born eight children, one of whom died in 1876 at the age of twenty-four years. Mary became the wife of John M. Newman and resides in Padua Township on a farm; I. Newton married Miss Lina Gates, and lives in Topeka, Kan.; Charlie married Miss Emma Hoysradt and lives in Bloomington Township; George W. is at home with his parents; Alpheus married Miss Lillie J. Dunlap, and is farming in Padua Township; Ella and Lucy are at home. Mrs. Jackson and her daughters are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Sump-town. Mr. Jackson is a Republican in politics, and has served as Township Trustee and Assessor for three or four years.

GEORGE A. TRYNER, of the Bloomington Pork Packing Company, is a representative citizen of Bloomington, and intimately identified with its business and industrial interests. The headquarters of this company are on the I. B. & W. R. R., corner of Gridley street, where they are transacting an extensive business with profit and success. Mr. Tryner is also connected with the firm of Tryner & Richardson, cigar manufacturers, located on East Front street, and delights in nothing more than to have his head and hands full of business. Our subject was born in New York City, Nov. 13, 1836, and is the son of George F. and Elizabeth (Roberts) Tryner, natives of England. George F. Tryner emigrated to America in 1833, locating in New York City, and was there engaged in merchant tailoring for eleven years following. He then began in the clothing and furnishing business and was thus occupied until 1857. Subsequently he came to Salem, Ill., and after a residence there of twenty years removed to Bloomington and followed mercantile business until his

death, which occurred in 1879. The parental family included five children, three now living—George A.; Alice, Mrs. Rawson, of Bloomington, and James, engaged in the jewelry trade in Colorado. The mother died in 1848, at Perth Amboy, N. J. She was a member of the Baptist Church and her husband of the Presbyterian.

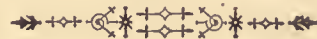
George A. Tryner graduated at Perth Amboy Seminary in New Jersey and commenced book-keeping in New York City. He came with his parents in 1857, to Salem, Ill., and there began farming. This he abandoned after three years, when he secured a clerkship in Salem and was thus occupied until his enlistment in the army, during the late Civil War. He became a member of Co. G, 21st Ill. Vol. Inf., was commissioned Sergeant, and after six months was on detached service with the Adjutant-General's department for three years and two months. He participated with his comrades in the battles of Stone River and Chickamauga, and was with Sherman in his march as far as Atlanta, at which time his term of service expired.

After retiring from the army Mr. Tryner engaged in business one year at Chattanooga, Tenn., and in 1866 went to St. Louis, Mo., where he engaged in the drug business. After six months he sold out and came to Bloomington and was engaged in the grocery trade for a period of eight years. He then began building the packing-house in 1873, and has since had charge of the books and finances. The company gives employment to about seventy-five men in Bloomington and has three men on the road. In 1879 Mr. Tryner formed a partnership with Mr. Richardson, and under the firm name of Tryner & Richardson they have transacted a good business in cigars and tobacco, giving employment to about thirty men.

The marriage of George A. Tryner and Miss Jennie Dunham was celebrated in 1864. Mrs. Tryner was born in Perth Amboy, N. J., her parents being Edmund and Clarissa (Ross) Dunham, natives of the same State. Of her marriage with our subject there were born three children, two only living—Alice and Ethel. Mr. Tryner is one of the energetic and enterprising men of this section who have so materially aided in its growth and development. He has held various local offices, is now a

member of the Board of Supervisors, the City Board of Education, Director of the Third National Bank, and a stockholder in the Bloomington Building and Loan Association, being also one of the Directors of the latter. He was an unsuccessful candidate for Mayor in 1868.

Mr. Tryner has been largely interested in the purchase and sale of Kansas lands. As may be supposed he carries a level head to be able to manage successfully his various interests, and he is uniformly successful. In politics our subject affiliates with the Republican party, and is a 32d Degree Mason. He also belongs to the Knights of Pythias and the G. A. R. The handsome and substantial family residence is located at No. 504 East Front street, where our subject and his amiable lady dispense a fine hospitality to hosts of friends.



**J**AMES T. HULL, a native of the Old Dominion, came to Illinois in the spring of 1864, and since that time has been a worthy resident of the Prairie State. He was born in Hampshire County, W. Va., June 16, 1843, and is the son of Stephen and Catherine (Utta) Hull, both natives of Virginia. The father was a Whig in politics, and a farmer by occupation. He died at his home in West Virginia in about 1862, when seventy-five years of age. The mother died in April, 1884, in Iowa. Their four children were Benjamin, John H., Ann G. and James T. By a former marriage Stephen Hull became the father of six—Elmira, Polly, Eliza J., Nancy, William and Betsey.

The subject of this history was reared under the parental roof and received a good common-school education. During the late war he served as a soldier in Co. K, 9th Ill. Vol. Cav., being with the army ten months. He gained a good insight into the hardships of a soldier's life, but received no wounds. After returning from the army he purchased eighty acres of land in De Witt County, which he sold in 1879 and removed to this county. Here he has now 120 acres, finely cultivated, and supplied with all conveniences for the business to which of late years he has turned his attention, the breeding of Norman and Clydesdale horses. In

this he has been very successful, his stables containing some of the finest animals in this part of the State. He also owns sixty acres in De Witt County, Ill.

Mr. Hull was married in De Witt County, on the 25th of January, 1866, to Miss Mary E., daughter of Peter J. and Nancy (Clagg) Sutton, natives respectively of Kentucky and Ohio. Mr. Sutton was born Aug. 14, 1816, and died in De Witt County on the 23d of February, 1885. He was Republican in politics, and a gentleman universally respected for his excellent traits of character. The wife and mother, who was born Oct. 20, 1817, is still living, and a member of the Christian Church. She was married to Peter J. Sutton on the 2d of June, 1839. Their seven children were, William C., Mary E., George R., Johnson P., Jonathan J., Henry C. and Malinda J. The eldest brother of Mrs. Hull, William C., served as a soldier in Co. B, 187th Ill. Vol. Inf., and died in 1864, at Knoxville, Tenn. Her youngest brother, Henry Clay, died of typhoid fever, in 1873, when eighteen years of age.

Of the children of Mr. and Mrs. Hull, Clara B. became the wife of William Hinthorn, and lives in Gibson City; Ella N., May, William L. and Charles H. are at home with their parents; Bertie died when five months old, and Lulu in early infancy. Mr. Hull is Republican in politics and a strong temperance man. Both he and his wife are members in good standing of the Christian Church.



**J**OHN B. SAVAGE, one of the self-made men of Le Roy, possesses a remarkable business talent and delights in trading and merchandising. He is active and energetic and an excellent judge of lands, live-stock and dry-goods. His talents extend in all directions wherever a trade may be effected. Mr. Savage was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, Feb. 10, 1844, being the son of Whalen and Jane (McCullom) Savage. The father of our subject died in Tuscarawas County in about 1850. The mother then married John C. West, and now lives in Taylor County, Iowa.

The subject of this history is one of a family of seven children born to his parents, six of whom

are still living. Sarah, Mrs. McGee, is a resident of Harrison County, Ohio; James, and Ann, Mrs. West, live in Taylor County, Iowa; Mary, Mrs. Whitmer, lives in Corning, Iowa; John B., our subject, was the sixth, and Jacob lives in Taylor County, Iowa. John B. Savage was but six years of age when his father died. In 1858 his mother with four of her children came to this State and county and settled in what is now Downs Township. The mother and her two daughters kept house for Denton Young, Sr., on his farm, and there our subject was also engaged breaking prairie. The second marriage of the mother occurred in the fall of that year, and John B. made his home with her two or three years afterward. He then commenced to work on a farm by the month at a salary of \$20, and was employed by one man seven years. After this he became manager of the farm and had a share of the produce, and then married and located on a rented farm, where he remained three years, and in the meantime served as Tax Collector in Downs Township. In 1872 he moved into West Township, upon a farm which his wife had inherited from her grandfather, Henry West. Two years later he went to Le Roy and took charge of a flour-mill, which he operated two years and then returned to his own farm. He was then employed by the firm of Barnum & Keenan, to buy grain at Sabina, being the first grain dealer in that place and the first Postmaster in what was then Monarch. He also served six years as Justice of the Peace. In 1882 he returned to Le Roy and purchased a half interest in the dry-goods business of James Kimler, which he conducted in company with A. Whittaker eight months. He then purchased the interest of his partner and after operating one year sold out, and a few months later opened a clothing store. This he also disposed of after one year, and engaged in the real-estate and loan business. In the fall of 1886 he traded a piece of land for a stock of goods, and his business now is to close out these in the most profitable manner that he can. His real-estate transactions extend throughout Illinois, Indiana, Missouri and Kansas.

Mr. Savage was married, Oct. 1, 1868, to Miss Sarah L. Grumbaugh, who was born in Empire Township, and is the daughter of Montgomery and

Mary (West) Crumbaugh. (See sketch of H. W. Crumbaugh.) Of this union there have been born two children—Herbert and Annie. During the late war Mr. Savage served with the three months' men in Co. G, 68th Ill. Vol. Inf. He is a member of the G. A. R., Thomas Riddle Post No. 230, at Le Roy, and in all respects is a representative citizen who has attained a good position by the exercise of his own talent and industry.



**T**HOMAS J. NORTH, of Cheney's Grove Township, has been a resident of this State since the spring of 1860, when he came into McLean County from Indiana and was employed as a farm laborer for the following seven years. He saved what he could of his earnings, and in that year purchased forty acres of prairie land where he established a modest, but comfortable home for his little family.

He prospered in his farming and business operations, and after a few years doubled his landed possessions, and in 1883 doubled again, so that he now has 160 acres of land, which he has brought to a fine state of cultivation and upon which he has erected a handsome and substantial set of farm buildings. He is now engaged in the breeding of Norman draft horses in which he has been remarkably successful, and is acquiring quite a reputation in this department of agriculture. As a business man, citizen and neighbor, he is universally respected, and his present condition, surrounded as he is by all the comforts of life, is only the just reward of his industry and integrity.

Mr. North was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, March 28, 1833, and is the son of Jonathan and Hannah (Reed) North, natives respectively of Virginia and Ohio. Jonathan North was born in 1800, followed farming in his native State during his early life, and afterward removed to Indiana, where he departed this life in 1858. The mother was born in 1802, and died at the home of her husband, near La Fayette, Ind., in July, 1878. Of their children all are now deceased except our subject, Salem and Richard.

Mr. North of this sketch was but six years of

age when his parents removed from his native State to Tippecanoe County, Ind. He remained there until 1860, in the meantime receiving a fair education in the common schools and assisting his father on the farm. He was married in December, 1863, to Miss Priscilla Cornwell, who was born in Kentucky in 1842, and is the daughter of Thomas and Martha (Riggs) Cornwell. They were natives, respectively, of Kentucky and Maryland. Her father, a farmer by occupation, died in November, 1855, and the mother survived him more than twenty years, dying in 1876. The latter was a worthy member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Their ten children were: Samuel, Louisa, John, James, Elizabeth, George, Thomas, Martha, Priscilla and Cinderella. Mr. and Mrs. North have had thirteen children, as follows: George, born Sept. 7, 1863, died July 16, 1868; Anna, born Feb. 9, 1865, died Nov. 5, 1885; James C., born Oct. 28, 1866, died April 14, 1884; Martha, born Feb. 17, 1869; Mary, born Feb. 26, 1870, died Aug. 25, 1883; William, born Nov. 17, 1871; Franky S., born April 3, 1873, died Aug. 28, 1874; Magdalena, born Aug. 27, 1874; Elizabeth J., Jan. 16, 1877; Alice L., Oct. 12, 1878; Elmira, Sept. 10, 1880; Elmira had a twin brother who lived only four days, and Ivo, born Sept. 22, 1884.



**W**ILLIAM H. NEWTON, of Blue Mound Township, is the fourth child of Henry and Martha Newton, natives of Virginia. After marriage they removed to Kentucky, where the mother died. Henry Newton afterward, in 1844, came to Illinois, and took up his residence in Dale Township, this county, where he passed the remainder of his life. The parental household included thirteen children. William Newton was born in Henderson County, Ky., Jan. 23, 1818. He was reared to farming pursuits, and remained in his native State until about seventeen years old. He then started out for himself, and coming to Illinois located first in Hancock County, where he remained until 1844. He then came to this county and lived in Dale Township about four years. He afterward purchased 160 acres of land in Blue

Mound Township, located on section 11, which he has improved and cultivated, and which has been his home since that time, although having parted with half of his original purchase. He has been prospered in his undertaking, and is now retired from active labor.

The marriage of Mr. Newton and Miss Martha Routt took place in April, 1840, in the city of Macomb, McDonough Co., Ill. Mrs. N. comes of a good family, and is the sister of ex-Gov. Routt of Colorado. She was born in Kentucky in 1822, and of her union with our subject there have been six children, of whom the record is as follows: Mary, who became the wife of William Russell, is a resident of Kansas; Alice, Mrs. Charles Speers, lives with her husband in Blue Mound Township, this county; Mattie became the wife of James Wilson, of Cooksville; John married Miss Julia Smith; Thomas married Miss Eliza Smith, and is a resident of Colorado; Richard married Miss Alice Graham, and lives in Missouri. Mr. and Mrs. Newton are members in good standing of the Baptist Church of Towanda. Mr. N. is a Republican in politics, and has held the various minor offices of the township with credit to himself and satisfaction to all concerned.



**J**OHN F. TRIMMER, importer and breeder of French draft horses, has been a resident of Normal Township since 1886, when he purchased his present property, erected a large barn, and made preparations to inaugurate the first stock farm in this part of the county. To this he brought a number of high-grade animals, and entered upon the business which has yielded him a handsome income, and in which he has established for himself an enviable reputation among the stock-growers of the Prairie State.

The subject of this narration is the son of Jesse and Amanda (Gilmore) Trimmer, and was born in Money Creek Township, this county, Jan. 17, 1845. He was reared on the farm of his father, received a common-school education, and remained under the parental roof until the breaking out of the late Civil War. He was rather young for a soldier at

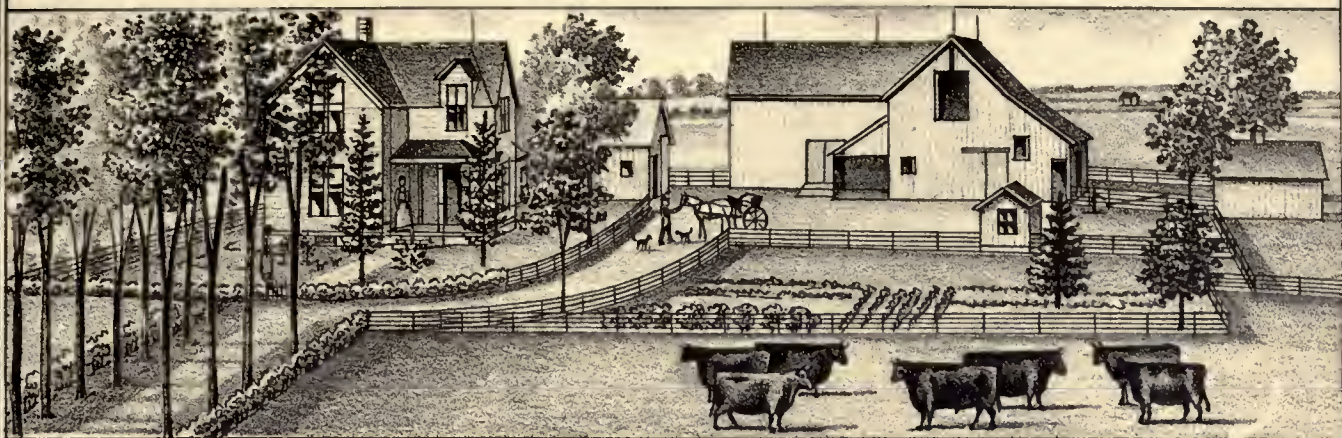
its commencement, but as time passed on and recruits were constantly in demand he enlisted in February, 1864, in the 94th Illinois Infantry, serving until the close, being mustered out in June, 1866. While in the service he was transferred to the 37th Regiment and went to Texas with his comrades to guard the Freedman's Bureau.

After his return from the army Mr. Trimmer pursued his studies in the Commercial College at Bloomington for a period of three months, and then engaged in farming and stock-raising in his native township. In 1874 he sold out, with the intention of going further West, but the grasshopper scare preventing, he gave up the idea and purchased another farm in Money Creek Township, which he still owns. This contains 465 acres, and besides this he has 760 acres in Bates and Henry Counties, Mo. In 1879 he removed to the latter-named county, where he engaged in operating a portable sawmill, his business principally being the cutting of walnut timber. He also carried on a farm and engaged in stock-raising; for two successive years he gathered the corn from 400 acres, and had enough stock to consume it. In 1884 he returned to Illinois, and in 1886 purchased the property in Normal which he now owns, and has devoted his entire attention to his present business. He now has some of the finest thoroughbred animals in McLean County, having in 1884 imported nine head of horses from France, and in 1886, eleven more, among which are six mares, so that his stables now contain twelve head of full-blood horses.

In 1869 Mr. Trimmer was united in marriage with Miss Priscilla Surface, who was born in Illinois but at the date of her marriage resided in Dayton, Ohio. They have become the parents of six children, of whom one, Pearl Gene, died in childhood. Those living are Artic, Daisy, Willie, Myrtle and an infant son. They occupy a pleasant and attractive residence, and are surrounded by all the comforts of life, besides enjoying the esteem and friendship of a large circle of acquaintances. Politically Mr. Trimmer indorses the principles of the Republican party, but is more interested in his business pursuits than in politics.

The parents of our subject, Jesse and Amanda (Gilmore) Trimmer, had a family of ten children, of

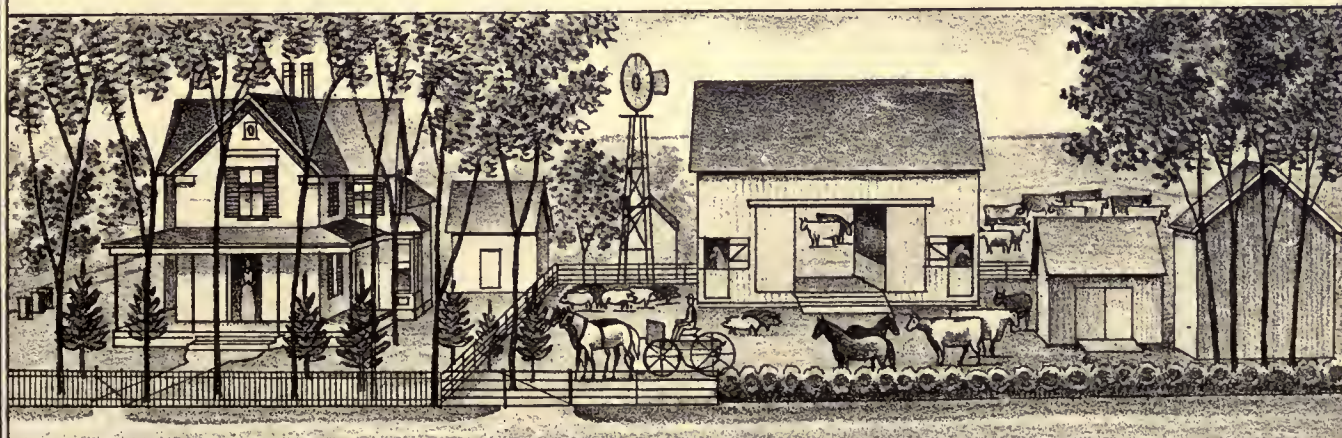




RESIDENCE OF W. J. BARNES, ONE HALF MILE EAST OF McLEAN, ILLS.



BUSINESS HOUSE OF JAMES DODGE, COR. BUFORD AND LINDEN STS. NORMAL, ILLS.



RESIDENCE OF S. A. STOOPS, SEC. 32, BLUE MOUND TP.



whom the record is as follows: three—George, Ada and Charles—died in childhood; William enlisted as a Union soldier in Co. C, 33d Ill. Vol. Inf., and served until discharged on account of physical disability; returning home he died soon afterward from disease contracted in the army. Eliza became the wife of T. McNaught; John F. is our subject; David F. resides in Lexington; Sarah E. married J. A. Scott, and Mary became Mrs. Frank Hobart; Enos R. is engaged in farming on the old homestead in Money Creek Township.



**E**CKHART WENDEROTH, a representative farmer and stock-raiser of Danvers Township, owns a tract of valuable land on section 31, which embraces 130 acres, with a fine two-story dwelling and all necessary barns and out-houses for the carrying on of farming and stock-raising after the most approved methods. Our subject is a native of the German Empire and was born in Hesse-Cassel, Sept. 6, 1833. He is a son of Henry and Elizabeth (Wenderoth) Wenderoth, natives of the same Province. His father was born in 1783, and in 1839 was instantly killed by a runaway team, leaving a widow and five children—Conrad, Henry, Elizabeth, Eekhart and Phillip. Henry and Elizabeth are now deceased.

Mr. Wenderoth remained in his native country until after his marriage. His wife was Miss Elizabeth Maurer, and their wedding took place on the 29th of January, 1869. Mrs. W. was the daughter of Samuel and Magdalena (Schwartzentruber) Maurer, and was born Feb. 29, 1834. She came to America with her parents in 1860, and they located in Bloomington. They are both now deceased, the father dying in June, 1863, at his home, and the mother in November, 1884. Their family included eight children—Phœbe, Christian, Peter, Elizabeth, Jacob, John, Dauiel and Catharine.

Mr. and Mrs. Wenderoth have become the parents of five children—Samuel P., Emil D., Catharine L., Matilda P. and Arthur O. After landing upon American shores Mr. Wenderoth spent a short time in the city of Baltimore, afterward going to Ohio, thence to Indiana, where he spent one year,

and finally came into McLean County, Ill. He commenced life with nothing to depend upon but his own labor, and was employed as a farm laborer for some years, in the meantime saving what he could of his earnings. In 1869 he found himself possessed of sufficient means to purchase eighty acres of land, to which he subsequently added as time progressed and his capital increased. He has done a large amount of hard work and has pursued a straightforward course through life. In his later years he is reaping a liberal reward, and is highly respected by his fellow-citizens.

Our subject, since early childhood, has been identified with the Mennonite Church, which embraced the religious faith of his parents, and Mrs. W. and two of their children, Samuel P. and Emil D., are also connected with this denomination. In politics our subject affiliates with the Democratic party, and takes an intelligent interest in whatever is for the general good of his county and community.



**T**HOMAS P. GARRETT, one of the most skillful photographers of Bloomington, may be found in a handsome studio at No. 221 North Main street. He is a native of Delaware, and was born in Stanton, July 10, 1846. His parents, Benjamin and Mary (Haines) Garrett, were natives of Pennsylvania, whence they removed to Delaware in 1841, and engaged in farming. In 1872 they returned to Pennsylvania, where the father retired from business and departed this life in 1884. The mother lives in Pennsylvania, making her home with her sons. Of these they had three—David H., a banker of Philadelphia; Isaac P., a farmer of Delaware County, Pa., and Thomas P., our subject. Benjamin Garrett held the offices of County Commissioner and School Director, and with his wife belonged to the Society of Friends.

Thomas P. Garrett remained at home with his parents until sixteen years old, his earlier years being spent upon the farm. After completing his primary studies he attended the Normal School for three years and then went to Wilmington, Del., and learned photography. At the age of eighteen,

July 10, 1864, he enlisted in Co. E, 7th Del. Vol. Inf., and after a few months was transferred to the 1st Delaware Artillery, being in service one year and with the Army of the West in Louisiana and Arkansas.

After receiving his honorable discharge from the army young Garrett went to Kansas and resumed his chosen occupation, remaining there for six years. He then returned East to Philadelphia and pursued his calling in the Quaker City from 1871 until 1877. He then went to Harrisburg, and eighteen months later to Illinois, reaching the Prairie State in 1879, and locating in Bloomington, where he has since remained and successfully pursued the calling of his choice.

Mr. Garrett was married in 1878, to Miss C. A. Etherington, a native of Maryland, and the daughter of William G. Etherington, of Cecilton. Of this union there were born two children—Elsie and Marjorie. The pleasant family residence is located at No. 608 East Grove street, and is the resort of the cultured people of the city. Our subject is Republican in politics and a member of the G. A. R., the Seven Wise Men, the National Union, the Red Men, and Royal Arcanum.



**W**ILLIAM SCIENCK, a prosperous and highly respected farmer of Danvers Township, and who possesses in all respects the reliable and substantial qualities of his German ancestors, is located on section 27, where he has a comfortable home, a good farm, and is living at peace with all his neighbors. Mr. Sehenek was born in Germany, July 20, 1842, being the son of John and Margaret (Mire) Sehenek, also natives of the Fatherland, the former born in 1812, and the latter in 1820. They were married in Germany, and emigrated to America in 1880, reaching this country in October of that year. They came directly West to McLean County, to the home of our subject, who had preceded them to the New World and was then located in Bloomington City. The parents afterward removed to the country upon land

belonging to William, where they are still living, although not engaged in active labor.

The parental family of our subject included nine children, of whom the record is as follows: William of our sketch was the eldest; Henry died when about six years old; Anna became the wife of John Maurer; Nicholas died in infancy, and Henry when seven years of age; the next one, an infant girl, died unnamed; John died when three years old; Elizabeth became the wife of William Basselman; Henry is traveling for a cigar manufactory. The parents are members of the Lutheran Church, and in politics John Sehenek is strongly Republican.

William Sehenek resided with his parents until 1864, when he was about twenty-two years of age. He then emigrated to America, and proceeding westward, came into this State and county, and engaged for a short time as a farm laborer. He afterward went to Bloomington, where he lived for seven years and then purchased his present fine farm. This consists of 160 acres upon which is a good set of frame buildings, and which is furnished with all the requirements of a first-class agriculturist.

Mr. S. was united in marriage with Miss Fanny Maurer in 1875. She is a daughter of Christian and Barbara (Masimans) Maurer, and was born in Butler County, Ohio, Feb. 26, 1847. Mrs. Maurer's parents were natives of France. They had seven children, five living—John, Joseph, Christian, Anna and Fanny, all born in Ohio.

Mr. and Mrs. Sehenek have two children—Ida, who was born Feb. 5, 1876, and Elmer, June 29, 1879. He has four step-children: Mary, the wife of John Meyers; Elizabeth, Mrs. John Imhoff; William and Frank. Mr. Sehenek formerly was connected with the Mennonite Church but is not now a member of any religious organization. Mrs. S. is a Baptist.

When coming to this country our subject was on the water seven weeks and three days, during which time there were thirty-three deaths on board the ship and three births. The supply of drinking water gave out and they were obliged to resort to salt water, which was a poor substitute for quenching thirst. The year previous Mr. S. had broken his leg by falling from a horse, from which

accident he has never fully recovered. He learned bricklaying in the old country and followed it for a number of years there. In 1884 Mrs. S. had her wrist broken while rolling a barrel, having slipped and fallen, in consequence of which she was laid up for some time.



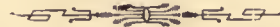
**J**AMES W. CAMPBELL, a native of Adams County, Ohio, owns and occupies a comfortable homestead in Dry Grove Township, on section 2. His birth occurred on the 15th of May, 1829, and his parents were James and Elizabeth (Kerr) Campbell, natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Virginia. James Kerr departed this life in Ohio, in July, 1839; the mother survived him eight years and also died in that State. The father of our subject followed the joint occupations of miller and farmer, and was a good citizen and member of the Presbyterian Church. The parental family included nine children, one of whom died in infancy; the record is as follows: Jane, Mrs. P. D. Smith, is now deceased; Robert K. married Miss Elizabeth McNeill, and lives in Livingstone County, Ill.; Nancy E. married John Steen, of Adams County, Ohio, who is deceased; Sarah A. became the wife of Joseph McNeil, now deceased; Samuel married Miss Emma Van Dieman and lives in Webster City, Iowa; Elizabeth became the wife of R. C. Morrison; James, of our sketch, was the eighth child; Mary, Mrs. Canada, is now deceased.

James W. Campbell and Miss Sarah J. Kirkpatrick were married in Ohio on the 6th of January, 1853. Mrs. Campbell became the mother of six children, and died Feb. 13, 1876. Their children were Mary E., Bryce M., Emma A., now Mrs. W. L. McNeill, of Dakota; Nancy E., Mrs. H. M. Benson of this county; Anna K., who died at the age of nine years, in December, 1876, and Ollie A. The second wife of our subject was Mrs. Nancy (Forbes) Kirkpatrick, to whom he was married Nov. 25, 1877. Mrs. Nancy Campbell is a native of Ohio, and was born Feb. 29, 1832. She is the daughter of John and Elizabeth (Jamison) Forbes, who were natives respectively of Scotland and

Pennsylvania. The mother was born in 1800, and departed this life in McLean County in 1862; the father also died in this county. They were the parents of nine children: Andrew, Alex., Samuel, Boyd, Nancy, Bartley J., Mary J., Isaac and Isabella.

Mr. Campbell came to Illinois in 1852, and purchasing 120 acres of wild land set to work at once to improve it. He subsequently added to his estate and is now the possessor of 280 acres, finely cultivated, a handsome and substantial dwelling, a good barn and all the appliances of a first-class agriculturist. In 1871 he began the raising of fine stock, including horses and cattle. He has one fine blooded Norman horse, five years old, which weighs 1,760 pounds, and is a model of symmetry and strength. Mr. Campbell has been very successful in his stock operations, and has obtained quite a reputation as a horseman in this county.

Our subject has been prominent in the affairs of his township since coming here. He served as Supervisor four terms; has been Road Commissioner for the last eighteen years, and Chairman of the Committee on City Incorporation. In politics he is a staunch Republican, having been connected with the party since its organization, and religiously is a member in good standing of the United Presbyterian Church.



**P**HINEAS M. STUBBLEFIELD, a prominent farmer, stock-raiser, and breeder of Norman horses, is a highly respected resident of Funk's Grove Township, and a member of the family so widely and favorably known throughout this section. He owns and occupies a beautiful home on section 9, the family residence being situated on a rise of ground and commanding an extensive view of the surrounding country. A view of the place is presented on another page of this volume.

Mr. Stubblefield was born in Funk's Grove Township, Oct. 25, 1851, and is the third son of John and Elisannah (Houser) Stubblefield (see sketch.) He attended the district schools, and remained under the home roof until twenty years of

age. Then, wishing to further pursue his studies he entered Wesleyan University, and continued four years, improving the opportunity thus offered and acquiring a store of useful knowledge. He then returned home and assisted his father in the labors of the farm until his marriage, when he located with his young wife upon his present homestead. This contains 160 acres, all enclosed and under a good state of cultivation. The buildings are shapely and substantial, and kept in good repair, and everything about the place denotes the intelligent and progressive farmer.

Mr. Stubblefield was married on the 27th of February, 1879, to Miss Mattie B. Willerton, who was born in Boston, Lincolnshire, England, March 24, 1854. Her father, Christopher Willerton, also a native of England, was reared there to farming pursuits, where he was also married and lived until 1857. Then, accompanied by his wife and three children, he emigrated to America, settling first in Oswego, N. Y., until 1865, and then came to McLean County, Ill. He now owns a good farm in Danvers Township, and is still engaged in agricultural pursuits. His wife, before her marriage, was Miss Harriet Baldwick, a native of his own country. Mr. and Mrs. Stubblefield have no children. They are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Politically our subject is Republican, and socially belongs to McLean Lodge No. 469, A. F. & A. M.

THOMAS W. NEAL, of Allin Township, is occupied in farming pursuits on section 5, where he owns 410 acres of land, which he has brought to a fine state of cultivation. Mr. Neal is a native of Indiana, born in 1835, and the son of Thomas and Nancy (Wilson) Neal, natives respectively of Kentucky and Tennessee. The mother was born near Nashville in about 1798, and Thomas Neal in about 1800. They were married in 1826, and located in Indiana on a tract of timber land consisting of 240 acres, which Mr. Neal cleared and brought to a state of cultivation, and where he established a homestead, which he occupied until 1851. He then sold out and came into

Allin Township, this county, where he purchased a half section of land, which constituted a part of the homestead upon which he spent the remainder of his days. He subsequently added to his first purchase and before his death was the owner of 400 acres. His wife, the mother of our subject, departed this life in 1883, and Thomas Neal, in 1884. Their nine children were as follows: Mary J., John A., Sarah A., Elizabeth, Malinda, Martha and Susan (twins); Thomas, and the youngest child died unnamed. The parents were connected with the Presbyterian Church and worthy members of the community.

Mr. Neal of our sketch attended school during his youth and boyhood and remained with his parents until his marriage, which occurred after he had reached his majority, the lady of his choice being Miss Cynthia A. Brown. After marriage the young people removed to their farm of 160 acres, which constitutes a part of their present homestead. To this Mr. Neal subsequently added until he is now the possessor of 420 acres, all under a good state of cultivation.

The farm residence is a commodious and substantial building, and the barns and outhouses fulfill the requirements of a first-class modern agriculturist. Mr. Neal is giving much attention to the raising of fine stock, which includes Durham cattle and Poland-China hogs.

Mr. Neal has been prominent in the affairs of his township since coming here, holding the offices of Trustee for about nine years, and has also been Path Master and School Director. He is Democratic in politics, and his wife is a worthy member of the Presbyterian Church. Their children, twelve in number, are Emily, who married William Ayers; Margaret, deceased; an infant boy who died unnamed; Osear; Ida Belle, who married David Holmes; George, Bertie, Anna May, Mary H., deceased, another infant unnamed, Frank and Ada.

Mrs. Neal is the daughter of Joel and Margaret (Ayers) Brown. Her father, who was born in Tennessee, died in Tazewell County, Ill., in 1855, and the mother, a native of Ohio, died of cholera in 1854. They were the parents of four children, three sons and one daughter, the latter, Mrs. Neal, being eleven years of age when she was made an

orphan. Her brothers were Richard, Edward and James. The parents were worthy and consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and carried out in their daily lives the principles which they professed.



**W**ILLIAM W. OUTLAW, who is familiarly known in Cheney's Grove Township as one of its most successful farmers and stock-raisers, has a fine estate of 480 acres of land, located on section 2, which he took possession of in 1869. On this farm he has 131 head of thoroughbred cattle with a magnificent full-blooded bull, and twenty-four valuable horses, the head of the stable being a full-blooded Clyde which, although only two years old, pulls down the scales at 1,360 pounds. This fine animal, which is named Marcus, is a model of symmetry and beauty and the admiration of that section. In addition to his horses and cattle Mr. O. feeds annually large numbers of hogs, having now about 130 head, and this branch of business has proved especially profitable. He also has 112 head of sheep, the male being the registered Shropshire, about three years old. The farmers of Illinois have usually been a little careful about attempting sheep-raising, but Mr. Outlaw has proved that with a proper understanding of the business, it may be made as successful as any other branch of agriculture.

Mr. Outlaw was born in Posey County, Ind., Feb. 27, 1850, and two years later removed with his parents to Illinois. He is the son of George W. and Lucinda (McReynolds) Outlaw, the father a native of North Carolina and the mother of Kentucky. George Outlaw was born in 1827, is still living, and resides in Nebraska, being engaged the greater part of his life in farming and milling. His wife, who was born in 1830, departed this life at the home of her husband in 1873. The record of their nine children is as follows: James and John died in their youth; Mary A. became the wife of S. D. Reaugh; William W. of our sketch is the fourth child; Robert D. married Miss McReynolds and located in Colfax, Ill.; Thomas married Miss Endicott and they are living in Stanford, this

county; Sarah became the wife of James McReynolds; Lovina married George Pollard; George W. is the youngest, and lives in Nebraska.

The subject of this history remained with his parents at their home until after he attained his majority, and was then united in marriage with Miss Sarah E. Cales, Feb. 27, 1872. This lady was a native of Virginia, born in 1844, and the daughter of James and Sarah (Buchanan) Cales, with whom she lived until reaching years of womanhood. She came to Illinois with her parents when a maiden of seventeen years old. Her parents were natives of Virginia; the father born July 15, 1818, and is still living and resides in Kansas; the mother died at the homestead in Tazewell County, Ill., in 1866. The second wife of James Cales was Miss Gaines, with whom he lived about sixteen years, and she departed this life in about 1884. He was married the third time, the name of the lady not now known. His ten children were John B., Sarah E., Mary A., Margaret, James W., Martha A., Eliza E., Augusta V., Elmira E., and one who died in infancy. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Outlaw there were also ten children, as follows: Emma J. and James D. (twins) were born June 7, 1873; Thomas F., Oct. 13, 1874; Minnie M., Feb. 14, 1876; Ibba A., Sept. 26, 1877; Bertha A., Jan. 6, 1879; Joseph O., July 16, 1880; John, July 3, 1882; Lewis, Dec. 3, 1883; Imo A., Oct. 8, 1886. James D., Thomas F. and Ibba A. are deceased, having died in infancy.



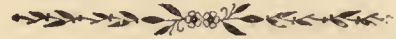
**H**ENRY NAFZIGER, one of the intelligent farmers of Danvers Township, owns and occupies a good homestead on section 22. He was born in the Kingdom of Wurtemberg, Germany, Oct. 19, 1832, being the son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Rockey) Nafziger. The father of our subject was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Aug. 12, 1800. He came to America in the fall of 1847, and after landing in New York City, proceeded directly westward, staying in Peoria about a month, then came to this county, where he remained until his death, which occurred in May, 1882. The mother of our subject was born in Ba-

varia and was the second wife of Jacob Nafziger, his first wife having been Miss Veronica Roeky, a sister of the second wife. Of the first marriage there were three children—Jacob, Christian P. and Veronica. The second marriage of Jacob Nafziger occurred in 1828, and of this union there were born, Catherine, who married Christian Nafziger; Henry, our subject; Peter and Frederiek, deceased; and Eliza, unmarried, and who lives in Danvers Village.

The subject of this sketch was a youth of fifteen years when his parents came to the United States. He was trained to habits of industry and economy and remained under the home roof until reaching manhood. He was then united in marriage with Miss Helen Nafziger, April 5, 1855. Mrs. N. was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, Oct. 22, 1832, and came to America with her parents when a young woman twenty years of age. Our subject and his wife became the parents of nine children, three now deceased: Robert W. married Miss Mary Slabach; Fredericka died when eighteen years of age; John E. is farming in Tazewell County, this State; Fred is at home; Emma became the wife of August Habecker, and lives in Tazewell County; Henry is deceased; Albert at home; Annie died when young; Jacob is with his parents. Mr. and Mrs. N. are members in good standing of the Mennonite Church, of which Mr. N. is Trustee and has been Treasurer for several years. He has been a cheerful and liberal contributor to the support of the church and was one of the building committee at the time their house of worship was erected.

Mr. Nafziger is one of the extensive land-owners of this section, having 230 acres in his home farm and 240 acres in Tazewell County. He has of late years been turning his attention to the breeding of fine stock, including both cattle and horses. He has one valuable thoroughbred Short-horn bull, three cows and two heifers and several high-grade cattle, and his horses will compare with any that can be exhibited in this part of the county. The career of Mr. Nafziger is a striking illustration of what may be accomplished by industry and resolution. After leaving his native land and coming to Ohio, he worked on a farm by the month in Warren County, receiving the first year \$8 per month. The second year he received \$12 per month. He

rented his father's homestead in this county for ten years, and at the end of that time purchased his present homestead. Every dollar of this he has accumulated honestly by hard work and good management, and is now enjoying the fruits of his early toil and industry.



**J**OHAN D. LEWIS is the owner of 200 acres of some of the best land in Cheney's Grove Township, of which he became a resident on the 1st of May, 1847. He first purchased forty acres three years later, which comprises a part of his present homestead, but to which he has added until it is of the dimensions above given. His farm is under a fine state of cultivation, and for a few years he was quite extensively engaged in buying and shipping stock. Of late, however, he has confined himself more closely to the raising of grain and general farming. He has a handsome and comfortable residence, with a good barn and all other necessary out-buildings, and he and his family are enjoying all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life.

Mr. Lewis was born in Fleming County, Ky., Nov. 5, 1823, where he lived until he reached his majority, and cast his first Presidential vote for Henry Clay. His father, Peter B. Lewis, served as a soldier in the War of 1812. He was born in Culpeper County, Va., June 21, 1789, whence he removed to Mason County, Ky., and from there to Fleming County, where he departed this life Nov. 29, 1860. He was married, June 16, 1816, to Miss Catherine B. Ringo, who was born Feb. 24, 1798, and died at the home of our subject on the 21st of September, 1884. Both parents were prominently connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which the mother had been a member since her girlhood. Their eleven children were, Emeline, Nancy, James R., John B., Hannah, Robert, Albert, Alice R., Melville (who died when four years of age), William F. and Bridget A.

After coming to this county, John D. Lewis was married to Miss Margaret P. Riggs, Aug. 17, 1848. Mrs. L., a native of this county, was born Aug. 10, 1832, and was the daughter of William M. and



Naney (Pitts) Riggs, the former a native of Maryland, and the latter of Lewis County, Ky. William Riggs was born Sept. 7, 1803, and departed this life Jan. 28, 1887, at his home in Saybrook. The mother was born Jan. 4, 1806, and died Jan. 26, 1881. Their six children were, George W., Henry M., Margaret P., William H., Mary J. (now Mrs. Hall), and Samuel R., who died in Texas, June 8, 1883.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis became the parents of eight children, seven now living. Naney C. was married to Breece N. Read; William A. married Miss Laura Owens; Mary A. married William C. Means; Emma D. became the wife of H. McMaekin; Katuria; Samuel G. married Miss Emma Miller; Corla H. is at home. Mr. Lewis and his family are all members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which our subject has officiated as Class-Leader for a period of thirty years and been Steward and Sunday-school Superintendent about the same length of time. In early manhood, during the existence of the Whig party, he was a firm adherent of its principles, but on the abandonment of the old party by the organization of the new Republican party he cheerfully endorsed the principles of the latter, with which he uniformly casts his vote.

The grandfather of our subject on his mother's side, Burtis Ringo, served in the Revolutionary War for a term of seven years, and died a pensioner at the advanced age of one hundred and three years.



**J**ACOB SPEERS owns and occupies a fine farm of 160 acres in Blue Mound Township, on section 24. His land is all improved and under a good state of cultivation, with a tasteful and convenient residence and all necessary out-buildings for the shelter of stock and storage of grain. Mr. Speers has been a resident of McLean County since 1865, and of Blue Mound Township since 1870. He was born in Westmoreland County, Pa., Dec. 15, 1814, and is the son of Noah and Naney (Frye) Speers, also natives of the Keystone State, where they passed their entire lives. They were the parents of thirteen children,

all of whom, with one exception, grew to mature years. That one was killed when quite young, by being thrown from a horse.

Jaecob Speers remained in his native county until 1846. He then came to this State, locating first in Peoria County with his wife and six children. After a residence there of eight years they removed to Stark County, in which they remained eight years, then returned to Peoria County again and resided there until the spring of 1865. Mr. Speers then came into this county and lived in Chenoa Township until the spring of 1868. Thence he removed to Towanda Township and after about one and one-half years, crossed the Mississippi and became a resident of Kansas, in which State he remained until 1870. He then returned to this county and settled in Blue Mound Township, where he has since lived. He has identified himself fully with the interests of the county and community since coming here and is reckoned among the thrifty and well-to-do farmer residents of this section.

The marriage of our subject took place in his native county of Westmoreland, Pa., May 10, 1836, the lady of his choice being Miss Margaret, daughter of John F. and Mary (Sterrett) Power, who were also natives of Pennsylvania, where they spent their entire lives and where their remains were laid to rest. Of their ten children, Mrs. Speers was the sixth. She was born in Westmoreland County, Pa., March 4, 1820. Of her union with our subject there were thirteen children, ten now living, namely, James S., John F., Noah L., Naney J., Clarissa, William L., Harriett A., Charles, Solomon E. and Maggie S. The three deceased died when quite young. John married Miss Eleanor Halstead and resides in Ford County, Ill.; Noah married Miss Maggie Ellis and also lives in Ford County; Naney is the wife of John Watt of Chenoa; Clarissa married M. J. Wilson and is a resident of Scott County, Kan.; William married Miss Laura Power and resides in Blue Mound Township; Harriett became the wife of F. L. Voorhees, and they are located at St. Jose, Cal.; Charles married Miss Ollie Newton and is farming in Blue Mound Township; Solomon married Miss Irene Gay and is a resident of Blue Mound Township; Maggie became the wife of J. B. Nichols of Ne-

braska; James married Miss Mary Davis; she died in Blue Mound Township, April 28, 1875.

Mr. Speers is Republican in politics and has held some of the minor offices of his township, including that of Assessor, in which he has served several years. He also served as Supervisor in Stark County, and was twice elected Justice of the Peace but would not serve. Both our subject and his wife are worthy members of the Presbyterian Church, and held in high esteem by all who know them.

**R**OBERT STEWART. The name of this gentleman is familiarly known in Yates Township where he has a snug farm homestead, pleasantly located on section 15. He is a native of the North of Ireland, born in County Donegal, in December, 1833, and possesses the generous characteristics of the warm-hearted Celtic race. His parents, John and Eliza (Glenn) Stewart, emigrated from their native country with their family in about 1850, making their first location in the city of Philadelphia, Pa. Afterward they removed to New Jersey and in 1857, to Illinois, locating in Peoria County. Later they removed to this county, where the father died in Yates Township, Sept. 22, 1884. The mother had passed to her long home nearly eighteen years before, at Chenoa, Ill. The five children of the parental family were all born in Ireland, and came to the United States with their parents; Martha became the wife of John Florida and resides in Peoria County, Ill.; Robert is living in Yates Township; Elizabeth married Chester Brown and resides in this county; Margaret, Mrs. Samuel Baird, lives in Chenoa Township, and John in Yates Township.

Robert Stewart was seventeen years of age when he came with his father's family to the United States. He worked first in a cotton factory in Philadelphia, where he remained until 1857, then started westward toward the Prairie State. His first location was in Peoria County, where he worked as a farm laborer, his father joining him in the fall of that year and the balance of the family the following spring. The second year of his residence in Peoria County our subject rented a tract of land

and followed farming there until 1864. He then removed to McLean County, and in company with his father and brother, purchased 120 acres of land in Chenoa Township, all of which was wild prairie. He at once set about the improvement and cultivation of the new farm, which he occupied until 1875, then purchased his present homestead in Yates Township. He is now the owner of 160 acres of land, which he has placed under a fine state of cultivation. Robert Stewart was married on the 4th of July, 1867, to Miss Naney, a sister of William Hanna of Yates Township. She was born in County Antrim, Ireland, and by her union with our subject became the mother of two children, one of whom died in infancy. Robert J., born Sept. 13, 1871, is living at home with his parents. Mr. Stewart is Republican in politics, and religiously coincides with the doctrines of the Presbyterian Church.

**W**ILLIAM B. KENT, one of the early pioneers of Dale Township, and whose portrait is shown in this connection, became a resident of McLean County in 1843, and during a residence of over forty years, has been an interested witness of the various changes that have been taking place in this section of the Prairie State. During this time he has fulfilled his obligations as a good citizen, and has contributed his full quota toward the progress and prosperity of his adopted township. He has lived honestly and uprightly, met his moral and legal obligations in a praiseworthy manner, has identified himself thoroughly with the business and industrial interests of this section, and, as a valued citizen, enjoys the confidence and respect of his townsmen in a marked degree.

William B. Kent is a native of Indiana, and was born in Jones Township, Hancock County, April 23, 1832. His father, Nathaniel Kent, was a native of Mason County, Ky., and his grandfather, John Kent, died there in 1833. Nathaniel Kent learned the trade of a blacksmith at Lexington, whence he removed to Brown County, Ohio, and renting a tract of land, engaged there in farming pursuits. In the meantime, however, as time and





W. B. Keel



Ben. F. Webb

opportunity permitted, he continued at his trade, and remained a resident of that section until 1831, when he moved into Indiana, located in Hancock County, and engaged in farming and blacksmithing alternately for the following twelve years.

In the fall of 1843 Nathaniel Kent decided to remove to the Prairie State. He accordingly loaded his household goods and blacksmith tools into wagons, together with his wife and seven children. The entire journey was made overland, and Mr. Kent employed men to drive the teams. They carried their provisions with them and cooked along the route, making their beds in their wagons at night. After arriving in McLean County Mr. Kent rented one room in a house in Dry Grove Township, into which they removed and lived for a time, then rented a house of Roswell Munsell, and also a tract of land. Here Mr. Kent pursued farming operations, and worked at his trade for the following five years. He then purchased forty acres of land lying on sections 8 and 9 of Dale Township, upon which he removed in the fall of 1848. He was prospered in his labors, and in due time made an additional purchase of 160 acres adjoining, lying on sections 16 and 17. As soon as his sons became old enough to manage the farm, he turned the business over to them principally, and applied himself most of the time to his trade for twenty years. Here, Mr. Kent established a comfortable home, which he occupied until his death, which occurred on the 7th of July, 1884.

Mr. Kent was united in marriage in early manhood, with Miss Annie Hawk, who was born in Brown County, Ohio, came West with her husband and survived him over one year, her death taking place Dec. 19, 1885. Their family included thirteen children, ten of whom grew to years of maturity, having been carefully trained in those principles of honor and honesty which had been the secret of Nathaniel Kent's success in life, and of the respect in which he and his excellent and worthy helpmeet were held during the period of their long and useful lives.

William B. Kent was the third child of his parents, and was eleven years old when he came with them to McLean County. Here he attended the common schools and assisted his father around the

farm and in the shop. He remained at home until the breaking out of the late Civil War, and then, on the 8th of August, 1862, enlisted as a soldier of the Union, in Co. L, 94th Ill. Vol. Inf. He served with his comrades until the close, having been in the battles of Prairie Grove, the siege and capture of Vicksburg, Ft. Morgan and Spanish Fort, and participated in various other engagements and skirmishes. He marched with his comrades through the States of Missouri, Arkansas, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi and Texas, most of the time being upon active duty, and returned home unharmed, and with his regiment received his honorable discharge at Springfield, Ill., on the 9th of August, 1865.

After his return from the army, Mr. Kent resumed his farming operations on the old homestead, upon which he has resided since that time. Of this he is now the possessor of 120 acres, a good set of frame buildings, and all the necessary appliances for carrying on agriculture after the most approved methods. Mr. Kent is still unmarried, having for his housekeeper his sister, Miss Susan. Our subject is Republican in politics, liberal in his religious beliefs, and for his honest and upright dealings and straightforward business methods, enjoys in a marked degree the confidence and esteem of his associates and fellow-townsmen.



**B**ENJAMIN H. WEBB, who owns and occupies a comfortable farm estate on section 15, Dry Grove Township, is a native of McLean County, and was born March 3, 1832. His parents, Stephen D. and Penina (Hinshaw) Webb, were natives respectively of South Carolina and Tennessee. They were married in the latter State, and came to Illinois in 1826, locating in McLean County. Stephen Webb was born May 8, 1795, and died in this county April 11, 1886. His wife, the mother of our subject, the date of whose birth is not known, died in 1870, at the home of her

husband in Dry Grove Township. They were married on the 10th of December, 1824, and became the parents of six sons and one daughter. The record is as follows: John married Miss E. Ruth of Virginia; Kelly married Miss Amelia Jane Platt, and lives in Greene County, Iowa; William married Miss Matilda Barker, who died in about 1863; he then married Miss H. Thomas, who died a few years after marriage, and his third wife was formerly Mrs. Malinda Christ, Mary Jane became the wife of B. F. Martin, of Dry Grove, and is now deceased; Benjamin of our sketch was the fifth child; Thomas married Miss Johnson, and lives in Missouri; Milton S. married Miss Mary A. Smith, and is engaged in farming in Dry Grove.

Benjamin H. Webb was married to Miss Mary A. Diekens on the 3d of March, 1857. Mrs. W. was born in McLean County, Oct. 9, 1837, and is the daughter of William and Elizabeth (Cleveland) Diekens. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Webb there have been born seven children, who are recorded as follows: Warren married Miss Mary E. Johnson, and they have one child, Willie, who was born in February, 1885; Jenetta, now Mrs. John D. Lamb, has four children—Oliver, Park, Etta and Warren; Hattie is now Mrs. Charles Hatfield; Charlotte, Elizabeth, Edith and Florence are at home with their parents.

Mr. Webb is the possessor of 240 acres of fine farming land, and has given much attention to the raising of fine stock. He has been a prominent man in the township and has served the people with credit in the various offices with which they have intrusted him. He was elected Supervisor in 1874, and politically is a staunch supporter of the Democratic party. He has made the most of his opportunities in life, and his well-informed mind has been greatly benefited by traveling over various portions of the United States and keeping his eyes open to what is going on around him in the world at large. He is not identified with any church organization but aims to make the Golden Rule the basis of his daily life, lives at peace with his fellow-men and as becomes a law-abiding and worthy citizen.

A lithographic portrait of Mr. Webb is presented in connection with this sketch.

**S**AMUEL A. DEAL, of Dry Grove Township, is engaged as a farmer and stock-raiser on section 30, where he is the possessor of a comfortable home. Mr. Deal is a native of the Old Dominion, having been born in Augusta County, Va., the date thereof, July 8, 1841. His parents were Samuel C. and Priscilla (Brown) Deal, who were born, reared and married in Virginia, whence they removed to Illinois in October, 1848. They located in Dry Grove Township, where the mother departed this life on the 5th of June, 1875. She was a most worthy and estimable lady, and an active member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Samuel C. Deal was born Oct. 18, 1814, and is still a hale and hearty old man, his present home being in Danvers Township, about a mile and one-half east of his son's place. The parental family included nine children, as follows: John B.; Samuel A.; Elizabeth E., Mrs. Peter Elkins; Newton, who died at the age of seven years; Mary C., now Mrs. A. K. Rigens; Jane A., who died in infancy; Sarah A., Mrs. John Wright, Emma P., and Virginia V. H., who married Stephen Staubus.

The subject of this history remained under the parental roof until he attained to years of manhood, and on the 27th of March, 1873, was united in marriage with Miss Mary E. Harris, a native of Warren County, Ky., who was born on the 6th of April, 1846. Mrs. Deal is the daughter of Alexander C. and Mary (Norfleete) Harris, both natives of the Blue Grass State. Her father was born Dec. 27, 1808, in Kentucky, and her mother Sept. 18, 1819, in the town of Somerset. The mother is still living. The father died March 26, 1887. They were the parents of seven children, the record of whom is as follows: Amanda J. married W. C. Johnson; William H. died when one year old; D. M. for his first wife married Miss H. Bates, who died after a few years, and he was then married to Miss Carrie Metcalf, of Connecticut; Dr. H. A., who practiced in Menard County, Ky., died on the 11th of June, 1877; Mary E. is the wife of our subject; Thomas M. died at the age of three years; James W. died in 1873 at fifteen years of age.

The homestead of our subject embraces 799½ acres of land, with a fine dwelling-house, and good

barns and out-buildings, among which is the finest hog-house in the county. This is 30x80 feet in area, two stories in height, and he now has 300 fine porkers, besides an equal number of cattle, and 600 head of sheep. As a stock breeder he is familiarly known all over the county as one of the best and most extensive. He has sold up to this date (1887) nine car loads of fat cattle, for which he obtains the highest market price. His property is estimated to be worth at least \$75,000, a portion of which he inherited from his father, the balance has been accumulated through his own industry and good judgment, and he has added materially to the industrial and business interests of this section, while at the same time his homestead forms one of the embellishments of McLean County, both on account of its beauty of location and the improvement which Mr. Deal has brought about in addition to its natural advantages. A lithographic view of the place is shown in this work. He has been in all respects a useful and valued citizen, is a member in good standing of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and in politics is an uncompromising Democrat.

To Mr. and Mrs. Deal have been born the children who are recorded as follows: James N., born Nov. 8, 1874, died Feb. 21, 1875; Mary P., born Nov. 21, 1875, died May 15, 1877; Hattie E. was born July 13, 1877, and lives at home with her parents; Addie P., born March 28, 1878, died Jan. 5, 1885; Samuel C., born May 6, 1882, died Jan. 21, 1885; William H. was born Oct. 8, 1884, and Carey, Nov. 9, 1886.

**D**R. OSCAR WAKEFIELD, proprietor of the Medicine Laboratory, is located at the corner of Washington and Evans streets, Bloomington, and is carrying on an extensive and profitable business. This establishment gives employment to twenty-five or thirty-five men, besides six men on the road, and has become widely and favorably known throughout this and adjoining States. Dr. Wakefield is a native of De Witt County, Ill., and was born April 7, 1846. His parents were Dr. Cyrenius and Harriet (Rich-

ardson) Wakefield, natives of Watertown, N. Y., who removed to Illinois and located in Bloomington in 1837. The parental history will be found in another part of this work. Oscar Wakefield was one of seven children born to his parents, and remained with them during his childhood and youth. He pursued his primary studies in the common schools, and later attended the Commercial College of Bloomington. He afterward entered the medical department of the College of Cincinnati, Ohio, and upon returning to Bloomington became, in 1871, a partner with his father, with whom he has continued to the present time.

Dr. Wakefield was married in 1868 to Miss Agnes Benchley, a native of Connecticut, and the daughter of Henry A. Benchley, of Willimantic, Conn. Of this union there were two children—Herbert, who died when three and a half years old, and Bruce. Dr. Wakefield is Republican in politics, a member in good standing of the A. F. & A. M., and prominent as a useful business man and a worthy citizen. He is a stockholder in the People's Bank and the Plow Factory, and takes an active interest in all matters concerning the public welfare. He occupies, with his family, a pleasant residence at No. 506 East Washington street, and enjoys the esteem and confidence of the best citizens of Bloomington.

**A**BRAM H. CARLOCK, one of the prosperous farmers of White Oak Township, is located on section 20, where he has established a comfortable homestead and built for himself a reputation as an honest man and a good citizen. His parents were Abraham W. and Mary (Goodpasture), Carlock, natives of Overton County, Tenn., the father born April 7, 1800, and the mother, Jan. 4, 1803. Mrs. Carlock, on her father's side, was of English descent, and several of her brothers became prominent men of the State of Tennessee. One of them, Judge Winburn Goodpasture, was Circuit Judge in Tennessee for many years and presided over several counties. Dillard Goodpasture, another brother, is a prominent banker at Nashville, Tenn.; John and McDonald

Goodpasture are both prominent physicians in Nashville. Abraham Goodpasture was a clergyman of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church at Petersburg, Ill.; he is now deceased. William Goodpasture, of Elkhart, Logan Co., Ill., is a prominent farmer. Mrs. Carlock, on her mother's side, was of Scotch descent.

Abraham Carlock was a farmer and stock-raiser, and left his native State while yet a young man, in 1829. Coming to Morgan County, this State, he rented land for two years and then, coming into this county, purchased 360 acres in Kansas Township, Woodford County, and White Oak Township, McLean County. He prospered in his farming and business transactions, and added to his landed possessions until he became the owner of 1,700 acres, 700 of which he disposed of before his death, but retained 1,000, which since his death has been subdivided. He was here during the winter of the deep snow, which is so well remembered by the early settlers who were confined to their cabins for several weeks, being unable to communicate with each other. At one time he saw a tribe of Tippecanoe Indians, which passed about sixty rods from his house on their way to Tippecanoe, Ind. There was then no market for farm produce, and for several seasons he was obliged to drive his hogs to Chicago to sell, and frequently after his toilsome journey could only get in exchange for them a small stock of groceries, but in common with the other pioneers he was made of stanch stuff, which permitted no thought of relinquishing his first project of establishing a home in the West. He lived to see many changes in the face of the country and the progress of civilization, and spent his last days where he had toiled the most, and finally reaped an abundant reward.

The subject of this history was born in Kansas Township, Woodford County, this State, Aug. 22, 1847. He remained on the homestead during his childhood and youth, and, after an attendance of three years completed his studies in the college at Eureka. The home circle of his parents included twelve children, four now deceased: John G. married Miss Lucinda Musie; Madison P. married for his first wife Mrs. Ewing; his second wife was Miss Nancy Judy, of Logan County, Ill.; Nancy became

the wife of Thomas Brown, of McLean County; Sarah was three times married, her first husband being William Allen, the second Squire Marley, of Tazewell County, and the third, George Cranson, of Gibson, Ill.; William B. married Miss Missonri McCart, of Bloomington; Mahala became the wife of Benjamin F. Gaddis; Abraham H. is our subject; Margery married William Pusey, of Bloomington; Lavina became the wife of Ira Rowell, of Danvers Township.

Mr. Carlock of this sketch was married, in Bloomington, to Miss Ida Edwards, Jan. 9, 1879. After his marriage he removed to the farm upon which he now resides, and which consists of 205 acres. This is finely improved and cultivated, and upon it is a comfortable and commodious residence, with a good barn and all necessary improvements. In addition to general farming he is giving much attention to the raising of a good grade of stock. Our subject is Democratic in politics, and in all respects is fulfilling the obligations of a good citizen.

Mrs. Carlock is the daughter of Elisha and Celia (Hedges) Edwards, who were natives of Morgan County, Ohio, and were married there in 1856. They came to Illinois that same year and settled in Le Roy, this county, where Mr. Edwards engaged in the grocery trade for five or six years. He then purchased 160 acres of fine farming land, and engaged in agriculture for three years. He then removed to Bloomington, and is now living retired from active labor. He was an Alderman there for about ten years, and served as Justice of the Peace several years. Mrs. Celia Edwards was born Jan. 3, 1840, and became the mother of two children—Emeline and Orson. By the second marriage there were born seven children, as follows: Mary B., who died in infancy; Ida I., Elmer, Effie, Edwin, Minnie and Myrtle, twins; Oscar died in 1873; Emeline became the wife of Byron Covey, and Effie became Mrs. George Winchell.

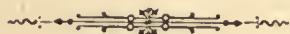
Our subject and his wife have become the parents of three children—Lulu E., born Oct. 25, 1879, Pearl L., Aug. 23, 1881, and Celia Mabel, April 14, 1884. Mrs. Carlock is a member of the Christian Church.

The grandfather of our subject was a soldier in the Revolutionary War and also in the War of



1812, and took part in the battle of New Orleans, one of the hardest fought and last battles of that war. The grandfather of Mrs. Carloek was a successful physieian and minister, and the author of a medical work of great merit. He died in the prime of life, when but fifty years of age.

A view of Mr. Carloek's handsome residence will be found on another page.



LEVI VINCENT, M. D., represents in a worthy manner the medical profession at Weston, and socially is regarded as one of its most valued citizens. He is a native of Albany County, N. Y., and was born Jan. 24, 1826. His parents, Martin and Hannah (Moore) Vincent, were natives of the same State, where the father was engaged in farming the greater part of his life, and died in Albany County, at the advanced age of about eighty-five years. The mother lived to be eighty years old. The household circle included seven sons and three daughters, all of whom grew to mature years, and nine are still living.

Levi Vincent, the ninth child of his parents, was reared upon his father's farm, and received a good literary education in the schools and academies of Greenville and Chesterville, in his native State. He was fond of his books, ambitious to excel, and attained such profieieney that at twenty years of age he commenced teaching, which he followed during the winter seasons until 1870, his summers being occupied in farm pursuits. In the meantime, however, in 1856, he came westward to Illinois, and for a time was a resident of Marshall County. From his boyhood, however, he had intended to become a physician, and read medicine whenever time and opportunity afforded. In the spring of 1870, he determined to delay no longer fitting himself for his chosen calling, and becoming the partner and pupil of Dr. E. E. Williams, an old physieian of Streeter, Ill., practiced with him until the fall of 1871. He then entered upon a course of study in Bennett College, Chicago, from which he graduated in the spring of 1872. After graduating, he practiced in Streeter one year, then returned to Marshall County, where he owned a

farm, and upon which he removed on account of the failing health of his wife. He, however, gave his attention to his profession, and built up a good practice in the neighborhood where he had previously resided for many years. In the spring of 1879, he sold this farm and removed to another near Fairbury, which he owned, and which he wished to improve. While there, the citizens of Weston, in this county, petitioned him to locate in their midst. In response to this he sold this farm also, and in November of the year named, moved into Weston, where he has since given his entire attention to his profession. Dr. Vincent, however, believing that real estate was the best investment for surplus funds, purchased in 1883, the north-west quarter of section 10, Yates Township, for which he paid \$5,000. The land was low, and not considered valuable, but he has drained and improved it so that it is now considered one of the finest farms in this part of McLean County.

The first marriage of Dr. Vincent took place on the 12th of January, 1850, at Durhamville, Oneida Co., N. Y., when he was united with Miss Harriett Dorman. This lady was born in Albany County, N. Y., and was one of the playmates of his early childhood. After remaining his faithful and affectionate companion for over twenty years, she departed this life at her home in Marshall County, Ill., May 26, 1873, leaving one daughter, Cornelia N., the wife of Rev. George M. Weber, a minister of the Methodist Episeopal Church.

The second wife of our subject, to whom he was married Dec. 18, 1873, was Mrs. Adaline (Powell) Halstead, who had also been an acquaintance of his from his early youth. Mrs. Vincent is the daughter of Joshua and Ann (Smith) Powell, natives of Greene County, N. Y. They came West in 1846, and settled in Peoria County, this State, where the mother died at the age of forty-seven years. The second wife of Mr. Powell was Miss Zilpha Halstead. His death occurred at Weston, Oct. 14, 1885, when he was in the eighty-ninth year of his age. The second wife died in January, 1885, aged eighty-seven years. Mr. Powell when first coming West, located for a short time in Peoria, whence he removed to Marshall County, being among the early pioneers of that section. He lived there un-

til 1882, then removed to Weston and made his home with his daughter, Mrs. Vincent. Mrs. Vincent by her first marriage with B. W. Halstead, became the mother of four children: Joshua P., now a ganger in the employ of the Revenue Department at Peoria; Finley B., a conductor on the P., D. & E. R. R.; Annie, the wife of Chaney Myers, a resident of Ellsworth, Kan., and Addie died in infancy, aged about twenty-one months.

Dr. Vincent politically was formerly an uncompromising Democrat, but has now arrayed himself on the side of the Prohibition party. He has been honored with the local offices of his township, and takes a great interest in educational matters and everything else connected with the welfare and prosperity of his community. Both Mr. and Mrs. Vincent are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



**Z** T. STRAYER, a successful and influential farmer of Padua Township, is a native of Logan County, Ohio, born Jan. 22, 1850, and the son of Nicholas Strayer, a native of Virginia, and of German parentage. The latter, after marriage, removed to Ohio, where his wife died not long afterward. He was then married to Miss Esther Kinnan, who was a native of New York, whence she removed with her parents to Ohio. Of this union there were born eleven children, our subject being the youngest of the family. Nicholas Strayer departed this life in Logan County, Ohio, Jan. 21, 1852, when his son, Z. T., was two years old. Two years later the mother with her ten living children, started for the prairies of Illinois, and coming to this county located in Towanda Township, on what is now known as Money Creek. Two years later they disposed of their land there and removed to De Witt County, settling in Turnbridge Township. This also they sold not long after, and the mother and an older son speculated for some time in hogs, but not being quite satisfied with the result of their operations, the mother and a part of the family then went across the Mississippi to Mills County, Iowa, where she is now living, in the town of Glenwood, having arrived at the advanced age

of seventy-five years. Mrs. Strayer has been a remarkable woman in her time, with more than ordinary business capacity, and notwithstanding her years, still retains her strength and activity, and the bright mind for which she has always been noted.

Mr. Strayer lived with his widowed mother until he attained the years of manhood, and was then united in marriage with Miss Adelaide Dickerson, the wedding taking place in Empire Township at the home of the bride's parents, on the 17th of March, 1875. Mrs. S. is the daughter of Henry C. Dickerson, now a resident of Le Roy, and was born Sept. 8, 1855, in Empire Township, where she was reared and educated. She remained under the parental roof until her marriage with our subject, and became the mother of five children, as follows: Libby T., Harry M., George, Walter S. and Henry, all at home.

The homestead of our subject is on section 31, and includes 115 acres of valuable land, with fine farm buildings, and all the accessories of the modern and progressive farmer. He took possession of this place in February, 1882, and has made great improvements since that time. He has held the various offices of his township, and politically is accounted a first-class Republican. Mr. and Mrs. Strayer are regular attendants of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



**C**HRISTIAN STRUBHAR, who is pleasantly located on Danvers Township, on section 3, is one of the representative farmers of this section who is meeting with success and contributing his share to the agricultural interests of this county. Mr. S. is a native of the township where he is now living, and was born June 13, 1844. He is the son of John and Anna (Schertz) Strubhar, natives of Alsace Lorraine when it was a Province of France. The father operated a farm in his native country until 1833, then emigrated to America and located in Butler County, Ohio, where he engaged in distilling for about six years. In 1839, after having come to this county, he was married to Miss Anna Schertz. The parents of Mrs.

S. came here from New Orleans. After marriage John Strubhar purchased eighty acres of land, to which he afterward added 650 acres, and in due time became proprietor of one of the finest farms in this section of the country. Upon the homestead which he had thus established, he remained until his death, which occurred Jan. 17, 1884, when he was over seventy-five years of age, being born in 1809. The mother, born in 1820, is still living. Their ten children were: Mary; Christian, of our sketch; Anna; Magdalena, who became the wife of C. W. Kinzinger, and they reside in Danvers Township; Barbara married Peter Risser, and they live in Danvers; Catherine married C. R. Stuckey, and they live in the village of Danvers; Maggie, Phebe, and Peter, who is making his home with his mother. Maggie, Phebe and Mary are deceased. The parents were members of the Mennonite Church; the father was a Democrat until 1856, when he changed his views and identified himself with the Republican party.

The subject of our sketch was reared on his father's farm and received a good education in the common schools. He remained under the parental roof until twenty-one years old, and was then married to Miss Magdalena Ehrisman. Their wedding occurred in this county, Feb. 22, 1865. After marriage Mr. S. cultivated a part of his father's farm, and in 1877 became the owner of eighty acres, and has added to his homestead until it now consists of 200 acres, and is finely improved, with a handsome and substantial dwelling, a good barn, and all necessary out-buildings. Everything about the premises is neat and orderly and indicates the supervision of an intelligent and enterprising man. In connection with his farm Mr. S. owns and operates a large sawmill which, in the sawing of lumber for his own use, proves a saving of hundreds of dollars during the year and in sawing for his neighbors yields him a considerable income.

The wife of our subject was born in Danvers Township, McLean County, Jan. 22, 1845, being the daughter of Christian and Fannie (Barrett) Ehrisman, natives of Wurtemberg, Germany. They came to this country about 1836; the family consisted of nine children—Magdalena, Joseph, Barbara, Catherine, Susan, Lydia, Samuel, Jacob and

Benjamin; the latter died in 1865. Mr. and Mrs. Strubhar have three children—Lydia, Samuel and Louis A., all at home with their parents. Both parents are members of the Mennonite Church, and our subject in politics is strongly Republican.

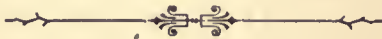


**C**HRISTIAN W. KINZINGER, a gentleman in the prime of life, owns and occupies a fine farm of 160 acres in Danvers Township, on section 2. He has a fine dwelling and good barn, and all necessary out-buildings and appliances for the carrying on of agriculture in a first-class manner. The subject of this history is a native of the Prairie State, having been born in Woodford County, in 1846. His parents were Michael and Magdalena (Nafziger) Kinzinger. They were natives of Germany and came to this country in an early day, locating in Butler County, Ohio, where Michael K. followed the business of a distiller. He was married in about 1845 to the mother of our subject, and coming to Illinois they located in Woodford County. Here the father rented land the first year and in 1848 entered eighty acres, to which he soon afterward added 100 more. He was prospered in his farming and business transactions and is still living and in good health. He and his excellent wife became the parents of twelve children, as follows: Catherine became the wife of Joseph Fry; Peter married Miss Nafziger; Daniel married Miss Mary Schiek; Jacob married Miss Lena Kerr; Christian W. of our sketch was the fifth child; Barbara became Mrs. David Zook, and Magdalena, Mrs. Jacob Gunda; Anna became the wife of Peter Strautz; Jacobina B. married Joseph Strubhar; Caroline became the wife of George Kirekler; Killian and August were the two youngest and are living in Woodford County, Ill. Both parents have been members of the Mennonite Church for many years. Mr. K. was a Democrat until the administration of Buchanan when he left the party, casting his first Republican vote for John C. Fremont, and has affiliated with that party since that time. The mother of our subject was the daughter of Peter and Barbara (Beek) Nafziger, who became the parents of the following children: Bar-

bara, Magdalena, Phebe, Catherine, Jacob, Peter and Valentine.

Christian W. Kinzinger remained with his father on the farm, attending the common schools and assisting in the labors of the homestead until he reached his majority. He was married, Jan. 10, 1871, to Miss Magdalena Strubhar. After his marriage he cultivated rented land for five years, and then purchased the land which he had worked and which constitutes his present homestead. It is all under a good state of cultivation with ten acres of choice timber. Of late years he has been giving considerable attention to the raising of fine stock, including horses, cattle and hogs. He makes a specialty of roadsters and has some fine specimens of Norman and Clydesdales.

Mr. and Mrs. K. have become the parents of three children: Edward, born in 1872; Ophelia in 1873, and Urvina in 1876. Both parents are members of the Mennonite Church, and politically our subject is a straight Republican. He has held the office of Road Commissioner two terms and was elected a School Director three successive years. He is in all respects a representative citizen, and is contributing his full share toward the growth and prosperity of his township.



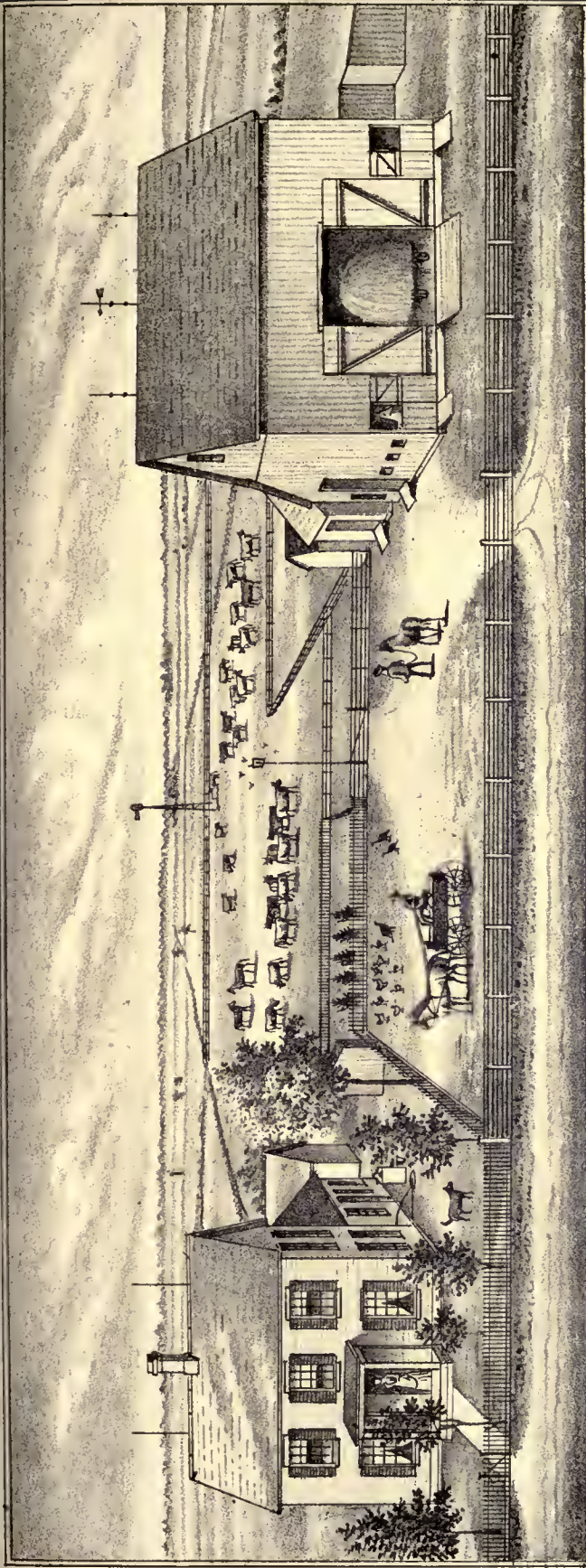
**C**HARLES J. STRONG, of Danvers Township, is widely and favorably known in this vicinity, and is prosecuting his agricultural pursuits on a fine homestead located on section 26, a view of which is shown on another page. Mr. Strong was born in Richland County, Ohio, Aug. 27, 1837, and is the son of Abel and Hannah (Berdine) Strong; the father was of English descent, and the mother of French Huguenot extraction. The father of our subject was born in Connecticut in 1795, and died in Ohio in 1840. He was a merchant and Justice of the Peace, and the Representative of Richland County to the Legislature, being elected on the Whig ticket. Besides a large stock of general merchandise, in which he enjoyed a lucrative trade, he owned 240 acres of fine farming land which, with the buildings thereon, constituted a valuable homestead. The wife and mother

is still living in New York City, and enjoying good health for a lady of advanced years.

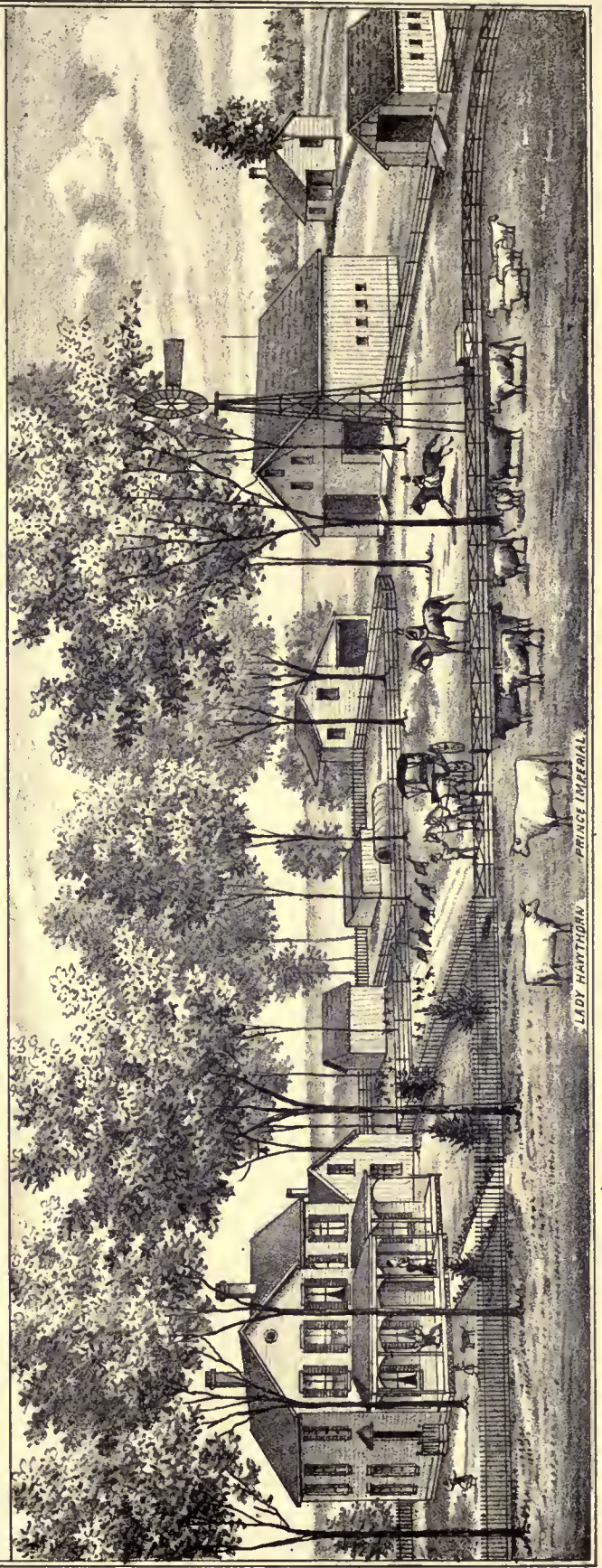
The parental household included seven children, of whom the record is as follows: James died at the age of four years, and Orlen when seventeen; Elizabeth, deceased, was the wife of H. J. Hayes, of Toledo, Ohio, who is now a commission merchant and a member of the Board of Trade; of this union there were born three children, only one of whom is living; Mrs. Hayes died in 1846. William L. married Miss Mary Aborn, and is a dry-goods merchant of New York City; he was born in Richland County, Ohio, March 22, 1827, is a prominent and useful citizen, and a member of the Republican party; Rhoda married Rev. Benjamin Thomas, a Baptist minister, and died in Bloomington, Ill., in 1856, leaving three children; her husband died in Arkansas in 1883; Charles J. of our sketch was the sixth child; Abel died when two years of age.

Charles J. Strong and Miss Mary Simpkins were married on the 3d of September, 1873, in McLean County, Ill. Mrs. Strong was born in Highland County, Ohio, Aug. 28, 1846, and was the daughter of Jeremiah and Margaret (Roads) Simpkins, natives respectively of New Jersey and Ohio. Her father was born Jan. 22, 1823, and the mother April 12, 1827. After the birth of five children, the latter died on the 2d of July, 1857. Mary, Mrs. Strong, was the eldest of the family; Morris was born in 1848; Josephine in 1851; Ida, now deceased, was born in 1854, and Emma in 1856. For his second wife Mr. Simpkins married Miss Sarah Jacoby, in 1858. She was a native of Illinois, born in 1835, and is still living. Of this union there were nine children, four of whom died in infancy. Those living are Jeremiah, born in 1863; Daniel, in 1867; Julia, in 1870; Jennie, in 1874, and Jessie. The father of these children is still living, and is now in Kansas. He served as a Union soldier in the late war, in the 94th Illinois Regiment for three years as a private, receiving an honorable discharge at the close. He is now a member of the I. O. O. F. and the G. A. R., and in politics is a strong Republican.

Mr. Strong came to Illinois in 1854, and after remaining in Bloomington two years went back to Ohio, staid there with his mother a year, and then



RESIDENCE OF C. J. STRONG, SEC. 26., DANVERS TOWNSHIP.



LADY HARTHORN PRINCE IMPERIAL

RESIDENCE OF SAMUEL A. DEAL, SEC. 30., DRY GROVE TOWNSHIP.



went to his brother in New York City. In 1859 he enlisted in the Regular army for five years, being quartered at Carlisle, Pa., for three months, and upon the opening of the Rebellion went into active service. He participated in the seven days' fight at Gaines' Mills, Va., at Gettysburg and Antietam, and at various other general engagements. At Gaines' Mills he was wounded by a bayonet thrust through the right hand, but not so seriously as to be sent to the hospital. After brave and faithful service he received his honorable discharge on the 3d of March, 1864. In 1880 he took possession of his present farm in this county. This consists of 160 acres under a good state of cultivation, with a substantial dwelling and all convenient and necessary outhouses. He is a straightforward business man, greatly respected by his fellow-townsmen, and in politics is a firm adherent of the Republican party.

The father of our subject was a Captain in the War of 1812, having command of a company of Connecticut militia, serving throughout the conflict until the treaty of peace was signed, and was among the sturdy spirits of the old colonial times.



**W**ILLIAM L. SMITH, senior member of the firm of Smith & Warner, merchants at Cooksville, has been a resident of Blue Mound Township since the spring of 1857. When a lad of fifteen years old he came here with his parents, Jacob T. and Eliza (Williams) Smith. The former was born in Jessamine County, Ky., and the latter in Clark County, Ind. After marriage they settled in Floyd County, Ind., where they lived until April, 1857, then came to this county and settled in Blue Mound Township. Here the father died in the spring of 1863; the mother is still living, and resides in Cooksville. Their seven children included five boys and two girls.

The subject of this history, the eldest of his parents' family, was born in Floyd County, Ind., Aug. 27, 1842. He attended school in his native county until the time his parents removed to Illinois. He remained under the home roof until he reached his majority and in August, 1862, the

Civil War being then in progress, enlisted as a soldier of the Union in Co. E, 94th Ill. Vol. Inf., and served until the close of the war, in the meantime being promoted Corporal. After leaving the army he at once returned to Blue Mound Township, and soon afterward commenced taking the census of Gridley, Money Creek and Towanda Townships.

When Mr. Smith was taking the census in Towanda Township an incident occurred which is worthy of mention. In the course of his travels he had occasion to call at a certain house where the people were expecting daily the return of a brother who had been recently discharged from the army. Mr. Smith, who had still retained a part of his old uniform, was taken for the brother, and as he approached the door a young lady, sister of the expected wanderer, rushed out to meet him ready to embrace him and bestow upon him the sisterly tokens of affection. Just as she reached him, however, she discovered her mistake, and to say that her cheeks were suffused with blushes would scarcely describe her situation. Mr. Smith who fully appreciated the "joke," did his part in easing it off, and was cordially invited into the house by the father of the young lady, who had witnessed the occurrence and was rolling on the floor convulsed with laughter.

He afterward engaged in farming and carpentering and also dealt considerably in live stock, until 1883. He then decided to change his occupation and go into mercantile business in Cooksville. He formed a partnership with Hugh W. Warner, and they have operated since that time under the firm style of Smith & Warner. They carry a complete stock and are doing a profitable and steadily increasing trade.

Mr. Smith was married in Bloomington, Ill., on the 10th of March, 1870, to Miss Mary E. Powell, sister of the wife of Hugh W. Warner, of whom a sketch will be found in another part of this work. Mrs. Smith was born in Madison County, Ohio, July 14, 1845. Of this union there is one child, a daughter, Eliza, who was born March 20, 1871. Our subject was appointed Postmaster of Cooksville in February, 1884, which office he held until after the change in the administration. He is Re-

publican in politics, and belongs to G. A. R. Post, No. 146, and also to the Masonic fraternity, Lexington Lodge No. 482. He has held the office of Township Clerk, and is a gentleman of sound judgment whose opinion is uniformly held in respect, and one who takes a genuine interest in the welfare of his county and community.



**A** J. LUCAS, whose parents were among the early pioneers of Illinois, came to McLean County with his parents when a child of three years old, in 1823. He has been engaged in farming pursuits the greater part of his life, but is now retired from active labor and enjoying the comforts of a pleasant and attractive home, located at No. 615 East Walnut street, Bloomington.

Mr. Lucas was born in White County, this State, Nov. 7, 1818, his parents being William and Gooden (Hendrix) Lucas, natives respectively of Georgia and England. His father was a farmer by occupation, and became a resident of McLean County in 1823, settling three miles south of Bloomington. He there purchased 240 acres of land, built a log cabin and opened up a fine farm, upon which, with his wife and family, he spent the remainder of his days. The parental household included ten children, three now living: A. J., our subject; Benjamin L., and Doreas, Mrs. Reeder.

Young Lucas was reared to farming pursuits, received a fair education, and remained with his parents until twenty-one years old. Four years later he married, and was given forty acres of the old homestead. He occupied this two years, then removed to LaFayette, Ind., where he stopped, however, but a short time. He then returned and rented land three years in McLean County, and afterward purchased forty acres four miles south of Bloomington. He lived upon this four years, and then purchased 172 acres in Martin Township; this was partly improved. After two years he sold out and rented land in the Grove for three years. He then purchased sixty-five acres, which he cultivated until 1879, and then traded it for 220 acres in Ran-

dolph and Downs Townships, upon which he lived until 1886, when he practically abandoned farming and moved into the city.

Our subject was married on the 28th of December, 1843, to Miss Elizabeth Simmons, a native of Virginia, and the daughter of Ephraim and Elizabeth (Calloway) Simmons. Of this union there were born six children, only two now living: Wilbur E. married Lydia A. Bay, and they have three children—Roy, Pearl and Ira; Benjamin W. married M. B. Rhodes, and they have five children—Hugh, Charles, Abbie, Evva and Edith; W. E. lives with his father, and has always followed farming.

Mr. Lucas is Republican in politics, and is a man whose opinions are held in high respect in his community. He has held the offices of Road Commissioner and School Director, and his sons are men of note and reliable and valued citizens, also having been connected with the School Board.



**H**ORATIO G. BENT, LL. B., Professor of Common Law and Equity Pleadings and attorney at law, of Bloomington, is a native of Louisiana, but has been a resident of the Prairie State since 1859. He was born in the city of New Orleans, Nov. 22, 1857, being the son of Horatio and Lucinda (Grimes) Bent, the former a native of Massachusetts, and the latter of Batavia, N. Y. Horatio Bent, Sr., left his native State when a young man, and going South to New Orleans, engaged in the commission business and remained there until the breaking out of the Civil War, when he came North, locating in Bloomington in 1859, but only lived a few years afterward, his death occurring in 1865. His wife, with her two children, our subject and his sister, Nellie, who still survive, are all now residents of Bloomington, the sister having married James S. Neville, a prominent attorney here.

Horatio Bent, Jr., completed his primary education in the public schools of Bloomington and then entered Wesleyan University, from which he graduated in 1879. He then studied law in the office of



Stevenson and Ewing, took a course of study in the law department of the Bloomington Law School, whence he graduated in 1882, and was admitted to the bar that same year. He commenced the practice of his profession in St. Paul, Minn., but returned to Bloomington in the fall of 1883, forming a partnership with John J. Pitts. Six months later Mr. J. P. Lindley was taken into the firm, and the three have operated together since that time. This is one of the strongest firms in the city, all of its members being ambitious to excel in their chosen profession. In 1886 Mr. Bent received the nomination for County Judge by the Democratic party with which he affiliates, but missed the election on account of a large Republican majority. Aside from his professional duties Mr. Bent is a professor in the Law School of Bloomington, with which he has been connected for the last three years, and at which he graduated with the honors of his class before entering upon his practice.

The marriage of Horatio G. Bent and Miss Adah Crist, of Bloomington, was celebrated at the home of the bride's parents in 1880. Mrs. Bent is the daughter of Dr. I. W. Crist, and by her marriage with our subject has become the mother of two children—Horatio C. and Lewis G. Our subject is a prominent member of the First Baptist Church, and Mrs. B. is connected with the Grace Methodist Episcopal Church.



REV. GALEN M. GOODE, pastor of the Christian Church of Normal, has charge of one of the most prosperous congregations in the county, and is performing the duties of his high calling conscientiously and satisfactorily to all concerned. Mr. Goode is a native of Macoupin County, Ill., and was born July 4, 1842. His father, Dr. John W. Goode, was a native of Maryland and came to Illinois at an early period in the history of this State, in about 1830. He located in Macoupin County and there practiced medicine the remainder of his life. The mother of our subject, Mrs. Maria (Bush) Goode, was a native of Tennessee and came to this State in about the same year as her husband. She is still living and resides at St. Joseph, Mo.,

aged about seventy years. The parental family included four children, all now living: Marshall is pastor of the Christian Church at St. Joseph, Mo.; Darwin L. is the Postmaster of Stirrup Grove, Macoupin County, and also superintends the operations of his farm there; Martha is the wife of John B. Corwin and resides in New London, Mo.; Galen M., our subject, was the youngest of the family.

Mr. Goode was reared on his father's farm and educated in the schools of his native county. In the fall of 1859, at the age of seventeen years, he became a member of the Christian Church, in which he at once took an active part, and as his services were always in demand he found himself engaged in preaching before he fairly realized the fact. He was employed first to fill various appointments until twenty-five years of age, and was then chosen pastor of the church at Palmyra, Ill., near his birthplace, where he remained until 1873. He was then removed to Illiopolis, Sangamon Co., Ill., where he remained for five years, was afterward located at Harristown, Macon County, and thence, in September, 1883, came to Normal. His life for many years has been wholly devoted to the Master's service, and aside from his pastoral duties he has frequently held protracted meetings in different States and taken part in many public discussions. In Palmyra he conducted a debate with a Methodist circuit rider by the name of Harlan on the subject of baptism, and two with the Presiding Elder of the Methodist Episcopal Church South on the same subject. These discussions took place before our subject was thirty years of age, and he was then known as the "Macoupin Boy."

Mr. Goode is a strong Temperance man and an earnest advocate of Prohibition, having devoted considerable time to lectures upon this subject throughout Central Illinois. In 1886 he was the candidate for Congress on the Prohibition ticket in the 14th District. His early education was quite limited and his present attainments are the result of his own industry and love of learning. He is now not only finely educated in the English branches, but has made considerable proficiency in Greek and Latin.

The marriage of Rev. Galen M. Goode and Miss Mary Nevins was celebrated Dec. 27, 1863, at the

home of the bride's parents in Macoupin County. Mrs. G. is also a native of Macoupin County and the daughter of Sinns and Margaret (Steele) Nevins, and by her marriage with our subject became the mother of seven children, one of whom died in infancy. Those living are: Carrie B., Jennie A., Walter Scott, Harry Virgil, Russell E. and Lucille.

**W**ILLIAM MUNSON, an energetic and progressive farmer of Randolph Township, owns and occupies a fine homestead of 120 acres lying on a part of sections 18 and 19. The land is beautifully located and finely adapted to purposes of general farming. Mr. Munson came into possession of this valuable tract of land in the spring of 1872. It had then been much neglected and its buildings were of little value, but with that energy and enterprise for which our subject is noted all over this section of country, he set to work to improve the condition of his purchase, and the results have been most satisfactory. He now has a handsome and attractive dwelling, good barns and out-buildings, and has brought the land to a high state of cultivation. His example is well worthy of imitation by those prone to give way to discouragement, and is a fine illustration of what may be accomplished by steady and persistent labor.

Mr. Munson was born on his father's old homestead in Randolph Township on the 17th of September, 1844. His father, a native of New Jersey (see sketch), had been a resident of Hamilton County, Ohio, having left his native State when ten years of age, with his parents. He was married in Randolph Township to Miss Sarah J. Noble, who was born and reared in Hamilton County, Ohio. Of this union there were born eight children, of whom our subject is the eldest now living and was the eldest but two of the family. His early life was spent on the parental homestead until his marriage, which took place Feb. 13, 1869. The maiden of his choice was Miss Amanda J. Seogin, and their wedding occurred at the residence of William Karr in Randolph Township. Mrs. Munson was born in De Witt County, near Wapella, this State, Jan. 4,

1845. Her parents were William and Margaret (Karr) Seogin, who were born respectively in Hamilton County, Ohio, and Warren County, N. J. They were married in Ohio, and after the birth of four children came to Illinois in about 1843, settling near what is now Wapella, and engaging in general farming. There the father died in the spring of 1881; the mother had passed to her final rest on the 8th of November, 1860.

For his second wife William Seogin married Mrs. Ella (Taflinger) Marshall. She is now living with her daughter Emma in De Witt County. Of this latter union there were born four children, two now living. Anna is married to Charles Buck of Vernon County, Mo.; Mrs. Munson of our sketch was reared at home until after the death of her mother, when she went to live with her cousin, William Karr, of Randolph Township, where she remained until her marriage.

Mr. and Mrs. Munson have become the parents of five children, three now living—Nellie H., Frank I. and Anna E. The deceased are John F. and Minnie, aged eleven and eight years, respectively; both died of scarlet fever, one on the 12th and the other on the 17th of December, 1880. Our subject and his wife are members in good standing of the Christian Church, and in politics Mr. Munson casts the weight of his influence in support of the principles of the Republican party.

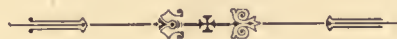
**C**APT. HIRAM McDOWELL PHILLIPS, hero of the Mexican and of the late war, and a resident of the thriving city of Le Roy, is a native of the Buckeye State, born in Picketon, Pike Co., Ohio, Feb. 1, 1822. His father, Thomas Phillips, and his grandfather, also Thomas by name, were natives of Pennsylvania, and engaged there in agricultural pursuits. Thomas Phillips, Jr., removed to Kentucky at an early day and settled in Harrison County, where his life terminated. Thomas, Jr., accompanied his father's family, and after a few years went northward into Ohio and located in Scioto County. He was there married to Miss Mary McDowell, a native of his

own State. They settled in Pike County, and lived for a few years, then removed to Scioto and from there, in 1828, to Indiana. They spent one winter in Wayne County, and afterward lived in Tippecanoe County a few years, then selling out located in Montgomery County. The father of our subject departed this life Feb. 17, 1851, at the home of our subject near Danville, Ill. The mother died in 1845. The parental household included ten children, eight of whom grew to mature years; our subject was the youngest.

Young Phillips was reared to farm pursuits, and pursued his studies in both public and private schools. He was a bright boy, fond of his books, and at fourteen years of age commenced teaching, which he followed for many years in Montgomery and Boone Counties, Ind. In 1848 he came to Vermilion County, this State, and taught there and in Champaign County until 1857. He then came to McLean County, and locating at Le Roy engaged as a mechanic. He enlisted in the army in May, 1846, becoming a member of Company G, 1st Regiment Illinois Volunteers, and going with his comrades to Mexico served one year, or until the expiration of his term of enlistment. He participated in the battle of Buena Vista under Gen. Taylor. During the late war, Oct. 11, 1861, he raised a company of volunteers, of which he was appointed Captain, and with his comrades assigned to the 39th Regiment Illinois Volunteers, which was known as Yates Phalanx. He served three years and four months, and during that time participated in thirty battles, among them being that of Winchester. At Drury's Bluff he was wounded and captured, and confined three months and eight days in Libby Prison. He was then paroled and proceeded to Annapolis, Md., where he was discharged in December, 1864, on account of disability, and it also being the expiration of his term of service.

Mr. Phillips was married, Dec. 17, 1848, to Miss Christiana W. Martin, who was born in Harrison County, Ky., and the daughter of Edward W. and Sarah A. (Phillips) Martin. Her father was a native of Kentucky, and her grandfather, John Martin, a farmer in Harrison County, that State, spent his last days there. Mrs. Sarah A. (Phillips) Mar-

tin was born in Ohio. She came with her husband to Illinois in 1836, and they located in Vermilion County, near Danville, whence they removed to Champaign County, where the mother died. Edward W. Martin departed this life at the home of his daughter in Le Roy. Mr. and Mrs. Phillips have become the parents of three children: Thomas E., now living in Jefferson County, Mo.; George W., at home, and Sarah A., the wife of I. N. Clarke, of Le Roy.



**W**ILLIAM B. CARLOCK, attorney at law, Bloomington, is a native of the Prairie State, and was born in Woodford County, March 15, 1842. His father, Abraham W. Carlock, who lived in Overton County, Tenn., until arriving at manhood, was born in Virginia, and married Miss Mary Goodpasture, of Tennessee. After their marriage they located in Overton County, Tenn., where they remained until 1826, at which time they came to Illinois and lived for a while in Morgan County, whence they removed to McLean County, and thereafter to Woodford, where the father died, Feb. 19, 1884, being eighty-four years of age, he having been born April 7, 1800. Of the twelve children who completed the household circle, one died in infancy, and another lived until ten years of age. Ten children lived to mature years, and eight still survive, four brothers and four sisters, all being married and having families of their own.

The subject of this history was the eighth child of his parents, and passed his childhood and youth on the farm. He received a fair education in the common schools, and was reared to habits of industry and economy. After leaving home he entered Lombard University, at Galesburg, Ill., where he pursued a thorough course of study, and graduated with the highest honors in the summer of 1867. In the meantime he also taught a select school for several terms, to assist in defraying his expenses while in college. Wishing to still further perfect himself for business and usefulness in life, he entered the law department of the State University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, and graduated



county when he was but six months old. He received a fair education in the district school, and remained under the home roof until he was twenty-one years old. He then began farming on his own account. In 1886 he took unto himself a helpmeet, in the person of Miss Nancy J. Wilson. Mrs. K. is the daughter of John and Clara Wilson, natives of Indiana, but now residents of this county. After marriage the young people settled on a farm in Martin Township, where our subject engaged in general agriculture, including stock-raising. He is still in the prime of life, full of energy and ambition, and is recognized by all as a skillful and intelligent farmer, who avails himself of the most modern and approved methods of operating his land. He enjoys in a marked degree the confidence and esteem of his fellow-citizens, who have kept him in the position of School Director for many years, and have elected him Township Collector for three years in succession and a member of the Board of Supervisors since the spring of 1885, which office he still holds. Politically he is an uncompromising Democrat, and takes an active interest in everything pertaining to the welfare of the country at large. Both Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy are prominently connected with the Christian Church, our subject having joined when fourteen years of age. He has been Clerk of the church society for several years.

Our subject and his wife became the parents of five children, three sons and two daughters, all of whom are living and at home with their parents—Charles O., Ord C., George F., Gertrude F. and Myrtle Belle.



**M**RS. CLARISSA WALL, a pioneer of 1839 and a resident of Le Roy, is a highly respected lady of good education and rare intelligence, and of more than ordinary ability in conducting business affairs. She is a native of Kentucky, born Nov. 30, 1807. Her father, Aaron Garrison, a native of South Carolina, left his native State when a young man and wended his way to Ohio, stopping first at Cincinnati. While there he met and married Miss Lucy McColum, who was a native of his own State, and whose parents

removed to Cincinnati while it was yet an infant village.

After marriage Mr. Garrison located across the river in Kentucky, where he remained until 1811. He then proceeded to Indiana and settled nine miles west of Lawrenceburg, in Dearborn County, upon a tract of timber land, consisting of sixty acres, where he put up a hewn-log house and cleared fifty acres. In 1824 he disposed of this and purchased 248 acres of timber land in Rush County, where he put up another hewn-log house, which he occupied with his family until 1856. In the meantime he also cleared a large portion of this purchase. Then, disposing of this he purchased 160 acres in Brown County. This was partially improved. He was then in the eighty-fourth year of his age and lived but a few months after his last removal, his death occurring in December of that year. Mr. Garrison was three times married, his first wife, the mother of our subject, dying in Rush County, Ind., in 1829. The second wife, formerly Miss Elizabeth Scott, also died in Rush County. He married his third wife when eighty years of age. His children, nine in all, were by the first marriage. Of these, four sons and four daughters grew to years of maturity.

The subject of this history made her home with her parents until she had grown to womanhood, and until her marriage, Jan. 29, 1835, to Jacob Karr. He was born in Essex County, N. J., in July, 1799, and their marriage took place in Lawrenceburg, Ind. They located in Hamilton County, Ohio, Mr. K. purchasing a farm sixteen miles from Cincinnati, which he occupied until 1839. On the 12th of May of that same year he started for Illinois, which he had previously visited, and purchased 487 acres of land in what is now Empire Township, this county. There was a log house and barn and sixty acres were broken. There were also fifty bearing apple-trees. Mr. K. was accompanied by three children of the first marriage. Their outfit consisted of two loaded wagons, one drawn by horses and the other by oxen. Mrs. K. came with her father-in-law, Capt. John Karr, accompanied by her two children and her brother-in-law, Thomas Karr, with a two-horse carriage. In the latter part of January of the year following, Mr. Karr re-

turned to Ohio to settle unfinished business and collect money due him. He started for the West the latter part of February, making the trip on horseback. He caught cold from exposure, was quite sick when he reached home and lived but a few weeks afterward, his death occurring April 1, 1840.

In 1849 Mrs. Karr was married the second time, to Elias Henry Wall, who was a native of Warren County, Ky., whence he came to this vicinity at an early period in the history of McLean County. Mr. and Mrs. W. occupied the Karr homestead some time, then purchased a farm in Downs Township, where they lived until the death of Mr. Wall, which took place Jan. 18, 1875. After the death of her husband Mrs. W. returned to the Karr homestead, which she still owns, and occupies a part of the time.

By her first marriage Mrs. Wall became the mother of three children: Mercy J. was born in Hamilton County, Ohio, Dec. 1, 1835, became the wife of Harrison Barnett, and departed this life March 23, 1863; Mr. Barnett died October 9 of the same year, leaving one son, Asbury, who is now a resident of Le Roy. The second child of our subject, James Karr, was born in Hamilton County, Ohio, Sept. 8, 1837, and died Sept. 16, 1838. The youngest, Rachel, was born Jan. 4, 1839, married George W. Powts, of Le Roy, and died Feb. 24, 1863. Of the second marriage there was born one son, George A. Wall, who died March 16, 1863, aged twelve years and seven months. Asbury Barnett, her grandson, is the only survivor of her immediate family. He was born in West Township, this county, Sept. 25, 1854, and was in his ninth year when his parents died. He then went to live with his grandmother, with whom he remained until his marriage, Sept. 25, 1873. The maiden of his choice was Miss Mary S. Johnson, who was born in Downs Township, this county, Dec. 15, 1853. They have three children—Nettie M., Fannie B. and Marey. Mr. Barnett is engaged in the livery business at Le Roy.

Mrs. Wall through many trials and afflictions has preserved a brave and courageous spirit, and has proved herself equal to every emergency. She has conducted her business and farming affairs intelligently and successfully, and her two homesteads

are both handsome and valuable. She is greatly respected in her community, and during her long residence here has distinguished herself for her womanly virtues and kindness of heart.

ANTHONY THAYER, deceased, was formerly a highly respected resident of Yates Township, where he settled in 1867. He was born in the village of Warren, Washington Co., Vt., being the son of Aaron and Esther (Field) Thayer, who after their marriage located in Warren, Vt., where the father died in 1863. Three years afterward the mother emigrated to Illinois, and after living one year in Tazewell County removed to McLean County and settled in Yates Township, where she died July 13, 1879. Of the ten children composing the parental household only two are now living: Erastus, who resides at Forest, Ill., and Emeline, the wife of Robert Hopkins, of this county.

The subject of this biography received a good common-school education and assisted in the lighter duties about the small farm on which the family resided among the Green Mountains. He was about fourteen years of age when his father died, and being the youngest of the children his mother naturally looked upon him as her future support. He accompanied her to Illinois and soon after arriving in McLean County, purchased 160 acres of land on section 19, in Yates Township, in which the mother retained a life lease. Young Anthony was industrious and soon effected numerous improvements on the new purchase, having in view the establishment of a future home for himself as well as a comfortable abiding-place for his mother. On the 20th of December, 1870, he was united in marriage with Miss Maggie Arnold, who proved his faithful and affectionate companion during his lifetime. Mr. Thayer died April 28, 1884, and is mourned as one who was a good citizen, a kind husband and father, and a useful member of the community. He was a staunch supporter of the Republican party, a believer in the Christian religion, and although never having been connected with any church society he usually worshiped with the Pres-





Joseph Hamilton



Tobias S. Stauffer



byterians. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Thayer there were born six children, two of whom, George M. and Ella M., died in childhood. Those surviving are, Clarence E., born Feb. 3, 1872; Ida L., March 6, 1873; Frank E., July 27, 1874, and Minnie B., Jan. 2, 1883.

Mrs. Thayer is a native of Wurttemberg, Germany, and was born April 9, 1851. Her parents were John C. and Caroline Arnold, who emigrated to the United States when their daughter, Maggie, was but one year old. Mrs. T. continues to reside on the homestead purchased by her husband and which now consists of 240 acres of choice land, which she superintends in an intelligent and highly successful manner. She is a member in good standing of the Presbyterian Church, and greatly respected wherever known.

**T**OBIAS S. STAUFFER is the owner of a fine farm of 160 acres of land on section 15, Old Town Township, and has been prospered in the vocation which he has followed thus far in life. The parents of our subject were Tobias and Anna (Shank) Stauffer, natives of Lancaster County, Pa., and of Swiss and German ancestry. Their married lives were passed in Lancaster County, and the father died there Sept. 17, 1884, in his eighty-first year. They had eight children, four sons and four daughters, and Tobias S. was the fourth in order of birth.

Tobias S. Stauffer was born in Lancaster County, Pa., April 21, 1836. He lived at home until he was about twenty-one years old, having received his education mostly in the common schools. After attaining man's estate he taught school for eight terms in his native county, and after coming to this county taught one term in Danvers Township. After leaving the parental home the time of our subject was passed in teaching and clerking in a store, and also in working out on a farm for a number of years. He commenced life with naught but a firm determination to succeed, and his first purchase was a small place in Lancaster County, Pa., where he continued to reside, engaged the while in farming, until the spring of 1867. From 1862 to

April, 1867, he was Justice of the Peace in Lancaster County, and was also Assessor in 1865 in the same county. He then came to Alton, this State, and the following summer moved to this county and took up his abode in Dry Grove Township.

Mr. Stauffer's means were limited on arriving in the county, and he at first purchased only forty acres of land, which he cultivated until 1877, when he sold his place and purchased an eighty-acre tract in Normal Township. There he lived for six years and disposing of his farm by sale, bought 160 acres of land in Old Town Township, the same being that on which he is at present residing. All his land is under a high state of cultivation and he is succeeding as well in his vocation as labor, energy, good judgment and economy will permit.

Mr. Stauffer was married in Lancaster, Pa., Nov. 20, 1860, to Miss Mary Bishop, daughter of Henry and Catherine (Shely) Bishop, natives of Lancaster County, Pa., and of Scotch lineage. The mother died in Madison County, Ill., and the father in Sangamon County, this State. Their children were ten in number and Mrs. Stauffer was the fourth in order of birth. She was born in Lancaster County, Pa., Jan. 1, 1843, and of her union with our subject seven children have been born—Lineas B., Anna M. B., David M., Henry B., Fannie E., Benjamin F. and Albert T. Lineas is a resident of Kansas and a farmer by calling; Anna M. B. died in Lancaster County, Pa., in infancy. While a resident of Dry Grove Township our subject held the office of Collector and was also Township Clerk of Old Town Township. He and his good wife are members of the Protestant Methodist Church, and in politics he is a staunch Republican. The publishers are pleased to present a portrait of Mr. Stauffer in this work, and his many friends and acquaintances will readily recognize it, on another page.

**J**OSEPH HAMILTON, a highly respected resident of Yates Township, where he formerly engaged extensively in farming, is now retired from active business, and occupies a handsome residence in the village of Weston. He has been a resident of this county since December,

1857, and has witnessed with keen interest the remarkable changes which have transpired within a period of thirty years. He has also contributed his full share toward the progress and development of his adopted county, and has presented an example of industry, enterprise and success.

Mr. Hamilton was born in Brown County, Ohio, Nov. 16, 1817. He traces his descent from excellent Irish ancestry, his grandfather, Robert Hamilton, being one of the first representatives of the family in this country. The grandfather emigrated from Ireland to the United States, prior to the Revolutionary War, in which he afterward served as a brave and courageous soldier. His son Robert, the father of our subject, after starting out in life for himself, pursued farming, and being very handy with tools frequently worked as a mechanic. He was a man of more than ordinary intelligence, and through his own efforts became fairly educated and informed. During the last years of his life he served as Justice of the Peace in Brown County, Ohio. He was taken from his earthly labors in the prime of life, his death occurring in 1829, when he was about forty-three years of age. His wife, the mother of our subject, who before her marriage was Miss Nancy Parish, was born in Pennsylvania, and died in Brown County, Ohio, about 1875, having survived her first husband nearly forty-six years, and living to the advanced age of eighty-three. The parental household included seven daughters and two sons, four of whom are deceased.

Joseph Hamilton was only twelve years old at the time of his father's death. His mother subsequently married again, and the family being in limited circumstances, our subject three years later engaged as an apprentice to learn the saddlery and harness-making trade. He remained with his first employer three and one-half years, attending school three months in each year, and worked at his trade the balance of his time. He afterward worked as a "jour" for nine months, the highest wages he received being \$12 per month. Subsequently he varied his occupation by driving ox-teams, for which he received \$8 or \$9 per month, and when nineteen years of age taught school at \$8 per month and board. On the 21st of February, 1837, he was united in marriage with Miss

Elizabeth J. Purdum, who was born in Brown County, Ohio, in 1817. After his marriage our subject taught school and farmed alternately, and by the aid of his faithful, industrious and economical wife, in time managed to save something from his scanty earnings. He resided in his native State until 1855, in the meantime having become the possessor of seventy acres of land. Then, believing that he could better himself in the further West, he emigrated to Illinois, first locating in Putnam County, where he resided two years. He then rented a farm of eighty acres at \$4.50 an acre in advance, being obliged to borrow the money to pay the rent. For two years he raised 2,000 bushels of wheat each year, and in due time found himself on the road to prosperity. In 1857 he traded his land in Ohio for 100 acres in Lawndale Township, this county, upon which he settled and commenced to cultivate and improve. Then came the panic of 1857-58, and Mr. Hamilton in common with hundreds of others, suffered on account of poor crops and other misfortunes. He had no thought of giving up, however, but kept on in the even tenor of his way, and soon recovered himself, and once more enjoyed the smiles of fortune. In due time he was enabled to add to his original possessions, and besides his town property is now the owner of 180 acres of land, finely improved and furnished with all necessary buildings. He occupied this farm until the spring of 1880, when he purchased the property at Weston which he now occupies, and where he is living retired from active labor. His faithful companion and helpmeet departed this life Nov. 9, 1884. Of their ten children two died in infancy and one after reaching manhood. The seven living are Sarepta Ann, the wife of John Vawter; Perry; Amanda, Mrs. Peter J. Piester; Theresa, the wife of John M. White; Robert, William, and Elizabeth, the wife of William Castle.

Mr. Hamilton has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church from boyhood. Early in life he became a strong Abolitionist, and afterward identified himself with the Republican party. Of late years he has watched the temperance movement with the deepest interest, and now ranges himself on the side of the Prohibitionists.

The publishers of this work have taken considerable pains in engraving a fine portrait of Mr. Hamilton, which may be found on another page.



**J**OHN E. THOMAS, one of the important factors in the architectural department of Bloomington, Ill., is prominently engaged as a contractor and builder, and is considered one of the most successful and skillful of the craft. Our subject is a native of Greene County, Ohio, and was born July 3, 1833. He is the son of Francis F. and Jemima (Rice) Thomas, the father a native of Ohio and the mother of Pennsylvania. Francis F. Thomas, in early manhood, became one of the first settlers of Greene County, Ohio, and for a number of years was a prominent farmer of that region. In 1855 he disposed of his real estate there and came to Bloomington, Ill. The following year he purchased 232 acres of land in Bloomington, where he resumed his old occupation, and occupied the home here established until his death, which occurred on the 20th of September, 1862. The wife and mother had died two years previously, on the 12th of July, 1860. They were the parents of five children, three of whom are living: John E.; Leander, a farmer of McLean County, and Margaret, Mrs. Wilson, of Indiana.

John E. Thomas remained with his parents until he was nineteen years old, and then went to Cincinnati, where he served a three years' apprenticeship at the carpenter's trade. He then came to Bloomington, Ill., and since that time has been engaged in his present calling and is the oldest contractor and builder in the city who is still doing business. He gives employment to from five to twenty men, and has superintended the erection of some of the most important structures in the city, among which is the Second Ward school-house, which is the pride of all the people in that vicinity. He built the Orphans' Home in Indiana, the cost thereof being \$80,000, and also the Methodist College at Greencastle, Ind., which cost \$40,000. Before coming to Illinois he completed some important contracts in Ohio, and has proved himself eminently fitted for his chosen vocation. He will

accept none but the best work from the most skillful employes, and his name is a guarantee of the architectural beauty and the solidity of whatever building he undertakes.

The marriage of John Thomas and Miss Eliza C. Carman took place on the 21st of October, 1858, in Bloomington. Mrs. Thomas is a native of Kentucky, and the daughter of Archie and Eliza (Grow) Carman, also of Kentucky. Of her union with our subject there have been born four children—Emma G., Mrs. Miner; Maude P., Jeannette A. and Carrie L. The attractive home of our subject and his family is located at No. 1105 East Jefferson street, where they dispense a generous hospitality to a large number of friends and acquaintances. The family are connected with the Second Presbyterian Church, and in politics Mr. Thomas is identified with the Democratic party. He is also a member in good standing of the I. O. O. F.

A lithographic view of Mr. Thomas' residence is shown on another page of this book.



**H**UGH W. WARNER, of the firm of Smith & Warner, Cooksville, is a native of Champaign County, Ohio, and the fifth child of Levi and Ann (Huffman) Warner, also natives of the Buckeye State, where they were married and lived until the spring of 1850. They then removed west to Illinois and located in Martin Township, this county, where the father and mother died. Their eight children included three boys and five girls. Hugh W. was born Jan. 11, 1839, and pursued his early studies in the subscription schools of his native county until eleven years old, when his parents made the removal West.

Mr. Warner remained an inmate of the parental home until he reached his majority. In August, 1862, after the outbreak of the late war, he enlisted as a Union soldier in the 94th Illinois Infantry, remaining in the service three years, and receiving his honorable discharge at the close of the war. After leaving the army he returned to this county and engaged in farming pursuits until 1883. He then went into the lumber trade at Cooksville, in company with David Horney, with whom he oper-

ated for two years following. They then sold out and Mr. Warner purchased a one-half interest in the mercantile business of William L. Smith, and they have operated since then under the style of the firm as above given. They carry an ample stock of merchandise and enjoy a lucrative trade. Both members of the firm are wide-awake, enterprising and courteous in their dealings with their patrons and friends, and occupy an important position among the business interests of the community.

Mr. Warner was married in Chicago, Ill., Oct. 28, 1867, to Miss Ann, the daughter of Harper and Margaret (Janes) Powell. Mrs. W. was born in Ohio, Feb. 7, 1841, and by her union with our subject became the mother of two children, Mimmie M. and Alonzo. Mrs. Warner is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Cooksville. Mr. Warner is Republican in politics and belongs to the Masonic fraternity, Lexington Lodge No. 482.



**G**EORGE BUNNEY, a highly respected farmer and a resident of Belleflower Township, where he is actively and intelligently engaged in the prosecution of his chosen calling, is a native of Leicestershire, England, born Aug. 29, 1820. His father, William Bunney, and his grandfather, George Bunney, Sr., were born on the same estate in Leicestershire. William Bunney, while young, learned the trade of a shoemaker, which he followed in his native shire, and there spent his entire life. He was married to Miss Elizabeth Gill, a native of the same county as himself and son, and she also spent her life there.

The subject of this history was reared in Leicestershire and commenced to earn his own living at the early age of ten years, in the meantime assisting his mother in the support of the younger children. The most of this time he was engaged in farming pursuits, and after arriving at years of manhood was married, on the 24th of June, 1845, to Miss Sarah Tomblin. Mrs. B. was born in

Northamptonshire, England, June 2, 1826, being the daughter of James and Sarah (Eady) Tomblin.

In 1850 our subject set sail with his family for the United States. They embarked at Liverpool on the 26th of March, and after a voyage of about six weeks, landed in Philadelphia on the 14th of May following. A brother of Mr. B. had assisted him by paying his passage. From Philadelphia they proceeded directly to Madison County, Ind., where Mr. Bunney soon secured employment and as fast as he earned the money paid over all he could spare to liquidate his indebtedness, which took nearly four years. In 1854 he left Indiana and came to this State, via the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers to Alton, thence by rail to Bloomington. He was accompanied by his family and they first stopped at Esquire Wakefield's, in Randolph Grove. He was employed by Mr. W. the following year, and the family took up their residence in a log house which belonged to the latter, and he began to cultivate land on shares. Mrs. Bunney was very industrious and assisted her husband in the support of the family by sewing and washing. After working land on shares for two years, in the meantime having lived economically and saved what he could, Mr. Bunney was enabled to buy a team, and then began cultivating land which he rented from Mr. Wakefield. He operated thus for six years, then removed to Bloomington Township and rented land two years longer. At the expiration of this time he purchased forty acres of railroad land, in what was then Mosquito Grove, but now Allin Township, and buying a frame building (the first engine house in Bloomington) removed it to his little farm and converted it into a dwelling. He occupied this with his family for sixteen years following, then removed to Belleflower Township, and in 1880 purchased his present homestead, which, however, he did not take possession of until two years later.

The farm of our subject contains 160 acres, all enclosed, in a good state of cultivation and supplied with a good set of buildings. Mr. Bunney has proven himself a first-class farmer and citizen and is universally respected wherever known. The children of our subject and his wife are recorded as follows: Sarah, the eldest, became the wife of





*Mr G Anderson*



*George Binney*

Jonathan Tyas, and lives in Champaign County, Ill.; Mr. Tyas enlisted as a Union soldier early in the conflict between the North and South, afterward veteranized and served until the close of the war; Elizabeth married Dr. Elijah Woolley, a practicing physician of Saybrook; George W. married Laura Cochran and lives in Belleflower Township, on a farm; James T. married Malissa Knox and they also live in Belleflower Township, on a farm; John R. married Hester Jane Vreeland and lives in Belleflower Township; Wakefield E. married Alice Lyons and lives in the same township; Winfield L., a twin brother of Wakefield E., Mary C. and Emma are at home. The second child died while on the passage from England and received an ocean burial, and two died in infancy.

Mr. and Mrs. Bunney have been connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church for many years, Mr. B. having assisted materially in the erection of the church at Stanford and being one of its first Trustees and Stewards. He was licensed by the Methodist Episcopal Conference to exhort and has preached in various places since that time, doing excellent service in the cause. Mr. B. is essentially a self-made man and he most nobly gives his excellent wife due credit for the courage and faithfulness with which she has performed her wifely and motherly duties. He claims that to this excellent lady a large share of his success in life is due, and as a neighbor and friend she is no less warmly held in respect and esteem by all who know her. Mr. Bunney, in August, 1845, enlisted in the Queen's army, serving in the 73d Infantry until April following, when he was discharged on account of disability. A handsome lithographic portrait of Mr. Bunney is shown in this work.



REV. WILLIAM G. ANDERSON, of Colfax, is one of the foremost citizens of this county. He was born in Jefferson County, Ind., Oct. 12, 1818, and is the fourth in order of birth of his parents' family of nine children. The parents of our subject were William G. and Anna (Whitaker) Anderson, and the latter

was a daughter of Aquilla Whitaker, who moved to Kentucky in an early day, and settled on Bullskin Creek, Shelby County. Mr. Whitaker was a particular friend of the famous hunter, Daniel Boone, and lived a close neighbor to him. Together they fought the redskins, and together they passed many a pleasant day hunting over the undeveloped portion of the State in which they were located. The Whitakers were of German extraction, and the Andersons of Irish lineage.

William G. Anderson, Sr., was an early settler in Shelby County, Ky., whence he removed to Jefferson County, Ind., and there engaged in farming. He continued to follow his calling in the latter county, meeting with varied success until his demise. This occurred in November, 1862. Our subject's mother departed this life in the fall of the following year. The parental family comprised ten children, seven sons and three daughters, only five of the number surviving at this writing [1887]. Rev. William G. Anderson passed his boyhood days in Jefferson County, Ind., and there lived, engaged the while in farming until after he had attained the age of manhood. When in his twenty-second year, Mr. Anderson was united in marriage with Miss Jane Sheridan, the ceremony being performed in the county of his nativity. Miss Sheridan was the daughter of James and Phoebe (Ricketts) Sheridan, the former a native of Kentucky, and the latter of Pennsylvania. Mrs. Anderson was the second in order of birth of her parents' children, and after her marriage with our subject they located on a farm in Jefferson County, Ind., and he there successfully followed his calling until the fall of 1855.

It was in the fall of the latter year that Mr. Anderson, hoping to better his financial condition, brought his family to this State and located in this county. In the spring of 1858 he moved to his present location in Martin Township, on section 3, near the Mackinaw Creek. The fine productive farm on which he lives to day was then an unimproved tract of land, having upon it a small cabin, which is still permitted to stand as a relic of by-gone days. Then he made his residence in it, but to-day he utilizes it as a stable. That our subject has been successful as an agriculturist is evident

from the fine and well-improved farm on which he lives to-day, and which has been brought to its present high state of productiveness mainly through his own labor. Our subject has devoted considerable of his time to the feeding and raising of stock, and some years has fed as high as 100 head of cattle and 200 head of hogs. His farm consists of 320 acres, 160 being located on section 3, and 160 on section 2, and 170 acres of his land is inside the corporation of the thriving little village of Colfax. About fifty acres of this has been sold out in town lots.

Mr. and Mrs. Anderson have become the parents of five children, namely, William H., of Colfax; Francis M., now in Dakota; Mary, wife of B. F. Payne, of Dakota; Millard F., also of Dakota, and James M. The latter was a soldier in the late war, and a member of the 8th Illinois Infantry. He served his country faithfully and well, and lost his life while fighting in her defense, being killed at the battle of Ft. Blakesley. Mr. Anderson has served as Supervisor of Martin Township, being the incumbent of that office for two years, 1868-69. He was a candidate on the Prohibition ticket, at the election of 1886, for the Legislature, and while he was defeated he received a handsome vote, and in his own township ran away ahead of his ticket. He and his good wife are members of the Christian Church, and for twenty years our subject was engaged in preaching for that denomination. For five years he was a member of the State Missionary Board, of Illinois, and for one year acted as its Chairman. He acted as financial agent of Eureka College, of Woodford County, Ill., from the years 1873 to 1877, and raised more money for the time he occupied the position than any one who has succeeded him, having raised on an average of \$1,000 per month while thus employed. Mr. Anderson is a self-made man in every sense of the word, and although his educational facilities in early years were exceedingly limited, he has improved each shining moment, and in addition to being a good Bible scholar, and posted upon the issues of Nation, State and county, he is likewise one of the best farmers and one of the most honored and respected citizens of the county. A lithographic portrait of Mr. Anderson appears on another page of this work.

ORIN WATERS, a resident of the Prairie State since 1844, and now engaged as book-keeper for Dr. C. Wakefield & Co., ranks among the substantial citizens, and has a thorough understanding of the duties of his position as an accountant, for which he has become well fitted by a good education and a large experience. The subject of this biography was born in Watertown, N. Y., Oct. 3, 1832, and is the son of William and Betsey (Wakefield) Waters, natives of the same place. William Waters was an official of his native county the greater part of his life, but in later years removed to Illinois, and purchasing a farm in De Witt County, devoted himself to agricultural pursuits and established a homestead which he occupied until his death, July 4, 1848. The mother died at the same place two years later, in 1850. Their four children were as follows: Henry, a resident of Iola, Kan.; Orin, of our sketch; Dr. Zera, of Bloomington, and Susan, Mrs. Andrus, of Bloomington, whose husband is engaged in mercantile pursuits. The father of our subject was a staunch adherent of the Democratic party, and belonged to the Universalist Church. He was generous and warm-hearted in his disposition, upright and honorable in his business transactions, a liberal supporter of schools and churches, and greatly respected wherever he was known.

Orin Waters was a boy of thirteen years when he came to Illinois with his parents. He received his education principally in the district schools until he was eighteen years of age, and then became a clerk in the store of Dr. C. Wakefield. In 1849 he came to Bloomington in the capacity of a drug clerk for the same gentleman, and continued five years, after which he established in business for himself, being thus occupied for four years, after which he sold out and engaged with R. Thompson & Co., in the drug trade, until 1867. He then associated himself in partnership with J. S. Sibird, and they purchased the Bloomington *Pantagraph*, conducting it until the fall of 1869, and then selling out started the *Leader*, which they sold in 1874. Mr. Waters then engaged as book-keeper for Dr. Wakefield, which position he has occupied since that time.

Our subject was married on the 1st of Deem-



ber, 1853, to Miss Mary E. Richardson, of Watertown, N. Y., and the daughter of Josiah and Cynthia (Toleman) Richardson, natives respectively of Massachusetts and New Hampshire, and her father was a farmer by occupation. Mr. and Mrs. Waters are the parents of three children, as follows: Frank R. married Miss Mamie Heaton, and they reside in Bloomington; Cynthia B. is the wife of Prof. George Hastings, of Santa Cruz, Cal.; Della is the wife of Harry N. Woods, engaged in the dry-goods trade at Bloomington, and they have one daughter, Lottie M.

The residence of our subject is located on East Washington street, at No. 517, where he dispenses hospitality to numbers of friends by whom himself and excellent lady are held in high esteem. They are both members of the Unitarian Church. Mr. Waters is Republican in politics, and socially belongs to the I. O. O. F.



**S**AMUEL S. YODER, a native of Mifflin County, Pa., now makes his home in Danvers Township, McLean Co., Ill., being pleasantly and comfortably located on section 36. He has been a resident of the Prairie State since 1851, and is a fine representative of the intelligent and progressive farmers of the West. Mr. Yoder was born in 1816, his parents being John and Susanna (Stutzman) Yoder, also natives of the Keystone State, the father born in 1785, and the mother in 1795. They were married in Mifflin County, Pa., in 1813, and remained upon a farm in that State until 1837. He then removed to Fairfield County, Ohio, and there cultivated rented land until 1852, when he removed further westward into Indiana. In this latter State he made his home with one of his sons, and there spent the remainder of his days, dying in about 1874. The mother died in Pennsylvania in 1836. Two of their twelve children died in infancy: Catherine became the wife of Adam Greenawalt; Samuel, of our sketch, was the second child; Joel married Miss Lydia Yoder; Elizabeth became the wife of Samuel Zook; Joseph married Miss Lydia Kurtz; Gideon married Miss Elizabeth Hartz; Lydia be-

came Mrs. Peter Stutzman; John married Miss Catherine Stahley; Adam married Miss Susan Kurtz; Susan became Mrs. David Kurtz. The parents were members of the Mennonite Church. John Yoder, politically, was an adherent of the old Whig party, but afterward affiliated with the Republicans.

Samuel S. Yoder was reared by his parents to farming pursuits, and received a good common-school education. After attaining his majority he was married to Miss Elizabeth Yoder, in 1838, in Ohio. He cultivated rented land until 1851, then removed to this State and county, purchasing forty acres in Danvers Township. In a short time he doubled his landed estate, but has now sold out and is living retired from the active business of life.

The wife of our subject is the daughter of Jacob and Polly (Kinney) Yoder, both natives of Pennsylvania. They were married in about 1806, and removed from their native State the following year to Marion County, Ohio, where Mr. Yoder followed agricultural pursuits, and where both parents died some years ago. Of their children, three died in infancy. Those living are Naney, Jonathan, Lydia, John, Elizabeth, Margaret and Prisella.

Of the marriage of Samuel S. and Mrs. Elizabeth Yoder there were born the following-named children: Jonathan married Miss Kittie Ballaman; Naney became the wife of Ferdinand Holderly; Jacob married Miss Lydia King; John married Miss Rosa Zimmerman; Samuel P. first married Miss Ura Lantz, now deceased; his second wife was Miss Lucinda Wallace. Mr. Yoder is Republican in politics, and both he and his wife belong to the Mennonite Church.



**J**AMES H. SPRAGUE, proprietor of the "Sprague House," Bloomington, is also engaged in the cigar and tobacco trade on Main street, where the hotel is located and occupies No. 605. Mr. Sprague has been a resident of this section since 1857, and is as highly spoken of as he is widely known throughout both the city and township of Bloomington. His birth

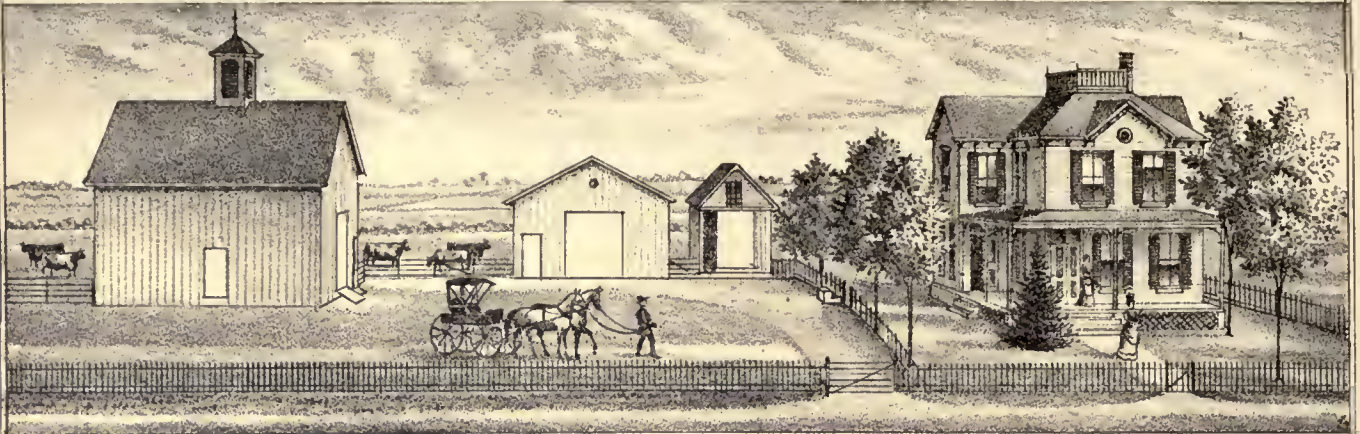
place was Marysville, Union Co., Ohio, and the date thereof Aug. 15, 1846. His father, Jackson G. Sprague, a native of Essex County, N. Y., was a cabinet-maker by trade. He migrated to Ohio when a young man, where he met and married Miss Sophronia Rose, a native of Buffalo, Y. Y. After his marriage he located in Marysville, Ohio, where he carried on an extensive furniture business until 1856, and served as Sheriff of Union County, Ohio, for a period of seven years. He then removed with his family to Lexington, Ill. He was opposed to slavery and a strong friend of the Union and thus, when the Civil War broke out, his patriotism was moved to such an extent, that he, in 1862, although forty-seven years old, volunteered his services to the Union and was mustered into the field of action as a member of Co. G, 33d Ill. Vol. Inf., and served two years and a half, and was then discharged on account of physical disability. The disease which he contracted while in the army still retains its hold upon him and there is no doubt but that he will suffer from it all the days of his life. In consequence of this he now draws a pension. After retiring from the army he resumed business a few years, but his health compelled him to retire from active labor. He then returned to Bloomington, and with the help of good employes, carried on an hotel successfully for several years. The faithful and affectionate wife and mother departed this life in 1885, since which time the father of our subject has lived retired from active business. The four children of the family are Cloa A., deceased; James H., Lucinda R. and Freeman R.

James H. Sprague was but ten years old when the family removed from Ohio and settled in this county. He received his early education in the schools at Lexington, Ill., and in 1864, although not having attained the age required to become a soldier, proffered his services to assist in the preservation of the Union and was accepted as a member of Co. G, 146th Ill. Vol. Inf., and served until honorably discharged at the close of the war. He then returned to Lexington, where he owned and operated a line of drays until 1871. He then entered the employ of the Chicago & Alton Railway Company as a machinist, in their shops at Bloomington, where he remained for a period of fourteen

years. Subsequently he engaged as a traveling salesman for a Bloomington cigar and tobacco house, and Feb. 1, 1886, succeeded his employers in the business. He now conducts a fine retail trade, having one of the finest tobacco stores in Central Illinois. He is courteous and attentive to his patrons, genial and pleasant in disposition, and has gathered around him a host of friends who value him as much for his excellent personal traits as they respect him for a thorough-going and upright business man. He is a staunch friend of the temperance movement, has never tasted intoxicating liquors, and in all respects is a law-abiding citizen and the friend of system and good order. He possesses rare social qualities and takes a deep interest in the prosperity and welfare of his county and community. In about 1875, Mr. Sprague became identified with the Knights of Pythias and is now a member of Damon Lodge No. 10, having passed all the chairs from the outer door to the Grand Lodge. He is also a member of Custer Division No. 22, U. R. K. of P., and belongs to John A. Logan Post No. 146, G. A. R. Although said Post has a membership of over 400 there is but one younger in years than our subject. He possesses excellent executive ability and is scarcely to be excelled in military tactics, being a good commander, thorough in drill and possessing the qualities requisite for the responsible position which he occupies. He is Chief Captain of Ridgley Temple Patriarchal Circle No. 4, one of the best drilled in the county. His company competed for a prize on the 30th of May, 1887, and the Patriarchal Circle carried off the silver cup. Its members some time since presented Mr. Sprague with an elegant watch charm, valued at \$30, which, however, is insignificant in comparison with the spirit which prompted the gift. Mr. S. is also a member of Towanda Tribe No. 48, of the Improved Order of Red Men, of which he is the highest officer as well as Captain of the Team.

The marriage of Mr. Sprague occurred on the 24th of December, 1868, the maiden of his choice being Miss Agnes D. Donovan. Mrs. S. was born in Lancaster County, Pa., and is the daughter of Joseph Donovan. Of her union with our subject there has been one son—Carl R., born Feb. 6, 1871.

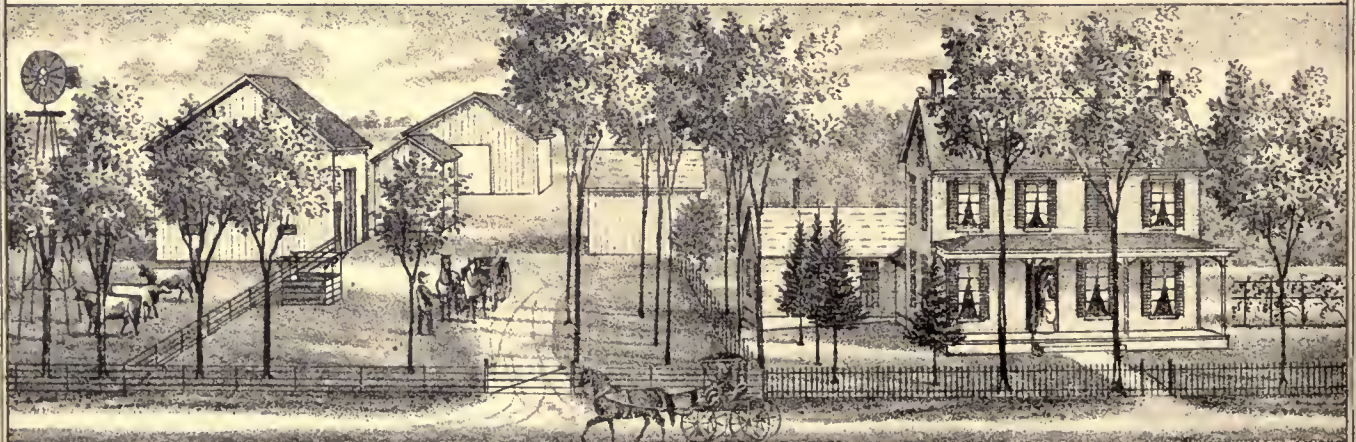




RESIDENCE OF F. A. EYSTONE , SEC. 6, (T. 21), FUNKS GROVE TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF JOS. T. MARTIN, SEC. 1, (T. 21), RANDOLPH TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF EZRA W. KENYON , SEC. 5, , MT. HOPE TOWNSHIP.

The Sprague House is a neat little hotel, ably conducted, and furnishes excellent accommodations to a goodly number of the traveling public. Mr. and Mrs. S. are lovers of music and aside from the gatherings around the family fireside their voices are regularly heard in the choir of the Independent Church of Bloomington. Mrs. S. is, and has been organist of the Sunday-school ever since its organization two and a half years ago, and Mr. S. is, and has been Superintendent of the same for the same length of time.



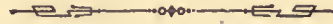
**E**ZRA W. KENYON, of Mt. Hope Township, is an honored pioneer of the Prairie State, of which he has been a resident since he was a little boy four years old. He was born in Plainfield, Windham Co., Conn., on the 21st of January, 1836, and is the second son of Ezra T. and Susan (Rathbone) Kenyon; a sketch of his parents may be found in the biography of Dennis Kenyon, in another part of this volume.

The subject of this biography received his early education in the subscription school, and later attended the free schools after their establishment in this locality. He commenced the duties of life at an early age by assisting his parents on the farm, and made his home with them until after his marriage. He then settled on a farm in what was known as New Kentucky, and is located on section 20 of Mt. Hope Township. It was wild prairie land when he first came into possession of it, and he set himself industriously to work, breaking the sod, cultivating the soil and erecting the necessary farm buildings. He occupied this until 1865, and then removed to his present homestead. This last was also uncultivated, and he went through the same processes which he had employed on his first purchase. It consisted originally of eighty acres. He persevered in his operations until it is now finely improved and under a good state of cultivation. A view of the place is shown on another page.

The landed possessions of Mr. Kenyon now aggregate 860 acres of land, furnished with suitable farm buildings. The family residence is commodious and convenient, the out-buildings are in ex-

cellent order for the storing of grain and the shelter of stock, and his valuable farm machinery is modeled after the most approved plan. In short, all the appliances of the homestead give indication of the direction of an intelligent mind and wise judgment, and the farm, with its appliances, is one of the most attractive spots in the landscape of McLean County.

Mr. Kenyon was married on the 25th of March, 1858, to Miss Margaret A. Leonard, a native of Susquehanna County, Pa., who was born on the 19th of May, 1837. Mrs. Kenyon is the daughter of Phillip and Eliza (Prescott) Leonard. The household of Mr. and Mrs. K. includes three children—Sarah E., Emma L. and Arthur T., and all, with the exception of the son, are connected by membership with the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Kenyon is Republican in politics, well informed, and takes an interest in all matters of general importance. He has been intimately connected with the business and industrial interests of this section, and has contributed his full quota toward the building up of his adopted town and county.



**J**OSEPH DENNING, a substantial and respected resident of Bloomington, located at No. 808 East Chestnut street, is turning his principal attention to dairying, having a fine herd of fourteen cows, and carrying on a successful trade in milk and cream. Mr. Denning was born in Holmes County, Ohio, April 20, 1834, being the son of Jacob and Mary A. (Wiley) Denning, natives of Pennsylvania. They emigrated from the Keystone State and located in Ohio, in June, 1833. There the father was engaged in boot and shoe making, and remained a resident of the Buckeye State until his death, which occurred in 1857. He was a zealous member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and officiated as Class-Leader for many years; the mother is still living at an advanced age, and makes her home with one of her children in Dakota. The parental household of our subject included eleven children, seven now living, viz.: Joseph, Thomas F., Joshua W., Catharine, Samuel R., Jacob H. and Rev. John O.

As is seen our subject was the eldest child of the

family household. He was reared on a farm and attended school during his childhood and youth, remaining with his parents until thirty years of age. In 1859 he came to Illinois and rented a farm in Danvers Township, this county, which he occupied four years. He then rented land in Normal Township for three years following, coming to Bloomington in 1870. He rented here until 1875, and then purchased a home west of the railroad, which he occupied six years, and in 1882 purchased his present home, which includes four lots and a comfortable dwelling.

Mr. Denning was married in this county in 1863, to Miss Aleinda, the daughter of Asa and Elizabeth (Stewart) Hall, of West Virginia. Her father was engaged in farming pursuits, and came with his family to Illinois in 1857. He located in Danvers Township, this county, upon a farm of 170 acres, which he had purchased, and which remained his home until his death in 1858. The mother survived until 1874. Of their ten children, five only are now living—Thomas E., William S., John N., David C. and Aleinda. The parents of Mrs. Denning were members of the Presbyterian Church, of which her father was Deacon and Clerk.

Our subject and his wife became the parents of two children—Charles A. and Nellie M. Mr. Denning is Republican in politics, and, with his wife and son, a member of Grace Methodist Church. He at one time occupied a position on the police force of the city. He has all his life been a man of industry and enterprise, and is a peaceful and law-abiding citizen, holding the respect of his neighbors and the esteem of many friends. A lithographic view of Mr. Denning's dairy is shown on another page of this work.



**T**O. RUTLEDGE, one of the honored pioneers of McLean County, and in former days one of its most useful and valued citizens, having now arrived at the advanced age of eighty years, is spending his declining days in comfort and retirement at the home of his son-in-law, William W. Elder, of Heyworth. During these long years he has built up for himself a good re-

ord, and has earned the good will of all with whom he has come in contact. His familiar form upon the streets is regarded with that peculiar veneration accorded the first settlers of the Prairie State, and there are none who do not wish that his last days may be his best.

Mr. Rutledge was born near Augusta, Ga., Sept. 18, 1806. His father, Robert Rutledge, was also a native of the same State, and his grandfather, John Rutledge, whose birthplace is not now known, died in White County, Ill. Both the father and grandfather of our subject were engaged in farming pursuits. Robert Rutledge grew to manhood in his native State, and was married to Miss Jane Officer, who was reared in Georgia, but it is believed was born elsewhere. They became the parents of eight children, all born in the latter-named State, and of whom our subject was the eldest. The family removed to Henderson County, Ky., in about 1820, and engaged in agriculture. There the father died a few years later, in the faith of the Presbyterian Church, leaving behind him a good record as a citizen, neighbor, father and friend.

Shortly after the death of her husband, the mother of our subject came with her children to White County, Ill., at an early period in the history of that State, in 1820. The land was then mostly wild and unbroken, but in common with the other pioneers of that day they had prepared themselves to meet with courage the difficulties which might beset them. They engaged in farming as before, but in 1826 removed to what is now McLean County, Ill., and located south of Randolph Grove, in what is now Randolph Township, on section 36. They settled on a squatter's claim, and when the land came into market secured it by purchase. Mr. R. of this notice first secured eighty acres, and afterward added to his landed possessions until he finally became the owner of 1,000 acres, which he has since mostly divided among his children. He has, however, retained for his own use one fine farm of 240 acres, the proceeds of which yield him a handsome income.

Mr. Rutledge made his advent into McLean County, driving an ox-team with a small wagon. After coming to Illinois the family lived one year in Sangamon County. Our subject was poor in

purse, as the father had not left any property, but with the courage of youth he bravely began the struggle of life and set about the establishment of a future home. He was remarkably successful in his undertakings, but after a short time his labors were interrupted by a call for troops to defend the whites from the dangers which ensued on account of the Black Hawk War. Our subject, in this as in all other respects, bravely armed himself for his duty, went into service and remained until the conflict was over, escaping unharmed. He was, however, one of the very few of his company permitted to return to their home, the others being carried off either by disease or the missiles of the enemy. Mr. R. was in the fight at Dixon, Ill., and his company was commanded by Capt. M. L. Covell, of Bloomington, Ill.

On the 1st of January, 1829, Mr. Rutledge was married in Randolph Township, then in Tazewell County, Ill., to Miss Cynthia Rutledge, a native of Henderson County, Ky. She came to this State in 1812, when a very small child, and was among the early settlers of Randolph Township. She departed this life in this township in February, 1883, and her name is held in tender remembrance by her family and a large circle of friends. She was a devoted member of the Presbyterian Church, and was possessed of all womanly virtues, being a tender and affectionate wife and mother, and at all times a faithful friend and helper of the afflicted and distressed. Mr. Rutledge has also been connected with the Presbyterian Church for many years, and officiated as Elder for a long period. In politics, he has always been an uncompromising Democrat, and cast his first presidential vote for Gen. Jackson.



**A**LLEXANDER J. YANCEY, formerly a prosperous farmer of this county but now engaged in the livery business at McLean, has been a resident of Illinois since 1872. He was born in Orange County, Va., Aug. 3, 1845, being the son of Alexander and Elizabeth Jane (Lee) Yancey. The former was born in Madison

County, Va., and the latter in Orange County, where they settled after their marriage. The father of our subject was a farmer and slaveholder, and afterward became overseer of a plantation in the Old Dominion. He died in Orange County, Va., Aug. 7, 1845, one day before the birth of his son, our subject. The latter was the third child of his parents, two others having died in infancy. He lived with his mother until he was ten years of age and was then indentured to a farmer for a term of five years. Being unkindly treated, he only served two of these and then went to live with an uncle, with whom he remained until fourteen years of age. Our subject then joined his mother in Rockingham County, Va., and received his first instruction at a school. He was employed upon a farm during the summer seasons and pursued his studies in winter, thus gaining a fair education.

In the fall of 1860, young Yancey entered a printing-office in Harrisonburg, but not liking the trade soon retired and became an apprentice to a blacksmith, with whom he served four months. The shop was then closed and he was variously employed until the summer of 1862. The war being then in progress he was conscripted into the rebel army for detached duty, and after serving six months entered Co. C, 6th Va. Vol. Cav., which rendezvoused at Camp Lee, Richmond. Young Yancey, with others, was obliged to furnish his own horse, to pay for which he borrowed \$500 of his uncle. The first horse was killed, and he purchased another. To add to his misfortunes he was wounded at the battle of Gaines' Mills, but after a time recovered sufficiently, and was assigned to light duty, being placed in charge of the cattle of the commissary department. He was in the valley of Virginia upon the surrender of Lee and soon after returned to his old home.

Our subject resumed his school studies for six months, and then commenced to learn the carpenter's trade. After serving two years he received journeyman's wages and began to save money. He purchased lots in Harrisonburg, upon which he built tenement houses and later became a contractor and builder, which business he followed until 1872. He then sold his interest in that section, and coming West to Illinois, purchased fifty-three acres of

land in Mt. Hope Township, this county, and commenced life as a farmer, continuing in agricultural pursuits until 1884. He prospered in his agricultural and business operations, and as time passed on added to his first purchase and is now the owner of 163 acres, finely improved and under a good state of cultivation. Besides this property he owns twenty lots in different places in the village of McLean. In 1884 he rented the farm, and coming to McLean engaged in his present business.

Mr. Yancey was married in 1869, to Miss Susan C. Rodeffer, who was born in Shenandoah County, Va., being the daughter of William H. and Elizabeth C. (Sterling) Rodeffer. Of this union there have been born six children: Elizabeth C., Maggie V., Arthur, who died in infancy, Charles H., Lulu J. and Burt. Thomas Johnson, ten years of age, is also an inmate of the household. Mr. and Mrs. Yancey are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and socially our subject belongs to McLean Lodge No. 469, A. F. & A. M.

**J**OHN FEAIL, a worthy and successful farmer of Allin Township, is a native of the Kingdom of Denmark, where he was born Jan. 26, 1841. His parents were Clarence and Christina (Manges) Feahl, natives of the same country as their son. They departed this life in 1859 and 1860, respectively. When twenty-three years of age, Mr. Feahl turned his face toward the New World, sailing from Bremen in 1864, and landing in New York City, whence he proceeded directly to Illinois and McLean County, locating at Danvers.

Our subject was married, Jan. 28, 1868, to Mrs. Barbara (Staker) Schertz, who was born in Butler County, Ohio, Sept. 6, 1834, of German ancestry and parentage. Her parents were John and Barbara (Engle) Staker, natives of Germany, who emigrated to the United States in 1826, and located in Butler County, Ohio, where the father died in 1862, and the mother, July 11, 1886. Their children were five in number, all daughters: Elizabeth married Jacob Ehresman; Barbara of our sketch was the second; Annie is now Mrs. Peter Smith; Mag-

dalena, Mrs. Jacob Reidell, and Catherine, Mrs. William Miller.

Mr. Feahl learned the trade of plastering and bricklaying in his native country, in which he became an expert, and followed his trade for some years there. He purchased, in 1878, eighty acres of land, which constitutes his present homestead. Upon this he has a handsome and substantial residence, with a good barn and all necessary out-buildings. In addition to general agriculture he is engaged in the breeding of Norman horses, the name of his stallion being Robert Princee Imperial, who is six years old and weighs 1,850 pounds. This is a fine animal in all respects and a model of strength and beauty. He has also several fine broods of mares, and his operations in this department of business yield him a handsome income.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Feahl are two in number—Elizabeth B., Mrs. E. McReynolds, and Annie A., born March 21, 1874. Mrs. Feahl by her first marriage became the mother of five children, as follows: John E. married Miss Barbara Reser; Mary E. is single and resides with her parents; William H. married Mary J. Small, and Joseph A. married Annie E. Nebb. Mrs. F. belongs to the Memmonite Church and our subject to the Lutheran. Mr. F. is Democratic in politics, and in all respects is a law-abiding and worthy citizen.

**J**OHN SHAVER, of Blue Mound Township, is a native of the Prairie State, born in Fulton County, Aug. 12, 1850. His parents were George and Margaret (McIlhane) Shaver, natives of Huntingdon County, Pa., where they were married and settled for a time, but later emigrated to this State. They made the journey overland with team, and took up their abode in Fulton County, where they passed the remainder of their lives. George Shaver was a farmer by occupation, and the parental household included nine children, four sons and five daughters, as follows: Henrietta, Winfield, Mary C., Permelia, Anna, John, Melville, Samuel, and Maggie; Henrietta, Winfield and Melville are deceased.

The subject of our sketch was reared to farming



pursuits and lived at home with his parents until twenty-three years of age. In the spring of 1874 he started out for himself, and coming into this county rented a tract of land in Blue Mound Township, which he operated for about five years. He was prospered in his farming and business transactions and at the expiration of this time purchased eighty acres of land. This, however, he sold, and purchased eighty-three acres on section 4, which constitutes his present homstead. He has a comfortable dwelling, a good barn and all other necessary outhouses, and is carrying on his peaceful occupation with fair success.

The marriage of Mr. Shaver occurred in Lexington Township, this county, Nov. 28, 1878, the maiden of his choice being Miss Sarah, daughter of James and Luany (Evans) Woodard, natives of Indiana. They emigrated from Morgan County, that State, to MeLean County, Ill., in about 1862, settling in Lexington Township, where they still reside. Their five children, three sons and two daughters, are Anna, Sarah, Pierce, Wesley and Alexander; Pierce is deceased. Mrs. Shaver was the second in order of birth. She was born in Morgan County, Ind., Dec. 23, 1858, and remained with her parents until her marriage. She is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and our subject, politically, affiliates with the Republican party.



**W**ILLIAM WILSON, a highly esteemed farmer of Towanda Township, is the son of Smith and Latta (Corbett) Wilson, natives of Ireland and Virginia respectively. Smith Wilson emigrated to America when but a boy, with his parents, who first settled in Pennsylvania, where the father engaged in farming pursuits, and where he died. Several years afterward his widow came to Bloomington to live with her children, her death taking place in that city in May, 1864. The parental household included four daughters and eight sons, of whom the subject of this history was the seventh child. He was born in Fayette County, Pa., May 1, 1822, received a common-school education, and when nineteen years of age, commenced

to learn the trade of bricklaying, at which he served an apprenticeship of three years, and which he afterward followed in connection with farming until the present time. He lived in Fayette County, Pa., until the summer of 1859, when he came to MeLean County, Ill., but after a few months returned to Pennsylvania, whence he again removed, in the spring of 1860, this time with his family, to Bloomington, Ill. There he followed his trade for nearly twelve years, and then purchased a farm in Towanda Township, on section 1, where he lived until the spring of 1883, and thence removed to section 6, where he now owns ninety-nine acres of valuable land.

Mr. Wilson was first married in Allegheny County, Pa., to Miss Eliza Corry, a native of Pennsylvania. Of this union there have been born two children: Lotta is the wife of Dr. W. A. Williams, of Santa Barbara, Cal.; James married Miss Mattie Newton and resides in Cooksville, this county. Mrs. Eliza C. Wilson departed this life in Washington County, Pa., about 1857. Mr. Wilson, after coming to Illinois, was married the second time, on the 23d of November, 1864, in the city of Bloomington, to Mrs. Louisa (Newton) Kennedy, daughter of Henry and Martha (Haggard) Newton, and widow of Thomas Kennedy, who died in Kansas, in August, 1855, leaving his widow and one daughter, Annie, who is now the wife of Fred A. Church, of Texarkana, Ark. Mrs. Wilson's parents after their marriage, settled in Kentucky, where the father was engaged in farming. In the fall of 1836 they came to Hancock County, Ill., and in September, 1844, moved to MeLean County, and settled in Dale Township, where they passed the remainder of their lives. Their household included three children. Mrs. Wilson was born in Kentucky, Sept. 30, 1835, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of two children—Edwin M. and Grace E. While living in Bloomington, Mr. Wilson was a member of the Board of Aldermen, and has also served as School Trustee. Both he and his wife are members in good standing of the Presbyterian Church. In politics our subject is strongly Republican.

One brother and three half-brothers of Mrs. Wilson—David Nathan, Dawson Newton and John L.

Routt—served as soldiers in the Union army during the late war. John Routt was Sheriff of McLean County at the outbreak of the Rebellion, and afterward became a Captain in the 94th Illinois Infantry. He was afterward Division Quartermaster with the rank of Colonel.



**G**EORGE AGLE, a representative business man of Bloomington, is successfully engaged as a dealer in hides, wool, fur, leather and findings, and occupies Nos. 207 and 209 South Center street. Mr. Agle, whose name is spelled by the Germans Egle, was born in Erie County, N. Y., in 1843, and is the son of Frederiek and Laney (Henry) Agle, both natives of Germany, the father coming to America with his parents when a boy of eleven years. The grandfather of our subject, also George Agle by name, after reaching the United States, settled in Erie County, N. Y., and was a remarkable man in many respects. He never rode in a wagon or on horseback to the knowledge of our subject, and when past eighty years of age would walk, every Sabbath, five miles to church. He died at the age of eighty-seven, and every tooth was as perfect as when a child. Before coming to America he served as a soldier under the first Napoleon for a period of eleven years and six months, during which time he was at the memorable siege and burning of Moscow, Russia, and was the hero of many other thrilling incidents connected with his life as a soldier.

Frederick Agle, father of our subject, followed agricultural pursuits in Erie County, N. Y., until 1880, when he removed to Bloomington, and has since lived a retired life. The mother of our subject left her native land when a young girl, thirteen years old, and was married to Frederick Agle in Erie County, N. Y. They became the parents of eight children, of whom our subject was the third in order of birth.

George Agle was reared on a farm until sixteen years of age, in the meantime receiving a practical education. He then went to Hamburg, Erie Co., N. Y., and engaged to learn the tanner and currier's trade, at which he served three years, and

then, at the age of nineteen, came to Illinois and opened up the business he now carries on. He first located on East Front street for eight years. In 1881 he purchased the grounds which he now occupies, and upon which he has erected a fine brick block, three stories in height, and occupying an area of 45x75 feet. He is also the owner of several houses and lots within the city limits, and a finely improved farm of 165 acres in Hudson Township, which is operated by a tenant.

Mr. Agle was married in 1869 to Miss Carrie W. Eekhardt, who was born in Erie County, N. Y., and is the daughter of George and Margaret (Bley) Eekhardt, also of the Empire State. Mr. and Mrs. Agle became the parents of three children: George F. is in the office with his father; Frank W. and Charles F. are at home. Mr. and Mrs. Agle are members in good standing of the German Lutheran Church, of which our subject has been a Trustee for the last eight years. He belongs to the Republican party, and is essentially a self-made man, to whom all credit is due for his worthy and persevering efforts, which have met with abundant success.



**A**LBERT STETSON, A. M., who ably fills the chair of Language and Reading in the Illinois State Normal University, and a resident of Normal, was born in Kingston, Mass., Aug. 6, 1834. The Stetsons in the United States are direct descendants of the Pilgrims who landed on our shores in 1820, from the Mayflower. Albert Stetson is a son of Joseph and Hannah (Bryant) Stetson. They had a family of four children, of whom there are living at the present writing—Emma F., the youngest, and Albert, our subject, the eldest. Our subject's father was a harness-maker by trade and followed the same in Kingston, Mass.

In early life Albert worked at shoemaking, and afterward in a tack manufactory. His education, however, was not neglected, for after attending the common schools at Kingston and an academy at New Hampton, N. H., for a while, he entered the Bridgewater Normal School, from which he



greatly prospered in his business and farming transactions. He is now the owner of 312 acres of valuable land, with good stock and a substantial set of frame buildings.

Mr. Sutter was married in Bloomington on the 2d of February, 1856, to Miss Elizabeth Baldishfield, a native of Germany, born Sept. 10, 1833. Of this union there were eight children: Samuel, the eldest, married Miss Otilie Zable and resides in Blue Mound Township; Joseph, Henry, Edward and William; and three—Louisa, Mary and Frank—deceased. Our subject and his wife are staunch adherents of the Catholic Church, and politically Mr. Sutter casts his vote with the Republican party.



**J**AMES J. HASTINGS, who has been a resident of the Prairie State since 1859, was originally a plasterer by trade, but of late years has been engaged in farming pursuits. He is now the owner of 280 acres of valuable land in Dry Grove Township, where he has a fine residence and all the appliances of a modern country estate. His land is under a high state of cultivation, and his thrift and prosperity are the result of his own enterprise and industry. He has lived temperately and economically, has invested his profits wisely, and is in all respects one of the prosperous and representative citizens of the township. The homestead is located on section 12, and commands the attention of travelers through this locality as being the home of wealth and comfort.

Mr. Hastings was born in Fayette County, Pa., on the 25th of February, 1826. His parents were John and Jane (Carroll) Hastings, both also natives of the Keystone State, and of American ancestry. John Hastings was born May 17, 1797, passed his entire life in Pennsylvania, and died upon his farm there on the 14th of December, 1832. He was a member of the old Presbyterian Church. Mrs. Jane C. Hastings was born Nov. 6, 1796, and died in Pennsylvania Nov. 19, 1858. She was an earnest Christian lady, a member of the same church as her husband, and the mother of five children, all of whom were living in 1886. The record of the parental family is as follows: William married Miss

Sarah Cooper of Guernsey County, Ohio, and they are living in Vinton County, that State; Mary A. was first married to Moses Hayes, who is now deceased; her second husband was Alex Dougherty, and they live in Illinois. James J. of our sketch was the third child of the family; Thomas C. married Miss Raehael Hayes, and they are living in McLean County, Ill.; Jane became the wife of James H. Beeks, and they reside in this State.

The marriage of James J. Hastings and Miss Ella Lenhart was celebrated on the 25th of January, 1854. Mrs. Hastings was born in Somerset County, Pa., March 14, 1837, and is the daughter of George and Mary (Garcy) Lenhart, natives of Louisiana and Pennsylvania. Both are now deceased. Of their children the record is as follows: Catharine became the wife of Josiah Wymer, and is now deceased; Benjamin married Miss Ella Fleek; Joseph and Angeline died in infancy; Monroe married Miss Rosa Coleman; Hannah, Mrs. B. Waltor, resides in Pennsylvania; Eueebie married Mr. C. Shnmaker; Victoria married Miss T. Searberg; Mary and Ella were next in order of birth; Elizabeth, deceased, was the wife of William Goslin; George was the youngest of the family.

Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Hastings there were born ten children, all but one living, and the record is as follows: Alice J. was born Oct. 25, 1855; Mary F., Feb. 2, 1857; John B. was born Feb. 12, 1859, and married Miss Ida Smith; they are living in this county; William C. was born Oct. 5, 1860; Thomas J., born Aug. 2, 1862, died July 1, 1881; Charles G. was born Aug. 25, 1864; Bertie E., Aug. 2, 1868; Mark L., April 7, 1870; Stella C., June 30, 1872; James J., Feb. 23, 1875.

Mr. Hastings came to this county in 1859, after working at his trade of plasterer in Pennsylvania for about eighteen years. He followed the same business in connection with farming for some time after coming here, and previously purchased eighty acres of land in Dry Grove Township. He then entered upon its improvement and cultivation, and subsequently added to his acreage as stated above. While not connected with any church organization he is a believer in the Scriptures, and endeavors to follow the teachings of the Master and do unto others as he wishes them to do unto him.





J. J. Thompson



Gideon D. Crumbaugh  
Written at past 81 years of age

Politically he is a Democrat. He has always taken an active interest in the prosperity of his township, and has contributed liberally to the erection of churches and the establishment of schools. Although not receiving a collegiate education he is a gentleman of fine attainments, having been an extensive reader and keeping himself well posted upon matters of general interest.

**J**EROME T. KEPNER, one of the representative citizens of McLean County and a successful farmer and stock-raiser, residing on section 11, Dry Grove Township, was born in Juniata County, Pa., Feb. 20, 1830. He is the son of Samuel and Hattie (Walker) Kepner, natives of Pennsylvania, the former of German parentage and she of German descent. The father was born in 1803, and is yet living, having attained the venerable age of eighty-four years. He is living on the farm in Pennsylvania on which he has labored for the last fifty years. The place consists of 200 acres and is located a mile and a half from the Juniata River. The mother of our subject was born in 1805, and died in September, 1883, in Pennsylvania. The father is a member of the Lutheran Church, and in politics is a Democrat. He became the head of a family of nine children. Those now living are, Jerome, the subject of this notice; Calvin; Samuel; Mary J., who is the wife of Samuel Ritzman; William W. was united in marriage with Miss Hittle, and Matilda, now Mrs. Benjamin Groninger.

The subject of this notice is the eldest of his father's children and was reared to farm labor, receiving his education in the district school, and continued to reside with the old folk until the age of manhood. On becoming his own man he came West in 1854, and located in Peoria County, where he purchased eighty acres of improved land. On this place he located with his wife and two children, and at once engaged in its improvement. A year and a half passed by when death took his loved companion from him, her demise being caused by consumption. Our subject then took his two children and returned to the place of his nativity,

reaching there in 1856. Remaining with friends until the following spring, he returned to Peoria County and was there a resident for about three years. He then went back East and was married to Mrs. Rice Stephens, the date of the ceremony being Aug. 11, 1864. She was born June 24, 1838, in Juniata County, Pa., and was a daughter of Samuel and Sarah (Kepner) Rice, of German parentage. Mr. Rice was a dry-goods and grocery merchant at Port Royal, Juniata Co., Pa. He was born in 1803, and departed this life in January, 1859. His good wife was born in 1814, and died in August, 1854. They had ten children, the first of whom died in infancy; Matilda C., Martha J.; Sarah E., wife of our subject, John H., Mary M., Margaret E., Winfield S., Zachariah E. and Frances A.

The subject of this notice moved to Livingston County, Ill., in 1869, and was there engaged in farming for fourteen years. He then came to this county and purchased 156 acres of valuable and productive land, the same being that on which he is at present residing. He is also engaged in the breeding and raising of fine draft horses and is meeting with signal success in both branches of his vocation. He has held the various offices of his township while a resident of this county and while living in Livingston County was Commissioner of Highways for ten years. He is at present one of the Board of School Trustees of this township. In politics he is Republican, and his good wife and five daughters are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

A portrait of Mr. Kepner is presented on another page of this work.

**G**IDEON D. CRUMBAUGH, Police Magistrate of LeRoy, was born in Frederick County, Md., Feb. 12, 1806. His father, Simon Crumbaugh, was a native of the same county, and his grandfather, Conrad Crumbaugh, a native of Germany. The latter emigrated to the United States when a young man and located in Frederick County, Md., being among its earliest settlers, and there spent the remainder of his days. His family included eleven children, of whom the father of

our subject was the fourth son. Simon Crumbaugh was reared to manhood on the farm and with the exception of a short time spent in learning the potter's trade, was occupied in agricultural pursuits during his entire life in his native State. His farm was about ten miles northeast of Frederick City, being the old homestead where himself and all his brothers and sisters were born. He was married to Miss Phæbe Devilbiss, who was also a native of Frederick County, and died at the home of her husband near Woodsbury. Simon Crumbaugh died in November, 1843. They had but two children, John and Gideon D. The former spent his entire life in Frederick County.

Gideon D. Crumbaugh was reared to farming pursuits, and lived with his parents until 1826. He then went to Frederick City and engaged as clerk in a dry-goods store, and afterward followed the same in Dayton, Ohio, for twenty months, then returned to Maryland and worked on the farm which he had inherited from his father until 1854. Again he left Maryland, this time coming to Le Roy and engaged in clerking for three years. He was then elected Police Magistrate and has continued in the office since that time, a period of twenty-nine years. In 1861 he was appointed Postmaster, holding the office until 1866. He was re-appointed in 1869, and continued until 1877. Since that time he has confined himself to his duties as Police Magistrate and Collector. Mr. C. has [1887] just been elected to the office of Police Magistrate for four years longer.

Gideon D. Crumbaugh was married at Dayton, Ohio, in 1829, to Miss Elizabeth Reid, who was a native of that city. Of this union there were born nine children, of whom the record is as follows: Simeon, a teacher in the city schools at Toledo, Ohio, died there in 1884; George is a farmer of Frederick County, Md.; Mary J. died in Paris, Edgar Co., Ill.; Kate became the wife of S. L. Bishop, and lives in Empire Township; Margaret, who married Capt. James Cannaday, lives in Martin Township; Laura died in Le Roy in 1863; Charles enlisted in Co. C, 33d Ill. Vol. Inf., and died while a soldier in the Union army; Fannie married W. H. Bartlett, of Indianapolis, Ind.; Emma became the wife of Dr. Parks and died at Little Rock,

Ark.; Scott died in Le Roy in 1883. Mrs. Elizabeth Crumbaugh departed this life in 1877, and Mr. C. was married in 1879, to Mrs. Permelia Wiley. The family residence is pleasantly located and our subject and children enjoy in a marked degree the highest respect of their neighbors and friends. Mrs. Permelia (Wiley) Crumbaugh departed this life on the 17th of April, 1887, aged seventy-four years.

A fine likeness of Mr. Crumbaugh may be found on another page of this work.



**L**YTLER. WILEY most emphatically lives on the line which divides Martin and Lawndale Townships, said line running through his kitchen, but for certain reasons he prefers to be called a resident of Martin. Of this he has been one of its most useful and valued citizens and has contributed a generous share toward its development. Mr. Wiley was born in Garrett, Meade Co., Ky., Nov. 7, 1815. When but six months old his parents removed to another part of the State, and two years and a half later to Switzerland County, Ind., where our subject lived until 1835. In the fall of that year he came into McLean County, Ill., with his father, and lived with him in what is now Martin Township for about two years, having in the meantime purchased 160 acres of land located partly in Lawndale and partly in Martin Township. To this Mr. Wiley subsequently added from time to time until he is now the owner of 1,050 acres of land, 100 of which is in timber. He has been industrious, economical and wise in his disbursement of funds, and is now reckoned among the thoroughgoing and prosperous business men of this section.

Mr. Wiley was married in Switzerland County, Ind., June 13, 1843, to Miss Sarah R. Wiley, a distant relative, who was born in Switzerland County, Ind., Dec. 12, 1825. Of this union there were born eight children, of whom the eldest, Thomas R., married Miss Mattie Reeves, and is a successful physician of Gibson City; Rhoda M. and John are at home; Hannah E. and William S. are deceased; Sarah L. became the wife of Henry C. Henline, and resides in Lawndale Township; Lytle



R., Jr., married Miss Mary M. Harpole, and is a resident of Martin Township; Mary C., Mrs. William Hudson, resides in Lawndale Township. The faithful and affectionate wife and mother departed this life Sept. 25, 1881, having been a lady greatly respected by a wide circle of friends and acquaintances. She was a prominent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Wiley might properly be termed an Independent Greenbacker politically, and in the casting of his vote endeavors to support those men whom he deems best fitted for office. He is a man whose opinion and judgment are highly respected, and has held various minor offices in his township.

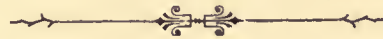


**J**UDGE THOMAS F. TIPTON, a prominent attorney of Bloomington, was born near Harrisburg, Franklin Co., Ohio, Aug. 29, 1833. His father, Hiram Tipton, came to this State and county in the fall of 1844, and died March 20 of the following year. The latter was a native of the same county as his son, and occupied himself in farming pursuits in Ohio during the earlier years of his life. There also he was married to Miss Deborah, the daughter of Albert Ogden, Esq., of Fayette County, who was born the same year as her husband. After marriage they located in Franklin County, whence they removed to Pickaway County, where they lived until they started for the West. After reaching this county they settled upon a tract of land northeast of Bloomington, where the family resided for several years after the death of the father, and where our subject grew to manhood. The mother afterward married Henry Stumpff.

Thomas F. Tipton started out early in life on his own account, his first step being to still further perfect his studies by attendance at school in Lexington, under the instruction of Col. W. N. Coler. He then commenced teaching and also studying law, and after a time thus occupied entered upon the study of law in the office of H. N. Keightley, of Knoxville, and was admitted to practice in his twenty-first year, in June, 1854. He opened an office at Lexington, where he lived and practiced for seven years following, and then, in January,

1862, came to Bloomington and associated himself in partnership with Judge R. M. Benjamin. They operated together until 1870, in the meantime having taken in Judge Weldon. In 1870 Mr. Tipton was elected Circuit Judge, the circuit being composed of the counties of McLean, Logan and De Witt. Three years later the district was changed so that McLean and Ford Counties constituted the circuit, and he was re-elected in the new circuit. Judge Tipton continued to occupy this position until the 1st of March, 1877, when he resigned, having in the meantime been elected member of the Forty-fifth Congress, serving two years.

Our subject was married in this county in 1856, to Miss Mary J. Strayer, who was born and reared in Logan County, Ohio, being the daughter of Nicholas Strayer. Of this union there were born seven children, five now living—Harry V., Belle E., Helen F., Laura B. and Thomas W. In early life Judge Tipton was what was known as a Douglas Democrat, but on the breaking out of the war became a staunch Republican, and has always been prominent in the councils of his party in this State.



**P**ETER D. SPRINGER, is a native of the Province of Alsace Lorraine, and emigrated from his native country with his parents when a child of four years old, and became a resident of the Prairie State in 1854. He was born Sept. 5, 1826, being the son of Christian and Magdalena (Engle) Springer, a sketch of whom will be found in the biography of Andrew J. Springer in another part of this work.

The subject of this history remained under the parental roof until he had attained his majority, in the meantime receiving a fair education in the common schools, and being trained to habits of industry and economy. Nov. 13, 1856, our subject was united in marriage with Miss Elisa Brenaman, in Tazewell County, Ill. The young couple soon afterward removed to the farm of Mr. S., which he had purchased before his marriage, and upon which they still reside, and which consists of 390 acres of valuable land. Our subject erected a fine dwelling, two stories in height, and

covering an area of 20x34 feet, with an L. 18x16. His barns and out-buildings correspond with the residence, and the whole premises indicate the supervision of a thorough-going and progressive farmer. Mr. Springer makes a specialty of raising Poland-China hogs, of which he has one of the finest herds in Allin Township. He has been prominently identified with the affairs of this section since coming here, and takes a genuine interest in the welfare of his adopted country. He has been Justice of the Peace, Commissioner of Highways, Town Clerk, School Trustee, School Director, and in each position has acquitted himself with great credit. Socially he belongs to the Masonic fraternity, in which he has been Senior Warden and Treasurer for a number of years.

Mrs. Springer is the daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth (Iutz) Brenaman, who were natives of Germany, and spent their entire lives in their native country. Their thirteen children were named as follows: Jacob, Mary, Elisa, Joseph, Allen, Anna, William, Eunice, Edward, Phebe and Christian. Two died in infancy unnamed. Both parents were members of the Mennonite Church.

The six children of Mr. and Mrs. Springer were Amelia P., who died Oct. 17, 1857; Mary E.; Edward D., who died March 12, 1872; Emma A.; George B., who died May 5, 1867, and William H. In politics Mr. S. affiliates with the Democrats.



**A**LLEXANDER BRYANT, a prosperous farmer and stockholder in the coal mines of Bloomington Township, is pleasantly located on section 6, where he owns 170 acres of valuable land, mostly under a good state of cultivation. Mr. Bryant has been a resident of the above-named township since 1865. He formerly lived in the city of Bloomington, where he was connected with the C. & A. R. R. for fourteen years as conductor.

The subject of this history was born in Lenawee County, Mich., Sept. 6, 1842. His father, John Bryant, was a native of England, and died in Lenawee County in 1854, when our subject was a lad of twelve years. The mother, Margaret (Watson)

Bryant, is still living on the old homestead in the above-named county. This is comprised of 180 acres, which her husband entered from the Government more than fifty years ago. She is now well advanced in life, being in the eighty-second year of her age. The parents were married in Genesee County, N. Y., and their family included nine children, eight sons and one daughter, all living and married, with families of their own. Alexander was the fifth son and sixth child, and remained at home after the death of his father until he was twenty-one years old. Later he began work as a farm laborer, and in August, 1865, started west and landed in the Prairie State. He soon afterward engaged as a brakeman for the C. & A. R. R. and was thus employed just two years to a day. He was then promoted to conductor, which position he occupied, as before stated, for fourteen years. He took possession of his present homestead soon afterward, and five years later erected one of the best farm residences in the township. He has a fine barn and all necessary out-buildings and appliances required by a first-class agriculturist. Everything about the premises denotes the exercise of cultivated tastes and ample means.

Mr. Bryant was married in Bloomington, April 27, 1868, to Miss Bessie Holmes, who was born in the Province of Ontario on the Island of Knox, Feb. 21, 1844. She was the daughter of John and Susan (Dunn) Holmes, both natives of Cork, Ireland, where they were reared and married, and soon afterward emigrated to Canada. The father was a private in the British army, and they became the parents of seven sons and seven daughters. They afterward removed to Macon County, Ill., where the mother died in November, 1861, in her fiftieth year. The father is now living in Dale Township, this county, aged eighty. Mrs. Bryant was educated in Canada, and came with her parents to Illinois in 1861. After the death of the mother, the family removed to the city of Bloomington, in 1866.

Mr. and Mrs. Bryant have become the parents of nine children, all living except one, Howard C., who died Feb. 15, 1887; the others are Warren S., Mary Helen, Harry L., William A., Joseph B., Ralph E., Charles and Bessie L. Mrs. B. and all

her children are members of the Episcopal Church. Mr. B. is Assistant Supervisor of Bloomington Township; he belongs to the Masonic fraternity, and in politics is a solid Republican. A view of the beautiful residence and surroundings of Mr. Bryant is presented on another page of this work.



**J**ONAS B. MAURICE, an enterprising young farmer and stock-breeder of Arrowsmith Township, is the possessor of eighty acres of thoroughly cultivated land, where he makes a specialty of Poland-China swine, and in this branch of agriculture has been remarkably successful. He came with his father to Illinois in 1856, and the latter purchased 120 acres of land in Peoria County, where he followed farming and teaching alternately, having received a fine education in his youth. Our subject was born in Cumberland County, Pa., and is the son of T. W. and Maria (Barr) Maurice, both natives of the Keystone State, the father born in October, 1827, and the mother in November following. After living in Peoria County, Ill., for a number of years, the father of our subject traded his land there for property in McLean County, of which he is now a prominent resident. He has a fine homestead, including 240 acres of land, with a good set of farm buildings, and in other respects is surrounded by the comforts of life. He is prominent in his community, highly respected, and one of the leading members of the Masonic fraternity, having been Master of the Lodge at Arrowsmith for some years. The mother died in May, 1864. Their five children were Margaret J.; Jonas B., our subject; Henry B.; Maria B., Mrs. W. H. Thompson; Mary, Mrs. Allen J. Major.

Mr. Maurice was reared to habits of industry, and has never been afraid to put his shoulder to the wheel. He labored on his father's farm until he reached manhood, and in September, 1879, was united in marriage with Miss Katie V. Kerr, who was born in Virginia, Sept. 17, 1857. She removed with her parents to Independence, Mo., where her marriage to our subject took place. She is the daughter of Andrew and Sarah Jane (Bumgardner)

Kerr, also natives of the Old Dominion, the father born Aug. 23, 1826, and the mother, March 14, 1836. Of their four children the record is as follows: Florence M., born May 19, 1852, became the wife of William Sullinger, of Missouri; James P. was born Feb. 14, 1855; Katie V., Mrs. M., is the third child; Parthenia R., who was born July 27, 1861, died Nov. 8, 1883. The father of these children died in Missouri, Aug. 28, 1862. His widow afterward married William Crute, Nov. 24, 1864. Mr. C. was of English birth and parentage. Of this marriage there were born three children—Sarah J., Oct. 27, 1868; William J., July 20, 1870, and Mary A., Dec. 1, 1873. Mr. Crute departed this life Feb. 28, 1879.

Our subject and his wife became the parents of three children: T. Wilson, born Dec. 21, 1880; Sarah E., Dec. 4, 1882, and Avis L., Feb. 6, 1886. Through his own efforts Mr. M. obtained a fair education, and he takes an active interest in the welfare and progress of his township. He possesses a good fund of information, and in politics casts his vote with the Republican party.



**M**AGDALENA M. STUCKEY, widow of Christian Stuckey, is living on a fine farm on section 5, Danvers Township, where she is surrounded by all the comforts of life, and enjoying the respect of a large circle of friends. Mrs. S. was born in Baden, Germany, Sept. 18, 1827, being the daughter of Michael and Magdalena (King) Miller. Her father was born in 1795, and her mother in 1800, in Germany, and they were married in 1825. Nine years later they emigrated to America, landing in New Orleans. Thence they went into Butler County, Ohio, where Michael Miller prosecuted farming on rented land until 1851. He then came to Illinois, and purchased eighty acres of land in Dry Grove Township, this county. To this he soon afterward added 120 acres, and this, with its improvements, constituted a permanent and comfortable homestead, where he spent the remainder of his days, his death occurring in 1873. The mother died in the fall of 1882. Their nine children were Christian, Magda-

lena, Jacob, Michael, John, Fannie, Catherine, Elizabeth and Joseph. Fannie, Elizabeth and Kate are deceased. The parents were members of the Omish Mennonite Church, in which the father labored as a minister for a period of twenty years.

Mrs. Stuekey was reared by her parents, and was united in marriage with Christian Stuekey, Oct. 27, 1850, in Butler County, Ohio. Mr. S. was a farmer by occupation, and directly after marriage they came to this county and located on rented land near Danvers. After a few years Mr. S. entered forty acres, and provided a house into which he moved his family. He prospered in his farming and business transactions, and in time added to his first purchase, so that at the time of his death he left his family with a fine estate of 179 acres, under a good state of cultivation and supplied with modern improvements. His death occurred in Eureka Springs, Ark., whither he had gone for his health, and his remains were laid to rest in Park Lane Cemetery in Danvers. The funeral services were conducted by the Rev. Jonathan Schmoker, of Indiana, and Rev. Sears, of Danvers. Mr. Stuekey was a kind and indulgent father and husband. His family were greatly attached to him, and his death was to them an irreparable loss. When he started for Eureka Springs it was the hope of himself and his friends that the change would be beneficial. He remained about three months, but during the last week, however, he began to fail and his wife was sent for. He died a few days after her arrival, and a devoted wife and five children are left to mourn their loss. The latter were Joseph, Catherine, Mary, Daniel, Samuel and Josephine. Joseph died when about three years of age. Mr. Stuekey was a staunch Republican in politics, and a member of the Omish Mennonite Church.

When Mr. and Mrs. Stuekey took possession of the present homestead it was in a wild and unimproved condition, and its cultivation involved much labor and perseverance. The residence is a tasteful and substantial structure, and there is a good barn with all necessary out-buildings. Mrs. S. has proved an excellent manager, and is carrying on the farm after the methods adopted and established by her husband. Her two sons, Daniel and

Samuel, are still at home with their mother; the former was married, Sept. 30, 1884, to Miss Ella Paneake, of Danvers Township, and they have one son eighteen months old. Her daughter, Mary, became the wife of John Schertz, and lives in this county; she has four children, two sons and two daughters.



JACOB H. ZOOK, a worthy farmer of Dry Grove Township, owns and occupies a comfortable home on section 28. He was born in Mifflin County, Pa., Oct. 22, 1831. His parents on both sides and his grandparents, together with his great-grandparents, were all born in the same county and State. His great-grandfather on his mother's side was an old Indian fighter by the name of Hostetter. The father of our subject was Yost Zook, and his mother, before her marriage, was Susan Hostetter. The former was born Aug. 21, 1803, and the latter in December, 1805. Mr. Yost Zook is now over eighty-four years old and his wife eighty-one. They were married at Lewistown, Pa., Nov. 14, 1827, by Rev. Christian Zook, and lived there until 1850, when they came to Illinois, and have since resided in Dry Grove Township.

The parental family consisted of five children, all living save one, and all in Illinois except John, who removed to Columbus, Kan., in 1885. Mrs. King, the only daughter, lives in North Dry Grove, and is the owner of two fine eighty-acre farms. Adam Zook, the eldest son, is the possessor of a comfortable fortune, and lives in Dry Grove Township. Mr. and Mrs. Yost Zook have twenty grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. They have a fine home, and in their declining years are living in the enjoyment of the friendship and association of those who have known them for over thirty years.

Jacob H. Zook remained under the parental roof until he had attained to years of manhood, engaged in farming pursuits. On the 21st of December, 1862, he was married to Miss Lydia Lantz, who was born in Wayne County, Ohio, March 28, 1843. Her parents were Jonathan and Nancy (Yoder)

Lantz, natives of Mifflin County, Pa. They came to Illinois in 1851, and located in White Oak Township. The father died in Danvers, July 31, 1885; the mother departed this life at the home of her husband in White Oak Township, in 1853. They had become the parents of eight children, four sons and four daughters: The eldest died unnamed; Ben is also deceased; Jonathan was the third; Jacob lives in Nebraska; Gidcon became a resident of Oregon in 1876; Jappha lives in Danvers Township; John died in September, 1861, at the age of seven years.

Mr. and Mrs. Zook have ten children, five sons and five daughters, of whom the record is as follows: Elizabeth A. was born Nov. 19, 1863; Naney S., Jan. 30, 1865; Adeline Nov. 13, 1866; Ulysses A., Nov. 6, 1868; Jappha, April 29, 1870; Lydia A., April 21, 1876; Jacob N., May 16, 1878; John L., Jan. 14, 1880; Mary E., April 2, 1882; Christian A., Sept. 20, 1884.

The homestead of our subject and his family consists of 108½ acres of finely cultivated land, where he makes a specialty of breeding swine and keeps a herd of milch cows. He has been prominent in the affairs of his township. He is Republican in politics, and religiously is connected with the Mennonite Church, which comprises a membership of over 400.



**O**THA OWEN. This gentleman, familiarly known in Chency's Grove Township as one of its prosperous and enterprising business men and farmers, is pleasantly located on section 35, where he has been a resident since 1853. He came to this county in September, 1834, making the journey from his native State of Ohio in a two-horse wagon and driving two cows. He was accompanied by his uncle's family, and the journey occupied thirteen days. He was employed on the farm of his uncle for six years following, and then worked out by the month for \$8.33. After working thus for about five years he purchased eighty acres of land, for which he paid \$1.25 per acre, and afterward forty acres, much of which was a swamp, and none had ever been cultivated; for this he paid

\$5 per acre. He proceeded to work upon and improve it, meeting with success in his labors, and has since added to it until now he is the owner of nearly 148 acres, all enclosed and improved, and under a good state of cultivation.

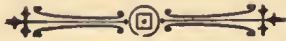
Mr. Owen was born in Mechanicsburg, Champaign Co., Ohio, Oct. 5, 1823, and is the son of Uriah and Keziah (Jaco) Owen, both natives of Virginia. The father was a farmer, by occupation, and died in Ohio when Otha was a lad of seven or eight years. The mother died a few years later, so that our subject early in life became an orphan, and was forced practically to look out for himself. The parental household included six children, as follows: One died in infancy; Sarah died March 15, 1882; Mary became the wife of Samuel Peckham, and died in 1880; Jonathan married a Miss Hester Shepard; Otha, our subject, was the fifth child; George W. married Miss Catharine Kline.

Mr. Owen was reared to manhood in this county, and on the 20th of November, 1845, was married to Miss Susan Kline, who was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, Oct. 5, 1827. She was the daughter of George and Catherine (Miller) Kline, both natives of Maryland. George Kline was born in 1792, and was drafted into the army during the War of 1812. His brother Jacob, however, served in his place. The mother of Mrs. Owen was born in 1802, and died four years after her husband, in 1884. Both parents were members of the Presbyterian Church. Their ten children were—John, Susan, Mary, Rebecca, Harrison, Martin V., Catherine, Christina, Zarilda, who died quite young, and George.

Mr. and Mrs. Owen became the parents of eleven children, three of whom are deceased. The record is as follows: George was born Sept. 16, 1847, and died June 3, 1864, when seventeen years of age; Uriah, born Aug. 26, 1849, married Miss Annie Lips, and has one child; Elias, born July 2, 1851, married Miss Catherine Murphy, and they became the parents of three children, one of whom is deceased; Laura, now Mrs. William Lewis, has one child; Hannah became the wife of Albert Spradling; Jay died Nov. 12, 1858; Lee was born May 8, 1860, married Miss Linna Chapman, and they have one child; Charlie was born July 2, 1863;

Mary, Feb. 7, 1866; Kate, April 11, 1868; Albert was born May 5, 1871, and died Feb. 9, 1872.

The homestead of our subject and his family, besides the valuable land already spoken of, includes a fine residence, a good barn and all necessary out-buildings, and in all its appointments indicates the supervision of an enterprising and intelligent business man and farmer. Mr. Owen is Democratic in politics, and has served nine years as constable in his township, and three years as Commissioner of Highways.



**H**IRAM C. PURDY, engaged in general merchandising at Weston, is contributing his full quota to the business interests of the town, and is a most valued and enterprising citizen. He is a native of the Empire State, born in Clinton County, Feb. 8, 1824, his parents being Stephen and Mary (Chase) Purdy, natives of New York, born near Plattsburg. In about 1829 the family, with the exception of the father, who died in Clinton County, N. Y., removed to Cattaraugus County, and about three years later to Brown County, Ohio. The mother, after the death of her husband, was married to Amos Church, who removed with the family to Ohio. They came to Illinois in 1844, where the mother and stepfather passed the remainder of their lives. The children of Stephen and Mary C. Purdy were, Henry, who resides in Brooke County, Kan., and Hiram C., of our sketch. By her second marriage the mother of our subject had five children, of whom only one is now living, Samantha, the wife of R. R. Gaskell, of Topeka, Kan.

The subject of this sketch was educated in the district schools, which were carried on in a manner widely different from those of the present day. He accompanied the family to Illinois, in 1844, and soon afterward entered the employ of the Sweet & Fogg Plow Manufactory, where he learned the blacksmith trade, and where he remained the following five years. He then went to Hennepin, and in company with a partner, engaged for the following two years in the manufacture of plows. The firm then dissolved, and our subject, coming into Bureau County, took up his old occupation of

blacksmithing, which he followed until 1859. Then, going into Woodford County he decided to change his occupation, and engaged in merchandising, which, however, he followed only one year at that time, having an opportunity to buy out a good blacksmithing business, which he merged into a wagon manufactory, and carried on the same for four years following.

From this place Mr. Purdy removed to Fairbury, Ill., and embarked in the grocery trade, which business he carried on until 1871. He then went to Michigan, and locating in St. Joseph engaged in lumbering until 1876, and in that year came to this county, and established his present business. He has been fairly successful in his operations, and by his honest and upright course has gained the confidence and esteem of his fellow-citizens. Soon after coming here he was tendered the position of Deputy Postmaster, and was appointed Postmaster in 1877. Politically he affiliates with the Republican party, and since 1858 has been a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He and his wife united with it the same year.

The first marriage of our subject took place in June, 1847, the maiden of his choice being Miss Genevra Ann (DeCaster) Lantz, who was born in Kentucky, but whom he met in Tazewell County, this State. By her union with our subject she became the mother of five children, all of whom died in infancy. She departed this life in 1855. The second wife of our subject, to whom he was married in June, 1857, was Miss Mary Frances Burson, a native of Virginia. Of this marriage there were born three children: Edgar S., a resident of Chicago; Viola Genevra, the wife of C. R. Bailey, of Chenoa, and Wilbur, who died when five years of age.



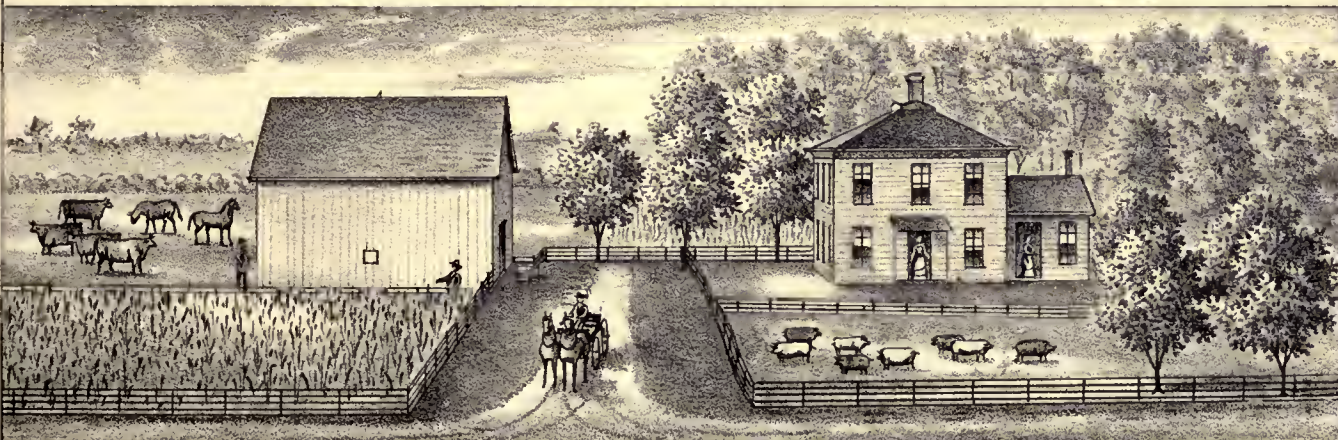
**J**OEL YODER, who has been a resident of the Prairie State since 1861, is comfortably located on section 4, Danvers Township, where he is carrying on general farming with success. He first opened his eyes to the light in Mifflin County, Pa., in 1817, being the son of John and Susanna (Stutzman) Yoder, natives of the same State. John Yoder was born in 1784, and



RESIDENCE OF DANIEL ROSE, SEC. 6, CHEENEY'S GROVE TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF DAVID W. STANGER, SEC. 14, ARROWSMITH TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF GEO. W. BLAND, SEC. 35, CHEENEY'S GROVE TOWNSHIP.





his wife, Susanna, in 1794. They were married in Mifflin County, Pa., in 1814, and located upon a farm of forty acres, which was their home until 1837. The wife and mother departed this life in 1837, then Mr. Yoder with his children removed to Fairfield County, Ohio, and he resided with one of his daughters until about 1852, when he went to Indiana, and died in that State about ten years later. The parental household included twelve children, as follows: Catherine became the wife of Adam Greenwalt; Samuel married Miss Elizabeth Yoder; Joel of our sketch was the third child; Elizabeth was married to Samuel Zook; Joseph married Miss Lydia Kurtz; Gideon married Miss Elizabeth Hartzler; Lydia became the wife of Peter Stutzman; John married Miss Staly; Susan is now Mrs. David King, and Adam married Miss Susanna Brown; two infants, twins, died unnamed. The parents were members of the Omish Mennonite Church.

Joel Yoder was reared by his parents until he attained his majority, and received a fair education in the common schools. He served an apprenticeship at the weaver's trade, which he pursued until 1850. He was married, in 1840, to Miss Lydia Yoder, of Fairfield County, Ohio, and they remained in that State until 1851. Our subject then determined to change his location and occupation, and emigrating to Illinois, came into this county and located upon rented land in Danvers Township. In 1870 he purchased eighty acres of his present homestead, where he is carrying on general farming with good results. He has been School Director for a number of years, and keeps himself well posted on matters of general interest.

Mr. and Mrs. Yoder became the parents of seven children, three of whom are deceased: Priscilla died when four years old, and two infants died unnamed; Gideon married Miss Hattie Spots; Elizabeth, the wife of Joseph Zhear, is a resident of Tazewell County; Solomon married Miss Catherine Eieher, and Nancy is the wife of John Amburg. The wife of our subject is the daughter of Jacob and Polly (Kime) Yoder, natives of Juniata County, Pa. They were married in 1804, and subsequently removed to Wayne County, Ohio, where they both died, the mother in 1828, and the father in 1852.

Their children were—Naney, Jonathan, Lydia, John, Elizabeth, Barbara, Priscilla, Samuel and Rebecca. Mr. and Mrs. Yoder were members of the Omish Mennonite Church, as also are our subject and his wife.

Mr. Yoder formerly belonged to the old Whig party, but upon the organization of the Republican cheerfully endorsed the principles of the latter, with which he has since affiliated. The family residence is pleasantly located, and its inmates are surrounded by all the comforts of life.

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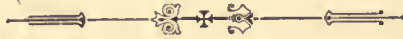
**J**AMES S. WILEY. The subject of the following history, one of the prominent business men of Martin Township, is at present quite extensively engaged as a grain dealer, having his headquarters on the line of the Illinois Central Railroad, at Colfax. He is a gentleman in the prime of life, active, energetic, and with a clear head for business, and has for many years been closely identified with the business interests of this section. He is a native of this county, and was born near the present site of Colfax on the 8th of November, 1852. His parents, William and Nancy S. (Hopkins) Wiley, were natives respectively of Lexington, Ky., and Spencer, Ind. William Wiley was born in 1813, and the mother of our subject in 1824. The latter was a daughter of Robert Hopkins, one of the early pioneers of McLean County, who entered the land which is now occupied by John Gregory in Money Creek Township.

The grandfather of our subject, John R. Wiley, emigrated to Illinois and located in this county in 1830, the winter of which year was made memorable by the great snow which occasioned much privation and suffering among the early settlers. He located in Money Creek Township, not far from the present site of Lexington, and died about the year 1854.

James S. Wiley pursued his early studies in the district schools and later attended Wesleyan University, where he took a two years' course, and then engaged in teaching. Soon after the establishment of the town of Colfax and the Kankakee & Southwestern Railroad, which was a branch of

the Illinois Central, Mr. Wiley removed to that place and entered the employ of E. D. Churchill & Son, grain buyers, of Chenoa, where he received his first lessons in the business in which he is now engaged. He soon afterward purchased the interest of the Churchills in the business, and forming a partnership with J. W. Bechtel, operated with him under the firm name of Bechtel & Wiley, until the present time. In addition to his grain dealings, Mr. Wiley is operating as a hardware merchant, carrying a fine stock of stoves, tinware, and everything pertaining to that branch of trade. This he established in 1881. Mr. Bechtel is at present also a partner in this business.

The marriage of our subject with Miss Hattie Dennis, of Chatsworth, Ill., took place at the home of the bride's parents in August, 1881. Mrs. Wiley is the daughter of William F. and Maggie F. Dennis, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of two children, a son and daughter—Charles E. and Maggie. Mr. Wiley, socially, is connected with the I. O. O. F., Martin Lodge No. 715. He is a member of the Board of Trustees of Colfax, is connected with the School Board and is Treasurer of the Colfax Coal Mining Company.



**W**ILLIAM H. H. ROSS, a highly esteemed resident of Mt. Hope Township, is a native of McLean County, Ill., and was born on the 30th of May, 1840. His father, John W. Ross, was a pioneer settler of this section and a native of Indiana, and his grandfather, Jacob Ross of Pennsylvania, emigrated from his native State to Indiana, where he lived a few years, and thence removed to Madison County, Ill., where he opened up a farm. He was one of the pioneer settlers of that county, and established a homestead there, upon which he remained until the close of his life.

John W. Ross, the father of our subject, was a youth of seventeen years when his parents came to the State of Illinois. He remained with them two years and then, at the age of nineteen years, started out to seek his fortune and make his own way. He first came into McLean County, and in due time was united in marriage with Miss Nancy

Funk, the daughter of John Funk. He purchased land in Dale Township, upon which he located, and industriously cultivated the soil until he retired from the active labors of life, folding his hands for his final rest in the year 1853. His wife survived him eleven years, and departed this life on the home farm in 1864. Of their union there had been born seven children, of whom the record is as follows: Margaret became the wife of Thomas Brazill, and lives in Oregon; James was the next in order of birth; Mary was united in marriage with Thomas Nicol, and lives in Allin Township; W. H. H., the subject of our sketch, was the next son; Francis M. is a resident of Arrowsmith Township; Ellen became the wife of S. Q. Park, and lives in Dale Township; John W. makes his home in Mt. Hope Township.

The subject of our sketch was the fourth child of his parents' family, and was but fourteen years of age when deprived of the care and protection of his father. He remained at home with his mother and assisted in the duties around the farm for the following seven years, and then, at the age of twenty, rented a tract of land and began farming on his own account. He was engaged in agricultural pursuits thereafter until 1882, when he purchased the farm which he now owns and occupies, and which is pleasantly located on section 1. It comprises 160 acres, under good cultivation, and is supplied with a good set of farm buildings. Before making this purchase he had rented land from Mr. George Funk, a cousin of his mother, who was an extensive proprietor and engaged largely in the breeding of fine stock. This gentleman took a kindly interest in young Ross, and acted as his friend and counselor for many years. Mr. Ross is still associated with Mr. F. in the raising and feeding of farm animals, and to the wise counsel and excellent judgment of this staunch friend and adviser, is largely due his success in life and his present position in the community.

William H. H. Ross was united in marriage with Miss Pamley Price, on the 13th of February, 1860. Mrs. Ross is a native of Virginia, and the daughter of William and Mary (Deeker) Price. They removed from Virginia to Illinois in 1847, settling in McLean County, and spent their last days in Mt.

Hope Township, where they had established a home soon after coming to this State.

Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Ross have been born four children, viz.: Belle is the wife of William Richardson, who lives in Ellsworth, this county; Charles lives in Funk's Grove Township; Katie, the wife of George Halane, lives in Allin Township, and Lula May is at home with her parents. Mr. Ross is Republican in politics, and is held in the highest esteem by the community in which he resides.

**M**ERLE H. RAYBURN, a farmer on section 35, Money Creek Township, is a son of David C. and Nancy (Fulton) Rayburn, the former a native of Ross County, Ohio, and the latter of Madison County, that State. They located after their marriage in Madison County, Ohio, and there lived until the fall of 1851, he engaged up to that time in farming. He then came to Bloomington, Ill., with his wife and four children, and made that his home during the following winter and then moved to Money Creek Township and located on section 35. Remaining there until the fall of 1886, he removed to the village of Towanda. His good wife died in Money Creek Township Nov. 21, 1873, and he was again married, Miss Raelhel S. Bowman being the other contracting party. David C. Rayburn became the father of nine children, namely, Merle H., Quesnel, Chalmers, Cranmer G., Paseal, Duff, Zuingle and Melanthon L., and one who died in infancy. Quesnel died in November, 1876, of consumption; Chalmers is married to Miss Isabell Hutton of Normal, this county, and they are living in Butler County, Kan; Cranmer G. married Miss Susie Stevenson of Towanda, and they are living in Plymouth, Iowa; Paseal married Miss Julia Geeding of Towanda, and they are living in Marion County, Kan; Duff and Miss Anna Shaw were united in marriage, and he is a farmer of Money Creek Township; Zuingle became the husband of Miss Susie Priece, and they are residents of Plymouth County, Iowa.

The subject of this notice was born in Madison County, Ohio, Jan. 22, 1845. He was nearly

seven years of age when his parents brought him to this county. Here he supplemented his education received in the common schools by a course of two years' study at Normal. He has always occupied his time in agricultural pursuits and knows no other vocation, and has been a resident of Money Creek Township ever since he first located there with his parents. Mr. Rayburn was married in Saline County, Neb., Oct. 26, 1872, to Miss Emma Overman, daughter of Isaac and Rebeeca (Dill) Overman, the former a native of North Carolina, and she of Rising Sun, Ind. They were brought to this State when young and were married in Mercer County, whence they removed to Fulton County, this State, and there lived for several years. He died while a resident of that county, his demise occurring in March, 1866. The widow and her children continued to reside in Fulton County until 1868, when they removed to Lee County, and in 1872 made another removal still further West and became residents of Saline County, Neb. In 1877 the mother came to McLean County, where one year later, at Normal, she died. By her union with Mr. Overman six children were born—Sarah J., Frank E., Emma, Clara, Leigh and Isabell. Emma, Mrs. Rayburn, was born in Fulton County Ill., May 15, 1852, and has borne our subject four children—Merle I., David Q., Emma G. and Ray L. Mr. Rayburn has held the office of Township Clerk and in politics is a staunch Republican. He was a member of the 145th Ill. Vol. Inf., and served five months during the late Civil War. He and his wife are members of the Presbyterian Church and he has been a Deacon in the same for twelve years, and an Elder since July, 1886.

**J**OHN W. STOVER, one of the large land-owners of McLean County, and one of her most successful and progressive farmers, is pleasantly located on his fine farm on section 33, Money Creek Township, where he is meeting with far more than ordinary success in the prosecution of his vocation. Mr. Stover was born in Piekaway County, Ohio, May 15, 1833. He was reared to farm labor, and received but a limited education

in his early youth, which he, however, supplemented by a practical one in later years. He lived in his native county until about 1852, when he emigrated to Illinois and took up his residence in this county. For about five years he worked out by the month, the major portion of the time in Money Creek Township. Mr. Stover has always followed agricultural pursuits, and is a self-made man in every respect the word implies. In 1857 he settled in Money Creek Township, and has made that his home until the present time. He is now the owner of 600 acres of valuable and productive land, and the major portion of it is under an advanced state of cultivation.

John W. Stover and Miss Elizabeth Ogden were united in marriage in Bloomington, Ill., Aug. 20, 1857. She is the daughter of Benjamin and Sarah (Stretch) Ogden, natives of Ohio and Pennsylvania respectively. Ten children were born to the parents, and Mrs. Stover was the seventh in order of birth. She first saw light in Money Creek Township, Jan. 16, 1839, and lived with her parents until her marriage. Of her union with Mr. Stover six children have been born, and named Benjamin, W., Sarah A., Cora, Etta M., Ida B., who died when about two years of age, and one who died in infancy. Benjamin married Miss Fannie Heller, and they are living in Money Creek Township and have two children—May E., and an infant unnamed; Sarah is the wife of Ward B. Jones, and they are living in Towanda Township; Cora and Etta are living at home. Mr. Stover has held the office of School Director of his township for many years. Socially he is a member of the I. O. O. F., and in politics is a staunch Republican.



**O**SCAR A. GREEN, a representative farmer of Cheney's Grove Township, located on section 28, besides the ordinary pursuits of agriculture is also engaged in breeding fine horses and cattle. He is the possessor of 366 acres of finely cultivated land, and supplied with a handsome and substantial set of farm buildings. His herd of Short-horns includes thirty-five head of some of the finest animals to be found in this section, and

his horses of the Norman stock include two fine young roadsters which he holds at a high value. In this branch of agriculture he has already gained a fine reputation, and his farm in all respects indicates the supervision of the intelligent and progressive farmer and business man.

Mr. Green was born in Erie County, Pa., April 28, 1834, and is the son of Isaac A. and Sallie (Pettitt) Green, both natives of Saratoga County, N. Y., of English extraction, and both living. Isaac Green during the early part of his life engaged in farming pursuits, but subsequently became a banker and after a few years thus occupied, retired from active labor. Both parents are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which the father has been Trustee and Steward for a number of years. Politically he uniformly casts his vote with the Republican party. His wife, Mrs. Sallie P. Green, was born May 5, 1809. The first representatives of both families emigrated from England over 200 years ago, landing at Providence, R. I., and they were numbered with the twelve persons who constituted the Baptist Church at that place. Phillip Green, the paternal grandfather of our subject, was born in Dutchess County, N. Y., in 1782, and married Miss Nancy Addington in 1803. They were members of the first class of the Methodist Episcopal Church which was established at Galway, N. Y. From there the family removed to Illinois in 1837. One of the sons, H. A. Green, the uncle of our subject, took part in the Black Hawk War in 1831.

Isaac Green, the father of our subject, removed from his native State to Peoria County, Ill., in about 1838, where he lived until 1854. He afterward became a resident of Marshall County, where he lived for a period of thirty years and whence he removed to McLean County. Isaac and Sallie P. Green became the parents of nine sons—George, Osear, W. Lloyd, Henry, Elisha P., Rowe, Christie, Lawton and Lorin.

Oscar A. Green was the second son of the family and remained under the parental roof until his marriage, which occurred Dec. 29, 1859. The lady of his choice was Miss Eliza Jane Snyder, a native of this State and born in Marshall County, Nov. 11, 1836. Her father was Col. Henry Snyder, a

Virginian, who was born April 24, 1790. He removed from his native State when but a lad, and engaged in farming in Morgan County, Ohio, where his marriage occurred, Jan. 18, 1816. The mother of our subject was born Jan. 4, 1793, and died at the home of her daughter in Marshall, Ill., Aug. 17, 1873. Col. Snyder had died in 1855. He obtained his title by serving in the State Militia, and was a Republican in politics. Both parents were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Their twelve children were—David D., Emanuel, John, Sarah, James H., Samuel P., Mary C., Amanda, Oliver P., Eliza J., Elmira M. and Edwin A.

Mr. and Mrs. Green of our sketch have become the parents of four children. The eldest daughter, Minerva C., became the wife of Martin Luther Riggs, Nov. 21, 1883; Edwin P., Alonzo O. and Henry W. are at home. While living in Marshall County, Mr. Green held the office of Highway Commissioner for five terms, and was Superintendent of the Sabbath-school for three years. He is at present connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church at Saybrook, of which he has been Trustee and Steward for several years. Politically he is a strong Republican.



**J**OSEPH RANKIN, one of the highly respected citizens of Randolph Township, owns and operates a farm of eighty acres, one half on section 4, in Randolph Township, and the other half within the limits of the village of Heyworth. He purchased this in 1875, and has since made it his home and is carrying on mixed husbandry. Mr. Rankin was born in Indiana County, Pa., Nov. 16, 1834. His father, William Rankin, a farmer by occupation, was a native of the North of Ireland, of Scottish descent and Protestant parentage. His grandfather, also by name William, was a native of the same locality, reared in the Protestant religion, and married an Irish lady of his own country, where she died in a few years. He was then married to a lady of the Presbyterian

faith, and they became the parents of six children, of whom William Rankin, Jr., the father of our subject, was the youngest but two. When he was about two years of age his parents, with their family, came to the United States in 1785, and locating in Indiana County, Pa., remained there engaged in farming pursuits until the close of their lives.

William Rankin, Jr., was reared in Indiana County, Pa., and there married to Miss Eleanor G. Turner, whose family history may be found in the sketch of John E. Wakefield in another part of this work. Mrs. Rankin was born in Washington County, Pa., whence her parents removed to Indiana County, that State, where they died, as did also she and her husband in the same house in the township of Wheatfield. The father at the time of his death in 1849 was sixty-four years of age, and the mother, who died in 1868, was seventy. Both were members of the Presbyterian Church, in which William Rankin was Elder for many years.

Joseph Rankin was the eldest of a family of four children born to his parents, of whom only two are living, himself and one sister. The latter, Margaret, is the wife of John Irvin, and they reside on a farm in Derry Township, Westmoreland Co., Pa. Those deceased were, Isabella and Mary E., neither of whom were married. Joseph Rankin was reared and educated in his native county, and was there married, June 6, 1865, to Miss Sarah L. Lintner, of Indiana County, who was born March 24, 1838. Her parents were William and Maria A. (Henderson) Lintner, who were American born but of English and Scotch descent and Presbyterians in religion. Mrs. Sarah Rankin departed this life at the home of her husband in Randolph Township, March 23, 1876, leaving a family of four children, one having died in infancy, before the death of the mother. The others—Maggie B., William L., Emma L. and Mary—are at home.

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Rankin located upon a farm in their native county in Pennsylvania, whence, after three years they removed to Johnstown, Cambria Co., Pa., where Mr. R. engaged in mercantile pursuits for five years. He retired from this business after two years, and in the spring of 1875 came to this county and located upon his present homestead. He is a straightfor-

ward business man and enjoys in a marked degree the respect of his neighbors and associates. The eldest daughter is connected with the Presbyterian Church, and our subject politically is a solid Republican.



**J**OHNS HARPER, editor and proprietor of the *Le Roy Eagle*, has been a resident of the Prairie State since 1840, and an interested witness of its growth and development. He was born in Lexington, Ky., Oct. 27, 1832, and is the son of Cyrus A. Harper, who was a native of Vaneeburg, Lewis Co., Ky. His grandfather, John Sterling Harper, of Virginia, removed to Kentucky while a young man, and became the intimate friend of Daniel Boone. He was a cooper by trade, and carried on a large business in that line.

Cyrus A. Harper, the father of our subject, became a merchant of Lexington when a young man, and carried on business there until 1836. He then came North to Galena, Ill., where he opened a large store and also established a smelting furnace. He was joined by his family in 1840. While there in business he also started a store in Dubuque and another in Potosi. In 1838 he shipped the first boat load of flour ever sent up the Mississippi River, and sold it at Galena at \$20 per barrel. He removed from this latter place to Elizabeth, Ill., where he carried on mercantile business and mining for eight or ten years, whence he went to Carroll Co., and was engaged in the same enterprise, mining near Mt. Carroll. He lived there for eight or nine years, but unwisely went security for different parties, and was thereby financially ruined. He remembered that a few years previous he had purchased land in Madison, Wis., which had been sold for taxes. This, in the meantime, had become valuable, and he took steps to recover it, receiving therefor \$15,000. He then went to Lyons, Iowa, and established a general store, which he operated two years, and was afterward a resident of Keokuk and Davenport, whence he returned to Lyons. Upon the breaking out of the Rebellion, he enlisted in an Illinois regiment and served three years, and upon his return from the army, settled in Amboy, Ill.,

where he died in 1867, from disease contracted in the army. He left a wife and four children; the former now lives in Monroe, Iowa. The mother of our subject, before her marriage, was Miss Harriet Sterling, of Virginia, who, by her union with Cyrus A. Harper, became the mother of four children, of whom John S. is the eldest; Margaret, Mrs. DeLare, lives at Moberly, Mo.; Charles is proprietor of the Madison House, Chicago; Mary, Mrs. Brown, lives at Glenwood Springs, Col.

John S. Harper was a lad of eight years when he removed with his mother to Galena. Three years later he returned to Kentucky, and entered the office of the *Louisville Journal*, as an apprentice to the "art preservative," under the instruction of the now well-known George D. Prentiss. He lived in the family of the latter for three years, working at his trade, and then returning to Illinois, he entered Mt. Morris Seminary, where he pursued a thorough course of study for another three years. Then, going to Freeport, he set type in the *Journal* office for two years, and since that time has been connected with various newspapers in the West, and earned the distinction of being the founder of more newspapers than any other man in the world, having started 152 in the States of Iowa, Illinois, Missouri, Kentucky, Ohio and Indiana. These include the *Freeport Journal*, the *El Paso Journal*, *Virginia Enquirer*, *Columbus Statesman*, and *Farmer City Republican*, all of which were small offices compared with others now running. Mr. Harper came to Le Roy in the summer of 1886, and in his management of the *Eagle* has displayed excellent judgment, and met with success. He is a strong and forcible writer, with a good command of language, and both in his supervision of the mechanical and literary departments of the paper, has indicated rare judgment and good taste, and accordingly the paper has become a power for good in the community, and prospered.

Mr. Harper was married in November, 1860, to Miss Hannah V. Capper. Mrs. Harper is a native of Ohio, and by her union with our subject became the mother of two children, of whom only one, John M. C., grew to manhood. He was born in Marion, Iowa, Nov. 17, 1861, and died at Springfield, Ill., Oct. 29, 1883. He was a young man of

great promise, a graduate of Virginia Seminary in Cass County, Ill., and at the time of his death was local editor of the Springfield *Daily Republican*. He was a worthy member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and prominently connected with the Young Men's Christian Association.

Upon the outbreak of the late war, Mr. Harper enlisted as a Union soldier in July, 1862, becoming a member of Co. G, 72d Ill. Vol. Inf., and serving until the close of the war. He was mustered in as Sergeant, and had been in the service but a few months when he was prostrated by sunstroke and confined in the hospital for some time. He recovered sufficiently to be present at the battles of Clarksville, Corinth, Shiloh, Stone River, Mission Ridge and minor engagements. During the last year of service, on account of impaired health, he was given the position of Clerk in the Provost Marshal's office. He is now a member of Lemon Post No. 211, G. A. R., at Farmer City. Both Mr. and Mrs. Harper are connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church.



**J**OHAN PURDUM, a retired farmer and highly respected citizen of Weston, has been a resident of McLean County since 1857. During his thirty years' residence here he has watched the growth and development of this section with the deepest interest and has contributed his share towards bringing the township to its present condition. He is a native of Ohio, born in Allen County, May 14, 1819, being the son of John Purdum, who was a native of Kentucky. The mother of our subject, formerly Miss Sarah Nevin, was born in Maryland and departed this life when her son, our subject, was but a babe. Besides himself, his little sister, Elizabeth, was also left motherless. Elizabeth became the wife of Joseph Hamilton and is now deceased. After the death of his wife, John Purdum, Sr., was a second time married, and continued to live in Ohio, where he passed the remainder of his life, his death occurring when he was fifty-six years of age.

Our subject was reared to farming pursuits and remained in his native State until 1856. He then

sought the prairies of Illinois and passed his first winter in Putnam County, whence he removed the following spring to this county and purchased eighty acres of unimproved land in Yates Township. Here he followed farming with fair success until 1881, when on account of failing health he abandoned active labor and moved into the village of Weston, which has since been his home. Besides the farm, which is now operated by a tenant, Mr. Culey, he owns the handsome village property which he now occupies.

The subject of our sketch was married in 1839, to Miss Nancy Hamilton, who was born in Brown County, Ohio, Jan. 24, 1816, and who was the daughter of Robert and Nancy Hamilton. Of this union there were born eight children, two of whom died in infancy and one daughter, Samantha Jane, when twenty-three years of age. Those living are, John Turner, a resident of Tulare County, Cal.; Semiramis, the wife of Guy Farr, resides in Yates Township; Jonah Wayland is engaged in the lumber business in Vernon County, Mo.; Robert Edgar is a resident of Yates Township; Mary E. became the wife of Cal. Wilson and they are residents of Livingston County, Ill.

Mr. Purdum politically is a staunch Republican and has been an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church for the past sixteen years.



**H**ARRISON MILLER, a resident of the Prairie State for the last twenty years, and who in early life was engaged in farming pursuits, is now retired from active labor, and passing his later days quietly at his home in Bloomington, which is located at No. 205 Union street. Mr. Miller was born in Clarke County, Ohio, on the 8th of August, 1825, and is the son of John and Johannah (Smith) Miller, natives respectively of Virginia and Ohio. John Miller removed from the Old Dominion to Ohio when a young man, and opening up a farm in the wilderness engaged in agricultural pursuits until his death, which occurred in 1863. The mother is still living in Clarke County, Ohio, aged eighty-one years. The par-

ental household included twelve children, seven now living, the subject of our sketch being the eldest.

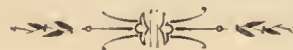
Mr. Miller remained under the parental roof until he was twenty-five years of age, and engaged in farming pursuits. He received a practical education, and assisted his parents dutifully while he remained with them. He then purchased a farm of 100 acres adjoining the old homestead. This was only partly improved, and he erected a frame house and proceeded with the cultivation of his land. He remained upon this farm until 1867, then coming to Illinois settled in Little Township, Tazewell County, where he had purchased 160 acres of improved land. He occupied this, with his family, until 1881, and then removed to Bloomington for the purpose of securing better advantages for his children. He owns the homestead which he now occupies, and is passing his days surrounded by the friends who have known him for so many years, and by whom he is held in the greatest esteem.

The marriage of Harrison Miller and Miss Sarah Wise took place in Ohio in 1850. Mrs. Miller is the daughter of George and Mary (Zeigler) Wise, natives of Pennsylvania, who removed to Ohio and settled in Clarke County in 1840. They occupied the farm whereon they then located the remainder of their lives. Of his thirteen children, ten by a first marriage, four are now living—Mary, David, Sarah and Jacob. Sarah was a daughter of the second marriage.

Mr. and Mrs. Miller became the parents of six children, of whom the record is as follows: John married Miss Cynthia Hieronimus, and they have three children—Addie, Carrie and Roy; Warren married Miss Carrie Raney, and they have one child—Mabel; Annie, now Mrs. Jones, has four children—Harry, Alma, Myrtel and Orion; William married Miss Ada Darnell; Jessie died while a student of the Wesleyan University; George is unmarried and living with his parents.

Mr. Miller is Republican in politics, and keeps himself well posted upon matters of general interest. He was Supervisor in Ohio, and a School Director in Tazewell County. Mr. and Mrs. M. are both members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and are held in the highest re-

spect by the community. During the late war Mr. Miller was in the four months' service, participated in several engagements, and was on guard duty in Company G, of the 171st Regiment. He was also one of the Government Home Guards, called out in 1864.



GEORGE T. RUTLEDGE, one of the whole-souled and genial men of Randolph Township, whose faculties are well balanced and who has a capacity for the intelligent enjoyment of the good things of this life, owns and occupies a fine homestead on section 36, which by his own industry he has brought to a fine state of cultivation. He has also erected a handsome and substantial farm dwelling, a good barn and all necessary out-buildings, and possesses all the implements and machinery for carrying on agriculture in a first-class manner. He has been straightforward and upright in his business methods and occupies an enviable position among the reliable men of his community.

Mr. Rutledge is a native of Randolph Township and was born on the old homestead of his father Aug. 26, 1834, being the eldest son of R. H. Rutledge, a native of South Carolina. He was the eldest son and third child of a family of twelve, six sons and six daughters, three of each now being deceased. George T. was reared to farming pursuits, pursuing his primary studies in the common schools, after which he entered Wesleyan University at Bloomington, where he took a thorough course of study, and from which he became fully equipped for the further duties of life.

Mr. Rutledge was married, in St. Louis, Mo., on the 10th of July, 1860, to Miss Ann M. Wagoner, the daughter of Henry and Elizabeth (Ross) Wagoner. Her father was an extensive and well-to-do farmer of Downs Township, this county. Mrs. Rutledge was born in Center County, Pa., Nov. 6, 1842. She was only two years old when her parents removed from the Keystone State to Tippecanoe County, Ind., where they lived upon a farm for twelve years. Thence, in 1856 they removed to Illinois, and located on a farm in Downs Township, this county, which the father had purchased







Mariana Freeman



Bob Freeman

a year previously. He was then in moderate circumstances but became very successful after coming to McLean County, and is now one of the independent farmers of Downs Township. Mrs. R. remained under the home roof until her marriage with our subject. She has become the mother of ten children, one deceased and one married. The latter, Aldora, is the wife of D. H. Morgan, and resides at Bloomington; Joseph C., Laura E., Mary F., Robt. H., Jessie M., Frank M., Addie E. and Hermon H. are at home with their parents. Our subject and his wife, with one son and three daughters, are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which Mr. R. is Steward. Socially he belongs to the I. O. O. F., and politically is an uncompromising Democrat.



**C**ALEB FREEMAN, one of the honored pioneers of McLean County, is a gentleman possessed of fine personal traits of character, more than ordinary ability, a deep thinker and extensive reader, and essentially a self-made man. He is well informed upon matters of general interest, liberal in his religious views, and in all respects one of the most intelligent citizens of this locality. He is occupied in farming pursuits, and is pleasantly located in Dale Township, on section 8. His home farm now comprises 340 acres. During his long residence in the Prairie State, he has established for himself an enviable reputation as an honest man and good citizen, and one who has contributed his full quota toward the advancement and development of one of the wealthiest States in the Union.

The subject of this history was born in Butler County, Ohio, on the 11th of December, 1814. His father, John Freeman, a native of New Jersey, was one of the early pioneers of the Buckeye State. His son Caleb was but a small child when both the parents died, and the orphan boy was taken into the home of his nnele, then living in Butler County. The latter subsequently removed to Mereer County, and left Caleb Freeman and his only sister in charge of a neighboring farmer, John Carter, who lived a few miles from Wapakoneta.

The county was thinly settled at the time, and wild game of all kinds was plenty, and our subject well remembers his wanderings over the hills and through the forest, and the lonely feeling which often took possession of him as he thought of himself and his sister severed from home ties and kindred by a Providence which they were too young to understand. The sister grew to womanhood and removed to Indiana, where she died. After living with Mr. Carter two years, the Overseer of the Poor removed Caleb Freeman and bound him to John Holderman in Montgomery County, with whom he lived until old enough to learn a trade. He was thus employed until sixteen years of age, and then served three years for his board and clothes while learning the trade of a tanner with Snyder & McPherson. He then removed to Miami County, and was employed by James Hannah for the following two years. He followed his trade in different places in Ohio, and during the last four years of his residence in that State was at Franklin, Warren County.

In the meantime Mr. Freeman had been married, and in February, 1840, accompanied by his wife and her father's family, started for the prairies of Illinois. Their outfit consisted of three horses and a wagon, and they carried with them their household goods and provisions, camping and cooking by the wayside, and sleeping in the wagon at night. They arrived in Dale Township on the 28th of the same month, and Mr. Freeman has been a resident of this township since that date, embracing a period of over forty-seven years.

Mr. Freeman, at the time of his arrival here, had not a dollar in cash at his command. He and his wife moved into a small log house on her father's farm, and shortly afterward Mr. Freeman borrowed \$100 and commenced business by purchasing hides and establishing a tannery. As soon as he had leather enough prepared for further operations, he hired a shoemaker and had the leather converted into boots and shoes. His tannery was located on the west side of Twin Grove and the middle branch of Sugar Creek. He operated in this manner until June 5, 1845, then took the balance of his stock and packed it ready for transportation to St. Louis. He loaded it onto a wagon and took

it by team to Pekin, thence by steamer to St. Louis, where he sold it. He had been prosperous in his leather operations, and when he sold out he had money enough to pay his indebtedness and start in farming. He had previously entered eighty acres of land on section 8 of what is now Dale Township, and he now proceeded to the erection of a farm house. He put up a one story and a half building, twenty feet square, on the open prairie. As there was great danger from prairie fires he always kept a strip burned around his buildings to prevent their being destroyed, and even with this precaution was obliged to keep a close watch lest some stray spark might set fire to his little property.

The nearest markets in those days were at Pekin and Peoria, and it took two and one-half days to make the round trip. Wheat only brought from forty to ninety-four cents per bushel, and oats ten cents. The pioneers were obliged to avail themselves of every shift and turn in order to make both ends meet, provide themselves with the necessaries of life, and proceed with the improvements on their new homesteads. But they all "pulled together," each one helped his neighbor whenever he could do so, and in due time success began to smile upon their persevering and united labor.

The marriage of Caleb Freeman and Miss Martha Barnard took place at her father's farm, nine miles north of Dayton, Ohio, on the 28th of November, 1839. Mrs. Freeman was a native of Montgomery County, Ohio, and was born Feb. 14, 1819. Her parents were Samuel and Rebeeca (Compton) Barnard. She became the mother of eight children, and after remaining the faithful and affectionate companion of her husband for a period of forty-five years, departed this life on the 11th of May, 1884. The children born of this marriage are recorded as follows: Rebeeca became the wife of Josiah Myers, and lives at Towanda, Ill.; Samuel is a resident of Bloomington; Eunice married Lucius Rogers, and lives near Ellsworth, this county; Victoria, Mrs. George L. Conkling, lives in Atlantic, Iowa; Clinton D. occupies a part of the old homestead; L. Edward is now farming in York County, Neb.; Elizabeth died at the age of ten years and ten months; Abraham L. is a citizen of Kansas.

For his second wife Mr. Freeman married Miss Mandana Graec Thurman, the wedding taking place at Charleston, Coles Co., Ill., on the 14th of January, 1885. The present Mrs. Freeman was born in Knox County, Ill., and is the daughter of Isaae and Rebeeca (McGrew) Thurman. By this union they have one daughter, Jessie Belle; they have also an adopted daughter, Jennie May Freeman.

Mr. Freeman has been prominent in the affairs of this county since becoming a resident here. At the time of the organization of the township, he proposed for it the name of Dale, which was adopted without opposition. He has done what he could toward its moral and educational advancement, and is held in the highest esteem by his fellow-citizens. During the earlier years of his life he was a member of the Whig party, but after this party was abandoned, and the Republicans organized, he has cheerfully indorsed the principles of the latter, and with them uniformly casts his vote.

The portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Freeman are shown in connection with this sketch.



**G**EORGE THOMPSON, contractor and builder at Bloomington, has his business office at No. 601 East North street, and in his particular department is considered one of the skilled artisans of this section. Mr. T. was born in Cannonsburg, Pa., Nov. 1, 1854, and is the son of Thomas and Dorothy (Maudlin) Thompson, natives of England, where they were reared and married, the latter event occurring about 1840, and came to America some nine years later. They settled at once in Cannonsburg, where Thomas Thompson engaged in mining, at which he is employed at the present time. Of the parental family there are four children living: Robert M. is operating a brickyard at Houstonville, Pa.; Joseph L., of Kansas City, is engaged as a contractor and builder; Mary, Mrs. Camp, lives in Cannonsburg, and George is our subject.

Mr. Thompson remained under the parental roof until he was eighteen years of age and received a practical education. After leaving home he learned the trade of carpenter and joiner and worked one

year in his native State. In the fall of 1878 he came to Illinois and settled at Bloomington, where he worked at his trade five years, in the meantime associating himself with a partner, and under the firm name of Zeigler & Thompson, they engaged as contractors and builders, operating together for four years, since which time Mr. T. has carried on business alone. In this he is very successful, and gives employment to three men besides himself.

Our subject purchased his present attractive residence in 1885, having been married on the 1st of January, that year, to Miss Mettie J. Dustin, the daughter of Clement and Maryette (Lasher) Dustin. Mrs. T. was born in Leavenworth, Kan., in 1868. Her parents were natives of Vermont and Ohio respectively, and were married at Jancsville, Wis., but are now living at Leavenworth, Kan. Their family consisted of six children, four of whom are living: Edward C. of Leavenworth, Kan., engaged in commission business; Elmer E., an express agent at the same place; Mettie J., Mrs. Thompson, and Emily C., of Leavenworth. Mr. Dustin moved from Wisconsin to Kansas in 1856, and is now retired from active business.

**J**OHAN N. KILGORE, a successful agriculturist of Lawndale Township, owns a good homestead on section 22, and is numbered among the enterprising young farmers of McLean County. He is a native of Franklin County, Ohio, born Nov. 12, 1859, being the youngest of a family of four children. (See history of parents in sketch of Thomas Kilgore.) He attended the common schools and for two years pursued a thorough course of study in the Normal School at Lebanon, Ohio. He remained under the home roof until twenty-four years of age, then started for the prairies of Illinois. He arrived in this county in the fall of 1883, and in the spring following located on his present homestead. This now comprises 240 acres of finely improved land, with a good house, barn, and all necessary out-buildings.

Mr. Kilgore was married in Plain City, Madison

Co., Ohio, Dec. 31, 1884, to Miss May L., daughter of Edmund and Lavinna Smith, natives respectively of Vermont and New York. Mrs. K. was born in Union County, Ohio, May 19, 1864, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of one child, a son, Clyde S., born Dec. 13, 1885. Mr. Kilgore is a staunch adherent of the Republican party and socially belongs to the K. of P.

**W**ILLIAM ROCKEL. The subject of this biography owns a comfortable farm homestead on section 18, Blue Mound Township, and has been a resident of McLean County since 1865. Here he has 115 acres of valuable land, all improved and under a good state of cultivation and supplied with convenient and tasteful farm buildings. Mr. Rockel is a native of Ohio, born in Clarke County, Sept. 15, 1844, and remained a resident of his native county until 1865. His parents were Adam and Mary (Baker) Rockel, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Virginia. After their marriage they located in Clarke County, Ohio, where the father engaged in farming pursuits and where both parents spent the remainder of their lives. Adam Rockel departed this life May 18, 1884, and the mother April 14, 1886. Their five children were Peter, Harriett, Henry, Mary and William.

Upon first coming to this county, being then a young man twenty years of age, William Rockel worked as a farmer and carpenter for three years. In 1868 he became a resident of Blue Mound Township, where he has lived, with the exception of one year, since that time. He was married in Lexington, Ill., Feb. 4, 1868, to Miss Hester A. Heller, daughter of Elias and Eliza (Branstetter) Heller, who were both natives of Pennsylvania. They removed, soon after their marriage, to Clarke County, Ohio, and from there to this county in about 1856, settling in Towanda Township. They are still living, making their home in the village of Towanda. Their household circle included eight children, viz: Rebecca J., Mary E., Christian M., Benjamin F., Eliza J., Hester A., Squire W. and William C. Mrs. Rockel was born in Clarke County,

Ohio, April 11, 1847, and remained with her parents until her marriage. Of her union with our subject there have been born three children—Aliee L., Clement W. and Mary A. Mr. Roekel, politically, is an adherent of the Democratic party. He has served as School Director in his township and is fully entitled to be classed as an honest man and a good citizen.



**C**ALVIN RAYBURN, of the firm of Rayburn & Barry, attorneys at law, and occupying a worthy position among his professional brethren of Bloomington, is a native of the Buckeye State, having been born in London, Madison Co., Ohio, Dec. 20, 1847. His father, William K. Rayburn, was a native of Ross County, Ohio, and his grandfather was Judge James Rayburn, who was born in Virginia. The father of the latter was the son of one of three brothers who emigrated to America from Scotland prior to the Revolutionary War, in which two of the brothers took part. William K. Rayburn, the father of our subject, was a farmer and stock-raiser and became a resident of this State and county in 1851. He located in Bloomington Township, where he lived two years, then moved into Blue Mound Township, remaining until the fall of 1873. He then purchased a farm in Empire Township, where the family removed and where he lived four or five years; thence he moved to his father's farm, where he remained until the latter's death. In the spring of 1885 William K. Rayburn removed to El Dorado, Kan., where he now lives. The mother of our subject, formerly Miss Amanda M. V. Dungan, of Ohio, was the daughter of Wilson Dungan, a prominent merchant of London, in that State. By her marriage with William K. Rayburn she became the mother of eleven children, five of whom died in infancy. The six surviving are four sons and two daughters, of whom Calvin, our subject, is the eldest.

The education of Calvin Rayburn was first conducted by a private teacher and he afterward attended the city schools of Bloomington. He remained under the home roof until twenty-one years of age, then entered Illinois Wesleyan College from

which he graduated in 1876. He then taught school two years as Principal of the High School at Shelbyville, Ill., and in 1878, he was Superintendent of Hillsboro City Schools. Having decided upon the study of law, he entered the office of Rowell & Hamilton, in Bloomington, under whose instruction he studied one year, and took a course in the Law Department of Wesleyan University. From there he graduated in 1879, and was at once admitted to the bar. He opened an office in July, 1879, and entered into partnership with H. H. Green, who withdrew two years later, since which time Mr. Rayburn has conducted his practice alone.

Mr. Rayburn is an enterprising and useful citizen who has fully identified himself with the interests of the community. He is one of the Directors, and Secretary and Treasurer of the Electric Light Company, and local attorney for the Thompson-Huston Electric Company of Boston, Mass.

The marriage of our subject occurred on the 12th of July, 1877, when he was united with Miss Jennie Buttolph, of Bloomington, and they have one child, a son—William B.

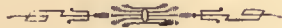


**J**OHIN S. ROUSH, deceased, was the head of the firm of J. S. Roush & Sons, one of the important factors of the business and industrial elements of Bloomington, and was prosperously engaged in trade as a wholesale grocer, giving much attention to the better grade of coffees and the roasting thereof.

John S. Roush was born in Highland County, Ohio, in September, 1832. His mercantile experience commenced when he was seventeen years of age, with a capital of \$600 and good credit, in Taylorville, Ohio, where he conducted a small store consisting of a stock of general groceries and household articles. He operated there until 1858, and then removed to Hillsboro, the county seat of Highland County, where he first engaged as dry-goods clerk and then associated himself in partnership with Henry Strain, in the grocery business for five years following, when he purchased the interest

of his partner and operated alone until 1869, during which year he removed to Bloomington.

Here he entered into partnership with John McMillan, in the wholesale grocery business, under the style of McMillan & Roush, with whom he operated for eighteen months and then purchased the interest of his partner, continuing alone for nine months. He then took in John F. Humphreys and they continued together until 1879, under the style of Roush & Humphreys, when our subject disposed of his interest to George R. Newton, and then went into business with his two sons, Charles F. and Edwin C., on Front street, where they operated until 1880, and then moved into their own building at the corner of Grove and Front streets. This is 46x90 feet in dimensions, with three stories and basement, all departments being occupied in the extensive business of the firm, which is now finely established and operates extensively throughout this and other counties. John S. Roush came to his death by accident in September, 1884, by his horse running away. He was an enterprising and useful citizen and universally respected. The mother is still living, the two sons now in business being the only children of the family, and who are still successfully doing the large and lucrative business of their father.



**A**MOS YODER. Among the agricultural element of McLean County who have met with success in their calling and who are entitled to enjoy the accumulations of a handsome competency, acquired mainly through their own exertions and good judgment, Mr. Yoder is entitled to a place. He is busily engaged in the prosecution of his calling on his fine and productive farm on section 8, Money Creek Township. Amos Yoder is the son of Jonathan and Magdalen (Wagner) Yoder, the former a native of Berks County, Pa., and the latter of Pottsville, that State. They were married in their native State, and soon thereafter settled in Mifflin County, whence they removed to Center County, that State, whence, after a nine years' residence, they removed to Juniata County, Pa. They lived in the latter county until

the spring of 1851, when, hoping to better their financial condition in the undeveloped West, they came to this county and settled in Danvers Township. From the latter township they removed to Dry Grove Township, where the good wife died in February, 1866. He died in Woodford County, Ill., in the winter of 1869. Twelve children were born to Jonathan and Magdalen Yoder, six sons and six daughters, and the subject of this notice was the sixth in order of birth.

Amos Yoder was born in Mifflin County, Pa., Dec. 17, 1828. He received as good schooling as the times and locality afforded, was reared to manhood on the farm, and has followed that calling all his life with the exception of about three years, in which he was engaged in mercantile pursuits at Normal. Mr. Yoder came to this county in 1848, and settled in Dry Grove Township, where he made his home until the spring of 1880. He then removed to Towanda Township and lived there two years, then took up his residence at Normal. In that city he was engaged in the grocery business for about three years, meeting with only partial success, and in January, 1886, he moved on to his place in Money Creek Township, consisting of 320 acres, nearly all of which was under an advanced state of cultivation, and on which he has a good farm residence and substantial out-buildings.

While a resident of Dry Grove Township, Mr. Yoder concluded that he would try his fortune still farther West. He consequently sold out and visited some of the Western States and Territories, but came to the conclusion that no country excells McLean County for productiveness, and after an absence of about two months, came back satisfied to make this his permanent home. Our subject was married in Danvers Township, in July, 1852, to Catherine Donner. She was born in Butler County, Ohio, and bore our subject five children—Millie, Barbara, Frank, Anna and Charles. Millie is the wife of D. J. Myers, and they are living in Ashland, Ohio; Barbara and George L. Kirekner became man and wife, and she died in Buck Horn Valley, Col., April 28, 1883; Frank is a farmer and follows his calling in Dakota; Anna is the wife of D. A. Muse, and their home is at Denver, Col.; Charles lives at home. Mrs. Yoder died in Dry

Grove Township, Sept. 20, 1864, and our subject formed a second matrimonial alliance, Mrs. Catherine (Kistler) Lantz being the other contracting party, and the date of their marriage Dec. 11, 1864. She was a daughter of John M. and Elizabeth (Naffzinger) Kistler, and widow of Joseph P. Lantz, who died in Dry Grove Township, June 30, 1861. Of her union with Mr. Lantz five children were born, viz: Thomas, Mary, Rebeeca, Horace and Joseph. Thomas is married and resides in Nebraska; Mary is living at Normal; Rebeeca is the wife of John P. Yoder, a resident of La Salle County, Ill.; Horace is a farmer, and lives in Missouri; Joseph is unmarried.

The parents of Mrs. Catherine Yoder came to this county from Butler County, Ohio, in 1838, and settled in Dry Grove Township, soon thereafter removing to Woodford County, Ill., whence they returned to this county, and several years later became residents of La Salle County, this State. They removed from the latter county to Missouri, where the father died in October, 1876. The mother died in Iowa, in 1880. Eleven children were born to them, and all lived to attain the age of man and womanhood. Mrs. Yoder of this notice was the eldest of her parents' children. She was born in Butler County, Ohio, Dec. 10, 1833, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of seven children—Laura B., Salina, Leonard M., Elmer G., Minnie A., Henry L. and Effie E. While a resident of Towanda Township, Mr. Yoder held the office of Justice of the Peace for a little more than a year. He and his wife are members of the Mennonite Church, and in politics our subject is a staunch Republican.



**D**R. HENRY A. WINTER, a reliable and successful physician of Saybrook Village, is a native of New York, born in Cayuga County, Nov. 9, 1843. His parents were Herman H. and Sabrina A. (Abbott) Winter. The mother was the sister of Chaney M. Abbott, who was a Senator in the General Assembly of his State and who died while in the midst of his usefulness.

The Abbott family was of English origin, and became widely and favorably known in different parts of the United States. The grandfather of Mrs. W. during the old Revolutionary times, was Captain of a company of scouts and a brave Indian fighter. His capture was greatly desired by the British Government who offered £40 for his scalp. He was one of a family of nine sons, all of whom were distinguished for their energy of character, their ambition, and the activity with which they engaged in whatever they were interested.

After the death of her husband Mrs. Winter, who remained a widow, devoted herself to the care of her children of whom there were only two, and makes her home with her son, Dr. H. A. Winter. The sister of our subject, Adelaide J., became the wife of Dr. F. M. Hiatt, and they have one son, John. This lady was finely educated, having pursued her studies at Mt. Holyoke Female Seminary, in Massachusetts. She afterward taught school and was especially proficient in music. She was of amiable and excellent character, greatly respected by all who knew her, and a worthy member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. After a lingering illness with consumption she died at her home in Wisconsin, Dec. 21, 1871.

The subject of this history commenced attending school in his native county when he was four years of age, and when of suitable years and attainments, entered Cortland Academy, where he remained under the excellent tutelage of Prof. Clarke until April, 1861. He then journeyed westward to Wisconsin and entering the High School at Berlin, in Green Lake County, remained until October of that same year. Then, the Civil War being in progress, he enlisted as a Union soldier in Co. B, 11th Wis. Vol Inf., and one year afterward was taken with typhoid fever at Helena, Ark., and compelled to accept his honorable discharge. He returned to his old home in New York and soon afterward commenced traveling for his health, going through the States of Michigan, Wisconsin and Indiana. He was still interested in the success of the Union troops and after arriving in Indianapolis, resolved to once more offer his assistance to preserve the Union. He re-enlisted in Co. B, 72d Ind. Vol. Mtd.



Inf., and joined his command at Murfreesboro, Tenn. On the 24th of June they moved out on Hoover's Gap, where occurred a lively battle and in which the Union troops, by the aid of their Spencer rifles, came out victorious. They were afterward engaged at the battle of Chickamauga and our subject with his comrades went through the Atlantic campaign, during which he was wounded with a spent ball in the right leg. He had the honor of being one of the division which assisted in the capture of Jefferson Davis, and afterward, at the Lamar House in Macon, Ga., talked face to face with the Confederate chieftain. Young Winter was afterward transferred to Co. B, 44th Ind. Vol. Inf., with which he was mustered out at Nashville, Tenn., Sept. 14, 1865.

After returning from the army our subject located in Williamsport, Ind., where he took up the study of medicine under the instruction of Dr. F. M. Hiatt, with whom he remained until 1867. During the following fall and winter he attended Rush Medical College, at Chicago, and until 1872, taught school and practiced medicine alternately. He then purchased a share in the business of Samuel Roberts, but wishing to perfect himself in his medical studies, returned to Chicago, and after another thorough course in Rush Medical College, graduated Feb. 19, 1873. Removing to this county, Dr. Winter engaged in practice in Saybrook, and has since distinguished himself as a fine practitioner, especially of surgery, in which he takes great pride and has always been ambitious to excel. He has been remarkably successful in his practice, and by it has accumulated a fine competency. Both as a man and a physician he is held in the highest respect. His property in Saybrook consists of three dwelling-houses.

Dr. Winter was united in marriage with Miss Della Atkinson, Sept. 25, 1867, and they had one child, William A., who is now in the Freshman class of Wesleyan University, at Bloomington. Mrs. Della A. Winter departed this life Feb. 24, 1885. She was a lady greatly esteemed by a large circle of friends and acquaintances, and a worthy member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, as are also her husband and son. The second wife of our subject to whom he was married at Saybrook, this county,

was Miss Catherine Cheney, a native of this county, born in 1848, and the daughter of ex-Senator W. H. Cheney, a pioneer of this county.

Dr. Winter belongs to the Masonic fraternity, being a member of Mt. Olivet Commandery, and is connected with the K. of P., Hope Lodge No. 140, at Saybrook. He is also a member of the I. O. O. F., Saybrook Lodge No. 460, and of the G. A. R., McPherson Post No. 79.



**W**H. MILNER, an expert architect of Bloomington, is closely identified with its interests, having been born here on the 29th of September, 1864, and spending his boyhood and youth mainly within its limits. He is one of the rising young business men of McLean County, and for some time has given evidence of more than ordinary skill and genius as applied to the business which he has chosen for his vocation in life.

The subject of this history is the son of John V. and Angeline (Baker) Milner, the father a native of Pennsylvania and the mother of Massachusetts. J. V. Milner and wife came to Bloomington in 1854 and he is now one of the most extensive hardware dealers in the county. They have a family of six children.

Warren H. Milner received his earliest instruction from his mother, until ten years old, then commenced attending a ward school from which he graduated in four years. He then entered the High School and after spending a like season, graduated from there also. In the meantime his leisure time had been occupied in the study of architecture, under the instruction of H. A. Miner, and during vacations he worked at the carpenter's trade with the same gentleman, remaining with him eighteen months. In 1884 he went to St. Paul, Minn., and engaged as a draughtsman, partly there and partly in Minneapolis, for the following year. He then returned to Bloomington and opened an office 7x14 feet in dimensions, and after two months his business so increased he had to remove to larger quarters. He then fitted up and furnished rooms at Nos. 306 and 308 North Main street, where he now employs two

men and is doing a fine business. His reputation as a skillful architect has already extended into adjoining States, and he has received orders from abroad as well as near home. Besides this business he is giving much attention to raising, and dealing in blooded road and saddle horses, and takes great delight in watching the development of this noblest of animals.

Mr. Milner is Republican in politics, and in all respects bids fair to become one of the substantial business men of McLean County.



**O**WEN SCOTT, publisher and proprietor of the Bloomington *Bulletin*, is a native of Effingham County, Ill., and was born in Jackson Township on the 6th of July, 1848. He is a son of Dr. John O. and Martha B. (Parkhurst) Scott, of Tennessee. Dr. John O. Scott is still living in Effingham, Ill., and having been born in 1805, is consequently now over eighty-one years of age. The mother was born one year later and is still living. The parental household included five children.

Dr. John O. Scott came to Illinois in company with his father in 1822, when a young man of seventeen years. The father was a soldier in the War of 1812. After his term of military service had expired he resolved to occupy himself in farming pursuits. Dr. Scott became a highly esteemed citizen of Effingham County, and for several years was School Commissioner, the office now known as County Superintendent, being first elected in 1842. He was a man of fine abilities, an extensive reader, and during the winter season, among other things, applied himself to the study of medicine, and became so interested in this, and acquired such a good knowledge of it that he commenced practice in 1850. In this he was so successful that he abandoned the farm a few years later and took up his residence in the city of Effingham, where he is now living in ease and retirement.

Owen Scott of this history obtained his early education in the common schools, which he attended until sixteen years of age. He was bright and studious, fond of his books, and at the age of

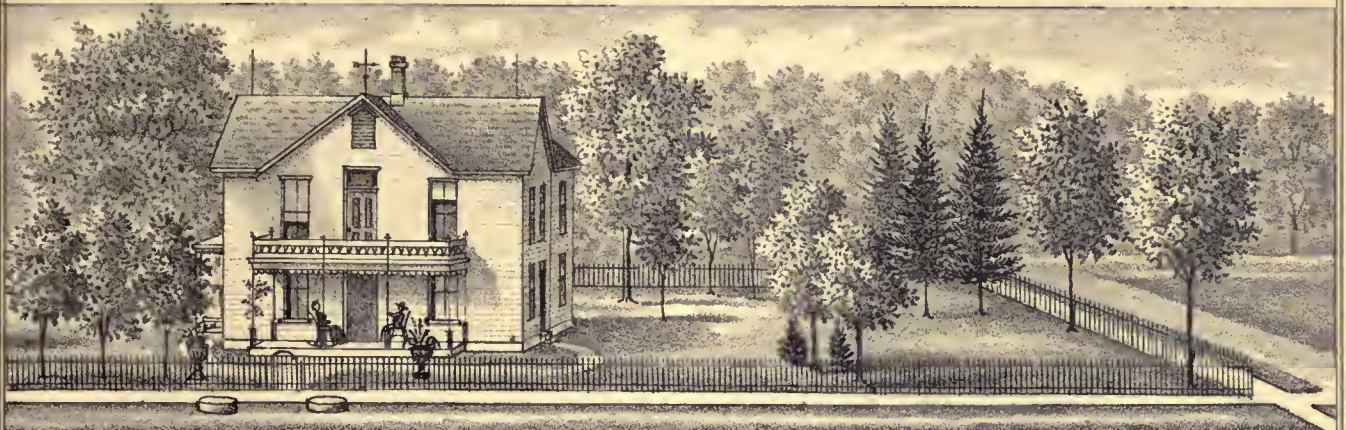
sixteen years commenced teaching, his first school being near his birthplace. Here he taught twelve months in succession, the latter six of which course of instruction was carried on in a grove out of doors. Whenever a rainstorm came on he and his pupils crawled into a little old hut which stood near, as protection from the rain. His journey to and from the school lay about two and one-half miles through the woods, and the pioneer pedagogue carried his gun along, by means of which he supplied game to families at both ends of the route. He had been reared to habits of industry, and his parents, in common with other settlers of a new country, had very little "hard cash." At one time when he was about eleven years of age, and very much in need of a pair of boots, he took a vacation from school of one week, and going to the woods with his dog caught rabbits, which he sold at five cents apiece, and on the following Monday morning, bright and early, was in his place proud of the new boots.

In the course of time young Scott was enabled to realize his long-cherished plan of attending the State Normal University at Normal, where he pursued a thorough course of study and then resumed teaching. He soon distinguished himself as an instructor, and in 1871 became Superintendent of the Effingham City Schools, which position he finally resigned to enter the law office of Judge S. F. Gilmore, and under whose assistance and instruction he became ready for admission to the bar in January, 1874. In the meantime, on the 6th of November, 1873, he was married to Miss Nora Miser, of St. Louis, Mo. On Nov. 4, 1873, he became County Superintendent of Schools, and served eight years. While occupied with the duties of this position he also devoted considerable time to the practice of his profession. On the 1st of October, 1881, he purchased a half interest in the Effingham *Democrat*, and in a short time became sole proprietor. He conducted the paper for about four years and then sold out.

Mr. Scott served three years as Deputy Treasurer of Effingham County, and was City Attorney of Effingham during 1877-78. In 1884 he came to Bloomington and purchased the *Bulletin*, which was formerly edited by John H. Oberly.



RESIDENCE OF EPHRAIM HESTER, SEC. 11, CHEENEY'S GROVE TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF JOSHUA GRAYSON, SAYBROOK.



RESIDENCE OF D. A. MEANS, SEC. 15., CHEENEY'S GROVE TOWNSHIP.



The daily *Bulletin* was established Feb. 8, 1881, as a daily eight-column folio paper, by the Bulletin Publishing Company. The *Bulletin* is a strong Democratic paper of the Jacksonian type, and its establishment at first was largely due to the exertions of the Democratic leaders of Bloomington. It was conducted by Mathew T. Scott, and was published as a morning paper until 1884, when it was changed to an evening paper. Sept. 8, 1884, Owen Scott purchased the entire interest, and has since been sole proprietor and editor. A weekly was started at the same time as the daily, and is issued on Friday. It is a six-column quarto. The daily is a seven-column folio; circulation of daily about 2,100, of the weekly 3,500. It has a steam-power press and a good job and binding office. The *Bulletin* for so young a journal has developed remarkable vitality. It is conducted with ability, and is the leading Democratic newspaper in this section of the country.

Mr. Scott also publishes the *Illinois Freemason*, a paper which is devoted to the Masonic interests of the State. It was established Sept. 15, 1885, and is a four-column quarto, published monthly, with a circulation of about 2,000. It is a well gotten up Masonic journal, and a credit to the city.

Mr. Scott is a Democrat in politics, a member in good standing of the A. F. & A. M., and with his wife is a worthy member of the Baptist Church. Of the union of our subject and his wife there have been born two children—Henrietta L. and Nora F.



**S**AMUEL WEEKS, reckoned among the useful and highly respected residents of Lawndale Township, is descended from excellent ancestry, having been the son of John and Mary (Brailey) Weeks, natives of England, and who became the parents of nine children. Of these the subject of this history was the second. He was also born in England, Aug. 2, 1832, and continued to live in his native land until the summer of 1856, when he started for the New World. After reaching American shores he located in Batavia. N. Y., where he worked on a farm by the month for nearly one year and a half, then came westward to this State.

He was employed as a farm laborer for about two years in this county, then coming to Lawndale Township, purchased twenty acres on section 13, which comprises a part of his present homestead. He was prospered in his farming and business transactions, and in due time added to his first purchase, so that now he is the owner of 604½ acres, which he has brought to a fine state of cultivation. He has also erected a handsome and substantial set of frame buildings, second to none in this part of the county. He keeps a herd of about 100 head of Short-horn cattle and twenty head of fine horses, besides fattening about 200 head of hogs annually. Everything about the premises is kept in the finest order, and is indicative in every respect of the supervision of an intelligent man possessing more than ordinary good judgment and taste. The homestead forms one of the most attractive spots in this section of the county and its inmates are widely and favorably known, and esteemed among the first citizens.

Samuel Weeks was first married in the city of Bloomington, Ill., April 23, 1859, to Miss Elizabeth Cooper, who was also a native of England, born in 1830. The issue of this marriage was as follows: George H., Leafy A. and William A. were the three eldest. Mary A., Maria J. and Minnie E. are triplets. The first is the wife of J. C. Harris of Cropsey Township, and the third, Minnie, is Mrs. Robert Abby, and resides in Belle Prairie Township, Livingston County. The mother of these children died on the family homestead, Lawndale Township, April 6, 1869.

The second wife of our subject, to whom he was married in Fairbury, Ill., Oct. 30, 1872, was Elizabeth J., daughter of John and Grace (Jewel) Dart, and widow of Richard Taylor, who died in Devonshire, England, in 1870. Of the first marriage of Mrs. W. there were born six children—William T., Mary J., Bessie D., Richard, Robert S. and Grace D. Mrs. Elizabeth Weeks was born in England, June 29, 1829. Of her union with our subject there is one child, a son, Frederick T. Our subject and his wife are members in good standing of the Methodist Church. In politics Mr. W. is a staunch Republican and has held some of the minor offices of his township, at present being Township

Commissioner. He is public spirited and liberal, and one interested in the welfare and progress of his county and community.



**R**ILEY MILLER, one of the representative business men and mechanics of Saybrook, and connected with the firm of R. Wirt & Co., tile manufacturers, was born in Ross County, Ohio, on the 30th of May, 1854. He is the son of William and Elizabeth R. (Dunlap) Miller, natives of Ohio. Both parents early in life connected themselves with the United Brethren Church. The father is still living and makes his home in Saybrook.

The subject of this history is the eldest of his parents' three children, the other two being John B. and Emma H. Mr. Miller has been a resident of this county since a boy of ten years, in 1864, at which time his parents located in Arrowsmith Township. He was reared to farming pursuits, and received a fair education in the district schools. After arriving at years of manhood he was united in marriage with Miss Fannie English on the 3d of March, 1875. Mrs. Miller was born in Clark County, Ill., and is the daughter of Abel and Susan (Hutchinson) English, both natives of New Jersey. Their children were Henry, Allen, Morrison, Fannie, Florence, Augusta and Belle. Allen and Augusta are deceased.

Mr. Miller was trained by his excellent parents to habits of industry, and since early youth has been employed in some useful calling. In 1881 he engaged in the manufacture of tile in this city, where he worked two years, and one year in Fairbury, then returned to Saybrook and entered into partnership with Rush, Wirt & Co., with whom he has been connected since that time. They are doing an extensive business, running two burning kilns, each with a capacity of 8,000 per week, of one foot each in length and from three to twelve inches in diameter. They are enabled to obtain a very superior clay, and the product of their kilns is of a corresponding quality. They give employment to about ten men, and in connection with their tile business have recently put in operation a Penfield

plunge-mill, which was manufactured in Willoughby, Ohio, at a cost of \$1,250. The capacity of this machine is about 10,000 four-inch tile per day. They are using soft coal for fuel. The tile from this factory is sent all over the State, and yields a fine income. Each member of the firm possesses good business ability, and all are honorable and upright in their transactions, their word being considered as good as gold. All are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Mr. Yeaman being Superintendent of the Sunday-school and Messrs Wirt & Yeaman are connected with the Official Board. The former belongs to the Masonic fraternity and the K. of P. Our subject and Mr. Yeaman are members of the I. O. O. F., Lodge No. 460, at Saybrook. The firm unanimously supports the Republican party.

Mr. and Mrs. Miller have one child, a daughter, Sylvia, born Dec. 5, 1875. They occupy a pleasant home on Main street, and enjoy the friendship and association of the best people of Saybrook.



**M**ALCOM McNAB, a native of the Empire State, born in Livingston County, Aug. 26, 1829, is now a highly respected resident of this county, making his home in Lawndale Township, on section 13. He is the son of John and Ann (McIntyre) McNab, both natives of Scotland, who emigrated to America and settling in New York State, died in Livingston County, the father in 1862, and the mother in 1876. Of their children, thirteen in number, Malcom was the seventh.

Malcom McNab was reared on his father's farm, remaining under the home roof until about twenty years old. He then engaged as clerk in a store in York, his native county, where he remained three and one-half years. Soon afterward he purchased a farm which, however, he only cultivated one year, then sold out and afterward operated on rented land for a year. After harvesting the season's crops, not being quite satisfied with his condition or his prospects in the Empire State, he concluded to move out westward. After arriving in Illinois he spent the first winter in Livingston

County, and the following spring, 1858, came to McLean County and for four years thereafter was engaged in breaking prairie. He then settled down on his present homestead in Lawndale Township, upon which he has brought about great changes since it came into his possession. This, which consisted of 200 acres, he has since added to, until he now has a valuable estate of 480 acres, finely improved, besides thirty-four acres adjoining Fairbury. Of late years he has given his attention largely to stock-raising and has been uniformly successful in his agricultural and business transactions. One of the most important events in the life of our subject occurred on the 19th of April, 1866, when he was united in marriage with Elma G., daughter of Ransom and Mary (Ricketson) Bedell, and widow of Daniel Burt, who departed this life in the late Civil War. Mrs. McNab was born in Clinton County, N. Y., Feb. 15, 1844. Of her marriage with our subject there have been born five children: Christina, Malcom D., Mary E., who died in infancy, Alexander B. and James G. Both our subject and his wife are prominent and useful members of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. McNab belongs to the Republican party and has served as Assessor of this Township.

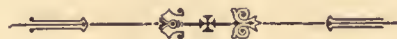


**G**EORGE C. GRAY. The hardware interests of Saybrook are most worthily represented by the subject of this sketch, who has a complete stock of everything in his line, and is one of the leading merchants of the kind in this community. His business was established in 1886. In early life Mr. Gray followed farming in this county, having come to Illinois with his parents when a child, in 1842. In early manhood he purchased eighty acres of land in Cheney's Grove Township, upon which he operated until 1856, and then coming into Saybrook purchased a heavy stock of hardware, in which trade he has been remarkably successful. He still retains his farm property. In connection with his town business he carries on a tinshop, and his agricultural and trade interests contribute to make his life a busy one, with little time for idleness. He is still in the prime of life,

and has already built up for himself a reputation as a reliable business man and a valued factor of the community.

Mr. Gray was born Sept. 27, 1840, near Akron, Ohio, and is the son of Thomas J. and Emma (Little) Gray, natives respectively of Connecticut and New York. His father was a carpenter by trade, which he followed the greater part of his life in Ohio; his death took place in this county Dec. 15, 1879, when seventy-one years of age. He was an excellent citizen and business man, and politically affiliated with the Democratic party. The mother was born in 1823 and died in 1867. She was a most excellent and worthy lady, and a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The parental household included seven children, who are recorded as follows: Calista was first married to Daniel Mathews, who died in Hennepin, Ill., and she then married A. C. Coles; Cornelia was united to A. C. Coles, and about nine years later Calista and A. C. Coles were married, Cornelia having died; Temperance became the wife of Allen Morse; John married Miss Gulliford, who is now deceased; George C., our subject, was the next in order of birth; Frances became the wife of Samuel Wood, and Julia married William Hamilton.

Young Gray remained with his parents during childhood and youth, and in 1872 was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Crocker. Mrs. G. is of English birth and parentage, and came to the United States with her father and mother when a child. Of her marriage with our subject there have been born a son and daughter—William J. and Alice A. Mr. G. is a Democrat in politics, and a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



**J**OHAN M. STEPHENS, one of the prominent and highly respected farmers of McLean County, is a resident on section 9, Hudson Township, and first located in this county in 1851. He was born in Highland County, Ohio, Feb. 12, 1829. His parents, Philip and Naney (Meyers) Stephens, were natives of Virginia, but both moved with their respective families to Ohio when they were young. John Stephens is the eldest

in order of birth of his parents' children. He was reared to manhood on his father's farm and educated in the district school, and in 1849 was united in marriage with Eleanor Kerns. She was born in Ross County, Ohio, Nov. 30, 1829. Living in Ohio until 1851, they then came to this State, making the journey overland with wagons, and settled in White Oak Township, this county.

In 1852 Mr. Stephens purchased a farm of fifty-five acres in White Oak Township, on which he lived and farmed for two years and then sold. He subsequently owned two other farms in that township and also disposed of them by sale. In the fall of 1854, he purchased eighty acres of his present farm, together with twenty acres of timbered land, and neither of the tracts were much improved. Mr. Stephens still continues to reside on the latter purchase and by strict economy, good judgment and hard labor, he has added to his landed interests until he is now the proprietor of over 600 acres, over 400 of which is in cultivation. His place is one of the finest in Hudson Township and in addition to the cultivation of the cereals, our subject has and is devoting considerable of his time to the raising of stock. He deserves great credit for the competency he has acquired, considering that when he first came here he was comparatively a poor man, having only \$200 in cash. During the war he purchased eighty acres of land and putting the same in wheat, realized for his product an amount equal to \$40 per acre, and it has been by taking advantage of such opportunities and laboring hard to accomplish his aims, that he has succeeded. For twenty years he owned and operated threshing-machines and was highly successful in that business. In fact, he realized his start in life by the following of that vocation. In politics Mr. Stephens is Democratic and has held some of the local offices of his township. In religion he holds fellowship with the Christian Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Stephens have become the parents of eight children. Two died in youth and six are yet living. The living are, William; Ada, wife of William A. Hogaboom, a resident of Lincoln County, Kan.; Hulda A., wife of Walter Stotler of Hudson Township; Rosa J., who was united in marriage with J. Messer and now resides in El

Paso, this State; Minerva, who became the wife of Amos P. Johnston, a resident of Bloomington, and Kery, who married Miss Balinda Blough, and resides in Hudson Township.

WILLIAM A. GERKEN, proprietor of the steam bakery of Bloomington, is a representative German citizen, and was born in the Kingdom of Hanover, on the coast of the North Sea, June 25, 1835. His father, Albert Gerken, was a gentleman of good education, and in his younger years was engaged at teaching school. He then entered the army of Napoleon as a musician and soldier, serving six years. The mother of our subject, who in her maidenhood was Miss Catharine M. Floater, was the second wife of Albert Gerken, and they became the parents of five children.

Our subject commenced attending school at the early age of five years, and continued until fourteen. He then served an apprenticeship of three years at the baker's trade, and when seventeen years old started for America. After a prosperous voyage he landed at Charleston, S. C., Nov. 20, 1853. There he passed the winter occupied at his trade with the firm of Martin Meyer for a time, and then went to Aiken, S. C., engaging in a store with the view of learning the English language and mercantile pursuits. Two years later he started for the Northwest, and landing at Milwaukee, Wis., engaged as clerk in a dry-goods store. From there he went to Kenosha, and forming a partnership with Andrew Clark engaged in the grocery trade. They operated together for eighteen months, when Mr. Gerken purchased the interest of his partner and continued the business alone for two years following. He then took Mr. William Ernst into the business, which they conducted together for five years, and then our subject sold out to his partner and engaged in the bakery business at Kenosha for twelve months.

In 1870 Mr. Gerken came to Bloomington, Ill., and opened a bakery on the corner of East and Front streets, where the present business is located. He began on a small scale at first, but was prospered in his labors and now has the largest establish-



ment of its kind in the city. The old building has been replaced by a large and handsomer one, which Mr. Gerken erected in 1881. It is 65x115 feet in area, three stories in height, and furnished with all modern appliances of a first-class steam bakery. The entire building is devoted to the business, which is almost exclusively wholesale, their shipments being to neighboring towns and cities. Mr. Gerken is now largely interested in the milling business, having purchased a half interest in the Crown Roller Mills, W. H. Wentz being the owner of the other half interest.

Mr. Gerken was united in marriage with Miss Minnie A. Stemm, at Kenosha, Wis., in 1863. Of this union there were born three children, of whom one only is living—Catharine M. Albert F. died when an interesting youth of sixteen years, and an infant died unnamed. Mr. Gerken is a member of Umland Lodge No. 305, I. O. O. F., belongs to the Turners Society, and is a regular attendant of the Congregational Church.



**T**M. THORNBURY, a successful farmer and extensive live-stock dealer of Randolph Township, owns and occupies a valuable country estate on section 5. He took possession of his present home in the spring of 1875, and has been a resident of McLean County since the spring of 1862. He has owned land in different parts of the county, but now is simply the owner of his homestead. He was a member of the firm of Barber & Thornbury, who erected the Union Mills at Bloomington in 1867, which enterprise proved of great value to the city. Later, Mr. Thornbury abandoned the milling business, and turned his attention to farming, stock-growing and operations in real estate.

The farm homestead of our subject includes 166 acres, and he has a five years' lease of the Stewart farm of 320 acres. Upon this large area he operates extensively, and has met with success in his undertakings. The subject of our sketch was born in Chester County, Pa., Aug. 17, 1829. His father, Yearsley Thornbury, was a native of the same county and State, where he was reared to years of

manhood, and united in marriage to Miss Phoebe P. Valentine, who was also born in Pennsylvania, and who, surviving her husband, is now living with her youngest daughter, Clara, in Chester County, Pa., having arrived at the advanced age of eighty-seven years. She is still quite active in mind and body, and enjoys a fair degree of good health. The father died in Chester County, Pa., in 1885.

Mr. Thornbury of our sketch was thrown upon his own resources early in life, and lived for a time with his uncle, Hanson Thornbury, in Chester County. He then went to learn the trade of a carpenter, serving his apprenticeship under Joseph M. Buffington, of Chester, with whom he worked for about four years. For his services he was to receive his working clothes and his board, and was given two weeks in harvest time in which to earn his spending money. He followed his trade for three years only, and later engaged in marketing and butchering, meeting with fair success. He afterward turned his attention to farming, which pleased him better than anything he had ever undertaken.

T. M. Thornbury was married in his native county, Oct. 10, 1861, to Mrs. Mary (Price) Preston, who was born in Philadelphia, and reared in Chester County. Her father, Issaehar Price, was also a native of the Keystone State, engaged in farming pursuits and also in merchandising, and died in Pennsylvania. The mother, who was Miss Elizabeth Alexander, is still living, having arrived at the advanced age of ninety-six years, and makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. Jane P. Fell, near Normal, in this county. By her first husband, the wife of our subject became the mother of two sons, Mahlon and Frederick, who are both successful physicians, the former residing in Norristown, Pa., and the latter in Chester, Pa. Of her union with our subject there have been no children, but Mr. and Mrs. Thornbury have an adopted child, Jean I. Thornbury.

After his marriage, in the fall of 1861, Mr. Thornbury disposed of his business interests in his native county, and visiting the Prairie State, settled two miles east of Bloomington, on a farm, and removed upon it with his family the following spring. Both he and his wife were reared in the

faith of the Society of Friends. Mr. Thornbury has held the minor offices of Randolph Township, and in politics is a reliable Republican.



**W**ILLIAM KERBER, an enterprising German citizen of Blue Mound Township, owns 320 acres of valuable land on section 30, and as a successful farmer and stock-raiser is contributing his full quota toward the agricultural interests of this section. He was born in Germany, Feb. 27, 1828, and is the son of Jacob and Mary Kerber, natives respectively of France and Germany. Both died in the latter country, after becoming the parents of thirteen children.

Mr. Kerber of this history pursued his studies several years in the common schools of his native country, and then entered the Prussian army, where he served three years. He afterward engaged in farming pursuits in his native Province, where he lived until 1854, and then set sail for the United States. He spent his first winter here in Wisconsin, then came to Illinois, making his home in Bloomington about eight years, and working at whatever his hands could find to do. In 1867 he purchased forty acres of land on section 20, Blue Mound Township. This he afterward sold and made a purchase on section 30, which comprises a part of his present farm. Here he has made good improvements and brought the land to a high state of cultivation. By his upright and straightforward business methods and promptness in meeting his obligations, he has secured the esteem and confidence of his fellow-citizens, and has occupied an important place in their counsels. He is Democratic in politics, and has served as Commissioner of Highways. Both Mr. and Mrs. K. are firm adherents of the Catholic Church.

After living two and one-half years in this country, Mr. Kerber returned to the land of his birth and visited for six months among his old friends and acquaintances. Upon the return voyage he formed the acquaintance of Miss Elizabeth Lorig, a native of his own country. The acquaintance ripened into mutual esteem, and on the 14th of March, 1857, they became husband and wife. Mrs.

K. was born in Germany, March 5, 1839, and of her union with our subject there were born fourteen children, two of whom are deceased. Those surviving are Nicholas, John, William, Mathias, Mary, Michael, Frederick, Peter, Henry, Anna, Elizabeth and Clara. Nicholas married Miss Annie Sutter, and resides in Blue Mound Township; John married Miss Hoffman, and lives on a farm in Anchor Township; William married Miss Mary Sutter, and Mary became the wife of Joseph Sutter. These reside in Blue Mound Township.



**R**OBERT H. RUTLEDGE, one of the oldest settlers of Randolph Township and McLean County, came into this section while Illinois was yet a Territory. in 1812, and the experiences through which he has passed, combined with the changes which he has witnessed during a period of seventy-five years, would make a most interesting volume.

The grandfather of our subject, John Rutledge, was born and reared in Dublin, Ireland, where he was married and learned the trade of a shoemaker. His bride, formerly Miss Jennie Oflise, was a lady of most excellent family, of pure Irish descent, and highly educated and accomplished. They became the parents of several children, and emigrated to the United States, settling in Charleston, S. C., where their son Thomas, the father of our subject, was born, being the first child born to them in America. Later John Rutledge removed North to Pennsylvania, and afterward to White County, Ill., where he and his wife spent the remainder of their lives, being the first white persons who were laid in the virgin soil of what is now White County, Ill. The grandfather of our subject was very skillful at his trade of a shoemaker, and a man of the strictest integrity, and universally respected by all who knew him.

Thomas Rutledge, the father of our subject, remained under the parental roof until after he had attained his majority. He then went South to Georgia, and was there married to Miss Sallie Smith, who was born in that State and of pure English parentage. After the birth of one child they

started North to Tennessee, whence they proceeded to Kentucky and afterward to Illinois, arriving in the Territory, as before stated, in 1812. Fourteen years later they came into McLean County, and at once located in Randolph Township, of which they were among its earliest settlers. Here Thomas Rutledge died, four years later, Aug. 20, 1830, and being born Oct. 17, 1768, was consequently a little over sixty-two years of age. The mother, Mrs. Sallie Rutledge, who was born Aug. 20, 1778, survived her husband thirteen years, and died in this township, Dec. 12, 1843, being sixty-five years old. Thomas Rutledge became a prominent man in the affairs of this locality, being made Justice of the Peace, and having jurisdiction over a large extent of territory. He performed the marriage ceremony for more people in White County, Ill., than any man before or since, as is shown by the records. He and his excellent lady had a family of twelve children, six sons and six daughters, of whom one son and one daughter died in infancy, and ten lived to be married. Of this number, Robert H. of our sketch is the only one surviving.

Robert Rutledge received a limited education in the pioneer schools of White County, Ill. He still remembers when the soil was new and unbroken and Indians numerous, and it was often necessary to seek a barrack or fort, which served as a protection from the vengeance or cruelty of the redmen. In these the pioneers would frequently spend their nights, some sleeping, while others acted as sentinels. A few years later regular block houses were constructed, where the pioneers dwelt together for mutual protection. The first corpse of a white man which our subject ever saw was that of a Mr. Morgan, who had been killed by the Indians. The latter not long afterward, on account of their depredations were driven off by the whites and punished to such an extent that they never returned.

Our subject remained under the home roof until his marriage, the license for which was the first one of the kind issued by the authorities of McLean County. The wedding of himself and Miss Charity Weedman occurred on the 9th of June, 1831. Mrs. Rutledge was the daughter of George and Charlotte (Hune) Weedman. Her parents were both born and reared in Pennsylvania, whence they came

later to Perry County, Ohio, where their daughter, Charlotte, was born July 21, 1812. Her parents remained in the Buckeye State until the fall of 1830, when they started for the farther West, and coming into McLean County settled in Randolph Township, where they both died in the same log cabin which had first become their home. Of this marriage there were born thirteen children, six now deceased: Mary J. is the widow of John Halsey, and resides in Boone County, Iowa; Sarah L. married Joseph T. Martin, a farmer of Randolph Township; George T. married Miss Maria Wagener, and they reside on a farm in Randolph Township; Nancy E., Daniel and Leander are also residents of this township; the latter married Miss Mary A. Tilghman; Marcuis Lafayette resides with his father on the old homestead; the deceased are Harriett, Benjamin, Charity A., Robert M., Americus C. and Martin A. Mrs. Charity Rutledge, the mother of these children, died at her home in this township May 27, 1882. She was in early life connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, but later identified herself with the Christian Union Church.

Since coming to this county Mr. Rutledge has been identified with its industrial and agricultural interests, and has materially aided in its development and progress. He has been a friend of temperance, a supporter of the laws, and a member in good standing of the Christian Union Church. Politically he coincides with the principles of the Democratic party, with which he has uniformly cast his vote since exercising the right of suffrage.



**J**AMES RYBURN, one of the progressive farmers of McLean County, is located in Randolph Township, on section 12, of which he owns half, and besides this, 280 acres in Wapello Township, De Witt County, near his present homestead. Mr. Ryburn is rated as one of the best farmers and most successful stock-breeders of the township. He keeps only a good grade of animals, and everything in and about his homestead denotes the supervision of an intelligent mind and cultivated taste. The farm residence is a modern structure, handsome and substantial, and his barns

and all other out-buildings are of first-class description. Everything is kept in good order and repair, and the homestead, with its beautiful location, invariably attracts the eye of the traveler through this region.

The subject of our sketch took possession of his present farm in 1872, and its present condition is largely due to his own industry and enterprise. He is a native of Pennsylvania, born in Washington County, near the city of the same name, Sept. 19, 1826. When seven years of age his parents removed to Harrison County, Ohio, where they remained until 1853, and coming thence to the Prairie State, located in this county. James was the eldest of the family and was reared to habits of industry, receiving the advantages of but a limited education. He remained under the parental roof until his marriage, which took place in Cadiz, Harrison Co., Ohio, Feb. 9, 1854, the maiden of his choice being Miss Elizabeth Hamilton, who was a native of the Buckeye State, and born April 5, 1832. The wedding took place at the home of the bride's parents, Rev. James Forsythe officiating. Mrs. Ryburn is the daughter of Joshua and Jane (Craig) Hamilton, natives respectively of Fayette and Washington Counties, Pa. Her grandfather, William Hamilton, was born in Fayette County, Ohio, of American parentage and Scottish ancestry. Her grandfather Craig was born in the North of Ireland, was of Scottish descent, and a Protestant in religion. He emigrated to the United States when twenty-one years old, and was afterward married to Miss Elizabeth Johnson, of Washington County, Pa. Both the Craigs and Hamiltons were prominent families in Pennsylvania. They followed agricultural pursuits, and removed to Harrison County, Ohio, at an early period in the history of the Buckeye State. John Craig died when fifty-five years old, Aug. 22, 1825. In addition to his farming pursuits he also carried on a dry-goods trade in Harrison County, and was one of the most valued citizens of the town of Cadiz. William Hamilton spent his last years also in Cadiz, and died there in January, 1839, after reaching the advanced age of eighty years. His son, Joshua, the father of Mrs. Ryburn of this notice, was the second child of his parents' family, by whom he was

reared and educated near Cadiz, Ohio, and remained with his parents until his marriage with Miss Jane Craig, on the 28th of October, 1819. He then located on a farm which he operated successfully, and the union thus happily begun remained intact for a period of over fifty-one years, when Joshua Hamilton, who was born Sept. 6, 1793, departed this life, his demise taking place Dec. 17, 1870, at seventy-eight years of age. The mother is still living, making her home with two unmarried daughters at Springfield, Ohio. She was born June 14, 1802, and is consequently over eighty-five years of age. She became the mother of eleven children, two of whom died in infancy unnamed. Those who lived to years of maturity were as follows: John married Miss Rebecca Pritchard, and lives in this county; William married Miss Elizabeth Sellers, and is farming in Knox County, Ohio; Craig was twice married, both times to ladies by the name of McFadden, the last one being yet living; he died Oct. 5, 1880; Alexander was first married to Miss Martha McFadden, now deceased, his second wife was Miss Mary Haverfield, who now resides in Colorado; this son died in Colorado, April 2, 1885; Elizabeth, the wife of our subject, was the next in order of birth; Rachel married Henry Croskey, and resides with him on a farm in Empire Township; Margaret married Osear Clark, a farmer of Walton, Harvey Co., Kan.; Rebecca and Mary are both unmarried. Mary holds the position of clerk in a dry-goods store at Springfield, Ohio.

Mrs. Ryburn was reared and educated at Cadiz, Ohio, and remained with her parents until her marriage. She is a lady of rare intelligence, having a remarkable memory for dates of important events, and carries in her mind a perfect encyclopedia of interesting happenings all over the world. This valuable gift, possessed by few, makes her a most interesting conversationalist, and she is considered one of the brightest ornaments in the society of the community where she lives. By her union with our subject she has become the mother of nine children, one of whom died unnamed, in infancy. John II. is a resident of Kniekerbocker, Tom Green Co., Tex., being a stockholder of the Stillson & Case cattle ranch; Belle married Rev. S. H. Dunn





Lewis Cass



Sarah H. Case

of the First Methodist Episcopal Church, of Duluth, Minn.; Jennie M. resides in Bloomington, Ill.; Ingram C., who was given the maiden name of his great-great-grandmother on the maternal side, lives at home with his parents; Frank is with his brother, John, in Texas; Lucy resides at Bloomington, and Harry and James are there also, attending school. Belle graduated at Wesleyan University in 1878, and Jennie in 1880; Lucy is also a graduate from the musical department of that institution. Mr. and Mrs. Ryburn are members of the Second Presbyterian Church at Bloomington, as is also their daughter Jennie. In politics, our subject is a solid Republican.



**L**EWIS CASE. The early settlers of McLean County are fast passing away and soon the time will come when none will be left to tell of the trials and difficulties encountered in its early settlement. Mr. Case of this notice is one of the number who has not yet crossed the river to the other shore, and is passing the sunset of life on his fine farm on section 25, Old Town Township, enjoying the accumulations of an honorable past. He is the son of Abner and Alice Olive (Rowland) Case, natives of Connecticut. The parents after their marriage located in Ontario County, N. Y., whence they removed to Huron County, Ohio, and there lived until 1833, when they came to this county and settled in Old Town Township, on section 25. The parents lived there for several years, when they removed to Madison, Wis., and there died, the demise of the father occurring Jan. 5, 1854, and that of the mother January 6 of the same year, and both are buried side by side in one grave. The father of our subject was a farmer and left the plow to become a soldier in the War of 1812, and was a participant in the battle of Lundy's Lane, where three fingers of his left hand were shot away. He witnessed the burning of Buffalo, N. Y., and for his services as a soldier in the War of 1812 received a pension from the Government. Of his union with Miss Rowland, seven children, four sons and three daughters, were born.

Lewis Case was the third in order of birth of his

parents' children and first saw light in Ontario County, N. Y., Feb. 27, 1809. He was brought up to farm labor and there lived until 1824, when he accompanied his parents to Huron County, Ohio. He lived in the latter county until 1833, when he came to McLean County and made a settlement on section 25, Old Town Township, bringing with him from Ohio his wife and one child. The journey was made overland with an ox-team and his capital at that time consisted of three feather beds and \$50 worth of leather, which he traded for a cow, one hog, seven pigs, and provisions for the winter. He managed to get in a small crop of corn, but in the fall he lost his cow, four pigs and one ox, which left him in a worse condition than when he first located. The following summer he made a short poke and plowed his corn with the single ox. He was possessed of that determination which knows no such word as fail and succeeded in erecting himself a log house and soon had forty acres of his land fenced. The first religious meeting held in Old Town Township was held in the log house of our subject, and there the early settlers assembled from a distance of many miles and worshiped for some thirteen years.

Mr. Case had great faith in the future development of the country, and from his first settlement in the county economized with a view of increasing his landed interests and at the present time is the proprietor of 610 acres of valuable land. The old log house has given way to a fine residence and the taxes of our subject have increased from twenty-five cents to upward of \$300 a year. Mr. Case was married in Huron County, Ohio, to Miss Sarah Hendryx, Oct. 13, 1831. She was the daughter of John and Mary (Flynn) Hendryx, the former a native of Pennsylvania, and the latter of Ireland. Her parents settled in Steuben County, N. Y., after their marriage and there lived until 1817, when they moved to Richland County, Ohio, and were among the early settlers of that county. Subsequently they made another removal, locating in Huron County, the same State, and in 1833, came to this county and settled in Old Town Township, where they lived until their death. They had six children who lived to attain the age of man and womanhood, of whom Mrs. Case was the eldest.

She was born in Steuben County, N. Y., Jan. 14, 1810, and was seven years of age when her parents removed to Ohio, and continued to reside in that State until her marriage. She bore our subject five children—Mary A., Olive, Sarah E., Hannah E. and Zerilda I. Mary is the wife of Peter B. Price, and they are living at Hutehinson, Kan; Olive married John W. Savidge, and they reside in Danvers Township, this county; Sarah E. and Wesley Brown were united in marriage and are living in Arrowsmith Township, this county; Hannah is the wife of Sylvanus Mikel, a farmer of Old Town Township. Mr. Case has four great-grandchildren now living; one great-grandchild is deceased. On the 13th of October, 1881, Mr. Case and wife celebrated their golden wedding. Mrs. Case departed this life at the old homestead in Old Town Township, on the 4th of January, 1887, at the ripe old age of seventy-seven years.

Mr. Case has held some of the minor offices of his township. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, with which his wife was also connected. In politics our subject is a staunch Republican, and was one of the delegates to the first County Convention ever held in McLean County.

As a representative and honored citizen of McLean County, and of the township of which he has so long been a resident, we present the portrait of Mr. Case in connection with this sketch, as also that of his deceased wife.

**B**ENJAMIN G. FALKINGHAM, a dealer in grain at Towanda, and one of her prominent citizens as well as thorough-going business men, is a son of George and Eliza (Marsh) Falkingham, natives of England. Soon after their marriage the parents crossed the briny waters to make their home in the free Republic of the United States, and made their way direct to this county, locating in Towanda, where the father died Feb. 28, 1878. The mother survives. They had four children, three sons and one daughter. One died in infancy, and those living are, Benjamin G., John H. and George W.

The subject of this notice was born at Towanda,

Ill., June 14, 1858. He received a good education in the schools of that place, and when old enough became a clerk in his father's store. He continued to act in that capacity until about eighteen years old, when he worked at farm labor for about four years. He was then occupied in running a corn-sheller for two years, and since 1883 has been engaged in the buying and shipping of grain and stock, in which he has met with more than ordinary success.

Mr. Falkingham was married at Bloomington, Ill., Oct. 13, 1879, to Miss Mary Burnes, a native of Wisconsin. Their union has been blessed by the birth of two children—Eliza and Clarence. Our subject has held the offices of Town Assessor, Township Trustee, and Street Commissioner of Towanda, and in politics he is a staunch Republican.

**J**OHAN M. WHITE, of Lawndale Township, has been a resident of McLean County since a boy thirteen years of age. He was born in Tippecanoe County, Ind., Aug. 17, 1837, being the son of George C. and Julia A. (Noel) White, the father a native of New York State, and the mother of Ohio. The latter died in Towanda Township, March 25, 1865. The father still survives and lives in this township. The subject of this history was the seventh of twelve children born to his parents. He received a fair education in the common schools, and lived under the home roof until he was twenty-five years old. In the spring of 1862 he left Towanda Township and settled on a tract of eighty acres of land on section 11, Lawndale Township, where he has since lived. He has been greatly prospered in his farming operations, and added to his first purchase until he now owns 412 acres, all improved and under good cultivation, with a fine set of farm buildings.

The marriage of our subject took place in Clinton, De Witt Co., Ill., March 10, 1864, the maiden of his choice being Miss Emily G. Hampleman, who was born in Perry County, Ill., and died the same night on which Mr. White's mother died, March 25, 1865. Mr. White was a second time married, in Lawndale Township, April 18, 1867, to



Miss Theresa Hamilton, who was born in Brown County, Ohio, June 18, 1847. Of this latter marriage there were born two children—Clarence M. and Maurie H. Mr. White has served in his township as School Director and Trustee, and Highway Commissioner. Socially he belongs to the Masonic fraternity, and politically is an earnest supporter of the Republican party.

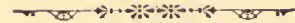
In connection with his farming operations Mr. White makes a specialty of Norman horses, and in company with his brothers, George W. and Edward M., has been quite extensively engaged in the importation of these from Europe. His stables contain about thirty head of these fine animals, in addition to which he has fifty to seventy head of cattle and fifty to 100 head of hogs.



**J**OHN PAXTON, the son of John and Sarah J. (Fitch) Paxton, and now a resident of Blue Mound Township, was born in Guernsey County, Ohio, Jan. 17, 1832. His parents were natives of Pennsylvania, and after their marriage removed to the State and county where their son was born, and where they passed the remainder of their lives. John Paxton, Sr., was a cooper by trade, but greatly inclined to farming pursuits, to which he gave most of his attention. Of the two sons who were born of this marriage, the eldest, Alexander, died in Guernsey County, Ohio.

Our subject assisted his father on the farm during his boyhood and youth, and received a fair education in the common schools. He remained with his parents until he was twenty years old, and then started out for himself. He first crossed the Mississippi into Iowa, where he remained one year, then returned to Ohio and lived there until the fall of 1856. He then came westward and located in this county, becoming a resident of Old Town Township in the spring of 1857. In 1866 he came into Blue Mound Township and purchased a tract of eighty acres on section 34, which has since remained his home. His farm is finely improved, and upon it he has erected a handsome and substantial set of frame buildings.

His marriage took place in Bloomington Township, in the spring of 1857, the lady of his choice being Miss Nancy J. Scott, who was born in Guernsey County, Ohio, July 4, 1840. Mrs. P. is the daughter of William and Nancy (Britton) Scott, who were natives of Pennsylvania, whence they removed to Illinois and located in this county in about 1856, on a farm in Bloomington Township. Subsequently they returned to their old home in Ohio, where they spent the remainder of their days. Of the ten children of Mr. and Mrs. Paxton, three died in infancy. Those surviving are James A., Mary E., Nancy E., John G., Charles S., Franklin M. and Laura B. Charles S. and Franklin M. are twins; James married Miss Lizzie B. Story and lives in Padua Township; Nancy E. is the wife of John L. Bunn, and resides in Martin Township; they have one child, a son, Charles F. Those who died in infancy were William, Alice and one unnamed. Mr. and Mrs. Paxton are members of the Christian Church, and our subject uniformly casts his vote with the Republican party.



**J**OHN MOATS, living on section 30, Money Creek Township, is a son of Jacob and Sarah (Hinthorn) Moats, see sketch of J. I. Moats elsewhere in this work. John Moats was the second in order of birth in a family of nine children. He first saw light in Licking County, Ohio, Sept. 16, 1812. When seventeen years old he came with his parents overland to this county. This was in 1829, and our subject is therefore one of the oldest residents of Money Creek Township, now living. He has witnessed its wonderful development, and has always been engaged in agricultural pursuits. He is now the owner of 270 acres on which he has fair improvements.

Mr. Moats was married in Knox County, Ohio, Oct. 22, 1874, to Louisa (Zolman) Donnell, daughter of John and Catherine (Passey) Zolman and widow of Joseph Donnell, who died in Cass County, Mo., in 1868. By her union with Mr. Donnell she had three children—Joseph, Josephine and Jesse. Joseph and Josephine are deceased. Mrs. Moats was the youngest of a family of ten children, and

was born in Knox County, Ohio, Dec. 18, 1828. Our subject has held the office of Constable for one term, and in politics is a Democrat. He and his wife are members of the United Brethren Church, and among the foremost citizens of Money Creek Township.



**R**ICHARD M. BRITT, a prominent and enterprising farmer and stock-raiser of Mt. Hope Township, owns and occupies a fine homestead on section 18, and in the various departments of his agricultural pursuits is meeting with success. He is a straightforward business man, honest and upright in his transactions, and enjoys the confidence and good-will of his neighbors and associates.

Mr. Britt is a native of Tazewell County, Ill., and was born in Hill Township on the 5th of September, 1837. His father, Jefferson Britt, was a native of Virginia, born on the 20th of March, 1802. His grandfather, William Britt, was one of the early settlers of Virginia, a man of great industry and enterprise, and prominent in the affairs of his community. The family is an old and excellent one, and noted for their high moral principles and excellent traits of character.

Jefferson Britt, the father of our subject, was a lad of only twelve years when his parents removed from his native State to Kentucky. They made the journey overland and located in Logan County, being among the earliest settlers of that region. There the grandfather died, and there his son Jefferson grew to manhood and was united in marriage with Mrs. Mary (North) Dills. She was a native of Grant County, Va., was born near Petersburg, and removed to Kentucky with her parents when a child. After marriage Jefferson Britt and wife located in Logan County, where they remained until the fall of 1835, and then started with their three children for the prairies of Illinois. They made the journey overland with teams, and first halted in what is now Logan County, where they rented land for two years and then, in the

spring of 1837, removed to Tazewell County. There they made a claim in township 22, range 2 west, now in Hill Township, where the father erected a log house, having a puncheon floor and doors, and split thatches for the roof. He entered land from the Government, when it came into market, improved and cultivated his purchase, established a comfortable home, and remained there until 1853. He then removed to Atlanta, where he spent the last years of his life, and departed from the scenes of his earthly labors on the 14th of October, 1885, at an advanced age. The companion of his youth and the mother of his children died the year previous, on the 24th of January. Their union had been blest by the birth of four children, who are recorded as follows: William S. lives in Normal; Martha E. married Dr. J. B. Tenney, and lives in Atlanta; Mary H. married J. H. Burt, and lives in Hill Township; Richard M. is the subject of this sketch.

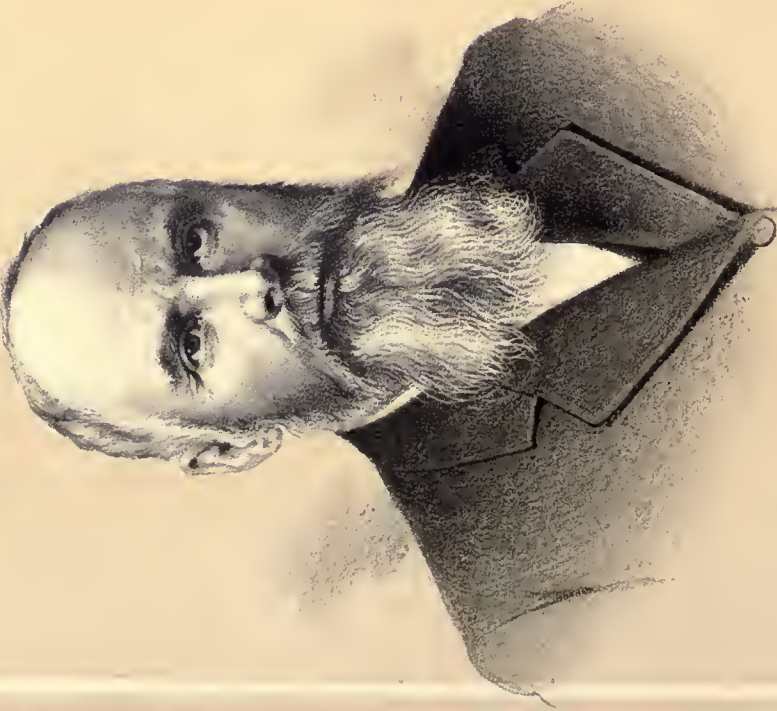
Richard M. Britt of this history was the youngest child of his parents' family. He spent the first sixteen years of his life on the farm, and received his education in the old log school-house. This rude structure was in marked contrast to the elegant buildings where "young America" now receives his first lessons in expensive and scientific text-books. The floors were of puncheon, the window-panes of greased paper, and the chimney was built upon the outside with dirt and stieks. The fireplace occupied nearly the whole of one end of the building, and would take in a large log. After a few seasons spent in this primitive structure, the family of young Britt removed to Atlanta and he attended school there, being esteemed quite proficient in his studies for those days. He was indeed fond of his books and had made good progress, and after leaving school officiated as a pedagogue for two terms. He continued to make his home with his parents until his marriage, and for a period of four years had charge of the farm, and boarded with the family who cultivated the farm after his father had removed to town.

Young Britt remained with his parents until his marriage, and then located upon the homestead which he now owns and occupies, and which his father had purchased from the railroad company.





*Abraham Fry*



*R. M. Britton*



was attacked with camp diarrhœa, and died at Springfield, Mo.; John B. is yet living; he married Miss Pauline Stewart, and resides in Bloomington, retired from active business.

For his second wife Mr. Fry married Miss Elizabeth Bishop on the 3d of November, 1864. Mrs. Fry was born in Randolph Township, Oct. 1, 1832, and is the daughter of Jacob and Mary A. (Weedman) Bishop, the mother now deceased. They were natives of Perry County, Ohio, where they were reared, educated, and married. Mr. Bishop was a farmer by occupation, and with his family removed to Illinois in 1831, settling in Randolph Township. He was one of the first settlers and became one of its most valued citizens. He is yet living, having arrived at the advanced age of nearly ninety years, making his home in East Heyworth, on the farm which he first occupied with his family. The household circle included thirteen children, six sons and seven daughters, all of whom are living and married except one, and are established in comfortable homes, most of them being residents of this county, Mrs. Fry was reared under the parental roof, and received a fair education in the public schools. Of her union with our subject there have been born two children: Mary, Sept. 30, 1867, and Laura, in 1873, died when less than a year old.

The Fry family are descended from pure German ancestry, and were among the earliest settlers of the Keystone State. There the grandfather of our subject died, and his son Abraham, the father of our subject, was married to Miss Mary Beckenbaugh. He died when his son Abraham was ten years of age. He and his wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Our subject has been a Deacon of the Christian Church for twenty years. Mrs. Fry has held the same office in the church since 1883.

In politics Mr. Fry is a solid Democrat, and has been Assessor of Randolph Township for five years. In all his transactions in life he has nothing to be ashamed of or to conceal, having steadily followed the honorable principles to which he was trained by his excellent and honored mother. The family, wherever they have been known, have been noted for their honest dealings with their fellow-men and for their observance of the Golden Rule, which has

impelled them to do unto others as they would be done by. A lithographic portrait of Mr. Fry is shown in connection with this sketch.



JACOB BISHOP, of Randolph Township, is probably the oldest man living in the township, and during his long residence here has secured for himself the profound respect of his fellow-citizens. Our subject is a native of Frederick County, Md., and was born June 25, 1797. He is the only surviving son of a family of thirteen children, and has two sisters yet living: Catherine, the widow of Jacob Weedman, aged ninety-two, and now living in Farmer City, De Witt Co., Ill.; Elizabeth married John Young, now deceased, and is residing at Monmouth, Ill., at an advanced age.

The father of our subject, John Bishop, was a native of Maryland and of English and Irish descent. He was a blacksmith by trade and in early life was married to Miss Hannah Cooper, a German lady, by whom he became the father of thirteen children. In 1812 the family all removed to Perry County, Ohio, where the parents passed the remainder of their life, the father dying when sixty-five years of age; the mother died some years afterward and was about the same age. They were people highly respected in their community, and members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Jacob Bishop remained on the homestead of his parents until his marriage, which occurred in Perry County, Ohio, May 10, 1820, the maiden of his choice being Miss Mary A. Weedman. She was born in Pennsylvania, Dec. 15, 1799, being the daughter of George and Charlotte (Huen) Weedman, also natives of the Keystone State. They were of German parentage and descent, and removed to Perry County, Ohio, when Mrs. B. was but a child. Afterward they came to Illinois and died in Randolph Township, this county, some years ago. They also belonged to the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Bishop there were born thirteen children, all living, and of whom the

record is as follows: Sarah became the wife of Phillip Hand, a farmer of De Witt County, Ill.; of George, the second child, there will be found a sketch elsewhere in this ALBUM; Hannah married John Cusey, and lives with her husband in Farmer City, Ill.; Charity married W. Adams, now deceased, and lives in Downs Township; Jacob married Mrs. Mary H. Little, who is now deceased, and he lives in Heyworth; Charlotte became the wife of Andrew J. Stringfield, who served as a Union soldier in the late war and contracted the disease in the army from which he died at his home Aug. 30, 1861; Mrs. S. resides with her father; Lizzie is the wife of Abraham Fry (see sketch); William Fletcher married Miss Margaret Walmsley, and is a farmer of Downs Tp.; Mary Emma became the wife of James Fulton (see sketch); Harriett (Mrs. George Wilson) resides in Normal, her husband having retired from active labor; John St. Clair married Miss Harriett Chesney, and is a farmer in Randolph Township; Asbury M. owns and operates forty-six acres of the old homestead; on the 15th of October, 1872, he lost his right arm by means of a threshing-machine, but has acquired such skill in the use of the left that he is still able to do the work of an ordinary man; Joseph A. married Jaue Ellsworth, and is farming near Heyworth. Mrs. Margaret W. Bishop, the mother of these children, departed this life at her home in Randolph Township, Jan. 23, 1873. She was a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and our subject has been connected with that denomination since a youth of nineteen years. Several of the children are also following the footsteps of their parents in their religious faith. Mr. Bishop and his sons are all Republican in politics.



**M**ICHAEL KINZINGER, a retired farmer of Montgomery Township, Woodford County, is one of its pioneer settlers, and a fine representative of the well-to-do and substantial German citizen. His birth took place in Germany Oct. 10, 1814, and he emigrated to the United States in 1837, becoming a citizen of McLean County the following year. His parents

were Daniel and Catherine (Swartztrober) Kinzinger, natives of the German Empire. Daniel K. was born in 1765, and Catherine, his wife, in 1771. He was a tailor by trade, which he followed until his death, which occurred in 1828, in his native land. The mother survived six years, dying in 1834. Their marriage took place in 1805, and they became the parents of five children, four sons and one daughter, as follows: Jacob married Miss Catherine Peachy; Daniel died when seventy-five years of age; Michael of our sketch was the third child; Peter married Catherine Kneage, and Anna became the wife of Henry Patton. The parents were members of the Mennonite Church.

After the death of his father Michael Kinzinger was comparatively homeless. He went to live with a gentleman by the name of Gingve, near the town of Morborg, where he remained for ten years following. When sixteen years of age he commenced to learn the blacksmith trade, at which he worked two years. He then abandoned this and engaged in distilling, being thus occupied fourteen years. After spending one year in Bavaria he set sail for the United States, first landing in New York City, whence he went into Butler County, Ohio, and followed his former business as a distiller.

Our subject was married, in 1837, to Miss Magdalena Naffziger, in Butler County, and in 1838 came with his family to McLean County. They remained in Bloomington for a short time, and Mr. K. rented a tract of land and was occupied in its cultivation for six years following. In 1844 he purchased eighty acres and soon afterward doubled this amount. He soon afterward erected a log house, 16x18 feet in area. This he divided into two rooms, and their floor was the ground in its native state. In this humble abode there were born the twelve children of Mr. and Mrs. K., namely: Catherine became the wife of Joseph Fry, of Stout's Grove; Peter was first married to Miss Naffziger; his second wife was Miss Pauline Rust; Daniel was first married to Miss Mary Schiek; his second wife was Miss Mary Blank; Jacob married Miss Magdalena Keen; Christian married Miss Lena Strubar; Barbara became the wife of David Zook; Magdalena married Jacob Grundy; Anna became Mrs. Peter Schantz; Phebe, Mrs. Joseph Stru-

bar; Caroline, Mrs. George Kirehner; Kileon and August are unmarried. All are living at this writing, March, 1887.

In due time the log eabin was replaeed by a handsome frame dwelling, a good barn and all necessary and convenient out-buildings. The land has been finely cultivated and everything about the premises denotes the supervision of a thorough and intelligent business man. Mr. Kinzinger spent year after year industriously and economically, and now, resting from his toils, is passing his last years in the comfort and quiet which he has so fairly earned.

Mrs. Kinzinger is the daughter of Peter and Barbara (Beck) Naffzinger, natives of Bavaria, where they were married and became the parents of eleven children, as follows: Elizabeth, Jacob, John, Magdalena, Barbara, Phebe, Peter, Valentine, Catherine, Christian and John (2d). Mr. K. is Republican in politics, and both he and his wife are members in good standing of the Mennonite Church, in which Mr. K. has been a minister for twenty-three years.



**G**EORGE S. JOHNSTON, who has been a resident of McLean County since the 24th of March, 1856, came to this State from Harrison County, Ohio, where he was born July 12, 1832. His parents were Andrew and Margaret (Humphreys) Johnston, who are still living, and reside in Harrison County, Ohio, having attained an advanced age. Their family consists of four sons and four daughters, of whom George S. was the eldest. The subject of this history remained under the home roof and pursued his studies in the common schools until seventeen years old. He then entered Mt. Union Seminary, in Stark County, Ohio, and after completing his studies there, engaged in teaching for five years following. After coming into Illinois he taught one year in Pike County, and then took up his residence in Bloomington, where he engaged in operating a ditching machine. He removed from Bloomington to Delavan, Ill., where he cultivated rented land for six years and then moved to Yates Township, this

county, where he remained twelve years. In 1878 Mr. Johnston purchased 160 aeres of land in Lawndale Township, where he has since lived. This is all improved, with a fine residence, a barn to correspond, and all the other requirements of a first-class modern agriculturist. He is engaged mostly in stock-raising and exhibits some very fine specimens of eattle and horses.

Mr. Johnston was married in his native county in the Buekeye State, March 20, 1860, to Miss Mary McFadden, also a native of Harrison County, Ohio, born in 1836. Of this union there were born three sons—William, Oscar and James. Mrs. Mary Johnston departed this life in Lawndale Township, Aug. 31, 1866. The second marriage of our subject also took place in Harrison County, Ohio, March 24, 1868, when he was united with Miss Belle Birney, a native of that State and county. The result of this marriage was eight children, of whom five are living—Maggie, Rosa, Lizzie, Ada, and Rosco. Those deceased are Birney, Jane and one who died unnamed in infancy.

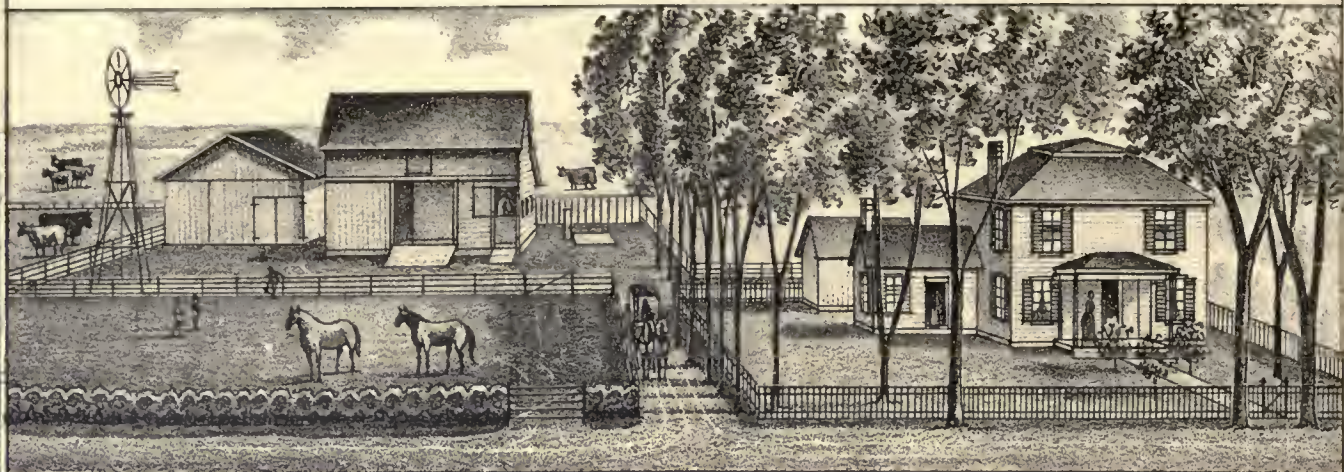
Mr. and Mrs. Johnston are worthy members of the Methodist Episeopal Church, and politically our subject is a stanch Republican. He has held the offices of Township Assessor and Road Commissioner, and takes a genuine interest in the welfare of his community.



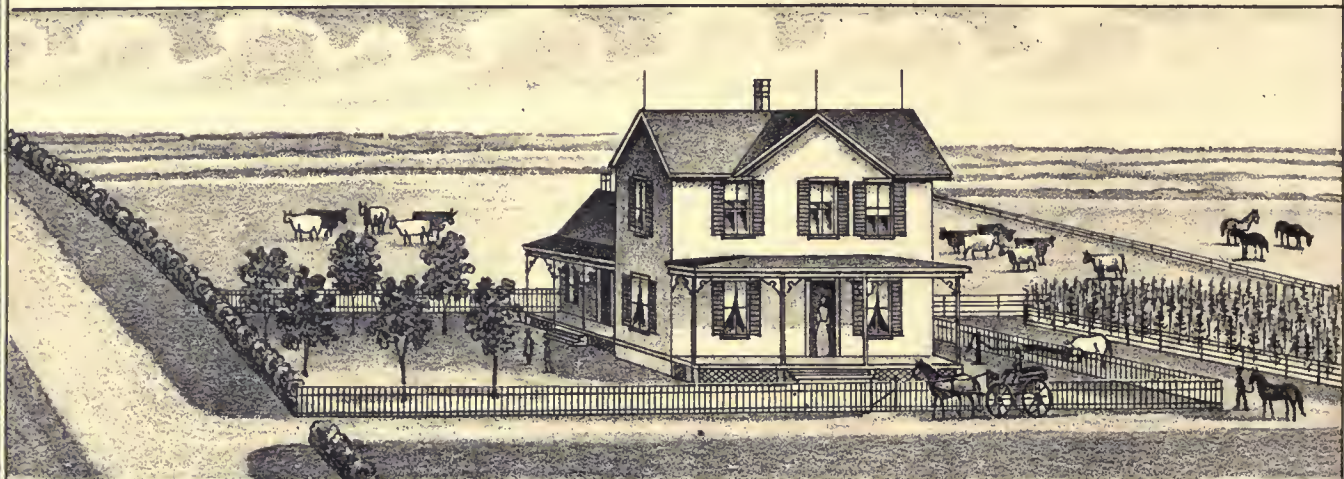
**P**ETER HOIERMAN, a fair representative of the grocery trade in Bloomington, is located at No. 107 East Front street, where he is operating profitably and successfully. Mr. Hoierman is a native of Germany, and was born July 24, 1853. He received his education partly in the schools of Oldenburg, and later attended the University of Leipzie, where he completed his studies when sixteen years of age. He began his mercantile experience as a clerk for a firm in Bremen, where he served until 1870 and then enlisted in the German army. He served as a soldier fifteen months, then received his honorable discharge, returned home, and in October of the following year set sail for the New World on the steamer Maine. After arriving in New York City he secured a



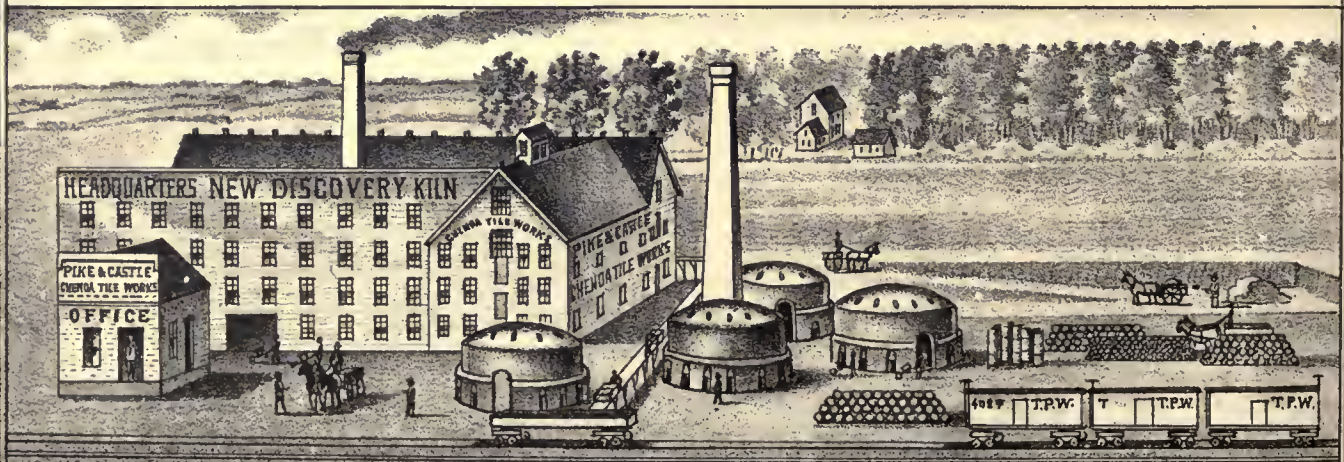




RESIDENCE OF MILTON HENLINE , SEC. 1, TOWANDA TP.



RESIDENCE OF WASHINGTON DAWSON , SEC. 29, CHENOA, TP..



CHENOA TILE WORKS - CHENOA, ILLS., PIKE & CASTLE , PROPR'S. ,  
HEADQUARTERS NEW DISCOVERY KILN

clerkship in the tea store of Phillip Stiner & Co., with whom he remained until the spring of 1872. He then went as a coffee sampler to Rio Janeiro, S. A., where he spent three years, returning to New York City in May, 1876. Soon afterward he started West, and arriving in Bloomington, Ill., was soon engaged as book-keeper for Reinhold Graff, in which capacity he served acceptably for a period of nine years. He then became associated in partnership with E. Meyer, and they have operated under the name and style of Hoierman & Meyer since December, 1884. They have a good trade, and the house is supplied with every article required in their line.

The subject of our sketch was married, Nov. 4, 1886, to Miss Minnie Balke, of Bloomington, and they occupy a pleasant home at No. 608 West Washington street, where they are surrounded by many warm friends. When Mr. H. began life on his own account in Bloomington he had but \$1.75 in cash. He learned book-keeping, both the German and English system, of the American Consul in Oldenburg, and soon acquired a good knowledge of the English language. He is thorough and methodical in his business transactions, and in all respects is considered a good business man and a useful member of the community. Socially he belongs to Mozart Lodge No. 656, I. O. O. F., Uhländ Lodge No. 305, and the Turners Society, of which he is Financial Secretary and teacher of gymnastics. He is also Secretary of the Illinois District of Turner Societies, and occupies the same position in Mozart and Uhländ Lodges. He is also Treasurer of the German Benevolent Society. After this record it is scarcely necessary to say that he enjoys in a marked degree the confidence of his fellow-townsmen.



**H**ENRY G. REEVES, attorney at law, Bloomington, is a native of the Keystone State, having been born in Pittsburgh, Pa., June 13, 1845. His father, Barnes C. Reeves, a farmer by occupation, was a native of New Jersey, and his mother, before her marriage, was Miss Mary M. Gray. After their marriage they settled

in Pennsylvania, where they lived until the fall of 1855, when they started for the West, and coming into Illinois, settled in Old Town Township, this county, where Mr. Reeves died the following year. His widow, the mother of our subject, was thus left with several children, of whom Henry G., our subject, was the eldest. The mother died in 1884, upon the farm where they first settled. Two brothers still reside in Old Town Township.

The subject of this history was reared on the farm, and received his early rudimentary education in the log-cabin school-houses, this being principally in the winter season, the boy's assistance being required on the farm during the summer. He was fond of his books, and made the most of his opportunities, in the meantime keeping his eyes open to what was going on around him in the world. In the fall of 1861 he entered Wesleyan University, from which he graduated in 1866, in the meantime having done service in the army. In June, 1862, the war being then in progress, many of his fellow students enlisted in the Union service, our subject among them, becoming a member of Co. G, 68th Ill. Vol. Inf., and serving six months. The regiment was first sent to Washington, thence to Alexandria, where our subject assisted in provost duty. He was mustered out in the fall of 1862. After his retirement from the army, Mr. Reeves returned to Bloomington and completed his college course. He commenced reading law under the instruction of Judge Reeves of Bloomington, and was admitted to practice in this city in 1867, where he has since been engaged with fair success.

The subject of our sketch was married in Bloomington, Dec. 25, 1866, to Miss Hattie Nicolls, and in the spring they went to housekeeping on North Main street, where they reside to-day. They have one daughter—Lettie N. The family residence is the abode of peace and plenty, and its inmates are surrounded by all the comforts of life, and among those whom they most value have hosts of friends. Mr. and Mrs. Reeves have been connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church of Bloomington since its organization, and have contributed to its support liberally of their means. Mr. Reeves has been a member of the Board of Trustees for six years, and has served as Sunday-school Superintendent

for seven years. Socially he is a member of the G. A. R., belonging to Bloomington Lodge No. 43. Mr. Reeves is in possession of the commission which was issued to Abner Reeves when a soldier in the Revolutionary War, who was the great-great-grandfather of our subject. In politics Mr. Reeves is a staunch Republican.

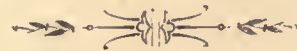


**M** H. NEWTON, County Recorder, is a resident of Bloomington, where he enjoys the esteem and confidence of his fellow-citizens.

He was born in Hancock County, this State, on the 23d of May, 1838, being the son of Henry and Martha (Haggard) Newton, natives respectively of Virginia and Kentucky. They were married in the latter State, and came to Illinois in 1836, locating in Hancock County, where they engaged in farming and lived until the fall of 1844. They then came into this county, and the father took up eighty acres of land in Dale Township. He erected a large log house, planted fruit and shade trees, and broke the prairie sod, remaining there until the fall of 1857. Then, selling out, he purchased property in Bloomington, where the parents took up their abode, and the father retired from active labor. The latter years of their lives were spent with their children in Dale Township. The mother died in 1871, when seventy-six years old, and the father, in 1875, aged eighty-five. Both were members of the Baptist Church, in which Henry Newton was a Deacon for a number of years. Their three children were Dason and Louise, twins, and the subject of this sketch.

Mr. Newton of this biography was reared on his father's farm, took up his first studies in the district school, and in the winter of 1857-58, attended the High School in Bloomington. For two winters after that he taught school in McLean County, and when not teaching was engaged in farming until the spring of 1876. He then engaged as a traveling salesman for the nurseryman, W. H. Mann, of Gilman, Ill., but abandoned the road in a short time on account of sickness in his family. Jan. 1, 1877, he became Assistant Circuit Clerk for J. C.

McFarland, which position he occupied four years, and in 1880 was elected County Recorder, being re-elected in 1884. Mr. Newton was married, in 1862, to Miss Martha A. Hoover, who is a native of Ohio, and the daughter of Samuel J. and Christie A. Hoover, natives respectively of Ohio and Scotland. Of this union there have been born four children, William D. being the only one now living, and is Deputy Clerk and Recorder, having been connected with the office since 1882. The family residence is located at No. 309 West Market street. Mr. Newton is Republican in politics, and with his wife and son is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he holds the office of Steward. Before coming to Bloomington he was Justice of the Peace, Township Trustee and School Director.



**I** SAAC K. BUNN, of Blue Mound Township, who was born in Fayette County, Ohio, Feb. 11, 1832, came to this county with his parents when a lad of seven years, and has since made his home within its boundaries. He moved to Blue Mound Township in the spring of 1884 and located upon his fine farm of 160 acres, where he also has a handsome and substantial residence, good barn and all other necessary out-buildings. His entire property consists of 720 acres, part of which is situated in Martin Township.

The subject of this history is the son of Henry C. and Mary E. (Moser) Bunn, natives of Pennsylvania, and of excellent German ancestry. They lived in Pennsylvania a few years after their marriage, then removed to Ohio, and made their home in Fayette until 1839. Thence they came to Illinois, and locating in Empire Township, this county, there passed the remainder of their days. Their children, eleven in number, included five sons and six daughters, of whom our subject was the eighth.

Isaac Bunn was less than twenty years old when he started out for himself, and was employed as a farm laborer for one year. He afterward rented land in Empire and Blue Mound Townships for six years, and then purchased forty acres in Martin

Township, where he lived with his family until the spring of 1884, when he became a permanent resident of Blue Mound Township, as before stated.

The marriage of Isaae K. Bunn and Miss Ruth A. Waldon took place in Empire Township, Dec. 28, 1851. Mrs. B. is the daughter of Edward Thomas and Charity (Blue) Waldon, natives respectively of Virginia and Ohio; the mother was of Irish descent. After their marriage they settled in Sangamon County, Ill. whence, in 1835, they removed to Empire Township, this county, where the father died in 1847. The mother still survives, and is at present in Martin Township. Of their ten children six lived to mature years.

Mrs. Bunn was born in Sangamon County, Ill., Aug. 11, 1831. Of her union with our subject there were born eleven children, two of whom died in infancy: Minor K. married Miss Emma Davison, and resides in Livingston County, Ill.; Francis M. married Miss Mary C. Homan, and is a resident of Dakota; John L. married Miss Naney E. Paxton, Jerry I. married Miss Tillie C. Rieke, and Hugh W. married Miss Nellie M. Lane, all live in Martin Township; Eva J., Mary A. and Abraham M. are at home with their parents; Genevra is the wife of Lewis Hetland, and resides in Dakota. Mr. Bunn is Republican in politics, and is a gentleman highly esteemed by the community.



**F**RANK BARNARD, capitalist, of Bloomington, and abstract and loan broker, is a native of this county, and was born in June, 1860; he is the seventh son of Amos and Averstia C. (Moulton) Barnard. The former was an Ohioan by birth, in which State he was reared and educated and spent his youth upon a farm. He came to Illinois in 1846, and located west of the city of Bloomington, whence he afterward removed into the city, in 1867. After leaving the farm our subject's father turned his attention to brokerage and loans, in which he was eminently successful and accumulated a fine property. He departed this life April 20, 1880, leaving to his family a large estate. The mother is still living. Their seven children

included four boys and three girls, all living, and of whom Frank, our subject, was the second in order of birth.

Mr. Barnard completed his studies at Normal University and upon leaving school, took a trip to California where he remained two years, then returning to Bloomington engaged in abstracting three years, and subsequently purchased the interest of J. W. Compton & Co., which he conducted with success and profit. He now owns a half interest in the abstract books of the firm of Tillotson & Fell, from which business he derives a fine income. Considering that our subject is still a young man, he has already gained a good position in the business world. Socially he is a member of Wade Barney Lodge, A. F. & A. M.



**W**ILLIAM M. FLESHER, a farmer residing on section 3, Money Creek Township, is the owner of 117 acres of valuable and productive land, on which he has good and substantial improvements and where he is meeting with signal success in the prosecution of his chosen vocation. Mr. Flesher was born in Pendleton County, West Va., Oct. 19, 1827. He lived in his native county until seven years old, when his parents emigrated to Fayette County, Ohio, taking William with them. There he made his home until he accompanied his parents to this county. Living here until 1857, engaged the while in farming, he went to Kansas and followed the same vocation in that State for three years. He then came back to this county and has made this his home until the present time. Since living here he has spent a year and a half of his time in Lexington, and aside from that, has always lived in Money Creek Township.

Mr. Flesher, as stated, has a fine farm of 117 acres on section 3, Money Creek Township, acquired mainly through his own exertions, economy and good judgment. He was married in Money Creek Township, Dec. 29, 1850, to Rebecca A. Pirtle, daughter of Henry and Sarah (Jones) Pirtle. Her parents were married in Kentucky, and settling in

that State, made that their home until their removal to Owen County, Ind., where they lived until the death of the mother. The father died in Greene County, that State. Ten children were born of the parental union, six sons and four daughters, and Mrs. Flesher was the youngest. She was born in Owen County, Ind., Dec. 14, 1831, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of eight children—Andrew M., John H., James A. S., Lizzie, Eddie L., Charles S., George E. and Benjamin F. Andrew married Miss Lucy Fultz and they are living in Gridley Township, this county; John and Miss Amanda Henline became man and wife and are residents of Lexington Township, this county; James married Miss Hattie Drury, and they are living in Woodford County; Lizzie is the wife of William Curry, a resident of Money Creek Township; Eddie and Miss Minnie Punke were united in marriage and live in Gridley Township; Charles, George and Benjamin are living at home.

Mr. Flesher has held the office of Township Assessor for two years and has been the incumbent of the office of Justice of the Peace about six years. His wife is a member of the Christian Church and in politics he is a staunch Republican. Mr. and Mrs. Flesher have had their trials and troubles in life, and sickness has often attended their household, but a kind providence has smiled upon and preserved them a united and happy family, and now in the sunset of life, in their pleasant little home in Money Creek Township, they are enjoying the accumulations of an honorable past with no dark spots upon their record to trouble them.

**J**AMES LARKIN is one of the large land-owners of Money Creek Township, and a gentleman possessing considerable agricultural information, as his success in that vocation indicates. He is pleasantly located on his fine farm on section 36, where he is surrounded with all the comforts and pleasures of a farm life, together with a happy and contented family. Mr. Larkin was born in Ireland in 1835. Coming to the United States when twenty years of age, in 1855, he for six months made Cincinnati, Ohio, his home. He

then came to Pontiac, Livingston Co., Ill., and having no means with which to engage in business or to purchase land, he worked out on a farm by the month for about a year and a half. After that he came to McLean County, where he continued to labor by the month at the same vocation for about two years. He then rented land of one Peter Hefner, in Money Creek Township, and for six years was engaged in farming in this manner.

The first purchase of our subject was eighty acres of land in Money Creek Township, located on section 36. He has been a resident of that township since 1860, and has added to his acreage until he is at present the proprietor of 410 acres of valuable and productive land. Mr. Larkin was married in Chicago, Sept. 18, 1859, to Miss Julia Hogan, born in Ireland in 1837. Of this union seven children have been born who are yet living, viz., James M., Mary, John D., Margaret, Sarah, William and Julia. Michael and Edward A. died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Larkin are members of the Catholic Church. In politics our subject is independent.



**J**ACOB I. MOATS, residing on section 29, Money Creek Township, has been a resident of McLean County since 1829, and has made his home continuously in the above township. His father, Jacob Moats, was born in Maryland, and when four years old was sent into Pennsylvania where he was reared to manhood on a farm. He was married to Miss Sarah Hinthorn, a native of West Virginia, and they took up their residence in Licking County, Ohio, whence they came to this county in the fall of 1829, and were among the early settlers of Money Creek Township, locating on the same section on which our subject now is. The father continued to reside on that section, engaged in the prosecution of his vocation until his death, which took place Feb. 1, 1844. His good wife crossed the river to meet him on the other shore, July 16, 1873. They were blessed by the birth of nine children—Henry, John, Margaret, William, Jane, Mary A., Rebecca P., Sarah P. and Jacob I. Henry and John are farmers of Money Creek Township; Margaret is the widow of Albert

Phillipps and also lives in Money Creek Township; William died in that township in September, 1840, and Jane died there in the fall of the same year, as likewise did Mary A. and Rebecca P.; Sarah departed this life in the fall of 1848.

Jacob I. Moats was the youngest of his parents' children and was born in Licking County, Ohio, April 14, 1828. When less than two years of age, in 1829, he accompanied his parents to this county. He was reared on a farm, the one on which he is living, and received his education in the common schools of that locality. He has devoted all his years to agriculture and has witnessed the growth, not only of Money Creek Township, but of McLean County, and the wonderful development it has made from 1829 until the present time. He is now the owner of 210 acres of good land, on which he has substantial improvements and is meeting with more than ordinary success in his vocation.

Mr. Moats was married in Money Creek Township, Nov. 3, 1850, to Miss Mary J., daughter of William M. and Martha (Kinnan) Dodson. Her father was born in Kentucky and her mother in New Jersey, and they came to this county in 1847, from Champaign County, Ohio, and settling in Money Creek Township, there lived until their death, his taking place March 27, 1863, and hers Dec. 21, 1880. Eleven children were born of their union, namely, Joseph K., Maryette, Jesse, Abner N., Mary J., Martha, William R., Elizabeth, Esther A., Daniel D. and Naomi E. Joseph K. is a farmer and resides in Kansas; Maryette was the wife of William Hamilton and died in Towanda Township in 1851; Jesse died in infancy; Abner N. is a resident of Money Creek Township; Martha is the wife of Lewis Sailor and they are living in Hudson Township; William R. is a farmer and lives in Kansas; Elizabeth is the wife of James Allen, and they live in Missouri; Esther A. married F. A. Bishop, a farmer of Money Creek Township; Daniel D. was a member of the 94th Illinois Infantry and died in the hospital at New Orleans; Naomi and Rev. Yeakle were united in marriage and are living in Kansas. Mrs. Moats was born in Champaign County, Ohio, Feb. 10, 1830, and was about eighteen years old when she accompanied her parents to this county. By her union with our subject four children have

been born—John W., Martha J., Sarah O. and one died in infancy. John W. married Miss N. L. Rowe and they are living in Money Creek Township; Martha is the wife of H. P. Sachs, a farmer of Money Creek Township, and Sarah O. lives at home. Mr. Moats has held the office of Road Commissioner for many years and also that of School Director. He and his wife are members of the United Brethren Church, and in politics he is a staunch Republican.



**L** EONARD REDDICK, a prominent grain-buyer of Saybrook, is a native of Muskingum County, Ohio, born June 19, 1822, and the son of Phillip and Mary (Bartlett) Reddick, the former a native of Maryland and the latter of Vermont. Phillip Reddick was born in December, 1796, and departed this life in Ohio in 1873. The mother, born in 1806, died at her home in 1871. Both parents were members of the Lutheran Church. Their twelve children were Leonard, Mary A., Elijah, Elizabeth, Samuel, Eliza J., Margaret, John, George, Abraham, Amanda and Clara.

Our subject was the eldest member of his father's family and remained under the home roof receiving careful training and a common-school education. After reaching manhood he was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Moore, June 12, 1849. This lady was born in Ohio in 1824, and was the daughter of Benjamin and Elizabeth (Claypole) Moore, who are both deceased. They were most worthy and excellent people and members in good standing of the Baptist Church. Their children were Mary, Harriet, Sarah, John, Jane, Eliza, Mason, Daniel, Catherine and Joseph. By this marriage Mr. Reddick became the father of two children—Mary J. and Harriet. Mrs. Sarah M. Reddick departed this life on the 12th of April, 1852, after their removal to Hamilton County, Ind. She was a highly respected lady and a worthy and consistent member of the Baptist Church.

The second wife of our subject, to whom he was married in 1854, was Miss Rebecca Galloway, a native of Indiana. Of this union there were born four children—Sanford, Alvin, Fremont and Jos-

eph G., all living. Mrs. Rebeeca G. Reddick died Sept. 12, 1864. The following year our subject came to Illinois, arriving in this county on the 2d of November. In early life he had learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed for a period of thirty-two years, and superintended the erection of some of the most prominent buildings, including several large churches in and around Saybrook. He abandoned his trade in 1875, to engage in grain-buying, in which he has been remarkably successful, being the leader in this business at Saybrook. In 1873 he commenced dealing in lumber, but sold out to engage in his present business.

Prior to the outbreak of the Rebellion Mr. Reddick was a staunch Democrat, but the first gun that was fired upon Ft. Sumter also knocked the democracy out of him and he went over without delay to the Republican party, whose principles since that time he has vigorously supported. He has been prominent in the affairs of his township, holding its various offices and also being prominent in the local affairs of Saybrook. Religiously he is connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he has been Steward and Trustee and greatly interested in Sunday-school work, to which he has contributed generously of his time and means.

**E**LI BARNARD, who has always been occupied in agricultural pursuits and is at present engaged in that vocation on his fine farm on section 21, Money Creek Township, is a son of Melman N. Barnard, whose sketch is given in connection with that of S. F. Barnard in another portion of this work. Our subject was a twin brother of Levi Barnard and was born in Money Creek Township, Sept. 1, 1843. He was reared to manhood on his father's farm and received his education in the pioneer log school-house of this county. All his years thus far in life, with the exception of about three months, have been spent in the boundaries of the township in which he was born.

Mr. Barnard is at present the owner of a fine farm consisting of 240 acres, and located on sections 20 and 21, Money Creek Township. He thoroughly understands the vocation at which he labors and is

meeting with success in the conducting of his place. Our subject was married in Champaign County, Ill., Jan. 1, 1867, to Miss Sarilda, daughter of Joseph and Eleanor G. (Beaty) Shaw. Joseph Shaw was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, and his wife was a native of the same county. They were married and settled in that county, whence they removed to Piekaway County, same State, and then, in 1862, came to this county and located in Money Creek Township. He died there Feb. 4, 1868. Twelve children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Shaw and Mrs. Barnard was the fourth in order of birth. She was born in Piekaway County, Ohio, Jan. 15, 1843, and by her union with our subject seven children have been born—Nettie, Sinia, Josie, Leslie, Anna, Grace and Alta. Nettie died when three years old. Socially Mr. Barnard is a member of the Masonic fraternity. He and his wife hold fellowship with the Christian Church, and in politics he is a staunch Republican.

**W**ILLIAM WIRT RANDOLPH is one of the merchants of Towanda. The ancestry of the Randolph family in the United States dates back to an early day. Edward Fitz Randolph and Elizabeth Blossom came with their parents from Northampton, England, to escape religious persecution in that country. Miss Blossom came in the Mayflower in 1620, and Edward arrived here in 1630. They were married in this country, May 10, 1646, and settled at Barnstable, Barnstable Co., Mass., and became the parents of eight children. Joseph, the fifth child, was born in 1656, married Sarah Congdon in 1687, and they had twelve children; Joseph, the second of these, was born in 1690, married, and became the father of twelve children. Joseph, the fifth of these, was born in 1722, married Esther Broderick, and they had eleven children; John, their sixth child, was born in 1752, married Phebe Steele by whom he had eight children, and died in 1826. Steele, the sixth son of John and Phebe (Steele) Randolph, and father of our subject, was born at Piscataway, N. J., Oct. 22, 1786, and was married Jan. 25, 1810, to Harriett Runyon, of French extraction. She was born in Middlesex County, N. J., Jan. 14, 1793. They first settled



in Somerset County, N. J., after their marriage, where he followed the occupation of a miller and which vocation he continued until his death. He died March 6, 1855, in Somerset County, after a residence there of upward of forty-five years. After his death his wife came to Bloomington, Ill., where she lived for some eight years and then, returning to New Jersey, departed this life at Boundbrook, Somerset County, Nov. 25, 1874. They had seven children—Esther R., John S., Phebe A., Reune R., Asa R., William Wirt and one who died in infancy. Esther became the wife of Peter Kline and departed this life in Macon County, Ill., Oct. 4, 1865; John S. is living at Boundbrook, N. J.; Phebe A. was the second wife of Peter Kline and died at Bloomington, Ill., July 10, 1868; Reune R. is living at Bloomington, Ill., and Asa is a resident of Summit, N. J.

William Wirt Randolph was born in Somerset County, N. J., Jan. 8, 1834, and lived at home until he was of age. He received his education in the Quaker schools and upon the death of his father came west to Chicago, where he worked at the carpenter's trade about six months. He then went to Decatur, Ill., and there worked at the same trade for something over a year, when he came to Bloomington, this county. Arriving here in 1856, he began working at his trade and was thus occupied for about sixteen years. During that time, however, he became infatuated with the idea of becoming suddenly rich and the novelty of digging a fortune out of the ground, and went to Pike's Peak, in the spring of 1860. He soon satisfied himself that the precious metal was not to be had in such an abundance as to make him a Cræsus, and in January of the following year he returned to this county, having made the journey overland. In 1871 our subject traded for a farm in Blue Mound Township, on which he moved and lived for two years engaged the while in its cultivation. He then sold it, and in 1873 moved to Towanda and worked at his trade for two or three years, after which he opened a restaurant and gradually merged it into a mercantile business. In May, 1878, our subject bought the stock of goods owned by Morrison and Moats of Towanda, and embarking in that business has thus been engaged until the present time. Of

course, he increased his stock as the requirements of his patrons demanded, and by honest and fair dealing built up a good and lucrative trade. He now carries a general assortment of all kinds of goods. The dry-goods department of his business is under the immediate charge of Mrs. Randolph. In addition to his mercantile interests, Mr. Randolph is the owner of valuable village property in Towanda, and has succeeded in life by following the dictates of his own judgment and bringing to bear that energy and perseverance with which he is so happily endowed.

Mr. Randolph was married in Boundbrook, N. J., Oct. 18, 1856, to Miss Angeline B., daughter of Andrew and Hannah (Dunham) Drake, natives of New Jersey. Her father died in Dunellen, Middlesex County, that State, Jan. 14, 1873. His widow, the mother of Mrs. Randolph, survives and is at present residing in New Jersey. They had three children who lived to attain the age of maturity: Jonathan, a resident of Wisconsin; Angeline B., wife of our subject, and Barzilla, who is engaged in mercantile pursuits at Baltimore. Mrs. Randolph was born in New Market, Middlesex Co., N. J., Aug. 17, 1835, and has borne our subject six children—Lillie H., Emma D., Etta D., Asa R., Ella D. and Hattie B. Lillie H. died May 11, 1864; Emma departed this life Oct. 6, 1859; Etta died April 23, 1864; Asa R. is Station Agent at Sterling, Col.; Ella B. died in March, 1870; and Hattie B. is living at home.

In politics Mr. R. is a staunch Republican and cast his first vote for John C. Fremont, in 1856, and has voted for every Republican nominee for President since that time with the exception of Abraham Lincoln first time, when he was absent from the State. Mr. Randolph became a member of the Baptist Church in March, 1854, in his native State. He has been connected with the First Baptist Church of Chicago, First Baptist Church of Decatur, Ill., and First Baptist Church of Bloomington, Ill., and since becoming a citizen of Towanda, has held fellowship with the First Baptist Church of that place. He has been a constant worker in the Sunday-school since 1857. He was instrumental in organizing a colored Baptist Church and was the first Superintendent of the Baptist South Mission at

Bloomington. He was also the first Superintendent of the Baptist West Mission, now the German Church. Since leaving Bloomington, he has helped to organize, and was the first Superintendent of the first Baptist Sunday-school at Lexington. In 1871 he organized a Baptist Sunday-school at Towanda and has been its Superintendent until the present time. His entire family are earnest workers in the Church and Sunday-school. When the contrabands first came to Bloomington, Mr. Randolph and his sister, Mrs. Phebe A. Kline, with others, got them together and organized a night school, for Mr. Randolph claimed that while the question of suffrage was being agitated the colored man should be taught to read and write that he might know how to vote. Mrs. Phebe A. Kline was a lady of considerable attainments, and for ten years taught a private school at Bloomington with marked success.



**W**ILLIAM H. BRIGGS, Esq., a prominent and influential farmer of Yates Township, is the proprietor of a beautiful homestead on section 4, where he has resided since 1868. He was born in Troy Grove, La Salle Co., Ill., April 17, 1841, being the son of Phillip Briggs, a native of New York. The latter grew to manhood in his native State, whence he journeyed westward and coming into Illinois, located first near Peoria. There he made the acquaintance of Miss Hannah Smith, who was born in Pennsylvania, and in due time selected her as his life companion. After marriage they settled in Troy Grove, La Salle County, and occupied a prominent position among the pioneers of that section. Mr. Briggs, although a carpenter by trade, purchased a tract of land and engaged in farming, employing himself at his trade whenever time and opportunity afforded. Many of the early dwellings and other buildings in that section were the result of his handiwork. After a time he removed within the city limits of La Salle, where he lived about two years and until the cholera commenced its ravages in that portion of the State. He then returned East with his family and resided in his native State for five or six years following. Thence they removed to Huron County, Ohio,

where Phillip Briggs departed this life in about 1855, at the age of forty-seven years. He was a man of great force of character, a staunch supporter of the Whig party, and a worthy member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mrs. Briggs after the death of her husband resided in Ohio until 1861, then returned to Illinois. She is still living and makes her home with her daughter in Winona, Ill., having arrived at the advanced age of seventy years. The parental household included eight children, six of whom are yet living—William H., Daniel B., James Franklin, Junius J., Marilla A. and Elnora.

The subject of our sketch received a common-school education and being the eldest of the family, after the death of his father, was the chief supporter and advisor of his widowed mother. The elder Briggs had met with reverses and lost his health and property at about the same time. The family were thus left in straightened circumstances and it required the utmost care and good judgment on the part of the mother and son to keep the children together and minister to their necessities. William H. remained with his mother until he was twenty-six years old and until his brothers and sisters had grown to be of an age when they could take care of themselves. In the fall of 1867, he purchased eighty-nine acres of his present farm which was then uncultivated prairie. He set about its improvement industriously and energetically and in time received the reward of his labors. He now has a good homestead of 160 acres under excellent cultivation, supplied with a shapely and convenient set of frame buildings. Besides the homestead he also has 120 acres in Iroquois County, and devotes his time and attention to mixed husbandry.

On the 6th of February, 1872, Mr. Briggs was united in marriage with Miss Rebecca Eekert, who was also a native of La Salle County, Ill., and born Nov. 11, 1848. She is the daughter of Jonas and Nancy (Erb) Eekert, who were natives of Pennsylvania. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. B. there were born four children, of whom the record is as follows: The eldest, a son, Jay Henry, born June 15, 1874, died Aug. 20, 1874; Those living are, Stella H., who was born March 4, 1876; Josie Perl, June 1, 1878, and Viola N., Dec. 14, 1880. Mr. and Mrs.





Harry Carr



James Thompson

B. are members in good standing of the Baptist Church, in the Sunday-school of which our subject has been Superintendent for several years. He has held many of the minor offices of his township, and at present is Justice of the Peace, having been elected in 1885. Politically he is a strong Republican and uniformly casts his vote in support of the principles of that party.



**J**AMES THOMPSON, a gentleman who is widely and favorably known in McLean County, and a resident of Cheney's Grove Township, which he represents in the Board of Supervisors, is a native of Summit County, Ohio, and was born Jan. 2, 1840. He is the son of Bowman and Elizabeth (Cannon) Thompson, natives respectively of England and Pennsylvania. His father was born in Northumberland County, Jan. 5, 1811. He remained in his native county until he was nineteen years of age, then emigrated alone to the United States and, locating in Stark County, Ohio, followed farming pursuits. Thence he went into Maumee County, where he purchased a farm but remained there only a short time. On account of the fever and ague in that region he then removed to Summit County and purchased a farm. On the 2d of September, 1834, he was married, near Massillon, Ohio, to Miss Elizabeth Cannon, who was born near Carlisle, Pa., March 13, 1813. Mrs. T. was the daughter of John and Elizabeth (Gilechrist) Cannon. Her father for a number of years before the war was a slave-owner, but finally liberated his slaves of his own free will. The grandfather of Mrs. T. was a Major in the Revolutionary War, serving directly under Gen. Washington, and came out of the conflict without a wound. The Gilechrist family, in years gone by, was widely represented throughout the Southern States.

The parents of our subject were orphaned at an early age, and Bowman Thompson, in his early life, probably acquired those habits of persistence and industry which proved the secret of his success. He departed this life in Cheney's Grove Township, Oct. 13, 1865. His wife survived until May 2, 1876, nearly eleven years. Their five sons and two

daughters were John, George, James, our subject, Robert, Sarah C., Harry B. and Jane E. James passed his childhood and youth upon the farm in Summit County, Ohio, receiving a common-school education. After arriving at years of manhood he was united in marriage, Jan. 2, 1861, with Miss Charlotte S. Cliver, who was born Feb. 23, 1843, and was the daughter of Richard and Ann (Britnell) Cliver, both natives of England. Richard Cliver was born Nov. 28, 1816, and departed this life in Tazewell County, Ill., in 1881. The mother died in 1854. They were married in England, came to America in 1837, and located in Tremont, Tazewell County, where they passed the remainder of their lives. Of their seven children three are now living—John, Thomas and Charlotte S.; Thomas H., Luey A., and two unnamed, died in infancy. Mr. Cliver was a painter and cabinet-maker by trade, and carried on a good business in the grocery line. He was a member of the A. F. & A. M. for many years, belonged to the Sons of Temperance, and during his early life had connected himself with the Episcopal Church. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson became the parents of six children—James R., who married Miss Ida Newland and has two children; Albert B., Luey C., Elizabeth C., John R. W. and Harry G.

During the late war Mr. T. became a member of Co. L, 4th Ill. Vol. Cav. He participated with his comrades in the fight at Fts. Henry, Donelson and at Pittsburg Landing, being among the first on the scene of conflict. Thence he went with his regiment to Corinth, Miss., and after the capture of Island No. 10, moved upon Memphis, thence to Trenton, and in February was with his regiment at the battle of Coffeeville, where the famous Col. McCullough was killed, being pierced again and again with the enemy's bullets. There our subject was taken prisoner but escaped within an hour on account of the friendly darkness which aided him. He then proceeded to Vicksburg and from there to Natchez, Miss. This was in 1864, and in October of that year, having completed his term of enlistment he was mustered out, receiving his honorable discharge at Springfield, Ill. He had determined to aid in the conflict to the end and retired with the comforting assurance that he had

performed his part bravely and faithfully. He entered the service as a private and was promoted Commissary Sergeant. After retiring from the army he resumed his occupation as a farmer, and has distinguished himself as an intelligent and valuable member of the community. He served as Collector of his township three years, was Supervisor four years and still holds the office. He has held other prominent positions among the counsels of his townsmen, and is a worthy member of the Masonic fraternity, having held the various offices of Lodge No. 468 at Cheney's Grove. He gives close attention to his business, is prudent in the management of his affairs, and strictly honorable in his dealings, and is a man who enjoys to the fullest degree the confidence and respect of his friends.

The farm estate of our subject comprises 167 acres of finely cultivated land with a good residence, barn and out-buildings, and in fact all the accessories of the skilled and intelligent agriculturist. Mr. Thompson since 1872 has been a member of the Republican County Central Committee, and has upheld the principles of his party to the best of his ability. Both he and the various members of his family are prominently connected with the Christian Church.

As one of the leading representative men of the county we take pleasure in presenting the portrait of Mr. Thompson in this volume.

**H**ARVEY B. KARR, a resident of Dale Township, and the son of an honored pioneer of McLean County, seems to be in possession of the enterprise and energy which so characterized his ancestors in a remarkable manner, and is successfully engaged in farming pursuits and in the breeding of draft horses, cattle and hogs. He is a gentleman in the prime of life, and in the midst of his usefulness and activity, and presents the happy spectacle of an energetic, thorough-going business man, with encouraging prospects in view, and enjoying the confidence and esteem of his associates and fellow-citizens.

Mr. Karr is a native of this county, having been born in Randolph Township, Oct. 26, 1843. His

father, Thomas Jefferson Karr, was a native of Hamilton County, Ohio, born on the 10th of February, 1820, and his grandfather, Dr. Thomas Karr, was born in Bucks County, Pa., on the 23d of April, 1793. The father of the latter and the great-grandfather of our subject, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War and held a Captain's commission. After the colonies had established their independence Capt. Karr removed from his native State to Hamilton County, Ohio, in 1810, and was among the earliest pioneers of that region. He subsequently removed to the Territory of Illinois and spent the last years of his life in McLean County, dying in the town of Randolph, and his remains were interred in Heyworth.

The grandfather of our subject was a youth of seventeen years when his parents removed to Ohio. He was married at North Bend, White Water Township, Hamilton County, in that State. In 1835 he removed with his family to Illinois, and settled in Randolph Township, this county, where he had previously purchased a tract of land. Upon this he now built a log cabin, and removed into it with his family, occupying it for two years, after which he erected a comfortable frame house. He engaged industriously in the improvement and cultivation of his farm, was rewarded with abundant success, and lived to see the country well developed.

Thomas Jefferson Karr, the father of our subject, was the third child and eldest son of his parents. He came to McLean County with his father and mother, and made his home with them until he had grown to manhood. He possessed a great amount of energy and ambition, and early in life commenced to do business for himself. He engaged as a dealer in live stock, which he purchased in this section and sold in Milwaukee. He also purchased considerable timber land, and sold wood and lumber to the railroads. At the same time he engaged extensively in farming and stock-raising, and met with success in the various departments of his business. He was removed from the scenes of his earthly labors while in the prime of life, on the 17th of February, 1866, his death being the result of a railroad accident. At the time of his death, the father of our subject was the owner of 800

acres of land, forty of which he had entered from the Government, and for the greater part of the remainder he paid \$30 and \$50 an acre.

He was married in December, 1843, to Miss Elizabeth Low, and soon after his marriage settled upon the farm which is now occupied by his widow, and is pleasantly located on section 13 of Dale Township. The parental household consisted of five children: Harvey B., of our sketch, was the eldest; Lizzie became the wife of Dr. Bradley, of Pekin, Ill.; Guy is manager of the homestead; Martha, who was born Dec. 9, 1853, died July 2, 1856; Dora, born April 16, 1857, married A. J. Johnstone, of Dale Township, and of whom a sketch appears in another part of this work.

Harvey B. Karr spent the greater part of his youthful days in attendance at the district schools in Dale Township. In 1858 he entered the Model Department of Normal University, and in 1860 attended the Wesleyan University of Bloomington, where he entered upon a scientific course, and remained at this institution for a period of three years. In the winter of the year last mentioned he went to Chicago, Ill., and studied in the Business College of Bryant & Stratton, and thus fitted himself for the later and practical duties of a business and farming life. After he had completed his studies Mr. Karr returned to his father's farm in Dale Township, where he remained until the death of the latter, and then administered upon the estate. When this had been settled he turned his attention to the buying of live-stock, which he shipped to Chicago and the Eastern markets, and was thus successfully engaged until 1870. He then located upon his present homestead, where he was principally occupied in agricultural pursuits for four years following. In 1874 he again began his operations as a stock-dealer, operating thus for two years, and then resumed farming.

Mr. Karr was the first time married in 1870, to Miss Irene Shannon, a native of Newport, Ky. This lady only remained the companion of her husband four short years, dying on the 21st of November, 1874. She became the mother of one child, a daughter, Theresa, who died at the age of seven years. The second wife of our subject was Miss Emily K. Jackson, to whom he was married on

the 17th of December, 1879. Mrs. Emily Karr is a native of Madison County, Ky., and the daughter of Henry L. and Margaret (Rice) Jackson. Of this union there have been born three children—Harvey L., Kitty and Thomas J. Mr. K. and his family occupy a handsome residence, which, within and without, is indicative of refined tastes and ample means. They are held in the highest respect in the community, and Mr. K. enjoys in a marked degree the confidence and esteem of his fellow-townsmen.

The maternal grandfather of our subject, whose name was Nathan Low, was one of the earliest pioneers of McLean County, having settled in Dale Township in 1829. He was born in Maryland on the 6th of January, 1791, and was the son of Nathan and Naney (Wright) Low. In 1805 he emigrated from his native State to Licking County, Ohio, and was there married, in 1814, to Miss Sarah Brooks. After this event he was occupied as a cattle dealer, purchasing stock in Ohio and driving it through over the mountains to Harrisburg, Pa. In June, 1821, he started with his family for an overland journey to Illinois, and arrived in McLean County in July following. His means at the time were limited, and his pioneer house or shanty, as it would now be called, contained but one room, was only 12x14 feet in dimensions, and became the home of ten persons. Mr. Low, however, made the best of circumstances, was enterprising and ambitious, and soon established a more comfortable home. His energy, however, outweighed his physical strength, and his health was broken while he was comparatively a young man. He died in 1844; his widow survived him until 1879, and departed this life in Dale Township.

It is with pleasure that the publishers of this work present the portrait of Mr. Karr, as being that of a worthy and honored representative of Dale Township.

**J**AMES CORRY WILSON, one of the members of the firm of Wilson & Wilson, engaged in general merchandise business at Cooksville, is a native of Fayette County, Pa., and was born May 10, 1856. His parents were William and Elizabeth (Corry) Wilson, natives of

the Keystone State, the father at present a resident of Towanda Township, and a sketch of whom will be found elsewhere in this volume. The subject of this sketch was but four years of age when his parents removed from his native State to Illinois and located in Bloomington. He received a good education in the common schools, and remained under the home roof until the spring of 1879. Since that time he has been a resident of McLean County with the exception of three years spent in Colorado. He lived in Boulder, Col., three years, returning to McLean County in the fall of 1882. Soon afterward he formed a partnership with Benjamin L. Anderson, and they operated together under the firm name of Anderson & Wilson, which lasted until November, 1886. Mr. Anderson then sold out his interest to James Corbett Wilson, and the firm is now known as Wilson & Wilson. The firm holds a good position among the other thriving business houses of Cooksville, both its members being gentlemen of integrity, prompt to meet their obligations and valued members of society.

Our subject was married, in Blue Mound Township, June 21, 1883, to Miss Mattie V. Newton, daughter of William and Elizabeth (Routt) Newton, the mother being a sister of ex-Gov. Routt, of Colorado. Mrs. Wilson was born in Blue Mound Township, Feb. 14, 1864, and of this union there was born one child, a daughter, Florence B. Mr. Wilson is a staunch supporter of the Republican party.

**G**EORGE A. ROSS, a well-to-do farmer of this county, residing on section 2, township 21, Funk's Grove Township, is a native of Saratoga County, N. Y., and was born April 19, 1828. His father, John B. Ross, is a native of New Jersey, and the paternal grandfather of our subject was born in Scotland. The latter came to the United States prior to the Revolutionary War, and was a soldier in the same on the side of the colonists, and spent the last years of his life in New Jersey. The father of our subject, early in life, learned the trade of a blacksmith in New Jersey, and after following the same in that State for a time removed to Seneca-tady, N. Y. He labored at his trade in the latter

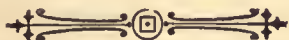
county for a few years and then went to Niagara County, same State, and settled in the town of Royalton, where he still continued at blacksmithing, and where he made his home until his death, in July, 1883. The maiden name of his wife was Eliza Stewart, and she was born near Seneca-tady, N. Y., and departed this life in 1830. There were but two children born of this union, our subject and his sister, Mary Elizabeth, who married Charles Jackson, and is living at Royalton, N. Y.

George A. Ross was only a year and ten months old when his mother died, and was reared to manhood under the care of a step-mother. At fourteen years of age he commenced working in his father's blacksmith-shop, attending school part of the time. He continued to work in the shop until he was twenty years old, when his father assisted him to start a shop of his own at Jeddo, Orleans Co., N. Y. This he conducted with partial success for fourteen months, when he sold it with the intention of going to California. His many relatives and friends, however, talked him out of the notion, and he came to Illinois instead. This was in the fall of 1852, and on arrival in this State he first located at Decatur; remaining there during the winter he returned East, and then came back to Illinois. He was there employed on railroad work for a short time, and then became section foreman for the Illinois Central Railroad, and moved his residence to Hudson, Ill. We next hear of him at Heyworth, this county, where he was in the employ of the railroad company at that place until 1856. During that year he abandoned railroading, and for six years farmed on rented land. By this time he had economized sufficiently to enable him to purchase a tract of land, which he did and began farming on his own property. He bought his present farm in the fall of 1861. There was a small frame house on the place when he bought it, which in 1866 gave way to the substantial residence in which our subject now resides. In 1876 he erected a commodious barn on his place. He has 251 acres of land in a body and also nine acres of timber, and is meeting with success in the prosecution of his calling.

Mr. Ross and Miss Ellen Jackson were married Nov. 27, 1853. She was born in Batavia, Genesee Co., N. Y., July 5, 1838. Her father, Charles



Jackson, was a native of New York State, and her mother, Julia Phillo, was also born in that State. Charles Jackson was a carpenter by trade, and spent the latter years of his life in Orleans County, N. Y., his demise occurring in 1874. His wife is still living, and resides in Orleans County, N. Y., with her brother. Mr. Ross cast his first presidential vote for Gen. Winfield Scott, and has voted for the success of the Republican party ever since its birth. On the thirtieth anniversary of the wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Ross they were agreeably surprised by their neighbors and friends, who took possession of their house and setting the table prepared a sumptuous repast. After the meal Mr. and Mrs. Ross were the recipients of a beautiful silver pitcher. They will long remember the pleasant countenances whom they met in their home on that occasion.



**W**ILLIAM SHANNON, the only harness-maker in the town of Heyworth, is located on West Main street where he has carried on his business since the spring of 1870. He has a permanent and finely established trade, and by his straightforward business methods has secured the respect and esteem of the community. He was formerly a resident of Bloomington, where he located in 1849, and followed his trade for a period of twenty years.

Mr. Shannon was born in Shelby County, Ky., Feb. 7, 1813. His father, Hugh Shannon, was a native of Ireland and came to the United States when a young man and settled in Virginia. He was there married to Miss Sarah Kendall, whose father was a farmer, and who became a resident of Shelby County, Ky., which afterward remained the home of both our subject's parents during their lifetime. At the time of their decease both were well stricken in years, and had built up a good record by their honest lives and kindly deeds. Of their eleven children our subject was the third in order of birth. He grew to manhood in his native county, and there learned his trade under the instruction of Harris Hickman. After serving an apprenticeship of three years he set out as "jour" and in due time took unto himself a partner and helpmeet in

the person of Miss Nancy B. Ritchey, their union occurring on the 2d of April, 1835.

Mrs. Shannon was born and reared in Scott County, Ky., of parents who were born, reared and married in Virginia, her father being engaged in farming pursuits. Later they removed to Owen County, Ky., where the father died about 1836. The mother, who was formerly Miss Catharine Bronson, after the death of her husband came to Illinois and died at the home of her grand-daughter, Mrs. Sarah Chase, when seventy-seven years old. Mr. and Mrs. Shannon of this notice became the parents of seven children, of whom George F. and Mary C. are deceased. Those living are Sarah, Samuel R., John T., Irene and William B., all married and settled in comfortable homes.

Mr. Shannon followed his trade in Owen County and Covington, Ky., for some time after his marriage. Thence he removed to Bloomington, Ill., where he established a good business and was successful. In Heyworth he has been President of the Village Board, and is Democratic in politics. He is greatly interested in the cause of temperance, and of late years has identified himself with the Prohibition movement. All the family are members of the Baptist Church, and are recognized in this community as law-abiding and useful citizens,



**J**OHN RYAN, a farmer by calling, and the owner of 163 acres of valuable land on section 1, Towanda Township, where he resides, is meeting with signal success in the conducting of his vocation. Mr. Ryan is the son of John and Margaret (Curboy) Ryan, natives of Ireland. They had nine children and John was the second in order of birth. He was born on the Emerald Isle in 1824. When twenty-five years of age, in 1849, he emigrated to this country, and taking up his home in Kane County, Ill., continued to reside there for two years. In 1851 he came to this county, and settling in Bloomington was there variously occupied until 1878. During that year he removed to Blue Mound Township, and subsequently to Towanda Township, where he has made his home until the present time.

While a resident of Bloomington, Mr. Ryan was a

portion of his time engaged as an employe of the C. & A. R.R. Since leaving Bloomington he has devoted his time exclusively to farming. He is now the owner of 163 acres of land, all of which is under an advanced state of cultivation, and on which he has erected good and substantial improvements. Mr. Ryan was married, in Bloomington, Ill., June 9, 1856, to Miss Julia, daughter of William and Mary (Fitzgerald) Dwyer, natives of Ireland. Her parents had eleven children, and Mrs. Ryan was the fifth in order of birth. She first saw the light in the Land of the Shamrock, March 24, 1835.

The union of Mr. and Mrs. Ryan has been productive of the birth of five children—Margaret, John, Edward, Matthew and Mary A. Margaret is deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Ryan, as well as their children, are members of the Catholic Church. In politics he is a Democrat. The mother of our subject departed this life in her native land, and the father died at Bloomington, this State. In addition to the fine farm which is the property of our subject, he is also the owner of considerable city property in Bloomington. He is a self-made man, and what he has of this world's goods he has accumulated through his own energy and good judgment, and not as the recipient of any legacy whatsoever.



**R**OBERT CLARK. Among the farmers of Towanda Township possessing enterprise and push, and a gentleman whose success is attributable to his own energy and good judgment, we take pleasure in relating a few facts connected with the history of Robert Clark. He is living on his fine farm on section 9, and is meeting with success as a tiller of the soil. The parents of our subject were Robert and Jeannette (Paxton) Clark, of Irish and Scotch ancestry. The occupation of the father was that of a farmer, and he was also a wagon-maker by trade. After his marriage to Miss Paxton he settled in Washington County, Pa., where they continued to reside until their demise. Eleven children, five sons and six daughters, were born of their union, our subject being the fourth in order of birth.

Robert Clark was born in Washington County,

Pa., Feb. 22, 1812. He lived with the old folk until twenty-four years old, when he started out to do for himself. His education was received in the common schools, and in early years he studied civil engineering, which he mastered, but which in after life he never followed. He also learned the trade of a wagon-maker under the instruction of his father, and on leaving the parental household he engaged in working for a brother-in-law in the same county, and was in his employ for seven and a half years, engaged the while in farming. He then went to Mercer County, Pa., and there purchased a farm of 118 acres, and for twenty-one years lived upon the place and was occupied in its cultivation and improvement.

Selling his farm in Mercer County, in the winter of 1865, our subject came to this county and purchased 160 acres, located on sections 9 and 16, Towanda Township. He settled on section 9, and has made that his home until the present time. By hard labor, economy, industry and good judgment he has succeeded in adding to his original purchase, and at the present time is the proprietor of 360 acres of valuable land. He has on his farm a fine set of buildings, including residence, barn, and other necessary out-buildings, and is recognized as one of the progressive farmers of McLean County.

Mr. Clark was married in Washington County, Pa., May 28, 1844, to Margaret McIlvain. She is a cousin of George McIlvain, one of the Supreme Court Judges of Ohio. Her parents were Greer and Jane (Campbell) McIlvain, both of Scotch ancestry. They were born in Pennsylvania, married, and settled in Washington County, their native State, where the father engaged in farming and where the mother died. He is yet living, and has attained the venerable age of ninety-four years. They had seven children, five daughters and two sons, and Mrs. Clark was the third daughter born to them. She first saw light in Washington County, Pa., April 19, 1823. Of her union with our subject seven children have been born, three of whom are yet living. The deceased are Robert E., whose demise occurred when five years old; Maggie E., who departed this life when two and a half years of age; Martha J., who died in Washington County, Pa., at the residence of her grandfather,

while on a visit there, March 6, 1874, and Greer McIlvaine, who died March 6, 1877, while in the twenty-seventh year of his life. The three living children are Andrew T., a carpenter by trade, and a resident of Manitou, Col.; Oren, living at Leoti, Kan., and Lizzie, at present in Colorado for her health. Mr. and Mrs. Clark are both members of the Presbyterian Church, and in politics our subject is Republican.



**D**S. MEARS, a worthy citizen and substantial farmer of Yates Township, is finely located on section 20, where he owns and operates a beautiful farm, and has built up for himself an enviable reputation as an honest man and a good citizen. Mr. Mears is a native of Scotland, born on the 3d of March, 1834, and the son of John and Mary (Dunn) Mears, who were natives of the same country as their son. In 1849 the parents and six children emigrated from their native land, and after a very tedious voyage in a sailing-vessel landed at New York City, and soon afterward made their way to Syracuse; that State, near which city they settled. There the parents passed the remainder of their days; their six children—James, William, Thomas, D. S., Mary and Margaret—are all living, some in the East and some in the West.

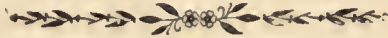
The subject of this history was but a boy of fifteen years when he arrived with his parents' family in the United States. The latter were in very straightened circumstances, it having taken all their money to pay the expense of crossing the "briny deep." It was thus necessary that each member of the family should take care of himself as far as possible. Under these circumstances our subject bound himself out to a farmer, who gave him his board and clothes. He served this man faithfully for eighteen months, during which time he received harsh treatment, and finally ran away, starting westward, and not knowing where he was to land. He finally found himself in the city of Buffalo, where he took passage on a boat for Cleveland, Ohio, and in the latter State soon became em-

ployed as a farm hand, in the harvest fields of Northern Ohio, receiving as compensation fifteen cents per day. From there he drifted into Indiana, where he worked by the month for farmers at \$13 and \$14 until 1855. In that State he was so greatly afflicted with fever and ague that his physician advised him to change his location, which he did effectually, making his way to New Orleans, La., where he passed the winter of 1855-56. He then took passage up the Mississippi River to Alton, Ill., whence he proceeded by rail to Chicago, and found work there in a brickyard. Early in July of the latter year he met a Will County farmer, who had gone into the city to celebrate the National holiday, and as the farmer wanted to hire a hand, our subject accompanied him to his home near Joliet, and worked for him until the winter of 1858.

During the latter year our subject came to McLean County, and after working one season near Bloomington, entered the employ of Nathaniel Sutherland, an extensive farmer near Towanda, with whom he remained three years. In the fall of 1861 he decided that henceforth in life he would be his own employer. He accordingly rented land near Chenoa, which he operated until 1865, then purchased the northwest quarter of section 20, which forms his present farm. When he purchased this land it was raw prairie and rather wet. He has now brought the whole to a fine and fertile condition, having put in 750 rods of tile draining, which has changed the low wet portions into productive fields. In due time he erected a good set of farm buildings, and now has one of the most attractive and valuable homesteads in Yates Township. He makes a specialty of grain raising.

Mr. Mears was married in 1862, to Miss Anna M. Witherow, a native of Pennsylvania, born April 29, 1839, and they have become the parents of eight children—Mary J., James, Walker, Joseph, Scott, Flora, Cora, and Robert, deceased. Our subject and his family are among the most highly esteemed residents of their community, and the family mansion is the home of hospitality and good cheer. As a citizen Mr. Mears is one of that class possessing the peculiar characteristics of his Scottish ancestry, and his word is as good as his bond. Socially he is a Royal Arch Mason, being a mem-

ber of Chenoa Blue Lodge No. 292, and Chenoa Chapter No. 143. Politically he casts his vote in support of the principles of the Democratic party.



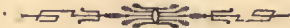
**A**S. EDDY, Cashier of the People's Bank, Bloomington, Ill., has been a resident of this State for a period of over thirty years, and most of the time since 1855, a resident of that city. He was born in Scipio, Cayuga Co., N. Y., Sept. 12, 1837, his parents being Rev. H. J. and Abigail (Bull) Eddy, also natives of the Empire State. The father of our subject was a Baptist clergyman. After a college education, in 1836, he entered the ministry and presided over a parish until the outbreak of the late war, and then officiated as Chaplain in the army from 1861 to 1864, being with the 33d Illinois Infantry. He came to Bloomington in 1855, and labored for the Baptist Church there a number of years, and in 1867 removed to Belvidere, where he remained five years and afterward labored in Syracuse, N. Y., for six years. He then went to New York City, where he has since resided, having retired from the ministry some years since. The mother of our subject died in 1843, leaving her husband with three children: Jerome H., who is now in the newspaper business in New York City; A. S., and Herman J., engaged in the tobacco and cigar trade.

A. S. Eddy remained at home until fourteen years old, and received his early education in the public schools of New York City. At the age named he became employed as messenger boy in the Bank of North America, of New York City, and after remaining two years was Assistant Teller for the same length of time. In 1855 he came with his parents to Bloomington, and was soon afterward engaged as a clerk in the McLean County Bank, where he remained until 1859. He was appointed Deputy Circuit Clerk under William McCullough, and filled the duties of this office until 1861. The war then coming on he enlisted in Co. K, 8th Ill. Vol. Inf., the "Oglesby Regiment," at the three months' call. After this term of service had expired, he re-enlisted in the 4th New York Heavy Artillery, serving altogether from 1861 to

1864. He was first made Orderly Sergeant, then First Lieutenant, and during the Wilderness campaign received the commission of Captain.

Mr. Eddy retired from the army in 1864, and returning to Bloomington was united in marriage with Miss Emma, the daughter of Dr. C. and Harriet H. (Richardson) Wakefield, of this county. He was then employed as book-keeper for Dr. Wakefield, and after three years thus occupied became a member of the firm, where he remained six years. He then sold out his interest, and engaged in merchandising for eight years following. The next seven years he was occupied as Teller in the Peoples' Bank, and since that time he has been Cashier, likewise a stockholder since 1878.

Mr. and Mrs. Eddy have become the parents of five children—Emma A., Florence G., Adelbert C., Louis O. and Maxwell. Our subject in politics is independent. He at one time served as City Treasurer of Bloomington, and ranks among its most prominent and enterprising business men. He belongs to the Knights Templar and the G. A. R. The family residence at No. 406 East Washington street, is replete with all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life, and Mr. Eddy with his family, enjoys the esteem and friendship of a large circle of acquaintances.



**J**AMES S. VANSKOYOC, a gentleman in the prime of life and in the midst of his usefulness, is one of the valued citizens of Cheney's Grove Township, where he is pleasantly located on section 20, and prosperously engaged in agricultural pursuits. He is a native of this county and was born in Padua Township, Dec. 28, 1834. Mr. Vanscoyoc is the son of James and Drusilla (Lewis) Vanscoyoc, the former a native of Pennsylvania, and the latter of Virginia. The father of our subject was born Feb. 20, 1798, followed farming the greater part of his life, and died in Cheney's Grove Township on the 22d of February, 1877. The mother was born Feb. 7, 1801, and departed this life at the home of her husband, in the same township as her husband, Feb. 20, 1869. She was a lady greatly respected for her personal worth,

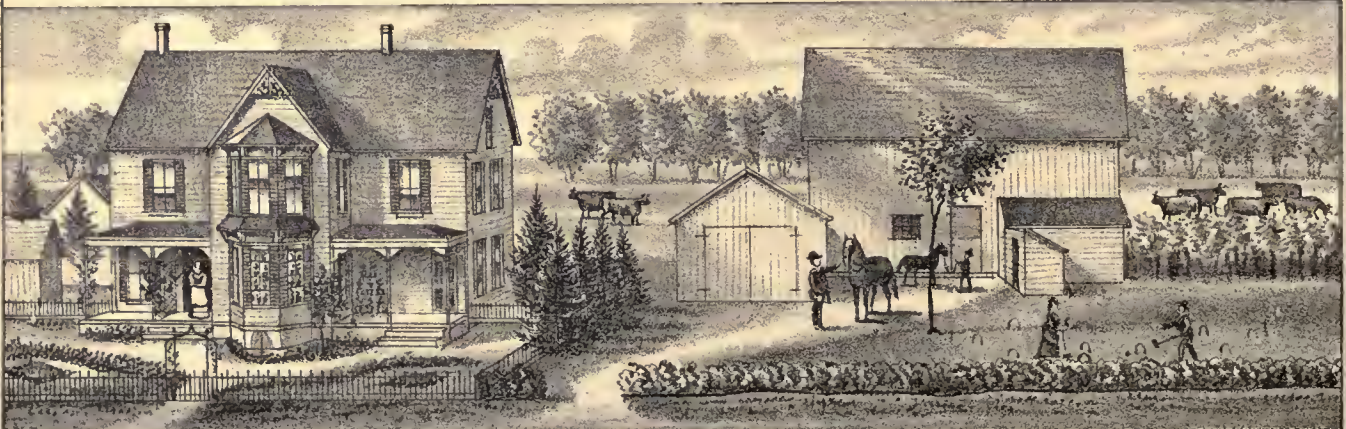




RESIDENCE OF J.M. Mc GINNIS, SEC. 15., LAWYDALE TOWNSHIP.



RES. OF MRS. MARY A. NESMITH, SEC. 21., LAWYDALE TOWNSHIP.



RES. OF IRA C. PRATT, CROPSEY, ILL.

and a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The record of their seven children is as follows: Oliver H. P. was born April 17, 1820, and married Miss Mary Newcomb; Isaac died in infancy; Rebecca was born Feb. 7, 1825, and became the wife of Marks Banks; Rachel, born Aug. 29, 1828, married John Newcomb; Walter, born Sept. 10, 1831, married Miss Mary Banks; James S. of our sketch was the sixth child; Hannah was born Feb. 12, 1840, and died when six years old.

The subject of our sketch was reared to manhood on his father's farm, and on the 7th of December, 1854, was united in marriage with Miss Margaret P. Means, who was born on the farm where they now live, Oct. 13, 1835. She is the daughter of Robert and Sarah (Rumsey) Means, natives of Virginia, who removed to Kentucky in their youth, and were there married. Mr. Means was a farmer by occupation, and came to this county in 1830, where he spent the remainder of his days. He was born in 1785, and departed this life Aug. 1, 1835. Mrs. Means was born Nov. 10, 1795, and survived her husband nearly forty years, dying March 1, 1875. She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and became the mother of ten children, as follows: America P. was born in 1820, and died in 1885; Katurah; Jemima and John were twins; the latter died when twelve years old; James R. was born March 22, 1825. The balance were David D., Joseph K., Owen A., Elizabeth M. and Margaret P.

Mr. and Mrs. Vanscoyoe became the parents of eight children: Theodore L., born Sept. 20, 1855, died Sept. 22, 1856; Almaretta was born Aug. 1, 1857; Sarah H., Feb. 11, 1860; Mary D., Nov. 18, 1862; Harry A., born Sept. 30, 1865, and married Miss L. L. Hiatt; Walter M., born June 24, 1869; Charlie C., March 13, 1876; Gny P., March 16, 1879. The homestead of our subject consists of 265 acres of valuable land, and he has of late years been quite extensively engaged in the breeding of fine stock. He is independent in politics, and has held the various offices of his township, being a man of sound judgment, whose opinion is uniformly held in respect. He is prominently connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he has

been Steward for a number of years, and has contributed liberally and cheerfully to its support. He has in all respects fulfilled his obligations as a good citizen, and is considered one of the important factors in the business and agricultural community.



JOSEPH P. JANES, living on section 14, Money Creek Township, is a farmer by calling, and successful in the prosecution of his labors. John S. Janes and his wife, Sarah (Dunkle) Janes, parents of our subject, were natives of Virginia. They moved to Fayette County, Ohio, after their marriage and were there resident until the fall of 1851, when they came here and made their home in Money Creek Township. The father died in Indiana, Feb. 20, 1854, while there on business, and his remains were brought back and interred at Lexington, this county. His wife survived him until Feb. 13, 1887, dying in Money Creek Township. They had eight children—Peter H., Martha, Laura, Jacinta, Joseph P., Elizabeth, Lorena and Barbara E.

Joseph P. Janes was born in Fayette County, Ohio, Oct. 28, 1844, and was seven years old when his parents came to this county, and has made Money Creek Township his home since that time. He knows no other calling than that of farming, having followed that vocation all his life, and at present is the owner of 180 acres of valuable land, located as stated. Mr. Janes was married to Miss Jennie Arbogast, a native of Virginia, who departed this life in Money Creek Township, and July 8, 1875, at Bloomington, our subject formed a second matrimonial alliance, Miss Charlotte Foster being the other contracting party. She is the daughter of Harrison and Ann (Chance) Foster, the former a native of Kentucky. Her parents came to this county in 1851, and settled in Gridley Township, where they lived happily together as man and wife until 1872, the date of the demise of the mother. Seven children were born of their union, five daughters and two sons, and Mrs. Janes was the third in order of birth. She first saw light in Wapello County, Iowa, June 23, 1855, and her union with our subject has been blest by the birth

of one child—Allie. Mr. Janes has held the office of School Director and Overseer of Highways, and in politics is a staunch Republican. Mrs. Janes holds fellowship with the United Brethren Church.



**W**ILLIAM H. MACY, druggist at Towanda and also Justice of the Peace, is one of the recognized business men of that place, possessing the confidence and respect of his townsmen. William W. Maey, father of our subject, is a native of Nantucket, Mass., and Marium P. (Houghton) Maey, our subject's mother, was born in Lynn, Mass. From New Bedford, Mass., where they had settled after marriage, the parents of our subject removed to New York City, in which metropolis the father died in 1838. Soon after his demise the mother removed to Nantucket, Mass., where she died Jan. 25, 1839. Two children were born of their union; one of these died in infancy, and our subject, the other, is the only one of the family living.

William H. Maey was born in New Bedford, Mass., Jan. 25, 1834. He lost his parents when quite young, and was brought up by relatives. He lived with Hezekiah Barnard, State Treasurer of Massachusetts, until he was fifteen years old, receiving a good education in a Quaker school, and at this age was sent to West Town Boarding School, near Philadelphia, Pa., where he pursued his studies about two years. He then returned to Massachusetts, and after attending school for another year, went to Fall River, that State, where he served an apprenticeship of something over three years in learning the cabinet-maker's trade.

In the spring of 1856, Mr. Maey came to this State and located at Loda, Iroquois County, and was there engaged at carpenters' work for about two years. We next hear of him at Tremont, Tazewell Co., Ill., where he is working at his trade and where he continued to reside for about a year. Next he became a citizen of Fairbury, Livingston Co., Ill., whence he removed to Pontiac, that county, and there lived until the breaking out of the late Civil War. In August, 1861, he enlisted in Co. K, 3d Ill. Vol. Cav., as a private, and served

for three years and one month. For nearly two and a half years he was detailed as Hospital Steward. While near Memphis, Tenn., he came near being captured by Forrest's troops, but succeeded in making his escape. Receiving his discharge he went to Attiea, Ind., and in June, 1865, came to Towanda, this county, where he bought out a small stock of drugs. He has continued to make that his home until the present writing, and during his residence there has been identified with every interest calculated to benefit the place, and has met with success in his business adventures.

Mr. Maey was married at Fairbury, Ill., Sept. 22, 1863, to Miss Mary E. Walden, daughter of Theophilus and Naney (Oppy) Walden, natives of Ohio. They emigrated from their native State to Montgomery County, Ind., where he died. She afterward lived with her children, and died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Maey, in Towanda, July 24, 1880. Mrs. Maey was the youngest of her parents' children, and was born in Montgomery County, Ind., Oct. 17, 1837. Her union with our subject has been blest by the birth of two children—Mary B. and William D. Mary is the wife of Dr. William C. Girtin, a resident of Towanda. Mr. Maey has held the office of School Trustee for about nineteen years, also Village Trustee and Justice of the Peace for several years, and is the present incumbent of the latter office. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and in politics a Republican, having voted with that party since its formation. He and his wife, together with their two children, are members of the Baptist Church.



**M**ARTIN BATTERTON, one of the earliest settlers of McLean County, came here as early as January, 1834. The journey from his home in Madison County, Ky., was made on horseback. He rode up through the State of Indiana and then westward into Sangamon County, Ill., afterward coming into McLean County and here joining his mother's brothers who had preceded him. He at once purchased a claim in Lawndale Township which he began to improve,







*Martin Batterton*

and has been a resident of this vicinity since that time, making for himself a most honorable record as an honest and upright man and a useful member of the community.

Mr. Batterton was born in Madison County, Ky., Sept. 29, 1807. His father, Abraham Batterton, of Virginia, was born in about 1775, and died in Kentucky in 1858, at the advanced age of eighty-three years. His grandfather, Henry Batterton, was of English birth and parentage and emigrated with his brother to America, but after their arrival became separated and the brother was lost to his relatives.

Abraham Batterton was a soldier in the War of 1812, having volunteered under Gen. Hopkins, and was sent to the frontier to look after the Indians who were creating disturbances. When he went to Kentucky he was a young man still living with his parents, and he was there married to Miss Susanna Hainlain, of Madison County. Her father was George Hainlain, who was of German ancestry. After marriage they settled on the homestead of his father in Madison County, buying out the interest of the other heirs, and continued to reside there the remainder of his life, dying in 1858. He left a wife and seven children, all of whom lived to mature years and all remained in Kentucky except one brother, Curtis, who settled in McLean County, Ill., and of whom a sketch is given in this volume.

Martin Batterton passed the days of his boyhood and youth in his native State, and received a common-school education. He was a natural mechanic, and without serving an apprenticeship became carpenter, cooper and shoemaker, so that when he moved to McLean County he made his own boots and shoes, and after settling down upon his homestead saved many a dollar by his skill in the use of tools.

After locating upon his claim as above stated Mr. Batterton, in October, 1836, was united in marriage with Miss America, the daughter of Samuel Taylor, of Knox County, to which he had removed from Boone County, Ky., in about 1835. Mr. Batterton, when he came to this county, had about \$400 in cash and in due time he added to his landed possessions until he is now the owner of 280 acres of choice land, finely improved and under a

good state of cultivation. The farm residence is a shapely and substantial structure and the barn and out-buildings of first-class description. The homestead invariably attracts the attention of the passing traveler and marks one of the attractive spots of McLean County.

Mr. and Mrs. B. became the parents of three children—Ira A., Mary E. and Zerilda. After the war Ira edited a paper at Vicksburg, Miss., and it was reported was accidentally shot, although there are grave doubts in regard to the matter; he was a staunch Union man and enlisted for a term of three years in Co. K, 8th Ill. Vol. Inf., in which he served until being mustered out, in April, 1863, to take the rank of Adjutant in another regiment. Owing to some misunderstanding, however, he found the place occupied by another man, and returning to his regiment remained with his comrades, sharing their fortunes and the vicissitudes of war until after the siege and capture of Vicksburg. He afterward remained in that city as a private citizen, and clerked in the office with which he subsequently became connected as editor. After the capture of the city by Union troops the Government took possession of the printing press and during the excitement of that occasion Ira Batterton was killed as above stated, in July, 1865, and his father removed his remains to this vicinity for burial. Mary E. Batterton became the wife of Thomas B. Kilgore, a resident of Lawndale Township; Zerilda J. married A. J. Moon, of Lexington.

Mrs. America T. Batterton departed this life in March, 1883, and since her death our subject has made his home part of the time on the farm and part of the time with his daughter, Mrs. Moon. He still looks after the affairs of the old homestead, although eighty years old. He enjoys remarkably good health and is active for one of his years. In earlier years he was quite prominent in the affairs of the township, and served as Assessor and Collector. He always took a deep interest in its prosperity and welfare. He has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church for over forty years; his wife also belonged to that church, having made a profession of religion when a girl. In politics Mr. B. is an ardent Republican.

In the portrait of this venerable and revered

pioneer of McLean County, many of the old residents with their children will recognize the features of one of those dauntless and courageous characters who assisted to make permanent in this region the institutions which were inaugurated in this country by the sturdy spirits of '76, whose children have just cause for revering their memory and their deeds, and helping to cherish and preserve the history of their lives. There sprang upon the soil of Kentucky many of the resolute men, who in early life looked toward the Northwestern Territory as a desirable field for their future operations and who, coming here, have played no unimportant part in its prosperity, both as agriculturists and financiers. Among these Martin Batterton occupies a conspicuous and honorable position, and no better monument to his virtues can be erected than the history of his life, although briefly given, which may be handed down to his children who will peruse it and in turn teach the lesson of his worth to their descendants.



**J**UDGE C. D. MYERS, who presides over the County Court at Bloomington, is filling the duties of his responsible position intelligently and acceptably, and is one of the most highly esteemed citizens of McLean County. Judge Myers was born in Meigs County, Ohio, on the 7th of May, 1847. His parents were Benjamin and Serena (Elliott) Myers, natives respectively of Virginia and Ohio.

Benjamin Myers was an experienced and skillful builder, contractor and pattern-maker. He emigrated from his native State to Ohio when a young man, and was employed in the Pomeroy foundries for many years, as designer and pattern-maker. He was stricken down in the prime of life and in the midst of his usefulness as a citizen and the father of a family, at the age of forty-three years. His wife, the mother of our subject, afterward removed to West Virginia, and is still living there. Their household included six children, two of whom are deceased: William P. is engaged as a wholesale grocer at Cincinnati, Ohio; Thornton B. is engaged in the loan and abstract business at Winfield, Kan.; the next son living is the subject of our

sketch; Serena E., Mrs. Holman, lives in Lorain County, Ohio.

Judge Myers, from the time he was eight until sixteen years old, lived on the homestead in Virginia with his mother, and then returning to Pomeroy, engaged first as a clerk in a dry-goods store, and then, during the progress of the late war, enlisted in Co. B, 32d Ohio Vol. Inf., and served until the close. He participated with his comrades in the battle at Franklin, Tenn., and was taken prisoner at Rock Hill Station, Ky., during the transportation of troops and prisoners on the Louisville & Nashville Railroad. The bushwhackers had displaced the rails so that the train went down a steep embankment, where the Union soldiers were surrounded and captured. They were liberated, however, the following day, but in the meantime their watches, money and valuables were carried off by the "chivalry."

After his term of service had expired, our subject returned to West Virginia, and for the following year worked on a farm near the little city of Fairmont. He then proceeded again to Ohio, where he entered the Normal National School at Lebanon, and after a six months' course in this institution, returned to West Virginia, where, for two years following, he worked on a farm in summer and taught school in winter. In 1868 he resumed his studies in Ohio for another year, which were then once more interrupted, to resume in 1870, for two years, after which he graduated and entered the law department of Michigan University, from which institution he received his degree after a two years' course, in 1874.

Thus armed with the requisite credentials, Judge Myers soon afterward came to Bloomington and commenced the practice of his profession. After a few months he associated himself in partnership with Albert Bushnell, and they operated together for three years. Judge Myers then formed a partnership with Isaac W. Stroud, which continued two years, and then Mr. S. retired on account of failing health, and since that time he has practiced alone. His talents and ability received early recognition in this county, and after filling other positions of responsibility and trust, he was elected Judge of the County Court, in 1886. He has been

Chairman of the Republican Central Committee for the last six years, and has been attorney for the Bloomington Building and Loan Association, and also one of its Directors and stockholders since its organization. He is a stockholder in the Third National Bank, Secretary and Treasurer of the Bloomington Iron-Piling Bridge Company, and Vice President of the Bloomington Law Library Association. Socially he is a member of the I. O. O. F., the G. A. R., and is Grand Chancellor of the Knights of Pythias.

The marriage of Judge Myers and Miss Dora Yeager took place in the spring of 1872, in Lebanon, Ohio. Mrs. Myers is the daughter of Benjamin and Mary (Lucas) Yeager, who were both natives of Jackson, Ohio, and the latter is still living. The Judge and Mrs. M. occupy a handsome residence at No. 603 Taylor street, surrounded by the refinements of life, and enjoying the friendship and esteem of a large circle of acquaintances. Judge Myers has attained to his present position among his fellow-citizens solely by his own efforts and his resolution of character. He is essentially a self-made man, obtaining his education through his own earnest efforts and perseverance, and his property through his industry and good judgment in the place of capital and the disbursement of funds. He is noted for his kindness of heart, his simple and unostentatious habits, and the elevation of character which scorns an ignoble thought or cowardly action.



**CAPT. JOSEPH DENISON**, Treasurer of McLean County, and a resident of Bloomington, came with his parents from Pennsylvania to the Prairie State in 1851. He was born in December, 1832, in Baxter County, Pa., and is the son of Andrew and Susanna (Herr) Denison, also natives of the Keystone State. Andrew Denison was a farmer by occupation and after a residence of two years in this State, in the meantime having been visited by a sad affliction in the death of his wife, which occurred in 1853, he returned to Pennsylvania and lived there until 1857. He then came back to McLean County, Ill., and en-

gaged in farming near Bloomington, being thus occupied until his death, which occurred in 1865. He belonged to the Dunkard Church. The parental household consisted of three children, two only of whom are living—Joseph and Noah W., a resident of Freeport.

The subject of this history remained with his parents on the farm, receiving careful home training and a practical education, until sixteen years of age. He then engaged as clerk in a store of general merchandise for the four years following. After coming with his parents to Bloomington he engaged in the marble business for four years and then operated a grocery and bakery until 1857, when he resumed his former occupation of clerk, and thus labored until 1862. The late war being then in progress he enlisted as a Union soldier in Co. F, 94th Ill. Vol. Inf., as First Lieutenant. After six months he received a Captain's commission, which he retained until the expiration of his term of service in 1865. Mr. Denison with his comrades participated in the battle of Prairie Grove, Ark., the sieges of Vicksburg, Ft. Morgan and Spanish Fort, and was in many other engagements and skirmishes, escaping without serious injury. After his honorable discharge from the army Capt. Denison returned to Bloomington City and subsequently engaged in the grocery trade at Lexington. In 1868 he was appointed United States Storekeeper at Bloomington, and after six months was promoted United States Gauger at Bloomington and Pekin, and was thus occupied until the summer of 1870, when he was elected County Treasurer, holding the office four years. In 1876 he was re-elected, and has held the office continuously since that time.

Capt. Joseph Denison and Miss Sarah J. Strain were united in marriage in 1854. Mrs. Denison is the daughter of Isaae and Mary Strain, natives of Ohio, and of her union with our subject there are five children, as follows: Herbert L. married Miss Florence Downey, of Bloomington, and they have two children—Edith and a babe unnamed; Adella, residing in Bloomington, married Edward L. Blair, and they have one child—Earl B.; Josephine, Noah B. and Isaae P. are with their parents at home. Capt. Denison and his family occupy a comfortable and attractive residence at No. 609

West Washington street, and enjoy the friendship and society of a large circle of warm friends. Our subject is prominently connected with the Republican party and socially belongs to the A. F. & A. M. and the G. A. R. He is in all respects a worthy and valued citizen, and both socially and as a business man is a representative citizen of McLean County.



**M**ATHEW G. HAUGHEY, an esteemed citizen of McLean, is at present engaged as a stock-dealer, and has been a resident of this vicinity since a child eight years of age, when he removed from his native State to this county. His birth occurred in Greene County, Ohio, on the 8th of April, 1840. His father, Joseph Haughey, was born in the Old Dominion, where he was reared and grew to manhood. He was also married in Virginia, his wife being Miss Esthèr White, a native of that State. Soon after marriage the young couple removed to Ohio, settling in Greene County on a tract of timber land of 100 acres, from which Joseph Haughey improved a farm, which he occupied until 1848. He then sold out and started for the West, accompanied by his wife and nine children. The journey was made overland and their outfit consisted of six horses, two wagons and a carriage. After about thirty days' travel they landed in Logan County, Ill., where the father of our subject rented land for two years following.

In the meantime Mr. H. had entered 160 acres on sections 1 and 12 of what is now Mt. Hope Township, where he soon afterward built a house, into which he removed his family in the fall of 1850. He remained there until a few years before his death, and spent his last days in McLean, retired from active labor. His death occurred in 1869, when he was fifty-nine years of age; his widow still lives in McLean. The children now living are as follows: Henry is a resident of Ava, Douglas Co., Mo.; Elizabeth became the wife of Lewis Harley, who is now deceased (see sketch); Lorenzo Dow lives in Arkansas; John, in Kansas; Mathew G., in McLean, and Mary E., Mrs. Samuel Bevens, in Mt. Hope Township.

The subject of this history was reared to farming pursuits, and remained under the home roof until August, 1862. The Rebellion being then in progress he enlisted as a Union soldier in Co. A, 117th Ill. Vol. Inf., serving until March, 1863, when he was honorably discharged on account of disability and returned home. As soon as his health would permit he resumed farming pursuits until 1866. Then, coming to McLean, he began dealing in grain and stock and later purchased a one-half interest in a drug-store. He subsequently sold this and purchased an elevator, and continued operating in grain until 1884, also in buying and shipping stock.

Mr. Haughey was married in McLean County, Ill., in September, 1872, to Miss Charlotte Snow, who was a native of Brookfield, Mass., and born Jan. 14, 1847. Her parents were Daniel C. and Louisa D. (Rice) Snow, whose sketch appears in this work. Of this union there were born two children—Frank M. and Daniel Max. Mr. and Mrs. Haughey are greatly respected wherever known. Our subject is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and socially belongs to Harrison W. Wood Post, G. A. R. Mrs. Haughey is a member in good standing of the Congregational Church.



**S**ABINA SACKETT. This highly respected citizen of Arrowsmith Township owns and occupies a fine homestead on section 17, consisting of 160 acres of highly improved land, with a handsome two-story dwelling, a good barn, and all necessary buildings adapted to the storing of grain and the shelter of stock. He has made the breeding of the latter a specialty, and in this, as well as in other farming operations, has met with remarkable success.

Our subject was born in Delaware County, Ohio, March 22, 1828, and is the son of Elijah G. and Malinda (Leé) Sackett, natives respectively of Ohio and New York. Elijah Sackett was born in 1804, and died July 5, 1880. He came to Illinois in 1856, whence he removed to Iowa in 1875, and was engaged in farming pursuits all his life. He was a good man in every sense the term implies,

and with his wife was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The mother of our subject was born in 1804, and departed this life at her home in Adair County, Iowa, in 1880. The children born to them were, Sabina, Nancy A., who died in childhood, Hiram H., Francis, Josephine, Maria, Lyman, Charles D., Martha, Sarah E., Catherine and Lydia. Charles D. during the late war served four years in the 3d Illinois Cavalry.

Mr. Sackett came to this county in 1853, and was employed one year by David Lewis of Dale Township, for the sum of \$150. He was variously occupied for about eighteen years afterward. His first purchase of land was 120 acres near Farmer City, which he finally sold and purchased a part of his present homestead. He is a thorough-going and enterprising business man, with decided opinions, and fearless in the expression of them, and glories in the fact that he is a "true blue" Republican, ready upon every occasion to defend the principles of his party, which he believes to be the best upon the face of the earth.

**W**B. STOCKDALE, of the firm of Brown & Stockdale, of Heyworth, this county, is, with his partner, carrying on an extensive and lucrative trade in hardware, tinware, pumps, paints, oils, glass, etc. They also sell farming implements of all kinds. Mr. Stockdale established the present business in 1874, with his partner, Mr. Mann, but after two years sold out to Mr. Mann. Our subject then started in for himself, in another location, and after two years took in his present partner, Mr. Brown, and they have operated together successfully since that time. They carry a good stock and have among their customers the best people in this locality.

The subject of this history was born in Washington, Washington Co., Pa., near Monongahela City, on the river of the same name, Dec. 28, 1847, and is the son of John and Margaret (Corry) Stockdale, a sketch of whom appears in another part of this work. He is the eldest of the three children of his parents, all now living, viz., James C. and Alice V., who still live with their parents.

Our subject was married near Heyworth, Jan. 30, 1873, to Miss Anna B. Wakefield, whose father, William W., is a retired farmer and lives in the village. Mrs. S. was born near Ft. Wayne, Ind., Sept. 5, 1852, and was ten years of age when her father came to Randolph Township. She was reared by her parents, receiving a fair education, and remained with them until her marriage. Of her union with our subject there have been born three children—James E., Porter and Blanche. Mr. S. is Republican in politics and takes an active interest in upholding the principles of his party. He is also, with his wife, a member of the Presbyterian Church.

**H**ON. REUBEN M. BENJAMIN, the youngest son of Darius and Martha (Rogers) Benjamin, was born at Chatham Center, Columbia Co., N. Y., June 29, 1833. His father was a private in the War of 1812, and his grandfather, Ebenezer Benjamin, was a Captain in the Revolutionary War. He is descended from English and Welsh ancestry, who in the colonial days lived in Rhode Island and Connecticut. Mr. Benjamin of this notice lived on a farm until he was fourteen years old and was prepared for college at Kinderhook Academy, N. Y., whence he entered Amherst College, Mass., and was graduated in 1853, receiving the third honor of his class. He soon afterward became Principal of Hopkins Academy at Hadley, near Amherst, and in 1854 entered the Law Department of Harvard University. In 1855-56 he was tutor in Amherst College. In April of the year last named he came to Bloomington, Ill., and in September following was licensed to practice law, his examination certificate being signed by Abraham Lincoln.

Shortly after his admission to the bar Mr. Benjamin became a partner with Gen. A. Gridley and Col. J. H. Wiekider, and remained with them as long as they continued to practice law. In 1863 he formed a partnership with Hon. Thomas F. Tipton, afterward Circuit Judge and Member of Congress, and since then, at different times, has been associated with Hon. J. H. Rowell, Member of Congress, and Hon. Lawrence Weldon, Judge of the

Court of Claims at Washington. In 1869 Mr. Benjamin was chosen a member of the convention that framed the present constitution of the State. He served on the committees of Bill of Rights, Municipal Corporations, State Institutions and Schedule. He was one of the most active and efficient members of the convention, and during the session and after its close was the recipient of highly complimentary remarks by his co-laborers and by the press.

Our subject was one of the counsel for the people in the celebrated Lexington case (C. & A. R. R. Co. vs. The people, 67 Ill. Rep.), a case involving the question as to the right of railroad corporations to charge more for a less than for a greater distance. He was subsequently employed as special counsel for the State Board of Railroad and Warehouse Commissioners, assisting also in the prosecution of the Warehouse case, *Munn vs. The People*, 69 Ill. Rep. 80, which was taken to the Supreme Court of the United States, being there affirmed *Munn vs. Ill.* 94 U. S. Rep., and became the leading case in the series familiarly known in 1876 as the "Granger cases." These cases established the constitutional power of the Legislature to regulate railroad and warehouse charges, and thereby protect the public against imposition. In the latter case, *Ruggles vs. The people*, 91 Ill. Rep., the Supreme Court of this State declared broadly that the Legislature has the power to fix the maximum rates of charges by corporations or individuals exercising a calling or business public in its character, or in which the public have a right to be protected against extortion or oppression. In commenting on this case the *Western Jurist* says: "It is probable that the people of the State are indebted for the results of this agitation as given in the above decision to Hon. R. M. Benjamin, of Bloomington, in a greater degree than to any other single individual. As a member of the Constitutional Convention, he made the clearest and most convincing argument in favor of the rights of the people which was delivered in that body, and as special counsel for the people in the cases of the C. & A. R. R. Co. vs. The People, and *Munn vs. The People*, has very materially contributed in establishing the principle contended for by

him before the convention and established in the above cases."

In 1873 Mr. Benjamin was elected without opposition to the office of County Judge of McLean County. He was re-elected in 1877 and also in 1882. He soon won, and ever afterward retained the respect and confidence of the bar and of the people by his judicial aptitude, the soundness of his decisions and the quiet ease with which he dispatched business. He preferred not to be a candidate again for the office and accordingly retired from the bench at the close of his third term, in December, 1886. Shortly afterward he resumed his law practice in partnership with Mr. John J. Morrissey. Upon the organization of the Law Department of the Illinois Wesleyan University, in 1874, Judge Benjamin was appointed Dean of the Law Faculty and still holds that position. In 1879 he published a work entitled "Student's Guide to Elementary Law," which has proved of great assistance to those for whom it was appointed.

Judge Benjamin was married at Chatham, N. Y., Sept. 15, 1856, to Miss Laura E., daughter of David G. Woodin, who for many years was County Superintendent of Schools of Columbia County, N. Y. The family residence in Bloomington is finely located, and in all its appointments indicates the exercise of cultivated tastes and ample means. Its hospitable doors admit the best people of the city, whose society is enjoyed by our subject and his wife, who are greatly respected as cultured and useful members of society.

REV. JAMES SHAW, agent of the Preacher's Aid Society, of Illinois, Conference Methodist Episcopal Church, is located at Bloomington and performing his varied duties in a successful manner. He was born in Longford County, Ireland, near Goldsmith's "Sweet Auburn." His parents, James and Bedelia (McIntyre) Shaw, were of Scotch descent. His brothers, Henry and Alexander Shaw, merchants, live in Montreal, Canada. William Shaw resides in Bloomington, Ill., where also are his sisters, Mrs. William







Mrs. M. James



General D. James

Tanner and Mrs. John Dean. His youngest brother, the late Dr. S. M. Shaw, carried the colors of his regiment, 33d Illinois Volunteers, at the siege of Vicksburg, and as Lieutenant led his company at the storming of Ft. Blakely in the late Civil War.

The subject of this sketch while a student at the Wesleyan Seminary, Dublin, was called to take charge of a similar institution in the southwest of Ireland, from which he entered the Irish Wesleyan Conference. He followed his parents and their family to America in 1854, and was received into the Illinois Conference in 1855; he has been stationed in the following places: Old Town, Bloomington, Petersburg, Decatur (circuit), Clinton, Rushville, Atlanta, Tuscola, Urbana, Pana, Charleston, Farmer City, Rossville, Griggsville, Quiney and Beardstown.

In the late war Mr. Shaw actively aided the Union cause, presenting flags and addressing Union soldiers, and during the Irish famine he was entrusted with \$30,000, American funds for the relief of the suffering. He was also entrusted with a large amount of American funds for the building and endowment of the Wesleyan Methodist Colleges in Belfast and Dublin, Ireland. He has entered the field of literature, publishing works on America, Romanism, and Temperance, that have had an extensive sale.

Mr. Shaw was married in 1857 to Miss Mary B. Coley, eldest daughter of the late Edward Coley, Esq., of Luean, Ireland. Of the three children that came to brighten their home, two died in infancy, and one is yet living, James Henry Shaw, a graduate of the Illinois Wesleyan University, and now editor of the Bloomington *Lancet*.



**I**SRAEL D. JANES, a wealthy and prosperous farmer of Danvers Township, has one of the finest homesteads in this section, consisting of 310 acres, finely cultivated and tilled, furnished with a handsome and substantial set of frame buildings, and stocked with good grades of domestic animals. He first opened his eyes to the light among the New England hills, March 8, 1812, being born in Lebanon, New London Co., Conn., and is the son

of Ezra and Mary (Haynes) Janes. His father was born in Brimfield, Mass., in 1782, and the mother on Long Island, just two weeks after her husband. Ezra Janes was a cooper by trade, and after his marriage, which occurred in 1810, he removed to Connecticut, where he rented a farm, and for fourteen years following was engaged in cultivating it. He then went to the State of New York and purchased 100 acres of choice land, in Genesee County, where he remained until his death, which occurred March 7, 1869. The mother had died five years previously, in 1864. Their family included five children, three sons and two daughters, of whom Israel of our sketch was the eldest born; Ryland married Miss Salina Loomis; Ezra S. married Miss Margaret Kinney; Elizabeth became the wife of Lemam Bishop; Mary died when about twelve years old. The parents were both members of the Baptist Church, and politically Ezra Janes was formerly a Whig, but later identified himself with the Republican party.

The Janes family trace their ancestors back to the twelfth century in England where they were, even at that early period, closely connected with the history and government of the Kingdom, and in all measures for the public good their influence was potential, as the following will indicate. The writer was shown an engraving of a coat of arms presented to the Janes family, and inscribed as follows: "Janes family coat of arms, given to Guido de Janes by Henry II, King of England, for distinguished military prowess and leading in three successful expeditions to the Holy Land, A. D. 1200." The first representative of the Janes family in America was William Janes, who, in company with Davenport and Eaton, established the colony of Connecticut. They came over a short time after the Massachusetts Colony, with which they were not fully satisfied, and went from there to Connecticut. The father of our subject served in the War of 1812. The family was noted for its enterprise and intelligence, and for the excellent influence its various members exerted in whatever community they chanced to reside.

Israel B. Janes remained under the parental roof until he had attained his majority, in the meantime receiving a good common-school education. Like

all the young men of that period who were physically able. he was obliged to do military duty, and be enrolled in the State militia. On the first day of his attendance he was elected into the list of non-commissioned officers, and the third year received from Gov. Marcey, of New York, the commission of Captain, which he held until coming West. When about twenty-one years old he commenced learning the trade of a carpenter and cabinet-maker. He was a natural mechanic, and became very skillful in the use of tools. To this he added the study of architecture, in which he also became skilled, being possessed of a correct eye, in regard to symmetry of proportion. In 1838 he emigrated to Illinois and purchased eighty-eight acres of land in Danvers Township. This he soon doubled, and afterward added to until he became the owner of 1,000 acres. He disposed of a part of this, but kept for his homestead the 313 acres already mentioned. He was chief builder, architect and carpenter of his present residence, superintending it from the first, and doing much other work with his own hands. He hauled the logs which he sawed into lumber, and his taste and skill are apparent in the whole.


The wife of our subject was the daughter of Elizur and Olive M. (Dowd) Hinsdale, who were natives of Connecticut, whence they removed to New York State in 1822. Mr. H. was a skillful ax manufacturer, which business he followed all his life. He died in the latter-named State in 1871; the mother survived her husband only a short time. The children were Morris, Mary, Olive M. and Charlotte M., by the first wife; and by the second and third wives there were Harriett, Caroline, Eliza, William, Anna and Jane; one died in infancy unnamed.

Mrs. Olive M. Janes departed this life Jan. 31, 1883. She was a faithful and affectionate wife, and a sincere and earnest Christian, devoted to Church work and to the cause of temperance. She presented to the society in this place a fine organ, and otherwise contributed liberally and cheerfully to the support of the Church and Sunday-school. She was also greatly interested in the Missionary and Bible Societies, to which she gave much of her time and means. Her name is held in tender re-

membrance by her family and a large circle of friends and acquaintances.

Mr. Janes has been a prominent and useful member of the community since coming here. He is a straight Republican in politics, has held the office of School Director for a number of years, and organized the first Sunday-school in McLean County, which is still in operation. He was Superintendent of this school for a period of ten years, and fulfilled his duties in a manner reflecting great credit upon himself and those by whom he was retained in the office. He built at his own expense a handsome little chapel an annex to the church, 24x32 feet, furnished it with chairs, a handsome chandelier, etc. This, when completed, he gave to the society. On account of the pro-slavery sentiments of the pastor, Mr. Janes, with his wife and others, left the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, by letter, and in 1861 organized the Congregational Church of Danvers.

Mr. Janes has been a man of benevolent and philanthropic impulses, and among other good works is pledged to the Trustees of the Danvers Library Association for \$1,000, to be kept as a permanent loanable fund, the yearly interest of which is to be used in keeping up the Library. A part of the sum is already in the hands of said Trustees, and the balance will be paid over as soon as the preliminaries can be arranged. It is also the intention of Mr. Janes to place in the Library, from his own private collection of books, over 100 selected volumes, which include the productions of some of the best minds of the age in this and other countries. An accompanying page is embellished with lithographic portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Janes.



**J**OHN T. TANNER, an extensive dealer in grain, lumber, tile, coal, live stock, etc., is one of the pioneers of McLean County, and a resident of Anchor. He was born in Tazewell County, this State, May 24, 1837. His father, Joseph Tanner, was born in Tennessee, but in early life came with his parents to Illinois. They settled in Tazewell County in about 1829, being among the early pioneers of that region. Joseph

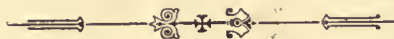
Tanner took up a tract of land and engaged in farming and there spent the remainder of his days, dying in about 1839. The mother of our subject before her marriage was Miss Jane Brown, also a native of Tennessee. By her marriage with Joseph Tanner she became the mother of two children, John T., and another son, who died when young. The mother, after becoming a widow, married Elijah Smith, and her later home was near Danvers, this county.

The subject of our sketch was a small boy when the family came to Tazewell County. He received his early education in the district schools and remained an inmate of his mother's house until he attained to years of manhood, although at different times he was engaged as a farm laborer in that vicinity. When twenty years old he started out for himself, beginning by farming on rented land, he having previously paid his stepfather for the privilege of leaving home and becoming his own master. The land which he cultivated belonged to J. C. Chrisom and this he operated for several years, then purchased a tract of timber land in the edge of Woodford County, a part of which he cleared and upon which he resided for three years. At the end of that time, in March, 1869, he returned to McLean County and purchased 160 acres on section 8, in Anchor Township, which he cultivated until March, 1886, and in the meantime he worked a wonderful change upon it from its original condition, and erected a handsome and substantial set of frame buildings. He then removed to Anchor Station, where he had previously established a store of general merchandise. This business increased to such an extent that he judged it best to give it his entire attention. Accordingly, renting his farm, he moved into town and in due time extended his operations so as to include the commodities in which he deals at present. He is finely adapted to his present employment, of which he is making a success and which yields him annually a handsome income.

The marriage of our subject occurred in this county in March, 1859, the lady of his choice being Miss Sarah C., the daughter of Absalom and Mary Bailey. Mrs. T. was born in Indiana, and by her union with our subject became the mother of ten

children, three of whom died young. Of the seven living the record is as follows: Eliza became the wife of O. T. Larson and lives in Anchor Township; James is a resident of Cropsy Township; Luey married Charles Hudson of Anchor Township; Mary, Walter, Dora and Lois are at home with their parents.

Mr. Tanner politically is independent. He cast his first ballot with the Republican party, with which he affiliated until during the late war, and since the close of that conflict, has voted for the men he esteemed best qualified for office, regardless of party. He is well read and informed and served as Justice of the Peace eleven years, besides holding many of the local offices of his township. He has been connected with the Christian Church for thirty-five years, being one of its most earnest supporters and contributing cheerfully and liberally of his means to its maintenance and welfare. He is a member in good standing of the Masonic fraternity and belongs to Colfax Lodge No. 61, also Martin Lodge No. 652, I. O. O. F.



**C**HARLES LAMP, of the firm of E. H. Rood & Co., proprietors of the Bloomington elevator, has been a resident of this city for many years, and is a fine representative of the reliable and substantial German nationality. He was born near Kiel, Germany, an important port on the Baltic Sea, the date thereof being April 1, 1834. His parents, Henry and Silke (Wiese) Lamp, had a family of eight children. Our subject commenced attending school at an early age and continued until sixteen years old. After that he was variously engaged for three years, when he set sail for the United States, landing at New York City, whence he came to Bloomington in June, 1853. Here he first engaged in assisting to construct the road bed of the Illinois Central Railroad at the wages of \$1.25 per day. After the road was completed, he became a baggageman at Winona, Ill., and continued in the employ of the company until 1857. He then engaged in farming until the outbreak of the late war.

In July, 1862, Mr. Lamp enlisted as a Union

soldier in Co. I, 104th Ill. Vol. Inf., serving until the close of the war in the 14th Army Corps, under Gen. Thomas. He participated with his comrades in the battles of Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain, Mission Ridge, and marched with Sherman in the Atlanta campaign, which lasted 125 days, and afterward to the sea under Gen. Sherman. Soon after entering the service he was captured with the whole brigade by Morgan's Raiders, and held as a prisoner several days, being then exchanged. He served through the war without receiving a scratch and was honorably discharged in June, 1865. He then returned to Bloomington and engaged with the commission firm of Ludington & Rood, with whom he remained through its various changes until he became a partner, and is engaged with them successfully and extensively as a grain dealer, their elevator being located on the Indiana, Bloomington & Western Railroad.

Mr. Lamp was married in 1855, to Miss Eliza Rice of Bloomington, and they have eight children, four sons and four daughters. Mr. Lamp is a straightforward and thorough-going business man, highly esteemed among his friends and fellow-citizens, and belongs to the I. O. O. F., Umland Lodge No. 305, also to G. A. R., Post No. 146.



**B**ENJAMIN STRETCH. As a representative of the agricultural class of McLean County who have made that vocation a success in life, by energetic effort, economy and good judgment, we take pleasure in mentioning the name of the subject of this notice. He has a fine farm on section 5, Towanda Township, on which he resides, and where he is engaged in the prosecution of his labors, and in which he is meeting with signal success. The father of our subject was Jesse, and the mother Elizabeth (Vandolah) Stretch, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania. The father was a carpenter by trade, and was chiefly engaged in working at the same during his life. After his marriage he settled in Pennsylvania, whence he removed to Ohio and lived in the neighborhood of Dayton until the fall of 1830. During that year he came to this county overland, accompanied by

his wife and nine children, and settled in what is now known as Money Creek Township. There the old folk lived and labored, with but one interest in common, until their death. They had a large family, fourteen children, who lived to attain the age of man and womanhood, eight of them being daughters and six of them sons. The father was born Feb. 15, 1795, and died Dec. 29, 1852. His wife was born March 6, 1790, and departed this life May 9, 1868. They were among the earliest settlers in McLean County, and passed through all the trials incident to a settlement in a new country.

Benjamin Stretch was the thirteenth in order of birth of his parents' children, and first saw light in Money Creek Township, this county, Nov. 28, 1830. His school privileges were exceedingly limited, and the knowledge he possesses has been acquired through years of constant observation, reading and practice. He lived with the old folk until twenty-one years of age, and thus far in life his years have been devoted mostly to agricultural pursuits. For two or three years our subject was, in company with Cornelius Gatliff and E. M. B. Stretch, under the firm name of Stretch & Gatliff, in mercantile business at Towanda. After leaving the parental household our subject farmed on rented land for two years, when he was enabled to purchase eighty acres in Money Creek Township. On this tract he settled and continued at farm labor for several years, when he removed to Lexington, Ill., and there engaged in the livery business, and was thus employed for about four years. Disposing of his business at Lexington he returned to his farm and there resided until 1861. During that year he removed to Towanda Township and located where he is at present residing. He is the owner of 540 acres of valuable land, on which he has good improvements. He also handles stock quite extensively, and as a farmer and stock-raiser stands among the foremost of the county.

Mr. Stretch was married in Money Creek Township, Jan. 16, 1851, to Miss Maranda Kerr, daughter of Peter and Jane (Filphot) Kerr, natives of Tennessee. Her parents settled in their native State after their marriage, and there lived until 1848, when they emigrated to Macoupin County, this State, and thence to this county and settled in

Money Creek Township. There the father engaged in farming. He was born Sept. 29, 1807, and died at the residence of our subject Feb. 23, 1861. His wife was born Feb. 15, 1808, and departed this life Jan. 19, 1864. They had ten children, two sons and eight daughters, and Mrs. Stretch of this notice was the second in order of birth. She first saw light in Overton County, Tenn., Oct. 21, 1832, and her union with our subject has been blessed by the birth of three children living—Ethan M. B., Isabella A. and Winfrod J. P. Ethan married Miss Ella Rogers, and by her had one child, named Harry L. Ethan was a physician by profession and practiced at Shirley, Ill., for some three years, when his health failed him and he was compelled to give up his practice and return to the farm in Money Creek Township, where he died Oct. 13, 1881. Isabella A. Stretch was united in marriage with Cornelius Gatliff, and they are living in Towanda Township. Winfrod J. P. was married to Miss Stella McMullon, and they are also living in Towanda Township. Our subject and wife have also buried two children, who died in infancy, and also a daughter, Edith. Mr. Stretch has held the office of Road Commissioner for several terms. His wife is a member of the Christian Church, and in politics he is a staunch Republican.



**J**OHAN H. CLIFT, a prominent and prosperous farmer of Yates Township, owns and occupies a fine homestead on section 27, and is a good representative of the enterprise, intelligence and industry of this section of the Prairie State. He was born in Poughkeepsie, N. Y., April 15, 1843, being the son of Henry and Harriett (Latham) Clift, natives of England, and who emigrated to the United States in 1842 and settled in New York, which remained their home until 1853. They then disposed of their interests in the Empire State and starting for the farther West, came into Illinois and located on a farm in Marshall County. There, by the exercise of industry and good management, the father of our subject accumulated sufficient of this world's goods to

enable him and his excellent companion to pass their later years in peace and comfort, retired from active labor. They removed from the farm into the city of Henry, where they are now residing and enjoying the association of a large circle of friends and acquaintances. The parental family included five children, of whom John H. is the eldest.

The subject of this history was ten years of age when his parents removed with their family from New York to Illinois. He received careful home training, a good common-school education, and assisted his father in tilling the soil. He remained under the home roof, in Marshall County, until the spring of 1869, and then, desirous of establishing a homestead of his own, came to this county and settled upon a part of the farm which he now owns. His first purchase consisted of eighty acres of raw prairie, which amount he subsequently doubled, so that now he is the owner of a quarter section which he has brought to a high state of cultivation. Upon the farm which he has thus opened and improved he erected a shapely and substantial residence, a good barn and all other necessary out-buildings. The farm is well stocked with good grades of the domestic animals and the machinery and implements for carrying on agriculture are of the latest improved pattern. Mr. Clift is a thorough-going business man, prompt in the fulfillment of his obligations and ever ready to assist in every worthy public enterprise. Politically he is a staunch supporter of the Republican party but has steadily declined to become an office-seeker. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity, being a member of Fairbury Lodge No. 351.

Probably the most important event in the life of John H. Clift occurred on the 26th of November, 1868, when he was united in marriage with Miss Arabella, daughter of John T. and Ann Smith. Mrs. Clift is a native of Illinois and was born in Peoria County, March 27, 1849. Her parents now reside in the little city of Henry, Ill., and the father is numbered among the substantial men of Marshall County. Of this genial union there are three interesting daughters: Grace, born Aug. 23, 1870; Jennie, Jan. 11, 1879, and Edna, Feb. 22, 1881. Mr. and Mrs. Clift are devoted members of the Evangelical Methodist Church, to the support

of which they contribute liberally and cheerfully, and are among the first to encourage works of charity and benevolence. They are numbered among the useful members of the community and in their daily lives present examples worthy of imitation.



**J**OHAN N. WHEELER represents the oldest family now residing in Belleflower Township. He was born in Kalamazoo County, Mich., Sept. 9, 1853, and is the son of George W. Wheeler, who was born in Connecticut, near the city of Hartford. William Wheeler, the grandfather of our subject, who followed shoemaking and farming combined, spent the last years of his life near Hartford, and was a gentleman highly respected in his community for his upright character and straightforward business transactions. George W. Wheeler, the father of our subject, inherited the business capacities of his father, and at the early age of ten years went out from under the home roof, ambitious to do for himself. He carried with him a pack containing light dry-goods and Yankee notions, which he peddled through the country, following this occupation successfully for a number of years. George W. Wheeler was the seventh of seven sons who were born to his parents. When he had become tired of peddling, he went into Kentucky and engaged in a plow shop, and thence, after a few years, journeyed to Michigan. He there purchased a tract of timber land, a part of which he cleared, and on which he erected a set of farm buildings. After providing a comfortable home for his bride he returned to Kentucky and was united in marriage with Miss Helen M. Wilson, a native of Pennsylvania. The young couple immediately started to their new home and were residents of Michigan until 1856. Thence they removed to Illinois, and after two years spent in Bureau County, came, in 1858, to McLean County. Mr. Wheeler had purchased 320 acres of wild land in Belleflower Township, which comprised the southwest quarter of section 23, and for a part of which he paid \$3 per acre, and for the balance lying on sections 23 and 24, he paid \$2.50 per acre. He drew lumber from Ludlow, twenty-four miles

distant, to erect a house, first, however, building a small stable, which the family occupied before the house was completed. He improved a large part of his land, and lived to see the country, where the deer and wolves roamed wild when he first came to it, develop into prosperous farms. For some years there was no school accessible, and Mr. Wheeler employed a tutor for his children at his own house, believing a good education to be the best legacy he could leave them. After a well-spent life, he looked his last upon the scenes of earth, Oct. 26, 1877. Mrs. W. survived her husband until June 28, 1882. The parental family included ten children, nine now living, as follows: Amina, the widow of J. H. Dean, is a resident of Belleflower; Allie M. became the wife of F. M. Doxsee, and lives at Bloomington; John N. of our sketch was the third child; Thomas M. lives in Belleflower Township; Alida V., the wife of W. Q. Garst, and Nettie I., the wife of D. F. Sill, live in Belleflower; George W. lives in Belleflower Township; Frank W. is pursuing his studies in Wesleyan University, at Bloomington, and Nellie is a student of the High School in that city.

The subject of this history was the eldest son of his parents, and received his early education at home, as stated. He afterward attended a district school and completed his studies in Wesleyan University. When nineteen years of age he commenced teaching, and was thus employed during the winters for three years following, working on the farm during the summer season. In 1876 he went to Chicago and was employed on a street-car as conductor. He afterward entered the employ of J. V. Farwell & Co., as department salesman. In the fall of that year his father died, and our subject, resigning his position, returned home and took charge of the farm for one year. The following year he operated on rented land, and then purchased the lumber-yard in Belleflower, conducting this for nine months, then selling out at the expiration of that time and purchasing a one-half interest in a dry-goods store. He was engaged in merchandising one and one-half years, then sold his interest in the business, and purchased a farm of eighty acres on section 22, Belleflower Township. This he sold in 1883, and then purchased the farm



he now owns and occupies. This comprises 160 acres of good land, all enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The farm dwelling is a shapely and substantial structure, and the barns and out-buildings in all respects fulfill the requirements of the modern and progressive farmer.

The marriage of John N. Wheeler and Miss Jennie Conrad was celebrated at her home in West Township, on the 4th of March, 1879. Mrs. W. is a native of Marion County, Iowa, being the daughter of William Conrad, a native of Ohio, who was the son of Adam Conrad, born in Maryland. The latter removed from his native State to Ohio, thence to Indiana, and afterward to this county, where he spent the remainder of his life. The father of Mrs. W. was married in Indiana, and after his removal from that State, settled in Marion County, Iowa, where he remained until about 1860. He now lives in Washington County, Kan. Mr. and Mrs. Wheeler have two children,—Della Gracie and George W. Our subject is Republican in politics, and a gentleman always interested in the progress of education and everything that pertains to the welfare of his adopted State.



**J**OHNS STOCKDALE, a well-known citizen of Randolph Township, owns and occupies a valuable homestead located on section 32. It comprises 150 acres of land and he has occupied it since 1856. In addition to other natural advantages possessed by this beautiful country-seat, there is a spring of mineral water, besides a creek which provides an unfailing supply for the farm stock and other needful purposes. The family residence and the buildings adjoining are tasteful structures.

John Stockdale is the eldest son of William and Jane (McNown) Stockdale, who came from County Down, Ireland, having been married there before their emigration to this country. They were of pure Irish ancestry and parentage. The parents of our subject, immediately after their marriage, which occurred in 1810, started for the New World. They located in Allegheny County, Pa., on a farm of 120 acres, which remained their home for a

period of sixteen years. They then sold out and removed into Washington County, just across the river from their old home. The father here purchased 226 acres upon which they remained the balance of their lives, the mother dying in 1833, when forty years of age, and the father in 1851, aged fifty-eight years. Their family consisted of ten children, five sons and five daughters, two of the younger sons being deceased. The others are all married and comfortably established in homes of their own.

The grandfather of our subject, John Stockdale, Sr., was also a native of County Down, Ireland, where he spent his entire life, engaged in agricultural pursuits. His wife was a Miss Philps, a native of his own country, and they reared a family of three sons and two daughters. Of these the father of our subject was the youngest son. While yet a young man and when crossing the English Channel, he was pressed into the British service and compelled to follow the fortunes of a soldier for two years, although they were usually held for seven. He possessed a good education and obtained his release through his own efforts, and assisted by friends. He soon afterward came to America and became prominent in the political affairs of his adopted State. He was identified with the Whig party and was a man whose opinions were greatly respected, both upon political and general matters.

The subject of this history was reared in Washington County, Pa., and at an early age labored hard around the homestead and in the grain fields of his father. The harvest was then gathered by the sickle and later with the cradle, the convenient machinery of to-day being unknown, and the labors of the farmer were arduous and almost endless. Our subject lived at home until his marriage, which occurred on the same farm where he was born, but in a house which was erected later. The maiden of his choice was Miss Margaret Corry, and their wedding took place Feb. 26, 1847. Mrs. S. was born in Pittsburgh, Pa., in October, about 1820, her parents being James and Isabell (Stockdale) Corry, who were also born, reared and married in County Down, Ireland. They also soon afterward came to this country and located in Pittsburgh, her father being connected with the iron works of

that city. He afterward purchased the first tract of land upon which a farm was opened up in Allegheny County, this being owned by William Stockdale, the father of our subject. There he established a comfortable home and there the mother died while yet in the prime of life, leaving her husband with eleven children to mourn their irreparable loss. The wife of our subject was the eldest daughter but one of these and only two besides herself are living. The father came to Iowa in 1862, and died in Van Buren County, that State, in 1879, having reached the advanced age of ninety-six years. His father before him, Frank Corry, lived and died in Ireland, and was one hundred and one years of age.

Mr. and Mrs. Stockdale of this sketch became the parents of three children: William B., a hardware merchant of Heyworth, married Miss Anna Wakefield; James C. is manager of the home farm, and Alice B. also lives with her parents. Mr. and Mrs. S. soon after their marriage located upon the farm in Pennsylvania, and in about 1855 came to Sangamon County, Ill., where they purchased a farm and after living upon it a few months became homesick and selling out went back to that State. The year following they tried coming West again, and after coming to this State and county resolved to endure a little homesickness and have succeeded admirably. They, with their son William B. and their daughter Alice, are worthy members of the Presbyterian Church. Politically Mr. Stockdale is a Republican and a citizen who has gained the esteem of his neighbors. The grandparents on the maternal side were John and Miss (Hunter) Mc-Nown and the names of the grandparents of Mrs. Stockdale of our sketch were William and Miss (Hastings) Stockdale.



**J**AMES KIMLER. The name of this honored pioneer, who is now a resident of McLean, is familiar throughout the greater part of this county as being a synonym of goodness, perseverance and integrity, and it is with pleasure that we present his portrait in this volume. He came to this section when the country was wild

and uncultivated, and in common with the early settlers of that period, experienced the trials and privations incident to life in a new country. With them he bravely and cheerfully labored, and with them will leave his footprints where generations shall follow with far less toil and many more of the comforts and luxuries of life.

The subject of this history was born in Loudoun County, Va., Aug. 16, 1811. His father, Moses Kimler, was a native of the same State, and his grandfather, John Kimler, a native of Germany, emigrated to America after his marriage and settled in Virginia, where all his children were born. He was a blacksmith by occupation and followed his trade in Loudoun County the greater part of his life. The family consisted of eight sons and two daughters, as follows: Moses, the father of our subject, was the eldest born; Evau died in Fulton County, Ill.; Daniel spent his last years in Missouri; John died in Bloomington, Ill.; Benjamin died in Fulton County, Ill., and Israel in Tazewell County; Bailey and Caleb both died in Bloomington Township, this county; Hannah, the wife of Alexander Montgomery, died in Indiana; Eliza married Samuel Schooley, and died in De Witt County, Ill.

Moses Kimler, the father of our subject, learned the blacksmith's trade from his father and worked at it in his native county until about 1815. A few years after his marriage he removed to Kentucky by means of a large wagon and five horses. He took with him his wife and three children, and they were accompanied by his brother John, and another family. At Wheeling, they loaded their effects and their families onto a flatboat and went down the Ohio River to Maysville. Mr. K. was out of money and stopped two weeks to earn enough to take himself and family into Bourbon County. After arriving there he followed his trade until 1824. He then determined to seek a home in Indiana, and started overland with a pair of horses and a wagon, our subject being one of the members of the family. They visited the present site of Indianapolis, which was then a very small village of a few log cabins, in one of which was kept a hotel. Mr. K. then looked around for a location and concluded to settle near Crawfordsville, Montgomery Co., Ind. He purchased eighty acres of timber





J. M. Hall



James Kimball

land and built a hewed-log house near the road which led from Crawfordsville to Indianapolis. This structure was considered quite an imposing one for those days, having four rooms, two on the ground floor and two "upstairs." Into this, when finished, he removed his family and opened a hotel. In the meantime he also worked at his trade, and remained a resident of the Hoosier State until 1834. He then came to this county and settled in the grove about one mile south of the present site of Le Roy. There John W. Baddeley had laid out a town, and Mr. K. purchased a lot and put up a log house and a blacksmith-shop. The village, however, did not flourish, and after Le Roy was started he removed there, and established the first blacksmith-shop in the town. He continued here at his trade as long as able to work, but retired from active labor in 1847; his death occurred in 1850.

The mother of our subject, who before her marriage was Miss Mary Akers, was born in Virginia, of Welsh descent, and by her marriage with Moses Kimler became the mother of ten children, the record of whom is as follows: John died in Indiana in 1826; Richard died in Marion County, Iowa; James, our subject, was the third child; Mary A. died in Virginia when a young child; Robert died in McLean County, Ill.; Elizabeth became the wife of Thomas Buckles, and lives in Empire Township, this county; William died at Le Roy; Jefferson served as a Union soldier in the 94th Illinois Infantry and died in the service at Springfield, Mo., in 1862; Benjamin lives in Missouri, and Franklin in Farmer City, Ill.

James Kimler was but four years of age when his parents removed from Virginia to Kentucky, and fourteen when they went to Indiana. He remained with his parents until 1832, in which year he attained his majority, then came to this county, and worked for his uncle, John Kimler, for the two years following. In 1834 he went to Milwaukee, Wis., in company with three Orendorff brothers. They had one horse among them and "rode and tied," that is, one of the party would ride ahead and at some convenient place would tie the horse and walk along, and when the others caught up with the horse, another would do the same. The

northern part of the State was thinly settled at that time and houses were frequently twenty-five to thirty miles apart. Milwaukee then had but three stores and Indians were a very common sight. Alfred Orendorff had been there before and made a claim, upon which he built a log cabin on land now included within the city limits of Milwaukee. There the party kept bachelors' hall. The land had not then come into market but settlers were rapidly arriving and making claims, and our subject was employed by them to show land and build cabins, and he made and purchased claims to a tract now included in the city limits of Milwaukee. In the fall of 1836 Mr. Kimler returned to Le Roy and spent the winter, and the spring following commenced to purchase cattle and drive them to the Milwaukee market, in which business he made money, and which he followed for two or three years. In 1839 the land came into market, and in company with Benjamin Cox, our subject entered about 800 acres, now also included in the city. They soon afterward divided the land and Mr. K. remained upon and improved a part of his possessions. The following year he returned to Le Roy and purchased land adjoining the town on the Northwest, where he engaged in farming until 1846, then partially abandoned agriculture and engaged in mercantile business, which he carried on for about five years. He then sold his interests in merchandise and returned to farming, which he continued until 1883. He then sold his farm and removed into Le Roy, where he entered an elevator and engaged in the grain trade. Two years later the elevator was destroyed by fire, and since that time Mr. Kimler has not been engaged in any active business, having accumulated a handsome competency for himself and family.

The marriage of James Kimler and Miss Cassandra Clearwaters took place Jan. 28, 1838. Mrs. K. was born in Putnam County, Ind., and is the daughter of Reuben and Jane (Miller) Clearwaters, who were natives respectively of North Carolina and Pennsylvania. Of this union have been born six children: Mary J., the wife of Lewis Stout, lives at Le Roy; Harriett B., Mrs. James L. Silvers, lives in Fairmount; Martha and her husband, Joseph Neal, live in Farmer City; Cassandra be-

came the wife of Preston Bishop, of West Township; Elizabeth, Mrs. John Love, also lives in that township; Lina became the wife of L. H. Delaplain, of Rush County, Kan.

Our subject and his wife united with the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1840, of which he has been Trustee, Steward and Class-Leader almost since the beginning. He cast his first presidential vote for Andrew Jackson and his second for Gen. Harrison. He voted with the Whigs until the abandonment of the old party in 1856, and then identified himself with the new Republican party. Mr. Kimler has taken deep interest in the success of the temperance movement and has now arrayed himself in the cause of prohibition. He has in all respects fulfilled the obligations of a good citizen, and has his reward in the profound respect and esteem of all who know him.



**F**RANCIS M. HALL, a skillful farmer and breeder of Short-horn cattle, is located on section 24, Danvers Township, where for many years he has carried on the different departments of his calling with success. Mr. Hall was born in Todd County, Ky., March 25, 1833, and is the son of Young and Rachel F. (Hay) Hall, also natives of the Blue Grass State. They came to Illinois and located in McLean County in the spring of 1835, since which time they have been residents here. Their family included nine children, as follows: Henry P.; Francis M.; John R., who lives in Iowa; Young, who died in Kansas ten years ago; Isaac is a resident of McLean County; George, now in Iowa; James, in Chicago; and Susan and Mary both died at the age of three years. The mother of our subject died in this county in October, 1883, Mr. Hall is still living at the venerable age of eighty years.

Francis M. Hall remained under the parental roof until he had reached years of maturity, and was then united in marriage with Miss Jane E. Barnard, on the 19th of August, 1855, the ceremony being performed by Elder G. W. Manear, of the Christian Church. Mrs. Hall was born in McLean County, June 22, 1838. Her parents, James O.

and Lydia (Swallow) Barnard, were natives of North Carolina and Ohio respectively. James O. Barnard removed from his native State to Illinois in March, 1828, and located in Dry Grove Township upon a small tract of land, where he remained until his death, which occurred in 1873. The mother died in 1847. Their children were Nancy A., now Mrs. John A. Artis, and the wife of our subject. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Hall are: James F., who married Miss Furman, and is residing in Dry Grove; Lydia R., now Mrs. Bennett Snavelly, residing near Kearney, Neb.; Willie died in infancy; Young M. married Miss Mary Lamb, and is living near Kearney, Neb.; George E. died when one year old; Jessie died in infancy; Ellen died at the age of two and one-half years; Eva J., the youngest of the family, was born Sept. 21, 1877, and is residing at home.

Mr. Hall came to Dry Grove Township with his parents in August, 1835, and remained there until the fall of 1858, when he settled at his present home in Danvers Township, which is only about a mile and a half from his first. In 1874 he began the breeding of Shorn-horn cattle, and in 1885 went to Kentucky and purchased twenty-two head of choice families, including the Oxford, Barington and others obtained from Col. Sims, of Paris, Ky. Besides two males he has twenty cows from different families, and among his transactions since that time one public sale of eighteen calves six months old yielded him an average of \$50 per head.

The farm of Mr. Hall embraces 570 acres of finely improved land. In the spring of 1882 he erected a handsome residence, 34x53 feet in area, with two stories and basement, containing twelve rooms. It is situated upon a rise of ground and commands a fine view of the surrounding country for many miles each way. His barns, outhouses and other accommodations for stock are all first class, and his business is conducted in that systematic manner which is the sure forerunner of success.

Mr. Hall has been quite a traveler, visiting the principal cities of the United States. He was at the Centennial in 1876, has traveled from Washington City to San Francisco, and visited the World's Fair at New Orleans in 1885. Our subject is the

only representative of the Knights Templar in this township. He is an active and earnest member of the Masonic fraternity, with which he became identified in 1874, first in Allin Lodge No. 685; he is a Royal Arch Mason of Chapter No. 26, at Bloomington, Ill., and also belongs to DeMolay Commandery No. 24, K. T. Accompanied by his wife he attended the Triennial Conclave at Chicago in 1880. Three years later they went to California, and in 1886 to St. Louis to attend the twenty-third conclave. Mr. Hall has been Master in the Blue Lodge in Danvers for one year. He was a charter member in Danvers Lodge No. 742, and has given much time as well as means in assisting to maintain the principles of the order, of which he is a great admirer.

In politics Mr. Hall is a Douglas Democrat. He has been connected with the Christian Church for the last thirty-five years, Mrs. H. also being a member of the same. Our subject is in all respects a worthy representative of the enterprise, industry and intelligence of this county, and presents a fine example of the valued citizen and worthy member of society. In the galaxy of portraits of the leading men of the county given in this volume may very properly be found that of Mr. Hall.

**T**HOMAS H. BOUNDS, a highly respected farmer of Gridley Township, of which he became a resident in 1857, is the owner of 160 acres of good land, and in a comfortable homestead, enjoys the reward of earlier toil and industry. His parents were Henry and Hannah (Rhoads) Bounds, the father a native of Maryland, and the mother of Pennsylvania. After their marriage the parents settled in Muskingum County, Ohio, whence they afterward removed to Licking County, same State, where the mother died in 1842. Henry Bounds afterward removed to Michigan, in 1875, and died in 1880.

Our subject was the fifth of a family of seven children. He was born in Licking County, Ohio, Aug. 6, 1834, was reared to farming pursuits, and remained in his native State until he was twenty-three years old. He then came to this State and

county, settling in Gridley Township, where he has since resided. Here he was married, on the 27th of May, 1860, to Miss Mary Messer, who was born in Gridley Township, Oct. 8, 1841. She was a daughter of J. B. and Susan (Estey) Messer, who are mentioned in the sketch of J. P. Messer, whose biography will be found in another part of this work, J. P. Messer being a brother of Mrs. Bounds. Our subject and his wife became the parents of five children, of whom the record is as follows: Maria E., the eldest, died when three years old; Henry E. married Miss Mary Bryant, and lives in Gridley Township; Thomas died when quite young; William A. and Margaret E. are at home.

Mr. Bounds has held the office of School Director and is a member of the Masonic fraternity. Both he and his wife are connected with the Christian Church, and politically our subject is a staunch supporter of the Democratic party.

**D**R. HENRY PARKHURST, a highly esteemed resident of the village of Danvers, this county, is a skillful physician and also a dealer in drugs and medicines, having his store and office at the corner of Broadway and Exchange streets. Dr. Parkhurst was born in Sharon, Vt., Feb. 20, 1823, and is the son of Elisha and Hannah (Huntington) Parkhurst. Both parents were natives of Connecticut, and both came to Vermont in their childhood. They were married in the Green Mountain State, where the father died in 1840, and the mother some years later upon the farm which constituted their homestead. Of the nine children born to them, the record is as follows: Harriet, Lydia and a babe unnamed died in infancy; Hiram, Hannah, Sarah, Phineas, Harvey and Araunah lived to reach their majority, and three are now living. The Parkhurst family are of English origin, as also were the Huntingtons, and both families were remarkable as being long-lived and possessing those principles which constituted them useful and honored citizens.

Henry Parkhurst was reared upon his father's farm, receiving his primary education in the common schools. He was seventeen years of age when

his father died. He afterward attended the Orange County Grammar School and a select school, and commenced the study of medicine with Davis & Jones, in Manchester, N. H. After closely applying himself for two years he attended Berkshire Medical College one term, the Medical College at Woodstock, Vt., for one term, and afterward entered Buffalo University, from which he graduated on the 26th of February, 1851. That same year young Parkhurst put out his shingle in Prairieville, Mich., where he followed the practice of his chosen profession successfully for three years. He then came to Danvers, this county, in 1854, and has continued since that time engaged in his practice and the trade in drugs. That same year, on the 1st of January, he was married to Miss Catharine L. Skillman, who was born in New Jersey in 1832, and came to Illinois several years before her marriage. They became the parents of three children, all now deceased: Mary F. died at the age of four years; Katie, when an infant, and Julia at the age of twenty-two.

Dr. Parkhurst owns the building in which he has his store, and resides with his family in a handsome residence located on Exchange street. He is a member in good standing of the Congregational Church, of which he has been a Trustee for a number of years. Politically he is a staunch supporter of the Republican party. He belongs to Danvers Lodge No. 742, A. F. & A. M., and has held various offices in connection therewith. He identified himself with the Masons over thirty years ago. The grandfather of our subject was an Army Surgeon in the Revolutionary War, and died of the yellow fever, the place of his burial being unknown.



**J**OHAN LAMONT, a retired farmer, is now a resident of Le Roy, and situated in a pleasant and comfortable home where he is living in the enjoyment of a competency, accumulated through his own industry and perseverance. Mr. Lamont was born in Scotland, Feb. 14, 1809, and is the son of Peter and Martha (LaFevre) Lamont, the father a native of Argyleshire and the mother of France. Our subject was but an infant

when his parents took him to England, and he there grew to manhood, in the city of London. He was trained in early life to habits of industry, and when very young began to learn the trade of bricklaying and plastering, which he followed in London until 1850. Then, resolving to emigrate to America, he set sail on the 8th of June, that year, and landed in New York City on the 31st of July following. He was accompanied by his wife and child, and proceeded directly to Buffalo, N. Y., via the Hudson River to Alleghany, and completing the remainder of his journey by the Erie Canal. He followed his trade in Buffalo for a few months, then proceeded to Indiana, first stopping at Covington, Ky., and thence proceeding to Perrysville, Ind., where he remained until January, 1852. He then started overland for Illinois, with a team of horses and wagon which he had hired for the purpose. Upon arriving in Le Roy, this county, he rented a small house about one mile south of the town. His worldly possessions consisted of a scanty supply of household goods, and \$2.50 in cash. He had, however, a good stock of courage and determination, and immediately set about procuring employment. His intelligent face and pleasing manner at once secured him friends, and he was seldom idle, being willing to employ his hands at whatever he could find to do. In the winter season he occupied himself with odd jobs and when spring opened worked at his trade when opportunity offered, and one winter was employed on a farm at fifty cents per day, which at that time was considered good wages. He was prudent and economical, and saved his money, and in due time was enabled to purchase seven and one-half acres of land, for which he paid \$65. Upon this he built a log house, and worked at his trade and cultivated his land, putting in all his time to good account. He was prospered in his labors and in due time added to his landed possessions until he is now the owner of 100 acres, under a good state of cultivation, and supplied with all necessary and convenient farm buildings. This he leases to a tenant who operates it, and which yields to its proprietor a handsome income.

Mr. Lamont was married in the city of London, in 1846, to Miss Sarah Durham, who was born in



Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, England, and was the daughter of Charles and Pattie (Wrighton) Durham, natives of the same country. Mr. and Mrs. Lamont became the parents of one child, a son named Peter James. He was born in England, Oct. 28, 1848, and is now a resident of Le Roy, following the trade of a bricklayer and plasterer. He married Miss Hester Atherton, a native of Ohio, and they have five children—Sarah E., Francis P., Victoria A., Clara E. and Blanche D.

Mrs. Lamont has in her possession a Bible which was printed in London in 1637, which was the property of her great-great-grandfather. It is bound in leather with brass corners, and formerly had clasps which are now gone. She also has a Bible that was given her at thirteen years of age in a Sunday-school at Aylesbury, through the liberality of Lord Wharton.



**F**RANCIS A. RAWLINGS, of Belleflower Township, is a native of the Prairie State, born near Petersburg, Menard County, Dec. 14, 1849. His father, John E. Rawlings, was born in Fleming County, Ky., Oct. 18, 1810, and was the son of Thomas Rawlings, a native of Loudoun County, Va., and the son of Presley Rawlings. The latter was born in England, whence he emigrated to America when a young man, accompanied by his brother Moses. They located in Virginia and afterward served as soldiers in the Revolutionary War, fighting in the interests of the colonies. Moses was never heard from after the war was over. Presley Rawlings settled in Kentucky, being among the earliest pioneers of the Blue Grass State. He purchased a tract of timber land and opened up a farm, where he spent the remainder of his days. His son, Thomas, the grandfather of our subject, and the eldest of seven children, after attaining to manhood, married Miss Mary Tribby, who was born in Virginia but of Kentucky parentage. She inherited a tract of land adjoining her father's homestead, together with four slaves, and lived there with her husband the remainder of her life. They became the parents of nine children, of whom John, the father of our subject, was the youngest. At

that time there were no free schools and the education of John E. Rawlings was obtained on the subscription plan. The temple of learning was a rude structure built of logs, into which light was admitted through panes of greased paper.

John E. Rawlings assisted his father in establishing a homestead in the wilderness and cultivating the soil, remaining under the home roof until twenty-two years old. He then farmed in partnership with his brother-in-law for two years, when he was married and operated on rented land until 1837. In March of that year he made the journey to Illinois, via the Ohio, Mississippi and Illinois Rivers, landing at Beardstown. He first proceeded to that part of Sangamon County included in Menard County, and purchased a farm three miles above Petersburg, on the Sangamon River. This he occupied until 1850, then removed to Waverly, Morgan Co., Ill., where he opened a store of general merchandise. Two years later, on account of cholera, he sold out and returned to his farm in Menard County. From there he removed to Sweet Water, after selling his farm, and operated upon rented land until 1859. That year he came to this county and purchased a farm in Mt. Hope Township, which he occupied until 1862, then removed to the town of McLean and began to deal in grain and agricultural implements. He was thus occupied until 1873, when he purchased and removed to the homestead which he now owns and occupies.

Mr. Rawlings was married on the 16th of January, 1834, to Miss Polly Scott, a native of Tennessee, born May 31, 1812, and the daughter of John and Jane (Campbell) Scott. This lady died at the home of her husband in Belleflower Township, on the 19th of January, 1878. Mr. Rawlings was married the second time, Sept. 22, 1881, to Mrs. Rebecca (Day) Robbins, who was born near Springfield, Ill., March 20, 1820. Her father, Benjamin S. Day, was a native of Virginia, and removed to Kentucky when a young man, where he married, and came to Illinois in 1818, the year in which the Territory was transferred into a State. Mr. Day was among the earliest settlers of Sangamon County. His daughter, Rebecca, remained under the parental roof until her first marriage in March, 1836, to Daniel Robbins. He was County Judge of De

Witt County eight years and Postmaster of Clinton twelve years. He departed this life in De Witt County in about 1871. The children of Mr. Rawlings are recorded as follows: Austin is engaged in mercantile business at Kumber, this county; Minnie became the wife of R. W. Robinson of De Witt County; John F. lives in Farmer City, Ill. Mrs. R. by her first marriage became the mother of five children; a son, Francis K., who is a resident of Wellington, Kan., is the only one living.

Francis A. Rawlings was but ten years old when he came to McLean County with his parents, and has been a resident here since that time. He received a good education, and in 1870 came to his father's farm in Belleflower Township, which he has occupied since that time. He makes his home with his parents.



**R**EES GADDIS. This highly respected old gentleman, who has been a resident of the Prairie State for a period of over forty years, is widely and favorably known throughout Tazewell County. He is at present a resident of Martiu Township, this county, and although only having located here since 1885, has fully established himself in the confidence and esteem of its best citizens, to whom his form on the streets has become a familiar figure, regarded with peculiar affection. Mr. Gaddis is a native of Greene County, Ohio, born near Xenia, on the 26th of September, 1807. His grandfather, Rees Gaddis, Sr., was a Captain in the Revolutionary War. His father, John Gaddis, was a native of Pennsylvania and removed to the Buckeye State with his parents when a small lad. The father of our subject, after reaching years of manhood, was married to Miss Abigail, the daughter of John Seaman. They settled in Greene County, Ohio, and were there occupied in farming pursuits for a brief time only, the death of John Gaddis occurring when the subject of this history was an infant but six weeks old. Rees Gaddis, Jr., was the second child of his parents, and remained with his mother until arriving at manhood. After the death of her husband Mrs. Gaddis and her two children went to live with her father in Hamilton

County, Ohio, whose home was on the banks of the Ohio River. This kindly old gentleman, John Seaman by name, was a native of Virginia, and is supposed to have been of Welsh descent. He removed from his native State to Ohio as early as 1800, settling in Hamilton County, and was among its earliest pioneers and lived there the remainder of his days. On the Gaddis side, the grandfather of our subject removed from Pennsylvania to Campbell County, Ky., at an early period in the history of that State, after serving as a Captain in the Revolutionary War.

Young Gaddis remained an inmate of his grandfather's house until he reached mature years. When twenty-seven years of age he and his mother went back to Greene County, Ohio, where they remained until the spring of 1848. They then came to Illinois, settling on a farm near Tremont, in Tazewell County, which remained the home of the mother until her death, which occurred at the advanced age of ninety-two years. In 1851 Mr. Gaddis was united in marriage with Miss Martha Ann, daughter of John Bennett, Esq., of Tazewell County, to which he had removed from Clinton County, Ohio. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. G. settled on a farm in Tazewell County which had become the property of Mr. Gaddis in 1848. His original purchase was 125 acres, to which he subsequently added until he became the owner of 300 acres, a part of which was valuable timber. He made a specialty of hogs and cattle, in the feeding and sale of which he realized a handsome sum of money.

Mr. Gaddis remained on his farm in Tazewell County until the spring of 1885, and then sold out and removed to his present homestead in McLean County, on section 16, which he has occupied since that time. This consists of 320 acres of choice land in a good state of cultivation, on which he has erected a handsome and substantial set of farm buildings, and in all respects has converted it into one of the handsomest homesteads in this county. Our subject is now in the eightieth year of his age, and is still hale and hearty, in possession of those faculties which have made such a success of his life and earned for him the admiration and respect of his fellow-citizens. In early life he was a Jeffer-

sonian Democrat, but after the abandonment of the old Whig party by the organization of the Republican party, he cordially endorsed the principles of the latter. He is a strong advocate of temperance and expects to see the cause succeed through the Republican party.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Gaddis, five in number, included four sons and one daughter, of whom John is deceased; William is a resident of Martin Township; Alpheus is married and at home; James is single and at home; Sarah is the wife of A. M. Hicks of Tazewell County, and is the eldest of the family. Mr. and Mrs. Gaddis, together with all their children, are members of the Christian Church.



**F**RANCIS M. JONES. One of the most prominent farmers and stock-raisers in McLean County is the gentleman whose name heads this notice. He is the owner of 636 acres of productive and valuable land, is extensively engaged in stock-raising, and is pleasantly located on his fine farm on section 15, Towanda Township. The parents of Mr. Jones were Abraham R. and Matilda (Noel) Jones, the former a native of Cayuga County, York State, and the latter of Kentucky. He was of Welch origin, and she of German ancestry. The father's boyhood years were passed in the State of New York, and in 1808 he came to Champaign County, Ohio, with his parents, whence he accompanied them to Clarke County, same State, where he lived until he came to this county.

Matilda Noel was born in 1795. Her parents soon after her birth removed to Maryland, where, after a residence of seven years, they sold their interests there and removed to Clarke County, Ohio. It was there that she became acquainted with the father of our subject; there they were married, and there lived until coming to this county, in 1856. In the spring of that year they made the journey overland to this county, and settled on section 10, Towanda Township, where the father continued to follow the vocation of his life, that of farming, until his death, which occurred Feb. 11,

1865. After his death, his good wife took up her residence in the village of Towanda, and there died March 7, 1880.

They had a family of ten children, viz: John, Levi, William W., Eliza A., Cyrus, Abraham R., Jr., Nelson, Phebe, James and Francis M. John died in Clarke County, Ohio, aged about thirty-eight years; Levi was a farmer of Clarke County; William W. resides in Towanda, as likewise does Eliza A.; Cyrus is a capitalist, and a resident of California; Abraham R., Jr., departed this life at Towanda, April 7, 1878; Nelson is a farmer on section 16, Towanda Township; Phebe is the wife of Martin Arthur, and they reside in Towanda Township; James died in Clarke County, Ohio, when three years old, and Francis M. is our subject.

Francis M. Jones was born in Clarke County, Ohio, March 8, 1833, where his early life was spent. He was reared on his father's farm, and received his education in the common schools. He also attended two terms at Wittenburg College, Springfield, Ohio. Thus far in life his years have been devoted to agricultural pursuits. Living in Clarke County, Ohio, until 1851, he came to this county on horseback, but remained only a short time when he returned to his home in Ohio. In the summer of 1852, he made another trip to this county, and entered a claim to eighty acres of land on section 11, Towanda Township, and also traded a three-year-old horse for another eighty acres, adjoining his claim, and which was entered by his brother. After entering his land he again returned to his old home in Ohio, and in the spring of 1853 he came back to this county, and during the summer of that year was engaged in herding cattle. During the fall of that year he assisted in driving a drove of cattle to Chicago, and then went back to Ohio, and remained there until the fall of 1855. He then went to New Orleans, and from there to Texas, ostensibly for the purpose of looking at the country, and was absent until the spring of 1856. During the summer of that year he returned to this county, and broke prairie in Towanda Township, and in the fall of the same year formed a partnership with his father, for the purpose of farming and stock-raising, and which relation continued until the death of the latter, in 1865.

Mr. Jones made his settlement in Towanda Township in 1856, and has since made that his home. By labor and economy, together with good judgment, he has added to his landed interests, and is now the owner of 636 acres of valuable and productive land, on which he has a fine set of farm buildings. He keeps about ten head of horses and 150 head of cattle on his place, and fattens about fifty head of hogs for the market annually.

Our subject was married near Clinton, De Witt Co., Ill., Jan. 28, 1858, the ceremony being performed by Judge J. J. McGraw, to Miss Ann M. Hampleman, daughter of Daniel H. and Sarah (Fletcher) Hampleman. Her father was born in Clarke County, Ohio, and she in Greene County, that State. There they passed their early life, and there at Xenia they were married, and soon afterward removed to Perry County, Ill., whence they returned to Clarke County, Ohio, and in the fall of 1851 emigrated to Montgomery County, Ind. Two years later they came to De Witt County, this State, and settled near Clinton, where the father engaged in farming. The mother departed this life Nov. 13, 1867. The father is yet living, and engaged in his chosen calling in De Witt County. They had a family of nine children: Ann M., wife of our subject; Willis, Emily, Persy L., Marion, Albert, George and Elizabeth. Willis died in infancy; Emily became the wife of John White, and departed this life in De Witt County, Ill., March 25, 1865; Persy L. was united in marriage with Charles Davis, and died at Le Roy, this county, Oct. 14, 1876; Marion died in De Witt County, March 19, 1868; Albert departed this life in De Witt County, Aug. 10, 1880, while in the twenty-ninth year of his age; George died Oct. 27, 1854, when one year old; Elizabeth is the wife of J. H. Abbott, and they are living in Towanda Township.

Mrs. Jones, of this sketch, was born in Clarke County, Ohio, Oct. 18, 1839. She lived at home until her marriage with our subject, and by him has become the mother of seven children—Price N., Edwin E., Lola, Maurice E., Cyrus G., Stella and Max. Price N. was born in Towanda Township, Oct. 28, 1858; he married Miss Emma Rardon, and they are living in Towanda Township;

Edwin E. was born in Towanda Township, Aug. 18, 1860; he married Miss Josie Shaw, and is engaged in farming in Towanda Township; Lola was born July 28, 1862, and departed this life Dec. 6, 1866; Maurice E. was born Oct. 9, 1864; Cyrus G. first saw light July 31, 1869; Stella was born April 28, 1872, and Max, June 2, 1875, the latter dying Oct. 22, 1876.

Mr. Jones has never been an aspirant for office. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, holding fellowship with Lodge No. 542, of Towanda, and has presided over that body for seven years, as Worshipful Master. In politics our subject votes for the success of the Republican party. His farm is one of the best in McLean County, and during the dry season is made productive by Money Creek running through it from southeast to northwest. During the drought of 1886, our subject was enabled to raise a good crop upon his place, while others, not having the advantages of location that he has, suffered considerably. The value of his farm is greatly increased by four artesian wells which he has on the place, and from which are extended two-inch pipes over different parts of the farm, which are constantly filled with flowing water running into tanks for stock purposes.

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**J**AMES DODGE, one of the leading hardware merchants of Normal, has been a resident of the Prairie State since 1878, and established his present business three years later. He carries the largest stock of hardware in Normal and is a straightforward business man and citizen in every sense which the term implies. Mr. Dodge was born in Chautauqua County, N. Y., June 1, 1834, his parents being William and Mary Ann (Kelley) Dodge. William Dodge was born and reared in the Empire State, and the mother of our subject was of Irish birth and parentage. Their household circle consisted of two children—Angelina, the wife of M. M. Zeigler, of Lancaster, Wis., and our subject.

James Dodge was fully orphaned when an infant, by the death of both parents. He was then received into the family of his grandfather, John





Peter Wintz



Adtt Dyggins

Kelley, and remained with him until fourteen years of age, during which time, in 1850, the family removed to Grant County, Wis. Here our subject commenced to learn the trade of a brickmason and plasterer, followed this for two years, and then took up the tinner's trade with his brother-in-law, and was afterward associated in business with him until 1857. He then removed to Plattsville, Wis., where he engaged in business for himself, remaining there until 1878. That year he came to Illinois, stopped first four months at Belleflower, then six months in Bloomington, whence he came to Normal and engaged with George Champion until 1881. He then established his present business which he has operated successfully since that time.

Mr. Dodge was married, Dec. 16, 1858, to Miss Elizabeth Murphy, a native of Lawrence County, Ill., and the daughter of William V. and Elizabeth Murphy. Of this union there are three children living—Mary Ann, the wife of Lee Stewart, of Bloomington; Abner M., and James E. Mrs. Elizabeth Dodge departed this life on the 26th of March, 1882, and Mr. Dodge was again married, Oct. 16, 1884, to Mrs. Elizabeth A. Witham, of Normal. In politics our subject is a stanch Democrat, religiously a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and socially belongs to the I. O. O. F. A view of Mr. Dodge's business house is shown on another page of this work.



**F**REDERICK P. PEASE, formerly a minister of the United Brethren Church, is now engaged in agricultural pursuits on the homestead of his father-in-law, on section 31, in White Oak Township. Mr. Pease is a native of the Prairie State, having been born in Pike County in 1849. His parents were Alonzo and Maria (Wilson) Pease, natives respectively of New York and Ohio. Alonzo Pease was born in 1818, and removed from his native State to Illinois about 1840. He rented land for four years, and then purchased eighty acres, upon which he located and spent the remainder of his days, his death occurring in the spring of 1872.

Mrs. Maria Pease was born in 1809, and died at the home of her husband in Pike County in 1862. The parental family included three children: William P., who married for his first wife Miss Mary S. Good, now deceased; his second wife was Miss Nancy C. Buey; Zachariah A., who married Miss Rexville White, and Frederiek P. of our sketch was the youngest. The father was Republican in politics and a member in good standing of the United Brethren Church.

The subject of this history was reared on his father's farm and received his primary education in the public schools. When twenty years of age he entered Westfield College, in Clarke County, Ill., where he took a scientific course and graduated five years afterward. He was then married, Nov. 6, 1876, to Rozina Wintz, and commenced his labors as a minister and devoted his time irregularly, with his customary zeal, in his Master's cause for several years. He was very successful as a pastor, and especially efficient in revivals. He pursued his pious labors at Canton, Ill., Farmer City and Saybrook, three years, and preached at different times after coming into White Oak Township. During one series of meetings under his ministrations 150 persons were gathered into the fold.

The wife of our subject is the daughter of Peter and Catherine (Fry) Wintz, the father a native of Virginia, and the mother of Ohio. Peter Wintz, one of the most highly respected citizens of the county, and whose portrait will be found on an accompanying page, was born in Loudoun County, Va., Sept. 5, 1825, and is the son of Henry and Sarah (Fry) Wintz, who were both of German descent. The mother was born in Virginia. When Peter W. was four years of age his parents removed from the Old Dominion, first to Warren County and from there to Preble County, Ohio, and in the district schools of the latter their son Peter was educated. He remained there until his marriage with Miss Catherine, daughter of Jonas Fry, their wedding occurring April 8, 1852.

Shortly after his marriage Mr. W. started with his bride for Illinois. A year later he settled on the homestead where he still resides. This is one of the finest in White Oak Township, comprising a handsome residence in the midst of beautiful

grounds, and in all respects indicating the cultivated tastes of its proprietor. Mr. and Mrs. Wintz became the parents of three children, two of whom are now living: Rozina, Mrs. Pease, and Moses, who married Miss Ida Robison, and is located near Wichita, Kan. Silas E. died when six years of age. Mrs. Catherine Wintz passed to the other life in 1885.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Pease, five in number, are as follows: William Henry, Thomas Shepley, Ida Belle, Nellie Pearl and George Elmer. All are living: Mr. Pease is greatly interested in the success of the temperance movement and has identified himself politically with the Prohibitionists. He is still in the prime of life, and undoubtedly has many years in which to exert his influence on the side of truth, temperance and justice. Nature endowed him with rare gifts, among which is intellectual ability of a high order, logical, discriminating and comprehensive. He is a close reasoner, an impressive, and occasionally an eloquent speaker, and wields great force on the side of right and in the cause of temperance.



**R**OBERT HIGGINS, a highly respected farmer of Mt. Hope Township, is pleasantly located on section 7, where he owns and occupies a good farm and is engaged in the peaceful pursuit of farming. As a representative agriculturist of this splendid agricultural country, as well as a worthy and esteemed citizen, the publishers present the portrait of Mr. Higgins in this volume.

Mr. Higgins is a native of the Buckeye State, having been born in Licking County, Ohio, on the 28th of December, 1824. He is descended from excellent Irish ancestry, his father, James Higgins, having been born in the city of Belfast and his grandfather was also a native of the Emerald Isle. The latter was a successful linen draper in the city of Belfast, where he spent the last years of his life. In that city James Higgins, the father of our sub-

ject, was reared and received his early education in the public schools. Being the fourth son in order of birth, as the elder son would inherit the property, James Higgins early learned that he would have to depend upon his own resources for his living. At the age of eighteen years, not being satisfied with the condition of his prospects in his native country, he determined to emigrate to America. He possessed some means and after arriving here did not for some time engage in any particular calling. He went into Westmoreland County, Pa., and in due time took unto himself a wife in the person of Miss Mary McClelland, a native of said county and of German ancestry. Soon after marriage they proceeded to Ohio and located upon a farm in Licking County, which they rented from its owner, Dr. Taylor, and upon which they remained until the spring of 1825. They then removed to Perry County, same State, where James Higgins purchased 160 acres of timber land, put up a log cabin and commenced clearing a farm from the wilderness. In due time their humble dwelling was replaced by a commodious stone house and Mr. H. also erected a substantial hewed-log barn. They established a comfortable home there, upon which they remained the balance of their lives, the mother resting from her labors in 1848, and the father, surviving her for a period of fourteen years, folded his hands for his final rest in 1862. They were both devoted members of the Lutheran Church and highly esteemed in the community where they had for so many years made their home and illustrated in their lives the principles of honor, honesty and kindness.

The parental household of our subject consisted of ten children, nine of whom grew to become men and women. To each of his children James Higgins gave the advantages of a good education and those who wished availed themselves of a college course. Most of the boys became professional men, and Robert of his own choice became a farmer.

The subject of this history was the ninth child of his parents' family. He was reared on the farm, attended the district schools and assisted his father in his agricultural operations until his marriage. The father then built another house on the home



farm where our subject and his wife took up their abode and managed the operations of the farm until 1855. They then came to Illinois and rented a farm in Mt. Hope Township for two years. In the spring of 1858 Robert Higgins moved to the Darnell Farm and occupied it for the following ten years, and in the meantime also purchased the farm which he now owns and occupies. When it came into his possession there was upon it a frame house 14x20 feet in dimensions and sixty-five acres of land were broken. There had also been planted a few fruit trees and the land was partially fenced. In the spring of 1868 the old frame house was replaced by the present comfortable family residence, and the farm of Mr. Higgins, which comprises 160 acres, is now all under an excellent state of cultivation. He has a good barn and all other necessary out-buildings and is now enjoying the fruits of early toil and economy.

Mr. Higgins was married, April 4, 1847, while in Perry County, Ohio, to Miss Jane Allen, daughter of Oliver and Mary Allen, natives of Rhode Island. Of this union there were born four children, of whom three only are living: Clarence Elmer, who is a native of Perry County, Ohio, now lives in Stanford, this county; James lives in Okley, Kan.; Laura J. married John E. Jous, and they live in Nuckolls County, Neb. The mother of these children departed this life Dec. 6, 1856.

Mr. Higgins was the second time married, in 1858, to Mrs. Sarepta (Brookes) Darnall. Mrs. Higgins was a native of Kentucky and was first married to Nicholas Darnall. Of her marriage with our subject there was born one child, Emma B., who became the wife of David Stephey and lives in Nuckolls County, Neb. Mrs. Sarepta Higgins died in September, 1872, and Mr. Higgins was married the third time on the 9th of October, 1873, to Miss Samantha Clayton. This lady is a native of Perry County, Ohio, and the daughter of Thomas and Catharine Clayton. Of this union there have been born three children—Edgar H., Minnie E. and Lucy May. Mr. and Mrs. H. are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In earlier years and during the existence of the Whig party, Mr. H. affiliated with that political organization, but since the abandonment of the old party by the

formation of the Republican party he has cordially indorsed the principles of the latter and with it uniformly casts his vote.



**L**UCIUS ROGERS. Among the fine farms in Arrowsmith Township which attract the attention of the passing traveler, is that of the subject of this sketch, which consists of 120 acres of finely cultivated land, and is at present devoted largely to the breeding of high grades of Short-horn cattle. In addition to other modern improvements, Mr. Rogers has a handsome and substantial dwelling, with a good barn and fences, and the estate in all respects indicates the intelligence and industry of its proprietor. He has been a resident of the Prairie State since April, 1860, landing first in Bloomington, where he worked three months and spent the following four months teaching in Du Page County. He had received an excellent education, and took a course of one year at Oberlin College, Ohio.

Lucius Rogers was born in Washtenaw County, Mich., Oct. 22, 1840, and is the son of Thomas H. and Louisa (Tuley) Rogers, the latter a native of Phelps Tp., Wayne Co., N. Y. Thomas H. Rogers was born at Saratoga Springs, Aug. 15, 1802, and removed to Michigan in 1832, settling in Ann Arbor, where he died in 1853 or 1854. When a young man he learned the carpenter's trade, at which he became very skillful, one of his specialties being the manufacture of grain cradles in the early times of that county. He became connected with the Masons while in his native State, and lived up to the principles of that fraternity until the day of his death. He was a man of much force of character and prominent in the affairs of his township, where he held the various offices. His wife, Louisa, was born in 1810, and died in Michigan in 1845. Of their five children the record is as follows: Darius died when twenty-one years of age; Annie, who became the wife of Calvin Colburn, died in 1877; Lucius of our sketch was the third child; Oliver enlisted in the Union army, becoming a member of the 12th Indiana Infantry, and died of fever in 1863; Martha died in childhood. The mother of

our subject died when he was a little lad five years old. He remained with his father until reaching manhood, and chose for his wife Miss Eunice Freeman, to whom he was married Dec. 5, 1866. Mrs. R. is a native of this county, born June 20, 1844, and is the daughter of Caleb and Martha (Barnard) Freeman, natives of Ohio. Caleb Freeman, who was born in 1814, still survives, and is a farmer by occupation. His wife, Martha, was born Feb. 14, 1819, and departed this life at the home of her husband, May 11, 1884. Their eight children were Rebecca B., Samuel B., Eunice, Victory, Clinton D., Leven E.; Elizabeth H., who died when eleven years of age, and Abraham L.

The eight children of our subject and his wife are Martha E., Annie L., Oliver, Abigail, Elton B. and Ellis J. [twins], Arthur A. and Davis. Soon after the outbreak of the late Civil War, Mr. Rogers, laying aside his personal and private interests, proffered his services as a soldier of the Union, becoming a member of Co. B, 33d Ill. Vol. Inf., under Col. Hovey, and afterward under Col. Lippincott and Capt. Morgan, in August, 1861. At the expiration of his term of enlistment he veteranized, in January, 1864, in the same company and regiment. Their first duties lay in Missouri, where they were detailed to guard bridges on the Iron Mountain Railroad. Thence they proceeded to Arkansas, participated in the fight at Cache Creek, July 7, 1862, and afterward with hard marching and scant rations reached Helena, Ark., in July, where they spent three months at Old Town Landing. In October following they returned North, spending the winter with the command of Gen. Davidson, in Missouri. In the spring they joined Grant's army, and our subject, with his comrades, participated in the battle of Ft. Gibson, skirmished around Edwards' Station on the Black River, and were present at the siege of Vicksburg, and the battle of Jackson, Miss. Thence they proceeded to New Orleans, accompanied the expedition up the Hatchie River, and returned to New Orleans in November, 1863. They then took boats for Indianola, after which they were detailed for special duty until about the time the term for which our subject had first enlisted, had expired. After a short time spent with friends at Bloomington, Mr. Rog-

ers rejoined his comrades in 1864, and in the spring of 1865 was present at the siege and capture of Mobile and Spanish Fort. Returning to Camp Butler, Ill., he received both his pay and an honorable discharge. During the summer of 1865 he was detailed for duty at the Freedmen's Bureau. Mr. Rogers recalls his war experience with melancholy interest, his comrades now being scattered from Maine to Oregon.

He has been a member of the G. A. R. since its organization in this locality, and politically is a fervent Republican. He has been Justice of the Peace of Arrowsmith Township for the last four years, during which time there have never been any appeals from his decisions. As a business man and citizen he is held in the highest respect, and constitutes one of the finest representatives of the solid and reliable elements of this section.



**G**EORGE W. RIGGS, a retired farmer and now a successful merchant of Saybrook, this county, has been a resident of the Prairie State for fifty-seven years. During this length of time he has been an interested witness of the remarkable changes which have occurred throughout the great West. He commenced life in a humble manner, but by the exercise of his native industry and more than ordinary business ability, is now in the enjoyment of a competency. He also long years ago established himself in the confidence of his friends and fellow-citizens and has built up for himself a good record as an honest man and valuable member of the community.

Mr. Riggs is a native of Kentucky, and was born in Fleming County, Dec. 11, 1827. He is the son of William M. and Nancy (Pitts) Riggs, the former a native of Maryland and the latter of Kentucky. William M. Riggs was of English descent and was born Sept. 7, 1803. He received a common-school education, was reared to farming pursuits and from early youth was of a serious and religious turn of mind. He was a Methodist exhorter for a number of years, and after coming to this county, in 1830, founded the Methodist Episcopal Church in Cheney's Grove and officiated

as an exhorter here over fifty years. He was married, Dec. 28, 1826, to Miss Nancy Pitts, who was born in 1806, and they became the parents of six children, all living with the exception of one, who died in 1884, when forty-six years of age. Those surviving are, George W.; Henry M., a resident of Oregon; Margaret P., Mrs. P. Lewis of this township; William H., living in Saybrook; Mary J., Mrs. Hall, of Texas, and Samuel R. William M. Riggs survived the death of his wife six years, and passed to his long home on Jan. 28, 1887.

George W. Riggs came with his parents to Illinois in 1830, when a child three years of age. He attended the district school and worked with his father on the farm until he was twenty-two years old. He was then united in marriage with Miss Minerva W. Lewis, Oct. 11, 1849. Mrs. R. was born in Kentucky, Dec. 28, 1827, and was the daughter of William D. and Nancy (Pitts) Lewis, both natives of the Blue Grass State. Her father was born in 1801 and died Oct. 14, 1872. He was a farmer by occupation and with his wife, in early life became connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mrs. Nancy P. Lewis was born Jan. 30, 1806, and died Dec. 19, 1866. Their family consisted of eleven children, of whom the record is as follows: Martin M., who was born Aug. 8, 1826, died when one year old; Minerva W., Mrs. Riggs, was the eldest daughter; Lucinda was born Aug. 18, 1829, and became the wife of Reuben Coonrod; Louisa E. was born June 6, 1831; Mary A., in 1833; James A., in 1835; John, June 8, 1837; Nancy C., Oct. 5, 1840; Allen H., July 12, 1843; William R., Dec. 23, 1845; Margaret, April 14, 1849.

Mr. and Mrs. Riggs became the parents of eleven children, as follows: Olive J. was born Sept. 11, 1850; Nancy H., Dec. 1, 1851; William A., born Sept. 21, 1853, died June 27, 1855, from a rattlesnake bite; John W., born Jan. 26, 1855; Melville L., Dec. 17, 1856; Charles B., July 29, 1859; Martin Luther, Nov. 13, 1861; Mary L., Nov. 6, 1863; Ella C., born Jan. 18, 1866, died November 27 of that year; Eva M. was born May 24, 1868, and R. Bell, July 24, 1870. These children are all married and settled in comfortable homes of their own except R. Bell, and our subject and his wife are quite

proud of the fact that they have eight grandchildren.

In 1881 Mr. Riggs retired from the labors of the farm and became a resident of Saybrook. With the assistance of his sons he is carrying on a profitable trade in dry-goods and clothing, the firm being familiarly known as G. W. Riggs & Sons. Having been one of the earliest pioneers of Cheney's Grove Township, he is accorded that peculiar veneration and respect which are tacitly given to those who first ventured into the Western wilds and marked out a path for a later civilization. Since arriving at manhood he has been intimately identified with the agricultural and business interests of McLean County, has been active in the support of schools and churches, and interested in whatever enterprise was set on foot to advance the intellectual and moral well-being of the locality. Both he and his wife for many years have been connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Riggs has been an active Sunday-school worker and served in his church as Trustee, Steward and Class-Leader for many years. He has been a staunch Republican since the organization of the party and although never an office-seeker, has served as Road Commissioner and occupied other important positions in the affairs of his township.



GEORGE R. BODGER, son of John and Hannah (Ratliffe) Bodger, is one of the most highly esteemed residents of Gridley Township. He comes of excellent English ancestry and emigrated to this country in the fall of 1851, with his parents, who, after landing upon American shores proceeded directly westward to this State and settled near Washington, Tazewell County. They remained there until 1855, then came to this county and located in Gridley Township, where the mother died in December, 1867. The father still survives and lives in Gridley Township. Their eight children comprise five boys and three girls, the subject of this sketch being next to the eldest.

George R. Bodger was born in England, Feb. 20, 1837, and was about fourteen years old when his parents came to the United States. He was

reared to agricultural pursuits, in which he has been engaged thus far in life. During the thirty years which he has been a resident of this section he has built up a record of an honest and industrious citizen, always willing to contribute his full share toward the development of his adopted country.

The subject of our sketch was married in Tazewell County, Ill., Feb. 20, 1872, to Miss Sarah, the daughter of William and Celia (Ricketts) Holmes. The parents of Mrs. S. were natives respectively of Kentucky and Indiana, whence they removed to Illinois and located in Tazewell County, where the father departed this life Nov. 8, 1873. The mother afterward removed to Washington County, Neb., where her death occurred July 11, 1884. Of their eight children, Mrs. B. was the fourth in order of birth. She was born in Woodford County, Ill., Jan. 15, 1842. Our subject and his wife had only one child, who died in infancy. Mr. B. has served as School Director of his township and in politics is a staunch adherent of the Democratic party.



**J**ACOB J. HAM, a wealthy and influential farmer of Hudson Township, owns and occupies a beautiful country seat located on section 33, and which forms one of the most attractive spots in the landscape of McLean County. Mr. Ham settled where he now lives in 1862, and has been of material assistance in the development and advancement of the industrial and agricultural interests of this section. The subject of this history is a native of Columbia County, N. Y., and was born in Kinderhook on the 28th of February, 1820. His parents, Jacob C. and Catharine (Pochman) Ham, were also natives of the Empire State, and the family circle included eleven children, of whom our subject was the fourth in order of birth. His ancestors were from Holland and several generations ago settled in Pennsylvania and subsequently moved to New York State.

Jacob J. Ham was reared on his father's farm in New York State and pursued his primary studies in the common schools. This was supplemented by attendance for a short time at college, and be-

ing a studious and ambitious boy he thus obtained sufficient education to enable him to adopt the profession of a teacher. In this he became quite successful and followed it for about fifteen years, the last six of these being spent in Padua Township.

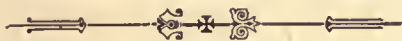
Mr. Ham came to Illinois in October, 1856, locating at once in McLean County, and in 1862 he purchased 160 acres of land, upon which he settled and which constitutes a part of his present farm. The land was not much improved when he took possession of it, but by persevering industry he has made it one of the finest farms in that section of the State. He added to his real estate as time passed on and is now the owner of a half section, one-quarter being located on section 28 and the other on section 33, and it is all under a good state of improvement. In 1873 he erected his present handsome and commodious farm dwelling, which is built of brick, two stories in height, and cost over \$8,000. It is in all respects one of the best farm residences in the county and his barns and other out-buildings correspond with the balance of the improvements. The premises at all points indicate the existence of cultivated tastes and ample means. His costly farming implements are of the most improved pattern and everything is in keeping with the appliances of a first-class agriculturist. Mr. Ham of late has been giving much attention to stock-raising, dealing in high grade cattle, and at present feeds and sells large numbers of live stock of all kinds annually.

In early life our subject was a Democrat, but when the rebels fired upon Ft. Sumter he at once identified himself with the Republicans and became an ardent supporter of the Union. Since 1880 he has identified himself with the Prohibitionists, having been a strong temperance man all through life, and believing that in this manner he could more substantially cast his influence against the use and manufacture of spirituous liquors. He has been a man of strong and decided views, fearless in his expression of opinion, and bound to cast his influence toward the cause which he believed to be right, whatever might be the consequences. He has been an incumbent of the various offices of his township, although he would much prefer to give his entire attention to his own business matters.

At the age of eighteen years Mr. Ham identified himself with the German Reform Church, but in 1861, after coming West, he united with the Baptists.

The marriage of our subject with Miss Elsie M. Warner took place July 21, 1859. Mrs. Ham was born in Chenango County, N. Y., came West alone after becoming a young lady, and engaged as a teacher in McLean County until her marriage. Of this union there have been born five children, two of whom died in infancy; Henry Orlo spends his winters in Florida, where he owns an orange grove, and comes North during the summer to the home of his parents. He was married, April 7, 1887, to Ida J. Tilghman, daughter of Rev. N. J. Tilghman, their marriage taking place in Francis, Fla. Nettie, the wife of James T. Gildersleeve, resides in Hudson Township; they have one child, Elsie M. Eddie is at home with his parents.

Mr. Ham has been most essentially the architect of his own fortune, assisted by his estimable and energetic wife. He started out in life without financial assistance, but by persevering industry and the aid of superior business qualifications he has made of life a fine success and is now enjoying the reward of a competency and the profound respect of all who know him. A view of Mr. Ham's residence and surroundings is given in this work.



**G**EORGE B. WHEELER, editor and proprietor of the *Daily Leader*, of Bloomington, is a native of Kennebunkport, York Co., Me., and was born Aug. 1, 1853, being the son of John A. and Louisa M. (Bourne) Wheeler, natives of the same State. Of their three children only two are living, George B., our subject, and his brother, Frank K. John Wheeler engaged in mercantile pursuits through life, and was Postmaster from 1869 until his death. Both parents were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the mother was especially devoted to Christian and charitable duties. The latter is still living at her old home in Maine.

The subject of this biography received a good common-school education, and afterward gradu-

ated from the preparatory college course of the Maine Wesleyan Seminary at Kent's Hill. He entered Bowdoin College at Brunswick and graduated with honors in the class of 1874. After leaving college he taught school one year, and then entered the office of the *Portland Advertiser*, to learn the printer's trade. In 1876, he purchased the *Merri-mac Journal*, at Franklin, N. H., which he conducted for two years, in partnership with his brother, Frank K. During his residence at Franklin, he was a member of the Board of Education and Chairman of the Republican Central Committee. He came to Bloomington, Ill., in June, 1880, and in company with his brother-in-law, Maj. W. F. Crawford, purchased a one-half interest in the daily and weekly *Leader*, and in 1886, they purchased the balance. Mr. Wheeler at once assumed the editorial management of the paper, which position he has since held, and has distinguished himself as an able journalist and excellent business man. In 1882, on account of the appointment of his partner, Mr. Crawford, to a Government office, Mr. Wheeler became business manager of the establishment, and in his varied duties has met with remarkable success.

The *Leader* [weekly] of Bloomington, was established in November, 1868, by John S. Seibird and O. Waters, with Elias Smith as editor. On the 22d of February, 1870, the *Daily Leader* was started, with A. F. Diggs as editor. Subsequently a stock company was organized to conduct the paper. Later on, O. Waters and J. W. Nichols became the proprietors. In 1875, M. F. Leland purchased the plant, and Mr. Nichols continued as editor. In 1880, Messrs. G. B. Wheeler and W. F. Crawford, of Maine, purchased a half interest, and assumed the control of the *Leader*, Mr. Wheeler taking the editorial, and Mr. Crawford the financial management. In August, 1886, this firm purchased the entire interest in the paper, and have since owned it. Mr. Crawford, however, retired from the management to take charge of his bank in Cameron, Tex. The *Leader* is an eight-column folio paper, neatly and attractively gotten up, and is, and always has been, a stalwart Republican journal. The weekly *Leader* is a ten-column folio. This journal has a large circulation, is devoted to the interests

of its patrons and the principles of the Republican party, of which it is an able advocate. It is bright and newsy, and is one of the prominent and influential journals of the State.

The circulation of the *Bloomington Leader* is steadily increasing, and its prosperity and influence are greatly due to the shrewd business tact and journalistic ability of its present editor and business manager.

Mr. Wheeler was married in 1880, to Miss Laura E. Crawford, of Brunswick, Me., a charming lady socially, and a noted elocutionist. Of this marriage there has been born one child, a daughter, Helen Louise.



**J**OHN M. DARNALL, is an honored resident of McLean County, and one of the oldest settlers of Mt. Hope Township. During his long residence in this locality, Mr. Darnall has built for himself a reputation as an honest man and a good citizen, and is a gentleman who has materially assisted in the development of this section of the Prairie State.

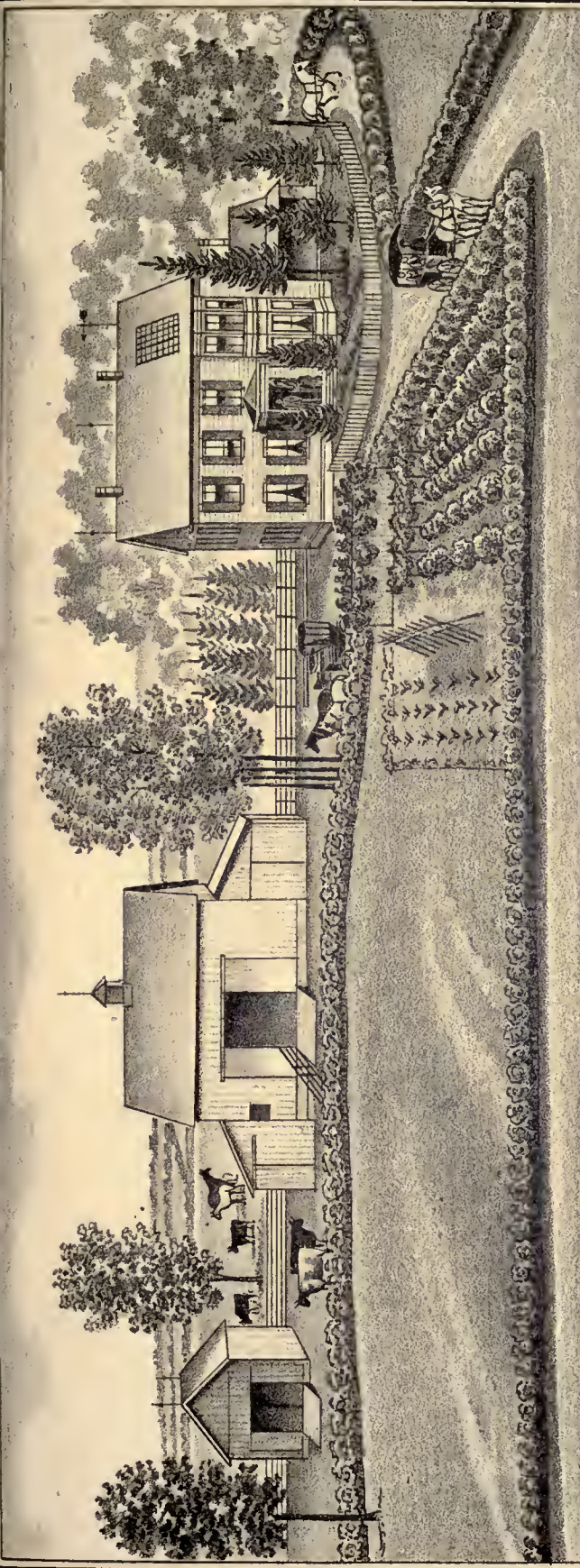
Mr. Darnall is a native of McLean County, and first opened his eyes to the light in Lawndale Township on the 30th of September, 1833. His father, Nicholas Darnall, was a native of Kentucky, and was born in Booneville, in about 1808. The parents of the latter were early settlers of the Blue Grass State, and their son Nicholas was but six years old when they died. He then went to live with a married sister, Mrs. John Henline, of Kentucky, and remained with her until he was old enough to learn the trade of a blacksmith. He was still serving his apprenticeship when, in 1828, his brother-in-law, Mr. Henline, came to Illinois, and Nicholas Darnall came with him. The journey was made overland, with six horses and a wagon. Mr. Henline started with his family and the first day met with an accident, and was then obliged to employ his brother-in-law, the father of our subject, to drive the team through. The western por-

tion of McLean was then a part of Tazewell County, and Mr. Henline settled in Lawndale Township. Mr. D. lived with him until 1832, in the meantime having entered a claim, and made all the improvements he could upon the land. He then settled on his place, which he occupied for the following two years. Then, in the spring of 1834, he sold out, and moved into what is now Allin Township. In the meantime, having been married, with his wife he took up his abode with his father-in-law, with whom he lived until the following December. He had also purchased a tract of unimproved land of the latter, which was located on section 6 of what is now Mt. Hope Township. There he erected a log cabin, built a small shop, and carried on farming and blacksmithing\* together. They lived in the log cabin until the winter of 1842-43, when Mr. Darnall built a frame house, which he occupied with his family until the close of his life, in April, 1848.

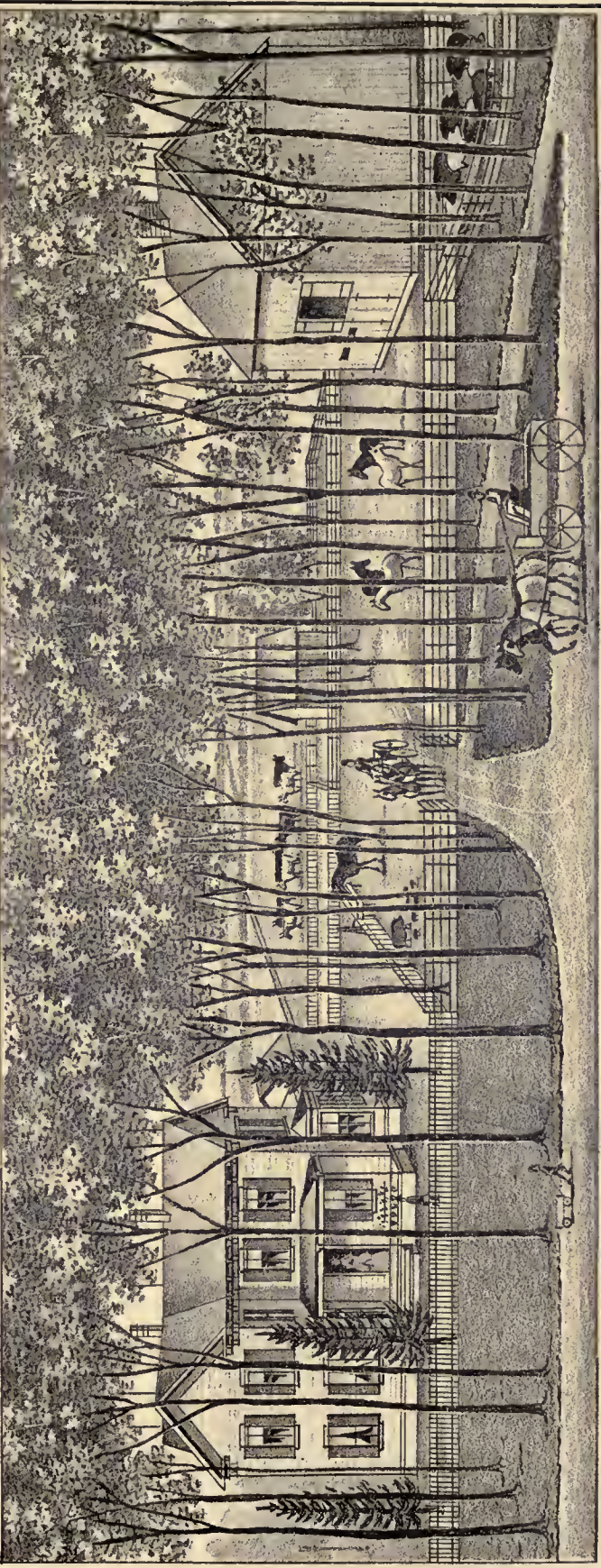
The father of our subject was united in marriage with Miss Sarepta Brooks, who was the daughter of Miles and Lucy Brooks, and was born in Hart County, Ky. Her parents removed to McLean County, Ill., at an early period in the history of this section, and were among the first settlers of Brooks' Grove.

The household circle of the parents of our subject, was completed by the birth of eight children, of whom five are still living, namely: John M., who is the subject of our sketch, was the eldest; William lives at Stanford, this county; Henry is a resident of Mt. Hope Township; Rachel married Alfred Bozarth, of the same township; Elvira became the wife of B. N. Ewing, and lives in Tazewell County, Ill.

The subject of our sketch, and the first born of his parents, entered life in the humble log cabin into which they removed soon after their marriage. He was but a little over a year old when they removed from Lawndale to Mt. Hope Township, and has been a resident of the latter township since that time. He is, in point of settlement, the oldest resident of the township, and is held in that peculiar veneration and respect which is tacitly accorded the old settlers, whose numbers are rapidly growing less. He attended the subscription schools be-



RESIDENCE OF DR. S. G. WOODMANCY, SEC. 17 MT. HOPE TP.



RESIDENCE OF JOHN M. DARNALL, SEC. 5. MT. HOPE TP.





fore free schools were instituted, and as soon as large enough began to assist his parents around the homestead. His father died when he was fourteen years of age, and being the eldest the care of the family devolved upon him. He remained at home until 1861, and then built a house on the farm which he now owns and occupies. He enlisted, May 2, 1864, in Co. D, 145th Ill. Vol. Inf., and was mustered in at Camp Butler, Springfield, with the rank of Corporal. The regiment was ordered to Benton Barracks, St. Louis, and thence to Rolla, Mo., doing guard duty. Part of the regiment, with which was Mr. Darnall, was transferred to Alton, Ill., where they guarded prisoners at the old penitentiary. On the expiration of his hundred days' service he was mustered out at Camp Butler, returned to his home in this county, and continued his farming operations.

After his return from the service of his country, he was united in marriage with Miss Hannah Zolers, the wedding taking place Jan. 3, 1865. Mrs. Darnall was born in Waynesville, De Witt County, and by her union with our subject became the mother of six children, viz: Lee, Charlie and Clarence H., and three who died in infancy unnamed.

Mr. Darnall has been engaged in farming pursuits during the greater part of his life, and has also given much attention to the breeding of fine stock. He is now engaged to a considerable extent in feeding and shipping the latter, and from his operations in this direction enjoys a fine income. In 1882 he erected the present commodious family residence, and but ten years prior had put up a large and convenient barn. The farm estate includes 243 acres, a part of which lies in Allin Township, and is all in a good state of cultivation. He has all the conveniences for carrying on agriculture in a first-class manner, and in every respect is a straightforward business man, meeting his obligations promptly and doing by his neighbors as he would wish to be done by. In politics he is a Republican and has been since the organization of the party. Prior to that time he was a Whig. For the last sixteen years he has served as a School Director.

A fine lithographic view of the splendid homestead of Mr. Darnall is shown in this work.

**D**R. SAMUEL G. WOODMANCY, an enterprising and successful farmer of Mt. Hope Township, owns and occupies a fine homestead on section 17, and is a splendid representative of the enterprising and intelligent farmer. The homestead presents one of the prettiest spots in the landscape of McLean County and is equipped in every respect with all the appliances for carrying on agriculture in a first-class manner, and is highly indicative of the abode of refinement and culture in no ordinary degree. The proprietor of this fine farm estate may justly be proud of what his genius, his talents and industry have accomplished in this direction alone, and it is with pleasure that we embellish this volume with a view of it, with others of the fine residences and farms for which McLean County is especially noted.

The subject of this biography is a native of New England, having been born in Warren, Rhode Island, on the 22d of June, 1823. His father, George Woodmancy, was born in Swansea, Mass., March 17, 1782, his mother, May 30, 1784, and his grandfather, Reuben Woodmancy, is supposed to have been a native of England and of English ancestry. He was a farmer by occupation, came to this country in early manhood, and spent the last years of his life in the town where his son, the father of our subject, was born. His death took place June 13, 1797. The father, at the age of fourteen years, was apprenticed to a shoemaker at Warren, R. I. It was stipulated that he should serve seven years. During this period times were hard and business dull and his employer allowed him to make two trips at sea. When he became twenty years of age he purchased his time and opened a shop for himself. He was a good workman, had plenty to do, and in the course of time was enabled to purchase a lot and build a house. He there followed his trade until one year before his death, which occurred April 10, 1852. In early manhood, Dec. 11, 1802, he was united in marriage with Miss Rebecca Goff, a native of Warren, R. I., and she departed this life Feb. 13, 1829. After the death of his first wife George Woodmancy was the second time married, this time to Mrs. Martha (Ingraham) Goff. Their marriage took place July 28, 1829. By the first marriage there were born seven children, five of whom grew to be-

come men and women, and of the second marriage there was born one child only—Martha Williams.

Samuel G. Woodmancy was the youngest child of the first marriage of his father. He remained under the parental roof and attended the public schools until fourteen years of age, when he learned to make cigars and thereby earned money enough to acquire some leisure to educate himself. He was a bright and studious youth, fond of his books and ambitious to excel. After two years he was taken ill, and in the following two years nearly all of his money went to pay the doctor, who did him but little good. During his illness, whenever able to read, he employed his time in the perusal of instructive books, in the meantime reading with much interest a medical work of Dr. Buchanan of England. As medicine had not succeeded in his own case he left off taking it, and began a course of treatment in accordance with Dr. Buchanan's theory, and speedily effected a cure. He then made a study of magnetic treatment and became a successful practitioner. Although he did not put himself forward as an M. D., he was frequently called upon by his friends, whom he treated successfully, almost without exception. He was greatly interested in this branch of science and continued to investigate disease, its cause and cure, and finally used hygienic treatment, utilizing Nature's remedies—light, heat, water and electricity. During this time he made his home alternately in Warren and Providence, R. I., and in Fall River, Mass., working at his trade and practicing medicine.

In September, 1853, Mr. Woodmancy resolved to seek the Western country, and accordingly journeyed to the Prairie State. His friend, Mr. J. A. Pitts, had located in Mt. Hope Township, McLean County, and with him he spent the winter. In the meantime he purchased 240 acres of wild land on sections 16 and 17 of Mt. Hope Township, which is now included in the present homestead. He was still unmarried, and while carrying on the improvement of his new farm he became an inmate of the family of Nathaniel Ewings, where he remained for a time and afterward kept "bachelor's hall" until his marriage. This latter event transpired in April, 1856, the maiden of his choice being Miss Caroline Trott, a New England lady, who was born

in the town of Hallowell, Me., and the daughter of Capt. Isaac Trott, who followed the sea for a number of years, engaged in merchant service. He removed to Illinois in 1855, and died at the home of his son in Nebraska on the 14th of August, 1886. He was married in early life to Miss Jane Smith, who died in Bath, Me.

Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Woodmancy there have been born four children: Walter was born in Mt. Hope Township, where he has always lived, and was united in marriage with Miss Mary Johnson, a native of Wisconsin; Apphia E., the wife of Larken T. Mullins, is also a resident of Mt. Hope. The son and son-in-law assist in carrying on the home farm of Mr. Woodmancy; Ella J. and Alice M. died while young.

Mr. Woodmancy has been a Republican since 1860, when he voted for Abraham Lincoln. He is a gentleman of more than ordinary ability, an extensive reader, a deep thinker, and keenly observant of what is going on around him in the world. He is one of those who, when attempting anything, seldom abandons it, and whatever he does is done well. He is skillful as a farmer, is straightforward and methodical in his business transactions, and as a citizen is held in the highest respect by all who know him.

**E**DWARD WASHBURN, junior member of the enterprising young firm of Smith & Washburn, has been in business as a member of said firm since April 7, 1883. He was born in Bridgewater, Plymouth Co., Mass., Dec. 11, 1847, and is the son of Rotheus and Mary (Hayward) Washburn, also natives of New England. The father of our subject was a skillful mechanic, and remained in his native State nearly all his life. The parental household included five children, of whom only two are living: William H., a resident of Tremont, Tazewell Co., Ill., and Edward, the subject of this sketch.

Edward Washburn resided in his native State until fifteen years of age, and then accompanied his brother, William H., to Illinois. They located in Tazewell County, and in 1864, during the progress of the late war, our subject enlisted as a sol-

dier of the Union in Co. A, 108th Ill. Vol. Inf., in which he served until the close of the war. Having enlisted late in the conflict, he was present at only one regular engagement, this being the battle of Spanish Fort, at Mobile, Ala. After retiring from the army he returned to Tazewell County, where he rented land and engaged in farming until 1871. He then purchased 160 acres of land in Vermilion County, this State, which he operated until 1883, then sold out and removed to Cropsey, this county, where he engaged in his present business.

Our subject was united in marriage with Miss Caroline G. Sniffin in 1871. Mrs. Washburn was born in Tazewell County, and was the daughter of Nathaniel and Elizabeth Sniffin. Of the union of our subject there have been born two children, a son, who died in infancy, and George A. They occupy a pleasant and comfortable home, and enjoy the acquaintance of the best people in the town. Mr. Washburn is Republican in politics, and socially belongs to the Masonic fraternity and the G. A. R.



**J**OHAN LIVINGSTON, a pioneer settler of Padua Township, became a resident of this locality in December, 1847. During a period of over forty years he has devoted his time and attention to agricultural pursuits, in which he has been more than ordinarily successful. His farm estate consists of 180 acres of valuable land on sections 28 and 33, the family residence being on the former. This, with all its surroundings, indicate the exercise of a fine taste and ample means. Everything about the premises is kept in first-class order. The stock of the farm is in good condition and well cared for, and the agricultural implements are of the latest and most approved pattern. Mr. Livingston, years ago was acknowledged one of the leading and progressive farmers of this section, and takes genuine pride in his work and the growth and prosperity of his county and township.

John Livingston was born in Dearborn County, Ind., Feb. 8, 1814. He is the son of Adam D. and Patsey (Livingston) Livingston, natives of Virginia, the father being reared in Kentucky. He

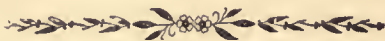
served as a soldier in the War of 1812, and after his retirement from the army, carried on his farm in Dearborn County, Ind., until the death of the mother of our subject, which occurred when the latter was but two years of age. Adam Livingston was a second time married, to Miss Betsey Durham, who was born and reared in Delaware. He removed to Illinois from Dearborn County, Ind., in 1840, and to various places afterward, finally locating in Waynesville, De Witt County, where he died at the advanced age of eighty-four and one-half years. The second wife died in Missouri.

The subject of this history was the younger of his mother's two children. His only sister died in this township in 1842, having been married to Phillip Miller, by whom she became the mother of three children. The early life of John Livingston was spent in Dearborn County, Ind., where he worked with his father until his marriage. This event occurred on the 11th of March, 1844, the lady of his choice being Miss Cornelia Thomas, who was born in Orange County, N. C., in 1825. Her parents removed from her native State when she was but a child, and located in Dearborn County, Ind., where they passed the remainder of their lives. Mrs. Livingston was the fourth daughter of six children, and remained with her parents until her marriage. Her father, Richard Thomas, was a native of Orange County, N. C., where he was reared, and was married to Miss Margaret Roney, a native of the same county and State.

Mr. and Mrs. Livingston became the parents of one child, who died in infancy. They are both worthy members of the Baptist Church, and our subject politically casts his vote with the Republican party.

Adolphus Dimmick, first husband of the aunt of our subject, Mrs. Esther (Livingston) Dimmick, was born in Tolland County, Conn., Jan. 13, 1791, and in 1816 came West to Ripley County, Ind. He was married on the 9th of October, 1832, to Miss Esther Livingston, and in November of that same year started for Illinois, making the journey overland with oxen and one horse, drawing a wagon. They landed in Old Town Township, this county, Nov. 25, 1832. Their house, built of logs, was one of the first in that locality. The fireplace

was fashioned out of pounded clay, the chimney of sticks and mud, the floor was of puncheon, and the window-panes were of greased paper. The land upon which they located did not come into market until four years afterward, and it is unnecessary to say it was in its original condition, peopled generously with wild animals and birds, which were the only companions of the two who had started out in life together, resolved to brave its misfortunes and share its prosperity. Mr. Dimmick was cut down in the prime of life, dying on Christmas Day in 1845. The household circle had been blest by the birth of three children, all of whom are now deceased. In earlier years the father had been a teacher in both Ohio and this State. His widow afterward married Stephen Ireland, who died in the house which is now occupied by our subject, in the spring of 1851, the homestead having been owned by her. Mrs. Ireland departed this life July 28, 1879, after which her farm fell to her nephew, John Livingston, of our sketch. Mrs. Ireland was an excellent Christian lady, greatly beloved by all who knew her, for her kindness of heart and rare womanly virtues.



**H**ON. FRANK Y. HAMILTON was elected to the General Assembly of Illinois in 1886, on the Republican ticket, and is considered one of the representative citizens of McLean County. Although his residence in Bloomington has not been of many years' duration he has fully established himself in the confidence of the people of this vicinity and his genius and talent are fully recognized by those most competent to judge of merit and ability.

Mr. Hamilton is a native of Richwood, Union Co., Ohio, and was born Dec. 27, 1852. He is the son of Samuel and Naney (McMorris) Hamilton, natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Virginia, who after their marriage, settled first in Muskingum County, Ohio, whence they removed to Licking and then to Union County, the father being engaged in farming pursuits. The father purchased forty acres of heavy timber land in the latter county and built a log house, two stories high,

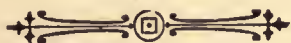
doing all the work himself. He occupied this with his family until his land was cleared and under a good state of cultivation.

The grandfather of our subject, William Hamilton, was a local Protestant Methodist preacher and one of the founders of that denomination in Ohio. He accompanied his son Samuel upon the journey to Ohio and purchased 1,000 acres of land, which was partially cleared, and which he occupied until his death in 1865, after having arrived at the advanced age of eighty-three years. Samuel Hamilton finally sold his farm in Ohio and emigrated to Illinois overland with his family, in 1854. They settled in Marshall County upon a farm of 180 acres, and the father afterward purchased twenty acres of timber. He followed farming and stock-raising for some years and here the mother died in 1866. The year following the death of his wife Samuel Hamilton sold out and removed to Wenona, Marshall County, in this State, and is now living on a small farm there. He is a man of decided views, is Republican in politics, and a member in good standing of the Protestant Methodist Church.

The parents of Frank Hamilton had a family of nine children, one of whom, John M., became Governor of Illinois, and six are now living. The subject of this biography remained on the farm with his parents until seventeen years of age and received a fair education in the schools of Wenona. He then attended Wesleyan University at Bloomington for one year and subsequently engaged in teaching near Wenona. In the fall of 1871, he took a course in Adrian College, Indiana, from which he graduated in 1874. The money necessary for carrying on his studies was furnished by his uncle, William M. Hamilton, which was paid back by our subject after he commenced teaching. He was married in August, 1875, to Miss Emma Cone, of Fulton County, Ohio, and they have become the parents of two children: Ethel R., born in 1882, and Clair O., in 1885.

Soon after his marriage Mr. Hamilton became Principal of the graded school at Sheridan, La Salle County, Ill., in which Mrs. Hamilton was assistant, and where they remained for the following six years. In 1881 they removed to Bloomington where our subject commenced the study of law with

the firm of Rowell & Hamilton, and was admitted to practice two years later. He continued in Bloomington, meeting with success, and in 1886 was elected to the Legislature, having received the nomination after a spirited contest, over the former representative, Hon. I. H. Pike. He is also attorney for the I. B. & W. R. R. and general attorney for the Security Live Stock Insurance Company of Bloomington. Besides his residence at No. 701 East Douglas street, he owns a farm in Nebraska. Mr. and Mrs. H. are members of the Second Presbyterian Church, of which our subject has been Superintendent of the Sabbath-school since 1883. He is identified with the Republican party, and belongs to the Masonic fraternity as a member of Bloomington Lodge No. 43, and Royal Arcanum Council in this city. So far he has made for himself a good record and there is a prospect for him of better things to come.



**F**RANK KRAFT. Germany has contributed her quota, not only to the upbuilding of McLean County, but a goodly portion of the United States, and within the boundary lines of this county we find a large number of that class of citizens. Prominent among this number is the gentleman of whom we write, and who is pleasantly located on his fine and productive farm on section 17, Towanda Township. Mr. Kraft is a son of Joseph and Mary A. Kraft, natives of Germany, in which country they both died.

Our subject was the oldest son of his parents' children, and was born in Baden, Germany, June 7, 1829. He lived in the "Faderland" until the fall of 1855, when he emigrated to the United States. When sixteen years old our subject learned the trade of soap-making, and followed that occupation until he came to this country, with the exception of the time he was compelled to serve in the army. The laws of his native country required him to serve six years in the army, but two years before the expiration of his time he, desiring to emigrate to the United States, hired a substitute to take his place for the unexpired time, paying therefor the sum of \$200.

On arriving in the United States our subject first located near Dayton, Ohio, where he lived about one year, working out by the month on a farm. In the fall of 1856 he came to McLean County and worked at farming by the month until his marriage. He then rented a farm, and for four years continued to cultivate rented land. At the expiration of this time he had accumulated enough to enable him to purchase eighty acres in Towanda Township, and which was located on section 17. On this tract he settled, and has there lived until the present time. By strict economy and energy he has been enabled to add to his original purchase, and is now the owner of 320 acres of good and valuable land, on which he has the best of improvements, and where he is meeting with more than ordinary success.

Mr. Kraft was married at Bloomington, Ill., March 13, 1859, to Paulina Fiebig, daughter of Gottlieb and Banety Fiebig, natives of Germany, and in which country they both died. Mrs. Kraft was born March 25, 1836, in Germany, and came to this country when twenty years of age. The result of her union with our subject has been two children: Oscar W. and Lewis H.; the former married Miss Alice Phillipps, and they are living in Towanda Township; Lewis H. resides at home, and assists his father in the cultivation of the farm. Mr. Kraft has been School Director, and in politics is Republican. A fine lithographic view of the handsome residence of Mr. Kraft is shown on another page of this work.



**E**LIJAH SMITH, of Belleflower Township, owns and occupies a comfortable homestead on section 1. He is a native of the Prairie State, born June 29, 1840, and the youngest child of William and Sarah (Cline) Smith. (See sketch of E. R. Smith.) Elijah Smith was reared upon his father's farm and took advantage of the opportunities afforded to secure an education in the district schools, where he applied himself industriously and acquired a fund of useful information. He made his home with his parents some time after reaching manhood, and later operated on rented land which belonged to his father. In 1865 he purchased a

tract of timber land six or seven miles west of Bushnell, upon which he worked for three years following and then coming to McLean County purchased eighty acres of wild prairie on section 1, Belleflower Township. In addition to this he rented an eighty-acre tract of which he afterward broke forty acres, and in 1873 built a part of the house which he now occupies. All of his land is improved and he has a good set of frame buildings.

The first marriage of our subject occurred Oct. 26, 1863, the maiden of his choice being Miss Rachel A. Wright, who died in September, 1869, aged twenty-five years. His second wife was Miss Maggie Carey, to whom he was married Sept. 7, 1873. By the first marriage there were three children, two now living—Mary A. and Wesley W. Of the second marriage there were born, Lena, Oradell, Florence and Carl L.

Mrs. Smith is a member of the Christian Church and our subject belongs to Mansfield Lodge No. 773, A. F. & A. M. He is Democratic in politics and in all respects a worthy and useful citizen. The father of Mrs. Maggie Smith, the wife of our subject, was Dawson Carey, a native of Ohio, whence he removed to Illinois in about 1846, and located in Scott County, where he spent the remainder of his life. Her mother, formerly Miss Mary Six, who was also born in Ohio, is now living in Scott County.



**W**ILLIAM THOMPSON, a farmer and stock-raiser of Randolph Township, owns one of the finest farm homesteads in McLean County. It comprises 392 acres, and occupies a part of sections 11, 12, 14 and 22, the residence being on section 11. The family history of our subject is as follows: His father, George K. Thompson, was one of the older sons of William Thompson, Sr., and the father of the latter was a citizen of Virginia. The family is supposed to have come from Scottish ancestry. The grandfather of our subject and his sons were well-to-do farmers and slave-holders, who had been taught to believe in the rectitude of the peculiar institution. The grandfather lived and died in

Monroe County, W. Va., having been a poor man, but an honest, law-abiding citizen. His wife was formerly Miss Elizabeth King, also a native of West Virginia, who spent her entire life in her native State. Of their six children, George K., the father of our subject, was the eldest son and third child. His boyhood and youth were spent upon his father's farm, and after reaching years of manhood he was united in marriage with Miss Anstis Collison, who was born and reared in Greenbrier County, W. Va., where her marriage took place. After the birth of a son, whom they named Franklin, they came to Butler County, Ohio, being among the earliest settlers of that region, making their home in the timber. In the fall of 1831, the little family having in the meantime been increased in size by the birth of our subject and Mary O., the parents with their three young children left Ohio and came to Illinois, making their first settlement in Peoria County. The following year, after the birth of a daughter, Elizabeth, they came to Randolph Township and settled near a grove of the same name, and on the farm which is now owned by our subject, William Thompson. They arrived here on the 5th of July, and on the 27th of August they met with a sore affliction in the death of the husband and father, leaving the mother with four small children dependent upon her. Of these all are now living, married, and comfortably settled in homes of their own.

The mother of our subject remained a widow for two and one-half years, and then became the wife of Mathew Coverdale. The mother and stepfather are both living, and make their home with our subject. The former, who is now seventy-seven years of age, received a severe fall two years ago, which has rendered her a cripple since that time. Mr. Coverdale is a native of New Jersey, whence he removed to Ohio and from there to Illinois, having also lived for some years in the State of Indiana.

William Thompson was only about two and one-half years old when his father died. He afterward made his home with his mother and stepfather until he attained his majority. He then engaged in farming on his own account, and three years later was married, in Randolph Township, to Miss Cassandra French, who was born at Athens, Belmont

Co., Ohio, March 16, 1836. She came with her parents to Illinois in her girlhood, and remained with them in this township until her marriage. A few weeks after this event the father sickened and died, the mother having died when Cassandra was five years old. Of this marriage of our subject there were born two children: Oliver C. married Miss Mary Gard, and they live in Ida County, Iowa; he has been County Surveyor several terms and is now a land agent. Minerva became the wife of Henry Talbert, and they reside on a farm in Morrison County, Kan. Mrs. Cassandra Thompson departed this life at the home of her husband in Story County, Iowa, in 1856.

Mr. Thompson was the second time married, in Boone County, Iowa, March 4, 1858, to Miss Mary M. Jones. This lady is a native of Wayne County, Ohio, born Aug. 31, 1835. Her parents were Thomas and Jane (Culbertson) Jones, natives respectively of Fayette and Westmoreland Counties, Pa. The father was of Welsh descent and reared in Pennsylvania, and the mother was of Irish ancestry. They were married in Wayne County, Ohio, where they lived for many years and reared their family. In 1855 they emigrated to Story County, Iowa, where the parents passed the remainder of their days, the father living to the ripe old age of eighty-two years, and the mother dying when fifty-six. Mrs. Thompson was the first daughter and fourth child of the family, and was twenty years old when her parents removed to Iowa. By her marriage with our subject she has become the mother of nine children, two now deceased. The record is as follows: Anstis married William H. Stewart, a farmer of Randolph Township; Mary J. became the wife of J. C. Wakefield, and they live on a farm near Heyworth; Martha E., Mrs. James L. Pumphrey, lives in Bloomington City, and her husband is now a student at Wesleyan University; George K. is attending the Evergreen City Business College; Daniel W., Ed. Edith and Nellie are living with their parents at home.

Mrs. Thompson is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Politically our subject is a Democrat. He has served two terms as a Justice of the Peace, one in Iowa, and for one term has been Clerk of the Circuit Court in Iowa.

After coming West Mr. Thompson resided in Story County, Iowa, for a period of fifteen years, during which time his first wife died, and he was the second time married. He returned to his present home in 1866, which place has since been his permanent abode.



**R**M. EMERSON, one of the prominent citizens of Bloomington Township, is occupying a pleasant and comfortable homestead on section 6, where he is engaged in the nursery business, and is surrounded by all the comforts of life. He is also interested in a coal mine, but which is not operated at the present time. Mr. Emerson came to McLean County a poor man, in 1851, and his present possessions are the result of his own industry and energy. He was born in Clark County, Ky., Sept. 30, 1819, being the youngest son and sixth child of William and Polly (Tuggle) Emerson, natives of Virginia. William Emerson was born Aug. 11, 1787, and when a young man removed to Kentucky, where he was married, in Clark County. The mother was born April 25, 1790. After their marriage the parents located on a farm in Clark County, Ky., where the father was killed by a colored man in his employ. The mother afterward married a brother of her first husband, and of this union there were born five children. The second husband died in about 1865; the mother survived him several years, and remained in Clark County until her death, in the eightieth year of her age.

Young Emerson lived with his mother and stepfather most of the time until his marriage, which took place in Clark County, Ky., July 21, 1840, the maiden of his choice being Miss Elizabeth M. Bybee, a native of Clark County, Ky., her parents also being born in that State. Two years after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Emerson removed to Missouri and located on a farm in Jackson County, on the old Santa Fe road, near Independence. After three years they returned to Kentucky, where they remained until 1851, living in Clark County on a farm, and then, in company with three other families, came to the Prairie State and all lo-

eated near Bloomington City. All started out with little means and all have been prospered. The present home of our subject and his wife is the same upon which they located on first coming here. He is now the owner of 100 acres of land which is underlaid with three veins of a good quality of coal. Mrs. Elizabeth Emerson died at the home of her husband in Bloomington Township, on the 4th of June, 1874. She was essentially a good woman in all that the term implies, and was held in the highest esteem by her husband and a large circle of acquaintances. Of this marriage there were born two children, who lived only a short time.

Mr. Emerson was married the second time, at Gibson City, Ill., to Miss Eliza D. McFarland, who was born and reared upon a farm in Stark County, Ohio. Her mother died when she was but two weeks old. She was, before her marriage, Miss Eliza Davis. The father, Abel McFarland, departed this life when his daughter, Mrs. E., was only eleven years of age. A year afterward she went to Missouri with her elder sister, Sarah, who was a teacher, and they lived at Paris, Monroe County, for two years. Then both went to Kentucky and located in Christian County, where Mrs. Emerson grew to womanhood and received a common-school education. In 1874 she came to Illinois and located in Ford County, where she was married to our subject Feb. 10, 1875. Of this union there were born six children, of whom one, an infant, is deceased. The living are Minerva B., Clara, Gracie, Mary W. and F. M., all at home. The family are members in good standing of the Christian Church, and our subject, formerly a Democrat, is now an earnest supporter of the Prohibition party.



**J**OHAN PROTHERO. A large proportion of those who first ventured into the Western country, having the courage to stake their all on the untried prairie or in the virgin forest, were natives of another continent. They crossed many miles of ocean before reaching the land which they believed would, by the exercise of well directed efforts, yield them a home, and in return for their tireless industry, a competency.

Among these, who is also numbered with the honored pioneers of 1838, is the subject of our sketch, a retired farmer now living in ease and comfort in the village of Saybrook. His birth took place in the southern part of Wales on the 4th of August, 1814.

When a lad of fourteen years, Mr. Prothero came to America with his parents, who settled in Canada. The only education he ever received was during the few years' schooling he had in his native country. He lived with his parents in the Dominion until 1838, then started westward with his brother-in-law, Lawton Case, and a neighbor, Thomas Newland. After arriving in this State he worked at carpentering which he had previously learned. He took up his abode in Cheney's Grove, and in 1842 was united in marriage with Miss Catharine Cheney. Mrs. Prothero was born May 30, 1825, and was the daughter of Jonathan and Katie (Owens) Cheney, both natives of Virginia and of Welsh descent, and highly esteemed people. Of this marriage there were born five children, but the household was left desolate by the loss of all. They were born as follows: Elliott L., Aug. 25, 1848; Francis M., Sept. 24, 1850; Margaret, Aug. 2, 1858; David A., March 17, 1861; Charlie A., May 30, 1863. Mrs. Catharine (Cheney) Prothero departed this life on the 9th of May, 1869. She was a highly esteemed Christian lady and a devoted member of the United Brethren Church.

The second wife of our subject, to whom he was married on the 23d of March, 1871, was Miss Laura Case, who was born in Portage County, Ohio, in 1832, and came to Illinois in 1857. Mrs. P. is finely educated and taught school for several years in Ohio, and later, in this county, and also in McDonough County, and met with unqualified success, being admirably adapted by disposition and intellect for this calling. Mr. and Mrs. P. for some years after their marriage lived on the farm of our subject in Cheney's Grove Township, and thence, in 1873, removed to Saybrook. Their home is supplied with all the comforts and conveniences of modern life, and Mr. Prothero, surrounded by the friends which he has made by his honorable and upright course, is passing a happy and contented old age. He is a prominent member of the United Brethren







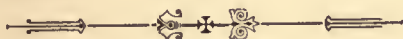
John Poothero



John For Stephen

Church, of which he has served as Steward and Trustee for several years. He was Justice of the Peace in Cheney's Grove Township for eight years, in which office he served with remarkable success and good judgment, never having one of his decisions reversed by a higher court. Politically he has been a Republican, but recently became greatly interested in the movements and success of the Prohibitionists, believing that the issues put forward by that party are paramount to all others in which the American people are now interested and with which they must deal. Besides his finely cultivated farm of eighty acres in Cheney's Grove Township, he has several improved lots within the limits of Saybrook, and a snug little sum at interest.

In the portrait of Mr. Prothero, as shown on another page, are delineated the features of a gentleman whom to know has invariably been to honor, and who, after reaching more than threescore years and ten, can look back upon a career in which there has been little to regret, and whose impulses and desires have enabled him to act upon the higher plane, illustrating fully the character of an honest man and a good citizen, performing well his part in life, and at its close will receive, and not alone from his fellow-citizens, the plaudit of "well done."



**J**OHAN M. STIPP, Supervisor of Arrowsmith Township, and whose portrait is given on an accompanying page, is one of the most enterprising farmers of the county. His homestead is pleasantly located on section 19 of the township named. The father of our subject, Henry Stipp, was a native of Pickaway County, Ohio, where he was born Nov. 2, 1808. While still a boy he removed with his parents, John and Catherine Stipp, to Indiana, settling in Vigo County, twelve miles north of Terre Haute, which was then an embryo village. In that locality our subject was reared to manhood, receiving careful parental training and a good education in the common schools. He was united in marriage with Miss Martha Meddley, who was born near Terre Haute. After marriage the young people went to housekeeping, and our subject continued his farm operations in con-

nection with lumbering on the river until 1852. They then crossed over into Illinois and became residents of this county, locating first upon a tract of land in Padua Township. Five years later Mr. Stipp disposed of his property there and purchased eighty acres on section 7, in Arrowsmith Township, which he improved and cultivated, adding to it as time progressed and his means accumulated. His first wife had died in Indiana in 1844, leaving one son, John M., the subject of this history. Henry Stipp was subsequently married to Miss Cynthia Ann Meddley, a cousin of his former companion. The father died upon the homestead which he had established in Arrowsmith Township in about 1873. His widow is still living, residing on the old homestead. Of the two marriages of Henry Stipp there were born five sons and five daughters, seven of whom are now living.

The subject of this sketch was born in Vigo County, Ind., Nov. 3, 1842, and came to Illinois in 1852 with the family when a boy of ten years old. He has since that time been a resident of this county. He was reared to farming pursuits and his early education was necessarily quite limited, as the public schools of those early days were few and far between and not conducted in accordance with the splendid system of to-day. About the time young Stipp was nineteen years of age the outbreak of the Rebellion necessitated a call for volunteers to assist in the preservation of the Union. With many others he cheerfully responded to the first call, and became a member of Co. K, 8th Ill. Vol. Inf., and was mustered in in April, 1861. This was the first company to leave Bloomington, and among the very first to rush to the defense of the flag that had but a few days before fallen from the ramparts of Sumter. After serving his term of three months Mr. Stipp re-enlisted and was transferred to Co. A, 1st Ill. Vol. Cav. Their regiment was soon afterward disbanded by general orders and our subject once more returned home, but not to stay. There being no immediate prospect of a termination of the difficulties between the North and the South, he again proffered his services as a soldier and was mustered into service as a member of Co. F, 94th Ill. Vol. Inf., and served until July 22, 1865. This time it was no child's play and Mr. Stipp entered

into active service, participating in all the battles and skirmishes of his regiment, including the siege and capture of Vicksburg, and Yazoo City, Miss., the capture of Brownsville and Ft. Morgan, Ala., in which he officiated as color-bearer. Amid the scenes of danger and death he escaped comparatively unharmed, and was promoted Sergeant and after the war was commissioned Lieutenant by Gov. Oglesby, of Illinois. Gen. McNulty in presenting him the commission wrote him a lengthy letter, enumerating many acts of bravery and mentioning his meritorious conduct upon the field upon all occasions.

His regiment, of which he was a prominent member, as the history of the late civil strife will always show, saw much hard and dangerous service. We cannot in this brief sketch rehearse the daring deeds of its men—their loyal sacrifices and heroic achievements—but all the experiences of war were theirs. Could they be told they would speak of early reverses, sad disappointments, gloomy forebodings for the future, of sickness in camp and hospital; fearful suspense; of midnight marches, of deadly ambuscades, of labor in trenches and dreary and enforced idleness in camp; of escapes, of wounds, of imprisonment in foul dens, on the dead line, and of death—of all the horrors of fratricidal war. But they would speak too of privations willingly endured, dangers voluntarily incurred, ceaseless labor gladly undergone, risks gladly and daringly assumed, and death most chivalrously encountered; of dashing assaults, of well contested fields, of the enemy's retreat and of countless victories. They would speak of disaster, but also of success; of doubt, but yet of undying hope; of transient defeats, but still of final and enduring victory.

After receiving his honorable discharge from the army Mr. Stipp returned to this county and resumed his farming operations in Arrowsmith Township. In 1868 he sold out and went to Kansas, remaining there, however, only one season. He then returned to McLean County and purchased eighty acres of his present farm. To this he added from time to time until he is now the owner of 200 acres, all finely improved and valuable. In 1885 he erected a commodious and handsome farm residence, which,

with its beautiful surroundings, forms one of the most attractive spots in the landscape of this section. In addition to general agriculture he is quite extensively interested in stock-raising and among his herds are to be found some very fine animals.

The marriage of our subject occurred on the 4th of March, 1866, the lady of his choice being Miss Ellen, daughter of James and Margaret Wirt. Mrs. S. was born in Highland County, Ohio, March 31, 1844. The result of this union has been five children—Minnie, Florence, Clayborn H., J. W. and Nellie.

Mr. Stipp, politically, is an earnest Republican, and is now serving his third term in his present office, that of Supervisor. He is a gentleman of sound judgment and good business qualifications, and is greatly respected by all who have the honor of his acquaintance. He is a member in good standing of the A. F. & A. M., being connected with Arrowsmith Lodge No. 737.



**N**ICHOLAS MAURER, of Danvers Township, has been a resident of this State since 1843, and two years later located in McLean County, where he has continued to make his home until the present. His homestead is located on section 10, Danvers Township, where he is engaged in general farming, and living the life of an upright and conscientious citizen.

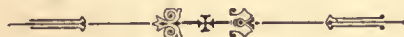
The subject of our sketch was born near the River Rhine, Germany, in 1822, and is the son of Nicholas and Mary (Korb) Maurer, natives of the same country, where they were reared and married in 1819. Nicholas Maurer, Sr., and his wife were the parents of four children—Christian, Catherine, Nicholas of our sketch, and Joseph. They were members of the Mennonite Church, and died about 1835. They were most worthy and excellent people, and greatly respected by all who knew them.

Mr. Maurer, of this history, remained with his parents until twenty-one years of age, and then set sail for the New World, landing in New Orleans, whence he soon afterward went to Butler County, Ohio, where he engaged as a farm laborer for three and one-half years. In 1843 he came to Woodford

County, this State, and purchased 600 acres of land. After a two years' residence in that county he removed to McLean County, and in 1863, was married to Miss Mary Kohler. Mr. Maurer had previously married a Miss Boehler, by whom he had one child, Catharine. He became prosperous in his business and farming transactions, and added 240 acres to his first purchase, so that he now has a large body of finely improved land under a good state of cultivation. The family residence is a substantial and convenient structure, and the farm is supplied with a good barn and all necessary out-buildings.

Our subject and his wife are members of the Mennonite Church. The family of our subject included six children—Catharine, Samuel, Joseph and Lydia; Johnnie and Mary, two of these, died in infancy.

Mr. Maurer is the possessor of 320 acres of fine land in McLean County, and in politics he is independent. A view of Mr. Maurer's residence and surroundings is given on another page of this work.



JAMES S. COON, a pioneer of the Prairie State, has been a resident of Gridley Township over forty-five years. He was born near Crawfordsville, Ind., March 21, 1825, being the son of Adam and Eleanor (Diekason) Coon, natives of Pennsylvania and Virginia respectively. They removed in early youth to Ohio, where they were married, in Fayette County, in about 1811. Subsequently they came to Indiana, settling near what is now Crawfordsville, Montgomery County, where they lived until July, 1837, then coming to this State and county, settled first near Towanda, whence they afterward removed to Money Creek Township, and in the spring of 1841 to Gridley Township. Here they spent the remainder of their lives. Of their nine children, seven lived to mature years, these being Isaiah, Jonathan, Ruth, Michael, James S., Nancy J. and Margaret. Elbert and Henry died when quite young.

James S. Coon was but twelve years old when he came to this county. He remained under the

home roof until he was twenty-five years of age, when he was married, and settled in Gridley Township and engaged in agricultural pursuits, which he has followed all his life. His farm consists of 180 acres of improved land, upon which he has erected a good set of frame buildings and has all the appliances of a progressive modern farmer.

He was married in Gridley Township, Feb. 14, 1850, to Miss Maria, daughter of Joseph and Mary (Wilcox) Young, who were natives of Ohio. They were reared and married in that State, and settled first in Fayette County, whence they removed to this State in the fall of 1832, and took up their abode in Money Creek Township, this county, where they passed the remainder of their lives. The father died in 1833. The mother afterward married John Thomas, by whom she had four children. Her death occurred in about 1847. Of her first marriage there were born three children. Mrs. Coon was born in Fayette County, Ohio, May 22, 1831.

Our subject and his wife became the parents of three children: Ambrose W. married Miss Catherine Sheppard, and they had four children, only one of whom survives, a daughter, Della M., and the wife died in Gridley Township, June 7, 1884; Sarah E. is the wife of Wesley Lowery, and resides in Colorado, and she has four children—Isaac I., Mary M., Carrie E. and Ambrose W.; Frank died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. C. are devoted members of the Church of Christ.

Mr. and Mrs. Coon are known all over this section of the country as "Uncle Jim" and "Aunt Maria." Mrs. C. is a very expert carpet-weaver, in which she has been occupied for many years, and during that time has rolled up 1,000 yards a year, which present as handsome workmanship as is ordinarily found. Mr. Coon, during his earlier years was very fond of hunting, and in company with his brother, Michael, slaughtered scores of deer, wolves and various other kinds of game. They caught, one winter, eighteen wolves in steel traps, but finally abandoned the trap and pursued the wily rascals with greyhounds, after the country became so thickly settled that the game was nearly all captured or driven away. Being among the early settlers of the Prairie State, they

were obliged to endure much privation and inconvenience, but they possessed that brave and courageous spirit for which the pioneers have ever been distinguished, and were ready for any emergency that might arise. For some years they were far from either market or mill, and even when the roads were good it took one week to make the trip to Chicago. Our subject and his wife have watched with unabated interest the progress and prosperity of this great Commonwealth, and have contributed their full share toward the industrial and agricultural interests of McLean County.

In politics our subject is a staunch Republican, and uniformly casts his vote in support of the principles of his party.



**W**H. BOIES, deceased, one of the most prominent and influential citizens of Gridley, was largely engaged as a grain and stock dealer, and by his enterprise and activity, for many years assisted greatly in the prosperity of the business interests of this section. Mr. Boies was a native of Livingston County, N. Y., born in the town of Moseow, Jan. 22, 1833. He was the son of James C. and Caroline (Severence) Boies, natives respectively of Canada and Vermont. After marriage the parents of our subject settled in Livingston County, N. Y., and there the mother died, in about 1835. James Boise then came to Illinois and made his home in Gridley, this county, until his death, which occurred in January, 1886. There were only two children—Wilber H. and George. The latter was formerly a conductor on the T. P. & W. R. R. for twenty-one years, but is now engaged in the real-estate business in Kansas City.

W. H. Boise received a good common-school education and remained a resident of his native county until 1856, five years of that time being employed as clerk in a store. In the year named, he came to Illinois, and made his home in El Paso for about six years, where he was engaged in the purchase and sale of grain. From there he went to Watseka, where he was connected with the freight office for a short time, and in the spring of 1862 came to Gridley and took charge of the station of

the T. P. & W. R. R. as their agent, a position which he occupied fourteen years; in the meantime he was also engaged in the buying and shipping of grain. After retiring from the employ of this road he devoted his entire attention to his grain and stock operations, to which he added that of farming. He purchased a tract of land which he successfully operated, and at the time of his death was the owner of 400 acres in Gridley Township. The elevator there, which has a capacity of about 30,000 bushels, was projected and built by him, in addition to a warehouse with a capacity of 80,000.

Wilber H. Boise was united in marriage with Miss Mary A. Taylor, in Perry, Wyoming Co., N. Y., Nov. 18, 1857. Mrs. B. was born in Wyoming County, Sept. 12, 1837, and by her union with our subject became the mother of four children—George V., Nettie W., Charles C. and Wilber H., Jr.

In 1884, Mr. Boise, who had been in partnership with R. Beese, purchased the interest of his partner and afterward carried on his business alone. He was a member of the Republican party, greatly interested in the success of the temperance movement, and served as a member of the Village Board for several years. Socially he was connected with El Paso Lodge, No. 246, A. F. & A. M., also belonged to Cœur de Leon Commandery at El Paso, and the Royal Arch Chapter.



**C**W. LANDER, proprietor of the livery and sale stables at Nos. 203, 205 and 207 North street, Bloomington, is a native of Kentucky and was born April 4, 1828. He is the son of Samuel and Sallie (Haggard) Lander, natives of the same State as their son. The father of our subject in 1835 came to Illinois with his family, and entered a tract of Government land in Bloomington Township. He subsequently purchased two improved farms, and at one time was the owner of 2,000 acres in this county. He afterward disposed of the most of his property in this State, and went to Denison, Tex., where he now lives retired from active labor; the mother died in Bloomington in 1844. Their four children were John D., of Kansas; C. W. of our sketch; Richard


M., of Bloomington, and Mrs. Z. A. York, of this county. Samuel Lander was a prominent man in the community in which he lived, Democratic in politics, and a member of the Constitutional Convention which met at Springfield in 1846. He was connected with the Baptist Church for a period of fifty-five years, fifty years of this time serving as Deacon. He became interested in city property, was the staunch and liberal supporter of school and church institutions, and actively interested in all matters pertaining to the moral and intellectual welfare of his county and State.

The subject of this history was reared on his father's farm and received a practical education. After leaving home he came to Bloomington and engaged in teaming, also in buying and selling horses until 1857. He then became proprietor of an omnibus line, which he continued to operate until the breaking out of the war. Enlisting in Co. E, 94th Ill. Vol. Inf., he served two months as Regimental Wagon-master, when he was detailed as Division Wagon-master and remained in this department of the service until March, 1864. Subsequently he was appointed Quartermaster Agent and had full control of the teams of ten regiments. He went from Missouri to Vicksburg, then down the river to Morgan's Bend; from there to New Orleans, thence to Brownsville, Tex., and then returning to Louisiana soil halted at Baton Rouge. After being mustered out at Brownsville, in 1864, he returned to Bloomington, and in 1865 engaged in the wood and coal business until the spring of 1866. He was then elected City Marshal and after serving twenty months resigned and resumed the wood and coal business, following this for three years thereafter, and also running a dray line until 1872. He then established his present business, which he has successfully followed since. His stock comprises from fifteen to twenty fine horses and some of the most tasteful turnouts in the city. A ripe experience has rendered him an expert in the business, and his courteous and obliging manner has gained him hosts of friends.

Mr. Lander was married on the 31st of December, 1851, to Miss Elizabeth Wallace, the daughter of William and Elizabeth (Adolph) Wallace, of Philadelphia, Pa., and they became the parents of

two children; Frank, who has been engaged in the livery business at Normal since 1884, and Ida, at home. Mrs. Lander departed this life on the 9th of January, 1862, at her husband's home in Bloomington. She was a lady greatly esteemed by all who knew her, and a consistent member of the First Baptist Church.

The present wife of our subject is Miss Letitia Garrittson, to whom he was married Nov. 19, 1884. Mrs. Lander was born in Indiana but reared in Bloomington, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of one child—Louise. Mr. Lander is held in that peculiar respect which is tacitly accorded the early pioneers, who by their industry and perseverance paved the way for a later and more perfect civilization. He has materially assisted in the development and growth of this locality by contributing his full share to its business interests, and of his means to whatever had for its object the advancement and prosperity of his community. He is a man of sound judgment and one whose opinions are uniformly respected. Politically he is a staunch adherent of the Republican party, has been an Odd Fellow for the last thirty-five years and is a member in good standing of the G. A. R.



**W**INSLOW J. BARNES, a highly respected and prosperous farmer of Mt. Hope Township, is pleasantly located on section 36, and is in possession of one of the finest homesteads in this region, a view of which is shown on another page. He came to Illinois in 1856, and has been a resident of this township since 1863, taking possession of his present farm four years later. Besides general farming he is also engaged in dairying, and has a fine herd of Jersey cows. He sells his butter in Bloomington and St. Louis. Mr. Barnes was born in West Brookfield, Worcester Co., Mass., Dec. 27, 1837, being the son of Jonas Barnes, who was born in Hampshire County, the same State, June 3, 1802. His grandfather, Zebulon Barnes, was a farmer by occupation, and spent the last years of his life in West Brookfield, Mass.

Jonas Barnes removed from Hampshire to Frank-

lin County when a young man, and was there married to Miss Miranda Ried, who was a native of Charlemont, that county. They afterward removed to West Brookfield, where the father purchased a farm. He was a wheelwright by trade, and pursued this in connection with his farming operations. He died in West Brookfield on the 1st of June, 1844. The mother now lives with her daughter, Mrs. Frank Shaekley. The parental family included three sons and three daughters, all living, as follows: Eleeta lives with her sister, Mrs. Snow; Charles E. is in Pratt County, Kan.; Harriet W., the widow of Charles H. Snow, resides in Mt. Hope Township; Albert H. is in Oxford, Sumner Co., Kan; Elizabeth R., Mrs. Frank Shaekley, is in Hartford, Conn., and our subject.

Winslow J. Barnes was the fourth child and second son of his parents, and was but seven years old when his father died. The latter was in debt for the farm which he occupied, but Mrs. Barnes proved an excellent manager, keeping her family together, paying the debt and purchasing additional land. The children all lived at home until they were able to care for themselves. When our subject was thirteen years old he went to Charlemont and lived with an uncle two years, and then became an apprentice to learn the carpenter's trade. He followed this in Worcester until 1856, and in that year emigrated to Illinois, locating in Kane County, and followed his trade there until 1863, when he came to McLean and pursued the same until he took possession of his present farm, in 1867. This had no buildings when he purchased it, and he has industriously employed his time in making improvements and cultivating his land. He now has a handsome and substantial frame dwelling, a good barn and all necessary out-buildings. The farm is just outside the corporation of McLean and includes ninety acres, which are increasing in value each year as the growth of the town advances.

Mr. Barnes was married in January, 1867, to Miss Carrie Riee, who was born in Dayton, N. Y., and was the daughter of Hart and Eliza Riee. In 1881, on account of the failing health of his wife, Mr. Barnes went to California and spent nearly two years at San Rafael, and Santa Clara. Mrs. B. died in the latter place, in June, 1881. Our subject was

the second time married, in April, 1883, to Miss Mary Sands, who was born in Owen County, Ind., and is the daughter of David and Elizabeth (Fulkerson) Sands, natives respectively of North Carolina and Virginia. Mr. Barnes is Republican in politics; he holds fellowship with the Congregational Church. He has always taken an active part in all matters pertaining to the good of the township, and at present is serving his second term as Highway Commissioner of Mt. Hope Township. His wife is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



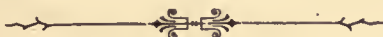
**W**ILLIAM ARNOLD, who is identified with the business interests of Chenoa, is at present carrying on a livery stable, and is administering to the comfort of the public with profit to himself and satisfaction to all concerned. He is a native of Cincinnati, Ohio, born Nov. 3, 1853. His father, John C. Arnold, was born in Germany, and was married in his native country to Miss Caroline Tredbaugh. They emigrated to America in July, 1853, and locating near Cincinnati, Ohio, lived there four years. In the winter of 1857 they came to Illinois, spent one year at Bloomington, then removed upon a farm two miles south of the city, where they remained six years. Subsequently they took up their abode two miles north of Normal, where they lived for four years and thence removed to a farm in Yates Township, where the father of our subject engaged in agriculture until his death, which took place July 13, 1881. The mother died Oct. 23, 1876. The household circle included nine children, six of whom lived until after the death of the parents; John F. subsequently died in Kansas when in his twenty-seventh year; Mary B. died in Ohio in 1884; George J. is a resident of Yates Township; Maggie M. became the wife of Anthony Thayers, a farmer of Yates Township; William of our sketch was the next in order of birth; Minnie and Osear reside on the old homestead in Yates Township.

The subject of this history was but four years of age when he came to this county with his parents. He was educated in the common schools and remained on the farm until his marriage, and then



began farming on his own account. Mr. Arnold was married, Sept. 2, 1880, to Miss Mary E., youngest daughter of David Vaneer, of Chenoa. The young couple settled on a farm about three miles south of the town of Chenoa, where they lived until 1886, then removed to the village of the same name. Mr. A., however, still retains possession of his farm, which constitutes a most admirable auxiliary to his present business. It consists of 160 acres and is located on section 26. It is now operated by a tenant. The livery establishment of Mr. Arnold includes a goodly number of horses and the best description of vehicles.

Our subject and his wife have become the parents of one child, a son, Harry W. Mr. A. is a Republican in politics, and in December, 1886, was appointed Deputy Sheriff under V. E. Howell.



**T. F. HARWOOD.** The subject of the following sketch is one of the most highly respected and honored citizens of Bloomington. To rare executive ability and business tact he adds great kindness of heart, and universal sympathy with the adversities and misfortunes of life, which he strives to alleviate whenever he has opportunity. In short, the general verdict as applied to Mr. Harwood, is "Well done, good and faithful" citizen. Our subject is a member of the firm of Harwood & Sons, lumber merchants, dealing extensively in sash, doors, blinds, coal, etc., the business of which firm is located at No. 901 East Grove street. Mr. Harwood is a native of Orleans County, N. Y., and was born in 1838. He is the son of Chauncey and Lovisa (Bogue) Harwood, natives of Vermont.

Chauncey Harwood removed from his native State to New York before his marriage, traveling on foot from Chittenden, Vt., to where the city of Rochester, N. Y., now stands, much of his road lying through the heavy timber. After reaching his destination, he purchased 100 acres of land upon the present site of the city of Rochester, and erected a woolen-mill just below the falls of the Genesee River. After this was completed and equipped he superintended its operation until

his health failed, when he abandoned it. He then went to Orleans County, that State, where he purchased 146 acres of timber land, erected another woolen factory and built up a business which extended from Rochester to Niagara Falls, people coming from all directions on horseback with bundles of wool to be carded. He cleared his timbered tract and out of the wilderness opened up a valuable farm. After retiring from active business he removed to the village of Holley, where the mother died in 1858, and her husband three years later. Of their family of nine children, six are now living, as follows: Jeffrey resides near Kalamazoo, Mich.; Dwight and Dan B. are in Bloomington; Hiland H. is in Clinton, Ill.; the next is our subject; Augusta, Mrs. B. F. Hoops, lives in Bloomington. Chauncey Harwood was a man of great energy and perseverance and took a deep interest in the chief events of the day, although he steadily declined to become an office-holder. He was a staunch adherent of the old Whig party and the friend of every measure calculated to benefit his fellow-men. To each of his children he gave a fine education, which he esteemed better than money to fit them for the various duties and emergencies of life. Both parents were connected with the Presbyterian Church, in which the father of our subject was Deacon and one of the chief pillars.

T. F. Harwood came to Bloomington, Ill., when a young man twenty years of age. In 1858 he established himself in the hardware business on Center street, in which he was occupied until 1870, and then sold out to his brothers and engaged in his present business. He has prospered in his undertaking, his firm being now the most extensive operators in this department of trade in Bloomington.

The marriage of our subject and Miss Marietta Keys took place in Bloomington in 1862, at the home of the bride's parents. Mrs. H. is a native of Orleans County, N. Y., and the daughter of H. N. Keys, formerly of Connecticut. By her union with our subject she has become the mother of three children—Willis S., in the lumber business with his father, and Clara and Harry B., at home. Their handsome and hospitable home is at No. 410 East Douglas street, where they enjoy the society

and esteem of hosts of friends, Besides this property Mr. Harwood is a stockholder and Vice-President of the gas works and also has an interest in the Walton Plow Works and the Third National Bank. He owns several tenement houses in the city which yield him a fair income and has a valuable store building on Front street. He has also operated in western lands some in Kansas, and is also connected with a syndicate in Arkansas. In politics our subject belongs to the Republican party; he served one term as Alderman of the First Ward, and to whatever position he has been called has acquitted himself in a creditable and praiseworthy manner. Mr. Harwood may be classed as a good citizen in every sense that the term implies, and few name him but to praise.



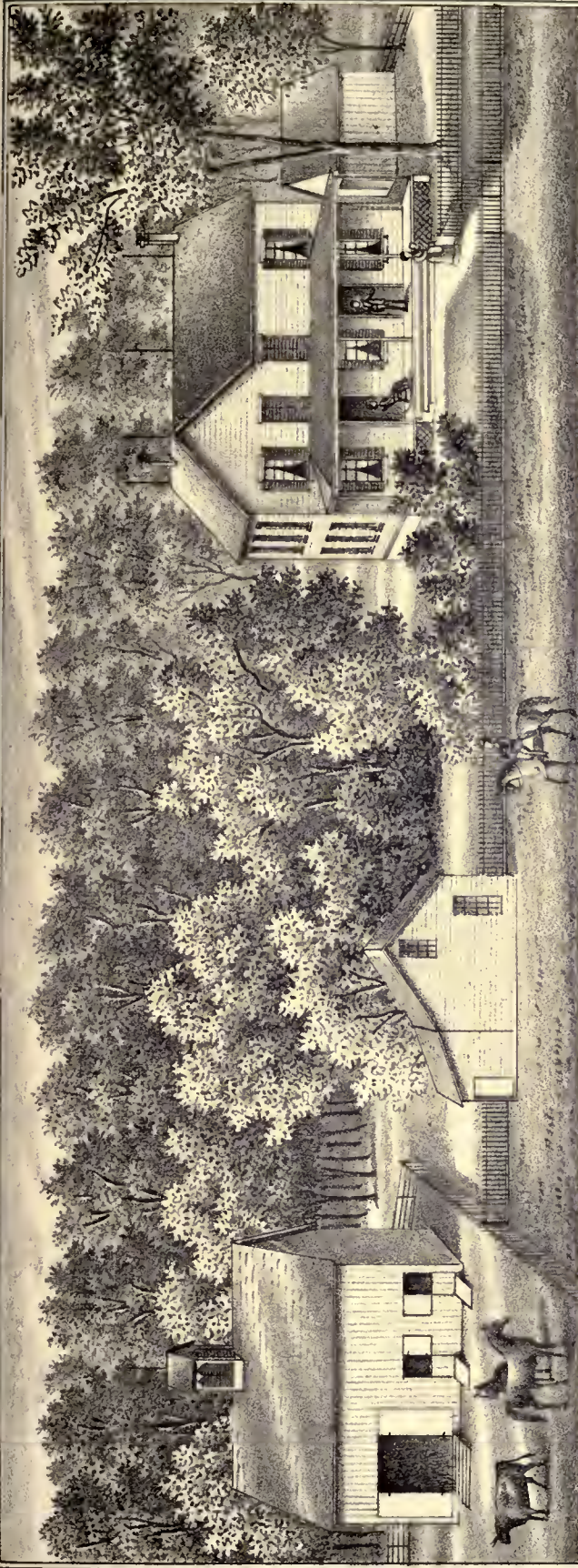
**W**ILLIAM J. MURPHY, who is comfortably situated on section 31, Allin Township, is a native of this county, having been born in Mt. Hope Township, Aug. 8, 1838. His parents were Samuel and Nancy (Goodwin) Murphy, natives of Virginia, the father born in 1799, and the mother in 1805. The parents of each removed to Ohio, where the young people were married in Muskingum County, near Zanesville, in 1829. They came directly to Illinois, where Samuel Murphy purchased in this county 214 acres of land on which he located, and carried on its improvement and cultivation until 1857. He then removed to Caldwell County, Mo., and settled there upon a tract of land which he occupied until his death in 1866. The mother died ten years later in 1876. Of their children the record is as follows: William J. of our sketch was the eldest born; Eliza J. became the wife of George M. Stubblefield, of Mt. Hope Township; George W. and John T., twins, are now deceased; the former lived to manhood and married Miss Mary Williams, of Missouri; James M. is a resident of Montana; Harrison died when nearly four years of age; Isaac married Miss Alice Gildersleeve, and is now deceased; Samuel married Mrs. Emma Bozarth; Mary became the wife of E. Jones; Jeremiah served as a Union sol-

dier in the late war, and died in the army; Charles, the youngest, is now a resident of Kansas.

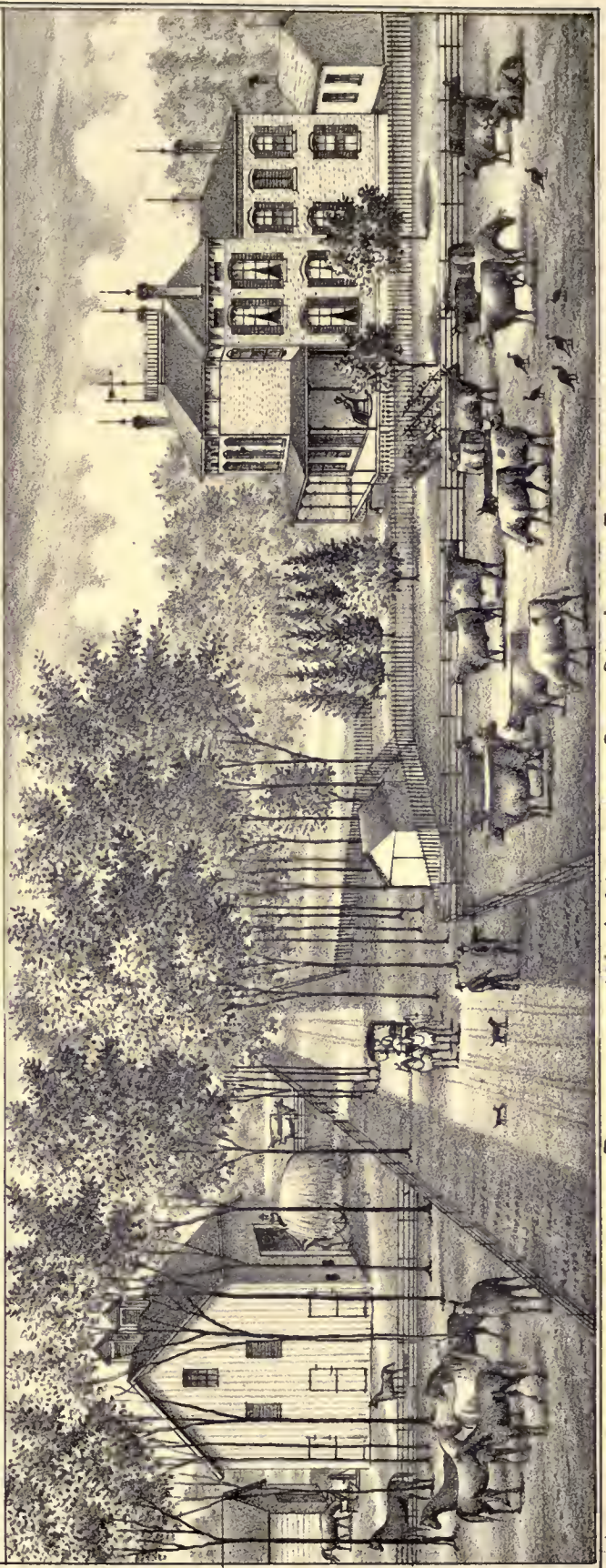
Mr. Murphy received a fair education in the common schools, and remained under the parental roof until he had attained his majority. In 1853 he was married to Miss Frances Stubblefield, daughter of Robert Stubblefield, and then purchased 160 acres of land, which he improved and cultivated, and to which he subsequently added until he is now the owner of 1,000 acres. The family residence is a handsome and commodious brick structure 37x63 feet in area, and two stories in height. This was erected in 1875. The barns and out-buildings in all respects correspond to the requirements of a first-class agriculturist. In addition to general farming, Mr. Murphy is extensively engaged as a stock-dealer, in which he has had an experience of twenty-five years. Besides being a genial and valued citizen, he has been active in every enterprise calculated to forward its development and advancement, and has fulfilled all the obligations incident to his position as a gentleman of means and influence. He has been a member of the Masonic fraternity for the last ten years, holding the office of Tyler.

The wife of our subject was the daughter of Robert and Dorothy Stubblefield, natives respectively of Virginia and Kentucky. They were married in 1822, near Columbus, Fayette Co., Ohio, and came to the Prairie State in 1824, locating upon a farm in McLean County, which remained their home until their decease, that of the father occurring in 1870, and the mother in 1879. The household circle included thirteen children, four by the first wife of Mr. Stubblefield, and nine by the last. These were, Absalom, Nancy, John, Mary, Adam, George M., Jessie, Frances, Edward, Isaac, Eva, William and Charles W. Mrs. Murphy is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Our subject is a straightforward Republican in politics, and cast his first presidential vote for John C. Freemont.

Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Murphy there were born seven children: Lizzic D. married William T. Jeffrey; George T. married Miss Jennie Hironymus; James married Miss Sadie Camp, and resides in Hittle Township, Tazewell County; Charles was



RESIDENCE OF ESAU GROVES, SEC. 3., MT. HOPE TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF W. J. MURPHY, SEC. 31. ALLIN TOWNSHIP.



the fourth child; Mary B. became the wife of Elmer Ewing; Frank and Peter are single and reside at home.

Mr. Murphy has been one of the most industrious and enterprising citizens of this locality, and a progressive farmer in every sense of the word. He constructed the kiln upon his farm in which was manufactured the brick for his family residence, which cost about \$10,000, and is about one of the finest structures of its kind in the county.

A view of the residence and surroundings is shown on another page of this work.



**E**SAU GROVES, a highly respected resident of Mt. Hope Township, is a native of Washington County, Ind., and was born Nov. 7, 1818. His father, Peter Groves, was of German birth and parentage and was left an orphan at an early age. When twelve years of age he accompanied his two older brothers to America, and they located in South Carolina, where young Peter commenced the battle of life, working by the day and month at whatever his hands could find to do. After a few years he went into North Carolina, and afterward, when a young man, to Kentucky, where he married, and thence, with his bride, removed to the Territory of Indiana and was one of the pioneers of Washington County. There he purchased a tract of timber land, built a log house, and commenced to open up a farm. In 1833 he sold out and removed to Clinton County, where he improved another farm which was originally part timber and part prairie. Upon his arrival there, Indians were still numerous and white men few. After five years he removed overland to Western Missouri, the journey being made with ox-teams. He was accompanied by his wife and five children, and they carried their household goods and cooking utensils, and lived after the manner of the early emigrants. He then located in Livingston County, upon a tract of wild land eight miles from any settlement, and followed the same routine which he had experienced in Washington and Clinton Counties, Ind. Upon this latter farm he lived until 1846, and then, selling out, removed to the eastern part of Missouri,

where he spent the remainder of his days. After the death of Peter Groves, his widow, with her two sons, one daughter and a granddaughter, started across the plains to Oregon. One son, Elijah, and the granddaughter were the only ones who lived to reach their destination. The remainder died and were buried on the plains.

The mother of our subject, before her marriage, was Miss Nancy Humphreys, and she was a native of Germany. She became the mother of twelve children, of whom Esau of this sketch is the only one known to be living. He spent the first fifteen years of his life in his native county and accompanied his parents in their subsequent removals. In July, 1840, he came into McLean County, poor in pocket and without friends and acquaintances. He employed himself at whatever his hands could find to do, and by a straightforward and honest life soon found friends and became prosperous in his labors and undertakings. The farm which he now owns and occupies and which he obtained by his own industry was entered for him at the land sales at Springfield in June, 1852, and he took possession of it in August of the same year. The first improvement was a small frame building in which the family lived for a few years. In 1875 he erected his present comfortable and convenient dwelling, and now has the entire quarter section under a good state of cultivation, with a good barn and all necessary out-buildings. Mr. and Mrs. G. together own 240 acres, all improved and valuable.

Mr. Groves was married in this county, Feb. 8, 1848, to Miss Mary Stubblefield. Mrs. G. is a native of Fayette County, Ohio, born Dec. 24, 1818, and is the second daughter of Robert and Sarah (Funk) Stubblefield. (See sketch of John Stubblefield). They have one child only, a daughter, Sarah Frances, who is now the wife of John Reidle, and lives on the old homestead. Our subject and his wife became connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church in their youth, with which faith they still hold fellowship, and by their upright lives have adorned their profession and secured the esteem and confidence of a large circle of friends.

A lithographic view of the handsome farm residence of Mr. Groves is to be found on another page of this work.

**G**EORGE W. BRICKNER, junior member of the firm of Seiberns & Brickner, merchants of Gridley, is, with his partner, engaged in a good trade, carrying a stock of general merchandise suited to the wants of the household and farm. Mr. Brickner is still a young man, having entered upon his business career in 1884. His parents were Charles and Elizabeth (Wertzburger) Brickner, natives of Germany, who emigrated to America in 1852, and settling in Hilton, Tazewell County, this State, engaged in merchandising, and there the father died, in January, 1883. The mother died in Hilton in 1873. Of their three children, George W. is the eldest. The others were Charles and Elizabeth.

The subject of this history received a common-school education, and while yet a boy commenced to assist his father in the store. His present business was established in 1884, at which time he formed a partnership with Walter H. Sieberns, and they have operated together since that time.

Mr. Brickner was married, Nov. 6, 1884, to Miss Mary R. Sieberns, who was born in Woodford County, Ill., Sept. 22, 1860, and is the daughter of H. E. and Caroline (Niergarth) Sieberns. [See sketch of J. W. H. Sieberns.] Mrs. Brickner remained with her parents until her marriage, receiving careful home training and a good common-school education. Our subject and his wife occupy a pleasant and comfortable home, and enjoy the society of the best people in Gridley. Mr. Brickner is Republican in politics, and in all respects is a valued citizen and worthy member of the community.



**H**ENRY F. FREED, who has been a resident of Gridley Township, since the spring of 1856, first made his advent into this county on horseback, in which manner he had traveled from the place of his birth, in Fayette County, Pa. He is the son of Abraham and Elizabeth (Fleming) Freed, natives of Berks and Fayette Counties, Pa., respectively, in which State they were married and settled in the first-named county, where they spent the remainder of their lives. Abraham Freed was a farmer by occupation, and

the parental household included eight children, three sons and five daughters, of whom our subject was the seventh. His birth occurred on the 3d of March, 1827. He was reared to farming pursuits and remained under the home roof until he attained his majority, in the meantime having received a more than ordinarily good common-school education. He then began teaching school, which occupation he followed thirteen years in his native county, and for two years after coming to Gridley Township.

Mr. Freed left his native county in the spring of 1856 in the manner we have described, and was twenty-one days making the trip. He brought with him four brood mares, and first purchased eighty acres of land on section 16 in Gridley Township. Upon this he located and commenced its improvement and cultivation, and in due time purchased another eighty acres, so that he now has a fine homestead including a quarter section of land, which is all under a good state of cultivation. He has a shapely and substantial farm dwelling, a good barn, all necessary outhouses and the latest improved farm machinery. Everything is kept in good repair and his stock and crops indicate the supervision of an intelligent and progressive agriculturist.

Mr. Freed was first married, in his native county, to Miss Mary Lobinger, a native of Pennsylvania. They had one child, a daughter, Mary E., who is now the wife of William Bailey, and resides in Kansas. Mrs. F. departed this life in Fayette County, Pa. Feb. 8, 1852. After coming West Mr. Freed was again married, in Gridley Township, Sept. 29, 1857, to Miss Amanda Gilmore, a native of this county. Her parents were James and Mary (Bradley) Gilmore, natives of Ohio. Their ten children included five sons and five daughters, of whom Mrs. F. was the seventh child. She was born Feb. 8, 1841.

Mr. and Mrs. Freed became the parents of nine children, four boys and five girls; James A., Lulu B., Mary E., Jennie N., Orville G., Sarah M., Henry S., Charles E. and Josie A. James A. married Miss Ida Barnes, and resides in Washburn, Ill.; Mary E. is the wife of Arthur Kent, of Livingston County; Henry S. died in infancy; the others are

at home with their parents. Mr. F. served as Treasurer of Gridley Township for ten years and also held the offices of Supervisor and School Director. He is Democratic in politics, and belongs to the Congregational Church. Mrs. Freed is a member of the Christian Church.



**W**ILLIAM HOTSENPILLER. The subject of the following biography, one of the worthiest farmer residents of Chenoa Township, is a native of Shenandoah County, Va., and was born Feb. 23, 1838. His father, Jacob Hotsenpiller, a native of the same county, in early manhood married Miss Eliza Ramey, also a native of the Old Dominion. The grandfather of our subject, Abraham Hotsenpiller, was of German parentage and descent, and after coming to this country served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and died in Pennsylvania. His son Jacob left his native State with his family in about 1879. He is still living and makes his home with his children in this county. The mother of our subject died Sept. 26, 1883, in Pettis County, Mo. The parental household included seven children, six sons and one daughter, of whom our subject was the eldest. His boyhood and youth were passed in his native State and after reaching his twenty-first year he started out for himself, coming to Illinois and locating in this county in 1860. He was a resident of Lexington two years and while living there was engaged in farming.

April 4, 1861, Mr. Hotsenpiller was married to Miss Frances Durham, born in Virginia, and who was the daughter of George Durham, who spent the greatest part of his life in the Old Dominion and died there in 1844. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. H. located on a rented farm south of Lexington, where they remained four years and then took possession of their present homestead on section 33, Chenoa Township. The farm consists of eighty acres of valuable land, and with the exception of the dwelling, Mr. H. has effected all the improvements on the place. The farm is all enclosed with good fences and is stocked with good grades of domestic animals. The household circle

was completed by the birth of eight children: Virginia is the wife of Charles Dawson, who lives in Chenoa Township; Mary E., Annie G., William M., Charles E., James M. and Bessie E. are at home with their parents; Lulu B. died in infancy.

Mr. and Mrs. H. are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and, with all their children, attend services at Olivet Chapel. Mr. H. is Superintendent of the Sunday-school and has been a cheerful and liberal supporter of the Society. He is Republican in politics, served as School Director twelve years, and has been Road Commissioner of the township since 1885.



**S**AMUEL Y. EWING, an energetic and enterprising farmer of Mt. Hope Township, is the son of Nathaniel Ewing, of Butler County, Ky., and was born in the same county as his father, Aug. 25, 1845. His grandfather, James Ewing, was a native of Virginia, who emigrated to Kentucky, becoming a pioneer settler of the State. He purchased a tract of timber land in what is now known as Butler County, cleared a farm from the wilderness, and remained upon it the balance of his life. Here his son Nathaniel, the father of our subject, was reared to manhood, and was married to Miss Nancy Young, of Logan County. Nathaniel Ewing was possessed of excellent abilities, and had acquired a good education, mainly through his own efforts and love of learning. He became a civil engineer, and learned the art of surveying from his brother, who surveyed the greater part of Arkansas for the Government. Nathaniel Ewing became an extensive landholder in Logan and Butler Counties, and after the death of his father purchased the old homestead, which he occupied until 1853, and then sold it in order to come to McLean County, Ill. His household circle now comprised his wife and seven children, and they made the journey to the Prairie State overland with horses and wagons, the household goods being shipped via the rivers to Pekin. Previous to their final removal Mr. Ewing had visited the State of Illinois and entered 120 acres of land on section 17, of Mt. Hope Township. The family arrived in

May and established themselves in the household of J. H. Young until Mr. Ewing could build a house on his land. For this he was obliged to haul lumber from Pekin. Upon the completion of the dwelling they moved into it and made themselves as comfortable as possible, and in due time a straw shed was added. Mr. Ewing afterward purchased eighty acres more, and at the time of his death, in January, 1876, had brought the whole to a good state of cultivation. His widow is still living upon the homestead which her husband had provided for his family.

The seven children who constituted the parental household of our subject are recorded as follows: John, now deceased, served as a soldier of the Union in the 145th Illinois Infantry, and died in the service at Rolla, Mo.; William W., after serving through the war in the 2d Illinois Cavalry, became a resident of Mt. Hope Township; Samuel Y., our subject, was next in order of birth; Beverly N. lives in Tazewell County; Jane became the wife of James Palmer, a farmer of Mt. Hope Township; Mary married Walter Trott, of Lincoln, Neb.; Lizzie, Mrs. Calvin W. Crain, is a resident of Saline County, Neb.

Samuel Y. Ewing was a lad of eight years when his parents became residents of McLean County. He attended school during his youthful days, and assisted his parents in the lighter duties around the homestead. He also continued to reside under the parental roof until his marriage with Miss Catharine E. Wright, which occurred Sept. 1, 1875. Mrs. Ewing is a native of Addison County, Vt., and the daughter of William F. and Eleeta (Whitwood) Wright, natives of Vermont and Massachusetts respectively. Her father was born in Addison County, Vt., in January, 1817, and was the son of Moses Wright, of the same county. He was reared in his native county, received his primary education in the district schools, and later attended Middlebury Academy. After his marriage he located on his father's homestead, and lived there until 1856, when he removed to Berlin, Wis., and after a residence there of one year, returned south to Illinois, and purchased a farm in Mt. Hope Township, McLean County, on section 20. He here engaged in farming pursuits, and being a gentleman

of good education, also engaged successfully in teaching school. This latter he followed for many years, and departed this life in April, 1886. His wife, the mother of Mrs. Ewing, had preceded him but a few months to the better land, her death occurring in December, 1884.

Mr. and Mrs. Ewing have become the parents of two children—Katie S. and Nathaniel P. They occupy one of the finest homesteads in McLean County, and Mr. Ewing is one of the largest landed proprietors of this section of the Prairie State, his possessions aggregating about 1,000 acres, all of which is improved and under a good state of cultivation. He is widely and favorably known as a man of rare business talent, straightforward and upright in his transactions, and is one of the most valued citizens of the Prairie State. The home of Mr. Ewing is shown on another page of this work.



**W**ILLIAM R. FARR, the son of Reason S. and Elizabeth (Broadwater) Farr, is a highly respected resident of Gridley Township, where he settled on section 25, in 1881. He has been a resident of this county since a youth of seventeen years, and during a period of over a quarter of a century has proved himself a valuable member of the community, always interested in its welfare and progress.

The parents of our subject were both natives of Fairfax County, Va., where they were reared, married and lived until 1856. They then emigrated to Missouri, and remained in that State until near the close of the late war. Recrossing the Mississippi and coming into Illinois they located in Chenoa Township, this county, where the mother died Jan. 18, 1871. The father departed this life June 9, 1887, in McLean, Ill. He was a farmer by occupation. The six children of the parental family were all boys, the subject of our sketch being the third in order of birth.

William B. Farr was born in West Virginia, while his parents were on a visit to that State, Jan. 23, 1844. He left home when about eleven years old, and two years later went to California, and worked in the mines and at whatever else he could



find to do. He remained on the Pacific slope until he was past seventeen years old, then came East as far as Illinois, and commenced working out by the month in this county. He was thus occupied two years, and then engaged in farming for himself. With the exception of one year spent in Livingston County, Ill., he has been a resident of this county since that time.

When Mr. Farr came to this county he was comparatively without funds and almost a total stranger. He was possessed, however, of willing hands and a good stock of resolution, and his present beautiful homestead of 280 acres gives ample evidence of the courage and industry with which he has labored and saved.

He was married early in life in this county to Miss Martha E. Gallchugh, who was born in Madison County, Va., Jan. 31, 1845. Their wedding took place in 1864. Her parents died when she was quite young, and but little is known concerning them. Of her union with our subject there have been born seven children, of whom Elizabeth and Richard are deceased. Those surviving are John W., Catharine, Jessie M., Narrissa D. and Albert R. The faithful and affectionate wife and devoted mother departed this life in Gridley Township, Nov. 8, 1886. She was a lady of many worthy and amiable qualities and was greatly beloved by her family and a large circle of friends and acquaintances.

Mr. Farr, since becoming a resident of this county, has taken a genuine interest in watching its growth and prosperity, and has in no small degree contributed to the success of its agricultural and industrial interests. He was elected Highway Commissioner in the spring of 1885, and politically is a staunch supporter of Democratic principles.

**W**ALTER H. SIEBERNS is Postmaster at Gridley, and senior member of the firm of Sieberns & Brickner of that place, and in addition to his official duties is, with his partner, carrying on a good trade in general merchandisc. The subject of this history is a descendant of substantial German ancestry, being the son of Henry E.

and Caroline (Niergarth) Sieberns, who were born in Germany and emigrated to America in 1854. They located in Canada, whence, after a residence of seven years, they came westward to Illinois, settling in Woodford County. There the father engaged in mercantile pursuits until 1863, when he came to Gridley and engaged in trade until 1873. He then removed to Peoria, continuing however, his business in Gridley until the fall of 1884, when he disposed of his business to his son and son-in-law and is now living retired from active labor. The nine children included in the parental family were named as follows; Etta and Anna (twins), Mary R., Walter H., Minnie C., John R., Otto, Carl and Lizzie.

Walter H. Sieberns was born in Woodford County, this State, Aug. 19, 1862. He received a common-school education and assisted in his father's store until the fall of 1884, when, in company with George W. Brickner, he succeeded his father in the business at Gridley, where he has since continued. Mr. Sieberns was appointed Postmaster in December, 1885.

The marriage of our subject occurred in Groveland, Ill., Sept. 7, 1886, the lady of his choice being Miss Carrie Freidenger, who was born in Groveland, July 3, 1862, being the daughter of John and Mary (Sandmeyer) Freidenger. Mr. and Mrs. S. are members in good standing of the Congregational Church and politically our subject is strongly Democratic.

**J**OHN BODGER, who is a highly respected member of a family well known throughout this section, and who is now a resident of Gridley Township, was born in Lincolnshire, England, July 1, 1842. His parents were John and Hannah (Ratliff) Bodger. For parental history see sketch of George Bodger on another page. Our subject came to America with his parents when a lad nine years of age, and received a good common-school education, in the meantime being reared to farming pursuits and instilled in those principles which have made of him an honest man and a good citizen.

With the exception of eight years spent in Woodford County, Mr. Bodger has been a resident of Gridley Township since the spring of 1855. He is the owner of 163 acres of fine farming land upon which he has placed good improvements, including a substantial set of farm buildings and all the necessities required by a first-class agriculturist.

After Mr. Bodger had acquired a good start in life and felt that the measure was justifiable and right, he took unto himself a companion and helpmeet in the person of Miss Sarah J. Wright, to whom he was married in Bloomington, Ill., Nov. 17, 1864. Mrs. B. is the daughter of William and Martha (Boldridge) Wright, natives of Ohio, whence they removed to this county in about 1846, after a residence in Indiana of several years. They first settled in White Oak Township, where they remained until 1865, and after that removed to Chatsworth, Ill., where they passed the remainder of their days, the mother dying Aug. 20, 1884, and the father Sept. 10, 1886. Their nine children included four sons and five daughters, of whom Mrs. B. was the fifth child. She was born in Clinton County, Ind., Feb. 13, 1843, and has become the mother of five children, of whom Mary L. and Spencer are deceased. Those surviving are France V., Raymond W. and Alice F.

Mr. Bodger, politically, is connected with the Democratic party, and socially is a member of El Paso Lodge No. 246, A. F. & A. M.

**C**HRISTIAN J. W. McNEMAR is one of the foremost farmers of Money Creek Township, and thoroughly understands the vocation which he follows. He has a fine farm on section 4, and is meeting with far more than ordinary success in the prosecution of his calling. Mr. McNemar is a son of Elias and Catherine (Hilkey) McNemar, the former a native of Grant County, W. Va., of Irish-English ancestry and the latter of German descent. After their marriage they settled in Grant County, W. Va., where the father was engaged in farming and various other occupations and where they lived until their death. He was born in 1800, and died in 1851, and she was born

about 1803, and died in 1857. They had eight children, named, Barbara, Amelia, Martha, Joseph W., Lorena, Christian J. W., William B. F. and Jacob P. R.

Mr. McNemar of this notice was born in Grant County, W. Va., May 12, 1836, and was reared to manhood in his native county, engaged the while in labor on the farm. The free school system was not at that time in vogue in his State, and consequently his school privileges were limited. He nevertheless is not devoid of education, having during the years of his life improved opportunities he had, and has added to his fund of knowledge obtained from books, that of a practical education. In the fall of 1857 he came to this county, reaching Lexington October 4 of that year. He has been a resident of McLean County since that time and during these thirty years has devoted his time exclusively to agricultural pursuits. When he first came to the county he worked out by the month and continued to labor in that way during 1858-59-60. He then rented land in Chenoa Township, which he worked for one year and then worked for his father-in-law three years. After this he bought eighty acres of section 22, Gridley Township, on which he lived until the spring of 1869, when he sold his farm and going to Money Creek Township, bought the old homestead formerly owned by his father-in-law. Mr. McNemar is now the owner of 338 acres, all of which is improved.

Our subject was married in Money Creek Township, Sept. 12, 1861, to Miss Mary E. Pirtle, daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth (McNaught) Pirtle. The father was born in Kentucky and the mother in Indiana. After their marriage they lived in Indiana until 1849. In the spring of that year they came to McLean County and taking up their residence in Money Creek Township, lived there until their death. His demise took place Dec. 14, 1865, and hers Jan. 25, 1885. They had seven children—Ezra, Harriett, John, James, Sarah, Mary E. and Thomas. Mary E., wife of our subject, was born in Owen County, Ind., Jan. 30, 1845, and was but four years of age when her parents came to this county. By her union with our subject ten children have been born—Osceola, Estella, Harriett A., Ida E. married Orin Simpson, Feb. 17, 1887, and

they live in Woodford County, Ill.; Noah B., John T., Eva O., Christian E., James A. and Cleveland. Estella is the wife of Anderson Patton and they live in Gridley Township; John T. died when four years old. Mr. McNemar has held the office of Township Assessor for one term and in politics is a Democrat. He and his wife are members of the Christian Church.

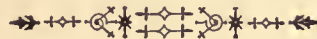


**W**ILLIAM BALLINGER. The farming community of Chenoa Township entertains a high respect for the firm of Brum and Ballinger, who are carrying on a successful business as dealers in agricultural implements and seeds, and who from their courteous treatment of their customers, and their straightforward business transactions, have fully established themselves in the confidence of their fellow-citizens. The business was established in 1883, and their operations extend throughout this and adjoining counties. Mr. B. was born in Springboro, Warren Co., Ohio, Sept. 22, 1835. His father, Jacob Ballinger, was a native of New Jersey, and carried on the trade of a carriage manufacturer during the latter years of his life, in Springboro, Ohio, where he died in about 1836. He was married in early manhood to Miss Elizabeth Kestler, also a native of New Jersey, and the young people soon afterward moved from their native State to Ohio. They became the parents of four children, of whom our subject was the youngest.

William Ballinger spent his childhood and youth upon the farm, and received the advantages of a common-school education in his native town. In March, 1853, he started for Illinois, and made his first location in this State on a farm in Peoria County. When twenty years of age, in 1855, he was married to Miss Maria Runyan, of Peoria County, Ill., and the daughter of Conrad Runyan, Esq. In March, 1859, Mr. Ballinger came to this county and settled on a farm in Chenoa Township, about four miles west of the village. He made several removals afterward, locating each time in the vicinity of Chenoa. The farm which he now owns is situated on sections 4 and 9, and contains 460 acres,

under a good state of cultivation, and comprising some of the most valuable land in this section. His farm experiences enabled him to determine what was most needed by the progressive agriculturist, and in 1883 he opened up his present establishment, while for some time afterward he still operated the farm. In 1887 he rented the latter, and is now turning his entire attention to his mercantile business. The firm carries a full line of everything pertaining to the farm, including wagons, buggies and carriages.

Mr. and Mrs. Ballinger are the parents of seven children, five sons and two daughters, namely: Charles W., Elizabeth C., Edward J., Perry W., George H., Minnie M. and Orville D. Since coming to this locality Mr. Ballinger has thoroughly identified himself with its moral and educational interests, and has served eighteen years as School Director, and is now Road Commissioner. His career has been a striking illustration of what may be accomplished by steady perseverance and industry. When he first made his advent into Peoria County his earthly possessions consisted of an old rifle and thirty-seven cents in money. He has been content to labor and wait, and is now enjoying the rich reward of his early toil and forced economy. He is descended from substantial German ancestry, and has inherited from his forefathers their sturdy resolution and the spirit that knows no such word as fail. In politics he is a staunch Republican.



**E**BENEZER D. CHURCHILL. The firm of Churchill & Sons, of whom the subject of this history is the senior member, was established in Chenoa in 1866, and is widely and favorably known throughout this county for its straightforward business methods and its importance as a representative of the business interests of McLean County. Mr. Churchill was born in Sherburne, Chenango Co., N. Y., Feb. 11, 1822. His father, Ebenezer D. Churchill, Sr., was a native of Salisbury, Conn., where he carried on mercantile pursuits the greater part of his life. He died, however, while comparatively a young man, when our sub-

ject was but six weeks old. The mother, who before her marriage was Miss Sabrina Tupper, was also a native of Connecticut and of Irish ancestry. The Churehills were pure English blood, and the first representatives of the family in this country settled in New England in the colonial days. The parents of our subject soon after their marriage removed to New York State, where the father died. The mother subsequently removed from Sherburne to Fulton, N. Y., where she passed the remainder of her days. After the death of Mr. Churehill she was married to William Finch.

Ebenezer D. Churehill, Jr., was the only child of the first marriage. He was reared comparatively among strangers, being thrown upon his own resources shortly after the death of his father. He was a bright boy, however, and managed to obtain a fair education. When eighteen years of age he learned the glover's trade, which he followed several years in New York. He subsequently went to Canada and engaged in the purchase and sale of lumber, and while in the Dominion was united in marriage with Miss Hannah L. Atkins, of Buffalo, N. Y. Soon afterward the young couple removed to Madison, Wis., where they lived five years. He then built a flouring-mill at Westport, Wis., where he operated until the spring of 1866, thence removed to Chenoa, this State, and after engaging in the lumber business several years established his present trade in grain, which he has followed since that time. He built one elevator and purchased another, the former on the line of the T. P. & W. R. R., and the other on the C. & A. R. R. He also has a good elevator in the town of Meadows, four miles west of Chenoa, this county. The firm is thus possessed of the best of shipping facilities. Chenoa at one time was one of the best shipping points on the road and the efforts of Mr. Churehill contributed largely to its reputation in this direction. His two sons, Charles and Delos, are engaged in the Chenoa office with their father.

Our subject and his wife became the parents of four children—Anna E., Charles F., E. D. and Frank L. Mr. Churehill has served as Alderman, and in other respects has been prominently identified with the interests of the thriving little town. As one of the pioneers of its business interests he

is widely and favorably known and appreciated at his true worth.

Charles F. Churehill, the eldest son of Ebenezer D. and Hannah L. Churehill, was born in Vienna, Canada West, Nov. 29, 1852. His education, begun in the common school, was continued at Normal University, Bloomington, Ill., where he applied himself closely to his studies for one year. He then attended Monmouth College, in Warren County, this State, two years, following which he became associated with his father in the lumber trade at Chenoa. He is a young man of much energy and ambition, and has served two years as City Clerk of Chenoa. He was Supervisor of the township from 1881 to 1883. He was married on the 19th of October, 1876, to Miss Lora, daughter of Dr. C. S. Elder, of Chenoa. Of this union there were born four children—Lena, Hattie J., Guy F. and Edgar D. The latter died in infancy. Mr. Churehill is a member of the Masonic fraternity and belongs to Lodge No. 292, also Chenoa Chapter No. 143. In politics he is a Democrat.



**R**ICHARD ROWELL, deceased, formerly an honored resident of Dale Township, took possession of his homestead there in the spring of 1853. He became a resident of the Prairie State fifteen years previously, and with his brother, B. F. Rowell, commenced farming out on the prairie at the head branch of Rock Creek, a mile and one-half from the timber. The climate in winter at that time was very severe and these courageous and determined men went by the name of the "fool Yankees." They lived thus until 1848, at first with unentered land on both sides of them, and even in 1850 a portion of it had not yet been laid claim to. Three years later Mr. Rowell sold out his interest in this land, crossed the Mississippi, and began investigating the eastern portion of Iowa. Notwithstanding he had a pleasant journey and enjoyed it very much, he saw no land equal to that in McLean County, so he returned and purchased of Samuel Barker, of Twin Grove, the land which constituted his permanent homestead





*Caleb Johnson*



*Robert Powell*

and which he occupied from that time until his decease.


The subject of this history was born May 20, 1814, in Littleton, Grafton Co., N. H., and was the son of Jonathan and Sarah (Hoskin) Rowell, who were both of Puritan stock. His grandfather, Daniel Rowell, was a soldier of the Revolution and present in the series of battles which terminated in the surrender of Gen. Burgoyne. Richard Rowell lived until twenty-two years old among the hills of his native county within sight of Mt. Washington. The schools in that vicinity afforded facilities for a good education, which young Rowell was permitted to obtain and which he supplemented by attendance at a grammar school in Concord, Vt. When eighteen years old he engaged as a teacher. In May, 1836, after reaching his majority, he determined to visit the western country and if possible engage as a teacher there. He had no friends or acquaintances in the region which he purposed visiting, but his stock of resolution and enterprise served him in good stead and he started out with hope and courage. The method of traveling was by stage, horse railroad and canal, by steam and on foot, and the route was very nearly that now traversed by the Michigan Central Railroad. At Ann Arbor there was then no prospect of a village, and the great University which has now made it famous probably had not been thought of. After reaching Chicago Mr. Rowell engaged as a carpenter. The Pottawattomies were then receiving their last annuity and about 2,000 were collected in the city. They soon left, however, and never returned.

In October of the same year, young Rowell started out again, proceeding to La Salle by stage. The "stage" was a wagon which the passengers were often obliged to get out of and lift from the mud. There were no houses where the thriving city of La Salle now stands unless there might have been a few concealed by the bank of the river. After leaving the stage he embarked on the steamer "Frontier," which was fully in keeping with the other methods of transportation in those days. After reaching Peoria and finding little prospect for employment as a teacher, he crossed the Illinois, and reaching Stout's Grove, was engaged to teach the school in that locality for the winter following.

One of the exciting events of that term was the "raising" of the first store building in Danvers (then Concord), and Mr. Rowell dismissed his school for three days to assist in the proceedings; the building still stands. The young pioneer was employed in teaching until commencing operations with his brother, as we have stated.

The marriage of Richard Rowell and Miss Nancy Barnard took place Dec. 15, 1853, and they became the parents of three children—Lois, Emma and Clark. Mr. Rowell was of fine physique, fully six feet in height, and his average weight about 180 pounds. His form indicated strength and activity; his head was well proportioned, and his eyes bright and expressive. He was polite and obliging in his manner and a man of decided views, fearless in the expression of his sentiments, while at the same time he was careful not to give offence. He was always interested in public improvements and encouraged every measure calculated to increase the prosperity of his adopted county. He was Supervisor of Dale Township for about nine years and one of the Commissioners at the time of the building of the court-house. It is hardly necessary to say that he possessed the entire confidence and esteem of his fellow-citizens, who at the time of his decease manifested their sentiments by the unusually large attendance at his funeral and the expressions of regret on every side that a good man had ceased from his labors whose place it would be most difficult to supply.

The accompanying portrait of Mr. Rowell in connection with this brief sketch will serve as a means of perpetuating the memory of one who at all times cast his influence on the side of truth and justice.



**C**ALEB JOHNSON, well known as a prosperous farmer and land-owner of McLean County, and whose portrait is shown on an accompanying page, is the proprietor of 406 acres in Danvers Township, all improved and under a good state of cultivation. While in the prime of life he was industriously engaged in all the duties appertaining to the farm, being especially noted as a breeder of fine stock, in which he gained quite a

reputation. He is now retired from active labor and resides in Stanford, enjoying the competency which he acquired by years of active industry and the exercise of good judgment.

Mr. Johnson is a native of Monroe County, W. Va., born March 22, 1813. His school advantages were limited to a few months, and the temple of learning was a log cabin constructed after the most primitive fashion. After reaching manhood he was married to Miss Louisa J. Beard, on the 27th of June, 1839. Mrs. J. was a native of the same county as her husband, and was born Dec. 11, 1813. After the birth of six children, Caleb Johnson, accompanied by his family, with his household goods, and an outfit of eight horses and four wagons, started for the prairies of Illinois. His destination was Danvers Township, McLean County, where the year previous he had purchased 560 acres of land, consisting of both prairie and timber. They commenced their journey on the 16th day of September, and reached the new farm October 13 following.

Mr. Johnson at once set about the improvement and cultivation of his land, and in due time established one of the most comfortable homesteads in the West. He has become noted throughout this section for his industry and enterprise, and forms an important factor in the agricultural interests of McLean County. His upright course in life, his promptness in meeting his obligations, and his excellent personal qualities, have caused him to be regarded with universal respect. He is Democratic in politics, and has assisted by his means and influence in most of the enterprises which have brought this county to its present condition as one of the most prosperous sections in the Prairie State.

To Mr. and Mrs. Caleb Johnson there were born six children, of whom the record is as follows: Ward P., born June 8, 1840, married Miss Elizabeth Deal, and was a resident of Danvers Township; they are both now deceased; Madora E., born March 4, 1843, became the wife of George W. Holland, and lives in Missouri; Sarah R., born April 11, 1845, married Miles Brooks, Esq., of Stanford, Ill.; J. Wallace was born Aug. 23, 1847, married Miss Lois Rowell, and is a resident of Danvers Township; John A., born March 18, 1851, married

Miss Julia Lehman, and lives in New Mexico; Louise S., now Mrs. Frank P. Browning, of Missouri, was born March 7, 1855. These children are all respected members of society, and have inherited in a marked degree the excellent qualities of both parents.



JAMES W. JOHNSON, one of the most extensive farmers and stock-raisers of McLean County, has been a resident of the Prairie State since 1856, at that time locating on the farm which he now owns and occupies and which is situated on section 34, Danvers Township. His homestead embraces 720 acres of valuable land, which is liberally stocked with 100 head of fine cattle, 20 head of horses and a flock of South Down sheep. The residence is a handsome and commodious structure, and the large, well-built barn, with its adjacent out-buildings, is such as in every respect meets the requirements of a first-class agriculturist. The whole constitutes one of the finest estates in this section of Illinois, and is viewed by the passing traveler with unmixed admiration.

The subject of this biography is a native of Monroe County, W. Va., his birth occurring Aug. 27, 1847. His parents, Caleb and Louisa (Beard) Johnson, also natives of the Old Dominion, removed in early life to Illinois and are now residents of Stanford, this county. The father is one of the most respected citizens in that locality, a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and prominent in all good works and every enterprise calculated to benefit his community, socially, morally and intellectually. The parental household included six children, of whom the record is as follows: Pembroke married Miss Elizabeth Deal, and both are now deceased; Edmonia, Mrs. George Holland, is a resident of Henry County, Mo.; Rebeeca married Miles Brooks and lives in Stanford, this county; John A. married Miss Lehman and lives in New Mexico; Louise, now Mrs. Frank Browning, is a resident of Appleton, St. Clair Co., Mo. These children received a good education, which in connection with their natural talents constitutes them a




family group of which the parents may well be proud.

The lady who presides over the home of our subject and who in her girlhood was Miss Lois Rowell, became the sharer of his fortunes on the 7th of February, 1878. Mrs. Johnson is a native of this county, and was born Nov. 16, 1854, to Richard and Nancy (Barnard) Rowell, natives respectively of Grafton County, N. H., and Montgomery County, Ohio. Richard Rowell, who was one of the honored pioneers of McLean County, was born May 20, 1814, and after building up a good record as a husband, father, friend and citizen, departed this life at his home in Dale Township, on the 16th of October, 1881. He was a gentleman of good education and followed the joint occupation of school teacher and carpenter in his early days, but during his later life turned his attention principally to farming. He was remarkably successful as an agriculturist, accumulated a fine property, and attained an enviable reputation as one of the most skillful farmers and stock-raisers in the county. The mother of Mrs. Johnson was born Oct. 28, 1824, became the wife of Richard Rowell, Dec. 15, 1853, and to the household thus established there came three children, namely, Lois, now the wife of our subject; Emma, who died Nov. 11, 1885, and Clark, who died in 1862, when but two years of age. The mother is still living, and resides on the old homestead in Dale Township. As a lady having lived worthily and performed all the duties of life with cheerfulness and courage, setting a good example before her family and neighbors, Mrs. Rowell is held in the highest respect by all who know her.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have an interesting family of three bright children, namely, Homer, born Nov. 13, 1878; Roy, April 11, 1884, and May, Sept. 24, 1885. Mr. Johnson has become prominently identified with the affairs of this section since becoming a resident here, and has materially aided in the advancement of its agricultural and business interests. Everything which he undertakes must be well done and complete in all its details. He will put up with no half measures, either in his business affairs or on the farm. The fences and machinery are kept in the best of repair and he has no patience with idleness or shiftlessness. He takes

a genuine interest in the prosperity and advancement of his community, and is the encourager of every enterprise calculated to effect these ends. The evidences of his labor will remain years hence, whether he retires early or late, from the scenes of his activity. He is recognized as a man of undoubted integrity, capable of forming his own opinions and resolutely adhering to them, and in both social and private life is a good neighbor, a kind husband and father, and possesses that to which he is most justly entitled, the esteem and confidence of his neighbors and friends. Politically, he affiliates with the Democratic party, and has served as School Director in his district.

In this work will be found finely executed lithographic portraits of Caleb Johnson, the father of our subject, and Richard Rowell, the father of Mrs. Johnson, together with a bird's-eye view of the homestead of James W. Johnson.



**T**HOMAS TYSON. The gentleman whose name heads this biography owns and occupies a fine homestead in Mt. Hope Township, on section 22. He is comfortably situated, and in possession of all the comforts of life and many of its luxuries. The worldly goods of which he is possessed have been accumulated solely by the exercise of his own industry, as he never received any legacy to assist him on the high road to prosperity. He has been a resident of the Prairie State for a period of thirty-six years, and during that time has established for himself a reputation as a thoroughly honest man and a good citizen.

The subject of this history is a native of Lockport, Niagara Co., N. Y., and was born on the 13th of August, 1836. He is the youngest son of William and Mary J. Tyson, and was only two years old when deprived of a father's care by death. He remained with his mother until he was ten years old, and then commenced in earnest the struggle of life. His first regular employment was in a cooper shop, and the following year he went to live with an old English farmer of Niagara County, with whom he remained one year, and was then employed by a Quaker in the same neighborhood,

with whom he remained a little over a year thereafter. The first year he received \$4 per month, and the second, \$6. He was thoughtful beyond his years, and resolved to better his condition if possible, and pave the way to become a man among men.

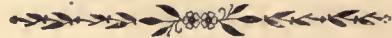
In 1850 Thomas Tyson determined to emigrate West, and accordingly, in company with his mother and stepfather, set his face toward the prairies of Illinois. They first went to Tazewell County and located in Delavan, and there our subject was employed by Allen Perrin, to work upon a farm at \$10 a month. While with Mr. Perrin he used to get up at 4 o'clock in the morning and milk six or eight cows, then accompany his employer ten miles to the timber, and they split 100 rails before night. Wolves were plenty then in that section, and often followed the twain after they had left their work to go home at night. These duties were alternated with an occasional trip to Pekin, eighteen miles distant, where he hauled the produce of the farm and disposed of it in exchange for a moderate amount of cash or the necessaries required for use around the homestead and in the household.

Young Tyson subsequently returned to his mother's home, where he remained for one year, and then went back to Mr. Perrin. He was faithful and industrious, and could always find plenty of work although the wages were small. He lived economically, however, and saved every penny that he could, and in the course of a few years found himself possessed of sufficient means to engage in farming on his own account. He purchased eighty acres of wild land in Tazewell County, and in company with his brother William, improved and cultivated the land, keeping "bachelor's hall," and as time passed on purchased additional acres.

The brothers worked together in harmony, improving and cultivating their land, having now a quarter section beside the first purchase, and in 1855 added 320 acres to the area which they already held, the latter being located on section 22, Mt. Hope Township, which constitutes the present homestead of our subject. John and William Tyson farmed together for several years, and then divided their possessions, since which time Mr. T. has farmed successfully and independently alone. The

home estate now consists of 261 acres, finely cultivated and improved, with a commodious and comfortable farm residence, and all necessary out-buildings for the shelter of stock and the storing of grain. He has valuable farm implements and machinery, and carries on his agricultural operations after the most modern and improved methods.

The subject of our sketch was united in marriage with Miss Mary J. Bell, at the home of the bride's parents, on the 15th of May, 1855. Mrs. Tyson is the daughter of James and Susan (Allgood) Bell, and was orphaned by the death of both parents when a young child. She was reared by her grandparents until thirteen years of age, and was then received into the home of her aunt, Mary Holmes, of Delavan. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Tyson there have been born five children, as follows: Fannie G. married Martin Alberry, of Logan County, Ill.; Amanda Ellen became the wife of Charles Tallon, and lives in Mt. Hope Township; Thomas H., Charles R. and Albert are at home with their parents. Mr. Tyson is a Republican in politics, and uniformly votes in the interests of the principles of this party. A fine lithographic view of the residence and out-buildings of Mr. Tyson is shown elsewhere in this work.



**C**YRUS H. BENSON, a prominent farmer of Lawndale Township, is the son of James Benson, of Kentucky, who in early manhood married Miss Ann Hinshaw, of Tennessee. They were married in Blooming Grove, and then permanently located in White Oak Township, this county, being among its earliest settlers. The father of our subject was a farmer by occupation, which calling he pursued in Bloomington Township until 1830, then removed to White Oak Township, where he resided until his death, which occurred Sept. 8, 1883. The mother had passed to the land of the hereafter in August, 1868. Of their fourteen children twelve lived to mature years and two died in infancy. The latter were Maria C. and George W., the first of whom was fatally injured by falling into a tub of scalding water when two years old, and George was drowned at the same

age. The others were William, Elizabeth D., Naney, Cyrus H., Sarah J., Jesse M., Susannah H., James R., John F., Emily W., Edward C. and Horace M. John F. died in his eighteenth year.

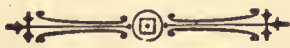
The subject of this sketch was born in White Oak Township, McLean County, Sept. 16, 1835. He was reared to farming pursuits, his primary studies in the meantime being carried on in the common schools. When twenty-one years of age he entered college at Eureka, Ill., where he studied three years, and in September, 1860, entered the junior class of Bethany College, W. Va., and thereafter took a course at Antioch College, Ohio. There he passed his examination in September, 1861, and entered the senior class of the college. The outbreak of the Rebellion, however, having necessitated a call for more troops he laid aside his personal interests and wishes and enlisted as a soldier in the Union cause. During his college course he had been under the guidance of such men as Elder Campbell, who was President of Bethany, and Dr. Hill, President of Antioch, and who afterward held the same office in Harvard University, at Cambridge, Mass.

Young Benson was mustered into the Union service Sept. 16, 1861, on his twenty-sixth birthday, as a member of Co. G, 17th Ill. Vol. Inf., with which he served three years. He enlisted as a private and was soon promoted Corporal. At the battle of Shiloh he was wounded in the back while on the retreat. He was not disabled, however, but kept up with his regiment. He participated with his comrades in the battles of Ft. Donelson, Shiloh, the siege and capture of Vicksburg and many other minor engagements and skirmishes. The last year he was on detached service, having charge of the United States Sanitary Commission at Vicksburg. At the close of the war he received an honorable discharge, being mustered out at Cairo, Ill., whence he returned home to this county. He afterward engaged in teaching school and farming alternately, his home always been in McLean County.

The marriage of Cyrus H. Benson and Miss Luey A. Rowell was celebrated in White Oak Township, June 8, 1864. Of this union there were born two children—Edward M., now a student at Champaign University, and Luey A., engaged in

teaching. The mother of these children departed this life in White Oak Township, May 23, 1867. The second marriage of Mr. Benson also took place in White Oak Township, March 16, 1871, when he was united to Miss Mary E. Denman, who was born in that township in 1845. Their six children were named as follows: Arthur D., May, James R., Roy H., Lloyd C. and Dot. Lloyd died when nine months old.

Mr. Benson was a resident of White Oak Township until the spring of 1867, when he purchased eighty acres of land on section 22, Lawndale Township, where he has since lived. He has now 160 acres finely improved, with a good residence and barn, and all the other conveniences required by the modern and progressive farmer. His property and stock are well cared for and in first-class condition. Mr. Benson is more than ordinarily intelligent and keeps himself well posted upon current events. He is highly esteemed by his fellow-citizens, who have conferred upon him the offices of Supervisor, Assessor and other important trusts. Politically he is a staunch Republican. He has been connected with the Christian Church since 1857, and Mrs. Benson is a member and regular attendant of the Methodist Church. Socially our subject belongs to the G. A. R.



**C**HARLES M. HELLER, residing on section 9, Towanda Township, where he has 120 acres of valuable and productive land, together with good and substantial improvements, is the son of Elias and Eliza (Braunsetter) Heller, natives of Pennsylvania. After their marriage the parents removed to Ohio, and settled in Clarke County, near Springfield. The father was a blacksmith by occupation, and followed his trade in Ohio, together with farming, until 1852, when, with his family, he moved to Delaware County, Ind., and settled on a farm near Yorktown. Living there for about two years engaged in the while in farming, he then returned to Clarke County, and in 1856 came here and made settlement in Towanda Township. In the spring of 1884 the old folk moved to Towanda Village, where they are at pres-

ent residing in retirement, having acquired a sufficiency to enable them to pass the sunset of life in peace and quiet. They have eight children, four sons and four daughters, and Charles M. is the third in order of birth. He first saw light in Clarke County, Ohio, Oct. 2, 1839, and received his education in the common schools, in the meantime assisting his father in the blacksmith-shop. Charles M. lived with his parents until he was about twenty-one years of age, when he bought a farm in Towanda Township, the same being that on which he now lives, and since that time has been continuously occupied with its improvement.

Mr. Heller was married, Nov. 28, 1861, in Towanda Township, to Miss Angeline, daughter of Richard and Elizabeth (Wilkinson) Fling, natives of Virginia. They came to McLean County, from Columbus, Ohio, in 1836, and settling in Towanda Township they there lived and labored until their death. They became the parents of four children, and Mrs. Heller was the third in order of birth. She first saw light in McLean County, Ill., March 3, 1841, and of her union with our subject ten children have been born—Fannie M., Minnie A., Charles T., Clara A., Nettie G., Edward E., Della L., Ethel C., Lelia M. and Imogene. Fannie is the wife of B. W. Stover, and they are living in Money Creek Township. Mr. Heller has held the office of School Director for several years. His good wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in politics he is a Jacksonian Democrat.



**J**OSEPH E. SPRINGER, a prominent citizen and farmer of Stanford, and at present serving his second term as Justice of the Peace, is a native of fair France, being born in the Province of Lorraine, Dec. 24, 1824. His parents were Christian and Magdalena (Engel) Springer, natives of the same Province, the father born Sept. 15, 1792, and the mother Feb. 2, 1796. Christian Springer was engaged in milling and farming combined, in his own country, and was there married in 1823. In 1830 he set sail with his family for the United States, and they landed in New Orleans on the 12th of June. Thence they immediately

proceeded to Butler County, Ohio, where the father of our subject purchased 206 acres of land, where he resided for sixteen years. In 1854 he came into McLean County and purchased two houses and lots in Danvers, which he occupied with his family for two years and then removed to the farm. Both parents lived with their sons until they departed this life. The mother died on the 30th of September, 1870, and the father, Oct. 3, 1879. Of their ten children the record is as follows: Joseph E. of our sketch was the eldest born; Catherine died in infancy; Peter D. married Miss Eliza Brenaman; Christian W. married Miss Elizabeth S. Stalter; Magdalena became the wife of Nicholas Risser; John married Miss Susan Sherbine; Kate became the wife of Peter Schertz; Andrew J. married Miss Elizabeth Schlabaeh; Mary became Mrs. Daniel Habecker; George died in infancy. Both parents were members of the Mennonite Church.

Joseph E. Springer remained under the parental roof until he had attained his majority, in the meantime receiving a common-school education. He was married, July 21, 1852, to Miss Catherine Kinzinger, but the young wife lived only about eight months, dying on the 4th of April, 1853. Mr. Springer was the second time married, Nov. 11, 1869, to Miss Kate Reser. This lady is the daughter of Nicholas and Magdalena (Kemp) Reser, who were natives of the same Province as our subject, and emigrated from France to the United States in 1858. They located first in Woodford County, Ill., whence they removed five years afterward to Tazewell County, and in 1871 came to McLean County, where the mother died Feb. 18, 1884; the father is still living, and is now a resident of Stanford, this county. Their family consisted of eight children, three sons and five daughters—Andrew, Joseph, Mary, Ann, Peter, Kate, Maggie and Victoria. They also were members of the Mennonite Church. To our subject and his present wife there were born seven children—Amelia M., Victoria M., Louisa M., one who died in infancy unnamed, Lillie M., Frank A. and Orion D.

Mr. S. was on the ocean sixty-two days when coming to this country. Since becoming a resident of this county he has identified himself with its interests, and has proved a worthy addition to the com-

munity. In politics he is strongly Democratic, and has held the office of Supervisor in Allin Township for three years.

Mr. and Mrs. S. are members of the Mennonite Church.



**R**ICHARD BREESE, a prominent and wealthy citizen of Gridley, came to this section in 1857, and by his energy and enterprise established himself in a short time as one of its most progressive and valuable pioneers. He is descended from substantial English ancestry, his parents having been John and Ann (Gunton) Breese, who were born in Huntingdonshire, England, where they married and settled, and where their children were born, and there the old folk passed their lives. Of the household circle, which included four sons and three daughters, the subject of this sketch was the fourth in order of birth.

Richard Breese was born in Cambridgeshire, England, Aug. 20, 1824. His father died when he was but seven years old, and he was then obliged to look out for himself. This, however, was a good school, teaching him self-reliance, and doubtless contributed greatly to bring about his later success. He commenced by working on a farm, and continued in his native England until he was twenty-eight years of age. In the meantime he had been married, and at the age mentioned started with his wife and child for the United States. They landed in New York City, and thence soon proceeded to Butler County, Ohio. There our subject worked out by the month, farming, for two years, and until the fall of 1854. He then rented land until the spring of 1857, and at this time decided to try his fortunes in the farther West. After completing his preparations he came into Illinois and settled first in Waldo Township, Livingston County, where he purchased 160 acres of land, and entering upon its cultivation continued to live there until the spring of 1869.

In the spring of 1869 Mr. Breese came to this county and settled in Gridley, having the fall previous formed a partnership with W. H. Boise, for the purpose of dealing in grain and live stock. They operated together until the spring of 1884,

under the style of Boise & Breese. Our subject then disposed of his interest in the business and having accumulated a fine property has since that time retired from active labor. He is the owner of 360 acres of land in Livingston County which is finely improved, and 240 acres in Gridley Township, this county. He also has a pleasant family residence in the town of Gridley.

Mr. Breese was married in England in 1846, to Miss Mary Miller, who was also a native of Cambridgeshire. Of this union there were born two children—Eliza and Richard. The latter died in infancy. Eliza became the wife of Christian Neuhauer, residing in Gridley, and the mother of eleven children, and departed this life April 14, 1879. Her surviving children were Sarah, Katie, Lucy L., Minerva, Williametta and Mary A.; five are deceased. The first wife of our subject died in England in the fall of 1849, and he was again united in marriage in his native county, to Mrs. Sarah (Flanders) Harvey, daughter of James and Catherine (Gunton) Flanders, who were natives of Huntingdonshire, England, where they spent their lives. Her first husband was Richardson Harvey, who died in 1851. Of the parents' marriage there were born thirteen children, seven daughters and six sons, of whom Mrs. B. was the eldest but one. Her birth occurred in Huntingdonshire, Oct. 30, 1829. Of the present marriage of our subject there have been no children. Mrs. Breese is a member in good standing of the Congregational Church, and politically Mr. B. is a staunch Republican. He has been School Director, Township Trustee and a member of the Village Board.



**T**HOMAS FREED. The history of the subject of this sketch, who is one of the prominent and prosperous farmers of Gridley Township, may be briefly summed as follows: He is the son of Abraham and Elizabeth (Fleming) Freed, being the sixth of a family of eight children. Thomas Freed was born in Fayette County, Pa., July 11, 1825, and was reared on his father's farm in his native county, remaining under the parental

roof until seventeen years of age. He then started out for himself, working by the month on a farm for one year, and was then apprenticed to learn the blacksmith's trade. He served three years at this, but preferring farming, directed his attention afterward principally to agricultural pursuits.

In August, 1853, Mr. Freed of this notice left his native State, and coming to McLean County, Ill., looked over the land, but finally located in Adams County, where he remained until the following spring. He then returned to this section, and was employed by the month for two years following, on a farm near Bloomington. In the spring of 1856 he located in Gridley Township, which has since been his home.

Mr. Freed, beginning life at the foot of ladder, has proved a fair illustration of what may be accomplished by perseverance and industry. He came here with nothing but his strong hands and willing disposition to labor, but is now the owner of 160 acres of valuable land, which constitutes one of the finest homesteads in his township. He has a handsome and substantial farm residence, a good barn, and all other necessary conveniences for the storing of grain and the shelter of stock. He has been upright in his business transactions, prompt to meet his obligations, and in all respects has distinguished himself as a valuable member of the community.

The marriage of our subject took place in Gridley Township on the 6th of May, 1858, when he was united with Miss Mary E., the daughter of William and Susannah (Blake) Nichols, who were natives respectively of Kentucky and Ohio. After marriage Miss Nichols' parents came to Illinois and located in this county, which remained their home the balance of their lives. The father was accidentally killed at a house-raising in Selma, Lexington Township, and the mother died upon the homestead, in 1849. Mrs. Freed was the elder of their two children. She was born in Lexington Township, this county, Nov. 17, 1839, and by her union with our subject there have been born eight children: Sarah E., now the wife of Frank Stoufer, and a resident of Gridley Township; William A., Hoke, L. D., Frank H., George W., Leander C., Luta A. and John E. William A. married Miss

Emma F. Phinney, and resides in Gridley Township.

Mr. Freed, who is a Democrat in politics, has never been an office seeker, but by the persuasion of friends has served the people of his township in minor official positions, which he has filled with credit to himself and satisfaction to all concerned. Both our subject and his wife are worthy members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, to the support of which they have contributed as they could of their means.

WILLIAM LINDEN, a substantial German farmer of Chenoa Township, first opened his eyes to the light in the little Kingdom of Prussia, on the 16th of March, 1834. He is the son of John M. and Agnes Linden, who lived in a modest way upon a small farm, spending their entire lives in their native country. Our subject was placed in school at an early age, where he remained until thirteen years old and then went to work on a farm and was thus occupied until his twenty-second year. He then decided to seek his fortunes in the New World and accordingly started for the United States, landing first in New York City. From there, after a short stay, he proceeded to Chicago, Ill., where for the following summer he was employed in a lumber-yard. In the fall of the same year he came to Bloomington and during the winter following was engaged in chopping cord wood. In the spring of the next year he made arrangements to become an employe of Daniel Muntze, with whom he remained for four years. At the expiration of this time, in 1861, he was united in marriage with Miss Susanna Knipple, daughter of John Knipple, Esq.

After marriage the young people settled on the farm of John Gillespie, which Mr. Linden rented for one year. He continued to farm on rented land for eight years following, part of the time on his father-in-law's place, and then purchased eighty acres on section 35, in Chenoa Township, which is now his homestead, and is well stocked with hogs, horses and cattle. He also has eighty acres on section 34. Of late years Mr. L. has been interested

in the breeding of Norman horses, in which he has been quite successful.

The family of our subject and his wife consists of four sons and one daughter, namely, Jacob, John, William, Frank and Elizabeth. The residence is pleasantly located and the family enjoy the friendship and esteem of the best citizens of this vicinity. Mr. Linden has served as Road Commissioner and held the office of Path Master. He is essentially a self-made man and an illustration of what may be accomplished from a small beginning. When he landed in New York City he had but twenty cents in his pocket and came a stranger to a strange land. He has climbed up step by step, slowly but surely, to a good position in the community, and by his industry and perseverance has accumulated a competency. He has met with reverses, besides having lost several hundred dollars by the failure of the Chenoa Bank. He is a member in good standing of the Catholic Church, and fully deserves to be classed among the honest men and good citizens of McLean County.



**M**RS. CAROLINE CHENEY, widow of Hon. W. H. Cheney, and a resident of Saybrook, Ill., is the daughter of Demas and Mary A. (Yonker) Brown, natives respectively of New York and Pennsylvania, and was born in Medina County, Ohio, April 2, 1848. Demas Brown was born Jan. 8, 1802, and departed this life at his home in Portage, Ohio, Sept. 21, 1869. He was the son of William and Parmelia (Henshaw) Brown, both of English ancestry. He was reared to farming pursuits, was in all respects an excellent man and a good citizen, and with his wife was a member of the Christian Church. The mother of Mrs. Cheney was born Dec. 7, 1817, and still survives, making her home with her son, in Gibson, Ill. The parental household included thirteen children, of whom eleven are still living, are married and reside in different States of the Union.

Mrs. Cheney remained an inmate of her father's house, where she received careful training and a good education. At the age of sixteen, she came to Illinois and resided with her sister, and taught

school for eight years. On the 28th of May, 1873, she was united in marriage with Hon. W. H. Cheney, who was born Feb. 19, 1822, near Mechanicsburg, Ohio. He came to this State in 1825, and settled in the grove which now bears the family name. Mr. Cheney was first married to Miss Mary J. Orendorff, Nov. 10, 1842, and they became the parents of nine children, of whom the record is as follows: Lavina became the wife of W. H. Beekwith and lives in Saybrook; Jay died in infancy, Jan. 10, 1847; Kate married Dr. H. A. Winter; Charlie married Miss Lizzie Pugsley, and lives in Kansas; Emma died April 18, 1877, and Willie, Aug. 1, 1859; Harry married Miss Ada Youle, and resides on the homestead farm; Mary B., the wife of George W. Woodbury, lives in Huron, Dak.; Minnie E. received a fine musical education at Oberlin, Ohio, and Bloomington, Ill., and lives with Mrs. Cheney. Mrs. Mary J. Cheney, the mother of these children, died at the home of her husband in Cheney's Grove, Aug. 7, 1868; she was a lady of refinement and lovable disposition.

Of the marriage of W. H. and Mrs. Caroline Cheney, there were born three children, as follows: George W., Oct. 31, 1874; Nellie B., born May 31, 1876, died in September, 1885; Wilbur H. was born Feb. 28, 1878. Mr. Cheney died Aug. 24, 1878, a few months after the birth of his youngest son. His name is familiar throughout McLean County, as having been a man of great force of character, and more than ordinary business ability. He was Republican in politics, and took an active part in political affairs. At the time of his death he owned 1,000 acres of land, all in one body, which he had brought to a fine state of cultivation, and which he embellished with a handsome residence, and all other appliances of a first-class and progressive modern farmer.

Mr. Cheney possessed the rare faculty of being able to adapt himself to places and circumstances, and while greatly interested in the progress of political affairs, gave due attention to his business and household. In 1867 he was elected to succeed Hon. Isaac Funk in the State Senate, and secured the charter of the L. B. & M., but now the L., E. & W. R. R., and to him was accorded the honor of first breaking the soil to lay the track of

that railroad. He was identified for many years with the business and agricultural interests of this section, and in every condition in life performed whatever he undertook conscientiously and as became a man having at heart the best interests of county and town.

Mrs. Cheney is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and a lady universally respected for her amiability and kindness of heart, especially to the needy. These rare traits she doubtless inherited from the best of fathers, who was noted for his charities and substantial aid to the afflicted and distressed.

**J** P. STUBBLEFIELD, proprietor of one of the best livery and sale stables in the city of Bloomington, is also engaged in the breeding of fine horses, chief among which are the Norman and Clydesdale, and exhibits some of the finest specimens of these animals to be found in McLean County.

Our subject is a native of this county, and was born in Funk's Grove, Feb. 28, 1845. His parents were Absalom and Eliza (Pearsons) Stubblefield, natives of Ohio. His grandfather, Robert Stubblefield was of English ancestry and parentage, and was born in Halifax, Va., Nov. 23, 1793. He married Miss Sarah Funk, April 14, 1814. Both families were prominent in the early days in that section, and the grandfather of our subject, at the age of nineteen years, engaged as a soldier in the War of 1812. After his discharge from the army he located in Ohio, and was there married. In 1824 he came to Funk's Grove, this county, located upon a farm and engaged in agricultural pursuits thereafter for over fifty years, his death occurring June 8, 1870. His eldest son, Absalom, the father of our subject, was born in Fayette County, Ohio, Nov. 27, 1815. He removed to Illinois with his father, and at the age of ten years began business on his own account by buying calves and raising them, then selling, and later splitting rails. After he had earned \$50 he entered forty acres of land in Funk's Grove Township, and from this beginning he became one of the most extensive land-holders of McLean County. By his first marriage there were

born five children, the subject of our sketch being the third in order of birth.

J. P. Stubblefield remained under the parental roof until he was twenty-three years of age, his younger days being spent upon the farm and herding cattle on the prairie. After leaving home he located in Dale Township on a farm of 240 acres, and since that time has been extensively engaged in the breeding of fine stock, principally horses, the Norman and Clydesdale. He lived on his farm until 1884, and then removing to Bloomington, established his livery and sale stable, which contains some of the finest horses and equipages to be found in this section. Mr. S. still retains possession of his farm, where he employs from two to six men, and has thirty head of fine horses, high grades and full bloods.

Mr. Stubblefield, in 1867, was united in marriage with Miss Naomi C. Thomas, a native of Pennsylvania, and the daughter of Joseph and Annie (Moore) Thomas, who were born in Pennsylvania and Maryland, respectively. They removed to Ohio in 1862, and engaged in farming in Adams County, and there the mother died in 1885. The father is still living on the homestead. The household circle included thirteen children, of whom Mrs. Stubblefield is the eighth in order of birth.

Mr. and Mrs. Stubblefield have become the parents of one child, a daughter, Clara E., who was born in 1869. She is now an accomplished young lady, having received a literary and musical education. Their handsome residence is located at No. 305 South Center street, and both within and without is indicative of cultivated tastes and ample means.

For many years Mr. Stubblefield has been prominently identified with the interests of this locality, and whenever opportunity afforded has done what he could toward the advancement of its educational and industrial interests. For fourteen years he has been School Director, and has also served as Secretary and Treasurer of the Board. In politics he is a staunch Republican. He identified himself with the Methodist Church when eighteen years old, and continued with this denomination until 1876. Mrs. S. first became a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, but united with the Christian



Church when in her eighteenth year. They now belong to the United Brethren, of which their daughter has been a member since a child of nine years old, and is still an earnest worker in the church and Sabbath-school. The family name of our subject is widely and favorably known in this section, and needs no comment from us as to its excellence and worth. Mr. S. has always taken a great interest in church matters and, although living in Bloomington, still holds the office of Steward in the United Brethren Church of Dale Township, and has been a delegate to the annual conference every year since his uniting with the church.



**J**OHN L. TYNER, Sr., who is pleasantly located in Mt. Hope Township, occupies a comfortable home on section 4, and is successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits. He is a native of the Prairie State, having first opened his eyes to the light in Clay County on the 29th of February, 1820. The father of our subject, James Tyner, was a native of West Virginia, and his grandfather, Samuel Tyner, was of German birth and parentage, possessing all the brave and generous qualities of the warm-hearted German race. Samuel Tyner emigrated from his native land when a young man, making his first settlement in West Virginia, whence he removed to Indiana, where he spent the remainder of his days. His son James grew to manhood in his native county and then set out to seek his fortunes in the western country. After reaching Indiana, he located for a time in Posey County, where he made the acquaintance of Miss Eliza Graham, and they were united in marriage. The mother of our subject was a native of Maryland, and after their marriage, in about 1812, they removed to the Territory of Illinois and settled in Clay County. Here, James Tyner entered a claim, and when the land came into market he secured his title. He improved and cultivated his possessions, opened up a fine farm and occupied it until his death, which occurred in 1828. Soon after this event his widow, with her four children, returned to her old home in Posey County, Ind., and lived with her mother and stepfather until she was mar-

ried again. She kept her children together until they were able to earn their own living, carefully trained them to principles of honor and honesty, and gave them all the advantages possible for education.

When the subject of our sketch had arrived at the age of fourteen years, he was separated from his mother and went to live with his older brother, a blacksmith by trade. He remained with him two or three years, assisting in the shop and around the home and then, going to Albion, Ill., entered the employ of a physician, working for his board and clothes. After one year thus occupied he returned to the home of his grandfather in Indiana and subsequently became an inmate of his uncle's home, where he remained until he had attained to years of manhood.

At the age of twenty-two years, John L. Tyner was united in marriage with Miss Jane Hindman, a native of South Carolina, their wedding taking place on Oct. 21, 1842. This lady became the mother of nine children, and departed this life in Allin Township, this county, Nov. 8, 1865. After his marriage Mr. Tyner located upon a tract of rented land in Posey County, Ind., which he occupied for a few years and then removed upon a tract of forty acres which had been given him by his grandfather and where he made his home until 1855. He then sold out and came to Illinois, locating at once in McLean County. He cultivated rented land for a few years and then purchased sixty acres in Mt. Hope Township, on section 4, and lived upon this until 1865, when he sold it and purchased the farm which he now owns and occupies. It comprises 82½ acres in Mt. Hope, and 40 in Allin Township, and is supplied with a good residence and all needful out-buildings for the storing of grain and the shelter of stock.

The children of the first marriage of Mr. Tyner were named as follows: William L., Thomas H., Joseph, John L., Orpah Jones, James A., Emma Staley, Rosetta Baldwin, and Cora. The second marriage of our subject was with Miss Anna Cox, a native of Posey County, Ind. and took place Sept. 6, 1866. Of this union there have been born two children—Franklin E. and Charles A. Thomas H. Tyner served in the late war, escaped without

serious injury, and now lives in Arkansas City, Cowley Co., Kan.

Mr. and Mrs. Tyner are connected with the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and in politics Mr. T. is an uncompromising Democrat. He is a straightforward and intelligent business man, a skillful and enterprising farmer, and highly esteemed in the community of which he has been a resident for so many years.

The father of Mrs. Anna (Cox) Tyner, James Cox by name, was a native of Kentucky and her grandfather, Jesse Cox, was born in North Carolina and removed to Kentucky at an early period in the history of that State. In 1812 he removed to the Territory of Indiana, and was one of the pioneer settlers of Posey County. There he cleared a farm, established a permanent home and spent the remainder of his days, dying in Robinson Township. His son James, the father of Mrs. T. of our sketch, spent the last years of his life on his father's farm. In early manhood he was united in marriage with Miss Fannie Gwaltney. She was born in Kentucky, and when a child three years of age removed to Posey County, Ind., with her father, John G. Gwaltney, where she remained until her marriage with James Cox.



**A**NDREW T. MITCHELL, a highly respected member of the family of this name, who are well and favorably known in this vicinity, owns and occupies a comfortable homestead on section 22, Dale Township, and is engaged in general farming. Our subject is a native of the Prairie State, having been born in the town of Paris, Edgar County, on the 17th of October, 1840. He was but an infant when he came to McLean County with his parents, and received his early education in the pioneer school, which was conducted in a log cabin. When not in school he assisted his parents in the duties around the homestead, and after becoming of age, was associated with his brother, John J., in the management of the home farm. He was thus occupied until 1880, when he removed to the homestead which he now owns and occupies, it being located

on a part of sections 14, 15, 22 and 23. He erected the present family residence, and in addition to general agriculture is also giving much attention to stock-raising.

The marriage of Andrew T. Mitchell and Miss Louisa Baird took place in October, 1867. Mrs. Mitchell is a native of Springfield, Clarke Co., Ohio, and the daughter of Samuel and Rebecca (Fisher) Baird, natives of Virginia and Kentucky. Of her union with our subject there have been born two children—Mary L. and Alice N. Their home, a view of which is presented in this work, is pleasantly located, and they are surrounded by all the comforts of life. Mrs. Mitchell is connected with the Presbyterian Church, and in politics Mr. Mitchell is strongly Republican.



**J**OSEPH H. ABBOTT, owner of a fine farm of 160 acres on section 9, Towanda Township, is meeting with success in the prosecution of his vocation. He is the son of Abijah and Eleanor (Weakley) Abbott, natives of Culpeper County, Va. Abijah Abbott was born June 17, 1806, and his wife, June 3, 1807. They were both reared and educated in Culpeper County, and there married April 9, 1829. In 1831 they removed to Newark Township, Licking Co., Ohio, where they lived until 1852, when they came to this county and settling in Towanda Township, the father labored at his calling until his death, which event occurred Nov. 22, 1885. His wife survives him and is living in Towanda Township, making her home with her son Joseph. Four sons and four daughters were born of their union, of which number our subject was the youngest.

Joseph H. Abbott was born in Licking County, Ohio, Aug. 10, 1849, and was but three years old when his parents came to this county, and having lived here ever since, may be said to have been identified with the advancement of the county thus far in life. Mr. Abbott's education was received in the common schools of this county, and he has known no other occupation than that of a tiller of the soil. He is at present the owner of 160 acres of valuable and productive land, on

which he has good and substantial buildings, and is meeting with signal success in the conducting of his farm.

Mr. Abbott was married to Miss Sarah E. Hampleman Dec. 23, 1875. She is the daughter of Daniel and Sarah (Fletcher) Hampleman, natives of Ohio, and was reared to womanhood in the vicinity of Clinton, De Witt Co., Ill. [For sketch of her parents see sketch of F. M. Jones.] The parents removed from Ohio to this State, and settled near Clinton, where the mother died. The father survives and resides near Clinton and is a farmer by calling. Nine children were born of their union, five sons and four daughters, and Mrs. Abbott is the youngest. She was born near Clinton, De Witt Co., Ill., Sept. 16, 1853, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of three children—John W., Albert D. and Charles P. In politics Mr. Abbott is a Democrat.



**E**LISHA B. STEERE, one of the leading retail boot-and-shoe merchants of Bloomington, has been a resident of the Prairie State since 1861, and ranks among the leading business men of this county. He is a native of Rhode Island, and was born on a farm near Dorr's Battle-Ground, Sept. 12, 1822. His father, Rufus Steere, a tanner and currier by trade, was also born in Rhode Island, and became a prominent boot-and-shoe dealer in Laurens, Otsego Co., N. Y., where he also engaged in the manufacture of harness. The grandfather of our subject, Robert Steere, was one of the early settlers of Rhode Island, where he became a well-to-do farmer, and represented his county in the State Legislature. His son Rufus after reaching manhood, was united in marriage with Miss Eliza A. Brown, a native of Kentucky, who removed to Rhode Island in her youth. They became the parents of seven children, four sons and three daughters, one of whom died when young; the others living to mature years, married and have families of their own. Of these the record is as follows: Esther L. became the wife of E. S. Brown, deceased, and is now a resident of Chicago; Elisha B., of our sketch, was the second child;

Adaline married E. F. Foot, of Hamilton, Madison Co., N. Y.; Abigail became the wife of David Whipple, of New York City; Robert is a resident of Los Angeles, Cal.; Henry C. resides in Bloomington, Ill., and Thomas A. died when quite young.

The subject of this history passed his childhood and youth in his native State, and first began business on his own account as clerk in a dry-goods store, being thus occupied until twenty years of age. He was then taken into partnership with his employer, W. C. Field, and they operated together for five years following. Then Mr. Steere sold his interest to his partner, and purchasing another stock of similar goods, established himself in business in Laurens, Otsego Co., N. Y. In the meantime his father was taken ill and died, and Elisha B. was called home to look after the estate. He remained there a period of four years, during which time he became Postmaster of Laurens, served as Justice of the Peace, and carried on the manufacture of boots and shoes, in which his father had been engaged. To this he also added cooperage, and turned out large numbers of butter firkins. He also manufactured steel hammers, and carried on these various interests until 1861, when he closed up everything and started for the West.

Coming into Illinois our subject located in Bloomington, where he engaged in the dry-goods trade five years, then sold out and went into the jewelry business, which he followed for a like period. After this he took up the manufacture of metallic caskets, and after two years purchased an interest in some coal lands at Rich Hill, Bates Co., Mo., which he operated five days, then leased on a royalty, and was connected with this enterprise for five days following, then disposed of his interests in that quarter. He was one of the principal parties concerned in the hoisting of coal at what was known as the North Shaft of the Bloomington Coal Mining Company, and was afterward connected with the Bloomington Chair Manufactory, which was subsequently merged into the Walton Flour Works, and of which he was one of the original stockholders. He also became a stockholder in the People's Bank.

As is clearly indicated by the foregoing Mr. Steere became prominently known in this locality

as a man of great energy and good business talent. In 1876 he was elected Mayor, and re-elected in 1879. He also served as Alderman four years, representing the First Ward. It was through his perseverance that the present water system was established and kept in operation, and he has been concerned in almost every enterprise calculated to benefit the city since coming here.

The subject of our sketch was married, in 1844, to Miss Frances A. Bean, of Laurens, N. Y., where she was born, being the daughter of Erastus Bean, Esq., a prominent merchant of Otsego County. Of the union of our subject and wife there were born five children, as follows: Charles F. is deceased; Clara became the wife of J. P. McLean; Ella G. married J. P. Smith, of Bloomington; James died several years ago; Mary died when quite young. The only two now living are Mrs. McLean and Mrs. Smith. Mr. Steere in earlier days was an old-line Whig politically, but since the abandonment of that party has cheerfully affiliated with the Republicans. He is a member in good standing of the Masonic fraternity, and belongs to Bloomington Lodge No. 43.



**G**EORGE P. BROWN, well known as one of the progressive farmers of Gridley Township, owns a good farm on section 26, and as a useful member of the community is contributing his full share toward its advancement and prosperity. Our subject comes of a good family, being the son of Robert and Permelia (White) Brown, the father a native of the Blue Grass State, where it is supposed the mother was also born. After marriage the parents settled in Franklin County, Ky., where the mother died in 1832, of cholera, and whence the father subsequently removed to Morgan County, Ill. He followed blacksmithing and farming in that county until 1846, when he came to this county and settled in Money Creek Township, where he died in 1879.

Robert Brown was twice married. After the death of the mother of our subject he was married in Frankfort, Ky., to Miss Sheridan McGinnis, the date being 1834. She died in Money Creek Town-

ship, in 1875. Of the first marriage there were born five children, three sons and two daughters. Our subject was the fourth in order of birth, and first opened his eyes to the light in Frankfort, Ky., Feb. 10, 1830. He was only two years old when his mother died, and two years later his father removed to Morgan County, Ill., where they remained until the son was sixteen. They then came into this county, settling in Money Creek Township.

The subject of this history received but a limited education, but as good probably as those days afforded. He was, however, an energetic lad, and when twenty-one years old started in business for himself, running a sawmill in Lexington, with the assistance of his partner, I. S. Mahon. This, the first sawmill of Lexington, our subject operated until 1869, and in connection with it also had one in Money Creek Township. At the date named he abandoned milling and took up farming, which he has since followed with highly gratifying results. His snug farm, although not very large, consisting of eighty acres, is well improved, with a good residence and all necessary out-buildings.

Mr. Brown was married in Lexington Township, June 22, 1854, to Miss Elsie J., daughter of John and Elsie (Kirkendall) Haner, who were natives of Pennsylvania and Ohio respectively. They came to Illinois from Fayette County, Ohio, and settled in Lexington Township, this county, in the fall of 1828, where they passed the remainder of their lives. The father died Nov. 20, 1852, and the mother Nov. 14, 1878. Their eight children included four boys and four girls, of whom Mrs. Brown was the fifth child. She was born in Lexington Township, Jan. 4, 1832. Of her union with our subject there have been born five children—John W., Charles P., Edward C., Della J. and Sarah A. John married Miss Annette Janes, and they live in Normal; they have one child, a son, Clarence H.

Mr. Brown has taken a genuine interest in the affairs of his community, and has been prominent in its councils, having held the offices of Road Commissioner, Justice of the Peace, and other positions of trust. He is a member in good standing of the Presbyterian Church at Lexington, and his

wife is connected with the United Brethren Church. Politically Mr. Brown is an earnest supporter of the Republican party.



**H**AMILTON SPENCER, one of the oldest and most reliable attorneys of Bloomington, now retired from practice, is a native of Madison County, N. Y., and was born April 18, 1815. His father, Joshua A. Spencer, also counselor at law, stood in the front ranks of his profession in the Empire State, and was a descendant of Samuel Spencer, who emigrated from Sheffield, England, at an early day in the history of this country, and landed in Salem, Mass., in July, 1633, and who soon afterward settled in Salisbury, Conn. There he spent the balance of his days, and there his descendants for several generations continued to reside. Joshua A. Speneer, the father of our subject, was born in Great Barrington, Mass., whence he removed to New York when a young man, and there married Miss Clarissa, daughter of Jacob Phelps, who died in early life.

Hamilton Speneer was born in Madison County, N. Y., and when a child removed with his father to Utica, that State, in which place he grew to manhood. He pursued his primary studies in the common schools, and later entered the Methodist Seminary at Cazenovia, N. Y., where he fitted himself for college, and supplemented this course by attendance at Utica Academy. He entered Hamilton College in 1830, from which he graduated four years later, and soon afterward engaged in the study of law in the office of his father, with whom he formed a partnership on the day he was twenty-one years of age, in 1836, although not admitted to the bar until the following year. He continued with his father and Senator Francis Kernan for a period of twelve years, and then on account of failing health withdrew to engage in more active pursuits than his office duties permitted. He subsequently became Director of the American Express Company, and in June, 1854, came to Illinois as Vice President and General Manager of what is now the Chicago & Alton Railroad, with which he continued until the change brought about by the

foreclosure of a mortgage, which placed it in the hands of other parties. He then resumed the practice of his profession, which he has continued until recently.

Mr. Spencer was married at Sackett's Harbor, N. Y., in 1840, to Miss Mary F., daughter of Elisha Camp, who was born in Sackett's Harbor, June 9, 1819. Of this union there were six children, four sons and two daughters, the record of whom is as follows: James D. is deceased; Catharine became the wife of James S. Ewing, of Bloomington; Clarissa married John C. Seoville of Chicago; Hamilton is deceased; Henry Dwight is an attorney at Bloomington, and John Seymour a resident of Texas. The subject of our sketch for many years occupied a position at the head of the Bloomington bar, and although now retired from active practice, is often consulted upon important cases and intricate points of law. Mr. Spencer was originally a Whig, but on the dissolution of that party became a Democrat. He and his wife are both members of the Presbyterian Church.



**G**EORGE COONEY. The stock-raising farmers of Chenoa Township constitute an important element in its business interests, and among these the subject of the following sketch occupies a prominent position. He is pleasantly located on section 33, where he has eighty acres of finely improved land, with a good residence, barn and out-buildings. These improvements he has effected by his own enterprise. The land is well drained by 750 rods of tile and there is not an acre of waste land in the whole estate. The greater part of the stock consists of good cattle. He is eminently skillful as a farmer and business man, and is highly respected for his integrity, his promptness in meeting his obligations, and his worth as a citizen and law-abiding member of the community.

Mr. Cooney was born in Huntingdon County, Pa., near Edwards' Furnace, on the 16th of October, 1840. His father, Henry Cooney, was born in Shippenburg, Pa., in August, 1812. His grandfather, Peter Cooney, was of German parentage and ancestry. The mother of our subject before her mar-

riage was Miss Elizabeth Clemens, also a native of Huntingdon County, and of German descent, her father being George Clemens. Henry Cooney removed with his family to Fulton County, Ill., in the spring of 1856, where they continued to reside until after the close of the war. In 1868 they removed to McLean County, Ill., and after a residence here of five years returned to Fulton County, where the father of our subject still resides. The mother died in 1875. The five children of the parental family included three sons and two daughters, of whom one is deceased.

George Cooney was sixteen years old when his parents became residents of Fulton County, Ill., where he received the greater part of his education. His father followed the trade of a blacksmith and young George assisted him in the shop until the outbreak of the Civil War. He then enlisted in Co. H, 28th Ill. Vol. Inf., and served three years as a Union soldier. In the meantime he took part in the battles of Ft. Henry, Shiloh, the siege of Corinth, and the engagement at Hatchers' River. At the latter place he was shot in the head by a minie ball, carried to the rear and supposed to be dead. The ball, however, did not penetrate the skull, but entered the scalp at the forehead, circled the skull about three inches and passed off. After returning to consciousness he was sent to the hospital at Bolivar, Tenn., where he remained thirty days and then joined his regiment, ready for duty. He was afterward at the siege of Vicksburg and at the battle of Jackson, Miss. At the latter place he was captured by the rebels and taken to Belle Island, where he spent three months as a prisoner. From there he was sent to St. Louis, Mo., and after being exchanged joined his regiment at Natchez, Miss., and served out the term of his enlistment, being mustered out on the 18th of September, 1864, at Springfield, Ill., when he returned to Fulton County, Ill., where he was occupied in farming. Soon after his return from the army he was united in marriage with Miss Martha Hannum of Fulton County, but whose native place was Terre Haute, Ind.

After his marriage Mr. Cooney and his young wife located on a rented farm in Fulton County, Ill., where they remained four years. In 1868 they came to this county, locating first in Blue Mound

Township, where they lived for about thirteen years. Their next residence was in the village of Lexington, and in 1881 Mr. Cooney purchased his present farm in Chenoa Township. The children of this marriage are Henry G., Mary E. and Carrie L. Mr. and Mrs. C. and one daughter are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, attending Olivet Chapel in Chenoa Township. Politically Mr. C. is a staunch Republican.



**J**OHAN L. SHORTHOSE, prominently and favorably known in Dry Grove Township as a skillful agriculturist and successful breeder of fine horses and cattle, is pleasantly located on section 30. Here he possesses a valuable farm estate, and for his diligence and enterprise has been richly rewarded.

The subject of our history is a native of Staffordshire, England, and was born June 25, 1827. He is the son of Thomas and Eliza (Hartshorn) Shorthose, who were of pure English ancestry and born in Derbyshire, England. Thomas Shorthose was born in 1797, and died in 1847; the mother was born in about 1797, and survived her husband sixteen years, dying in 1863. They became the parents of seven children, as follows: Sarah, who was the eldest of the family; Bessie, who married William Henderson, and both are now deceased; Thomas II. married Miss Rosanna Frazier; Eliza is deceased; Herbert married Miss Harriet Llewellyn; William T. is married and is living alternately in Paris and London; our subject was the youngest of the family.

John L. Shorthose, in company with two brothers, emigrated from England to the United States in 1849, landing in New York City. They at once proceeded to Zanesville, Ohio, where our subject remained for two years, then came to McLean County, Ill., and engaged in the milling business in Danvers. In 1853 he secured possession of the farm which he now occupies, which consists of 480 acres, comprising a tract of the most valuable land in McLean County. Two years later he turned his attention to the raising of fine stock, in which





S. L. Shorthouse



Wm H Shorthouse



he has become more than ordinarily skillful and unusually successful. One Short-horn steer, which he raised from a calf until it was four years old, he sold to John B. Sherman, of Chicago, for \$250. The animal weighed 2,400 pounds, was a model of symmetry and beauty, and the quality of his flesh denoted his excellent style of keeping. The herd of Mr. Shorthose usually averages about sixty head. His stables contain fine specimens of the Bright and Costillo breeds, descendants of Old Volunteer, owned by Alden Goldsmith, of New York, and have made excellent records. Mr. S. has one imported English draft horse, Sampson of Flawborough, seven years old and weighs 1,850 pounds. He is also breeding eighteen mares, and during 1886 raised thirteen colts. His swine is of the Poland-China breed. In addition to his home farm and his stock, Mr. S. is also the owner of a half section of land within five miles of Wellington, Kan.

The subject of this history was married to Miss Elinore Frazier, in Ohio, on the 12th of October, 1851. Mrs. S. was born in Belmont County, Ohio, on the 16th of October, 1831, and is the daughter of Andrew and Emily (McCoy) Frazier, both natives of Virginia. Andrew Frazier was born in 1804, and late in life removed to Missouri, where he died in 1880. His wife Emily was born in 1808, removed to Missouri with her husband, and died there the year following his decease. She was a member of the old-school Presbyterian Church. The parental family consisted of thirteen children, seven of whom are still living. The record is as follows: Jane, Rosanna, Elinore and Hanna are married and established in comfortable homes; Samuel died when seven years of age; then followed Martha A., William, John A. and Robinson, the latter of whom died in 1862; Francis is deceased; next was another son, also named Samuel; Maggie and Emma are deceased; four boys of the family served as soldiers in the Union army in Ohio regiments.

To John L. and Mrs. Shorthose there were born eight children, five sons and three daughters, as follows: Alice, Mrs. J. M. Dickinson, who was born June 3, 1852; Andrew R., born May 15, 1854, married Miss Zerelda Munsell; Joanna was born

Oct. 21, 1856, and was first married to Thomas Sheridan, who was accidentally killed in Danvers; her second husband is John T. Gilbert; John Lloyd was born July 3, 1859, and was drowned in the Mackinaw River, this county, in 1876; Thomas H. was born May 16, 1861; Isabella, born May 11, 1863, died in 1883; Frank E. was born March 29, 1865, and William T., July 29, 1867.

Mr. Shorthose obtained a fair education during his boyhood and youth, and since a resident of this county has been prominently identified with its growth and welfare. He has held the office of School Director for thirteen years, has been Highway Commissioner and intrusted with various other important positions by his townsmen. He is strongly Republican in politics, and a member in good standing of the Congregational Church of Danvers.

A portrait of Mr. Shorthose is shown on another page of this volume.



**THOMAS H. SHORTHOSE.** Many of the most thrifty and intelligent agriculturists of this section of Illinois were born and reared on the other side of the Atlantic, and to England especially is McLean County indebted for some of her most enterprising and prosperous citizens. Prominent among these is Thomas H. Shorthose, of Danvers Township, and of whom a portrait is given in conjunction with this brief outline of his life. His fine homestead is situated on section 21.

Mr. Shorthose was born in Derbyshire, England, on the 15th of October, 1818, and is the son of Thomas and Eliza (Hartshorn) Shorthose, natives of the same shire, where the father was born in 1797, and died in 1847, when fifty years of age. The mother of our subject was born about the year 1797, and died in England in 1863, sixteen years after her husband's death. Both were members of the Episcopal Church, and occupied a high position in their community. The parental household consisted of seven children: Sarah; Bessie became the wife of William Henderson; Thomas H., our subject; Eliza died at the age of twelve; Herbert, William T. and John L.


The subject of our sketch emigrated from his native England to America in 1849, in company with two brothers, first stopping at Zanesville, Ohio. There Thomas H. worked out by the month for one year and then rented a tract of land, which he cultivated for the following two seasons. On the 12th of April, 1853, he was united in marriage with Miss Rosanna Frazer, of Mt. Vernon, Ohio, who was born in that State Sept. 29, 1828. That same year they came to Illinois and located on a part of the farm which he now owns and occupies. His first purchase consisted of 124 acres, to which he has added until he is now the owner of 450 acres, all finely improved and under a good state of cultivation. In the course of time the little household was enlarged by the birth of three girls and one boy, namely: Annie E., who died in 1875 at the age of twenty-one; Betsey J., who died in 1878, when a maiden of seventeen; William married Laura Bunn, and assists his father in carrying on the home farm; and Emily F., living at home. The mother of these children died in this county on the 6th of October, 1875.

On the 17th of November, 1880, Mr. Shorthose, for his second wife married Miss Luzenia Paul, who was born in Montgomery County, Pa., June 17, 1847. Her parents were Morgan E. and Rehecca (Nichols) Paul, natives of the Keystone State. The mother was born in 1812, and the father some years later. Of this marriage of our subject there is one child, a daughter, Rehecca P., who was born Feb. 21, 1884. Mr. Shorthose, in company with his son William, is giving much attention to the breeding of fine stock, making a specialty of high-grade Short-horn and Jersey cattle and Hambletonian horses.

William Shorthose was born in Danvers Township, Feb. 24, 1857, and possesses the energy and enterprise of his father in a marked degree. He remained on the homestead until he attained to years of manhood and was then, Nov. 15, 1879, married to Miss Laura E. Bunn. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Smith, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of Denver, Col., the wedding taking place in that city. The acquaintance of the young lady was formed while William was upon a visit to that State with the hope of improving his health.

The visit had the desired effect upon his health as well as proving a blessing in a social way. After their marriage the young couple came to Illinois and remained for about eight months, when they returned to Colorado and lived for six years. To William S. and his wife there were born four children, only one of whom is living—Charles R., who was born Jan. 26, 1886. Clifford, Howard and a babe are deceased. Mrs. Laura Shorthose was born in Macomb, Ill. She is a lady highly respected in the community, and a member of the Presbyterian Church. William Shorthose is Republican in politics, and a straightforward, thorough-going young business man, destined to make his mark in the business element of this section.

Thomas H. Shorthose has held the various offices of his township, is Republican in politics, and prominently connected with the Congregational Church at Danvers. In this congregation he has been Trustee for a number of years, and has contributed liberally and cheerfully of his means for its maintenance and progress. He has in all respects fulfilled the obligations of a good citizen, and is one of the important factors of the agricultural and business elements of his community. His present possessions are the result of his own industry and enterprise, and he is now enjoying the well-earned reward which is so pre-eminently his due.



**W** F. BISHOP, an old settler of this county, having made it his home for upward of fifty years, is residing on section 31, Money Creek Township. He is the son of William G. and Rebeeca (Briggs) Bishop, the former of Scotch and the latter of English ancestry. The parents were married and settled in Madison County, Ala., thence emigrated to Wayne County, Ind. The father early in life was apprenticed to learn the cabinet-maker's trade, and worked at the same for seven years. While living in the South he spent much of his time in making cotton-gins, which at that time were in great demand in the Southern States. He was strongly imbued with Southern principles, but not being satisfied with bringing up his family in the locality where slavery existed, he came North and

settled as stated, in Indiana. On locating in that State he purchased forty acres of land, but depended mainly on his children to cultivate and improve it, while he labored at his trade and in working at wood-work. He went to Indiana in 1823, and about 1829 removed to Carroll County, that State, where he purchased a large tract of land, which his boys took charge of, and he still continued to work at his trade. The family continued to reside in Carroll County until the spring of 1836, when they came to this county, and the father purchased 450 acres of land in Money Creek Township, and the following spring he located upon it with his family. He there lived and continued to labor at his trade, together with farming, until his death, in April, 1861. His good wife crossed the river to meet him on the other shore twenty years later, in 1881.

Ten children were born to our subject's parents who lived to attain the age of man and womanhood. The record is as follows: Walker H. is a farmer in Washington Territory; Anderson S. died in Vermilion County, Ill., in June, 1883; Harriett became the wife of Isaac Wilson, and departed this life in Missouri, in 1879; William R. is working in a woolen-mill at Portland, Ore.; Thornton is a lumberman in the woods of Minnesota; James is a farmer of Washington County, Iowa; Sanders is a farmer, and living in Iowa; Pleasant W. follows farming as a calling, and is also a preacher of the Word, his home being located in Money Creek Township; Mary is the wife of George Buckles, and they are residents of this county, and W. F.

The subject of this notice was born in Madison County, Ala., Jan. 15, 1817. He accompanied his parents to Wayne County, Ind., when about six years old, and made that his home until the family came to McLean County, in the fall of 1836, when he came with them. His educational advantages were very limited, but he has acquired a fund of practical information by constant observation, and reading as opportunity would permit, is well posted upon the various issues of the day, and has a good knowledge of the vocation which he follows for a livelihood. Early in November, 1835, having received a horse and saddle from his father, and a "God bless you, my boy," he took to the saddle

and left Carroll County, Ind., and went south of that point about sixty miles. He had no means, but his object was to obtain an education, and in order to pay his tuition he worked two weeks husking corn, for which he received twelve shining half dollars. Proceeding to Covington, Ind., he entered a select school, paying \$3 a quarter tuition, and \$1.25 per week for board, and to finish paying his expenses he cut wood at thirty-one cents a cord. In two weeks he was taken sick with the measles, and confined to his bed for another two weeks. He attended school for about five weeks, when he returned to his father's home in Indiana, and then came with them, as stated, to this county. He has followed agricultural pursuits and brick-making all his life. He made his first kiln of brick in this county, in 1837, in partnership with his brother Anderson.

Mr. Bishop is the present owner of sixty acres of valuable land, on which he has good improvements. For a year and a half he was a resident of the village of Towanda, and was the first agent of the C. & A. R. R. at that place. He also engaged in the buying and shipping of grain at Towanda, in connection with a gentleman by the name of T. J. Lancy. He was likewise connected with a grocery store while there, and was Assistant Postmaster. Mr. Bishop was married in Livingston County, Ill., Aug. 10, 1837, to Miss Prudence Barrickman, daughter of Daniel and Mary (Pedingler) Barrickman, natives of Maryland. Her parents came from Brown County, Ohio, to this State and settled in Livingston County, where her father followed farming until his death, in 1864. His good wife died two years later, in 1866. Mr. and Mrs. Barrickman were the parents of eight children, all of whom lived to attain the age of man and womanhood. The names are as follows: James, Prudence, Daniel, Benjamin, Jacob, Harriett, Upton and Mary A. Mrs. Bishop was born in Belmont County, Ohio, Feb. 1, 1819. She was fourteen years of age when she came with her parents to this State, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of three children—Francis A., Mary A. and Daniel J. Francis A. was united in marriage with Esther A. Dodson, and they are living in Money Creek Township; Mary A. is the wife of Samuel Cary,

and they are living in this county; Daniel J. and Miss Lizzie McMillan were united in marriage, and he is a farmer of Money Creek Township. Mr. Bishop has held the office of School Treasurer in his township for fifteen years. He was the first School Treasurer in the township. In politics he is a staunch Republican. Religiously he and his wife hold fellowship with the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Bishop is a liberal-minded gentleman, his generosity extending almost to a fault, and loved and respected by all who know him. Years ago he divided his large estate among his children, and is at present passing the sunset of life in peace and quiet, with no dark spots upon his past record to trouble his conscience. In the spring of 1864 Mr. Bishop enlisted in Co. E, 133d Ill. Vol. Inf., for 100 days. The regiment was stationed at Rock Island, but was not called into active service. Daniel J. Bishop, our subject's youngest child, was also a soldier in the late war, having joined Co. D, 94th Ill. Vol. Inf., and served his country faithfully and well for three years, returning from the field of conflict unharmed.



**H**ENRY PATTON, an industrious farmer of Dry Grove Township, has been a resident of Illinois since 1854, and is living the life of a peaceful and law-abiding citizen on his comfortable homestead, situated on section 1, Dry Grove Township. Mr. Patton was born in Somerset County, Pa., near Salisbury, on the 9th of May, 1820. He is the son of Robert and Eve (Glotfelty) Patton, natives of Pennsylvania. The father was a farmer and shoemaker combined, and lived to the age of seventy-five years, dying in Elk Creek Township, Somerset Co., Pa. The mother died at the age of sixty-two years at the same place. The parental household consisted of three sons and eight daughters, viz., Henry, Elizabeth, Mathew, Mary Ann, Harriett, Sallie, William, Lydia, Charlotte, Louisa and Amanda. The parents were members of the German Reform Church and the father in politics was a Republican.

Henry Patton remained a resident of his native State until his marriage, which occurred Feb. 5,

1844. His bride was Miss Annie E. Kinsinger, who was of German birth and parentage and emigrated to America in 1842. After a brief time spent in Baltimore, she located in Pennsylvania. Shortly after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. P. located in Maryland, where they remained for a period of nine years. They then returned to Pennsylvania, to the old homestead, where they spent one year and then, in 1853, Mr. Patton came to Illinois to look over the country. He was well pleased with the prospects in the Prairie State, and the following year removed his family, locating in Woodford County. For two years he farmed upon rented land and then came to McLean County, which has since been his home.

In 1864 Mr. Patton purchased 322 acres on section 1, of wild prairie land, and at once entered upon its improvement and cultivation. He now has a handsome and commodious dwelling, two stories in height, with an area of 18x36 feet. It is tastefully finished and furnished and the grounds around it are ornamented with shrubbery and shade trees. In addition to this is a fine barn with basement, 56x40 feet in area, and all desirable out-buildings. His stock and farm machinery are of first-class description.

To Mr. and Mrs. Patton there have been born the following children: Robert, who married Miss Mary Eggelton and lives near Lexington, this county; Jacob, who married Miss Elizabeth Eyer and is located in Dry Grove Township; Edward married Miss Sophronia Eyer, the sister of his brother's wife; Catherine became the wife of Peter Welfy; Dennis married Miss Sarah Dougherty and lives in Lexington Township; Thaddeus married Miss Emma Tafinger; Martha became the wife of William Foster, and died March 17, 1882; Sarah J. became the wife of Norman Kinsinger; Josiah W. is unmarried; Barbara E. died Nov. 20, 1874. The family is connected with the German Reform Church.

When Mr. Patton purchased his present homestead the country around was but thinly settled, but with true pioneer spirit he labored industriously and courageously and set an example which others profited by in the establishment of homes, the cultivation of the soil and the development of the

country. He has, in all respects, been one of the valued citizens of his township and has contributed his full share toward its prosperity and advancement. In politics he is a Republican as are his sons. A view of the handsome home place of Mr. Patton is shown elsewhere in this work.

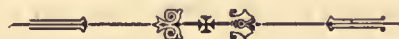


**ZACHARIAH ARNOLD.** The subject of this history has been a resident of McLean County since 1854, and during a period of over thirty years has firmly established himself as a substantial citizen and useful member of the community. He owns and occupies a fine homestead in Blue Mound Township, consisting of 200 acres of improved land, with one of the finest dwellings in this section, and a good barn and all other out-buildings to correspond. Everything about the premises is kept in good repair and the stock and farming implements are of first-class description. Mr. Arnold, by his industry and enterprise, has contributed his full share toward the progress and welfare of his township and occupies his rightful position as one of its leading and most highly respected citizens.

Our subject is a native of Hampshire County, W. Va., and was born Nov. 7, 1827. He is the son of Joseph and Elizabeth (Sloan) Arnold, natives of the same locality, where they settled after their marriage and where the father operated on rented land for several years. He then removed with his family to Ohio, but they only lived there eighteen months, being seized with home-sickness, and returned to their native county, where they passed the remainder of their days. Their six children were, Zachariah, Thomas, Richard, George, Ann and Peter. Our subject, who was the eldest, was reared to farming pursuits and remained under the parental roof until he was twenty-seven years old. He then started for the prairies of Illinois, and coming into this county kept "bachelor's hall" with his brother Thomas, for three years following. He then purchased a part of his present homestead on section 35, and made preparations for a permanent stay.

Mr. Arnold was married in Padua Township,

this county, Feb. 3, 1863, to Miss Matilda H., daughter of John N. and Sarah (Wampler) Dunning, who were natives respectively of North Carolina and Virginia. After marriage they located in Monroe County, Ind., whence in about 1851, they came to this county, and settling in Padua Township, there passed the remainder of their lives. Their eight children included two sons and six daughters, of whom Mrs. Arnold was the youngest. She was born in Monroe County, Ind., May 27, 1841, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of three children—Rosa B., Sarah E. and Ida M. Sarah E. is the wife of Rudolph W. Kreitzer and resides in Padua Township. Mr. Arnold is Democratic in politics and has held some of the minor offices of his township. Religiously he is connected with the Dunkards, and Mrs. A. is a member of the Christian Church.



**JOHN W. ARNOLD.** The name of this gentleman is widely and favorably known throughout the greater part of McLean County as one who has thoroughly identified himself with its interests, and has assisted materially in bringing the county to its present prosperous condition. He came to this vicinity over thirty years ago and by his energy, industry and honesty in his business transactions has fully established himself in the confidence and esteem of both the business and social community. He is at present one of the most prominent bankers of McLean County, and has all his life been more or less interested in agricultural pursuits. Upon his fine farm, which is located in Martin Township, he carries on the breeding of Norman and Clydesdale horses, and exhibits some of the finest animals in this section of country. His farm estate is in all respects a model of thrift, neatness and convenience, and supplied with all the improvements required by the intelligent and progressive farmer.

Mr. Arnold was born in Culpeper County, Va., Feb. 10, 1828, and is descended from excellent German ancestry. His grandfather, Humphrey Arnold, settled at an early day in the Old Dominion, and there married and raised a family, among them

being a son, Martin, who was the father of our subject. Martin Arnold grew to manhood in his native State and was there married to Miss Patsey Maddox, also a native of the Old Dominion, and daughter of Bennett Maddox. This family removed to Ohio at an early day, as did also the Arnolds, and settled first in Muskingum County and afterward in Licking County. Martin Arnold remained there until the fall of 1853, then came to Illinois and located in White Oak Grove, Tazewell County, and about twenty years later moved to Woodford County, this State, and departed this life at Eureka, in 1872. The wife and mother survived until 1886, dying in the seventy-seventh year of her age. They were the parents of fifteen children, seven sons and eight daughters, of whom eleven are still living and John W. is the eldest of the family.

The subject of our sketch remained a resident of Licking County, Ohio, until he was twenty-two years of age. He then came West to Illinois and this county, locating in White Oak Grove, where he at first engaged in a sawmill and subsequently in farming pursuits. Even at that early age he began to deal in horses, of which he was always very fond, and seemed to have a natural understanding of their habits and requirements, and consequently was successful in this branch of business. After having laid the foundations for a future home and competency, he was united in marriage, in 1852, with Miss Mary M. Benson of White Oak Grove. Mrs. Arnold was born in White Oak Grove in 1833, and reared and educated there. They continued their residence in White Oak Grove for seventeen years following, where Mr. Arnold first established his reputation as a stock-breeder. At the expiration of this time he purchased 320 acres of unimproved prairie on the Maekinaw River, in Lawndale Township, where he opened up a farm. He resided there with his family three years, then removed to Eureka for the purpose of giving his children the advantages of schooling. After this was accomplished they returned to the farm, upon which they remained until their removal to Colfax, in 1882. Here Mr. Arnold, in company with his son John P., established a private bank under the firm style of John W. Arnold & Co., which they

have carried on successfully since that time. The stables of Mr. Arnold contain several fine imported Norman horses. He commenced importing some twelve years ago and no man in the Prairie State takes more pride in developing the fine points of the noblest of animals than he.

Of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Arnold there were born five children: John P. is Cashier in the bank at Colfax; James R. deals in lumber in Colfax; Sarah F. became the wife of A. H. Eymann, and resides in Macon County, Ill.; Olive D. and Lou E. died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. A. are members of the Christian Church, of which our subject has been Deacon for many years.

The parents of Mrs. John W. Arnold were John and Penara (Henshaw) Benson. The Henshaw family was originally from Tennessee and the Bensons from Kentucky. John Benson emigrated from the latter State to Indiana and thence to McLean County, Ill., in the year 1829, being one of the earliest pioneers of this region. He settled in the timber in Bloomington Township, south of what is now the present flourishing city. Seven years later he removed to White Oak Grove, and in 1873 to Eureka, where he died in the seventieth year of his age. The wife and mother is still living and is now in her seventieth year. The grandfather of Mrs. Arnold, John Benson, Sr., spent his last days at White Oak Grove and was a remarkable example of good health and strength. He had never been sick until his last illness and retained his mental faculties until the end. He was nearly ninety-six years old at the time of his death.

**J**OHAN MORROW, a prominent resident of Chenoa Township, is at present engaged as a dealer in agricultural implements at Chenoa. He is a native of the Prairie State, and was born in Peoria County, Oct. 5, 1836. His father, Thomas Morrow, removed from Indiana to Illinois in 1832. The Morrow family were of excellent Scottish ancestry who, after coming to the United States located in the South, the grandfather of our subject settling in North Carolina. From there he removed to Indiana, and there Thomas

Morrow, the father of our subject, was married to Miss Eleanor McMillin of Parke County. They became the parents of eleven children, eight sons and three daughters, of whom one died in infancy. The balance, with one exception, lived to become men and women. Thomas G. died when fifteen years of age, and six of the family still survive. Thomas Morrow removed with his family to this State in the spring of 1832, locating on a farm near Princeville, Peoria County, where his death occurred in 1848. The mother survived her husband, dying in Princeville, at the old homestead.

Our subject was thus left without a father at an early age, and assisted his mother to carry on the farm until the date of his enlistment. He remained in Peoria County until the outbreak of the late war, and in August, 1862, enlisted in Co. K, 86th Ill. Vol. Inf., and remained in the service nearly three years. He participated with his comrades in the battles of Perryville, Ky., Chickamauga and Mission Ridge, Tenn., and marched with Sherman through the Atlanta campaign to the sea. While amid many scenes of danger and death he escaped unhurt, being neither wounded nor taken prisoner. He was mustered in as Second Sergeant, and received the commission of First Lieutenant at Alexandria, Va., in 1863. After receiving his honorable discharge, in June, 1865, near Washington City, he returned West to his old home and engaged in farming pursuits.

Nov. 8, 1866, Mr. Morrow was united in marriage with Miss Margaret, daughter of David G. Hervey, Esq., of Peoria County, Ill. They remained in that locality until the spring of 1869, then coming to this county settled on a farm in Chenoa Township, where they remained until 1885. Mr. Morrow then purchased the stock of goods owned by George W. Jewell, which consisted of a full assortment of farm implements, and since that time has been carrying on a thriving and profitable trade.

Mr. and Mrs. M. became the parents of three children, one daughter, Laura, who died in infancy, and two sons, William C. and David T. The former is assisting his father in the store, and the latter is still attending school. Our subject and his wife are members in good standing of the Pres-

byterian Church, Mr. M. being one of the ruling Elders. Besides his village property he still owns his fine farm, which consists of 160 acres, with all suitable farm buildings, and is located on section 24, Chenoa Township. He was elected Supervisor in 1883, was Road Commissioner of the township three years, and also officiated as Township Trustee. He has contributed his full share toward the prosperity of this section, and is widely and favorably known as one of its most enterprising men. He is a Democrat in politics, and during the Rebellion was what might be called a war Democrat.



**D**ANIEL C. SNOW, an honored resident and retired farmer of McLean County, is a native of West Brookfield, Worcester Co., Mass., and was born on the 24th of June, 1822. His father, Joseph Snow, was a native of Bridgewater, Mass., and was reared to manhood in his native town, in the meantime engaged in the labor of the farm. When he was twenty-one years of age he removed with his father to West Brookfield, Mass., where the latter had purchased a tract of land. He divided this between his two sons, and on the farm which became his portion the father of our subject located and remained until his death, which occurred after he had arrived at the ripe old age of eighty-eight years.

Joseph Snow was united in marriage with Miss Persis Knights about 1810. She was born in Worcester County, Mass., and reared in New Braintree, that State. This lady remained the constant and affectionate companion of her husband until they were separated by death, her decease having occurred at the home of her daughter in West Brookfield, Mass. She was the second wife of Joseph Snow, and there were seven children by each marriage. His first wife was a Miss Richards, a native of Bridgewater, Mass.

The subject of our sketch was the fifth child of the second marriage of his father. He was reared on the farm, educated in the district school, and made his home with his parents until he had ar-

rived at the age of twenty years. His father then gave him his time, and for the following two years he was employed in a boot and shoe factory, then at the request of his father he returned home, and he gave him the farm, with the understanding that Daniel was to support the parents during their lifetime. He remained with them until 1852, and then, leaving a brother-in-law in charge of the homestead, went to Westborough, Mass., as Superintendent of the State Reform School, in which position he remained until the spring of 1853. He then made his arrangements to remain in Northborough, having charge of the business of a gentleman who spent the most of his time in Boston. Mr. Snow was thus occupied for three years, when he returned to Westborough and took charge of a farm there for two years. He then sold the home farm to a younger brother, purchased a farm near Westborough and occupied it until 1861, and then sold out and came West to McLean County, Ill., accompanied by his brother, Dwight M. They rented a farm in Mt. Hope Township, purchased seventy-five cows and were engaged in the manufacture of cheese for one year; then the farm upon which they operated was sold and they rented another of the same party, in Funk's Grove Township, upon which they operated for two years.

At this time Mr. Snow purchased 244 acres of land on section 1, in what is now Mt. Hope Township, and immediately sold 100 acres to his brother. He then continued the manufacture of butter and cheese two years, and selling his farm purchased five acres in town and eighty acres just outside of the limits. He made his residence in the town and carried on the farm for one year, when his health failed and he was disabled for several months. He then sold out and returned to his old home in Massachusetts, spending one year in the Water Cure Institution of Dr. Hero, at Westborough. There he partially recovered his health, and in February, 1869, returned to McLean County. He now purchased 100 acres of land of his brother, the same which he had formerly sold to him and which is located on section 1, Mt. Hope Township, half a mile east of McLean. There were no buildings on the place when it came into his possession the second time. He erected a good

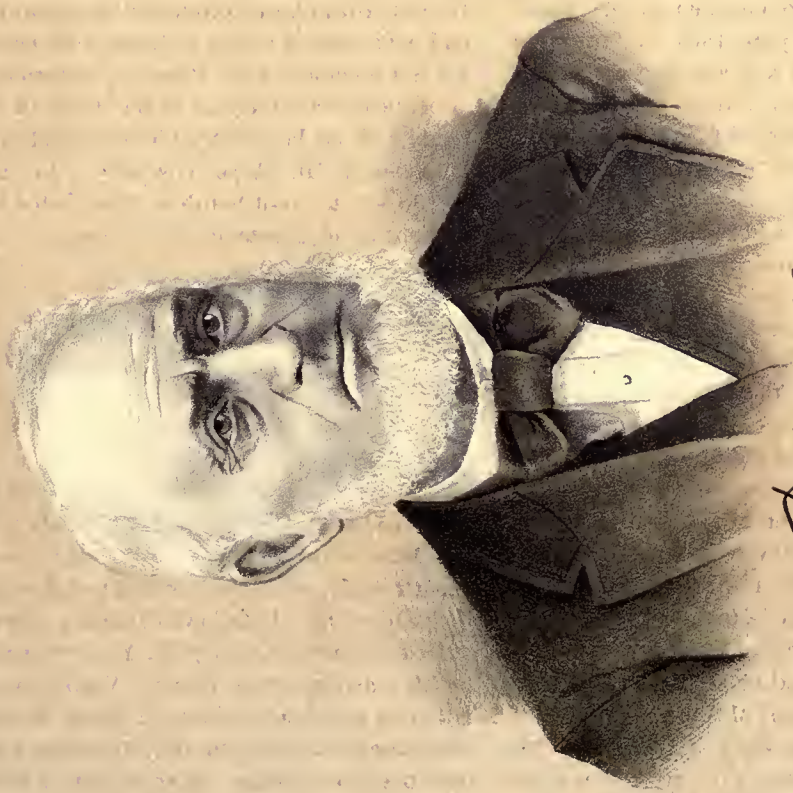
residence and necessary out-buildings and engaged in the dairy business until 1877. In that year he introduced Jersey cattle into McLean County. He crossed Jerseys with Durhams, producing a fine breed of dairy stock, and continued this branch of business with his son Willis D. until 1882, when he sold out the stock and tools and rented the farm to this son, and removing to town practically retired from active labor. He had added to his farm since the last purchase from his brother and it now comprises 130 acres.

D. C. Snow was married, on the 24th of June, 1845, to Miss Louisa D. Riee, a native of Charle-mont, Mass., and the daughter of Artemus and Asenath (Adams) Riee. Of this union there were born three children: Charlotte L., the wife of Mathew Haughey, a resident of McLean County, and Willis D., who occupies the home farm; their second child, Maria R., died in Mt. Hope Township at the age of sixteen years.

D. C. Snow has been connected with the Congregational Church since he was seventeen years old. He has always been recognized as a man of ability, and held various offices of trust in his native State. He is a member of the Board of Selectmen in West Brookfield, was Overseer of the Poor in Westborough, and has been School Trustee and Road Commissioner in Mt. Hope Township. In the winter of 1883-84 he went South to Florida for his health. In politics he is a staunch Republican.

PELEG SOULE, who is spending the sunset of life in quiet retirement at No. 204 East Jefferson street, Bloomington, is a native of Fulton County, N. Y., and was born April 18, 1815. His parents, Peleg and Betsey (Warren) Soule, were natives of Rhode Island, and the father a carpenter by trade. His grandfather, Joseph Soule, was a sea captain, but during the latter years of his life followed farming; his death occurred in Fulton County, N. Y. Peleg Soule, Sr., by his marriage with Betsey Warren became the father of eighteen children, of whom the subject of this sketch was next to the youngest, and is the only one now living. Both parents died in New





*Peleg Soule*



*Eliza A Macomber Soule*



York State after reaching fourscore years. Peleg Soule was a skilled mechanic, and when difficult jobs were required in the community where he lived, he was always the one to be called upon, and he took pride in excelling both as a carpenter and at other fine work requiring the use of edged tools, a steady hand and a practiced eye.

The subject of this notice left the parental homestead when fourteen years old, having up to that time only attended school two months. He afterward learned the carpenter's trade, at which he worked for four years. In 1835 he was married, and then engaged at lumbering in his native county. He erected a sawmill there, which he operated for five years, but not meeting with success in his undertaking, he abandoned it, subsequently disposing of it by sale for \$400. In 1840 he left Fulton County and went into Genesee County, where he purchased a farm, which he conducted a short time, and then bought 104 acres, occupying the latter for five years. Afterward disposing of this by sale, he purchased another farm of 204 acres, which, after residing upon seven years, he sold and went to Batavia, Genesee County, where he purchased 170 acres and upon which he lived for three years.

After selling his farm in Genesee County, N. Y., Mr. Soule came to Illinois and took up his residence at Shirley, McLean County. In the neighborhood of that place he engaged in farming, stock-raising, and speculating in real estate. He was a prominent figure in the business affairs of this section for ten years, during which time he met with financial success. In 1868 our subject sold his land in the neighborhood of Shirley, and moved to Bloomington. There he purchased about \$16,000 worth of stock in the Phoenix Bank, and became one of its directors. He also purchased other land in McLean County which he rented. He likewise became proprietor of a fine home on Market street, where he lived until about 1870, when he traded it for a farm of 120 acres in the neighborhood of Twin Grove, which he lived upon a short time, when he sold out and returned to Bloomington and purchased the home which he had previously owned, clearing by the transaction \$2,500. Living in the house for about five years

he traded the property for another farm, and moving upon it, made it his home for about seven years, when he once more returned to Bloomington and has made that city his place of residence since. Upon coming to Bloomington the last time, Mr. Soule purchased property near the residence of Judge David Davis, which, after occupying about two years, he sold and purchased his present home. He superintends the stock-raising on his rented farms, and from this source realizes annually a handsome income.

Mr. Soule was married to Miss Eliza A. Macomber, March 19, 1835. The wife of our subject was born Feb. 23, 1815, in Greenfield, Saratoga Co., N. Y., and is the daughter of Roger and Annie (Waterman) Macomber, natives of Rhode Island. Her parents had a family of eleven children, of whom she is the only one living, her last brother having died a few months ago. Mr. Macomber and wife both departed this life in Genesee County, N. Y. Mr. and Mrs. Soule have had no children of their own, but reared two: William H. Cutler, who became a member of the household when three years old, and is now deceased, and Annie Strickland, whom they received into their arms when she was two weeks old. The parents of the latter, Bronson and Wealthy (Knight) Strickland, were numbered among the best families of Genesee County, N. Y. Annie received a good education and developed into womanhood while an inmate of Mr. Soule's household, and continued with them until her marriage. She is now the wife of William J. Steele, and the mother of one child—May Knight Steele. They are living at No. 206 East Jefferson street, Bloomington.

Mr. Soule is a Republican in politics. He has never sought office, but was once elected Justice of the Peace contrary to his wish, and refused to qualify. He is one of those generous, whole-souled individuals whom it is a pleasure to meet, and whose latch-string always hangs on the outside of the door for the benefit of the needy and destitute. Mrs. Soule united with the Baptist Church when she was twenty-two years old, and has since been an active member of the same, contributing liberally to its support, and working conscientiously for the Master.

During the late Civil War Mr. Soule was a staunch Union man, and did all in his power to aid in its preservation. Being too old to volunteer himself, and desiring to be personally represented in the army, he hired a substitute, enjoining upon the latter to be true to the colors he was to fight under.

The portrait of Mr. Soule given in connection with this sketch, is that of a gentleman entirely worthy to be classed among the representative citizens of one of the most prosperous counties in the State, and to whose progress he has given an impetus by the mere force of his example. As a fitting companion picture we place beside that of the venerable subject of this sketch, the portrait of his esteemed wife.



**R**EV. PLEASANT W. BISHOP, residing on section 29, Money Creek Township, was born in Carroll County, Ind., April 6, 1832. He is the son of William G. and Rebeeca Bishop. Our subject was four years old when he came to McLean County with his parents. He received his education in the common schools and at Wesleyan University, Bloomington, Ill. In 1852 our subject was called upon to deliver the oration at the commencement at Wesleyan University, and chose for his subject "The Future of the American Confederacy." It was an able oration, and he was told by one of the professors, just as he was about to begin its delivery, to throw his whole soul into it, as it was good. Mr. Bishop little thought at that time that in less than ten years he would be called upon to defend the very Government he then eulogized.

After he had attended the university for a year, at Bloomington, he was received as a candidate for the ministry, by the Maekinaw Presbytery of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. He was engaged in farming in connection with his studies for two years after this, and then he attended the seminary at Le Roy under the charge of his Presbytery for two years. At the expiration of that time he engaged in preaching and farming, at which he has continued until the present. He has filled

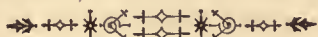
different appointments throughout McLean and Tazewell Counties, and has done much to further the cause of the Master.

Rev. Pleasant W. Bishop is the owner of 165 acres of good land on which he resides and where he has erected a good residence. He was married in Towanda Township, this county, April 20, 1853, to Miss Amelia A., daughter of Henry B. and Celia (Briley) Timmons, natives of Ohio. Miss Timmons' parents emigrated to McLean County in 1837, and settled in Towanda Township in 1849. They removed to Ford County, Ill., and there lived until the death of the father, which occurred July 19, 1885. The mother survives, and resides in Ford County; by her union with Mr. Timmons eight children were born—Amelia A., wife of our subject; Sarah E., John N., William, Lafayette, Catherine, Prudence, and one who died in infancy. Mrs. Bishop was born in Ohio, Aug. 1, 1832, and has borne our subject eight children—Laura, Ellen, William H., Charles F., Beeca, Mark D., Thornton G. and Alvah J. Laura died when sixteen years old; Ellen is the wife of Benjamin F. Finham, and they are living in this county; William H. married Miss Minnie Busick, and they are living in Dallas County, Iowa. The remaining children are living at home.

Rev. Bishop was a soldier in the late Civil War, and enlisted Aug. 20, 1862, in the 94th Illinois Infantry. He was First Sergeant of Company D, and served in that regiment for something over a year, when he was promoted to Chaplain of the 37th Illinois Infantry, and transferred to that regiment. He held the latter position for about a year, when he resigned and returned home. He was highly thought of by the soldier boys, not only for his many good qualities but for his valor, and was presented by his friends in the regiment with a beautiful gold watch. Our subject distinguished himself at the battle of Prairie Grove, Ark. While the battle raged hottest and men were falling on all sides, a caisson came near falling into the hands of the enemy. When the Colonel of the regiment asked for volunteers in the name of God to regain the piece, Sergt. Bishop stepped in front of the regiment and called for men to follow him in this hazardous undertaking. Six responded, and with

himself at the head they cut away the dead horses and regained the caisson.

Mrs. Bishop departed this life in Money Creek Township, July 19, 1886. She united with the Cumberland Presbyterian Church when about twenty-four years old, and was a kind mother, a loving wife, a generous neighbor, and a true and consistent Christian lady. Our subject is a member of the G. A. R. and in politics a Democrat, although he is strongly inclined to Prohibition.



**H**ON. ARCHIBALD E. STEWART, M. D., for a period of over forty years has been closely identified with the business interests and prosperity of this section. He represented this county two terms in the Legislature. He was connected with the various important committees of those sessions, including that of Public Instruction, and was Chairman of the committee on State Geological Survey, which position he held until the work was completed, and the proper State appropriations were made. He was also a member of the committees on Mines and Mining, and Special Temperance. He was the first to introduce the bill affecting the appropriation of money for the Institute at Normal, and has aided greatly in its maintenance and success. During the session of 1872, he was instrumental in having \$8,000 refunded to the county, which had been illegally obtained by a mistake in the Auditor's Office of the State, by unjust assessment. Mr. Stewart also drew up the resolutions which gave to the Constitution of the State its peculiar powers in Inter-State Commerce, which passed the House but not the Senate. Aside from his business transactions and his service as a public man, he has always been interested in agriculture, and has one of the productive farms in Randolph Township.

Dr. Stewart was born in Randolph Township, near his present home, Aug. 21, 1834. His father, Samuel Stewart, a farmer, was a native of West Virginia, and of Scottish parentage and descent. The latter was married in his native State to Miss Jane Hanley, a native of his own State, and also of Scottish descent and parentage. They arrived in this

State in the fall of 1831, and located upon the farm which is the present homestead of our subject. He is the youngest son, and the only one born after they came to Illinois. His father died when he was a lad of six years.

The land which the father of our subject had secured was in an unimproved state, and after his death the mother succeeded with the help of her children in carrying on the farm profitably, and reared her five sons and three daughters to years of maturity. She was a woman of great force of character, strong and healthy in body and mind, and taught her children those principles of self-reliance, industry and honor which in after years constituted them good citizens and useful members of society. She lived to the advanced age of eighty-four years, retaining her mental faculties to a remarkable degree, dying at her home in Randolph Township in 1875.

When first settling upon the new farm, the father and his sons put up the first brick house in McLean County, all the work being done by themselves. They made the necessary tools for the manufacture of brick, constructed their own kiln and burnt within it the lime which they hauled from a quarry at Old Town. They were their own masons and hod-carriers, and it well may be imagined with what satisfaction they marked the progress of their own work when the walls of their home began to rise. The house occupied an area of 24x48 feet, and it stands to-day, and is still owned by our subject. It was used for all public gatherings, for public school purposes and for preaching and was thus kept open for many years, a generous donation for the use of the people of that locality. The father had secured a tract of land comprising 1,600 acres, about one-third of which was timber. Most of the land is yet in possession of the various members of the family.

Archibald E. Stewart pursued his primary studies in the pioneer schools of this locality, assisted and encouraged by his mother at home. He became a member of the first class of the Wesleyan University, Bloomington, under Prof. Andrus, the first professor, and he there completed his education four years later. He was the only student in the Sophomore Class of 1851-52. After leaving

this institution he went East and studied music in Boston for several months, having great love and a talent for this art. After his return to Illinois in 1856, he took up the study of medicine under the instruction of Hon. H. Noble, of Heyworth, and one year later entered Rush Medical College at Chicago. From there he went to Philadelphia, and entered Jefferson College, from which he graduated in 1858. Whatever branch of study he took up was pursued thoroughly and closely until he became the master of it, and he was now abundantly qualified for the practice of this profession.

The marriage of Archibald E. Stewart and Miss Emily, daughter of John R. and Lydia (Gantz) Stewart, was celebrated at the home of the bride's parents at Fairmont, W. Va., on the 10th of May, 1859. The parents of Mrs. S. were natives of West Virginia, and of Scotch and German descent. John Stewart was a millwright, and came West in 1861. He was a strong Union man, and found it to his advantage to leave the Old Dominion about that time. He located in Randolph Township, and resided there until 1884, when he removed to Los Angeles, Cal., where he and his wife are living, retired from the active labors of life.

Mrs. Emily S. Stewart was educated in a select school in her native State, and remained with her parents until her marriage. Of her union with our subject there were born five children, as follows: Bruce A. is engaged in the lumber business in California; Clark E. is a musician, and also employed as clerk in a music store at Chicago; Adelaide was educated at Valparaiso, Ind., and is a teacher of music; Hugh A. is attending school, and with his sister Lucy lives at home with his parents.

After his marriage, Dr. Stewart located in Randolph Township, and began the practice of his profession, which he continued until after the outbreak of the late war. He then enlisted in the army, in August, 1862, as a private, and was connected with the Army of the Frontier, in the 94th Illinois Infantry. He was then appointed Regimental Surgeon, which position he occupied for three years, and at the close of the war received his honorable discharge at Galveston, Tex. The regiment fought at Prairie Grove, Ark., where he saw much bloodshed, and was with his command at the siege and

surrender of Vicksburg, Miss., also at Brownsville, Tex., where a special order was issued by Maj. Gen. Herron, for his management of the Post Hospital, and upon which occasion our subject received the high approval of the General and many compliments concerning his judgment and skill.

After his retirement from the army, Dr. Stewart abandoned the practice of medicine, and turned his entire attention to his farming interests, which were more agreeable to his tastes and which he has since followed successfully. He is now the possessor of 300 acres of valuable land in Randolph Township, and is also interested in real estate in Kansas and Nebraska. Of late years he has given considerable attention to the breeding of high-grade cattle and Norman horses, with which the home farm is finely stocked.

In politics he has always been a staunch Republican, and has uniformly cast his vote in support of the principles of his party. He was Chief Deputy Circuit Clerk for a period of eight years, and has held other important offices in the county. In 1881 he went to Europe, and has visited most parts of the United States, having been in nearly every State of the Union. Mrs. Stewart is an amiable and excellent Christian lady, and a member in good standing of the Presbyterian Church.



**OWEN C. RUTLEDGE.** This gentleman is widely and favorably known throughout McLean County and was the first man who bought grain at Heyworth. His transactions in this line began in 1855, and he has since been actively engaged in the trade. Two years later he became the partner of Isaac Vanordstrand and they have operated together, with the exception of five years, since that time. In the interim Mr. Rutledge embarked in the dry-goods business, but finally abandoned it and returned to the grain trade. He began business here in a very modest manner and weighed his grain on a small movable scale, carrying it on his shoulders in sacks to the cars. This was kept up for some time and until the first elevator was built, in 1861.

Mr. Rutledge has been closely identified with the

interests of this section since coming here, being one of its most energetic and useful citizens. He now owns a fine property and his wife is the possessor of considerable real estate in Randolph Township. Mr. R. was born on section 34, where the village of Heyworth now stands, his birth occurring on the 19th of October, 1831. He was reared in this county and completed his education at Danvers and at the college of Lebanon, Tenn. He also studied in the Presbyterian school at that place.

The subject of this history is the oldest native born citizen of Randolph Township now living. When about twenty-one years of age he began teaching a subscription school in Randolph Township at a small salary. He built his own fires, swept his own school-room and received the munificent salary of \$18 per month. He was thus occupied for three years, the last year receiving his pay from the public school fund.

The marriage of Mr. Rutledge and Miss Sarah Elder took place in Heyworth on the 8th of June, 1858. Mrs. R. was the sister of J. C. Elder. She was born near Crawfordsville, Ind., June 8, 1838, and came to this county with her parents when a child. She completed her education in the city of Bloomington and taught school for some time before her marriage. Of this union there was born one child, a daughter—Fannie, the wife of Howard Galey, who now lives in Emporia, Kan.; Mr. G. is in the employ of the Santa Fe Railroad Company at that place. Mrs. Sarah Rutledge departed this life at her home in Heyworth, July 8, 1865. She was from childhood a member of the Presbyterian Church. She was a most amiable and excellent Christian lady, greatly beloved by her family and mourned by a large circle of friends.

Mr. R. was a second time married, in Defiance County, Ohio, Dec. 24, 1866, to Miss Letitia A. Battershell, who was born in Holmes County, Ohio, Oct. 21, 1842. She was reared and educated in Defiance County, and there her father is still living at the age of seventy-two years. The mother, whose maiden name was Catharine Marquis, died when fifty-six years of age, in 1874. The present Mrs. Rutledge was also a teacher in her native county before her marriage. Of her union with

our subject there were born three children, one of whom, Oakley A., died when one year old; Lettie B. is at home, having graduated from the schools in Heyworth; Lyndon M., aged thirteen years, is still pursuing his studies in the village schools. The family residence is a pleasant and attractive one and its inmates enjoy the friendship of the best people in the village.

Mr. Rutledge has been a member of the County Board of Supervisors and has held the various offices in the village. For many years he has been connected with the Presbyterian Church, in which he has been Elder five years. His wife and daughters are also members of the same.



**W**ILLIAM M. HENLINE is one of the foremost farmers and merchants of Money Creek Township, and a resident on section 10. The father of our subject, George Henline, was born in Kentucky, and his wife, Margaret (Rayburn) Henline, was also born in that State. After their marriage they settled in their native State, where the father was engaged in farming until he came to this county. In his younger days George Henline learned the trade of a blacksmith, but followed it only a short time, preferring farming. He was among the early settlers of this county, and at the time of his location in Lawndale Township there were few inhabitants there other than the Indians. He made that township his home for five years, and removing to Money Creek Township lived there for some years, when he moved to and made Lexington his home. They continued to reside at Lexington for about ten years, when they again moved on the farm in Money Creek Township, and there lived until their death, his demise occurring March 3, 1855, and hers April 13, 1872. They had ten children—Perry, Almarine, Zarilda J., Sabra, George, John, Mary A., Louisa S., Matilda J. and William M.


The subject of this notice was born in Money Creek Township, July 3, 1838. He received a good education in the pioneer log school-house of this county, and was reared to manhood on the farm, and has continued to reside in Money Creek

Township from the date of his birth until the present time. He is the owner of 240 acres of land, about seventy of which is in timber and the remainder under an advanced state of cultivation. He has erected a good residence on his farm, and has met with success in the prosecution of a vocation which he has followed since childhood, together with merchandising.

In 1878, Mr. Henline opened the store which he still conducts, and carries a general stock of merchandise, and by fair and honest dealing has built up a good trade. In July, 1880, he was appointed Postmaster and still holds that office.

Mr. Henline was first married at Bloomington, Ill., Aug. 26, 1858, Miss Sarah C. Steward being the other contracting party. She was a daughter of William and Elizabeth Steward, and bore our subject two children, Stephen A. D. and William A. R. Mrs. Henline departed this life April 10, 1872, and our subject was again married in Money Creek Township, Dec. 5, 1872, Miss Eliza A. Griffith becoming his wife. Miss Griffith was a daughter of George W. and Catherine (Archibald) Griffith, natives of Pennsylvania. Her parents had one son and three daughters, and Mrs. Henline was the eldest. She was born in Fayette County, Pa., Feb. 1, 1841. Of this latter union two children have been born. One died in infancy, and the other, Noah O. A., is living at home.


Mr. Henline has been Township Collector, and has also been Supervisor of the township one year. In politics he is a Democrat, and socially is a member of the I. O. O. F., holding fellowship with a lodge at Lexington; he also belongs to the Encampment at Lexington.



**W**ILLIAM SWETZEL, proprietor of a snug little farm of 160 acres located on section 28, Towanda Township, and a gentleman respected for his sterling worth and integrity, comes of that class of citizens noted for their energy and determination to get on in the world. He was born in Baden, Germany, Jan. 11, 1837, and emigrated to the United States in 1858. Arriving in this country Mr. Swetzel spent the first

year in New Jersey and Pennsylvania, and from there he went to Ohio, coming to Bloomington, Ill., in 1861. He has since been a resident of the county and now owns 160 acres of good land located as stated, on which he has a large fine residence, and is meeting with more than ordinary financial success. In addition to farming he devotes his attention to raising stock.

Mr. Swetzel was married in the land of his nativity to Miss Mary Koeh, who departed this life in this county; her death took place in December, 1871. She bore him five children—John, Charles, William, Carrie and Luther. Mr. Swetzel was married a second time, in Hudson Township, Miss Mary Blum being the other contracting party. The marriage took place in February, 1873, and of this latter union two children have been born, one of whom is deceased. The surviving child is Mary K. Mrs. Swetzel departed this life in Bloomington, Ill., in July, 1886. She was a member of the Evangelical denomination, and a kind-hearted neighbor, devoted wife and loving mother. In politics Mr. Swetzel is Republican. Mr. Swetzel married his third and present wife, Minnie Wagner, on the 19th of January, 1887. A view of his fine residence and surroundings is given elsewhere in this work.



**W**ILLIAM E. STEVENS, a gentleman in the prime of life, and a highly respected resident of Bloomington, is now employed as foreman for J. M. Fordice in the lumber business, with which he has been connected since his return from the army in 1864. Mr. Stevens was born in Macon County, this State, on the 3d of August, 1842, and is the son of James B. and Letitia (Saterfield) Stevens, the father a native of the State of New York, and the mother of Whiteside County, Ill. James B. Stevens came to Macon County, Ill., when a lad of seven years, with his father, Joseph, who was a native of New York, and engaged in farming pursuits. The family of Joseph Stevens consisted of nine children, of whom James B., the father of our subject, was the youngest. He was reared on his father's farm and learned



the carpenter's trade, following the two pursuits through life, and latterly engaged as a contractor and builder. He removed from Macon to McLean County in 1844, and located in Bloomington, where he passed the balance of his days, his death occurring in 1871. The mother of our subject had preceded her husband to the better land three years before, in 1868. Their family of six children were, William E., our subject; Harriet, Mrs. Chester Smith, of Bloomington; Luey, Mrs. Owens, of Woodford County; Charles, of Springfield, Ill.; Leonard, of Palestine, Tex., and Walter, of Denison, Tex.

William E. Stevens received a fair education in the common schools, and remained with his parents until the opening of the Rebellion. He then enlisted as a Union soldier, in June, 1861, as a member of Co. D, 8th Mo. Vol. Inf., and remained in the service three years and one month. With his comrades he participated in the battles of Ft. Henry, Donelson, Shiloh, the siege of Corinth, and the further engagements of that campaign, and at the expedition along Deer Creek was taken prisoner, on the 22d of March, 1863, being paroled in April following. Before being taken by the enemy, however, he had personally captured the son of Senator Clark, of the Confederacy, a native of Mississippi, whom Gen. Sherman held as hostage until our hero was paroled. On the 9th of October following his parole, young Stevens reported for duty at Memphis, and joined his comrades in the march to Chattanooga, where he arrived two days before the battle of Mission Ridge. He participated in this, and then with his regiment followed the Tennessee Valley to Knoxville for the purpose of relieving Gen. Burnside, after which they returned and went into winter quarters at Larkinsville, Ala. In May following they started for Georgia, and subsequently participated in the engagements at Ringgold, Resaca, Buzzard's Roost, Kingston, Dallas, New Hope Church and Big Shanty. This practically wound up the military career of our subject, and on the 13th of May, 1864, with his comrades he started for home. He had the pleasure likewise of escorting his prisoner, George Scott, who was one of the Confederates that captured him March 22, 1863, from Big

Shanty to Nashville, Tenn., and derived great satisfaction from this episode of his war experience. After his discharge at St. Louis, on the 4th of July, 1864, Mr. Stevens returned to Bloomington, and, as heretofore stated, engaged in the lumber business.

In 1868 William E. Stevens was united in marriage with Miss Annie B. White, who was born in Ohio, and was the daughter of David C. and Lavinia White, natives of Ohio and Maine respectively. Of this union there were born six children—Grace L., Olive L., Guy T., Cora L., Florence L. and William E. Their residence is located at No. 903 West Mulberry street, where they are enjoying all the comforts of life and the society and friendship of numbers of friends. Politically Mr. Stevens uniformly votes the Republican ticket, and socially is a member in good standing of the G. A. R.

CHARLES F. W. SCHMIDT, who simply signs his name William Schmidt, became a resident of Bloomington Township in 1854, first locating in the city, and purchased property which is the present site of the C. & A. R. R. shops. He built the first house west of this road, and started a hotel, which he operated successfully during the construction of the road. Later he sold the property to good advantage, and after thirteen years took possession of his present homestead, which is located just outside the city limits, on West Market street. Here he established a vineyard, and built up a beautiful home, which is upon a rise of ground and commands a fine view of the city of Bloomington. The surrounding scenery can scarcely be equaled in any part of McLean County, and certainly not excelled. The dwelling is of modern style of architecture, and the beautiful grounds are interspersed with choice shade trees and shrubbery. The grape arbors combine beauty with utility, and the entire premises bears evidences of refined taste and abundant means. The flower-gardens are most tastefully laid out and well kept, and there are artificial waterfalls and islands. The whole forms one of the most attractive spots in this locality. Since purchasing this valuable piece

of property. Mr. Schmidt has turned his attention mainly to the growing of grapes and flowers, the proceeds of which yield him a handsome income. He manufactures a fine grade of wines, which he usually disposes of in the local markets. The homestead includes twelve acres, and the natural water facilities add greatly to its beauty and value.

The subject of our sketch is one of the representatives of that nationality which has contributed so much toward the development of the West. He was born in Hanover, Germany, Dec. 15, 1819. His father, Christian Schmidt, was a butcher, and lived and died in the place where his son was born. Our subject learned the trade of a tanner in his native country, and later went to the Province of Silesia, in Prussia. Here he became acquainted with Miss Julia Miller, and they were united in marriage in 1847. They lived in the vicinity of his wife's former home for six years, where Mr. Schmidt was occupied at his trade. In 1854 he resolved to emigrate to the New World. They first located in the city of Chicago, whence they came to Bloomington, where Mr. Schmidt started a tannery, but only operated it a short time.

Mr. and Mrs. S. have become the parents of nine children, of whom only four are living, two daughters and two sons. The family are regular attendants of the Lutheran Church. Our subject, in former years was a strong Abolitionist, and at the time of the organization of the Republican party, worked earnestly for its maintenance and support. He endorses its principles now fully as warmly as in former years, and uniformly casts his vote with the party of his choice. He is one of the most useful and highly respected citizens of this community, and his home largely contributes to the attractiveness of Bloomington Township.



**W**ILLIAM DAVIDSON. In presenting this biographical notice of the career of one of the leading men of McLean County, and a gentleman who is thoroughly representative of its progressive element, we deem it our duty to first briefly advert to the life story of those from whom he draws his origin. He was born in Westmore-

land County, Pa., June 22, 1818, and is the son of Robert and Jane (Reed) Davidson, natives of Chester County, Pa. The former was born March 27, 1789, and at about the age of forty years became a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He joined that denomination in the county of his nativity, and according to the custom of the country he, like others, would occasionally take a dram. The Rev. Simon Lock, who officiated as minister of the congregation with which our subject's father united, received him into the church on probation, the presiding elder remarking: "Take his name, and if he don't hold out the devil will take him back." The devil never got him again, for from that time forward he was a strong temperance man, and energetically labored in the cause of the Master. He was a bright and shining light in that congregation, of which he became one of the Elders, and is remembered by many for the great change which conversion brought upon his life. His wife, our subject's mother, was born in 1790, and became a member of the Baptist Church. When on her deathbed she requested her husband to promise that he would abstain forever from the use of intoxicating liquors, which promise he made and which led to his conversion, and after receiving the promise the good wife calmly closed her eyes in death, the year of her demise being 1825. They were the parents of eight children—William died in infancy; Lydia, Asa, Margaret, James, William of this notice, Solomon and Ratan.

William Davidson, who is a farmer by vocation and also a blacksmith by trade, is pleasantly located on his fine place on section 13, Dry Grove Township. He was united in marriage, March 14, 1839, with Miss Mary Morton, a distant relative of Gov. Morton, of Indiana. She was born near Wheeling, Va., and died Dec. 6, 1874, in Illinois, leaving to our subject seven children: Margaret, who is the widow of Henry Tracey, and lives in Davis County, Neb.; Alcinous, who resides in Minneapolis; Lydia, wife of George Snedaker; Robert M. in San Jose; Loretta became the wife of C. Gillespie; Sarah I., and Cornelia A. Loretta, Cornelia A. and Sarah I. are deceased. The second marriage of our subject was with Mrs. Julia (Ward) Holmes, and the date of their marriage Aug. 8,





Abner M Daddson



William Davidson

1878. She was born in Onondaga County, N. Y., Sept. 19, 1821, and is the daughter of Elijah and Amanda (Philly) Ward, natives of that State and Vermont respectively. Her father died in February, 1879, aged eighty-four, and her mother departed this life in 1866, when in her sixty-fourth year. Eight children were born of this union—Norman L., Juliana, Julia, wife of our subject; Emily J., Darwin E., Ira D., Frederick C. and Mary Matilda.

William Davidson came to this State in 1854, and locating in this county, purchased 240 acres of land, the same being that on which he is at present residing. During the intervening years he has lived on this place, and has labored hard and economised and succeeded in bringing his land to a high state of cultivation, and has placed upon it good and substantial improvements. He has held the various offices of his township, and in religion has held fellowship with the Methodist Episcopal Church since he was fourteen years of age. He has tried to live an upright, Christian life, and none can point to any act of dishonesty in its history. He has occupied the position of Steward of the congregation to which he belongs, and has also been an earnest laborer in the Sunday-school. His good wife, who united with the Methodist Episcopal Church when she was twelve years old, was Superintendent of the Sunday-school for a number of years. In politics Mr. Davidson is a staunch Republican, but is inclined to cast his vote for Prohibition whenever opportunity affords.

A portrait of Mr. Davidson is shown in connection with this sketch.



**A**BNER N. DODSON, one of the most successful farmers and stock-raisers of Money Creek Township, and whose portrait accompanies this sketch, is one of a family of ten children, of whom William N. and Martha (Kinnan) Dodson were the parents. In addition to his farm duties, and the attention which he pays to the raising of stock, he is the Justice of the Peace of his township and gives satisfaction in the administration of justice. The father of our subject

was born in Wayne County, Ky., and his wife was a native of New Jersey. After their marriage the old folk settled in Champaign County, Ohio, where the father followed farming until his emigration to this State, and his settlement in this county, which event occurred in 1847. He located on section 33, Money Creek Township, and there lived until his death, which took place in March, 1863. His good wife also died in that township, Dec. 21, 1880. Of their ten children, four were sons and six daughters. The record of them is as follows: Margaretta, Mary, Martha, Esther A., Elizabeth, Emida, Joseph, Abner N., William R. and Daniel D. Margaretta married William Halterman and at the time of her decease was a resident of Towanda Township; Mary is the wife of Jacob Moats, and they are living in Money Creek Township; Martha and Lewis Sailor were united in marriage and have their home in Hudson Township; Esther is the wife of F. A. Bishop, a farmer of Money Creek Township; Elizabeth became the wife of James Allen and they live at Chillicothe, Mo.; Emida was united in marriage with Rev. Andrew Yeakle and they are living in Kansas; Joseph also lives in that State; William R. has his home in the Indian Territory, and Daniel D., who was a soldier in the late Civil War, having enlisted in Co. B, 94th Ill. Vol. Inf., died Sept. 8, 1863, while in the service of his country, and his body is buried in the Soldiers' Cemetery at Memphis, Tenn., and the monument erected to his memory is at Bloomington, Ill.

The subject of this notice was born in Champaign County, Ohio, Dec. 27, 1827. He was reared to farm labor and has given his attention to that calling, and the raising of stock thus far in life. He came to this county in 1847, and has made it his home until the present time, and is widely and favorably known throughout the entire county as a reputable, well-to-do farmer. He is the owner of 400 acres of rich and productive land on sections 19 and 20, upon which he has good buildings, and where he is meeting with signal success in his calling.

Mr. Dodson was married in Money Creek Township, Sept. 3, 1850, to Miss Anis Busick, daughter of Nathaniel and Cynthia (Stretch) Busick, natives of Ohio. They emigrated from their native State to this county and settled in Money Creek Township,

where they lived until their death, that of the former occurring in 1847, and the latter Jan. 19, 1883. Mrs. Dodson was the eldest of her parents' children, and was born near Lafayette, Ind., Jan. 22, 1831, and by her union with our subject thirteen children have been born. The record of this family is as follows: Madison P., Maria, William, Ellen, Jesse, Henry, Annie, Jennie, Daniel, Frank, Abner, Della and Nettie. Madison P. died in Money Creek Township, March 1, 1869; Maria is the wife of Lafayette Timmons and they are living in Ford County, Ill.; William married Miss Mary L. Willard and died in Money Creek Township, Sept. 6, 1882; Ellen is the wife of Samuel Johnson, a farmer of Money Creek Township; Jesse also lives in that township; Henry died in infancy, and the remaining children reside at home.

Mr. Dodson was elected Justice of the Peace in 1874, and has held that office continuously until the present time. He has held the office of Road Commissioner, and in politics is a staunch Republican. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Although a Republican, as stated, Mr. Dodson is strongly inclined toward Prohibition, and hopes the day will come when none shall be licensed to sell intoxicating liquors. Mr. D., as above mentioned, is a gentleman widely known as a first-class citizen, is benevolent and kind as a neighbor, an indulgent father and husband, and is entitled to and possesses the confidence of his neighbors and friends.

**JESSE BARKER**, a native of Yorkshire, England, became a citizen of the United States when about twenty-six years of age, and took up his abode at once in this county, of which he has been a resident since that time. He was reared to farming pursuits, which he has followed all his life, and has now a good homestead of 160 acres of land, supplied with all necessary and substantial farm buildings. His present possessions are the results of his own industry, while his integrity and honesty have served to establish him in the confidence and esteem of his fellow-citizens.

Mr. Barker was born in about 1830, and is the

son of William and Mary Barker, who spent their lives in their native England. Their twelve children included five sons and seven daughters, of whom the subject of this history was the youngest. Upon coming to this country, Mr. B. proceeded directly westward, and selected his location in this county, where he first purchased eighty acres of land in Old Town Township, which he occupied about seventeen years. He purchased his present farm in the spring of 1883.

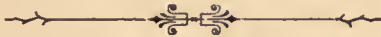
Mr. Barker was married to Miss Martha Thompson, in Old Town Township, a native of his own country, born in about 1838. They became the parents of nine children, of whom six are living, namely, Mary, Lizzie, Ella, William, Richard and Christian. Mary became the wife of Cyrus Perry, and resides in Blue Mound Township; Lizzie married James Larry, of Blue Mound Township.

**GEORGE M. HEFNER**, deceased, was a farmer of this county and a resident of Money Creek Township. He was the son of Peter and Betsey (Flesher) Hefner, the former of whom has a sketch elsewhere in this work. George M. Hefner was born in Money Creek Township, Jan. 17, 1846, and made that his home during life. He was reared to agricultural pursuits and followed that calling during all his years on earth, meeting with more than ordinary success and having before him a bright future when called by the Master to that better home, July 5, 1877.

At the date of the demise of our subject he was owner of 320 acres of valuable land, which he left to his family free of incumbrance. He was a gentleman possessed of more than ordinary energy, and good sound judgment, and who had within him a heart full to overflow with love for his fellowmen and charity for all. He was married in Chenoa Township, this county, Aug. 25, 1866, to Miss Lizzie, daughter of George and Rosanna (Ambrose) Durham, natives of Virginia. The parents were married in their native State and there lived until the death of the father, in August, 1846. The mother came to this county in the fall of 1865, and departed this life in Chenoa Township, Dec. 25,

1867. Three sons and three daughters were born of their union, of whom Mrs. Hefner was the youngest. She was born in West Virginia Jan. 9, 1846, and coming to this county with her mother in 1865, lived with her until her marriage with our subject. Mr. and Mrs. Hefner became the parents of four children—Cora, Charles P., Rosa N. and Stella B. Cora is the wife of Daniel Bishop, a farmer of Money Creek Township. Mrs. Hefner is the owner of 160 acres of valuable land in Money Creek Township, and possessed of practical information sufficient to conduct her farm advantageously. Religiously she is a member of the United Brethren Church, and respected for her sterling worth and many Christian virtues.

Mr. Hefner was a soldier in the late Civil War, having enlisted in the 94th Illinois Infantry, and served his country faithfully and well during the entire struggle. He escaped unhurt and returning from the field of conflict, settled down on his farm in Money Creek Township, where he lived and labored until his death.



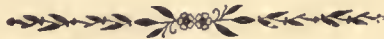
**H**UDSON BURR, one of the oldest citizens of Bloomington, and a prominent member of the bar of that city, is widely and favorably known throughout McLean County for his natural talents and excellent business capacity. Added to this, he is a gentleman of fine personal appearance and gives to the practice that dignity and ease of manner which at once stamp him as one born in the higher walks of life. Mr. Burr first opened his eyes to the light in the New England hills, having been born in Litchfield County, Conn., Jan. 23, 1830. His father, Rufus Burr, was a native of the same State, where the first representative of the family in this country settled. The father of our subject was a farmer of moderate means. His birth occurred in December, 1800, and he was married in his native county on the 9th of May, 1827, to Miss Ann S., the daughter of Barzillai Hudson. After marriage they settled in Torrington, Conn., where they lived until the death of the father, which occurred in 1863. Mrs. Burr then removed to a point on the Hudson

River, where she spent the remainder of her days, dying in 1878. Of their family of nine children, five still survive, three being residents of Bloomington.

Hudson Burr was the second child born to his parents and passed his boyhood days in his native State. His primary education was conducted in the public schools, and after becoming of suitable age he entered Yale College, where he pursued a thorough course of study and graduated in 1853. He then entered the law office of Henry S. Barber of Woleott, Conn., where he remained until 1854. We next hear of him in Bloomington, where he continued his studies until 1858, when he was admitted to the bar, and soon afterward became a partner of Maj. Packard and they operated together until 1862. The Civil War being then in progress, our subject enlisted in the army, becoming Adjutant of the 94th Illinois Regiment and was detailed for duty on the frontier, until the summer of 1863. The regiment was then transferred to the Army of the Potomac, our subject remaining with it until 1864, when on account of ill-health he was compelled to resign. During his military experience he distinguished himself for bravery and faithfulness, and served as Adjutant General with the rank of Captain. He took part in the battle of Prairie Grove and was at the siege and capture of Vicksburg, in July, 1863. While in the army of the Potomac, serving along the Roanoke River, Capt. Burr during one of the fierce engagements in that locality, narrowly escaped being captured by the rebels, and only his strategy and bravery saved him from falling into their clutches. On the battlefield, as in private life, he distinguished himself for his sound judgment and equable bearing in times of danger and disaster.

After receiving his honorable discharge from the army, Capt. Burr returned to Bloomington and formed a law partnership with Robert E. Williams, which continued for a period of nineteen years. The firm was a strong one from the start and became widely and favorably known throughout the State, both our subject and his partner exhibiting more than ordinary ability as attorneys and counselors and having a close acquaintance with the intricacies of law.

Mr. Burr was married in his native State in December, 1830, to Miss Luey, the daughter of Robert Felton, Esq., of Wolcott, Conn., and they became the parents of two children, Charles and Emma, the latter now Mrs. Clinton Soper, of Bloomington. Our subject is a regular attendant at the Second Presbyterian Church and both socially and in a business capacity is reckoned among the most valued citizens of McLean County.

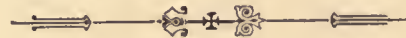


**B**UGH LORMOR, one of the highly respected and prominent agriculturists of Towanda Township, residing on section 3, is a native of Tompkins County, N. Y., and was born Jan. 1, 1834. From the time our subject was two years old until he had attained the age of twelve, he lived with an uncle. From the latter age until he was eighteen he was an inmate of the family of a gentleman whose business was that of a harness-maker and who also followed agricultural pursuits. The following three years he worked out by the month, and in the spring of 1855 came to this county and located, determining to make it his future home. For four years he worked out by the month at farm labor and then rented a place and was engaged in farming on rented land for about seven years.

After the expiration of the date last named, our subject purchased the farm on which he is at present residing, which consists of 125 acres. Locating upon it, he industriously labored and economized and in the prosecution of his vocation has met with fair success. Mr. Lormor was married in Tompkins County, N. Y., March 10, 1858, to Caroline A., daughter of John and Betsey (Tapping) Bureh, natives of York State. Her parents first settled in Tompkins County, N. Y., where her father farmed and also worked at his trade, that of a carpenter, and where both heads of the family lived until their demise. They had eight children, four sons and four daughters, and Mrs. Lormor was the youngest. She was born in Tompkins County, N. Y., April 1, 1834, received a good education, and for eight years prior to her marriage was engaged in performing the duties of a teacher. She has

borne our subject five children, whom they have named, Jennie E., Frank B., Fred H., Bureh and Corry E. Jennie and the two youngest are deceased; Frank married Miss Ida N. Anderson and they are living in Sloan, Woodbury Co., Iowa. Fred is engaged in teaching at Hopedale, Tazewell County, this State, and is Principal of the schools at that place.

Mr. Lormor was first elected Supervisor of Towanda Township in the spring of 1879, and held the office for four years. In 1884 he was re-elected to that position and was the incumbent of the office until the spring of 1886. He was also Highway Commissioner for several years. Mr. and Mrs. Lormor are members of the Presbyterian Church and in politics our subject votes with the Republican party.

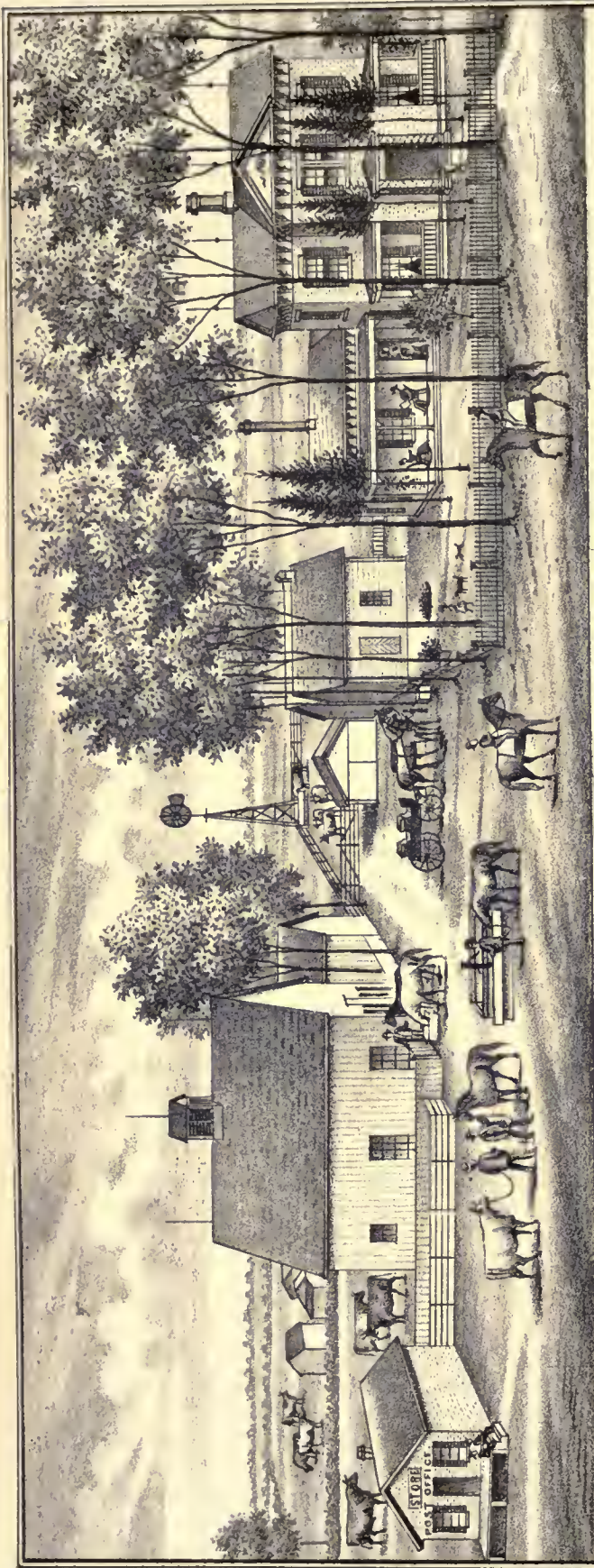


**J**OHN H. VREELAND, a resident of Saybrook Village, came to Illinois in 1856, and commenced to farm on rented land. To this employment he added stock-raising, and was prospered in his operations, and in 1868 was enabled to purchase 100 acres of good land, which he brought to a fine state of cultivation, and upon which he operated until 1882. He then sold out and retired to the village of Saybrook, where he has a fine residence and is extensively engaged in the grocery trade. He is highly respected in this community for his straightforward business methods and many excellent traits of character.

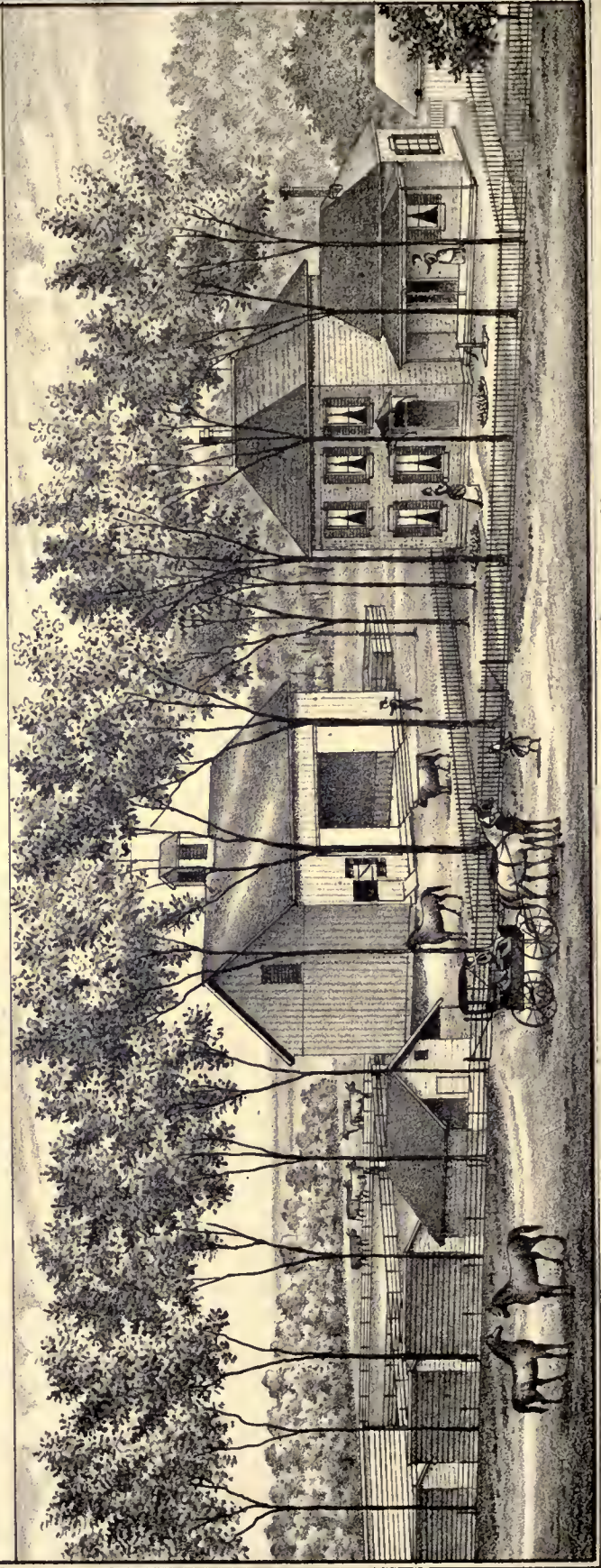
Mr. Vreeland was born in Bergen County, N. J., Dec. 29, 1826, and is the son of Martin J. and Jane (Terhune) Vreeland, who were also natives of that State. The father of our subject was born Sept. 29, 1805, and remained in his native State until November, 1872, when he came to this county and spent the remainder of his days with his son, John H., the subject of our sketch. When twenty years of age the father was united in marriage with Miss Jane Terhune, who was of Scotch and Holland parentage. She departed this life in 1872, having been a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Of this marriage there were born seven children, four now living. They were John H.,







RESIDENCE OF JOHN M. FOSTER, SEC. 36., DALE TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF SMITH SAWYER, SEC. 19., TOWANDA TOWNSHIP.

Martin M., Peter M., George W., Jacob, Jane, who married David Arthur and who, with her husband, is deceased, and William, who died in infancy. The father of our subject received but a limited education, and engaged in farming pursuits, while at the same time he officiated as a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, being quite a revivalist, and never making any charge for his services. His second marriage was with Mrs. Esther (Stansberry) McMackin, and occurred in 1874. He departed this life in Saybrook, Dec. 22, 1883.

John Vreeland of our sketch was married to Miss Abigail Wygand, who was born in Ulster County, N. Y., Aug. 18, 1824. She is the daughter of Charles and Mary (Cavalry) Wygand; her father is now deceased. The mother is still living, having arrived at the advanced age of nearly eighty-five years, and resides in Columbus, Ohio. The parental household consisted of nine children.

Mr. and Mrs. V. have no children. Our subject has held the various offices of his township, was School Trustee seven years, and has been Overseer of Highways. He is Democratic in politics, but during the war was altogether in sympathy with the efforts for the preservation of the Union. Mrs. V. is a worthy member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



**S**MITH SAWYER. The thrilling scenes through which the pioneers passed in the settlement of this portion of the State must ever awaken emotions of the warmest regard for them. To pave the way for those who followed, to make their settlement in the West a pleasure, they stemmed the flood-tide wave of civilization, they endured all, they suffered all. But few of these noble spirits now survive; they have passed away full of years and honors, leaving their children and children's children, and strangers to succeed them and enjoy the fruits of their toil, privation and savings of their long and eventful lives. With most of them we can say with the poet—

"Life with them is o'er, their labors all are done,  
And others reap the harvest that they won."

Among the few pioneers remaining on this side of

the grave is Mr. Smith Sawyer, the subject of the following sketch. He is passing his declining days on his farm on section 19, Towanda Township, in the enjoyment of a sufficiency of this world's goods. His father, William Sawyer, was born in Ireland and came to the United States when a boy. The mother of our subject, Elizabeth (Smith) Sawyer, was a native of Pennsylvania. After the parents' marriage they settled in Fayette County, Ohio, where the father followed farming for a livelihood, and where both heads of the family continued to reside until their death, the household in the meantime becoming enlarged by the birth of five sons and five daughters.

The subject of this notice was the sixth in order of birth of his parents' ten children, and drew his first breath in Fayette County, Ohio, Oct. 2, 1816. He was reared to farm labor and received his education in the common schools of his native county. Remaining under the home roof until twenty-one years of age he then began to work out by the month, farming and herding cattle, and was thus occupied for about five years. In the spring of 1844, Mr. Sawyer came to this State and took up his residence in Livingston County where, however, he remained but two months, and then came to this county, where he has made his home ever since. He is the owner of 160 acres of well-improved and valuable land in Towanda Township, on which he has good buildings, and which property he has acquired through his own exertions. His residence and surroundings are shown in this connection as a representative farm home of this splendid county.

Mr. Sawyer was first married in Old Town Township to Miss Eleanor Bunn, who bore him three children, all now deceased, and who departed this life in Martin Township. He was again married, to Miss Clarrissa Misner in 1849. She became the mother of two children—Albert and William. The former died in Kansas when twenty-two years of age, and the latter died in infancy. The mother of these children yielded up her life in Bloomington Township. On the 11th of December, 1873, in Normal Township, this county, our subject formed a matrimonial alliance with Susan C., daughter of Harden and Deborah (Houghten) Bennett, and widow of William Witty, who had by her first marriage one

son—William F. Of this latter marriage of Mr. Sawyer two children have been born—Theodore and Millie. He has held the offices of Road Commissioner and School Director in his township, and is one of her foremost citizens, actively interested in every project tending toward the general welfare of the people. Mrs. Sawyer is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in politics our subject is a Republican.



**J**OHAN MATHER FOSTER, an extensive farmer and stock-raiser of Dale Township, owns and occupies a fine homestead in the village of Shirley, a view of which is shown in this work. He is the son of John Foster, of Cheshire County, N. H., and was born May 30, 1833. John Foster was born in the town of Stoddard, on the 12th of November, 1806. His father, also named John Mather Foster, was likewise a native of New England, and his grandfather, Daniel Foster, the great-grandfather of our subject, like these, his descendants, was also a native of the Old Granite State, and was born in Cheshire County; he was a minister of the Presbyterian Church. He died at Charleston, N. H., and his father, Isaac Foster, the great-great-grandfather of John M., was a native of Massachusetts, a Presbyterian preacher, and after serving a period of eighty-two years in the ministry, died in Charleston, N. H., at the advanced age of one hundred and five years. He was an Englishman by birth and emigrated to the United States in 1722, settling in Connecticut. He was a near descendant of Sir Michael Foster, one of the most eminent jurists of England, and after coming to Connecticut was married to Miss Stanhope, a lady of Irish descent and belonging to one of the best families of New England.

The grandfather of our subject was quite liberal in his religious views and did not subscribe to the doctrine of election and reprobation but believed that every one would be punished or rewarded according to his deeds in this life. It took a courageous man in those days to defend these principles, but John Mather Foster was equal to the emergency and sturdily maintained his views in

spite of opposition or derision. He was, however, held in the highest esteem and was accorded a respectful hearing whenever he chose to speak. John Mather Foster was a relative of Increase Mather, whose name is familiar as a celebrated divine of the early days.

The grandfather of our subject, John Mather Foster, was born on the 12th of November, 1780, and was educated to the profession of law. He practiced in Lincoln, Vt., and Keene, N. H. In 1817 he emigrated from Southbridge, Mass., to Indiana, which had only been a State one year. The journey was made on foot and after arriving there he located in Madison, Jefferson County, entered upon the practice of his profession and also taught school. While thus occupied in preparing a home for his family, his wife died in Massachusetts. John Mather Foster continued to live in Indiana until 1824. He then returned as far East as Ohio, locating in Muskingum County, where he practiced his profession and taught school in that and Guernsey County until he came to the home of his son, John Foster, in Cumberland, Guernsey County, where his life terminated on the 20th of September, 1856.

The wife of John Mather Foster was the widow of Mr. Carlisle. Her maiden name was Alice West and she was the daughter of Timothy West, of Cheshire County, N. H. Her marriage with John M. Foster occurred on the 12th of November, 1805, and after having become the mother of two children she died in New Hampshire. The second born was Dan, who after arriving at years of manhood settled in Licking County, Ohio, and successfully engaged in farming. He met his death by accident in 1866, leaving a wife and several children. The first son was John Foster, the father of the subject of our sketch, and when but eleven years of age he started with his father for the West and walked the entire distance to Madison County, Ind., where they arrived in April, the journey consuming several weeks. In the meantime their money gave out and they stopped by the way, where his father worked for a farmer until he had earned money enough to buy bread for the remainder of the trip.

After arriving in Indiana the father of the subject of our sketch attended the school over which his father presided, and soon afterward commenced

to earn his own living by chopping wood in that vicinity. He was thus occupied for nearly one year and then went to live with a farmer, with whom he continued two and one-half years, receiving his board, clothes and schooling. Thereafter he was to have \$6 per month for the same period but was cheated out of this money, and at the age of eighteen years started on foot for Ohio without a cent in his pocket. His uncle assisted him on his way, his first work there being for the latter, who had loaned him \$4.31 to assist in paying his expenses while on the journey. His next job was a month's work at clearing timber land, for which he was to receive fifty-five cents per day and take his pay in merchandise. After his job was completed he went to the store to get cloth for a suit of clothes. The best bargain he could secure was a piece of bed-ticking, and he accordingly purchased seven yards at 62½ cents a yard and some buttons and thread. He quickly had the suit made up and the following Sunday appeared at church in a new suit of bed-ticking, of which he felt quite proud.

Mr. Foster continued to reside in Ohio, working by the day and month and also engaged in cultivating rented land until 1832. Notwithstanding his meager wages and the small amount received for his farm produce, at the expiration of this time he found himself the proud possessor of money and property amounting to \$1,884. Before his marriage he purchased a tract of land in Meigs Township, Muskingum County, and after he had secured his partner he settled upon this and was engaged in general farming the following eight years. He then sold out and removed to Guernsey County, where he opened a general store in the little town of Cumberland. He purchased his goods in the city of New York, visiting that city and making his purchases in person, and continued in trade for three years enjoying good success. His health failed, however, and he disposed of his stock and located upon a farm near Cumberland, Guernsey County. In 1859, leaving his son in charge of the farm, he embarked in the grain business, buying and shipping to Chicago. He followed this for a year when he returned to Ohio, from which in 1866 he removed to McLean County, Ill. He owns a farm of 940 acres in Drummond Grove Township, Ford Co., which

he personally superintends, spending most of his summers at the latter place.

John Foster was united in marriage with Miss Celia A. Ballou on the 9th of August, 1832. Mrs. Foster is a native of Muskingum County, Ohio, and was born June 27, 1812. Her father, Welcome Ballou, was a native of Smithfield, R. I. Of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. F. there have been born the following children—John Mather and Eliza J. The latter is the wife of Joshua R. McClelland, of Champaign County, Ill. Mrs. Foster is connected with the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. She is a most estimable lady and in character and disposition is well fitted to be the life partner of such a man as her husband. John Foster is what may properly be styled a self-made man. He possessed in early manhood great natural ability and genius and to these he added as the years went by, the qualities of resolution and courage and method and system in his business transactions. Of these he kept a running account with great exactness and at the end of each year had determined his income and outlay and the value of the property which he possessed. At the end of his journey from Indiana to Ohio which he had pursued on foot as we have related, his entire property consisted of one suit of clothes valued at \$1 and his indebtedness was \$4.31. In January, 1838, his property inventoried at \$15,000.84; on the 1st of January, 1847, \$28,664; in 1858, \$73,682; in 1868, \$122,900. Mr. Foster, now eighty years old, is still hale and hearty, transacting his business with the same systematic care and correctness as ever and increasing each year the sum total of his wealth.

The son of the gentleman of whom we have been writing, John Mather Foster, was reared in Guernsey County, Ohio, educated in the district schools, and at the age of twenty years commenced teaching, which he followed for a brief time and then engaged in farming pursuits. He remained with his father until his marriage and the latter presented him with 150 acres of land in Licking County, Ohio. This latter he rented out and remained with his father until 1866, when they removed to Illinois. He is now the possessor of 800 acres of land, all finely improved and cultivated, supplied with a good brick residence and all necessary out-build-

ings for the storing of grain and the shelter of stock. To the raising of the latter he has given much time and careful attention and exhibits some of the finest animals in this section of the Prairie State.

The subject of this history was married on the 15th of January, 1861, in Ohio, to Miss Electa B. Moore, a native of Morgan County, that State. She became the mother of one child, Charles M., and departed this life on the 20th of June, 1864.

The second marriage of Mr. Foster was with Miss Alice King and took place on the 1st of April, 1868. William King, the father of the present Mrs. Foster, was a native of Pennsylvania and came to McLean County, Ill., at an early day, settling in Bloomington Township, where he improved a farm and remained the balance of his lifetime. His wife was Miss Ann Van Nostin, of Ohio, and born in Hamilton County. She still lives on the old homestead in Bloomington Township. Mrs. Alice Foster was born in McLean County, Ill., and of this union there have been born four children—John S., Loren K., Ivan V. and Alice B. Mr. Foster is Republican in politics and in all respects is fulfilling the duties and obligations of a good citizen.

**CAPT. A. C. SWEETSER**, ex-Deputy Collector of Internal Revenue, having his residence in Bloomington, has been a resident of this section since 1859, and has built for himself a record as an honest man and a good citizen. He is a native of Cumberland County, Me., where he was born in 1836, and is the son of A. P. and Mary (Cox) Sweetser, also natives of that State. The subject of this history came to Bloomington when sixteen years of age, and engaged to learn the trade of a miller, at which he continued until the outbreak of the late Rebellion. He was among the first to offer his services to preserve the Union, enlisting in April, 1861, in Co. C, 8th Ill. Vol. Inf., it being the first company raised in McLean County. After serving his first term of enlistment he re-enlisted, and remained in the army until the close of the war, being a member of Co. B, 39th Ill. Vol. Inf. He entered the army as a private,

but in 1864 received a Captain's commission. At the battle of Wier Bottom Church, near Petersburg, Va., on June 2, 1864, he lost his left leg by a gunshot wound.

At the close of the war he returned to Bloomington, and in 1874 was appointed Deputy Collector of Internal Revenue, the duties of which he performed in a creditable and satisfactory manner until the change of administration. Mr. Sweetser is Republican in politics, is Department Commander of the G. A. R. of Illinois, and a member of the I. O. O. F., the K. of P., the Red Men and the Seven Wise Men.

**A** S. DUNING. The homestead of this successful farmer and stock-grower is beautifully located in Padua Township, which occupies a position in the second tier from the south line of McLean County. Here he has 240 acres of finely cultivated land, provided with handsome and substantial farm buildings, and indicating in all its appointments the exercise of cultivated taste and ample means. He took possession of it in 1864, his first purchase being 160 acres, to which he has added since that time, and has now one of the finest farm estates in this part of the county.

Mr. Duning was born in Mourue County, Ind., Nov. 28, 1833, and is the son of John M. and Sallie (Wampler) Duning. The father was of Kentucky stock, and born in the Blue Grass regions. He went to Indiana while yet a young man, before his marriage. The mother of our subject was a native of Virginia. After their marriage John Duning and his wife removed to Illinois, and made their home in Padua Township until their death. The parental household included eight children, two sons and six daughters.

Mr. Duning of this sketch was the sixth child of his parents, and received his education in his native county. He was married on the 3d of December, 1885, in Monroe County, Ind., to Mrs. Caroline (Whisnau) Parks, who was born near Bloomington, Ind., March 16, 1851, and was the youngest child of William C. and Elizabeth (Wolfe) Whisnau, ua-





Harrison Howard



Ely J. Howard



tives respectively of Virginia and Tennessee. They were married and shortly afterward located in Monroe County, Ind., where the mother died in 1873, aged sixty-five years. The father is still living on the old homestead, being now eighty years of age. Mrs. Duning was reared and educated in her native county, and by her first marriage, with Joseph Parks, became the mother of two children—Walter and Cora A. Mr. Parks was born in Monroe County, Ind., and died there Nov. 11, 1883, having been a successful farmer and business man. Mr. Duning, by a former marriage, became the father of three children, one of whom, Sallie, is deceased. Those living are Mollie B., the wife of Mathew Richardson, a prosperous farmer of Padua Township, and Lewis, who is at home. Mr. Duning is a staunch adherent of the Democratic party, and an important factor in the business and agricultural interests of his township.



**H**ARRISON HOUSER, who for the last thirty-five years has been an honored resident of McLean County, and most of the time successfully engaged in farming and stock-raising, is located on section 16, Randolph Township. His fine homestead comprises 260 acres of valuable land, splendidly improved, well supplied with water and adapted to the growth of all the cereals known to this climate. It is located on the road leading from Heyworth to Bloomington, and invariably attracts the eye of the traveler through this section. The family residence is a fine structure, and the barns and out-buildings are in keeping with a first-class farm estate.

When Mr. Houser came to this county, which was in the year 1852, and took possession of this place, it was only partly improved, and its present high condition of cultivation has been brought about by the exercise of persevering industry, and the rare good judgment with which our subject is gifted. He has been unusually fortunate in his business transactions and by his straightforward methods and courteous manner in all his dealings has gained the good-will of his fellow-citizens and associates.

Harrison Houser was born in Jessamine County,

Ky., Sept. 15, 1830. His father, Peter Houser, was also a Kentuckian by birth, but of German ancestry. His grandfather, Abraham Houser, came directly from Rhenish Germany, and located in Maryland, where it is supposed he was married. He also officiated there as a Dunkard minister for some years, and lived there until after all his children were born, and then removed with his family to Kentucky and settled in Jessamine County. This removal occurred about the beginning of the present century. There Abraham Howser, Sr., lived for many years and was engaged as a miller, erecting a mill in Jessamine County as early as 1807. While on a visit to Clermont County, Ohio, he departed this life at a ripe old age. He was a man of great force of character, and was held in high respect by those who knew him. His son Abraham went to Kentucky with his parents, and was there married to Miss Elizabeth Trisler, who was of German parentage. They remained in Jessamine County for a number of years, this son also being engaged as a miller. He followed his trade there until 1835, and then with his family came to Illinois and located on Sugar Creek in Logan County. They lived there until the death of Abraham, Jr., and his wife Elizabeth, at an advanced age. They were prominent and useful members of the community, and reared their children to those principles of honor and honesty which they had made the rule of their own lives. Of these there were nine in number, all born in Kentucky, and have the following names—Nancy, Peter, Jonathan, Elizabeth, Susan, Katie, John, Abraham and Mary A. All lived to mature years and all were married, but only one is now living, the youngest of the family, who became the wife of William Longworth and resides in Bloomington.

Peter Houser, the second child of the aforesaid family and the father of our subject, like his father before him also became a miller. Later he became a manufacturer of rope and bagging and other articles, in the making of which hemp was utilized. After abandoning this he engaged in farming. He came to McLean County in March, 1853, which remained his home until his death, which occurred ten years later. He lived up to the training given him by his excellent parents, and like them enjoyed

the confidence and respect of all who knew him. He was a Whig politically in early life, but later became a staunch adherent of the Republican party. He was a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church for many years. His wife, formerly Miss Sarah Hornie, of Jessamine County, Ky., was of German ancestry and born Aug. 9, 1808. She is a lady of great force of character, who has taken good care of her physical health, and at the age of seventy-nine years retains her faculties to a remarkable degree. She now makes her home with her son, our subject. For many years she has been a worthy member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The parental household included five children, all living, namely: Margaret lives with her brother, our subject; Mary J. was the wife of R. J. Smith, a farmer of Jessamine County, Ky., but now deceased; Harrison was the third child; Malinda married William Rayburn, of Kansas City, Mo., who operates a stockyard at that place; Peter married Miss Emeline Gault, who died in February, 1874.

Mr. Houser, whose name heads this sketch, was reared in his native county, and remained with his parents until twenty-one years of age. He came to this county in 1852, and has since made this his home. He was married, Oct. 1, 1857, to Miss Eliza Hoover, at the home of the bride's parents in Felicity, Clermont Co., Ohio. She was born in that county, Oct. 16, 1835, and is the daughter of John and Elizabeth (Houser) Hoover. The father was a native of Maryland, the mother of Jessamine County, Ky. After their marriage they settled in Ohio, but the father spent his last days with his daughter, Mrs. Houser, in this county, where he died in 1884, aged eighty-seven years. She received careful home training by most excellent parents, and remained with them until 1854, when she came to McLean County and was engaged as a teacher for some time before her marriage.

Mr. and Mrs. Houser have become the parents of five children, as follows: Flora married Mr. F. E. Orendorff, of this county, and they are living on a farm in Bloomington Township; Agnes became the wife of F. O. Lash, also a farmer of said township; Anna, Eva and Melvin are at home. Mrs. H. and her daughter Agnes are members of

the Methodist Episcopal Church. Our subject is Republican in politics, and was Justice of the Peace for a number of years. He has in all respects fulfilled the duties of a good citizen and receives his reward in the respect and esteem of his neighbors and associates. That he has made life a success is due to his untiring energy and application, combined with careful management of his affairs. His is an hospitable home where is always found an abundance of the best, and at his board friends and acquaintances are always welcome. The accompanying portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Houser represent the features of one of the most highly esteemed couples in this county.



**W**ILLIAM WILEY, an old and highly esteemed resident of Colfax, this county, now retired from the active labors of life, is a native of Garrard County, Ky., and was born Aug. 24, 1813. His grandfather, William Wiley, Sr., a native of Maryland, was a farmer by occupation and married Miss Sarah Royston. They emigrated to Kentucky at an early day and thence to Indiana. Among their children was a son, John, who became the father of our subject. He was born in Maryland, and being reared to agricultural pursuits, followed farming in a modest way all his life. The wife of his choice was formerly Miss Hannah Sampson, whose family removed from Maryland to Kentucky in the early history of the latter State. They became the parents of five sons and five daughters, all of whom lived to become men and women, married, and had families of their own, except a son and daughter who died before reaching their majority.

William Wiley was the second child and eldest son of his parents and was about five years of age when they removed from his native State to Indiana. They located first in Switzerland County, and thence, in 1834, removed to McLean County, Ill., first stopping in Martin, and a few years later removed to Money Creek Township. There they settled on a farm which remained the home of the parents until their decease, the death of the mother occurring previous to that of the father. After the

death of his mother, William Wiley, in the fall of 1841, was united in marriage with Miss Nancy Hopkins, a native of Indiana, and the daughter of Robert and Mila (Bartholomew) Hopkins. Mr. Wiley and his bride settled on a farm in Martin Township, this county, one mile west of what is now the town site of Colfax. Here they resided forty years, thence removing into the village of Colfax, in February, 1882. They had a family of seven children, consisting of five sons and two daughters—John, Robert, Joseph, William, James, Mila and Nancy. Three of the sons served as Union soldiers in the late war. Robert died at Vicksburg in 1863; John served three years, returned unharmed, and is now deceased; Joseph enlisted at the age of sixteen, and served eighteen months, and is now farming in Nebraska; Mila, the eldest daughter, became the wife of S. Smith, and Nancy married L. Fincham; both live in Martin Township. Mr. and Mrs. Wiley are prominent members of the Methodist Church, Mrs. Wiley having been a member fifty-six years. Their son William is a minister of the Methodist Church, and is at present stationed at Lewistown, Fulton County, this State.



**J**OHN FLETCHER, of Blue Mound Township, is a native of the British Empire, and emigrated from his native England to the United States in 1851. He is the son of Michael and Mary (Johnson) Fletcher, also natives of England, in which country the father met with an accidental death. After coming to this country the mother made her home in Bloomington Township where she died within less than one year thereafter. The parental household included eleven children, nine of whom came to America.

The subject of this history was born Sept. 11, 1823, and from the time he was twenty-one years old until he started for America, two years later, was engaged in farming, and burning and drawing coke. He reached New York City in the spring of 1851, and then went to Canada, but after a few weeks returned to the States and stopped at Youngstown, Ohio. After a short stay there he went to Delaware, Ohio, where he remained nearly one year

and a half. From there he came to this county in the fall of 1853, making the trip from Delaware, Ohio, to Bloomington, Ill., with a horse team. Upon arriving in Bloomington, he had only about nine cents in cash, but his team was worth about \$150. He employed himself for the first four months in chopping wood. The following spring he rented a farm in Bloomington Township, upon which he remained two years, then removed into the city and engaged in hauling wood and at other occupations where he could employ his team. After a while he took up his abode in Normal Township whence he removed to Towanda Township, where he rented a farm which he operated for eight years following. In 1867 he purchased 200 acres of land in Blue Mound Township, on section 19, where he has since lived.

Mr. Fletcher is a striking example of the self-made man. Upon coming into this vicinity, as it has been seen, he was comparatively without means. His industry and energy, however, secured him friends from the start, while his honesty and integrity retained them. He has been prospered remarkably in his undertakings, and is now the possessor of 350 acres of valuable land under a fine state of cultivation. Upon this he has a fine set of farm buildings and everything pertaining to a modern country estate. Himself and family are surrounded by all the comforts and enjoy many of the luxuries of life. They have a wide circle of warm friends, and in all respects may be reckoned among the best citizens of this wealthy and populous county. Fletcher Station was named after our subject. He has proved himself a skillful and progressive farmer, and of late years, in addition to the raising of grain and other farm products, has turned his attention to the breeding of fine horses, his favorite being the Clydesdale.

Mr. Fletcher was married in the county of Durham, England, May 1, 1848, to Miss Ruth, daughter of George and Elizabeth (Taylor) Robson, natives of England. Mrs. Fletcher was born in Durham County, England, March 17, 1832, and of her union with our subject there have been born twelve children, seven of whom are living. The record is as follows: Elizabeth, the eldest, became the wife of Charles Krause, and resides in Bloomington, Ill.;

William married Miss Laura Shuck, and John, who married Miss Ellen Maxwell, resides in Dakota; Mary, Mrs. Maywood Bid-llc, is a resident of Money Creek Township; George F. married Miss Aliee Lambert, and is farming in Blue Mound Township; David married Miss Edna Biddle, and lives in Normal Township; Howard is at home with his parents. With one exception, those deceased died in infancy; Michael died in Blue Mound Township when twenty years of age. Mr. Fleteher is an earnest supporter of the Republican party, and has filled with credit the minor offices of the township.



**R**USH WIRT, tile manufacturer and coal dealer at Saybrook, this county, was born in Highland County, Ohio, in 1848. He is the son of James and Margaret (Newman) Wirt, natives of Virginia, the former born in 1792, and the latter in 1807. They were married in 1822. James Wirt followed the joint vocations of lawyer, bricklayer and farmer, in all of which he was proficient. The young people remained in Virginia after their marriage about six years, and thence removed into Highland County, Ohio, where the father of our subject followed bricklaying and farming, and in due time became owner of 100 acres of land, which he cultivated, with the assistance of his sons, until it became quite valuable. He remained in Ohio until 1850, then desiring to remove still further westward, came into the Prairie State, locating in Bloomington, this county, for a short time, and then purchased 280 acres of land. To this he subsequently added until at the time of his death, in 1868, he was the owner of 400 acres. The mother died one month after the decease of her husband. Included in the property of James Wirt was the Dawson farm, upon which was made one of the first settlements in McLean County, and which in early days was frequently used by the Indians as a camping-ground.

The parental family of our subject included nine children, the record of whom is as follows: William married Ella Reid; Mary is deceased; John

married Miss Almarinda Minton, of Padua Township, and still resides there; Catherine, the wife of W. S. Vandervoort, is a resident of Padua Township; Ellen married John M. Stipp, of Arrowsmith Township; James B. married Miss Hettie Howell; Addie A. became the wife of Austin M. Kimler; Rush, of our sketch, was the seventh child; Florence, Mrs. William Clarke, is a resident of Nebraska. Mr. Wirt was a good citizen in all that the term implies, having held the office of Supervisor and various other positions within the gift of his townsmen. He was a straightforward Republican, and both parents were members in good standing of the Methodist Church.

Rush Wirt remained under the home roof until he attained his majority, reared to farming pursuits and educated in the common schools. He afterward operated for himself on the old homestead, finally purchasing 100 acres, upon which he farmed for five years, and then engaged in the manufacture of drain tile in Saybrook for nine years following. In the meantime he also handled considerable coal, and has been uniformly successful in his business transactions. Besides being interested in the manufacture of drain tile, Mr. Wirt owns a handsome residence, situated on State street, and also has 480 acres of land in Kansas.

The marriage of Mr. Wirt with Miss Arminta Hoshaw took place at the home of the bride's parents in 1878. Mrs. Wirt is the daughter of James and Elizabeth (Day) Hoshaw, of Ohio, whence they afterward removed to Illinois and then to Iowa. After a few years spent in the Hawkeye State Mrs. Hoshaw returned to Ohio on a visit, and there died in 1869. Mr. H. still survives, and is now a resident of Iowa. They were the parents of four children—America, Arminta, Matilda and Martha. Mr. Hoshaw was married the second time, to Mrs. Evaline Gregory, the issue being one child, a son, James.

Rush Wirt and wife are both prominently connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church of Saybrook, to which they contribute liberally and cheerfully. Mr. Wirt belongs to the Masonic fraternity and the K. of P. He assisted in organizing Arrowsmith Lodge No. 737, of which he was Secretary for eighteen months, and held all the of-

fices in his lodge until his removal from Arrow-smith. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Wirt are as follows: Lelia E., born Nov. 9, 1879; Herman C., in 1881, and Ethel T., June 19, 1883.



**T**HOMAS ARNOLD, one of the substantial and progressive farmers of Blue Mound Township, comes of excellent German and Irish ancestry, and is the son of Joseph and Elisabeth (Sloan) Arnold, natives of Virginia, where the father followed farming and merchandising. The old folk remained in the Old Dominion and there spent the greater part of their lives, both dying there, at an advanced age. Their six children were Zachariah, Thomas, Richard, George, Ann and Peter.

Thomas Arnold was born in what is now known as Mineral County, W. Va., May 24, 1829. He was reared on his father's farm and remained under the parental roof until 1855. In February of the year named he set his face toward the great West, and came into this county, and purchasing 160 acres of land on section 27; Blue Mound Township, set about the establishment of a homestead for himself. For two years, in company with his brother Zachariah, he kept bachelor's hall, and then decided to obtain a housekeeper, who would be both a companion and helpmeet. He was accordingly married on the 12th of November, 1857, to Miss Sarah J. R. Smith, who was born in Boone County, Ky., Aug. 16, 1833, and was the daughter of Nathan and Fannie (Kendrick) Smith, natives of Kentucky. Nathan Smith died in his native State, when seventy-four years of age. The mother having arrived at the advanced age of ninety-three years, makes her home with our subject. Mrs. Arnold was about twenty-three years old when she came to this county. Of her marriage with our subject there were born eight children. Joseph, the eldest, married Miss Mary E. Wilhoite, and resides in Lexington Township; Christian S. married Miss Maggie Williams and is farming in Blue Mound Township. The others are Elisabeth, William, Richard V., George B., Thomas, Jr., and Fannie M.

The homestead of Mr. Arnold includes 240 acres of finely improved land, with a good set of farm buildings. Of late years he has been chiefly engaged in stock-raising, turning his attention mostly to Durham cattle. Of the former he keeps about twenty-five head and his stables contain about ten head of horses and colts.

When Mr. Arnold first came to this county, there were few settlers within sight of his home; wolves were plenty and he often got up in the night to set his dogs upon the mischievous prowlers. He is thoroughly acquainted with the trials and privations of pioneer life, and has contributed his full share to the development and prosperity of this section. He is held in great respect by his fellow-citizens and has been the incumbent of various offices in his township, serving as Justice of the Peace four years. Mr. and Mrs. A. are worthy members of the Christian Church, and our subject in politics is independent.



**M**ARTIN SHEPHERD, Justice of the Peace at Chenoa, was born on a farm in Otsego County, N. Y., on the 27th of July, 1833.

He is the son of William and Taey (Birdsall) Shepherd, natives of New York State. The grandfather of our subject, Henry Shepherd, who of was of Irish parentage and ancestry, served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War. William, his son, the father of our subject, was reared to farming pursuits, and spent his early years in his native county. The household circle consisted of five sons and two daughters; two of the sons are deceased.

Martin Shepherd, who was the youngest but one of his parents' family, spent his childhood and youth on his father's farm, and received a practical education. When seventeen years of age he commenced teaching, and was thus employed during the winter season for fifteen years, while he worked on the farm during the summers. He came to Illinois in 1860 and located in Chenoa, where he first engaged in teaching, and afterward in the real-estate business. In 1865 he was elected Justice of the Peace, which position he has since held.

During the late war Mr. Shepherd enlisted as a

Union soldier, in Co. C, 72d Ill. Vol. Inf., whence he was soon afterward transferred to Co. C, 33d Ill. Vol. Inf. He took part in the engagement at Spanish Fort, Ft. Blakesley and Mobile, and various minor engagements and skirmishes. He performed his part bravely and faithfully as a soldier, and received his honorable discharge at the close of the war, being mustered out in 1865. Soon afterward he returned to Chenoa, and a few months later was elected to his present office. He has also served as Notary Public for the past twenty years.

Mr. Shepherd was married on the 3d of September, 1861, to Miss M. F. McMahan, of Chenoa, who was born in Kentucky, Aug. 15, 1841. Of this union there were born two children—Howard Logan and Frank Birdsall. Mr. Shepherd owns a pleasant home in the village, and is universally esteemed wherever known.



**L**ASALLE STOOPS, senior member of the firm of Stoops & Ellington, manufacturers of tile at Colfax, is a native of the Prairie State, and was born in Ipava, Fulton County, Sept. 19, 1858. He is the son of Samuel A. and Ellen (Clannon) Stoops. Samuel Stoops was a native of Kentucky, but removed with his parents, when but four years of age, to Indiana, settling near Indianapolis. The mother was a native of Ohio. The father of our subject came into Illinois while a single man and located in Fulton County, where he married and lived until 1867. In that year he came to McLean County and took up his residence in Blue Mound Township, where he now resides. The parental household included two sons and three daughters, of whom LaSalle of our sketch was the second child. He was eight years of age when he came to this county with his parents.

In the spring of 1880 Mr. Stoops of this notice located in Colfax, and since that time has been connected with the tile works here. He first entered into partnership with W. G. Anderson, Sr., with whom he continued for eighteen months when Mr. Anderson disposed of his interest to Edward F. Pochel. Subsequently Mr. Pochel withdrew and the brother-in-law of our subject, Henry W. Elling-

ton, assumed the place which he had occupied in the firm. The factory proper covers an area of 32x120 feet, two stories in height, besides a dry house 20x80 feet, also with two floors. Both members of the firm are straightforward, energetic business men, and their manufactory has become an important institution among the industrial interests of this section.

The subject of our sketch was married, in 1878, to Miss Libbie Brown, of Old Town Township, and the daughter of A. C. Brown, who is now a resident of Berlin, Wis. Mrs. Stoops departed this life on the 9th of October, 1886. She was a lady greatly esteemed by all who knew her, for her many amiable traits of character. They had no children.



**W**ILLIE VANORDSTRAND, of Randolph Township, engaged in farming and stock-raising, owns and occupies a fine homestead of 160 acres on section 6, township 21 north, range 2 west, his land being finely improved and under a good state of cultivation. He has all the accessories of a first-class farm estate. The residence is substantial and tasteful, a model of comfort and convenience. His barns are well built and shapely and especially arranged for the care and shelter of stock and the storing of grain. His farming implements and machinery are after the most approved plans. It is evident that our subject takes pride in his business from the thrifty appearance of his fine farm.

Mr. Vanordstrand was born on his father's homestead in Randolph Township, Nov. 20, 1855; a sketch of his father's family will be found in another part of this work. Willie was reared at home and pursued his early studies in the district schools of Randolph Township, and afterward attended the university at Lincoln, Ill. He remained at home until his marriage, which occurred Nov. 22, 1876, at the residence of the bride's parents in Heyworth, the maiden of his choice being Miss Nannie M., the daughter of Joseph K. and Malvira (Hampton) Noble, natives of Ohio, whence Mr. N. came to this State and was afterward married in McLean County. He may be properly classed as

one of the pioneer settlers, having come to this county in 1831, and which has remained his home since that time. He is still living, and makes his home with his son, Dr. C. M. Noble, and also spends considerable time with his daughter, the wife of our subject. He is now quite aged.

Mrs. Vanordstrand was born in Rándolph Township, this county, Dec. 26, 1858, and was here reared and educated, remaining with her parents until her marriage. Of her union with our subject there have been born five children—Charles V., Carl N., Dora, Floy and Fay. Mr. and Mrs. V. removed to their present home shortly after their marriage, and our subject has greatly improved its condition since he came into possession of it. Mrs. V. is a member in good standing of the Presbyterian Church. Our subject is Democratic in politics, and a member of the I. O. O. F., Lodge No. 483, of Heyworth.



**J**R. WHITE, of Bloomington, is at present conducting a prosperous trade in stoves and tinware at No. 606 North Main street, and as one of the business men of that city is contributing his share toward maintaining its progress and reputation. Mr. White is a native of Pittsburgh, Pa., and was born Sept. 8, 1842. His parents were James M. and Elinore (Brown) White, also natives of the Keystone State. His father was a wholesale dealer in clothing and died in 1854. The mother is living in Kansas with her daughter Mary, now Mrs. Wallae. The parental family consists of four children, viz: John B. of Bloomington, James M., Mary, and Margaret, Mrs Colwell, of Kansas. James M. White was a Class-leader of the Methodist Church for many years, and a useful and highly respected member of the community where he lived.

The subject of this biography left the parental roof at eleven years of age, and going to Kansas was variously employed for a number of years, and then went to learn the tinner's trade, at which he served three years. The war then coming on, he enlisted as a soldier of the Union, in Co. A, 12th Kan. Vol. Inf., became First Sergeant and served

three years. He was in the battles at Red River, Pine Bluff, Wilson Creek, Memphis and Columbia, Tenn., and received his honorable discharge at the close of the war. He then returned to Kansas and after working a year at his trade engaged in business in the southern part of the State. In 1868 he came to Bloomington, worked at his trade until 1886, and then established his present business.

In 1872, Mr. White was married to Miss Harriet, the daughter of George and Maria (Johnson) Fogle, natives respectively of Maryland and Ohio. She was born in Zanesville, Ohio, in 1852. Her father removed from Maryland to Ohio when a young man, and after his marriage located in Old Town Township, McLean Co., Ill., where he engaged in farming. Their household circle was completed by the birth of nine children, of whom six are still living: Mary A., now Mrs. Williams, and Isaae are in this State; William, a Methodist minister, is in Missouri; Louisa, Mrs. Rodman, and Jeremiah are in Illinois; Harriet, Mrs. White, is the wife of our subject. The mother died in 1859, in Old Town Township, and the father in 1884, in Le Roy. They were worthy and excellent people and members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which Mr. Fogle was Class-leader and Superintendent of the Sabbath-school for sixty years.

Mr. and Mrs. White are the parents of one child, a son, George H., who was born in 1874. Mr. White is a staneh Republician, and belongs to the G. A. R. and the A. O. U. W.



**W**ILLIAM D. MOORE, who is well known throughout McLean County as one of her foremost citizens and successful agriculturists, has his residence on section 5, of Towanda Township. His parents were Thomas and Martha (Dodson) Moore, natives of Pennsylvania and Kentucky respectively. Prior to this union the elder Moore had been married in Pennsylvania to a Miss McCorkle. They moved to Ohio, where she died. The removal of Thomas Moore to Ohio was during the early settlement of that State, and taking up his residence in Champaign County, he at once entered upon the duties of an active farm

life. These he continued to discharge with his usual energy until in April, 1828, when, returning home from a trip to Cincinnati, where he had taken a load of flour, which had been ground at Springfield having first taken the wheat there, he was seized with fatal illness and died on the 24th of the month, before reaching his family. His widow subsequently came to this county, and after surviving her husband for over forty years, died Dec. 22, 1870, in the village of Towanda.

The father of our subject was a Major in the State militia at the breaking out of the War of 1812, and held his commission in that conflict under the command of Gen. Hull. He was taken a prisoner, together with the entire command, at Detroit, Mich., and transported to Canada. He was afterward paroled and returned home, but had determined to re-enlist, and was upon the point of so doing when the war closed. The parents of our subject had six children, three sons and three daughters, William D. of our sketch being the third in order of birth.

Mr. Moore was born in Champaign County, Ohio, Dec. 27, 1821. He was reared on a farm, and for some years during his early life engaged in milling. When about seventeen years of age he left the old homestead, and after working out for a short time and obtaining a little money he attended school. In fact he took the first money he ever earned for himself and used it for the purpose of obtaining an education, and consequently he claims to-day that he still has the first money he ever made stored away in his mind. After attending school for a time, he made such good progress that he was engaged as a teacher, and continued to perform the duties of a pedagogue for about three years. Judging from his life history, it is obvious that he must have always fully availed himself of all privileges of instruction to which he found access, and a distinguishing characteristic of his is the possession of quickness of mind and talent.

Mr. Moore came to this county from Champaign County, Ohio, in the fall of 1851, and settled in Money Creek Township, where for one year he worked rented land. In the winter of 1852, he purchased eighty acres of land on section 5, Towanda Township, where he has since made his

home. He is the owner of blocks 3, 4, 5 and 6, Towanda Village, and also 240 acres two and one-half miles west of Gilman, Ill., in Iroquois County. He has good improvements on his farms and has the satisfaction of knowing that there has never been a mortgage upon his property or a judgment against him.

Mr. Moore was united in marriage with Miss Mary J., daughter of Charles and Mary Moots, natives of Pennsylvania and Ohio respectively. Her parents after marriage first settled in Logan County, Ohio, whence they removed to Champaign County, the same State. The father died in the former county, and the mother in the latter. Of the children, five sons and four daughters, Mrs. Moore was the fourth in order of birth. She first saw light in Champaign County, Ohio, Jan. 25, 1825. Of her union with our subject eleven children have been born, four of whom died in infancy. The living are Mary E., William T., Warren, Rhoda, John L., Charles and Raphael. Mary is the wife of George J. Rexroth, and they are living in Napoleon, Ohio; William T. married Ellen Cary, and they are residents of Iroquois County, Ill.; Warren became the husband of Miss Mary L. Knowlton, and they live in Onarga, Iroquois Co., Ill.; Rhoda and H. S. Ford were united in marriage and are residents of Atlanta, Ill.; John married Miss Kittie Johnston, and they live in Iroquois County, Ill.; Charles and Miss Luella Leach were married and are at present residing at Ft. Scott, Kan.; Raphael is the only one of the children living at home.

Mr. Moore was appointed the first Postmaster in Towanda, under the administration of President Pierce. He assisted in laying the township out into school districts, and served as Trustee for eight years. He also held the offices of Township Treasurer and Justice of the Peace for four years. He has settled eight different estates during his life, all of them in this county.

About 1857, Mr. Moore formed a partnership with Edwin Reeves, a brother of Judge Reeves of this county, for the purpose of buying, shipping and dealing in grain at Towanda. That partnership existed about two years, when Mr. Moore purchased the interest of his partner and carried on





Wesley H. Haspel



Wm. H. Smith



the business alone until about 1863. In the grain business he was prosperous, making considerable money, but on account of hard work and partial failure of health, he finally wisely retired to his farm within the corporation of Towanda, where he now resides.

Mr. Moore's people are of Welsh parentage. Raphael, the son of our subject, married Miss Mary A. Coons.

He and his good wife became members of the United Brethren Church in the fall of 1852, and our subject has been Trustee of his congregation for many years. Mr. Moore has also been a teacher in the Sunday-school for twenty-five to thirty years. In politics he is a Republican, although it is well known that he voted the first Prohibition ticket that was ever cast in Towanda Village.



**H**IRAM HARBERT, one of the oldest settlers, as well as best known and most highly respected citizens of Bloomington Township, is the owner of 140 acres of valuable land on section 27, most of which is under a good state of cultivation. Mr. Harbert came to this section with his father in the spring of 1824, and most of his time since that date has been spent in Bloomington Township. He was born in Washington County, Ind., July 16, 1814. His father, Joseph B. Harbert, was a native of Kentucky, where he was reared to manhood, and there married Miss Anna Galloway, a native of the same State. Both were of American parentage, and Irish and English descent, respectively. After the birth of a part of their large family, the parents, with three young children, moved northward into Indiana, where they located for a few years, during which time our subject was born. When he was a lad of about nine years old, his parents decided upon another removal and came over into Illinois, locating at first in Sangamon County. Thence they came to McLean, arriving here on the 24th of March, 1821. Their home was in this county for some years thereafter, when the elder Harbert, with a part of his family, removed to Davis County, Iowa, where the parents spent the remainder of their lives. Jo-

seph Harbert was an old-line Whig in politics, a man of much force of character and not afraid to express his views when opportunity presented. Both parents were worthy members of the Christian Church.

Hiram Harbert received his early education in the primitive schools of McLean County, not enjoying the advantages offered to the youth of today, by the splendid educational facilities of this county. The rude log school-house of the early pioneer days has been replaced with a handsome frame or brick structure, which for elegance and beauty of design rivals those of older settled counties. In place of the masters of the early days who were looked up to as superior beings, and were consulted on all matters of law, physics and religion, are teachers of liberal culture, intelligent and progressive, many of whom have a broad and comprehensive idea of education, and regard their labor as something more than merely teaching in order to make a living, more than a knowledge of facts in the universe of mind and matter. It means culture, the development and disciplining of all the faculties of the human mind. While the people of this favored age are enjoying these blessings, they should not forget the struggles of the early pioneer to establish schools for their children. Through the pressure of poverty and privation, at the earliest practical period, the pioneer planted the school-house, and made great sacrifices to sow the seed for the rich harvest now enjoyed.

While a mere boy Hiram began the battle of life, having plenty of hard work, and enjoying few privileges. After arriving at years of manhood he was married to Miss Elizabeth Hendrix, who was the first white child born in McLean County, and who passed from earth many years ago. She was the daughter of John Hendrix, one of the first settlers of the county. Mr. Harbert was again married, in Bloomington Township, to Miss Elizabeth Garr, who was a native of Marion County, Ky., born Sept. 25, 1821. Mrs. Harbert when a young girl fourteen years of age, came to this State with her parents, who at once located in Old Town Township, where they passed the remainder of their lives, and where Mrs. Harbert lived until her marriage. The household circle of our subject and his

wife has been completed by the birth of eight children, two of whom, Lucy A. and Annie, have passed to the silent land; Nathan married Miss Cynthia A. Driscoll, and they live on the old homestead; John, Hester M., George, Malinda and Hiram are at home.

The possessions of our subject have been accumulated by his own industry, and while building up a home with his hands he has also, by his honest and upright course, built for himself a reputation among his neighbors as that of an honest man and a good citizen. With his wife he is a member in good standing of the Christian Church, and in politics is a reliable Republican. Mr. Harbert was Postmaster of Hendrix for ten years, and in other respects has been prominently identified with local affairs. No man has looked upon the development and progress of this great commonwealth of Illinois with greater satisfaction, and as opportunity has occurred, he has given his voice and influence to encourage the establishment of enterprises calculated to add more glory to his adopted State and credit to the county of McLean. For over sixty years Mr. Harbert has lived in this community, indeed, the community has grown up around him. As a venerable patriarch, and one who has done much hard work, and given much valuable aid to the county and to the molding of the character of the people, we take pleasure in giving the portrait of Mr. Harbert in this work.



**W**ILLIAM E. HILTS is a well-known citizen of Money Creek Township, residing upon section 33, and is engaged in general farming. He is the son of William D. and Hannah V. (Ross) Hilts, the former a native of Tompkins County, N. Y., and the latter of New Jersey. The parents located in Hamilton County, Ohio, when they were both quite young, being taken there by their parents. There they developed into maturity, became acquainted with each other and were married, and there the father followed farming until some years after the death of his companion, which event occurred in September, 1852. Subsequently, in 1857, he came to this county and settled on sec-

tion 8, Towanda Township. Living there until the spring of 1874, they moved to Bloomington, where his demise occurred September 28 of that year. Eight children were born to Mr. and Mrs. William D. Hilts, and all lived to attain the age of man and womanhood, namely, Harriett, George, William E., Samuel, Marcus, Minerva, Jane V. and Peter P. The latter died at Bloomington, Ill., when in the nineteenth year of his life; Harriett became the wife of Rev. Robert Conover, of Lexington, Ill.; George is living in Towanda Township; Samuel is engaged in mercantile pursuits at Towanda; Marcens is a farmer of Towanda Township; Minerva is the wife of Rev. Thompson Ewing, and they are living at Blairsville, Indiana Co., Pa.; Jane V. and Dr. Madison H. Rose were united in marriage and they are living at Thorntown, Ind.

The subject of this notice was born in Springfield Township, Hamilton Co., Ohio, July 9, 1837. He received a good education in the common schools and made Hamilton County his home until the fall of 1856. He then came to this county and locating in Towanda Township, was engaged in farming until April, 1863, when he removed to Money Creek Township, and settling on section 23, has there continued his chosen vocation until the present time. He has 170 acres of good land, well improved, with good and substantial buildings upon it.

Mr. Hilts was married in Money Creek Township to Miss Sarah E. Stewart, on the 4th of August, 1859. Her parents were Austin H. and Isabella (Lamme) Stewart; her father was born in Washington County, N. Y., and her mother in Montgomery County, Ohio. The father was a fuller by trade and during the latter part of his life was engaged in farming. They first settled in Dayton County, Ohio, after their marriage, and in 1856 came to this county, and taking up their residence in Money Creek Township, made that their home until they were separated by the death of the wife, which occurred two years after their arrival in the county. He died in 1866. Eight children were born of their union—William J., Sarah E., Mary A., David L. R., Charles F., Thomas C., Henry A. and Austin H. William J. was a practicing physician and died in Union City, Ind.; Mary A. was the wife of J. W. Rockwell and died

in Vinita, Ind. Ter.; David L. R. departed this life at Towanda, in 1855; Charles F. resides in Nashville, Tenn.; Thomas C. is living at Mobile, Ala.; Henry A. died at Ft. Scott, Kan.; Austin H. resides at Nashville, Tenn.

Mrs. Hilts was born at Dayton, Ohio, Jan. 7, 1837, and lived at home until after her marriage with our subject. By her union with Mr. Hilts she has become the mother of six children—Fannie B., Elbert E., Charles A., Roscoe S., William R. and Henry V. Fannie died when eight years old and Elbert when seven. Mr. Hilts has been Supervisor of his township two terms and also Township Assessor and Collector for several terms. In politics he is Republican, and religiously he and his wife are members of the Presbyterian Church.



**G**OTTLIEB ARNOLD, a representative of that sturdy, energetic race which has done so much toward the agricultural development of McLean County, is pleasantly located on his fine farm on section 21, Towanda Township, where he is meeting with more than ordinary success. He is the son of Gottlieb and Johanna (Morlock) Arnold, natives of Germany, in which country they continued to reside until their death. The former was a weaver by trade and followed that calling until his demise. Of the six sons and three daughters born to the parents, our subject was the eldest son. He was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, May 30, 1831.

Early in life Mr. Arnold learned the weaver's trade and labored at the same for three or four years, or until he emigrated to the United States. The voyage to this country was made in 1854, our subject disembarking at New York City and going at once to Lancaster County, Pa. There he worked at farm labor for about a year and a half and then came to Bloomington, this county, living in that city about four years. While there he worked at brickmaking part of the time, afterward engaged in teaming. He then rented a farm and lived on it for about a year, when he removed to another in Towanda Township, which he also rented and successfully cultivated for three years. By this time

he was enabled to purchase eighty acres, which he did and which was located on section 21, Towanda Township, and onto which he moved and has lived until the present time. He erected good buildings on his farm and by economy and hard labor succeeded in saving sufficient to enable him to add to his original purchase and is now the owner of 320 acres of valuable and productive land, all located in Towanda Township.

Mr. Arnold was married at Bloomington, Feb. 17, 1859, to Catherine Blum, born in Germany, Oct. 21, 1833. She came to this country in 1856, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of seven children: William, who married Clara Franke, and is a farmer of Towanda Township; Charles, Kate, George, Mary, Jacob and Carrie. Mr. Arnold has held the office of Overseer of Highways, and also that of School Director. He and his wife are members of the German Methodist Church, and in politics he is a Republican.

A fine lithographic view of the residence, out-buildings and stock on the farm of Mr. Arnold, is shown elsewhere in this work.



**M**ATHEW RICHARDSON, a large land-owner and successful farmer and stockholder of Padua Township, is the possessor of a fine homestead including 350 acres of good land, most of which is on section 11, and thirty acres of it being in timber. The estate is supplied with a fine set of modern farm buildings, a beautiful residence, substantial barn and all other necessary out-buildings. His stock and machinery are of first-class description and everything about the premises indicates the thrift, industry and intelligence of its proprietor. Mr. Richardson has been eminently the architect of his own fortune, his worldly possessions being but \$5 in cash and a suit of clothes, when he first came to this county. By years of industrious toil and good management, he now has a beautiful home, and is enjoying the respect and confidence of a large circle of friends and acquaintances.

When we look at the family history of Mr.

Richardson we are not surprised at what he has accomplished, for he comes of excellent Scottish ancestry, distinguished for their morality, intelligence and industry. He also was a native of Scotland, born in Dumfriesshire, in 1824, and was the seventh child of a family of ten, born to John and Margaret (Lattimer) Richardson, both of whom were born and reared in Dumfriesshire, where they were married and spent their lives. They started out in life with good prospects, and the father for a number of years followed the pursuit of agriculture with remarkable success. He finally lost most of his property as thousands of others have done, by going security for friends and being compelled to make good the bond. The mother died when our subject was but ten years of age, and the father six years after Mathew had come to the United States.

After the death of his mother, our subject continued to remain with his father until his marriage, which took place in his native county in 1850. The maiden of his choice was Miss Christina Nicol, who was born and reared in the same neighborhood where her husband passed his boyhood and youth. After the birth of two children, Margaret and Jane, Mathew Richardson and his wife resolved to emigrate to the United States. After a voyage of five weeks they landed in New York City, whence they came directly to Chicago. In the meantime our subject had his pocket-book stolen, which, with the exception of twenty-five cents, contained all his money. The contents of the pocket-book, however, he remarks, would have seemed a very small sum to a rich man. He fortunately met a friend in Chicago with whom he remained six weeks and obtained such employment as his hands could find to do. Then he journeyed to Bloomington, this county, arriving here with \$5 in his pocket. He rented a tract of land and operated on rented land for several years until he was able to secure a farm of his own. His first purchase was 160 acres on section 13, Belleflower Township. This he sold in 1867 and purchased eighty acres which constitutes a part of his present homestead. Besides his possessions in this county he has a quarter section of improved land in Lancaster County, Neb.

Mr. and Mrs. Richardson became the parents of twelve children: Margaret, Jane, Agnes (deceased),

Mary, John, Jennette, William, Mathew, Archibald, Thomas, George, and one who died unnamed. Two sons and all the daughters are married. They are regular attendants of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and our subject politically is a solid Republican.



**S**AMUEL S. GALBRAITH, of Chenoa Township, is one of its most prominent and successful farmers, and the proprietor of 240 acres of valuable land, located on section 18. Of late years he has been giving his attention chiefly to the breeding of Short-horn cattle and Norman horses, and has gained an enviable reputation in this department of business.

Many of the early settlers of this region, to whom it has been indebted for its rapid and substantial growth and progress, have emigrated from the Keystone State. Mr. Galbraith also claims this State as his birthplace. He was born near Cannonsburg, Pa., Oct. 17, 1833, and is the son of Charles and Isabella (Miller) Galbraith, natives of the North of Ireland. The mother came to this country in 1811, with her people, who took passage on an English vessel and made their first landing at Halifax, Nova Scotia. There they were detained until after the War of 1812. After their release they went to Philadelphia, Pa., and after tarrying a short time in the Quaker City, removed to Washington County. The father of our subject emigrated to America after the close of the War of 1812, and first stopped in Philadelphia. He was married in Washington County, that State, and remained in that locality until 1850, then removed to Harrison County, Ohio, locating upon a farm, where he and his good wife spent the remainder of their days.

Of the eleven children of Charles and Isabella Galbraith, nine lived to maturity, and six still survive. Of these, Samuel of our sketch was the fifth in order of birth, and grew to manhood in the Buckeye State. He received a fair education in the district schools and when nearly twenty-seven years of age was united in marriage with Miss Albina Hazelett, of Harrison County, Ohio. In 1865 he removed to Illinois and located upon his pres-

ent farm in this county. Here he has steadily followed the industrious and temperate habits to which he was trained by most excellent parents, and has become one of the most valued citizens of this section. Mr. and Mrs. G. are the parents of one child, a son, Charles S. Mr. G. is Republican in politics, and his wife is a member of the United Brethren Church.



**E**DWIN H. BURBANK, who owns a quarter section of finely improved land on section 34, in Blue Mound Township, is a native of Java, Wyoming Co., Y. Y., and was born March 16, 1841. He is the son of Alden C. and Eliza (Salter) Burbank, the former a native of Massachusetts, and the latter of Vermont. Alden C. Burbank was born Oct. 21, 1814, and his wife May 22, 1815. After marriage they settled on a farm in Wyoming County, where the father cultivated the soil and continued to reside until his death, which occurred April 10, 1886, when seventy-one years of age. The mother is still living on the old homestead in Wyoming County. Their five children were, Seth H., Edwin H., Julia A., Medusa S. and Llewellyn R.

The father of our subject owned a small farm and upon this Edwin was reared, and received a good common-school education. He made his home with his parents until he was twenty-three years old, but in the meantime was employed at whatever his hands could find to do, for the people in that vicinity. He was then married and worked out for two years thereafter, then went to Freedom, Cattaraugus County, N. Y., where he purchased a farm of fifty acres. There he lived with his family about two years, then sold out and came to Decatur where, after two months he purchased a farm in company with his brother-in-law, C. J. Frink, in Moultrie County, Ill. He lived there one year, and in March, 1869, came to McLean County and rented land in Old Town Township for seven years. He then, in the spring of 1876, came to Blue Mound Township and settled on section 34, where he now owns 160 acres of fertile land which he has brought to a fine state of cultivation. Here he has a good dwelling and all the out-buildings required

by the progressive and first-class farmer. Mr. Burbank has been a leading man in his community; was Highway Commissioner for nine years, School Director and also School Trustee. Politically he is a reliable Republican, and is fulfilling all the obligations of a good citizen.

Mr. Burbank was married in Arcade, Wyoming Co., N. Y., March 29, 1864, to Miss Isadore, daughter of John B. and Harriet (Wells) Frink. (See sketch of John B. Frink, of Old Town Township). Mrs. B. was the fifth of a family of eight children and was born in Arcade, then known as China, Wyoming Co., N. Y., July 25, 1842, where she lived until her marriage. Of this union there have been born two children—Harriet E., Aug. 2, 1866, and Grant, Nov. 4, 1868.



**D**R. J. HALLETT, a successful homeopathic physician of Bloomington, is located at No. 211 North Main street, and since his residence here, which embraces a period of thirty years, has established himself in the confidence and esteem of his fellow townsmen, both as a practitioner and citizen.

Dr. Hallett was born in England, in the year 1843, being the son of James M. and Lydia S. Hallett, natives of the same country. The younger days of our subject were passed under the home roof and in attendance at a select school until nine years of age, when his parents emigrated to America and settled in Walnut Hills, Ohio, where our subject pursued his studies in the public schools until 1857. The family then removed further westward to the Prairie State, and located in Bloomington, where their son prosecuted his studies in the First Ward public school for two years. He then went to Belleville, in the southern part of the State whence, after one year he returned to Bloomington, and remained until the outbreak of the late war. He then enlisted in Capt. Harvey's company, but after going to Springfield was rejected on account of his youth. He tried it again, however, in August following, and this time became a member of Co. B, 39th Ill. Vol. Inf., serving until the close of the war, and was mustered

out in December, 1865. He entered service as a private, but was promoted Sergeant and afterward commanded his company from August, 1864, until April 2, 1865, the senior officers being in the hospital on account of wounds received in battle.

From the close of the war until 1872, Dr. Hallett was engaged in business at Bloomington and Heyworth, and soon afterward was appointed Deputy Circuit Clerk, which office he held three years. He then took up the study of medicine with Dr. H. B. Wright, of Bloomington, and entered Hahnenann College, from which he graduated on the 21st of February, 1878. He then practiced medicine two years in Pekin, Ill., and since that time, in Bloomington.

Dr. Hallett was married in Pekin in 1881, to Miss Ella, the daughter of H. M. and Elizabeth (Ledtermann) Rodenbeek. Mr. R. was of German birth and ancestry, and Mrs. R., of German parentage but born in America. Of this union there have been born two children—James C. and Henry A. Dr. Hallett is a member of the I. O. O. F. and G. A. R., and socially as well as professionally occupies a position in the front ranks.

**J**OHN McCUNE, deceased, was one of the pioneer settlers of Chenoa Township, and a man greatly respected for his excellent traits of character and his worthy qualities as a citizen, neighbor and friend. He was born on a farm in Cumberland County, Pa., Feb. 11, 1829, and was the son of John and Mary A. (Wilson) McCune, natives of the Keystone State. The father of our subject died when the latter was but six years of age. This sad event left the mother a widow with seven children, of whom our subject was the third. The brothers and sisters of Mr. McCune are as follows: William C. died when about sixty-seven years of age; Elizabeth became the wife of S. Barr, of Iowa; Mary A., Mrs. James Sharp, is now deceased; Nellie married John Quigley, of Newburg, Pa.; Naney died in youth; Haddassah E. was married to Joel Hicks, and lives in Ohio; Rosanna married James H. W. Moore; Sarah

J. married John Bush, of McLean County, Ill., and Margaret, Mrs. Thompson Clemens, lives in Chenoa.

During his childhood John McCune attended the common schools of his native town, and remained with his mother until reaching his majority. The gold fever being then at its height he started across the plains to California, accompanied by J. A. C. McCune, an attorney of Shippensburg, Pa., and after reaching that State engaged in mining near Sacramento. After an absence of three years and nine months he returned to his old home in Pennsylvania, and Oct. 6, 1853, was married to Miss Annie G. Kelley, of Cumberland County. They located on the old homestead farm, near Oakville, Cumberland Co., Pa., and two years afterward our subject visited Illinois and purchased a half section of land in Chenoa Township, this county. He then returned to Pennsylvania, and in October of that year, 1855, moved to this county with his family, settling on a new farm which was then a wild prairie. He began breaking the sod, planted an orchard, and steadily carried on the improvement and cultivation of his purchase, which included the erection of a tasteful and substantial residence, a good barn and other necessary out-buildings. He was a skillful farmer and an excellent business manager, and in due time accumulated a fine competency. The homestead which he thus established, and which his family to-day enjoy, consists of 160 acres, adjoining a quarter section which was purchased by his sister in 1855. Mr. McCune improved three farms during his residence in this county.

Mr. and Mrs. McCune became the parents of seven children, of whom William died when five years of age. Those surviving are Mary G., Cornelia B., the wife of G. J. Arnold; Sarah J., John A. C., Maggie E. and Joel C. Mr. McCune was a consistent member of the Presbyterian Church of Chenoa, in which he was a Deacon from the time of its organization. He was also a Trustee in the Church, and one of the School Trustees in Chenoa Township.

The death of Mr. McCune occurred under very painful circumstances. On Feb. 10, 1887, he was accidentally killed by the falling of a shed. This structure had been regarded as unsafe for some months. On the day mentioned Mr. McCune had



arranged with his son, who was a telegraph operator in Chenoa, to come home and assist in the pulling down of the shed. It had originally been thatched with slough grass. This had mostly blown off, so that there was little left of the roof but the rafters. It is supposed that when Mr. McCune opened the door of the shed the cattle started in and pushing against one of the heavy perpendicular supports which held the roof, caused it to fall, the heavy timbers falling on him. He was found with one of these timbers lying across his shoulder, and another across his feet. The announcement of this calamity was received with universal sorrow by the people among whom he had lived so long, and by whom he was so generally respected. The widow and her children still occupy the homestead.

Mrs. McClure was born and reared in Cumberland County, Pa., and in her youth united with the Lutheran Church. Of late years she has been connected with the Presbyterian Church, and is a lady greatly respected for her Christian character and blameless life. In politics Mr. McCune was a Democrat.

**G**EORGE GREGORY, a prosperous and influential farmer of Gridley Township, owns and operates 460 acres of valuable land, which is finely improved with a handsome and substantial dwelling, a good barn and other necessary outhouses, and, in fact, all the appliances of a first-class modern agriculturist. Mr. Gregory is a native of this township, born March 23, 1855, and is consequently a gentleman in the prime of life, with a prospect of many useful years before him. His parents were John and Mary Gregory, and his early education was carried on in the common schools of Normal.

Mr. Gregory was reared to farming pursuits, having, during the last few years, made a specialty of stock-raising. He remained under the parental roof until his marriage, which took place in Fayette County, Ohio, Sept. 5, 1877, when he was united in the bonds of wedlock with Miss Amanda Moon, daughter of Simon and Martha (McKillip) Moon, natives of Ohio. After marriage, the parents of Miss Moon settled in Fayette County,

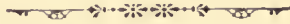
where the mother died in January, 1859. The father still survives, and resides in Fayette County, Ohio. John McKillip and Elizabeth (Whicker) McKillip, grandparents of Mrs. Gregory, were of Irish and German descent. The paternal ancestors of our subject were of German and Welsh extraction. Mrs. Gregory was the tenth child of a family of six sons and five daughters, her birth occurring Jan. 31, 1855. She and her husband are the parents of two daughters—Emma and Lois. They are members in good standing of the Christian Church, and politically our subject uniformly casts his vote with the Democratic party.

**M**ATT C. SMITH, City Treasurer of Bloomington, is a native of New York State, and was born in Newburg, on the Hudson River, July 18, 1854. His father, Mathew C. Smith, Sr., was an old steamboat Captain on the Hudson, and died when our subject was an infant. His mother, before her marriage, was Mary J. Stephens, and like her husband was a native of New York. After the death of the father the mother removed West with her family, which consisted of two sons beside our subject. They located in Bloomington, where the mother is still living.

The subject of this history came to this county in the fall of 1865, in company with the late Dr. S. C. Wilson, who was a Lieutenant in the late war, and a prominent dentist, who stood at the head of his profession. At the time of his death, in 1881, he was an Alderman of this city. He married the only sister of our subject, Miss Anna E. Smith.

Mr. Smith of this history was thrown upon his own resources at the early age of twelve years. Principally through his own efforts he secured a good common-school education, by studying nights, his days being employed in making a living. He was fortunately enabled afterward to attend one year at a private school, and subsequently entered the office of his brother-in-law, Dr. S. C. Wilson, to learn dentistry. After serving six years he was employed by Dr. F. H. McIntosh, successor of Dr. Wilson, with whom he continued until May, 1886.

Mr. Smith was appointed Oil Inspector for the city of Bloomington in 1879, which position he occupied three years. In the spring of 1884 he was elected City Treasurer, and was re-elected in 1886. He has been prominent in the politics of this section, is Secretary of the Republican Central Committee, of which he has been a member for three years, and is Sergeant of the Young Men's Republican Club. He also belongs to the K. of P. and the order of Improved Red Men. Mr. Smith was married, in 1880, to Miss Bell Popple, of Bloomington, and they have become the parents of one child, Wilson P.



**A** BRAHAM WILSON. The importance of biography as a means of instruction, as well as a branch of historical literature, is indisputable, and the reader must certainly have frequently seen and realized that in the life of an individual can be seen mirrored, not only his own individuality and struggles, but all mankind's epitome. Emerson justly says "That all history is only the biography of man." The troubles, trials and labors of one individual are but specimens of efforts of many who have to fight the battles of life and who go down to their graves unchronicled. In listening to the history of Mr. Wilson we could but see the truth of his statement. It would teach the discouraged hope under the most unsatisfactory circumstances, perseverance amid great difficulty, and assurance that labor and faith will eventually conquer.

Abraham Wilson is a prominent and highly respected resident of Gridley Township, and came to this county in 1843. During this period of over forty-three years he has fully established himself in the esteem and confidence of his fellow-citizens. He was born among the Ohio hills in Licking County, March 7, 1827, and was the son of Archibald and Hannah (Areher) Wilson. The father was a native of Virginia and the mother of Licking County, Ohio. After marriage they settled in that county, and were among the early pioneers of that region. Archibald Wilson was educated for the ministry but for some reason unknown to his son he devoted his time mostly to teaching school. He

spent the remainder of his days in Licking County, his demise occurring in 1836, while still in the prime of life. The mother afterward emigrated to Illinois, locating in this county in 1843, and died in Gridley Township in the fall of 1879. Four of their seven children attained to years of maturity, namely: James, Abraham, Mary A. and Rebecca A. The former became the wife of Jehial Stretch and resides in Gridley Township, which is also the home of Rebecca A.

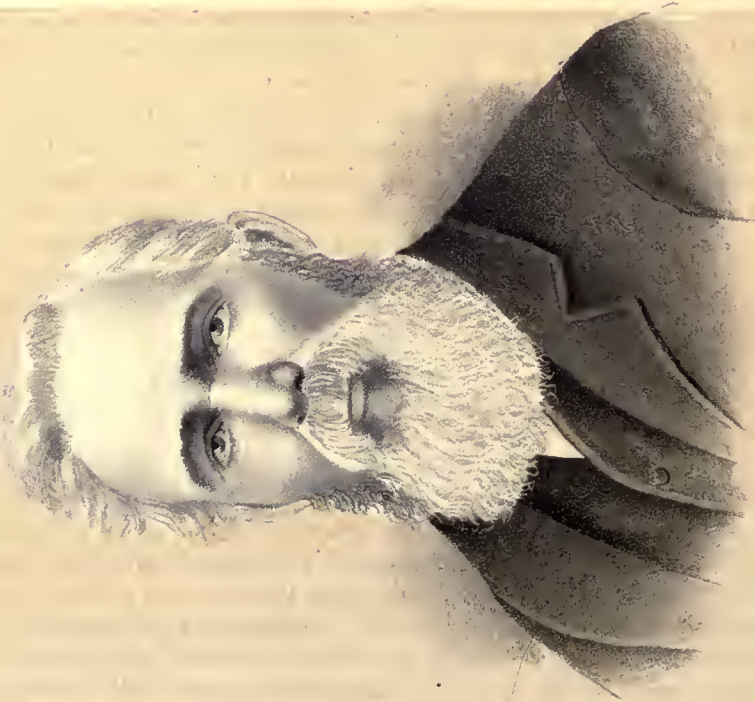
Abraham Wilson received a fair education in the common schools. He was but nine years of age when his father died and he continued with his mother and assisted in the labors around the farm homestead, and came with her to Illinois, being about sixteen years of age at the time of his arrival here. During the progress of the late war he enlisted as a soldier of the Union in September, 1861, becoming a member of the 4th Illinois Cavalry, and serving three years and two months. He entered the army as a private and was soon promoted Sergeant. He was remarkably fortunate in his army experience, suffering neither sickness nor imprisonment, and receiving only a slight wound, scarcely worthy to be mentioned. At the expiration of his term of enlistment he received his honorable discharge, and returning to Gridley Township, resumed his position as a tiller of the soil. He began life at the foot of the ladder, with no assistance but his strong arms and willing disposition. He is now the owner of a half section of valuable land, which he has brought into a fine state of cultivation and upon which he has erected a first-class set of farm buildings, including a handsome and substantial residence, a convenient barn and all other structures necessary for the shelter of stock and the storing of grain. It is supplied with the latest improved farm machinery and in short is fitted with all the requirements of a modern agriculturist.

One of the most interesting events in the life of our subject occurred on the 20th of March, 1866, when he was united in marriage at the home of the bride's parents in Peoria County, Ill., with Miss Christina, the daughter of Jonathan B. and Aliee (Leonard) Merritt. The parents of Mrs. Wilson, who were natives of Licking County, Ohio, were there reared and married and soon afterward located





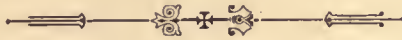
*Henry Tailor Bower*



*Abraham Wilson*

in Putnam County, whence they removed in 1859 to Illinois, settling in Saybrook, this county. They afterward removed to Prineeville, Peoria County. While on a visit to his children in Gridley Township, Mr. Merritt was taken suddenly ill and died before he could reach home. The mother still survives. Their family consisted of nine children, five daughters and four sons. Christina, Mrs. Wilson, was the fifth child. She was born in Putnam County, Ohio, Sept. 22, 1844. Of her union with our subject there have been born two children: Emma E., the wife of Osear L. Craig, of Clark County, Ill., and Edwin M., a resident of Gridley Township.

Mr. Wilson has held the offices of School Trustee, Treasurer, Collector and Assessor of the township. Politically he is a reliable Republican and religiously identifies himself with the United Brethren Church. Mrs. W. is connected with the Seventh-Day Adventists. As a representative citizen we present the portrait of Mr. Wilson in this volume.



**HENRY T. BOWER.** The late Henry T. Bower was a prominent and highly respected farmer of Dale Township, and an old resident of McLean County. He built up for himself a lasting reputation as a man possessing most excellent personal traits of character, upright and honorable in his business transactions, and imbued with that generous public spirit that was always ready to assist in whatever was calculated to promote the welfare of his county and community.

Mr. Bower was a native of Pennsylvania, and was born in Armagh Township, Mifflin County, on the 6th of February, 1820. His father, Joseph Bower, was a native of Franklin County, the same State, and his great-grandparents on his father's side were of German parentage. Jaacob Bower, upon coming to America, located in Lancaster County, Pa., where he spent the last years of his life. His son, the grandfather of our subject, served as a soldier during the whole of the Revolutionary War. Near the close of that immortal struggle, and while in the cavalry service, his horse

fell upon him and broke his thigh, which ended his military career. He survived this accident, however, for several years, and died in Franklin County,

Joseph Bower, the father of our subject, was reared upon a farm. He was only about four years old when his father died, and soon afterward his mother and elder brothers moved from Franklin to Mifflin County, where Joseph grew to manhood and was married. He afterward removed to Huntingdon County, where he purchased a farm, which he occupied for five years. He then returned to Mifflin County and engaged in driving a stage from Lewiston to Huntingdon for four years, and then rented a tavern on the pike from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh. He kept public house for a period of seven years, and in the meantime was agent for the stage company. He then took charge of a packet-boat for the stage company, and ran on the Pennsylvania Canal for three or four years, when he resumed farming upon a tract of rented land for a few years, when he went to Altoona. After one year's residence in that place he crossed the Alleghanies, and engaged as foreman along the line of railroad which was then in process of construction, and after two years thus employed operated as a contractor. His wife having died in Indiana County, he removed to Bradford County, and spent the last years of his life at the home of his daughter. He served his country in the War of 1812, was a wide-awake and ambitious man, and kept himself well posted in regard to whatever was going on in the world around him. The mother of our subject, before her marriage with Joseph Bower, was Miss Elizabeth Kerswell. She was born in Mifflin County, Pa. and was of Scotch-Irish ancestry. The parental household consisted of seven children.

The subject of our sketch was the second child and eldest son of his parents. He attended school during his childhood days, and when his father was in the hotel business assisted him. After the hotel was abandoned he operated as a farmer on land which his father had rented, and made his home with his parents until he was nineteen years of age, when he was married, and Nov. 25, 1839, located upon a rented farm in Mifflin County. He

cultivated rented land in that locality until 1855, and in the meantime was also engaged in butchering. During that same year he came to Illinois and purchased the southwest quarter of section 7, now in Dale Township, upon which he removed with his family the following year. They made the journey via the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers to Alton, and from there by railroad to Shirley. His land was wild prairie and the first year of his residence here he rented a farm on section 25, in the meantime working upon his own land as time permitted. He broke seven acres that year, and in 1857 removed to Allin Township and rented a house into which he removed his family, and which they occupied for two years and eight months. He then purchased a small frame house and moved it upon his own land, established his family within it, and was a resident of the farm thus opened until his death. His homestead is now finely improved, the land under a good state of cultivation, and the family occupies a tasteful and comfortable farm residence, and has an excellent barn and all necessary out-buildings, convenient for the storing of grain and the shelter of stock. For two years previous to his death he rented the greater part of his land and was practically retired from active labor, living in the well-merited enjoyment of the fruits of his early industry.

The subject of our sketch was married on the 25th of November, 1839, to Miss Rebecca Shade, a native of Berks County, Pa., and the daughter of John and Mary (Schumaker) Shade. The household circle was completed by the birth of eight children, of whom the record is as follows: Mary is a resident of Dale Township; Matilda became the wife of David R. Stubblefield, also of Dale Township; Sarah married William Davis of Downs Township; James E. married Celestia J. Perry and lives in Allin Township; Anna R. married John K. Shade, of Dale Township; Harriet M., the wife of Isaac Skinner, lives in Dale Township; Martha E. married Alouzo James, and lives in Nuckoll County, Neb., and Frances H., the wife of John B. Warlow, is a resident of Allin Township.

Mr. Bower was Democratic in politics, and liberal in his religious views. He was straightforward and methodical in his business transactions and

ranked among the representative men of one of the most important counties of the Prairie State. His death occurred April 3, 1887, and caused great mourning in the community that he had been so closely identified with for so many years.

This brief sketch and accompanying portrait will serve as a means of perpetuating the memory of one who was in every respect a noble, true-hearted man, and an esteemed and worthy citizen.



**H**ARRISON JENKINS, living on section 31, Money Creek Township, is one of the successful and progressive farmers of McLean County. His father, Levi, and his mother, Mary A. (Hickman) Jenkins, were natives of Virginia and of English ancestry. His father was a farmer by calling and after his marriage with Miss Hickman settled in Virginia, where he followed his vocation and whence he emigrated to Licking County, Ohio. There he labored at his calling until his death, which event took place in 1845. His good wife survived him thirteen years and then, in 1858, passed to join him in the better home above. They had nine children who lived to attain the age of man and womanhood—Eveline, William, James, John, Harrison, Nancy, Sally, Calvin and George.

Our subject was the fifth in order of birth of his parents' children, and was born in Licking County, Ohio, July 27, 1822. He was reared on a farm, his school privileges being exceedingly limited. He lived at home until he was about twenty-six years old and continued to make Licking County his residence until 1854. In the fall of that year he came to McLean County with his wife and one child, making the journey overland. On his arrival here he settled in Money Creek Township, on section 31, and has made that his home until the present time. The first purchase of land consisted of 114 acres, and he is now the owner of 120 acres of valuable and productive land, with good and substantial improvements upon it.

Mr. Jenkins was married in Licking County, Ohio, Sept. 26, 1844. The lady whom he selected as his life companion was Miss Mary A., daughter of Thomas and Amelia Jackson, natives of Virginia.

Her parents emigrated from Virginia to Licking County, Ohio, in 1828, and making that their home until 1845, they moved to Delaware County, Ind., where the father died Oct. 19, 1862. The mother died in Madison County, Ind., Nov. 11, 1872. Mr. and Mrs. Jackson had four children who lived to attain the age of maturity, and four who died in early years. The living are, Mary A., William, Franklin and Elizabeth. Mary A., wife of our subject, was born in Loudoun County, Va., Jan. 9, 1825, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of two children—Mary A. and Thomas C. Mary A. is the wife of William Fincham and they are living in Towanda Township. Thomas C. married Miss Mary A. Moots, and lives in Money Creek Township. Mr. Jenkins has been Overseer of Highways and has also been the incumbent of the office of School Director. He and his wife are members of the United Brethren Church, and in politics our subject is a staunch Republican.



**J**OHAN E. WIGHTMAN. The gentleman whose history we briefly sketch in the following lines, is the oldest representative of the hardware trade in the flourishing little town of Chenoa. He comes of excellent Welsh ancestry, and was born in Steuben County, N. Y., on the 10th of June, 1837. His father, E. E. Wightman, deceased June 1, 1887, at Sand Springs, Nev., which was his place of residence, was married in early manhood to Miss Mary Madole, a native of New York and the daughter of Jacob Madole. The grandfather of our subject, Elias Wightman, served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and in the War of 1812. He was killed by a fall from a load of hay, in New York.

The Wightman family settled in New England at an early day, and were distinguished for their excellent business qualities, their integrity, and their worth as citizens, neighbors and friends. They became prominent among the colonists as honest men and valuable members of society, and identified themselves thoroughly with the interests of their adopted country.

The father of our subject removed from the Em-

pire State with his family in September, 1838, and located in Richmond, McHenry County, this State. After a residence there of three years, they removed into the village of McHenry, where Mr. Wightman engaged in the hotel and livery business. In 1850 he went to California, remaining until 1866, and thence removed to Sand Springs, Nev., where he lived until his death. The parental family consisted of five children, two sons and three daughters, of whom one daughter is deceased.

The subject of this history remained with his parents in McHenry County, Ill., until about 1859, and obtained a good education in the common schools. When sixteen years of age he went to Chicago, and served a three years' apprenticeship at the tinner's trade, becoming thoroughly acquainted with that business. He then returned to McHenry County, and was the first person to engage in the business in the town of McHenry. He soon afterward, however, removed to Waukegan, Ill., where he worked for three years, then removed to De Witt County, this State, and commenced in the hardware business on his own account in Clinton. He continued there until his removal to Chenoa in the spring of 1866, where he went into partnership with Mr. Besley, and they opened a hardware store under the firm name of Besley & Wightman, and operated together until January, 1882. Mr. Wightman then purchased the interest of his partner, and continued alone until Jan. 1, 1887, when he took in his son, J. E., as partner. The firm carries a fine stock of hardware and furniture, and is doing a profitable and steadily increasing trade. They occupy a double store with a frontage of 48x100 feet and a good basement under the whole.

Mr. Wightman by his thorough business methods and strictly honest business course, has fully established himself in the confidence of the business community, of which he is considered one of its most important factors. The family enjoy the society of the best people of Chenoa, and in their pleasant home are surrounded by all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life.

The marriage of John E. Wightman and Isabel Atkinson took place on the 31st of December, 1857,

in St. Charles, Ill. Mrs. Wightman is the daughter of William and Sarah Atkinson, and was born in England, in 1838. Our subject and his wife have become the parents of four children, one of whom, William, died when eleven years of age. Those surviving are, Henrietta E., Hattie B. and John E., Jr. Mr. Wightman is Democratic in politics, and a great admirer of President Cleveland. He was elected Mayor of Chenoa in 1877, which office he held two years. He represented his Ward as Alderman four years, and was School Director for a period of fifteen years. He was again elected Mayor in the spring of 1885, for a term of two years, and served with great credit to himself and the city.



**A**LMON B. KEMPTON, deceased, was numbered among the most highly respected and worthy citizens of Chenoa Township. He was a native of Sunbury, Delaware Co., Ohio, born March 12, 1840, and was the son of Benjamin and Mary (Bowley) Kempton, who removed to Illinois at an early day and settled near Nauvoo on the Mississippi River. There the father died within a short time and when Almon B. was a child four years of age. His mother subsequently married again and removed back to Ohio, where our subject continued to reside until he had reached his eighteenth year. He then returned to this State and completed his studies in Farmington, Fulton County, a year later. Soon afterward he began teaching, which he followed until the outbreak of the late war, when he enlisted in the Union army, becoming a member of Co. A, 11th Indiana Zouaves, which did valuable service in assisting to defend the Union. Young Kempton was engaged with his comrades in the battles of Ft. Donelson, Mission Ridge, the siege of Vicksburg and other important engagements of the war. He was mustered out before the expiration of his enlistment, in the fall of 1864, on account of protracted illness, the result of small-pox, from which he suffered long and severely.

After retiring from the army, Mr. K. returned to Ohio and wishing to still further perfect himself in his studies, entered the Commercial College

at Cleveland, from which he graduated in 1865. He then came to Fulton County, this State, and employed himself for several years following, teaching school winters and working on a farm in the summer.

In February, 1867, Almon Kempton was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Mapes, of Cuyahoga County, Ohio. Mrs. K. is the daughter of John and Henrietta Mapes. After their marriage our subject and his young wife remained in Fulton County until 1874, whence they removed to this county and located on the farm now occupied by the widow and family. This is finely located on section 30, and consists of eighty acres of choice land under a good state of cultivation, upon which is a comfortable residence and all necessary buildings for the storing of grain and shelter of stock.

After coming to this county Mr. Kempton still followed his profession as a teacher, in which he took a genuine interest and for which he was eminently fitted by his love of books and his genial and kindly disposition. He departed this life at his homestead on the 15th of April, 1882. He was a member in good standing of the Masonic fraternity, being connected with the lodge at Chenoa. He was also connected with the Congregational Church. Mrs. K. still makes her home upon the farm, a part of which is operated by a tenant. She also taught school several years in Ohio before her marriage, and was well fitted by education and training to become the companion of her husband.



**P**ETER C. JACOBY, general farmer and stock-raiser, located on section 19, Padua Township, moved on his present homestead in the spring of 1884. Here he has 120 acres of finely improved land, well drained and generally productive. Mr. J. came to this vicinity from Belleflower Township, this county, where he owned 120 acres besides eighty acres in De Witt County, which he sold previous to moving here. He is a native of this county, born in Randolph Township, Dec. 27, 1833. His father, Henry Jacoby, died about 1852, in Randolph Township; he was born in Pennsylvania and pur-



sued the occupation of a farmer the greater part of his life. Henry Jacoby first became acquainted with his wife in Piekaway County, Ohio. She was Miss Julia A. Clarke and descended from English and Irish ancestry. Soon after marriage they located in White County, this State, whence a few years later they came to McLean County, settling in Downs Township among the other pioneers who began to establish their homesteads there in 1830. This was about the first township that was settled in McLean County. Later they removed to Randolph Township, where the father died. The mother then went to Kansas and lived with her son Henry in Lyons County, where she died at an advanced age, about 1879.

The subject of our sketch was one of the younger members of the parental household, and continued under the home roof until his marriage, which occurred in Old Town Township, Feb. 15, 1866, the lady of his choice being Miss Louisa E. Twining, who was born in Bucks County, Pa., March 3, 1835. She was the daughter of Thomas and Sarah A. (Banes) Twining, natives of Pennsylvania, who located in Bucks County after their marriage, and soon afterward removing to this county, settled in Old Town Township, and improved a large farm, and there spent the remainder of their lives. Mrs. J. remained under the home roof until her marriage. Of her union with our subject there are four children: Thomas H., born Nov. 12, 1866; Daniel A., Nov. 1, 1868; Delleena R., born Aug. 12, 1871, and Franklin E., June 7, 1874. They are all at home. Our subject, politically, is a solid Republican, and Mrs. J. is a worthy member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



**C**LIFFORD H. WIRT, of the firm of R. Wirt & Co., tile manufacturers of Saybrook, is a native of this county, and was born April 16, 1859. He is the son of John and Emily A. (Linton) Wirt, both natives of Ohio. John Wirt was born in 1837, and followed farming pursuits the greater part of his life in his native State. The mother was born in 1838 and is still living. Their eight children were, Clifford, Hattie, Annie, Mary

who married Logan Fry, James L., Giles J., Edward and Homer.

The subject of this history learned tile-making in 1883, at Saybrook. He is still a young man, but his industry and energy indicate that he will become prominently identified with the business interests of this section in the near future. He was married, Feb. 1, 1887, to Miss Bessie E. Johnson, a native of this State, who was born April 6, 1866. She is the daughter of Joseph C. and Mary (Alexander) Johnson, of English parentage and ancestry, and traces her ancestry back to Alexander the Great.

Our subject has been a member of the Methodist-Episcopal Church for the past ten years. Mrs. Wirt united with the Christian Church in 1884, in which she is a prominent member and Superintendent of the Sabbath-school. She is a lady of rare culture and refinement, of great energy, and is engaged in the millinery business for herself at Saybrook.



**O**SBORN BARNARD, a retired farmer and stock-dealer of Bloomington Township, occupies a beautiful residence on section 6, and is one of the best known men of this vicinity, having been remarkably successful as a business man and a most worthy and estimable citizen. He came to McLean County in the spring of 1840, first locating at Twin Grove, on section 4, in Dale Township. His parents were early settlers here, coming in the fall of 1840, his father having made a purchase of land in 1837 and 1839, which became the permanent homestead of the family. The son, however, had located on it nearly a year before the parents and other members of the family arrived.

The subject of this history was born near Dayton, Ohio, Nov. 12, 1822. There he was educated and remained until nineteen years of age, when he came to this vicinity and gathered the first crops and necessary feed for stock, etc., which the remainder of the family brought with them in the fall following.

Samuel Barnard, the father of our subject, was a native of North Carolina and the son of Francis

C. Barnard, who was one of a family of three brothers that first settled on Nantucket Island. They were of the Quaker faith and had been persecuted in England on account of their religious belief. These three brothers, as is seen from the history of this island, were among the foremost to organize a colony there, and on that spot they spent the remainder of their lives. The grandfather of our subject followed the sea from boyhood, and in early years took the place of a man before the mast. He afterward became Captain of a large whaling vessel to which business he devoted the most of his life in the Northern Seas. He retired from this business late in life and proceeding to North Carolina settled in Iredell County, where the father of our subject was born June 13, 1789. The parents of the latter became prominent in that State owing to the condition of the colored people, which the father of Samuel Barnard sought to relieve by every means in his power. He exerted all his influence and spent a large fortune in carrying on litigation and effecting the freedom of slaves who were made free by their deceased masters, but held in bondage by their heirs. This work had been intrusted to Mr. B. as executor by various old slaveholders who, at their death, wished to reward some of their faithful servants with liberty.

The wife of Francis Barnard, before her marriage, was Miss Catharine Osborn, a native of Connecticut and of New England descent and parentage. She became an orphan at an early age and resided with her foster-parents, with whom she lived until her marriage. She survived until after the death of her husband and came with her children to Ohio, where she spent the remainder of her days. The father of our subject grew to manhood in North Carolina but was married in Montgomery County, Ohio, to Miss Rebecca Compton. The latter was a native of South Carolina, of Southern parentage, and in about 1804 came with her father and three brothers and located near Dayton, Ohio, being among the earliest settlers of Montgomery County. She was married in 1812, and her parents both died afterward in Montgomery County. Her father, William, and her mother, Martha (Davis) Compton, spent the greater part of their lives upon a farm and died well advanced in years, having been

greatly respected and the possessors of a fine property.

The parents of our subject after marriage settled on Government land in Ohio and began life poor, at the foot of the ladder. They "pulled together," however, were industrious and economical, and in due time had improved three farms from the wilderness. They became the parents of eleven children, two of whom died in infancy. After a few years, wishing to give his children better advantages than their present location afforded, Samuel Barnard sold his property which he had made in Ohio, and started West. He came into McLean County where he pursued the same methods by which he had before become so successful in life, and before his death was the owner of 400 acres of valuable land in this county. This remained his permanent home until his death, which occurred in 1847, when he was fifty-seven years of age. He was reared in the Quaker faith and to this he loyally adhered until the end of his life, as did the mother also. The latter died a few years later, in 1852, and with her husband was beloved and respected by the entire community.

Osborn Barnard remained with his mother after his father's death, and carried on the farm until he was about thirty-four years of age before he decided to venture upon one of the most important changes in life. In 1855 he was united in marriage at San Antonio, Tex., with Miss Sarah Clemons, December 29. Mrs. B. is a native of Indiana, and was born Nov. 15, 1832. She remained in her native State until twenty-one years of age and lived in Texas some time before her marriage. Of this union there were two children: Cora E., born Dec. 23, 1871, who has received a fine education and is well advanced in music, and Owen E., who died in infancy.

Mr. Barnard, since his marriage, has been successfully engaged as a money broker and in buying and selling of stock. He is not at present engaged in any active business, having been enabled to retire upon the proceeds of his earlier enterprise and industry. In his transactions as a capitalist, he operated in connection with his brother Amos, and has become widely and favorably known as a gentleman of fair and honorable dealings who could

be trusted with impunity. His elegant home is the resort of the cultured people of that city, who have learned to esteem him for his personal worth, and his value to the city as a business man and one of the important factors of the community.



**L**UTHER C. HAYS, a native of Brown County, Ohio, is now prosperously engaged in agricultural pursuits in Chenoa Township, and is one of the important factors in the business and farming interests of this section. He comes of an excellent family, well known in the Middle States, his grandfather, Warren Hays, having been a native of Pennsylvania, where he carried on farming successfully, became prominent as a business man and a citizen, and spent his entire life in his native State. The grandfather was married in early manhood to Miss Clara Stark, and they became the parents of eight children, four sons and four daughters. One of these, Abial, the father of our subject, was born in New York City, and after reaching manhood was married to Miss Mary Kennedy, a Virginia lady, and the daughter of James and Margaret Kennedy, also of the Old Dominion. After his marriage Abial Hays located in Brown County, Ohio, near Sardinia, where our subject was born on the 27th of July, 1836. The family remained in Ohio until 1855, then removed to Woodford County, Ill., and from there to McLean County, settling in Lexington Township, one year after which they made their home in Chenoa Township. Here the mother died on the 26th of December, 1884, her husband having preceded her to the home beyond. The parental family included seven children, two sons and five daughters. Two of the latter are now deceased.

The early life of Luther C. Hays was passed in his native county in Ohio, where he pursued his primary studies in the district schools and completed them at a select school. In 1860 he was married to Miss Matilda Frazier, who became the mother of four children and departed this life in 1871. Of these children Samuel L. married Miss Anna Vereler, and lives in Livingston County, this State; Fannie M. became the wife of G. Howard, of

Livingston County; Jessie C. married Andrew Vereler, and they reside in Livingston County, and Charles H. is at home.

Mr. Hays became a resident of Chenoa Township in 1857, locating first on section 10. Eight years later he removed to his present homestead on section 4. This contains forty acres of finely cultivated land, with a handsome and substantial set of frame buildings. He also has a valuable farm of 240 acres in Pike Township, Livingston County, Ill. He has given most of his attention to the raising of grain, in which he has been remarkably successful, and has also dealt largely in hogs, feeding and shipping, and thereby realizing a handsome income,

The second wife of our subject, to whom he was married Jan. 28, 1874, was Mrs. Frances A. (Rhodes) Clarke, daughter of Almon W. Rhodes, and widow of Wilson M. Clarke, who died in 1871. Mrs. Hays is a native of New York City. Of her first marriage there were born two daughters—Alda R. and Lora B. Of her marriage with our subject there have been born five children—George M., Nellie, Pearl M., Eva E. and John Sherman. Mr. Hays has served his township as Road Commissioner and has been School Director for the last eighteen years. Politically he is a staunch Republican and uniformly casts his vote in support of the principles of that party.



**M**ICHAEL SULLIVAN, who is widely and favorably known in Arrowsmith Township as an industrious farmer and citizen, is pleasantly located on section 5, where he is pursuing the peaceful occupation of a farmer upon 121 acres of land which he has brought to a fine state of cultivation.

Our subject is a native of the city of Cork, Ireland, and was born in April, 1827. When a young man twenty-one years of age, he emigrated to America in a merchant ship, landing at Boston, Mass. He remained in that city for two years, and thence proceeded to Bourbon County, Ky., where he became a contractor on the Paris and North Middleton pike road, employing men and

teams, and where he succeeded in accumulating quite a sum of money and some real estate. After a residence of about eighteen years in the Blue Grass regions, he came West to the Prairie State, and first located upon a tract of rented land in McLean County. In 1870 he purchased his present homestead, the land at that time being in its original condition. He immediately set to work to improve and cultivate it, and in due time erected a fine house and barn, and of late years has been considerably engaged in the breeding of Norman horses.

The parents of our subject were Jeremiah and Margaret (Ganey) Sullivan, and the mother died when her son Michael was only eight years of age. Their ten children were Margaret, who married Mr. Shanghnessy; Dennis, John, Mary, Daniel, Johanna, Jeremiah, Bridget, Michael and Catherine. The same year in which he came to America, 1847, Michael Sullivan was married to Miss Mary Foley, a native of his own country, who was born in 1817, and came to the United States the year of her marriage. Of this union there have been born seven children, recorded as follows: Jeremiah, born April 23, 1848, is deceased; Margaret was born July 30, 1850; Ellen M., May 19, 1852; John P., March 18, 1854; Jeremiah F., born March 20, 1856, died in October, 1857; Annie was born May 8, 1858, and Charles M., April 21, 1861.

Mr. Sullivan, after coming to this country and becoming acquainted with the operations of slavery was greatly opposed to the peculiar institution, and left Kentucky on that account, after having served for a time in the Home Guards of that State. He is a staunch Republican in politics, and voted for Abraham Lincoln in 1860. Mr. Sullivan is a devout Catholic and, with his entire family, attends that church at Merna.

**J**OSEPH BEAR, prominent in the agricultural circles of Chenoa Township, was born on a farm in Franklin County, Pa., March 17, 1825. He is descended from an excellent family, the first representatives of whom settled in the Middle States at an early period in the

history of this country. His grandfather, George Bear, a native of Lancaster County, Pa., married Miss Esther Keller, and they raised a family of eleven children, six daughters and five sons. Sebastian, the father of our subject, also a native of Pennsylvania, was born in Lancaster County, in 1795. He married Miss Mary Sehook, a native of the same county, and they became the parents of five children, four sons and one daughter. Both the grandfathers of our subject were of German ancestry, and distinguished for the sturdy honesty and uprightness which from time immemorial have characterized that nationality. Sebastian Bear, after his marriage located on a farm in Franklin County, Pa., where he remained a number of years and where the mother of his children died in 1851. Of these, Joseph of our sketch was the third child.

The subject of this history remained under the parental roof until reaching his twenty-second year, in the meantime being reared to farming pursuits and obtaining a fair education in the common schools. The young men of those days were not afraid to marry before obtaining a competency, and the maidens cheerfully took upon themselves the duties of a helpmeet, working side by side with their husbands. Mr. B., therefore, soon afterward was married to Miss Elizabeth, daughter of John Garling, and they first settled on a farm in Franklin County, Pa. Thence they removed, in 1858, to Fulton County, Ill., and nine years later to McLean County. After their arrival in this county they located on the farm which constitutes the present homestead of the family. This comprises 240 acres of choice land, which of late years has been devoted mostly to the raising of grain and cattle. The residence and out-buildings are creditable to the proprietor, and the stock, fences and farm machinery give evidence of his forethought and enterprise, all being in fine condition and well cared for. In 1880, Mr. Bear practically retired from active labor and turned over the management of the farm in a great measure to his sons.

Our subject has been three times married. His first wife, Mrs. Elizabeth (Garling) Bear, passed to the other life on the 9th of January, 1863, her decease taking place in Fulton County. Of the five





Beard

Joseph



R. A. Harlow

children born of this union the record is as follows: Mary M. became the wife of Francis Reed; Hettie C. married William Breakey; Sebastian G. was the third child; Joseph S. is a resident of Kansas, and Sarah is deceased. His second wife, who was formerly Miss Patience Bowley, bore him one son, who was named George. This lady died Nov. 9, 1878. Mr. Bear married his present wife on the 9th of December, 1880. She was formerly Miss Martha V., daughter of William Kemmerer, a native of Union County, Pa. Of this marriage there has been born one child, a son, William E. Mr. and Mrs. B. are members of the German Baptist Church. In politics Mr. Bear staunchly adheres to the principles of the Republican party.

Although not perhaps the hero of any thrilling tale, he has fulfilled worthily the duties devolving upon him as citizen, husband, father and friend, and can look back upon the pathway over which he has traveled, feeling that there is no call for keen regrets on account of misspent time or opportunities thrown away. As a respected member of the community, and contributing his quota to its general welfare, the original of the portrait which we present in connection with this biography is fully entitled to be classed among the representative men of McLean County.



**R**ICHARD A. WARLOW. Emerson says all history is only biography. So we find this is especially exemplified in the community in which Mr. Warlow resides. Its history is only the biography of the lives of a few men, chiefly among whom is our subject. He has been a resident of the Prairie State since the fall of 1834, and now owns and occupies a comfortable homestead on section 12, Allin Township. He was born in Oneida County, N. Y., March 20, 1822. His parents were Benjamin and Elizabeth (Bond) Warlow, the former a native of New York City, where he was born in 1785, and the latter of Massachusetts, and was born in 1786. They were married in the latter State in 1812, and that same year Benjamin Warlow was drafted into the army, his services being required in the War of 1812. He

returned home, however, after three months' service. He had learned the trade of a shoemaker in his native city, commencing when twelve years of age. For several years as a sailor he followed the ocean, visiting Liverpool and the East Indies several times. He then went to Canada and returned to Massachusetts, remaining there until his marriage. After this event, with his young wife he went to Vernon, N. Y., where he followed his trade, and then moved into the timber in Oneida County, where he took up fifty acres, which he cultivated and occupied for ten years. He then left the farm and took up his trade in a little village in the same State. After a few months he turned his face westward, coming first to Painesville, Ohio, afterward to Circleville, and in October, 1834, removed still further westward, coming to Bloomington, Ill. For two years he operated upon rented land in Dry Grove Township, and then purchased 160 acres of prairie, where he established a comfortable homestead, and remained until his death in 1864. The mother survived some years, dying in 1870. Their six children were Jonathan B., who married Miss Catherine Hay; William C., who married Miss Nancy Garr; Sarepta E., the wife of John Baker; Richard A., of our sketch; LaFayette, deceased, and Bond W., who married Miss Sarah Curtis, and is now residing in Kansas. The parents were faithful members of the Christian Church, and trained their offspring to industry and principles of honor.

Richard A. Warlow was reared on his father's farm, received a common-school education, and remained under the home roof until he had reached his majority. He was then united in marriage with Miss Lovina Bozarth, the wedding taking place April 29, 1849. After marriage Mr. W. first entered eighty acres of land in Allin Township, and a short time afterward 200 acres more, where he put up a neat little frame dwelling. He had also purchased a sawmill, which he utilized in preparing the lumber for his own house as well as for those of his neighbors. Their first residence was destroyed by fire in 1857, and he then erected his present handsome and substantial structure, which is two stories in height with an L, and forms a commodious and convenient dwelling. His farm

property now comprises 625 acres of fine land under a good state of cultivation. Altogether he has owned 1,200 acres, about half of which he gave to his children. Mr. Warlow has now practically retired from active labor, and is enjoying the fruits of his early industry and economy. The household circle of our subject and his wife was completed by the birth of seven children, of whom the record is as follows: Leslie, who was born March 31, 1851, died Oct 18, 1879; John E. was born Sept. 26, 1853, and married Frances Bower; Belle, born March 13, 1856, married W. Q. Dickinson, and lives in Nebraska; Ellen L., born May 3, 1858, married William Perry, and they live in Allin Township; Julia, born July 31, 1860; Charles A., July 2, 1862; Anna, Sept. 13, 1864. The two daughters are still at home, while Charles lives in Nebraska.

Mr. Warlow politically is an uncompromising Democrat. He has been prominent in the affairs of his township since coming here, having been School Trustee, Justice of the Peace for the last eight years, Township Assessor for seven years, and is connected with the Grange organization. Both he and his wife are members of the Christian Church. A portrait of R. A. Warlow is fitting to appear in company with those of the leading men of the county.

**J**OSEPH STUCKEY, of Danvers, an ordained minister and Bishop of the Mennonite Church, has presided over the society of his people in Danvers Township since the spring of 1860. Mr. Stuekey is a native of Alsace-Lorraine, formerly of France, where he was born in 1825. His parents, Peter and Elizabeth Stuekey, were natives of Switzerland, his father having been born at Berne in August, 1801.

Peter Stuekey removed from his native Province to France when a small child, with his parents, who both shortly afterward departed this life. He was then adopted by his grandmother and remained with her until twelve years old, when he was compelled to go among strangers and earn his own living. At the age of seventeen years he became

a member of the Mennonite Church, with which he remained connected until the close of his life, his death occurring on the 22d of February, 1860. The educational advantages of Peter Stuekey were very limited, but he made the most of them and became a very intelligent man. He was the greater part of his life engaged in farming pursuits. In 1824 he was married to Miss Elizabeth Summers, who was a native of Alsace-Lorraine, where her parents had fled from Switzerland on account of religious persecution. The mother of our subject was born in 1802, and accompanied her husband to America in 1830. They arrived in the month of June and located in Butler County, Ohio, where they resided for twenty years. They came to Illinois in October, 1850, and located in Danvers Township, where the mother died in 1885. She was a good woman in all that the term implies and a devoted member of the Mennonite Church, and by the noble example of her pure life wielded a great influence for good in the community. Of their family of six children, five are still living: Joseph of our sketch was the eldest born; Christian was consumptive and visited Enreka Springs in the hope of effecting a cure, but in vain; he died there the 3d of September, 1885, at the age of fifty-six years, leaving a family, a widow and five children, to whom he was devotedly attached; the greater part of his life was devoted to farming pursuits. Elizabeth became the wife of Nicholas Hilde and is now living in Livingston County, Ill.; John married Barbay Strupher, and resides in Danvers Township; Catharine married Peter Naffzinger, of Baden, Germany; Peter married Miss Catharine Engle, and they are living in Tazewell County, this State; this brother is also a Mennonite minister, having entered the ministry in 1875, and presides over a congregation of 180 members.

The subject of our sketch when he came to this country landed at New Orleans, and thence went with his parents to Butler County, Ohio. There he worked on his father's farm and received a limited education in the old log school-house. He was married on the 17th of December, 1844, to Miss Barbara Roth, a native of his own country, where she was born March 1, 1821, and who came to



America in 1842. Mrs. Stuekey was also a devoted member of the Mennonite Church and was the brave and devoted assistant and helpmeet of her husband in their earlier toils and struggles. After remaining his faithful and affectionate companion for a period of thirty-seven years, she departed this life on the 27th of April, 1881, aged sixty years, one month and twenty-seven days. Their two children were both daughters; Jacobina became the wife of Joseph S. Augspurger and is now living six miles north of Danvers. She became the mother of fourteen children, twelve of whom are now living and all members of the Mennonite Church. Christian R. married Miss Catherine Struher, and is engaged in mercantile pursuits in Danvers.

The second wife of our subject was Mrs. Magdalena (Roth) Habeeker, to whom he was married Dec. 11, 1881. Mrs. Stuekey is also connected with the Mennonite Church. They occupy a pleasant and comfortable home in the village of Danvers, and besides this property our subject owns 200 acres of land in the township. He has devoted the last twenty-five years of his life to the ministry, and in pursuance of the duties of his calling has traveled over the States of Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio and Pennsylvania, employed in the establishment of churches, in lifting up the discouraged and strengthening the weak, administering the Sacrament and attending to all his duties with conscientious care. He has officiated at 186 marriages and over 500 baptisms. He is a strong temperance man and in politics affiliates with the Republican party. For the benefit of those who are unacquainted with the Mennonite Church, of which he is an ordained and an able minister, a brief history of the church is appropriately given in connection with the biography of Mr. Stuekey.

The Mennonite Church derives its name from Menno Symons, who was born in Friesland in 1496. Menno was a Roman Catholic priest, and a man of studious character and great learning. He left his mother church and devoted himself to theological study. His book of doctrine was published in 1539. The followers of his teachings are sometimes called the latter school of Anabaptists.

After the taking of Muenster and the execution of the leaders of the Anabaptists, Menno Symons gave himself to the winning of the remnants of these deluded people from the lawless fanaticism into which they had fallen, or had been led, and with older and purer elements united them in the Netherlands and in North Germany; and these adherents of his views were known henceforth as Mennonites. While some of the earlier views of the Anabaptists were retained by this society, their fanatical violence was completely set aside. The Mennonites were carefully organized after what was regarded as the primitive congregational model. They had ministers and deacons, and their discipline was very strict. They take the New Testament as their only rule of faith; that the terms Person and Trinity ought not to be applied to the Father, Son and Holy Ghost; that there is no original sin; that infants ought not to be baptized. They maintain also, that Christians should not bring law suits, demand interest, take oaths, or serve as soldiers. Some of them adopted feet-washing in preparation of the Lord's Supper. They dropped all the views subversive of civil rule which had been held by the Anabaptists. Their ministry is unpaid, and for the most part uneducated. Yet latterly there has been some change in this respect.

The Galenists established a seminary in 1735, and in this country some effort has been made in theological education. Their simple lives, thrifty habits and fidelity to promises, made them many friends. They obtained toleration in the Netherlands, then in Germany and in England. Diversity of views in regard to strictness in excommunication led to their division into the "Free" or "Strict" and "Coarse" or "Mild." The milder party divided on the question between Calvinism (the Apostolists) and Arminianism (the Galenists). In 1801 the parties united, the Galenists forming the major part. In Holland there are 120 congregations; in Germania about 14,000 members. In Prussia they were relieved from the obligation to bear arms, and from the necessity of taking oaths, official or judicial. In 1867 the North-German federal constitution imposed on them the obligation of military service. Nearly a century before this, or in 1783, many emigrated from Prussia to Russia.

In 1870 they had reached the number of 40,000. Here they enjoyed many privileges, among which was freedom from military service. They became rich and were generally reckoned among the best subjects of the crown.

In 1871 they lost their privilege from military service, and the alternative was given them between conscription and emigration, and they were allowed ten years to decide. They chose the latter, and in 1873 their first body arrived in New York, and from there proceeded to Kansas, where they made a settlement. The exodus became so great that the Czar was compelled to withdraw his order to stop the movement. Before this time, however, many had emigrated to the United States, and thrifty societies had been established. Upon the invitation of William Penn in 1683, many came over and founded a settlement at Germantown, near Philadelphia. In 1735 there were about 500 families settled in Lancaster County.

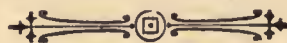
The Mennonites number now about 200,000, of whom about 150,000 are settled in the United States, and 25,000 in Canada. The Amish or Omish Mennonites, are more rigid in discipline and dress, proscribing even buttons as carnal vanities and luxuries. The reformed Mennonites arose in Lancaster, Pa., in 1811. Their aim is to restore the ancient faith and practice of their Church. There are other subdivisions of later origin.

There are about 2,800 Mennonites in Illinois, fifty-two ministers and nineteen bishops. The church government is under one head, composed of the bishops of all the churches. Bishops and ministers are taken from the ranks of the church. There are three grades of officers—bishops, ministers and elders. Ministers are ordained by bishops, and bishops are ordained by two or more bishops. The system of government is congregational, and all the affairs of the church are settled by the congregation. They have no catechism and take the New Testament as a guide. The old Bible, to them, is more of a history.

They have three educational institutions in the United States, one in Halstead, Kan., one in Elkhart, Ind., where they have a publishing house, and one in Wadsworth, Ohio. They also have a missionary in Indian nation, who is meeting with fair success

with the Indians. His devoted labor in behalf of those wanderers is highly commendable.

The first church building erected in this section was in Woodford County, first across the line, in 1853. In 1872 they erected a new building in Danvers Township, where the old and the new congregation worship. The membership of this society numbers now about 400, and is presided over by Rev. Joseph Stuckey. No better citizens are to be found in any community than those connected with this devoted religious body. Fidelity to promises and obligations, coupled with ceaseless industry, strict honesty, the quiet and gentle spirit and the highly commendable disposition to leave the business of others alone, make them desirable neighbors, profitable and worthy citizens.

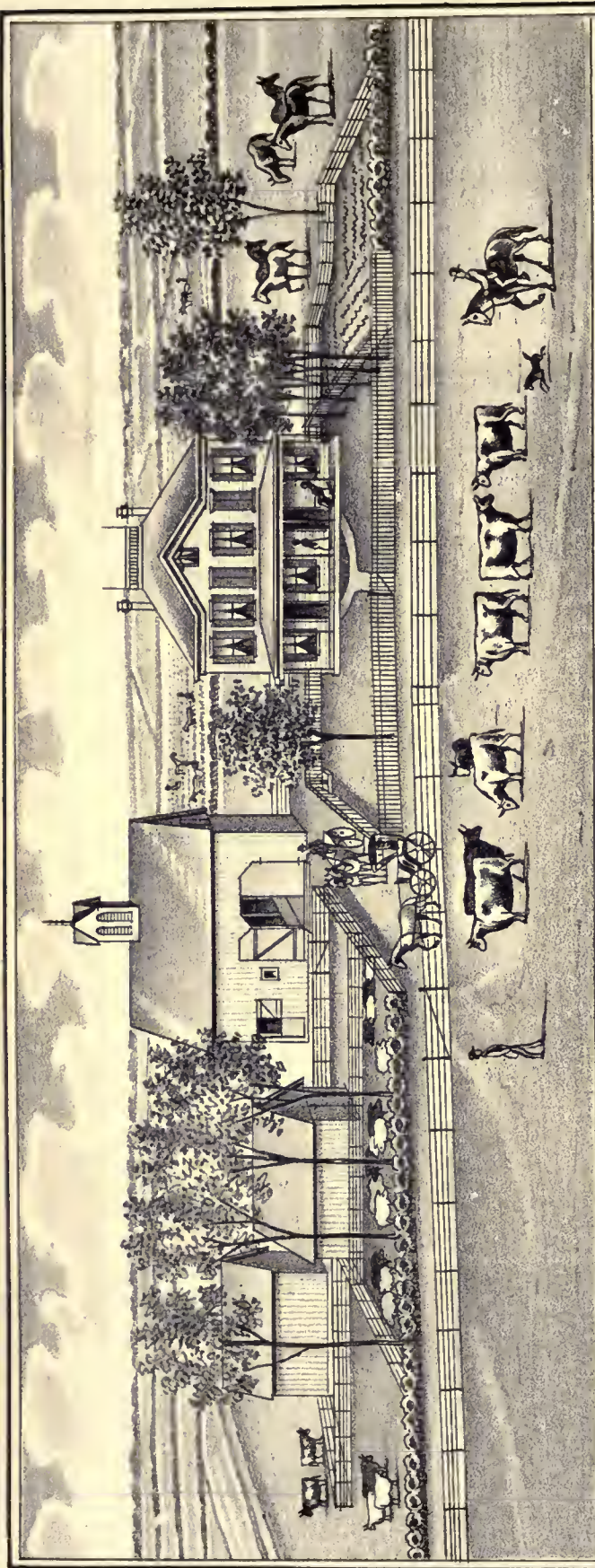


**HENRY J. FORNEY.** This gentleman, who is closely identified with the agricultural interests of Chenoa Township, is pleasantly located on section 34, where he settled in 1882.

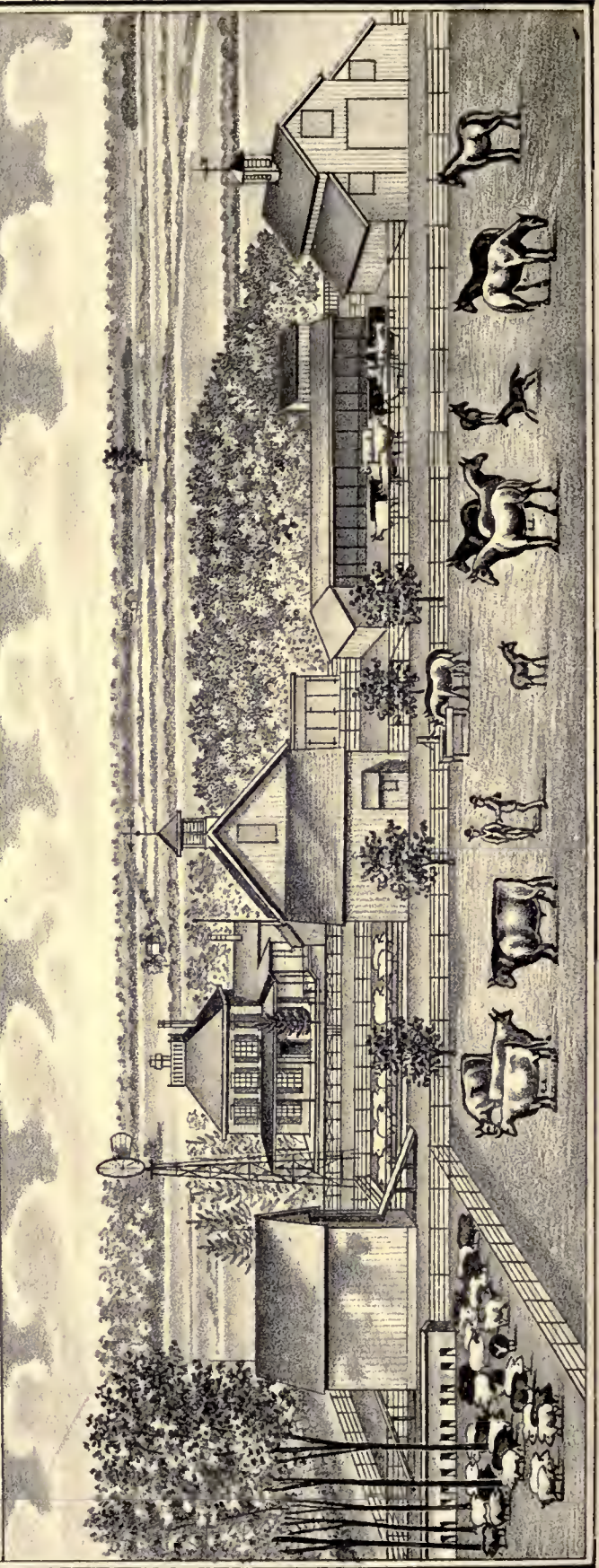
His farm includes 160 acres of choice land, a good house and barn, and everything pertaining to a first-class farm estate. It is well stocked with horses, cattle and hogs, and the fences and farm machinery are of the best description and kept in good repair. Mr. F. is one of the most valued men of his community, a member in good standing of the German Baptist Church, in which he officiates as the leading English preacher, and is widely and favorably known both on account of his faithfulness in his religious work, his straightforward dealings as a business man and his pleasing social qualities.

The subject of this biography was born on a farm near Davidsville, Somerset Co., Pa., Nov. 17, 1840. He is the son of Jacob and Magdalena (Landis) Forney, natives of the same county as their son. The grandfather of our subject was John Forney, who was of German ancestry and parentage, and who, after emigrating to the United States located in Pennsylvania, where he spent the last years of his life. His son Jacob, father of Henry J., of this sketch, became the father of six





RESIDENCE OF JOHN G. GEIGER, SEC. 3, TOWANDA TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF JOHN HILPERT, SEC. 15, MOUNT HOPE TP.

children, all of whom lived to maturity. One is now deceased.

Henry J. Forney, the youngest of his parents' family, remained under the home roof and attended the district schools until he was nineteen years of age. He then went to Ohio and located in Ashland County, about the time of the outbreak of the late war. He then enlisted in 1861, in Co. C, 42d Ohio Vol. Inf., his regiment being assigned to the Army of the Cumberland. They marched southeastward, and young Forney, with his comrades participated in the battles of Grand Gulf, Champion Hills, Black River Bridge, the siege of Vicksburg, Jacksonville, Miss., and various minor engagements and skirmishes, twelve regular battles in all. He was wounded at the battle of Middle Creek, Ky. At the close of his term of enlistment he was mustered out, in September, 1864, and after a brief time spent in Ashland County, Ohio, returned to his old home in Pennsylvania. In 1865, he came to Illinois and purchased a farm in Hudson Township, this county, having in view the establishment of a permanent home and domestic ties. He then returned to Pennsylvania and was united in marriage with Miss Melissa Dull, of Berlin, Somerset County, and with his wife, Jan. 21, 1866, returned to his new farm, upon which they located and which Mr. Forney commenced to improve and cultivate. They occupied this until 1882, then removed to their present homestead in Chenoa Township. Their family consists of three sons and one daughter—Albert D., Edgar E., William R. and Sadie E. In politics Mr. Forney is a Republican.



**J**OHAN HILPERT. This highly respected German citizen is a splendid representative of that solid and substantial element which has done so much toward the development of the resources of the New World, and has become so intimately identified with its business and industrial interests. He was born in Baden on the 24th of June, 1825, and there grew to manhood. His parents were Mathias and Mary (Bruner) Hilpert. In accordance with the laws and customs of his

native land our subject entered school at an early age and pursued a continuous course of study until he was fourteen years old. He then worked on his father's farm for the following six years, when he joined the army, with which he remained six years, serving through the Revolution of 1848-49. He was in Denmark at the time that Germany acquired the Province of Sleswick-Holstein, and served in nine regular engagements besides twelve skirmishes. During one of these battles he was wounded. A cannon ball struck a tree, breaking off a limb, which in falling struck him on the hip, inflicting a serious wound, of which he has carried the scar ever since. At one time a shell from the enemy's guns struck the ammunition wagon only eight feet from where our subject stood, which caused an explosion, killing two men near by, but he escaped unharmed.

At the close of his military services Mr. Hilpert decided to emigrate to the New World. He accordingly set sail from Havre in March and landed in New Orleans after a voyage of forty-two days. Three days afterward he started for this State, and on arriving was employed on a farm in Madison County, where he worked for one year at \$7 per month, and then went to St. Louis and from there back to New Orleans, where he was engaged in an engine factory until the following spring. He then returned to Illinois, stopping in Carlyle, Clinton County, where he spent the summer, and in the fall returned to St. Louis and engaged in a printing-office. He remained there until the following May, when he went to Pekin, Ill., and was employed upon a farm. During these years he had been industrious and economical and now found himself in a condition to commence farming on his own account. He rented a tract of land which he occupied and cultivated for the following six years and then, removing to Logan County, rented land there until 1866, when he purchased the homestead which he now occupies. There was then upon the unenclosed land a small house of two rooms, but no trees, fences, or other improvements. His first purchase consisted of eighty acres. He set himself energetically to work, improved and cultivated his purchase, and in due time received the reward of his labors in smiling fields and growing grain.

As his means accumulated Mr. Hilpert added to

his original purchase, and is now the owner of 420 acres of some of the finest farming land to be found in McLean County. The diminutive frame dwelling has given place to a commodious farm residence, and his barns and out-buildings generally are second to none in this section. The land is all enclosed and some of the boundaries are outlined with beautiful hedges, which are thrifty and well kept. In addition to the raising of grain and general farm produce Mr. Hilpert is giving considerable attention to the raising, feeding and shipping of stock, which business yields him a fine income.

The subject of our sketch was united in marriage with Miss Anna Hoose March 24, 1856. Mrs. H. was born in Hesse, Germany, on the 16th of December, 1827. Her parents were George and Martha (Rulinger) Hoose. Her union with our subject has been blest by the birth of the following six children: John married Lizzie M. Hoerr, and is a resident of Mt. Hope Township; Lizzie is the wife of John Slaubaugh, also a resident of Mt. Hope Township; Amelia, Edward, Ulysses and Emma are at home with their parents.

Since coming to this section of the country Mr. Hilpert has identified himself with its interests, and has proven himself a worthy and valued citizen. He is Republican in politics and in all respects has contributed his quota toward the building up of his adopted township and county. A lithographic view of the handsome residence and fine out-buildings of Mr. Hilpert is shown on another page.

**J**OHAN G. GEIGER. The following is a brief sketch of a representative of a class of foreign born citizens who brought the thrift and energy, which are their only heritage in their native land, to this country with its great possibilities, and have accomplished so much under the influence of the institutions of America. He is well and favorably known throughout Towanda Township. His fine homestead is on section 3, where in addition to the cultivation of the cereals, he is extensively engaged in stock-raising. His parents, Frank P. and Eve. (Wolf) Geiger, were

natives of Bavaria, Germany. The father was a brick molder by trade and continued a resident of his native country until his death. His good wife also died there. John G., Tobias and Andrew Geiger were the only three children born of the marriage of Frank P. Geiger and Eve Wolf.

John G. Geiger was born in Bavaria, Germany, April 9, 1833, and when nineteen years of age, hoping to better his financial condition in the United States, he emigrated here and made his way direct to Cincinnati, Ohio. He was there employed in gardening for about a year and a half when he found employment on a farm in Butler County, that State, on which he labored for three years. In the spring of 1856 he came to this county and became an employe of Richard Rowell, who was living seven miles due west of Bloomington. He continued with that gentleman for about four years. By the fall of 1859 he had saved sufficient means to enable him to purchase eighty acres of land on section 4, Towanda Township. He moved upon this tract and has there lived until the present time, and by industry and economy has been enabled to add to his original purchase and is now the proprietor of 540 acres of valuable and productive land. He has erected a fine residence upon his farm, which is surrounded by good and substantial out-buildings, and has brought his land to a high state of cultivation. He is also an extensive dealer in stock and keeps about seventy-five head of cattle and twenty to twenty-five head of horses on his place and each year fattens about seventy-five head of hogs for the market.

Mr. Geiger was married at Bloomington, Ill., to Miss Anna Niese, Sept. 14, 1859. She is the daughter of Michael and Margaret (Eggert) Niese, natives of Germany, and who remained residents of their native country until their death. Michael Niese became the head of a family of twelve children, and Mrs. Geiger is the eleventh in order of birth. She was born in Germany, Oct. 11, 1834, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of seven children, namely, George A., Frank, Albert F., John N., Paul H., Magdalena and Minnie. Five died in infancy. Mr. Geiger has held the office of Highway Commissioner and in politics is a Republican. He is a self-made man,

for at the time he landed in Cincinnati he had not a single penny in his pocket nor had he any property that could be converted into money. From his present possessions the reader can readily see what has been accomplished by one possessed of a determination to get on in the world without depending on assistance from others. A fine lithographic view of the handsome residence and farm buildings of Mr. Geiger is shown elsewhere in this work.



**L**AFAYETTE PROCTOR, a resident of McLean County since 1878, and one of her most respected citizens and foremost agriculturists, resides on section 18, Towanda Township. He is a son of William and Sarah (McKee) Proctor, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Fleming County, Ky. After their marriage the parents settled in Kentucky, where the father engaged in farming and met with signal success. They continued to reside in that State until their death, which occurred in Lewis County. Their children were eleven in number, six sons and five daughters, and our subject was the fifth in order of birth.

Lafayette Proctor was born in Fleming County, Ky., Dec. 25, 1827, and was there reared to manhood. His school privileges were limited and he resided with the old folk, assisting in the labors on the farm until he had attained the age of manhood. He then engaged in driving cattle from his native State to New York and Philadelphia, and followed that occupation as long as he was a citizen of Kentucky. From that State he moved to Morgan County, Ill., and was there occupied in the same business for about two years, when he was married, and settling down on a farm followed that vocation in Menard County, Ill. Living there for five years he moved to De Witt County, Ill., and there purchased a farm, on which he lived until the spring of 1878. He then came to this county and bought 160 acres of land located on section 18, Towanda Township, and has made that his home until the present time, engaged the while in farming, and meeting with more than ordinary success in the prosecution of his vocation.

Mr. Proctor was married at Springfield, Ill., Oct. 4, 1855, to Miss Eliza A. Walker, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Skinner) Walker. Her parents were natives of Pennsylvania, whence they emigrated to Sangamon County, Ill., in 1849, and lived there until their death. They had eight children, and Mrs. Proctor was the fifth in order of birth. She first saw light in Franklin County, Pa., May 25, 1827, and has borne our subject six children—Sarah E., William F., John W., Carrie B., Charles A. and Amanda A. Sarah was united in marriage with Loden Berry, and departed this life at Towanda June 6, 1882; William F. married Miss Silvia Malthy, and they are living in Nebraska; John and Miss Sarah A. Proctor became man and wife, and are residing in Towanda Township, and Carrie B. and Charles A. are yet inmates of the parental household; Amanda died in De Witt County, while in infancy. Mrs. Proctor is a member of the Presbyterian Church, and in politics our subject votes for the success of the Republican party.



**G**EORGE D. SITHERWOOD, M. D., a skillful and intelligent dental surgeon of Bloomington, is a native of Pennsylvania, and was born in Fayette County, March 8, 1846, being the son of William and Margaret Sitherwood. His father was a farmer by occupation, and carried on his operations in the little valley of Jacob's Creek, at the foot of Chestnut Ridge. George D. spent his boyhood assisting in the duties of the homestead in the summer, and attending school at Laurelville during the winter season. He also took a course in the Normal School at Millsboro, on the Monongahela River, in Washington County, Pa., from which he graduated in 1862, and immediately began teaching at Moccasin Hollow, Westmoreland County, that State. He was thus employed until after the outbreak of the late Rebellion, and in 1863 enlisted as a Union soldier, in a regiment of Pennsylvania cavalry, as bugler, and remained in the service, in Southern Pennsylvania, until the expiration of his term of enlistment. He received his honorable discharge at Pittsburgh, in October of that same

year, and returning home resumed his former occupation as a teacher, and was thus occupied until January, 1864. He then enlisted in the regular army, and went on duty in the United States Signal Corps. Himself and Doane B. Coleord were chief buglers of the Signal Camp of Instruction, which was situated on Georgetown Heights. It was also a part of the duty of our subject to give instruction to cavalry buglers for the Army of the Potomac. He was a member of the Signal Corps Band, playing E (flat) cornet. He was in the skirmish and battle of Ft. Stephens when Gen. Early came down through Maryland and attempted to capture Washington City.

In January, 1865, young Sitherwood was sent with a small detachment of the Signal Corps to Hilton Head, S. C., doing duty at Braddock's Point, formerly the home of John C. Calhoun, Ft. Pulaski, Savannah, Ga., and the Sea Islands of South Carolina. He was most of the time on duty at Ft. Pulaski. It was in this fort that many of the principal leaders of the Rebellion and Governors of the seceding States were imprisoned, namely: Gov. McGrath, South Carolina; Allison, of Florida; Senator R. M. Hunter, of Virginia; James S. Seddons, Secretary of War; Judge Campbell, of Mississippi; Judge Clark, and various others. Our subject became quite well acquainted with those mentioned, often bringing them vegetables from Savannah, and playing duets with Gov. Allison, who was a fine violinist, the Doctor playing the cornet. While on duty at Georgetown Heights as bugler, Dr. Sitherwood always had a free pass to Washington City, and attended many of the Presidential receptions, so that the faces of Lincoln, Seward, Stanton, Chase, Johnson, Sumner, and the leading men on both sides became familiar to the bugler boy of the Signal Corps, who always regretted that he was not old enough to vote for "Father Abraham" when he was elected President for the second term, although he did assist in the serenade and grand hurrah that night in Washington, when it was known that he was elected. Our subject was mustered out Aug. 20, 1865, receiving his honorable discharge at Hilton Head, S. C.

Dr. Sitherwood returned home from the war by way of New York, taking passage on the old steam-

ship "Aragon." He immediately resumed the study of medicine, which he had begun in the spring of 1863, with Dr. J. Loar, at Mt. Pleasant, in the meantime teaching music and leading a brass band, in order to get means to attend medical lectures. For this purpose he went to Philadelphia, during the winter of 1866-67, and spent some time in the University of Medicine and Surgery, and with Dr. Isaac Lukens, an eminent dentist, who lectured in the college. The summer of 1867 was spent in Cleveland and Akron, Ohio, where he worked at his trade, making reeds and tuning organs in the factories of those cities, endeavoring to earn money to pay for the second year in college. In the fall of 1867 he returned to Philadelphia on foot, a distance of 750 miles, taking subscriptions for a medical journal on the way, and thus clearing about \$75. The walking feat was noticed by a number of the city papers at the time. He pursued his studies closely that winter, and in the spring of 1868 graduated from the University. In the fall of that year he commenced the practice of his profession at Richfield Springs, N. Y., being successful from the start. In October, 1869, he left New York, and coming West as far as Mt. Vernon, Ohio, entered into partnership with Dr. Loar.

Dr. Sitherwood was married, Dec. 14, 1870, to Miss Saddle A. Loar, the eldest daughter of his partner, a beautiful and accomplished lady, who made him a charming and affectionate wife, and who became the true helpmeet and sympathizer of her husband in all his plans and undertakings. In April, 1871, he dissolved partnership with Dr. Loar, and accompanied by his wife, came to Lincoln, in this State, where he pursued his practice successfully until August, 1872, and then, by a mutual agreement with his wife, gave up medicine, and removing to Bloomington resumed his trade of tuning organs and other duties connected therewith, in the establishment of Andrus Bros., who were then manufacturing these instruments, at the corner of North and East streets. Dr. S. was thus employed with this company until May, 1875, and then entered the dental office of Dr. J. Campbell, performing office and laboratory work until January, 1877, when he opened an office of his own for the practice of dentistry, in which he has been emi-







J. B. Crigler



Mrs. J. B. Crigler

nently successful. His mechanical skill, artistic taste and thorough knowledge of his business, at once established him in the confidence of the people of this locality, and he now holds an honorable position in the profession in this section. He belongs to the Illinois, the Chicago, the Central Illinois and the American Dental Societies, and in each body has been called upon to fill responsible and honorable offices.

The married life of Dr. Sitherwood was like a perfect day in summer, all sunshine and flowers, but too happy to last. Three lovely children came to bless their home, two girls and a boy. The elder girl died of scarlet fever when not quite four years old. April 16, 1885, after an attack of malarial fever of only five days his beloved companion closed her eyes forever upon the scenes of earth. She was a devout and earnest Christian lady, greatly interested in Sunday-school work, and gave her time and strength as far as able to building up the cause of religion among the young. Her name is held in tender remembrance by a devoted husband and a large circle of friends and acquaintances.

The subject of this history descended from excellent Scotch-Irish ancestry, the McMichaels, of Scotland, on his mother's side, while his grandfather Sitherwood came from Armagh, Ireland, and was religiously a Seceder. His maternal grandmother lived to the advanced age of ninety-three years. Dr. Sitherwood is a member of the Christian Church, and is Superintendent of the large and flourishing Sunday-school, over which he has presided for eight years. He is strictly temperate in his habits, never using tobacco in any form, is opposed to the use of alcoholic liquors, enjoys robust and perfect health, and presents the picture of manly strength and vigor.



**THOMAS B. CRIGLER.** Upon the opposite page may be seen the portraits of a highly esteemed couple, who have lived in McLean County for nearly forty years. During this long period their lives have been so exemplary that the esteem of the entire community has been won.

They emigrated from the Old Dominion in 1849, and since that time, with the exception of five years spent in Tazewell County, have been residents here, and interested in the growth and progress of this locality. Mr. Crigler owns a farm of 126 acres on section 30, in Cheney's Grove Township, and is known as a thorough farmer and business man, well worthy of the confidence and esteem of his fellow-townsmen.

The birth of our subject occurred in Culpeper County, Va., Dec. 2, 1815. His parents, James and Sarah (Triplett) Crigler, were both natives of the Old Dominion. James Crigler was born in 1773, and departed this life in Virginia in 1841, when sixty-eight years of age. The mother was born in 1795, and died in that State in 1847. Their family consisted of six sons and six daughters, viz.: Catherine, who married Coleman B. Brown; William L., Thomas B., Dr. James R., Frances S., Sarah J., Matilda, Daniel, Elliott M., Christopher C., Isabella and Mary E. The subject of this biography was the third child of his parents and remained under the home roof until his marriage, on the 25th of July, 1839. The maiden of his choice was Miss Sarah R. Deal, who was born in Waynesboro, Va., Jan. 28, 1820, and is the daughter of John and Nellie (Invoden) Deal, both natives of Virginia, and the parents of twelve children, eight daughters and four sons, as follows: George W., Catherine, Samuel C., Henry J., Sarah R., Mary, Ellen, Margaret, John A., Ida, Susan and Jane A. The parents of Mrs. Crigler were of German extraction. The first representatives of the family in this country settled in the South at an early day.

Our subject and his wife became the parents of ten children, of whom the record is as follows: Dr. William H. H. first married Miss Nellie Thorp, who has been dead for six years; his second wife was Miss Maggie Sealy. This son during the late Rebellion was Assistant Surgeon in the Union Army; he died at Covington, Ind., in 1884. Clarissa F. became the wife of Winston Meeks, who died March 13, 1882; Crimmora E. became the wife, first of William Marteen, who died in 1881, and afterward of M. A. Richardson, of Streeter, Ill.; Arey A. died at the age of four years and seven-

teen days; Dr. John M. B. married Miss Love Ballard; James T. died when an infant of eleven days old; Dr. Julius W. married Miss Bell, the daughter of Dr. Ballard, who died a few years later; he was then married to Miss Lou Clute. Mattie S. is the wife of A. J. Maece, Postmaster of Saybrook and proprietor of the *Weekly Gazette*; Maggie E., Mrs. Moore, lives in Sutton, Neb.; Arey, Mrs. E. Hester, lives in this township.

When Mr. Crigler came to this county, in 1849, he only spent one year, then moved to Tazewell County. After a residence there of five years, he returned and located in Danvers Township, of which he was a resident eleven years. Thence he removed to the eastern part of the county where he located on section 1, in this township, and lived ten or twelve years; he afterward resided in Allin Township for four years, and then purchased his present farm.

Mr. Crigler and the various members of his family are prominently connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and our subject has been warmly interested in the success of the prohibition movement. He is a working member of the Sons of Temperance, and labored for many years in endeavoring to make unpopular the manufacture and sale of spirituous liquors. He is the oldest Odd Fellow in McLean County, his membership dating back to 1842. He has held the various offices within the gift of his townsmen, by whom he is universally respected, and who have the highest confidence in his ability as a business man and his loyalty as a citizen.



**D**R. SELDEN M. PAYNE, physician and surgeon of Chenoa Township, has been located here since 1850 and has built up a successful practice. He is a native of Ohio, born in Marietta, Washington County, on the 25th of August, 1819. The first representatives of the Payne family in the United States, who were of English birth and ancestry, were three brothers who came from England and settled respectively in Vermont, Rhode Island and Connecticut. Abraham Payne, the grandfather of our subject, was a

direct descendant from the brother who settled in Connecticut. His son Rufus was the father of our subject, and in early life learned the trade of a shoemaker, although he was fond of agricultural pursuits and lived upon a farm. He married in early life Miss Mary Perkins, of Washington County, Ohio, to which State he had emigrated. After marriage the young couple settled upon a tract of timber land which Rufus Payne cleared and cultivated, and where he established a comfortable home. In the meantime, as opportunity afforded, he also worked at his trade. In 1848 they removed to Guernsey County, in the same State, thence to Portage County, and from there came West across the Mississippi and located in Appanoose County, Iowa, where his death occurred in about 1875. The wife and mother had departed this life in Washington County, Ohio. Their ten children included seven daughters and three sons, seven of whom are still living. The father subsequently married again, and of this latter union there were born two children.

The subject of this history was the second child of the first marriage. He passed his boyhood days in Ohio, pursued his early studies in the common schools and later attended Marietta College. He chose his profession early in life and taught school in order to obtain means to complete his medical studies. He read medicine with Dr. Sheldon of Garrettsville, Ohio, and attended lectures in the Eclectic Medical College at Cincinnati, from which he graduated in 1846. The year following he commenced the practice of his profession in Greene County, Ind.

The marriage of Dr. Payne and Miss Elizabeth Franklin was celebrated on the 15th of November, 1847. Mrs. P. is the daughter of Col. John Franklin, who came to this county in 1850. That same year Dr. Payne also came to this county and located on a farm near Lexington. Here he carried on agriculture in connection with his practice, having the same love of rural scenes and pursuits which had distinguished his honored father. After the war came on, he enlisted as Assistant Surgeon in the 94th Illinois Infantry and was assigned to duty at Springfield, Mo. Not long thereafter, on account of failing health, he tendered his resig-

nation, and returning home settled on his present farm. This lies on section 31, and includes 240 acres of choice land. Here he has a tasteful and comfortable residence and all the accessories of an enjoyable country estate.

The union of Mr. and Mrs. Payne has been blest by the birth of five sons: Romeo died when six months old; Leland M. died in Newton County, Mo., in January, 1887, when thirty-six years of age; he married Miss E. Johnson, and they had one daughter; Carmel D. died Oct. 30, 1881; Wilbur F. and Charles H., the only survivors, remain on the homestead with their parents, and their father has practically turned over to them the business and management of the farm. The former married Huldah Harness.

Dr. Payne is a member of the G. A. R. and has practically retired from active business, only occasionally attending a call for his professional services in the case of an old friend or neighbor. In politics he is a Democrat. Mrs. Payne is a member of the Christian Church. The Doctor is liberal in his religious views.



**A**UGUSTUS HILL, one of the reliable citizens and successful farmers of Padua Township, occupies a fine property located on section 19, where in addition to general agriculture, he is giving much attention to the raising of stock. His snug homestead includes eighty-five acres of finely cultivated land, upon which he has erected a good set of farm buildings, the location being one of the finest in this section, and commanding an extended view of the beautiful surrounding country. Mr. Hill settled on his present homestead in February, 1884, having removed from another part of the township where he owned eighty acres, and which he sold before taking possession of his present purchase.

Mr. Hill is a native of McLean County, and was born in Dry Grove Township, May 27, 1847. He is the eldest but one of the family of Johnny Hill, one of the best citizens of Dry Grove Township. Our subject was reared in his native township and received a good common-school education.

When twenty-seven years old he was united in marriage with Miss Louisa W. Moulton, the marriage taking place in Forest, Livingston Co., Ill., Oct. 14, 1873. Mrs. Hill was born in the town of Lyman, Grafton Co., N. H., in sight of the White Mountains, Aug. 18, 1846, being the daughter of Gabriel G. Moulton. The latter was of New England parentage and prided himself upon being a full-fledged Yankee. He was married in early manhood to Miss Sophia P. Walker, of Lymantown, N. H. She died when her daughter, the wife of our subject, was a little child four years of age. Mr. Moulton is still living, being a resident of Littleton, N. H., and seventy-six years of age. Mrs. Hill was the youngest of her mother's five children, two sons and three daughters. In due time her father contracted a second marriage, and she remained an inmate of the parental household until twenty-two years of age, in the meanwhile occupied as a teacher. She came to Illinois in 1868, and successfully followed her profession in Dale Township about four years, until her marriage.

Mr. and Mrs. Hill became the parents of two children—Clara M., at home, and George M., deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Hill lived for a time in Dale Township, whence after two and one-half years they removed to Ellsworth, Padua Township, and then removed to their present farm. Mr. Hill is Democratic in politics and is in all respects a valued member of the community.

A lithographic view of Mr. Hill's handsome residence is shown on another page of this work.



**D**AVID L. WHITE, who has been a resident of the Prairie State for the past thirty years, has spent the greater part of his time since 1856 in McLean County. He is now comfortably located in Bloomington Township, where he owns a valuable homestead of 170 acres on section 21, and thirteen on section 20. He first opened his eyes to the light among the Ohio hills, having been born in Montgomery County, that State, on the 25th of August, 1823. His father, who was also a farmer by occupation, removed from Virginia to Ohio about 1800, at an

early period in the history of the State, and resided in Miami Township, Montgomery County, until his death, which occurred in 1844, when he was little past the prime of life, being fifty-two years of age. The parents of our subject, John V. and Elizabeth (Delapp) White, were natives of Pennsylvania, who first removed to Virginia and thence to Ohio. Mrs. Elizabeth White survived the death of her husband twenty-four years, and died in Montgomery County, Ohio, at the age of seventy-eight. She reared a family of six sons, our subject being the fifth in order of birth.

David L. White remained with his parents until his marriage, which took place on the 15th of May, 1853, the maiden of his choice being Miss Elizabeth Lamme, who was born and reared on a farm in Montgomery County, Ohio, and was a neighbor of her husband all her younger days. She lived to come to Illinois and assist him in establishing a home in this county, and departed this life on the 7th of May, 1862, after being his affectionate companion for nine years. Of the four children born to them, only one is now living, David L., Jr., who married Miss Mary Mann, and resides in this township, engaged in farming pursuits. Mary J. died at the age of eighteen years; Hattie died when quite young, and an infant died unnamed. Mrs. White was an earnest and sincere Christian, a worthy member of the Presbyterian Church, and greatly beloved by her family and friends.

On the 18th of March, 1863, Mr. White was married the second time, in Bloomington, to Miss Louisa Foster, also a native of Montgomery County, Ohio, and the daughter of George and Fredrica (Drexler) Foster, who were of German parentage and descent. They came to the United States when quite young, and were married in Maryland. After the birth of two children, they removed to Montgomery County, Ohio, where five more little ones were added to the family circle. They then came to Bloomington in 1858, and later, in 1864, removed to Waupaca County, Wis., where the father died the following year. He was a weaver by trade, but after coming West, engaged in other pursuits. The mother is now with her daughter, Mrs. White of this sketch.

Of this marriage of our subject there have been

born nine children, eight living and three married: William married Miss Lydia Keckley, of Bloomington, and is farming in Bloomington Township; Edward is unmarried and lives in Kansas; Cynisea is the wife of John W. Keckley, a farmer of Bloomington Township; Ida M. is the wife of D. K. Lott, and resides in Farmer City; Grant, McLean, Orville and Lillie, are at home; an infant is deceased.

The home of our subject and his family is a pleasant and attractive one. They are surrounded by all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life, and possess in a marked degree the respect and esteem of their neighbors. Mr. White politically is a solid Republican, and has been Road Commissioner of the township for several years.



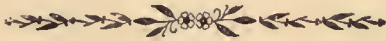
**S**AMUEL W. SMITH, of the firm of Smith & Washburn, dealers in hardware, boots, shoes and groceries, at Cropsey, Ill., is, in company with his partner, carrying on a thriving and steadily increasing trade. The business was established in the fall of 1881, and in connection with this Mr. Smith introduced hardware and agricultural implements and continued alone in business about eighteen months. He then entered into partnership with Edward Washburn, and the firm have operated together since that time under the name and style of Smith & Washburn. They carry a large and well-selected stock, and receive the patronage of the best people of this locality.

Mr. Smith was born in Groveland, Tazewell Co., Ill., Aug. 12; 1856, being the son of Rev. Samuel B. and Jane Smith. He was only two and one-half years old when he was deprived of the tender and affectionate care of his mother, who died in 1859, leaving three children: Elizabeth, now the wife of James Hare, of Colfax; I. L. and Samuel W. After the death of his first wife, the father of our subject was again married. He officiated as minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church for a period of thirty years, but is now superannuated, and resides in Selma.

Samuel W. Smith pursued his primary studies in the common schools during his childhood, and

when fifteen years of age, was thrown upon his own resources and engaged in the battle of life. He employed himself at whatever his hands could find to do, his intelligence and industry securing for him friends from the start. He lived economically, saved what he could of his earnings, and in due time commenced farming on his own land, which consisted of a tract of eighty acres near Lexington in this county, which had been left him by his mother. He cultivated this land until his removal to Cropsey, having sold it to engage in a business which better suited his tastes and inclinations.

The marriage of Mr. Smith occurred in 1878, the maiden of his choice being Miss Jessie G., the daughter of Charles and Cordelia Hayward. Mrs. Smith was born in Peoria County, Ill., and they have two children—Ward S. and Reuie Madge. Mr. Smith is Republican in politics, and socially belongs to the Masonic fraternity.



**M**ILTON BOZARTH. No county in the great Prairie State can boast of such an array of intelligent agriculturists as McLean. Everywhere are evidences of thrift, wisdom and enterprise, and on section 26, of Allin Township, is comfortably located the farm where one of McLean's good farmers, Milton Bozarth, is prosecuting his chosen calling with success. He has been a resident of this homestead since his marriage, April 20, 1859. It consists of 213 acres of finely cultivated land with a tasteful and substantial farm dwelling, a good barn and all the accessories of the intelligent and progressive farmer. Here he spends his time as an industrious and law-abiding citizen, enjoying the respect of his neighbors and fulfilling the obligations incident to his station, as a substantial member of the community.

Mr. Bozarth was born in Christian County, Ky., Jan. 15, 1832, being the son of John and Cynthia (Taylor) Bozarth, who were natives of the same State. John Bozarth was born in 1799, and his wife in 1807. He was a farmer by occupation and the marriage of the parents took place in Christian County, Ky., in about 1827. They remained there until 1839, and then started for Illinois, arriving

in this county on the 10th of December following. Mr. B. purchased seventy acres of land, which he proceeded to cultivate and improve and to which he subsequently added and established a permanent homestead, upon which he remained until his death, in 1859. He was remarkably successful in his farming and business transactions and before his death became the possessor of 2,200 acres of land. Mrs. B. survived her husband for a period of twenty-eight years, her death occurring Jan. 6, 1887. Their remains lie side by side in the old homestead cemetery. Their twelve children were, Lavina, Addison, Milton, George, Isabella, John, Alfred, James, Josiah, William, Robert and Hettie.

Mr. and Mrs. Milton Bozarth became the parents of five children: Franklin, born May 11, 1869, died July 13, 1879. The other four died in infancy, unnamed. Mrs. B. is the daughter of Jonathan and Sarah (Ritchie) Baker, both natives of Rockingham County, Va. They came to McLean County, Ill., in 1854, and located upon a farm, where the mother died in April, 1857. Mr. Baker is still living and residing in Martin Township, where he owns a farm. Their family consisted of five children—Anna, Julia, Jacob, Addison and Martin.

Mr. Bozarth has held the office of Commissioner of Highways and was Supervisor for three years. Politically he is strongly Democratic. He is a member in good standing of the A. F. & A. M. and the I. O. O. F., also the Patriotic Circle and the order of Red Men. They are greatly respected by all who know them.



**P**ETER V. WEIDNER, who is carrying on general merchandising in the village of Padua, is well known throughout the county as an energetic and successful business man and one who has contributed his full share to the building up of his town and county. Besides carrying a stock of general merchandise, he buys and ships all kinds of grain and live stock, and since his establishment here, in 1882, has pushed steadily ahead and from the proceeds of his extensive business, enjoys a fine income. He

also holds the office of Postmaster, to which he was appointed in 1874, and which he has since occupied. He became a resident of Padua Township in 1854, settling first on a farm of 160 acres, finely located on section 29, and which is now operated by his youngest son, John W. Besides this property our subject owns several town lots. Upon one of these he has a fine frame residence, with his business house and warehouse near by. He has pursued a straightforward and upright course in his dealings with his fellow-citizens and is eminently deserving of the success which has attended his labors.

Mr. Weidner was born in Butler County, Ohio, April 30, 1827, and is the son of David and Rebecca (McNeal) Weidner, natives of Ohio, where they were reared and received a fair education in the common schools. The grandfather of our subject, Jacob Weidner, of Pennsylvania, also followed agricultural pursuits, removing from his native State to Ohio and thence to Indiana, where he spent the last years of his life. David Weidner and his young wife soon after their marriage located upon a farm where their only child, our subject, was born. When nine years of age he removed with his parents from Butler County, Ohio, to Carroll County, Ind., where the mother died five years later. His father married the second time and lived in Indiana the balance of his days.

After the death of his mother Peter Weidner left home, first working out for his board and afterward at a salary of twenty-five cents per day. He remained a resident of Carroll County, Ind., until his marriage in 1848 with Miss Mary E. Cregg. Mrs. W. was born and reared in Ohio, whence she removed with her parents to Indiana when a child. They located upon a farm in Carroll County, and after a few years came to McLean County, and settled in Padua Township, where the father died, the mother departing this life in Old Town Township. Their daughter, the wife of our subject, was the fifth of a family of six sons and three daughters. Mr. and Mrs. W. became the parents of seven children, one of whom is deceased. James is a farmer of De Witt County, Ill.; David is farming in Lancaster County, Neb., and Charles in Rice County, Kan.;

John W. operates his father's homestead; Frances Ann became the wife of E. Reibe, of Padua Township; Mary married James K. Stephens, who is engaged as clerk for his father-in-law; he was formerly a resident of Nebraska. Mr. Weidner is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and has held most of the important offices, including that of Sunday-school Superintendent. Politically he is a staunch Republican and has served as Township Treasurer and Collector for many years. Mrs. Weidner departed this life in June, 1875, and since that time our subject's daughter has kept house for him.



**J**ONATHAN ALLISON, an honored pioneer of McLean County, and one of the most successful farmers in Dale Township, is pleasantly located on section 16, where he is engaged in general farming besides giving much attention to the raising of fine stock.

Mr. Allison comes from excellent Irish and German ancestry, and is a native of the Keystone State, having been born in Bedford County. The date of his birth was Nov. 22, 1836, and his father, Jonathan Allison, was a native of the same county. His grandfather was born in Ireland, whence he emigrated when a young man to the Island of Jamaica, where he spent two or three years and then came to America. It is said that he landed with twelve and one-half cents in his pocket and that he threw this small sum into the sea, so as to start anew in his adopted country. He went into Chester County, Pa., and employed himself at whatever his hands could find to do, working by the day or month as opportunity occurred. Although he received but very small wages he saved of this every penny that he possibly could, and in due time found himself possessed of sufficient means to purchase a tract of timber land. This first venture, however, proved unfortunate, as the title to his land was defective, and he was obliged to pay for it the second time. This, however, did not discourage him in the least, and he set about making good his loss with more determination than when he commenced, and finally received the reward of



perseverance and industry. He became the owner of a valuable farm in Bedford County, upon which he passed the remainder of his life.

The son of the foregoing and the father of our subject, was reared in Bedford County, Pa., and lived there until 1839, when he removed to Ohio and for nine years was a resident of Miami County. He then crossed over the State of Indiana into Illinois, settling in McLean County. He was accompanied by his family, which consisted of his wife and five children, and the journey was made overland. Their outfit consisted of seven horses, two wagons and two grey-hounds, and they carried their household goods and provisions with them, camping and cooking by the wayside. After sixteen and a half days of travel, they lauded at Twin Grove, in this county, where Mr. Allison rented a house into which he moved his family, and then commenced the cultivation of rented land in Dry Grove Township. They occupied this house for a period of eleven months. In the meantime the father entered 240 acres of land on section 15, Dale Township, and erected a house into which he removed with his family, and remained there until his death, which occurred in October, 1853.

The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Hannah Stiger. She also was born in Bedford County, Pa., and was of German parentage and descent. She came to Illinois with her husband and children, and survived the former, dying on the old homestead in Dale Township, in 1865. The parental household of our subject included seven sons, five of whom are now living, as follows: James is a resident of Dale Township; John was the second son [see sketch]; Jonathan, the subject of this sketch, was the third in order of birth; Abraham and Benjamin live near Lexington, this county.

Jonathan Allison was but two and a half years old when his parents removed from Pennsylvania to Ohio, and eleven years old when they came to McLean County. Here he practically grew up with the country. During his childhood and youth he attended the pioneer schools in winter, and in the summer season was employed in the ordinary duties of a farmer's boy. He remained with his mother after the death of his father, until his mar-

riage, and then located upon rented land, which he cultivated four years, after which he settled upon the place which he now owns and occupies. Upon this latter he has made great improvements since it came into his possession. It consists of eighty acres, finely located and in a good state of cultivation, and he has erected a good set of frame buildings. The residence, a view of which is shown in this work, is pleasant and commodious, and surrounded by fruit, shade and ornamental trees. He has a fine barn and all necessary out-buildings, with valuable farm machinery and all the appliances of a first-class agriculturist. His domestic animals are sleek and fat, and testify to the good care and treatment which they uniformly receive. They are of the best breeds and compare well with some of the finest stock of the Sucker State.

The subject of our sketch was united in marriage with Miss Mary M. Ritchie, in December, 1861, their union taking place in Springfield, Ill. Mrs. Allison was a native of Virginia, and born Feb. 20, 1844. Her father, George Ritchie, was a native of the same State, and moved to Ft. Scott, Kan., where he departed this life in June, 1854. In the fall of the same year the mother, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Shumaker, moved with her family to McLean County, Ill. She makes her home with her children.

Mr. and Mrs. Allison have become the parents of three children—Emma D., Mary M. and Ollie E. Emma was educated in the university at Normal, and is now teaching; the younger daughters are pursuing their studies in the schools of Dale Township. Mr. Allison is Democratic in politics, and in every respect is worthy to be classed as an honest man and a good citizen.



**THOMAS J. NOBLE**, a well-to-do farmer of Funk's Grove Township, was born in Madison County, Ky., on the 4th of July, 1834. His father, David Noble, was a native of the same county, and his grandfather, who was also named David, was born in Pennsylvania, whence he removed, in early life, to Madison County, Ky., and occupied the fort in company with Daniel Boone.

Before he became a resident of the Blue Grass country he served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War and assisted in securing the independence of the colonies. He was engaged with Boone in fighting the Indians, and learned much from his companionship with the courageous old fighter and pioneer.

David Noble, Jr., the father of our subject, was quite young when his father died in Kentucky, and he was reared by his mother and stepfather until 1800, when he was nineteen years of age. He then began flatboating on the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers, following this for some years, and afterward turned his attention to farming. He raised tobacco, manufactured the same, and earned a comfortable living for himself and family. The wife and mother departed this life in July, 1862. David Noble then came to Illinois, and lived with his children until he, too, was summoned to the unknown country, in February, 1874.

The mother of our subject, formerly Miss Rebecca Portwood, was born in Madison County, Ky., being the daughter of Samuel Portwood, of Virginia, who was a soldier in the Revolutionary War and afterward removed to Kentucky, being among the pioneer settlers of Madison County. The parental household included eight children, all of whom grew to years of maturity and of whom the record is as follows: Samuel and George P. are deceased; Paul lives in Macon County, Ill.; Susan, Mrs. Webb, is deceased; Thomas J., our subject, was the fifth; David lives in Madison County, Ky.; Sidney in Funk's Grove Township, and Silas, in Sauk Center, Minn.

Thomas J. Noble was reared to farming pursuits and educated in the subscription schools of his native State. He lived with his parents until he was twenty years old and then farmed on the old homestead for himself two years, and then on his sister's farm. In 1857 he purchased a farm in Madison County, Ky., which he sold after two years. He purchased a second farm, which he lost on account of the war. In November, 1861, he started for Illinois, and first purchased a farm in Chester Township, Sangamon County, upon which he remained thirteen years, then sold out and secured the homestead which he now owns and occupies.

This includes 206 acres of valuable land, all enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. Upon it is a good set of frame buildings; the house was built in 1879, and the barn in 1882. Everything is kept in good order and denotes the supervision of a methodical and intelligent mind. He also owns eighty acres of land in Rice County, Kan.

Mr. Noble was married on the 30th of July, 1854, to Miss Matilda Keen, who was born in Madison County, Ky., Jan. 28, 1833. Her father, James Keen, was a native of North Carolina, and her mother, formerly Miss Frances Cobb, of Virginia, was the daughter of Samuel Cobb, a native of the Old Dominion and one of the pioneers of Madison County, Ky. He made the journey from his native State overland and was familiar with all the difficulties which encountered the early settlers.

Mr. and Mrs. Noble have eight children, as follows: Elvere became the wife of William P. Sutton, and resides in Audubon County, Iowa; Frances married Marcellus Bright, and lives in Rice County, Kan.; David lives at home; Ida May became the wife of Winfield Shearer, of Funk's Grove Township; Sallie A. married Elmer Bright, and is a resident of Rice County, Kan.; Nannie was born July 7, 1858, married James Carson, and departed this life July 26, 1884; two others died when young.

Mr. and Mrs. Noble and two of their children are members of the Christian Church, and our subject, politically, belongs to the Democratic party. He is the friend of temperance, good order and education, fulfilling his duties as an honest man and a good citizen, and in his business as well as his personal career has set an example worthy to be followed by the rising generation.



**L**UCIUS A. VASEY. This gentleman, who resides at Le Roy, and who has retired from the active labors of farm life, has been for some years one of the prominent and prosperous agriculturists of McLean County. He is a native of the Prairie State and was born in McHenry County, Aug. 14, 1849. His father, Richard Vasey, was born near Rome, Oneida Co., N. Y., in 1825, and his grandfather, William Vasey, was a





*Saml J. Chapman*



*Richard Wray*

native of England, and emigrated to America accompanied by his family about the year 1824. He settled at Rome, N. Y., where he lived for a number of years. In 1844 he came westward to Illinois and, locating in McHenry County, passed the remainder of his days in the town of McHenry.


Richard Vasey was reared in his native county and lived there until eighteen years of age. He then visited Wisconsin and afterward Illinois, and purchased a tract of wild land near Ringwood, McHenry County. Upon this he erected a frame house 16x24 feet in area, into which he removed with his family and proceeded with the cultivation and improvement of his possessions. His nearest markets were Chicago, Milwaukee, Racine and Waukegan, and with true pioneer courage and resolution he overcame the difficulties which he encountered, and in due time had a good farm and a comfortable dwelling. He also added to his landed possessions and bought two farms adjoining his original purchase. He occupied this farm homestead until 1865, when he sold out and removed to Bloomington for the purpose of educating his children. There the family lived for nine years, and then Mr. Vasey, longing again for country life, exchanged his town property for a farm near Le Roy, in Empire Township, upon which he removed and remained until his death, which occurred Sept. 22, 1882.

Mr. Vasey was married, in McHenry, on the 27th of October, 1847, to Miss Rumanda Pieree, who was a native of Bradford County, Pa., and the daughter of Abel Pieree, a native of New York State. Mr. Pieree was a farmer by occupation and about 1844 removed to McHenry County, Ill., where his life terminated. His wife, the mother of Mrs. V., was formerly Miss Lanah Ciplee. She was born near Troy, N. Y., and died in Bradford County, Pa. Mr. and Mrs. Richard Vasey were the parents of three children: Emory O. died in Pennsylvania while attending the Centennial in 1876, at the age of twenty-two years; Charles H. died in Le Roy in 1879, aged twenty-three years.

Long known as one of the best and most highly respected men of McLean County, the portrait of Mr. Vasey is most worthy to be presented among those of the leading men of the county.

Lueius A. Vasey is the only son of his parents now living. He pursued his primary studies in the public schools of McHenry County, and in the fall of 1865 entered Wesleyan University, at Bloomington, where he attended six years, graduating in the class of 1871. He then returned to his father's farm, and in 1874 removed to Belleflower, in this county, where he purchased a farm just outside the limits of the town but lived within the corporation. He remained there until 1886, when he removed to Le Roy where, retired from the more active duties of life, he is living in the enjoyment of ample means and the association of friends and acquaintances. He still owns the old homestead three miles out of Le Roy, which is operated by a tenant. It is supplied with good farm buildings, and stocked with the best grades of domestic animals.

Mr. Vasey was married, April 15, 1874, to Miss Amelia J. Tobey, a native of West Stoekbridge, Berkshire Co., Mass., and the daughter of Franklin and Elizabeth (Platt) Tobey. Of this union there was born one child, a son—Albert. Mrs. Amelia J. Vasey departed this life June 12, 1879, and our subject for his second wife married Miss Sarah M. Tobey, a sister of the first wife, their wedding occurring Sept. 14, 1881. Mr. and Mrs. V. are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, as also were the father and mother of our subject. Mr. Vasey, formerly a Republican, is now a strong Prohibitionist. He was Justice of the Peace in Belleflower, which office he resigned upon his removal to Le Roy.



**S**AMUEL J. CHAPIN. Mr. Chapin belongs to that large class of cultured, intelligent and enterprising people who came into Illinois from New York and the New England States during the pioneer period, and who have been such important factors in developing to so high a degree the resources which nature has so generously lavished upon it. This element of Illinois population has not only contributed vastly in the development of the material resources of the State, until to-day it takes a front rank as a producing section of our country, but it has stood as a cham-

pion of enlarged and increased educational facilities.

Sammel J. Chapin, who resides in Mt. Hope Township, comes of excellent New England parentage, and is a native of Uxbridge, Mass., where he was born Aug. 25, 1812. His father, Phineas Chapin, was a native of the same town and of English descent. The greater part of his life was spent in farming pursuits and he remained a resident of Worcester County until his death. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Emmie Taft, also a native of Uxbridge, and the parental family consisted of eleven children, of whom our subject was the ninth in order of birth.

Our subject was reared on the farm, received a fair education in the public schools, and when a youth of eighteen years commenced teaching. He still pursued his own studies however, and attended Andover Seminary for six terms. His winters, until 1839, were spent in teaching and the summers in farming pursuits. In the spring of the year named he turned his footsteps toward the West and, accompanied by his wife and one child, came to McLean County, Ill. He established his family in a rented house in Mt. Hope Township, and having previously secured a tract of land commenced its improvement and cultivation. His possessions occupied a part of section 6, and in 1840 he put up a comfortable house with other necessary farm buildings. The nearest market then was Pekin, thirty miles distant, and thither the stock and other produce of the farm was transported for many years. The nearest post-office was at Waynesville, eight miles distant.

The homestead of our subject at first consisted of 160 acres. He prospered in his farming and business transactions and added to his landed estate from time to time until he now is the possessor of 320 acres, all in one body and supplied with tasteful and substantial farm buildings. He is known and recognized as one of the representative business men and agriculturists of this section.

Mr. Chapin was married in October, 1837, to Miss Comfort Ann Tucker, who was a native of Connecticut. After remaining the companion of her husband for three short years this lady, in the fall of 1840 died, leaving one child, Frederick W.,

who was born in Uxbridge, Mass., Aug. 25, 1838. This son, after arriving at years of manhood, married Miss Nancy A. Anderson, a native of Clay County, Ind. He now lives at Ft. Bidwell, Modoc Co., Cal. He followed mining for several years, but is a teacher of civil engineering, and also engaged in farming and stock-raising. For his second wife our subject married Miss Harriet N. Morse, March 29, 1841. Mrs. Chapin was born in Sutton, Mass., March 29, 1817, and was the daughter of John and Polly (Hathaway) Morse, both of Massachusetts. Of this marriage, Caleb F. was born March 1, 1843; he enlisted in the Union army in October, 1861, becoming a member of Co. G, 39th Ill. Vol. Inf.; he was wounded in battle before Richmond, June 4, 1864, and died eight days later; Harriet A., born April 25, 1847, died May 16, 1868; two other children died young; John, who was born June 1, 1853, married Miss Ophelia Willis, a native of Iowa, and lives in Custer County, Neb.

Mr. and Mrs. Chapin are members of the Congregational Church at Atlanta, our subject being Deacon in his congregation and Superintendent of the Sunday-school many years. In politics he is a Prohibitionist. During the existence of slavery he was a strong Abolitionist and later a Republican.

In presenting the portrait of Mr. Chapin, which is done in connection with this sketch, we give that of one of the most highly esteemed men of this locality.

John Morse, deceased, the father of Mrs. Chapin, was one of the pioneers of McLean County, coming into this section in 1837. He was a native of Sutton, Mass., and the son of Dr. Nathaniel Morse, a practicing physician of that place. His childhood and youth were spent upon a farm but after he had grown to manhood he engaged in mercantile pursuits and milling combined, and for a few years operated a cotton factory. In 1837, having disposed of all his interests in the East, he emigrated to Illinois with his wife and seven children. The first part of their journey was performed by steamer to Philadelphia, thence over the mountains by rail to Pittsburgh, afterward by the Ohio, Mississippi and Illinois Rivers to Pekin, where they boarded a "prairie schooner" and came into Mt. Hope Town-

ship, being one of the first of the colony who located here. Mr. Morse purchased a tract of wild land on section 32, erected a house and commenced to open up the farm. Upon the homestead thus established he remained until his death.

John Morse was a good man in all that the term implies. For many years he was connected with the Congregational Church and one of the first organizers of the society in Mt. Hope Township. He traveled by team to Chicago to procure windows and doors with which to complete the first church edifice in McLean County. He was well read and intelligent and frequently officiated in the pulpit as a "supply." He was brave and outspoken in his opinions and during the slavery agitations, distinguished himself by his arguments in favor of human freedom.

**W**ILLIAM C. HELLER, one of the enterprising young farmers of Blue Mound Township, owns forty acres of good land and cultivates eighty acres besides. He has started out in life with fair prospects which, with his good health and temperate habits, bid fair to place him among the prominent farmer residents of this section as one of the important factors of its agricultural interests. Mr. H. was born in Madison County, Ind., April 10, 1853, whence he removed with his parents to this county while still a child. He was reared on a farm and received a fair education in the public schools, and remained under the home roof until twenty-three years of age, when he was married and started out for himself. On coming to this county Mr. Heller made his first location in Blue Mound Township, and following the maxim that "A rolling stone gathers no moss," has laid his plans to remain here for an indefinite time.

The marriage of William C. Heller and Miss Emma J., daughter of Hezekiah and Sarah J. (Gaff) Horney, took place in Lexington Township, this county, on the 26th of September, 1876. A sketch of the parents of Mrs. H. will be found on another page in this work. The wife of our subject was born in Blue Mound Township, Aug. 29, 1855, and remained with her parents until her marriage, re-

ceiving careful home training and a good education in the district school. Mr. and Mrs. H. have had one child who died in infancy. Our subject is Democratic in politics and possesses all the qualities which constitute an honest man and a good citizen.

**C**LEON K. REAM, an extensive farmer and stock-grower of Gridley Township, is pleasantly located on section 24, where he has gained for himself a reputation as a first-class agriculturist and business man. He comes of a good family, being the son of Levi and Highly (King) Ream, natives of Pennsylvania. They were married in their native State and located in Somerset County, where the mother departed this life in about 1861. Levi Ream afterward emigrated westward and located in Clarke County, Iowa, where he still resides. He was formerly engaged in farming pursuits, but is now living retired from active business. The nine children of the parental household included five boys and four girls.

The subject of this sketch was born in Somerset County, Pa., July 18, 1847. His primary studies were conducted in the public schools, and afterward carried on in the High School at Hopedale, and completed at Harlem Springs, in Carroll Co., Ohio. In 1868 he removed to Iowa with his father, and the following year started out for himself. He went first to Minnesota, where he worked as a carpenter for eighteen months, and assisted in laying the first rail on the Northern Pacific Railroad. After leaving Minnesota he went into Wyoming Territory, residing for a time in Cheyenne, and afterward at Denver, Col. He then went down into Texas, working as a carpenter and bridge-builder, and after revisiting Colorado, where he was occupied in buffalo hunting for five months, he pushed on toward the Pacific Slope, and spent six years in California. During that time he learned the trade of a millwright, and was engaged in different places there and in Washington Territory at this trade, and in mining and prospecting on the Pacific Slope, extending into Old Mexico. He coasted from Victoria, British Columbia, about

400 miles, traveling in an Indian canoe made in one piece from a cedar tree, his companions being three men and an Indian guide. After returning to Victoria he proceeded to San Francisco, and then to Tucson, Ariz., where he engaged in contracting and building about one year. Thence he proceeded to Mexico and built a forty-stamp-mill for the Coborea Mining Company, which occupied about five months. After his return to Tucson he started eastward to Chicago, which he reached in September, 1881. He there engaged in speculating on the Board of Trade, and then, in company with his brother, N. B. Ream, who is a prominent member of the Board of Trade, purchased 960 acres of land in Gridley Township.

In January, 1882, Mr. Ream located with his family upon the farm which he and his brother had purchased, which is now operated by both brothers, and is furnished with all the machinery and appliances required by a first-class agriculturist. They have added to their original purchase until they now have 1,440 acres, all in one body, with one of the finest sets of frame buildings in the county. Their attention is principally devoted to stock-raising, in which they started with a herd of about 600 head of cattle. Their operations increased until one winter they purchased 50,000 bushels of corn for feeding. They now devote the most of their attention to raising and buying heavy draft horses. They have one of the finest French Percheron stallions in the county, which weighs 2,040 pounds, a magnificent animal and a model of symmetry, beauty and strength. In this business they give employment to five men, and have made for themselves a reputation second to none in the State in this department of agriculture. In 1886 they raised 12,000 bushels of oats. Their land is drained extensively with tile, including about fifty-seven miles; the outlets are 16 and 18 inch, and the water from them forms a creek, which is known as Turkey Creek. The farm is well watered with five large wells, which are fed from inexhaustible springs. For the purpose of raising water there are three windmills, by which all the farm buildings are supplied with this indispensable element. Mr. Ream is constantly adding valuable improvements to the farm, and it is now

valued at \$100,000, and stocked with \$28,000 worth of horses.

The marriage of Cleon C. Ream and Miss Bell L., daughter of Isaac and Julia A. (Kemp) Young, was celebrated in Chenoa Township, on the 13th of April, 1883. Mrs. R. was born in Money Creek Township, Aug. 18, 1862, and her parents were natives of Illinois and Ohio, respectively. Of this union there have been born three children; the two older were named George Y. and Grover C. Mr. Ream belongs to no secret organization. Politically he inclines to Democratic principles, while socially and as a business man he ranks among the representative citizens of McLean County.

**J.** HANCOCK, a successful dealer in groceries, queensware, etc., established his present prosperous business in Heyworth in November, 1885. He carries a clean and well selected stock, and by his courteous manners and square dealing has built up a thriving trade which is steadily on the increase. He was formerly engaged in farming in Downs Township, where he still owns a finely improved farm of 160 acres on section 9, township 21, 3 east. Mr. Hancock purchased his farm homestead in 1855, and since that time has made it his residence. He purchased the land from the Government, and was the first who commenced its improvement. He has brought it to a good state of cultivation, and has a fine set of farm buildings which are both tasteful and substantial.

The subject of this history was born in Montgomery County, Tenn., April 6, 1819. His father, Elijah Hancock, was a saddler by trade, and the son of Lloyd Hancock, who descended from pure English ancestry. Lloyd Hancock came to the United States when a young man and settled in Virginia, where he afterward made his home. He was married to Miss Mary Reeves, and they reared a family of five children, three sons and two daughters. Later in life the children went to Tennessee and the parents to Charleston, S. C., where they both died, being over seventy years of age. Their son Elijah, the father of our subject, was the third



child of the family, and before his marriage went to Montgomery County, Tenn. There he became acquainted with Miss Elizabeth Ross, a native of Stewart County, that State, whose parents were of Irish birth and ancestry. This lady became the wife of Elijah Haneock in 1818, and was subsequently the mother of our subject. Their household included six children, four sons and two daughters, of whom J. J. was the eldest. One of the sons and two daughters are now deceased. Those living besides our subject are Francis, a farmer of Dyer County, Tenn.; R. R., who is farming in Labette County, Kan., and Mrs Malony Starr, of Bloomington, Ill.

Mr. Haneock of our sketch remained in Middle Tennessee until twenty years old, when he went to Kentucky and settled in Christian County. He had served an apprenticeship at the saddlery trade under the instruction of his father, and followed this in Kentucky until the fall of 1848. He came North to Woodford County, Ill., and there purchased a farm which he operated for a few years, then sold out and came to McLean County. Besides his grocery stock and his farm he is also the owner of village property, and is in possession of enough by which he will be generously provided for in old age.

Mr. Hancock was married in Christian County, Ky., Sept. 1, 1842, to Miss Mildred Harvey, a native of that county, where she was born March 22, 1821. Her parents were Joel and Frances (Harvey) Harvey, natives respectively of Alabama and Georgia. Their home was upon a farm, where the father was engaged in the pursuit of agriculture, and he died in Christian County about 1858. The mother subsequently came to Eureka, Ill., and died there at the home of one of her daughters. Mr. and Mrs. Hancock have become the parents of eleven children, eight now living, and the record is as follows: Pinkney married Miss Maggie Bacon, and resides on a farm in De Witt County, Ill.; Eudora B. became the wife of Carter Sweeney, and they live on the farm of our subject in Downs Township; Lafayette H. is a farmer of Chautauqua County, Kan., and married Miss Wilson of that State; Fannie became the wife of John Livingston, and resides in Heyworth; James C. married Miss

Aliee Lutz, and they also reside on the farm in Downs Township; J. H. is engaged in business in Dyer County, Tenn.; he married Miss Aliee Hancock; W. E. is his father's clerk in the store at Heyworth; Rosa is attending school and lives with her parents. The mother of these children died at her home in Heyworth, Sept. 12, 1882. She, with her husband, was a member of the Christian Church.

Mr. Hancock, for his second wife, married Mrs. Rebeeca (Home) Yerkes, on the 15th of September, 1885. Mrs. Rebeeca Hancock was born near Philadelphia, Pa., and there lived to womanhood, soon afterward coming to Woodford County, Ill. In this latter place she was married to her first husband, by whom she became the mother of four children—Edwin, Lillie, Charles and Albert, all grown to mature years and taking care of themselves. The first husband of Mrs. Hancock died in Jersey County, Ill., in 1870. She is also connected with the Christian Church. In politics Mr. H. is a solid Republican, and has held the offices of Collector, Assessor, and Commissioner of Highways, and is at this time President of the Board of Education of Heyworth School District, also President of the Board of Trustees of the village of Heyworth.



**J**ONATHAN B. WARLOW, one of the honored pioneers of the Prairie State, is now a prosperous farmer and stock-breeder of Danvers Township, having a valuable homestead on section 36. Mr. Warlow was born in Northampton, Mass., June 27, 1814, and removed with his parents to Oneida County, N. Y., when a child of three years old. He is the son of Benjamin and Elizabeth (Bond) Warlow, and while in his native State, when a child of perhaps two or three years old, was stolen from home by the Indians. At the end of three days he was returned to his parents by a squaw who said that "the young pappoose ery too much," and she was glad to deliver him again to his parents. The latter shortly afterward removed to New York City, where the father worked at his trade, as a tailor. As young Benja-

min grew to manhood he served seven years and six months in the boot and shoe business, and when seventeen years old went to Pickaway County, Ohio, where he lived two years. Then, in 1834, he removed to Illinois and located in McLean County, which remained his home until his decease, on the 5th of September, 1864, at the age of seventy-nine years, he having been born Feb. 2, 1785. He was a useful citizen and a member in good standing of the Christian Church.

When Benjamin Warlow decided upon a removal from New York he packed his household goods into two wagons and proceeded to the Erie Canal, where he was to wait for a letter from his brother which should determine his final destination. After waiting four or five days and receiving no tidings, he set up a stick on the ground, determining that if it fell toward New York City he would go there, or otherwise would come West. The stick toppled over to the westward and he at once announced his decision to his wife. In less than half an hour he had loaded his goods onto a canal-boat and started for Ohio. Going into Geauga County they landed in Fairport, and thence proceeded to Painesville, and after a few months came to Illinois. The mother of our subject was born Nov. 26, 1786, and departed this life Feb. 24, 1874, thus being eighty-eight years old at the time of her death. The parental family consisted of seven children, one of whom died in infancy. Those surviving are: Jonathan B., William C., Sarepta E., Richard A., La Fayette and Bond W.

Jonathan B. Warlow spent his earlier years under the parental roof and after arriving at years of manhood was married to Miss Catharine B. Hay, the ceremony taking place Nov. 15, 1838. Mrs. W. was born in Kentucky on the 3d of January, 1812, and was the daughter of Peter and Elizabeth (Finley) Hay, her mother coming of the old Puritan stock, and the family consisting of eight children—John, Jennie, Marey, Mary, Susan, Catharine, Rachel and George.

Of this union of Mr. and Mrs. Warlow there were born: Elizabeth B., who married a Mr. Skeen, and resides in Reno County, Kan.; John W., who died at the age of seven years; Mary M., who married Jesse Branaird, and lives in Kansas; Susan E., who

died when six months old; Celia J., who married George L. Johnson, and resides in Danvers; George L. lives in Cass County, Ill., and is practicing law; Adelpa P. B., who married George B. Rowell, and lives at Fresno City, Cal., and Ada K., who was married to Harvey Abbott, Dec. 24, 1878, and lives on the old homestead. The mother of these children died on the 21st of June, 1885, her disease being cancer of the stomach. She had been a great sufferer and was paralyzed for nearly two weeks before her death. With our subject, she was a member of the Christian Church, with which they united in 1837, sustaining a membership in that denomination of forty-five years.

Mr. Warlow came to McLean County in 1834, and at once located in Danvers Township, where he purchased 240 acres which now constitutes the family homestead. In addition to this he owns 260 acres two and one-half miles south in Allin Township, and 240 acres near Hutchinson, Kan. He has made a speciality of sheep-raising and has purchased fine specimens at a large price. He is now retired from active labor and is enjoying the fruits of early toil and self-sacrifice, having by good judgment and wise management obtained a competency. He has been a prominent and useful citizen of the community, was Superintendent of the Sunday-school for a number of years, and also a Deacon in his church. He identified himself with the Masonic fraternity in 1876, and is now a member of Danvers Lodge No. 742, of which he has been Chaplain for several years.



**J**OHAN T. HILL, one of the well-to-do and highly respected farmers of Dry Grove Township, owns and occupies a comfortable homestead on section 36, where he is successfully engaged in general farming and stock-raising. He is a native of Orange County, N. C., where he was born on the 22d of March, 1814, being the son of William and Damaris (Colverd) Hill, both natives of Maryland. The father, who was a farmer by occupation, was a prominent man in his community, deeply religious, and a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, as was also his wife.

They were married in North Carolina and removed to Indiana in 1817, locating in Orange County, where they remained until 1837, and then came to MeLean County, where the father died on the 26th of March, 1845, at the age of sixty-one years. The nine children who composed the parental family were: Jesse, who married Miss Lidia Millis; Erasmus, who married Miss H. Fossett; Judith, who married James De Pew; William, who is now deceased; John W., who married Miss E. Kelley, and lives in Arkansas; Damaris, who died at the age of twenty-three years; Pleasant M., who married Miss Mary J. Hodge, and is now in California, and Calista, deceased.

The subject of our sketch was married in Bloomington on the 17th of August, 1843, to Miss Maria De Pew, the ceremony being performed by Rev. Risley, of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mrs. Hill was born in Orange County, Ind., April 27, 1823. She is of French and German extraction, and the daughter of Isaac and Sallie (Vantress) DePew, natives respectively of Virginia and Kentucky. Isaac De Pew was born in August, 1795, and departed this life Aug. 5, 1840, in Dry Grove, aged forty-five years. He was a member and Class-Leader of the Methodist Episcopal Church for nineteen years, and in all respects a most worthy Christian gentleman. He was a farmer by occupation, and possessed more than ordinary abilities, being an extensive reader and well informed upon matters of general interest. The mother of Mrs. Hill was born in Lincoln (formerly Mereer) County, Ky., Aug. 15, 1800. She was married on the 28th of March, 1819, in Indiana, where she remained with her family until April, 1835, when they all came to MeLean County, Ill., and have since remained. The parental household included six children, four now living, and of whom Mrs. Hill was the eldest; James married Miss S. Johnson, who died some years ago; Mary is the widow of Mr. Wade, and lives in Chicago; Bedford died in St. Louis, when twenty-one years of age; Margaret married Mr. Corman, who is now deceased; Henry died several years ago.

Mr. and Mrs. Hill became the parents of six children, as follows: Alonzo died in 1868, aged twenty-three years; Augustus married Miss Louisa

Moulton; Heleu became the wife of J. C. Calhoun, of Bloomington; Bedford married Miss Mattie Harrison; William C. and Edward are unmarried.

The homestead of our subject embraces ninety acres of finely cultivated land, within two and one-half miles of the city of Bloomington. He is a law-abiding and valued member of society, and with his wife, a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, with which he has been connected since twenty years of age. In politics he is a staunch Democrat, and uniformly casts his vote in support of the principles of his party.

A view of the handsome farm residence of Mr. Hill is shown on another page of this ALBUM.



**J**AHIAL STRETCH, a prosperous and prominent farmer of Gridley Township, has a fine farm located on section 19, upon which he settled in about 1856. This consists of eighty acres of valuable land, all improved and under a good state of cultivation. His house and farm buildings are kept in good repair and his stock and machinery indicate the oversight of an intelligent and thorough-going business man. Mr. Stretch has been a resident of MeLean County since a lad of seven years old, when he removed with his parents from Ohio, in which State he was born, Sept. 27, 1823. His parents were Jesse and Elizabeth (Vandolah) Stretch, natives of Pennsylvania, where they were reared and married. They afterward removed to Ohio, and from there to Illinois, settling in MeLean County in 1830. The father of our subject established a home in Money Creek Township, this county, where both parents died, the former in December, 1853, and the latter on the 9th of May, 1869. Their fourteen children comprised eight daughters and six sons, all of whom lived to mature years, and of whom our subject was the tenth in order of birth.

Mr. Stretch received careful home training from his excellent parents and as good an education as the schools of those early days afforded. He came into MeLean County with his parents in 1830. He remained under the home roof until he attained his majority, and was then united in marriage

with Miss Lucinda Van Buskirk, Dec. 22, 1844, the wedding occurring in Money Creek Township. Mrs. Stretch is a native of Ohio; of this union there were born four children, of whom the record is as follows: George W. is a resident of Towanda, Ill.; Lafayette is at home; Mary J. became the wife of Jesse Covington and lives in Iowa; Elizabeth died when young. Mrs. Lucinda Stretch departed this life in Hudson Township, this county, March 17, 1852.

The second marriage of Mr. S. occurred on the 27th of April, 1854, when he was united with Miss Mary A., daughter of Archibald and Hannah (Archer) Wilson, who were natives of Ohio, and of whom mention is made in the sketch of Abraham Wilson elsewhere in this work. Mrs. S. was born in Lieking County, Ohio, Nov. 1, 1828. Of the second marriage of our subject there have been six children: Hannah O. became the wife of William Hiteh and resides in Gridley Township; Jesse A. is at home; Sarah W. married Edward Poehel and they live in Gridley Township; Louisa T. died July 28, 1886; Minnie M. is a teacher in Livingston County, this State; Samuel P. died Oct. 8, 1876, when five years of age. Mr. Stretch has been prominent in the affairs of his township, and has been identified with its welfare and prosperity. Both our subject and his wife are worthy members of the United Brethren Church, and politically Mr. S. earnestly supports the principles of the Republican party.

**D**ENTON YOUNG, one of the enterprising and self-made citizens of Le Roy, is prosperously engaged as a clothing dealer, and carries on the leading establishment of this kind in the place. He is a native of Ohio and was born in Cadiz, Harrison County, Feb. 16, 1847. His father, Denton Young, Sr., was a native of the same State, was reared and married there, and owned and occupied a farm near Cadiz until 1851. He then sold out and started with his wife and eight children for the prairies of Illinois. The journey was made via the Ohio, Mississippi and Illinois Rivers to Peoria and thence by land to Bloomington. Previous to this,

however, the father had visited the State and purchased a farm of 110 acres, a mile north of Bloomington, on the Towanda road. Upon his return in 1851, with his family, he learned that his house had been blown away. He was therefore compelled to rent a dwelling in Bloomington until he could build on his own farm. This was soon accomplished, and the father of our subject engaged in farming and the purchase and sale of live stock, dealing in horses, hogs and cattle. This being before the days of railroads, he drove his hogs to Peoria and took his horses overland East. He occupied this farm until about the time the war broke out, and in the meantime also purchased 960 acres west of Le Roy, in Downs Township. He continued to live near Bloomington, while his children settled on the farm in Downs Township.

In 1872 Denton Young, Sr., took a drove of young stock to Bloomington, Neb., and purchasing a claim kept his stock there and remained until 1882, improving a farm and adding to the value of his purchase. He then sold out and removed to Clay Center, Kan., where he still lives, retired from active business. His first wife, and the mother of our subject, was Miss Malinda Baker, a native of Ohio, and they became the parents of eight children. Mrs. Malinda Young departed this life about 1857. For his second wife Denton Young, Sr., married Mrs. Rachel Short, the daughter of James Preece, a pioneer of McLean County, and of this marriage were born two children.

Denton Young, Jr., was the sixth child and fifth son of the first marriage of his father, and was but four years old when his parents removed from Ohio to Illinois. He attended school, as opportunity afforded, usually in the winter season, and remained under the parental roof until eighteen years of age, assisting in the labors of the farm. He then entered Wesleyan College, where he applied himself to a thorough course of study for one year, and then went West to Kansas, and with his brother-in-law, R. M. Frazier, engaged in the grocery trade at Manhattan. After a few months however, he returned to Le Roy, and was united in marriage with Miss Emma Barnett, and in a short time returned to Kansas with his bride, where he remained until the spring of 1867. He





ST. MARIEN KIRCHE, BLOOMINGTON, ILLS.

then returned to Le Roy and was variously engaged for the following six months, being a part of the time the clerk of his father-in-law, J. T. Barnett, who was engaged in mercantile business. He remained with the latter until the fall of 1873, and the following six months was engaged with Mr. Moorehouse, afterward with Mr. Keenan. He then established business for himself, in the old bank building, where he operated for two years, and then purchased the Sydney Baker building on Main street, Le Roy.

In 1880 our subject purchased the block adjoining the Baker building, known as the David Cheney Building, and enlarged his facilities for the transaction of a steadily increasing business. He now occupies two large storerooms, each 65x22 feet in area and is evidently on the high road to a competency. In 1883, in company with Murray & Smith, Mr. Young put up the Opera Block. This block occupies an area of 80x22 feet, has a plate glass front, and is in all respects one of the finest in the town.

Besides this property Mr. Young is also interested in farm lands, he and his wife being the owners of eighty-two acres adjoining the town plat. This little farm is well stocked with good grades of horses, cattle and hogs, and he employs a manager who carries on the farm operations in a successful manner, enabling him to derive from it a handsome income.

The wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Young was celebrated Oct. 17, 1866. The parents of Mrs. Young were T. J. and Emeline (Gibbs) Barnett, a sketch of whom will be found in another part of this work. Of this union there have been born three sons—Thomas Victor, Lynn and Bertram. Mr. Young is Republican in politics, and is in all respects fulfilling the obligations of a good citizen and a worthy member of society.

**R**EV. HILARY HOELSCHER, Rector of St. Mary's German Catholic Church, is a gentleman highly respected in the city of Bloomington. He is gifted with talents of a high order and is one of the best educated men

in the county. Father Hoelscher was born in the city of Cincinnati, Ohio, Oct. 14, 1857, and is the son of John and Elizabeth (Mitgoes) Hoelscher. When our subject was a child of two years of age they removed to Covington, Ky., where in the German schools of that city he received his elementary education. Later he entered St. Francis College at Cincinnati, Ohio, at which he was graduated in 1875. He then entered the Franciscan Order, in which he prepared for the Priesthood, and was ordained Sept. 29, 1880. He was soon given charge of several congregations, the first of which was at St. Charles' Church, Carthage, Ohio, whence he was removed to St. John's in Middletown. He was afterward assistant at St. George's at Cincinnati, and from there was sent to Bloomington, Ill., taking charge of St. Mary's Aug. 13, 1884. The parish under charge of Father Hoelscher is prospering and he bids fair to become an important member of the Priesthood.

In reviewing the history of St. Mary's German Catholic Church we find that the first service in the German language held in the city of Bloomington was in 1852. During that year three German Catholic families settled within the city limits. In 1867 this class of population had so increased that it was deemed time to organize a congregation. This was done during the year mentioned and the first meeting was held in an old frame school-house which stood on the ground north of the present Irish Catholic Church. In 1869 the congregation had so increased that a permanent and larger meeting-place became a necessity. Previous to this seven lots had been secured on South Water street, and on the 31st of July of that year work was commenced on the frame of the present building. In due time the edifice was finished at a cost of \$2,500. This edifice answered all purposes until 1884, when owing to the steadily increasing throng of worshipers the congregation again began to feel the necessity for more room.

In June, 1885, the movement for another new building was formally inaugurated by the selection of the building committee, which consisted of Rev. Hilary Hoelscher, Henry W. Ulbrich, G. A. Esenberger, Frank Oberkoetter, Jr., Edward Wochner, Michael Glaser and J. M. Kirsten. There was

raised by subscription \$7,200, and a fair given for the benefit of the building netted \$3,150, placing in the hands of the projectors a total of \$10,350, available for beginning the work. The plans contemplated an expenditure of \$20,017, exclusive of the pews, windows and frescoing, and the entire building when completed to cost about \$30,000.

The edifice occupies an area of 55x125 feet. The material used in its construction is of the best quality. The distance from the water tables to the eaves is thirty-two feet, the height of the steeple 170, and the whole upon a massive foundation presents an imposing appearance. The spire will be slated and encased with galvanized iron sheeting and surmounted by a gilded copper ball thirty inches in diameter. The globe supports a cross twelve feet high. The building is of the Gothic style of architecture and the groined ceiling will rest on twenty capitals elaborately carved. The walls will be handsomely frescoed, and the church within and without is highly creditable to the enterprise of the congregation. The view presented in connection with this sketch will give an excellent idea of the grandeur and surroundings of the edifice.



**J**EREMIAH T. STARKEY, of Lawndale Township, has been a resident of the Prairie State for over a quarter of a century, having come to this vicinity with his wife in the spring of 1861. He was born in Muskingum County, Ohio, being the son of Stephen D. and Helen (Hanks) Starkey, the latter a second cousin of Abraham Lincoln. Stephen D. Starkey was a native of Virginia, and the mother is supposed to have been born in Ohio. After marriage the parents of our subject settled in Muskingum County, Ohio, where the father still resides. He was engaged in milling until married, and has farmed since that time. The mother died there in 1852. Their seven children included three sons and four daughters, of whom the subject of our sketch was the second child.

Jeremiah T. Starkey was born in Muskingum County, Ohio, Nov. 1, 1838. He attended the common schools and was reared on his father's farm. During his younger days he was very fond of horses, and in his later years has not lost any of his admiration for that noblest of animals. He lived at home until he was twenty-two years old, and in the spring of 1861, having already assumed marital and domestic ties, he set his face toward the farther West. His outfit consisted of a four-horse wagon, and the journey occupied about four weeks. On his arrival in this county he first settled in Cropsey Township, where he rented land for one season, and in March following moved to Lawndale Township, where he rented a farm, and in September of the same year purchased eighty acres, which he held two years. In 1864 he purchased 160 acres on section 21, and established the homestead which he still occupies. He disposed of eighty acres of this and his present homestead consists of the other eighty, which under his skillful management has become productive and valuable. Upon it he has erected a set of shapely and substantial frame buildings, and has otherwise brought about first-class improvements, and his snug and well-kept farm is one of the most attractive spots in Lawndale Township.

Our subject was first married in Coschoeton County, Ohio, Dec. 27, 1860, to Miss Charity Bridgway, who was a native of that county. Of this union there were born three children, as follows: Basil D., who married Miss Fannie Grimsley, and resides in Lawndale Township; Estella, who is the wife of John Dameron, and also lives in Lawndale Township, and Francis R., who is at home. Mrs. Charity Starkey departed this life at the home of her husband in Lawndale Township, May 11, 1869. Seven years later, on the 10th of December, 1876, Mr. Starkey was the second time married, to Miss A. Bridgway, who was born in Belmont County, Ohio, Feb. 1, 1827, and who was a sister of his first wife. Their parents were Basil and Mary E. (Boran) Bridgway, natives of Maryland, and both sisters were devoted members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mr. Starkey has held the offices of Justice of the Peace, Assessor and Collector. He is a member in



good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in politics is a stanch supporter of the principles of the Republican party.



**D** FRANK SILL. Prominent among the well-to-do farmers for which McLean County is noted is D. Frank Sill. He occupies a good homestead on section 23 of Belieflower Township, where he is industriously tilling the soil and distinguishing himself by those reliable and substantial traits of character which he has inherited from excellent German ancestry. Mr. Sill was born in Bedford County, Pa., Aug. 20, 1847, being the son of Michael Sill, a native of the same county, who was born Jan. 15, 1824. Daniel Sill, the grandfather of our subject, was also born in that county, Feb. 5, 1778, and George Sill, great-grandfather of D. Frank and a native of Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, was born in 1733. The latter lived in his native country until he was twenty-seven years of age, then emigrated to America, being sold for his passage after his arrival here, in consequence of which he gave his services to his creditor for six years following, in Pennsylvania. He was an industrious and energetic man, however, and after he began to work for himself, in due time became the owner of 300 acres of land in the locality known as Dutch Corner, Bedford Co., Pa. He afterward married a German lady by the name of Dolly Helsman and became successful as a farmer and business man, accumulating a fine property. He was a member of the Lutheran Church and very strict in religious matters. His death occurred on the 18th of July, 1813, and his wife, surviving him nearly four years, died in June, 1817.

Daniel Sill, the grandfather of the subject of this sketch, inherited a tract of land from his father's estate, to which he added by a later purchase. He also was very successful and became the owner of a fine property, giving to each of his children a nice farm. He died in Bedford County, Pa., June 6, 1850. His wife before her marriage was Miss Catherine Stiffler, of German ancestry, who also died on the old homestead in Bedford County.

Their son Michael, the father of our subject, was reared to farming pursuits and lived with his parents until his marriage, which took place Aug. 9, 1846. The mother of our subject, formerly Miss Elizabeth Speeee, was born in Bedford County, Pa., June 20, 1831. Her father, Michael Speeee, was a native of Bedford County, and her paternal grandfather was of German parentage and ancestry. Michael Speeee followed agricultural pursuits and spent his entire life in his native county. The mother of Mrs. Sill, who was formerly Miss Rebeeca Ernest, also a native of Bedford County, was the daughter of George Ernest.

After his marriage Michael Sill continued farming in Bedford County until 1852, then removed to Gettysburg and was employed as steward of the college there for two years. Then returning to Bedford County, he operated a broekery and stoneware manufactory until 1858. That year, not being quite satisfied with his prospects in the Keystone State, he started for the West, and coming into Illinois, located for a time on rented land near the city of Bloomington. Being pleased with this locality, he made a purchase of 222 acres in Blue Mound Township, which he improved and upon which he erected a good set of farm buildings. He took great pains to make his home attractive by the planting of a large variety of ornamental trees and shrubs, which in due time made it one of the most attractive spots in the township. He occupied this, with his family, until 1876, and then, desirous of giving his children better educational advantages, sold out and removed to Normal, where he remained until the object for which he removed there was accomplished. He afterward purchased a farm in Newcomb Township, Champaign County, where he spent the remainder of his days, his death occurring Nov. 19, 1886. He was reared in the faith of the Lutheran Church, but during his later years identified himself with the Methodists. Mrs. Sill still survives her husband, making her home with her son, our subject. The parental household included six children, of whom D. Frank was the eldest. George H. is a resident of Denver, Col.; William B. of Marion, Kan.; Maurice W. and Eddie L. in another part of that State; Austin Grant lives in Marion, Kan.

Mr. Sill of this sketch attended the district school during his boyhood, and later assisted his father on the farm, remaining under the home roof until he was twenty-five years of age. He then commenced farming for himself on rented land, and operated in this manner until 1878, then purchased a farm in Champaign County, which he occupied for five years, soon afterward removing to his present homestead. A part of this was inherited by his wife and Mr. Sill purchased the interest of the other heirs. It comprises 160 acres of good land, all enclosed, well stocked and improved, and furnished with good buildings and the necessary appliances of a good farmer. The marriage of D. Frank Sill and Miss Nettie Isadore Wheeler took place on the 14th of February, 1883. Mrs. Sill was born on the homestead which she now occupies with her husband, Aug. 19, 1860, being the daughter of George W. and Helen M. Wheeler, who are mentioned in the sketch of John N. Wheeler, elsewhere in this volume. Of this union there was born one child, a daughter, Nellie. Mrs. Sill is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Mr. Sill, politically, is a staunch adherent of the Republican party.



**HUGH McINTYRE.** This gentleman may properly be classed among the self-made men of the Prairie State. He started out in life with little save his own energy and resolution to get on in the world, and by his industry and moral worth, has attained to a good position in society, and ranks among the thrifty farmers and property owners of McLean County. He is pleasantly located in Belleflower Township, on section 33, where he has 240 acres of finely cultivated land, a handsome and substantial dwelling, and all the appurtenances of a model farm estate.

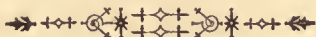
Mr. McIntyre comes of excellent Scottish ancestry, and was born in the city of Glasgow, Scotland, Oct. 16, 1832. He is the son of Allen McIntyre, a native of Argyleshire, of the Highland Clan. The latter learned the trade of a shoemaker, which he followed in Glasgow until 1842. In April of that year, accompanied by his wife and four children,

he set sail from Glasgow, bound for the New World. After a safe voyage they landed in Quebec, whence they proceeded directly to Hamilton, Ontario, and thence to Dundas, Wentworth County. The father of our subject remained in Canada working at his trade, three years in Dundas, and thence removed to Wellington County, Ontario, where he made a claim. When the land came into market he perfected his title and proceeded to cut down the timber and carry on the necessary improvements which should constitute a comfortable home. He also built a log house, into which he removed his family and spent the balance of his life, cultivating his land and adding to it all necessary improvements. There his death occurred about 1878. He was married early in life to Miss Euphemia Monroe, also a native of Scotland, who was born in Edinburgh, and was the daughter of a soldier in the King's army, being one of the Highlanders of whom so much has been read and said. The McIntyre family included ten children, eight of whom became men and women, as follows: Allin lives near the old homestead in Canada; John is a resident of Belleflower Township, this county; Euphemia married William Patterson and died in Belleflower about 1869; Mary became the wife of John Halliday; Carment lives in London, Canada, and Peter in Nebraska; Harriett married John Fritz of Morristown, Canada.

Hugh McIntyre was a lad ten years old when his parents emigrated from Scotland to America. He remembers well his old home in his native land and the sea voyage which occupied seven weeks and three days. He remained with his parents, and when eighteen years of age learned the plasterers' trade, which he followed in Canada until 1865. He then came over into the States, making his first location in this county, where he worked one summer and spent the winter following with his parents. In the spring he came back to Illinois and employed himself at his trade in various places in this State, Lexington, Chatsworth and Fairbury. He then determined to change his occupation, and in the fall of 1866 purchased eighty acres of land in Belleflower Township, and since that time has been mostly engaged in agricultural pursuits. He has been greatly prospered in his farming and busi-

ness transactions and added to his original purchase from time to time until he is now the possessor of 240 acres, the greater part of which is well improved and under a good state of cultivation. His homestead includes a tasteful and substantial set of frame buildings, one and one-half miles south of the village of Belleflower. His farm is well stocked with graded cattle, and in all departments indicates the supervision of the intelligent and progressive agriculturist.

Mr. McIntyre was married, Feb. 11, 1869, to Miss Catharine Stewart, a native of Wellington County, Canada, and the daughter of Robert and Mary (Gillespie) Stewart. Of this union there have been born six children—Allen, Robert, Hugh, Euphemia, May S. and Catharine. Our subject and his wife are prominently connected with the United Presbyterian Church, and Mr. McIntyre, politically, is a staunch Republican.



**J**OHN WAGNER, a well-known druggist of McLean, is a self-made man who has kept pace with the growth and progress of this county, and has materially assisted in developing its resources, making it one of the most desirable places for residence and business in the State. Our subject was born in the Empire of Germany, Aug. 26, 1850, and comes of excellent ancestry. His father, Peter Wagner, was a native of the same country, where he was reared to manhood and married. In 1854 Peter Wagner, with his wife and children, emigrated to America. They stopped a few months in Buffalo, N. Y., whence they removed to Chicago, where the elder Wagner purchased property. This was lowland, and in the spring of the year covered with water, Mr. Wagner, finally thinking it of little value, neglected to pay the taxes and thus forfeited his title to it. Those once despised lots are now covered with fine buildings and worth many dollars to the square foot. It is hardly necessary to say that Peter Wagner was only one of many who had a similar experience in regard to Chicago property in the early days. He remained in Chicago until 1860, and then proceeded to Atlanta, Logan Co., Ill.

The following year, upon the outbreak of the Rebellion, Mr. Wagner enlisted as a Union soldier in the 44th Illinois Infantry, and served three years and three months. He was in the campaign with Sherman, and participated in the principal battles from Chattanooga to Atlanta, receiving a gunshot wound in the arm at the latter place. The bullet entered above the elbow and came out at the back under the shoulder-blade. He was reported in the Chicago papers as the first man killed in the siege of Atlanta. He survived, however, and returned home a few days later on a furlough, and in the course of a few months was enabled to rejoin his regiment, with which he soon afterward proceeded to Washington and received his honorable discharge at the expiration of his term of service.

After his retirement from military life, the father of our subject accepted a situation with the C. & A. R. R. as baggage-master at Atlanta, and remained in the service of the company for twenty years following, making for himself a good record as a faithful and valuable employe. He then resigned his position and now lives in Atlanta, retired from active labor. The mother of our subject, formerly Miss Mary Keifer, of Germany, died in 1857, leaving three children, of whom John of this sketch was the eldest; Mathias was the next; the youngest child died in infancy. The second wife of Peter Wagner was Miss Anna Viek, also a native of Germany, and who became the mother of three children—Annie, Peter and Lizzie.

John Wagner was but three years old when his parents came to the United States. He first attended a German school in Chicago, and later was a pupil in the public schools. After the family removed to Atlanta he pursued his studies there until twelve years old, and then engaged upon a farm for Obadiah Arnold, at a salary of twenty-five cents a day. His father being in the army he gave all his earnings to his mother to assist in supporting the family. He worked upon a farm in summer and attended school in winter until nineteen years of age, when his father purchased a dray line in Atlanta, which our subject operated for him one year, then bought the business of his father, conducted it for one year more, then sold

out and engaged in the hedge department of the C. & A. R. R. Co., distributing plants along their line of track. After one season thus engaged, he returned to farm pursuits, which he continued until 1875. He then purchased a half interest in a stock of drugs and the trade of D. N. Longworth, and in company with D. G. Palmer conducted a trade in these commodities for two months, when he purchased the interest of his partner and has been sole proprietor since that time. His straightforward methods of doing business and his promptness in meeting his obligations at once secured him the respect and esteem of the citizens of McLean and he soon found himself on the high road to prosperity. In due time he built the handsome residence which he now occupies, and in 1879 put up the handsome brick block in which is located his thriving and constantly increasing business.

The marriage of John Wagner and Miss Charlotte Palmer was celebrated in McLean, in March, 1877. Mrs. Wagner is the daughter of James Palmer, who was born in Brandon, Rutland Co., N. Y., Jan. 16, 1829, and was the son of George and Freelove (Olin) Palmer, both natives of the same State. Judge Olin, the great-grandfather of Mrs. Wagner, was Member of Congress from Vermont, and her grandfather, George Palmer, removed from his native State of New York to Illinois in 1844, being among the earliest pioneers of Tazewell County, but only lived a short time after settling there, his death occurring in 1846. James Palmer was in the Civil Service eleven years, being appointed Government Storekeeper for the 8th Illinois District in 1874. He is still living and a resident of Mt. Hope Township. The mother of Mrs. Wagner, formerly Miss Jane Ewing, was born in Butler County, N. Y., Aug. 3, 1839, being the daughter of Nathaniel and Nancy (Young) Ewing.

Mr. and Mrs. Wagner have one child only, a daughter, Inez Imogene. Mr. W. is Republican in politics, and a member of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to McLean Lodge No. 469, and Bloomington Chapter No. 26. His present possessions are the result of his own industry and perseverance. He is essentially a self-made man, who has improved his opportunities and kept his eyes open to what was going on around him. His ex-

periences have resulted in a fund of useful knowledge, a keen insight into human nature, and the judgment and discretion which have enabled him to secure the respect of his fellow-citizens and to attain to an enviable position in the community.



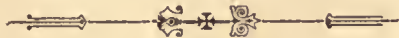
**N**ATHAN HUNTING, a well-to-do and prosperous farmer, residing on section 13, Gridley Township, is a son of Nathan and Malinda (Smith) Hunting. The parents were natives of Massachusetts; were there married and settled in Boston, whence they removed to Shutesbury, that State, where the mother died in 1876. The father is still living and resides in Shutesbury. He was for a time engaged in the grocery business, but later in life turned his attention to agricultural pursuits. He became the head of a family of five children, four sons and one daughter.

The subject of this biographical notice was the eldest of his parents' children, and was born in Shutesbury, Mass., Sept. 12, 1833. He received a good common-school education, and has followed agricultural pursuits thus far in life. Until he was twenty-one years old, he worked out by the month at his chosen vocation, and since then has continued to do for himself. Our subject remained in Massachusetts until 1857, when, hoping to better his financial condition, he started for the then undeveloped West. Coming to Dixon, this State, he remained a short time, and then came to this county, but purchased a farm in Livingston County, Ill., on which he located and lived for about five years. Disposing of his farm in that county, he, about three years later, returned to this county, and settled on section 13, Gridley Township, where he had purchased eighty acres of land, and where, with the exception of about three months spent in Dakota, he has continued to reside until the present time. Mr. Hunting has made good and valuable improvements upon his farm, and is now the proprietor of 240 acres of good, tillable land.

Nathan Hunting was married in Gridley Township, Dec. 8, 1867, to Miss Rebecca H., daughter of David and Elizabeth Wald. Her parents were natives of Pennsylvania, and came to Gridley

Township in the spring of 1864. There the father died July 27, 1877, and the mother is yet living. Their children were seven in number, and Mrs. Hunting was the sixth in order of birth. She was born in McConnellsburg, Pa., June 19, 1845, and has borne her husband four children, namely, Mary R., Susie M., Olive and Laura L. Susie died when nine months old.

Mr. Hunting has held some of the minor offices of his township, and is one of the respected citizens of the county. He and his wife are members in good standing of the Congregational Church, and in politics he is a staunch supporter of the principles of the Republican party.



**W**ILLIAM TYSON, a highly respected resident of Mt. Hope Township, came to Illinois in 1850, and during a residence of thirty-seven years in this locality has thoroughly established himself in the confidence and esteem of his fellow-citizens. He is a native of the British Empire, having been born in Northumberlandshire, England, on the 30th of January, 1832. His father, William Tyson, was also a native of England, where he grew to manhood, was married, and lived there until 1832, when he emigrated to the United States. He made his first location in Niagara County, N. Y., and worked in the town of Loekport as a tanner and at whatever other business he could find to engage in. Two years after coming here he purchased a farm near Loekport, and while moving with his family, met with an accident by which he was incapacitated for further labor, and died two years subsequently.

The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Jane Tyson, and after the death of her first husband she was married to William Day, and came with him to Illinois in 1851. They located at Delavan, Tazewell County, where she died. By the first marriage there were born three children—William, Mathew and Thomas, two only of whom are living; the second brother, Mathew, came to Illinois in 1850, and died two years later; Thomas lives on the farm adjoining that of our

subject. Of the second marriage there were two children—Samuel and Reason.

William Tyson was a child of four years when his father died. He remained with his mother until seven years of age, and then went to live with Mr. Stenthorpe, in Niagara County. He remained with him three and one-half years, working for his board and clothes. He then went into the family of Nathan Rogers, in the same county, where he received the same wages and remained until he was fourteen years of age. From that time until 1850 he was employed as a laborer at \$5 a month, and in due time found himself the proud possessor of \$116 in cash, saved from his earnings. With this he started for the West, via the Erie Canal to Buffalo, and thence on the lakes to Chicago. From there he went by canal to La Salle, and thence by the Illinois River to Pekin. He had then expended \$16 and had just \$100 left. He had been accompanied on his journey by his brother Mathew, who had just money enough to bring him here, as he was but fifteen years old. William divided his money, which was all gold, with his brother, and they quilted it into their shirts for safe keeping. At Pekin they met with friends who went with them to Delavan. There William Tyson worked at threshing for two weeks, and then engaged with Allen Perrin at \$10 a month until spring, when he rented land of Ira B. Hall, and commenced farming on his own account. He operated thus for the following three years with success, and was then enabled to purchase on time eighty acres lying west of Delavan. The land was wild and uncultivated, and he set himself industriously to work to improve and cultivate it. He broke and fenced the entire area, and erected a frame house upon it the first year, at a cost of \$200, which he borrowed of Mr. Clark, the man whom he bought the land of. The following year he purchased 160 acres additional, also broke and fenced this, and built a house upon it. His brother Thomas was a partner in this last purchase, and they operated together until 1855, when they purchased 320 acres on section 32 of Mt. Hope Township, upon which they settled, and farmed together for several years.

The brothers at this time divided up their property and afterward operated independently. The

property of William Tyson lies on the northeast quarter section, and is all improved and in a good state of cultivation. He has a good residence and all necessary out-buildings, and has added to his original purchase until he is now the possessor of 250 acres, which constitutes the home farm, and eighty acres on section 16 of the same township. He also has a half section of land in Pottawattamie County, Iowa, which is improved, and is under the management of his son.

William Tyson was married to Miss May A. Kirby, on the 5th of February, 1863. Mrs. Tyson was born in England, on the 26th of October, 1846, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of the following children: William J., who lives in Pottawattamie County, Iowa; and Carrie, Kate, Emma and Nellie, all at home with their parents. The family residence is commodious and comfortable, and the family are held in high respect by the community. Mr. Tyson is Republican in politics, is skillful as a farmer and straightforward and upright as a business man and citizen.

**W**ILLIAM GOODFELLOW, a prominent and highly esteemed citizen of McLean County, is a native of the Buckeye State, having been born in Harmony, Clarke Co., Ohio, on the 29th of September, 1834. His father, William Goodfellow, was a native of the same county as his son, and his grandfather, a native of North Ireland, was of excellent Scottish ancestry, and on emigrating to America, located in Clarke County, Ohio, and was among the earliest settlers of that region. He purchased a tract of timber land, cleared a farm from the wilderness, established a good home, and remained there until his death. He was a man of energy and enterprise, successful in his farming operations, and gave considerable attention to stock-raising.

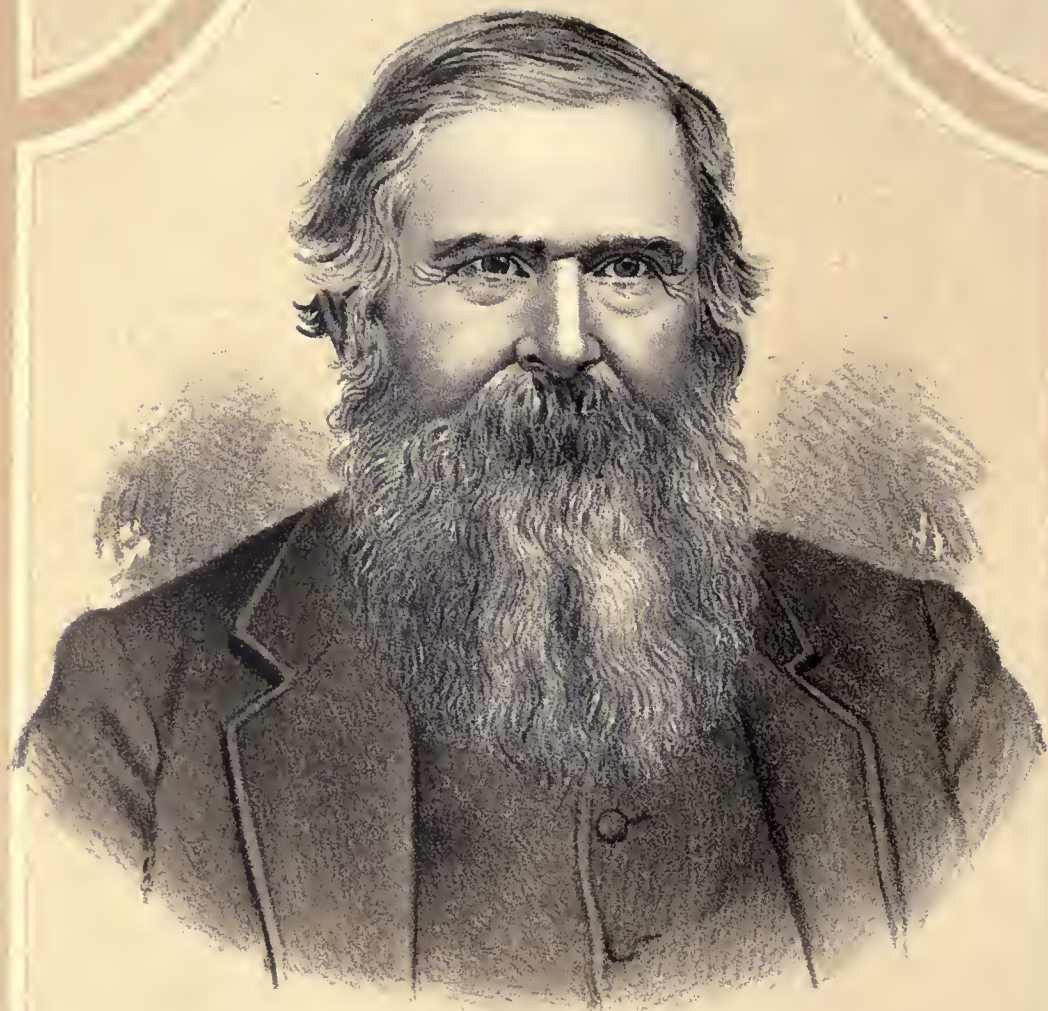
William Goodfellow, Sr., the father of our subject, grew to manhood in his native county, and was there married to Miss Catharine Casad, who was born in Greene County, Ohio. He purchased land adjoining his father's estate and built a log house, which he afterward weather-boarded, and to

which he added a frame, making a substantial and comfortable dwelling. He prospered in his farming operations, and subsequently erected a handsome brick residence. In 1854 Mr. Goodfellow sold his farm and purchased another in the same township, where he lived until 1866. In the meantime, in connection with his farming operations, he had been considerably engaged as a grain dealer. In the year last named he disposed of his property in Ohio, crossed the State of Indiana, and coming into McLean County, Ill., purchased a farm, which was located on sections 12 and 13, in Dale and Bloomington Townships. The land on section 12 was partially improved, but that on section 13 was in its original condition. He established a comfortable home here, improved and cultivated his land for a number of years and then, removing to Bloomington, retired from the labors incident to the life of an agriculturist, and became collector for his son-in-law in this city. He departed this life on the 30th of April, 1884, after a useful and busy career, and having earned the respect and confidence of all who knew him.

The parental family included four children, the record of whom is as follows: Aaron died in Bloomington, in August, 1879; Harriet, the widow of Joseph King, lives in Clarke County, Ohio; William J., is the subject of our sketch; Elnora, the wife of Samuel Bowman, lives in Padua Township.

William Goodfellow of our sketch, during his childhood and youth, attended the district school, and assisted his father in the duties around the homestead. He remained under the parental roof until his marriage, and then took charge of his father's farm, while the latter was engaged as a grain dealer. In 1866 he came to McLean County, Ill., and purchased a farm on sections 12 and 18, of Dale Township, which he cultivated and occupied for a period of twelve years. He then sold out and purchased his present homestead, upon which his father had taken the first steps toward its improvement. He now has a finely improved estate and a handsome residence. The grounds around the latter are laid out with great taste, and ornamented with beautiful shade trees, choice shrubs and graceful paths winding through. Within are all the evi-





David Herliem



denees of a refined taste and ample means. The barns and out-buildings correspond fully with the balance of the premises, and the farm machinery and implements are of the most valuable description and patterned after the most approved plans. An arbor vitæ hedge is one of the chief attractions of this handsome homestead, which invariably attracts the eye of every traveler passing through this section. A lithographic view of the place will be found on another page.

Mr. Goodfellow was united in marriage with Miss Susan Layton, in 1860. Mrs. G. is a native of the same State and county as her husband, and is the daughter of Melyn and Harriet (Broughton) Layton. Of this union there have been born three children—Clara L., Earnest E. and Charles E. Mr. Goodfellow is a Republican in politics, and voted for Gen. Fremont for President the first time he exercised the right of suffrage.



**D**AVID HENLINE, known throughout McLean County, is especially well known in Lawndale Township as being the proprietor, with his brother William, of one of the largest stock farms in Central Illinois, embracing 2,500 acres of land, whereon they keep large herds of stock of all kinds, give employment to seven tenants, and themselves occupy fine residences on a portion of their land. David, like his brother, is a native of Boone County, Ky., and first opened his eyes to the light on the 16th of March, 1822. The parents of our subject were John and Mary (Darnell) Henline, who were of German descent. The former was born Nov. 7, 1787, 100 years ago, and departed this life on the 26th of July, 1869. His wife, Mary, was born Jan. 22, 1791, and died Nov. 28, 1865. John Henline was a successful farmer, and was noted for the method and system with which he managed his business. The family came to the West in the fall of 1828, when David was a lad six years of age. On the first day of the journey the father met with an accident, having his leg broken, which was improperly set, and he consequently suffered severely with it for some time afterward. His resolution of character is illustrated

by the fact that he afterward chopped in the timber by kneeling down, not being able to stand. The family located near the present line of Tazewell and McLean Counties, and the father built a cabin in the Maekinaw timber, into which the family soon afterward moved. Many interesting incidents connected with their experience afterward will be found in the sketch of William B. Henline, found elsewhere in this volume.

The Henline boys went to school, of course, when a school was taught in the neighborhood, and traveled through snow, rain and slush for the purpose of obtaining an education. During vacation they interspersed their labors on the farm by trapping turkeys, and sometimes would find a deer. Indians still lingered in the neighborhood, and the Henline boys had many a skirmish with their Indian playmates; the latter were usually victorious in the races, but the former showed more muscle and came out first best in their childish quarrels. This excited the anger of the squaws, and they would chastise the little papposes, and lead up the little Henlines to their mother for them to be treated similarly. The latter would go through the motions of whipping her boys; the little Henlines would yell, the squaws would laugh, and all parties were satisfied. Our subject remained under the parental roof until the winter of 1855, and was then married to Miss Cassandra Wiley. The young wife only lived about one year. There was born one child, but it did not survive, and the mother died six days later.

The thrilling scenes through which the pioneer settlers passed in the opening up of this portion of the State must ever awaken emotions of warmest regard for them. To pave the way for those who followed they stemmed the flood-tide wave of civilization, endured all and suffered all. But few of these spirits now survive. They have passed away full of years and honors, leaving their children, their children's children, and strangers to succeed them and enjoy the fruits of their toil, the result of their privations, and the savings of their long and eventful lives. The career of John Henline as a pioneer citizen, was one eminently worthy and useful to the community in which he resided, and all who knew him bear testimony to his sterling worth

and valuable services as a frontier citizen. The partner of his joys and sorrows, and the mother of his children, was eminently fitted to be the companion of such a man, and the virtues of these parents have descended to their children, who, now able to take advantage of the facilities of the present do them honor in the highest manner possible. The work accomplished by the Henline family will live long after the present generation has passed away, and no recorded annals of the Prairie State would be complete without a mention of them.

The Henline brothers, David and William, are about the same height, five feet and four or five inches. Physically they are models of manhood, bearded and muscular, and have within those sturdy frames hearts that are kind and hospitable, with a rare appreciation of humor. In the earlier days many a belated traveler found shelter under the parental roof, and the hospitality of the sons is proverbial as was that of the father and mother. The pictured face of David Henline, as supplemental to this sketch, takes its place among the representative men of Central Illinois, whose biographies will be found one after another scattered thickly through this McLean County ALBUM, and will be cherished among the priceless records of a cycle hastening to the past.

**T**HOMAS McCLURE, a retired farmer, is now making his home in the village of Stanford. He is a native of Posey County, Ind., and was born in June, 1824. His parents, John and Leah (Gannis) McClure, were natives of Kentucky, the father born July 9, 1799, and the mother Jan. 20, 1804. John McClure was a farmer by occupation, and after his marriage, which occurred in 1822, remained upon his farm of eighty acres. His wife was the owner of 400 acres, which Mr. McClure superintended and cultivated, and where they subsequently established their permanent homestead and on which place he died in 1851. The mother afterward removed to Pettis County, Mo., and died there Jan. 23, 1886, when eighty-three years old. Of their eight children the record is as follows: Elizabeth married Joseph Wilson; Thomas of our sketch is the second child; Mary A. and Susan J. are twins;

the former married Rev. P. B. McCormick, and Susan J. became the wife of John Montgomery; Nancy married Benjamin T. Poole; Joseph C. married Miss Cerena Tatum; Margaret married George W. Donnelly; Permelia E. died when about thirteen years old. Mr. and Mrs. John McClure and six of their children were members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

The subject of this history was reared on his father's farm and attended the common schools until he reached his majority, and was united in marriage with Miss Jane W. Wilson, of Indiana, in 1845. After twelve years, in 1857, they removed to this county, where our subject purchased 120 acres of good land at \$20 per acre. This he sold in 1883 at \$70 per acre. After residing upon this farm for ten years he removed to Lincoln, Ill., for the purpose of securing for his children better educational advantages than those afforded near their home. His object being accomplished, in the course of five years he returned to the farm in McLean County, and remained until his removal into Stanford. Here he has a fine homestead of eleven acres of land with a handsome and commodious two-story dwelling, which is finely located and an ornament to the town. During the later years of his life, Mr. McClure made a specialty of raising fine cattle, but has now retired from active business.

Our subject has been prominently identified with the affairs of this locality since coming here, having held the offices of Justice of the Peace, Town Clerk and Township Trustee. He has also been Overseer of the Poor and Township Collector. During the existence of the Vigilance Committee, he was its chairman and presided over its councils with dignity and good judgment.

Mr. and Mrs. McClure have become the parents of two children—John T., who married Miss Addie Sebring and lives at Chicago, and Mary J., who died of consumption when eighteen years of age. This daughter was a bright and interesting girl. Her remains were laid to rest in the cemetery at Stout's Grove. The parents and children were all members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. John T. McClure has taken a regular law course and received a good common-school education.

He is now clerking in a lithographic establishment.

Mr. McClure made a profession of religion when in his eighteenth year, and about the same time joined the Old Washingtonian Temperance Society, and has never violated his pledge from that day to this. He has held the office of Elder in his Church for several years, being elected four terms in succession. He was Superintendent of the Sunday-school two years at Danvers and has served in the same capacity since removing to Stanford. He has always taken an active interest in public matters and in earlier years voted with the Democratic party, but the latter part of his life has identified himself with the temperance and prohibition movement.



**J**OSEPH W. LABERTEW, of Anchor Township, is a descendant of a French family, whose first representatives emigrated to the United States prior to the Revolutionary War. The name was then written LaBerton, but of late years has been written in the more simple manner. The gentleman whose name stands at the head of this sketch is Postmaster and Station Agent at Anchor and has been a resident of this State since 1875. He was born in Owen County, Ind., Oct. 27, 1856, and is the son of Dunham and Elizabeth (Baldwin) Labertew, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Kentucky. They removed after marriage to Indiana whence, in 1875, they came to Illinois, settling first in Funk's Grove Township, this county, where they now reside, engaged in farming pursuits.

Joseph W. Labertew is the eldest of a family of six children. His childhood and youth were passed upon his father's farm and he received his education in the common schools. In 1873 he made his first visit to Illinois, stopping for a short time in Le Roy, where he was in the employ of J. V. Smith, a farmer and stock dealer at that place. He returned to Indiana and spent the winter of 1873-74, but in the spring following came back to this county and resumed his work with his old employer, remaining with him until the fall of that year. He then visited his old home once more and took another term in school. The following year he en-

gaged in farming in Funk's Grove Township, and in the fall again pursued his studies in Indiana. Afterward he commenced teaching, and also learned to operate the telegraph.

In the fall of 1883 Mr. Labertew entered the employ of the Illinois Central Railroad as Station Agent at Anchor, which position he still retains. He was appointed Postmaster in 1886, and has performed the duties of both offices with credit to himself and satisfaction to all concerned. Politically he is a supporter of the Democratic party, but takes no further interest in politics than to deposit his ballot upon election day. He has also served as Township Clerk and is Agent for the American Express Company at Anchor.

Mr. Labertew was married in September, 1880, to Miss Viola B., daughter of S. T. L. and Lucinda (Buell) Miles. Mrs. L. is a native of Clay County, Ind., and of her union with our subject there is one child, Maek C., whose birth took place on the 26th of June, 1881.



**C**AMPBELL WAKEFIELD. The history of the Wakefield family began in the United States during the latter part of the last century. As near as can be learned, the first member of the family who came here was Andrew, who was born and reared to manhood in the town of Antrim, Ireland. It is supposed that he was of English descent, as some years ago, during one of the rebellions in the East, a soldier by the name of Wakefield left England and went to the north of Ireland, and from that ancestor sprang the present descendants.

After coming to the United States, Andrew Wakefield located in Franklin County, Pa., and thence, later, removed to Nelson County, Ky. In this latter place he commenced to establish a home amidst a timber tract, by putting up a small hut and preparing other conveniences as well as he was able for his expected bride. He then returned to Franklin County, Pa., and was there married to Miss Martha Campbell, who was born and reared in Pennsylvania. Her parents were of Irish birth and parentage. A few days after the wedding the

young couple set out for their new home. They lived there until after the birth of five children. These were, Hettie, William, Daniel, Andrew and John. They then removed to Hamilton County, Ohio, and there spent the remainder of their days. Andrew Wakefield was an honorable and upright man in all his dealings, and became prominent in both places where he made his home. He was successful in his business pursuits and accumulated a good property. He departed this life in June, 1828; his wife survived him until 1855, and died when eighty-three years old. After removing to Hamilton County, Ohio, the household circle was increased by the birth of five more children, viz., Campbell, our subject; Hannah, Elizabeth, Mary and Joseph. The ten children all lived to become men and women. All married and had families but two. Our subject now is the only surviving member of the parental household.

Campbell Wakefield was born in New Haven, Hamilton Co., Ohio, Feb. 11, 1804. His boyhood and youth were spent upon his father's farm, and his education was obtained with difficulty in the pioneer schools. He was trained to habits of industry and economy, and his temperate manner of living developed within him a healthy love for all that was good, and strengthened his muscles for the battle of life. After attaining to years of manhood he was married in his native county, May 24, 1827, to Miss Margaret Elder. Mrs. Wakefield was born in Franklin County, Pa., Dec. 19, 1803, being the daughter of John and Mary (Leeper) Elder, natives of Pennsylvania and of Scotch-Irish descent. It is supposed they were engaged in agricultural pursuits, and they removed from Pennsylvania to Ohio a few years after their marriage. While the father was in Pennsylvania on business, he sickened and died, being in the prime of life, and only forty-one years of age. The mother survived for a number of years, and died in Hamilton County, at the age of sixty-two.

The Elder, Leeper and Wakefield families were all connected with the Presbyterian Church and noted for those high principles and worthy lives which constituted them among the most valued members of the community. Mrs. Wakefield remained with her parents until her marriage. Her

grandfather, David Elder, was one of the first settlers of Path Valley, Pa., and both her father and herself were born upon the farm which the grandfather opened up from a wild and unencultivated tract of land. Mrs. Margaret Wakefield became the mother of one child, a son, John E., who is now a successful farmer of Randolph Township. He was united in marriage with Miss Catharine Turner and they became the parents of twelve children, two of whom are deceased.

Mr. and Mrs. Wakefield, of this notice, after marriage, lived in Ohio until 1835. He engaged in farming and merchandising and was prospered in his business and agricultural transactions. In the year mentioned, he disposed of his property in the Buckeye State, and resolved to try his fortune in the farther West. Getting together his family and their household effects he started overland with ox-teams and one carriage. The latter was occupied by Mrs. Wakefield and their only son, who was then eight years of age, and the mother drove the team. They came into McLean County and located on a farm of 200 acres in Randolph Township which had previously been secured by our subject. After arriving in this section Mr. Wakefield pursued the same undeviating course of rectitude and industry, and was prospered as before. In due time he added to his first purchase until he and his son John became the possessors of 1,400 acres of some of the finest land in McLean County. This is still in their possession, and has been brought to a high state of cultivation. Upon it they erected a beautiful and substantial farm dwelling with a good barn and all the other appliances of a first-class country home.

The present home of our subject and his amiable and excellent wife is within the limits of Heyworth. Here he has sixty acres of land, and when so inclined, employs his time in the lighter duties connected with its care, and the production of the fruits and vegetables adapted to the needs of the family. In his prosperity he has kept steadily in view the needs of the church and school, giving to each a valuable piece of land; also a lot for a cemetery, and for the erection of a flourmill, which was subsequently burned. Both Mr. and Mrs. Wakefield are among the original members of

the Presbyterian Church of Heyworth, our subject being the first Elder, and having occupied this office most of the time since its organization. He has always contributed liberally and cheerfully for the support of the church and Sabbath-school, being made the first Superintendent of the latter and serving for a period of fifteen years. This Sunday-school was the first of its kind established in the southern part of McLean County.

Politically Mr. Wakefield, from the time he cast his first vote until the present, has vigorously upheld the principles of the Democratic party. In connection with his other labors and duties which have constituted a most busy and useful life, he served as Justice of the Peace for a period of thirteen years, and occupied various other offices in his township. It is scarcely necessary to say that the duties of these were fulfilled with credit to himself and satisfaction to all concerned. As one of the oldest and most honored pioneers of the Prairie State, Mr. Wakefield is amply entitled to the benediction of "Well done, good and faithful servant."



**J**OHAN E. WAKEFIELD. Among the active and energetic farmers of Randolph Township, may be numbered the subject of this sketch, who, during a residence of many years, has secured the confidence and esteem of his fellow-citizens, both as a business man and a useful member of society.

Mr. Wakefield is the only son and child of Campbell and Margaret Wakefield, and was born in New Haven, Hamilton Co., Ohio, May 10, 1828. He was a lad of eight years when he came with his family to this county, and his education, commenced in the district schools, was completed in Bloomington. He was reared to farming pursuits, and remained under the parental roof until his marriage. He then located on the homestead which he now owns and occupies. This consists of 500 acres of valuable land, finely improved and cultivated, with a handsome and substantial residence, and a good barn and all necessary out-buildings for the storage of grain and the shelter

of stock. To the latter he has given considerable attention, and among other of the domestic animals has a fine flock of Merino sheep, comprising 1,000 head, in the breeding of which he has met with success, and the proceeds of which have yielded him a handsome income.

Mr. Wakefield was married at the home of the bride's parents in Clermont County, Ohio, Sept. 14, 1852, by the Rev. L. G. Gaines, to Miss Catherine, the daughter of James and Margaret (McKinney) Turner. Mr. and Mrs. T. were natives respectively of Indiana and Franklin Counties, Pa. The father in early life was a carder and fuller by trade, but later engaged in farming pursuits. The parents were married in Indiana County, Pa., whence they removed in 1839, to Clermont County, Ohio. Mrs. W. was born in Indiana County, Pa., Feb. 17, 1834. After removing to Ohio her parents located near Loveland, where they spent the remainder of their days. They were most excellent and worthy people, and the families of each for a number of generations had been reared in the Presbyterian faith, to which they adhered during their entire lives.

James Turner was the eldest son of Joseph Turner, the son of Adam Turner. The latter was a native of England, where he was reared and married, and after emigrating to the United States, settled in Franklin County, Pa., about the middle of the eighteenth century. Indians were numerous then in that region, and the settlers experienced from them much trouble and danger. It is supposed that Adam Turner engaged in farming pursuits, and that he died in the county where he first settled. His son Joseph, the grandfather of Mrs. Wakefield, was born and reared in Franklin County, Pa., and married Miss Margaret Porter, whose brother, Nathaniel, was a Colonel in the Revolutionary army, and fought at the battle of Brandywine. Joseph, with his wife, died in Indiana County, Pa., where he was engaged as a wheelwright, after the independence of the colonies was established. Their family included six children, of whom James Turner, the father of Mrs. Wakefield, was the eldest son and second child.

The marriage of James Turner with Miss McKinney, took place in Indiana County, Pa., April

2, 1825. Mrs. Turner was the daughter of James and Elizabeth (Bard) McKinney, both natives of Pennsylvania, her mother being the daughter of Richard and Catherine Bard, whom it is supposed were natives of Ireland, but of Scotch parentage and descent. Soon after marriage they settled in Franklin County, Pa., in about 1755. Three years later both were captured by the Indians. The father being threatened with death, made his escape after five days. The mother was held a captive for two years, but being made the adopted daughter of the chief, she fared better than most of those who fell into the hands of the savages. Her body or her life was offered for sale to her husband a number of times, but when he would send the price demanded they failed in their agreement, but finally released her in an exchange of prisoners, the whites having captured some of their most valuable warriors. After his capture and escape, Mr. Bard wrote a poem of 101 verses in relation to his thrilling experience and that of his young wife. These excellent people spent the remainder of their lives in Franklin County, Pa., both living to an advanced age.

Mrs. Wakefield has inherited in a marked degree the fine qualities of her ancestors, being a lady of much force of character and fine intelligence. She was reared and educated in Clermont County, Ohio, and received careful home training at the hands of her excellent Christian parents. By her union with our subject she has become the mother of twelve children, two now deceased, an infant unnamed and a son, Willie, who died at the age of five years; Margaret B. is the wife of Fred H. Hill; Alice married N. J. Battershell; James C. married Miss Mary Thompson, and is a farmer of Randolph Township; Porter T. married Anna Miller, of Bloomington, where they reside, this son being engaged in merchandising; Minnie and Frank L. are at home; Jennie B. is attending school at Normal, and Mary at Heyworth, also Herbert L. and Andrew McCoy. Mr. and Mrs. Wakefield have reared their children in those principles which have been the rule of their own lives, and which have constituted them members of the best society of this community. They are members in good standing of the Presbyterian Church, and our subject polit-

ically affiliates with the Democratic party. The homestead is beautifully located, and invariably attracts the attention of the traveler, being one of the prettiest spots in the landscape of Randolph Township.



**P**ETER WALLACE, D. D. The subject of the following biography is a native of Kentucky, born in Mason County on the 11th of April, 1813. He is the son of Thomas and Catharine Wallace, and was but an infant when the family removed and settled on a farm in Brown County, Ohio, where he grew to manhood, in the meantime receiving what instruction he could gather from the limited advantages of the country schools. Young Wallace, however, was fond of his books and ambitious to excel, and closely applied himself to such books as he could obtain and which gave instruction especially in literature and science. At the age of twenty years he migrated to Illinois, having in the meantime acquired a good knowledge of the carpenter's trade, and locating at Springfield, became a contractor and builder, which business he followed with success for a number of years. He was of that genial disposition which made him popular with all classes, and among his warm personal friends and associates were Abraham Lincoln, Stephen A. Douglas, Richard Yates, and many others who afterward became prominent in the counsels of the nation.

Peter Wallace was converted at Springfield May 18, 1835, and became an active worker in the Methodist Episcopal Church. In 1853 he was received into the Illinois Conference on trial, and given charge of the Danville Circuit, which trust he filled with great credit to himself and satisfaction to his Elder and Bishop. He was subsequently stationed at Edgar, Homer, Camargo, Moweaqua, Macon, Beardstown, Warsaw and Saybrook, being superannuated at the last named place in 1885. From 1867 to 1870, he was Presiding Elder in the Mattoon District, and from 1871 to 1874 served the Quincy District in a like capacity. In 1875, he as agent represented Johnson College, afterward known as Chaddock College. He was also, for six years, President of the Board of Trustees of the

college, from which institution he received the degree of D. D. He was a very forcible pulpit orator, and as he led an exemplary Christian life, thousands were converted by his precepts and example. He did not confine his good acts to the ministry alone, but when the Civil War broke out he at once determined to help save the Union and assist in freeing from bondage 4,000,000 human beings. He soon organized a company of soldiers from Sangamon County, and was mustered into the United States service as Captain of Co. I, 73d Ill. Vol. Inf. This regiment was known as the "Preachers' Regiment," as every officer from General down was a minister of the Gospel.

Dr. Wallace was elected Captain of the company which he had organized, and as such commanded them at the battles of Perryville, Stone River, Nashville and many minor engagements. At the battle of Stone River he was in charge of the regiment most of the time. Being forty-five years of age when he entered the service, the long marches and severe exposure injured his health to such an extent that he was compelled to resign his command in May, 1864, having served nearly two years, with credit to himself and honor to his country.

Politically Dr. Wallace was in early life a Whig and strongly opposed to slavery. He was one of the founders of the Republican party, and is still a staunch supporter of its principles. His first vote was cast for Abraham Lincoln, who was then a candidate for the Legislature of Illinois. In 1882, during the administration of President Arthur, without any solicitation on his part he was commissioned Postmaster at Saybrook, which office he held until after the change in the National administration, when he resigned. In 1884 he was urged as a candidate for the State Legislature but declined the honor, although a nomination would have insured his election. He is now seventy-four years of age, still preaches with great power, and attends to considerable private business. He is an interesting conversationalist and good authority in theology and politics. He is connected with Lodge No. 468, A. F. & A. M., Macon Chapter No. 21, R. A. M., and Beaumont Commandery No. 9, K. T., also a member of McPherson Post, G. A. R.

Dr. Wallace has been twice married; his first

wife, who was Miss Emeline Johnson, and to whom he was married at Springfield in 1835, departed this life on the 18th of October, 1860. He was married the second time, July 3, 1861, to Mrs. K. H. (Davenport) Cone, and they have one son, Louis D., aged twenty, who is attending the Northwestern University at Evanston, Ill. Mrs. Wallace is a native of Hudson, Mich., and the daughter of John C. and Azubah (Beebe) Davenport, the former a native of Massachusetts and the latter of New York. Mr. Davenport was one of the pioneer settlers of Michigan and became one of the substantial business men of the State, being for many years a heavy contractor for carrying mail before the days of railroads. Mrs. Wallace received a good education, mostly from private tutors. In 1854 she moved to Chicago, and resided with her sister, Mrs. Dr. Cone. In her eighteenth year she was married to Maj. George W. I. Cone, who was a native of New York State, whence he emigrated westward early in life, fitted himself for the practice of law, and was admitted to practice in 1855. He was a gentleman of fine ability and the originator of the now famous "Associated Congress" of Chicago, organized in 1857, and of which he was the first Speaker. While serving in that capacity he made many warm friends and his withdrawal from the Congress was received with universal regret. His death occurred Jan. 21, 1859. Although only twenty-four years of age he had already established a reputation as a business and literary man of more than ordinary merit, and great things were predicted for him in the future.

Nearly three years after his death, Mrs. Cone was united in marriage with Dr. Wallace, as already stated. Mrs. Wallace possesses fine social qualities and exerts a good influence upon all around her. She has made it a study of life to never speak evil of anyone. As the wife of an itinerate preacher she has resided in many different places, often finding the society in a state of discord, and was often the happy medium by which it was restored to harmony. She is a great lover of nature, and the trees and shrubbery growing in the school-house park are monuments of her enterprise and desire to instill in the minds of the young, her own admiration of the grand works of nature, which must inevitably

result in having a good influence upon them.

Dr. and Mrs. Wallace have a beautiful home in Saybrook, where they expect to continue their residence. They are given to hospitality, and rich and poor share it alike. During their married life, Vice Presidents of the United States, Bishops, Consuls, Governors, Congressmen and Judges have sat at their table, and yet the welcome was no more to the great than the most humble of their acquaintances.



**H**ARMON A. ROWE. This gentleman, who followed the plow for forty years of his life, is now a prominent factor in the business community of Saybrook, where he is carrying on a profitable trade in agricultural implements. He is a native of Ohio, and was born in Fayette County, Dec. 22, 1830, where he spent his early life, attending the district school and assisting his father on the farm. He is the son of Willis and Harriett (Lines) Rowe, both natives of Virginia, whose parents removed to Ohio soon after their marriage. Willis Rowe died near Saybrook, Oct. 31, 1876, at the age of seventy years. He was reared in Democratic principles but became identified with the Whig party, with which he remained until its abandonment and was ever afterward a Republican.

After reaching his majority our subject was married, Aug. 31, 1854, to Miss Mary J. Ferguson, who was born in Pennsylvania, and removed to Ohio with her parents when a mere child. She is the daughter of William and Catherine Ferguson, the former a native of Maine but now deceased, and the latter of Pennsylvania. William Ferguson departed this life in Saybrook, in May, 1884, at the advanced age of seventy-four years. The mother of Mrs. Rowe is still living. Their children were Levi, John, Hiram, Mary A., Cordelia, Nancy and Mary J. Mrs. Rowe was born in 1833.

In 1864 Mr. R. removed with his family to Illinois and located in Cheney's Grove Township, of which he has been a resident since that time. He has been prospered in his various pursuits and has four valuable lots and a good residence in Saybrook. In addition to his implement trade he handles each

year large quantities of coal, in which he has built up a profitable and steadily increasing trade. During his busy life he has kept an eye upon the prosperity and welfare of the community around him, and has contributed his full share toward the building up of his township and town. He has been a firm supporter of the principles of the Republican party, and with his family, is a member and regular attendant of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Saybrook. Socially he belongs to McPherson Post No. 79, G. A. R. During the late war he served as a Union soldier in Co. K, 168th Ohio Vol. Inf., performing his duties as a soldier faithfully and bravely for five months, and receiving an honorable discharge when peace was restored.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Rowe are recorded as follows: Orin H. died when ten years of age; Etta B. became the wife of H. C. Meyers, and died at her home near Saybrook in 1880; William H. married Miss Margaret Cheney, and is a resident of Saybrook; Jennie May and Nellie are at home with their parents.



**A**LMON MORROW. The Morrow family history dates back to a time previous to the Revolutionary War. The first members in this country settled in New York State and are supposed to have descended from Scottish and Irish ancestry. The grandfather of our subject, James Morrow, was a native of New York, and engaged in farming and merchandising. He was married in his native State in about 1811, and subsequently removed to Clinton County, Ohio. There he and his wife spent the remainder of their days and there their remains are buried.

The father of our subject, William Morrow, was a youth of seventeen years when his parents removed to Clinton County, Ohio. A few years later he enlisted in the army, and was engaged as a private in the War of 1812, serving until its close. He then returned to Warren County, Ohio, and in due time was married to Miss Susan Nieker-son. This lady was born and reared in New York State and died in Ohio while yet a young woman, leaving a family of four children, of whom our sub-



jeet was the youngest. For his second wife, William Morrow married Miss Lydia Williams, who is yet living, being sixty-six years of age and making her home in Warren County, Ohio. Of this latter marriage there were born seven sons, five of whom served as soldiers in the Union army. With these our subject served also, thus making six sons of one father who gave their services to aid in the preservation of the Union. All were content to serve as privates and performed their duties bravely and faithfully, and in accordance with the principles of honor and truth in which they had been reared. Of these, who were named—Almon, George, Henry, Samuel, Morris and Emmett—Henry and Samuel were killed, the former being shot through the head by a rebel ball at the battle of Resaca, Ga.; Samuel was wounded in the engagement at Gallatin, Tenn., and died in the hospital. The others escaped unharmed and lived to return home in safety. All belonged to different regiments.

Our subject enlisted in Heyworth, Aug. 8, 1862, in Co. B, 94th Ill. Vol. Inf., under command of Capt. McFarland. He participated in the battle at Prairie Grove, Ark.; Vicksburg, Miss.; Ft. Morgan and Spanish Fort, which latter was taken by the Federal troops in the spring of 1865. He was also at the evacuation of Mobile whence, with his comrades, he went to Galveston, Tex., where his regiment was discharged on the 9th of August, 1865. During the period of three years he was in the army, our subject daily reported for duty, with the exception of fifteen days, during which time he was home on a furlough. After his honorable discharge he returned to Heyworth, where he had settled in the fall of 1861.

Almon Morrow was born in Warren County, Ohio, June 20, 1829, and was there reared and educated. He remained under the parental roof and assisted in the labors of the farm until his marriage. On the 6th of April, 1854, he was united in wedlock with Miss Ruth H. Templin, who was a native of his own county and born Oct. 15, 1836. Her parents were Jonathan and Elizabeth (Henry) Templin, natives respectively of Virginia and Indiana. They were married in Warren County, Ohio, and spent their entire lives upon a farm. Both died at their home in Clinton County, Ohio,

where they had lived for a period of thirty years. The decease of the father occurred May 20, 1885, and that of the mother April 16, 1886. They were most excellent and worthy people and greatly respected in the community where they were known.

Mrs. Morrow received careful home training and was educated in the public schools of her native county. She remained with her parents until her marriage. Of her union with our subject there were born three children, two now deceased—Aliee and Owen, aged respectively six and four years. Mattie M. became the wife of Albert B. Fulton of Bloomington; they reside upon a farm and are the parents of one child, Elmer, the only daughter, Maude, having died at the age of three years,

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Morrow first settled upon a farm in Clinton County, Ohio, and removed to the Prairie State the year before the war. After his return from the army he purchased eighty acres of land in Randolph Township, this county, which constitutes a part of their present homestead. To this he subsequently added, and the home farm now contains 120 acres, being located on section 8. Our subject has been prospered in his agricultural and business operations and his land is in a fine state of cultivation. The family are connected with the Presbyterian Church, of which our subject is Deacon. Politically Mr. Morrow is a staunch supporter of the principles of the Republican party.



**M**RS. ELIZABETH MORELAND, one of the pioneers of Belleflower Township, is a resident on section 9. Her present homestead was established by Allen Ringo, in January, 1858. Mrs. M. was born in Clermont County, Ohio, Dec. 25, 1831. Her father, Alfred West, was a native of the same State, and her grandfather, George West, of Kentucky, emigrated from the Blue Grass regions to Ohio at an early period in the history of that State, settling in Clermont County. There he cleared a farm from the wilderness, which he occupied for many years, but afterward removed to Indiana, and died in Covington,

that State, at the home of his son John, having arrived at the advanced age of ninety-six years. His son, Alfred, was reared to manhood in Clermont County, Ohio, where he lived until the fall of 1833. Then with his wife and five children he went overland to Indiana and located in Clay County, where he was among the first settlers. He purchased a tract of heavy timber land and cleared a farm from the wilderness, where he lived until his decease, in April, 1882, when eighty-four years of age. He was married in early manhood to Miss Elizabeth Archy, who was born in Clermont County, Ohio, being the daughter of Chapman Archy, of Kentucky, who removed to Clermont County, Ohio, and there spent the last years of his life. The mother died in Clay County, Ind., in June, 1871.

Mrs. Elizabeth Moreland was not quite two years old when her parents removed from Ohio to Indiana. She remained under the home roof until her first marriage, to Allen Ringo, which occurred Jan. 25, 1852. This gentleman was born in Kentucky, being the son of Major and Elizabeth Ringo. About the time of his marriage Allen Ringo purchased a tract of land in Clay County, Ind., upon which he erected a log cabin, and in that the young people commenced housekeeping. They remained there two years, and in the fall of 1854 started overland with a team of horses and a wagon for the prairies of Illinois. Mr. R. first purchased 160 acres in McDonough County, upon which they remained for the five years following. He then came to McLean County and purchased 240 acres of wild land in Belleflower Township. Here he also built a house for his family and continued the improvement and cultivation of his land until his death, which occurred Jan. 31, 1865. He was a member in good standing of the Christian Church and a worthy citizen, highly esteemed by all who knew him.

In June, 1868, Mrs. Ringo was married the second time, to Bernard Moreland. Mr. M. was a native of Ohio, and born May 7, 1837. His parents were Edward and Mary A. Moreland. Mrs. M. still occupies the homestead where she first settled upon coming to Belleflower Township. The farm comprises 160 acres of good land. Mr. M. is a traveling salesman, representing the business

of H. P. Deuser, of Hamilton, Ohio, dealer in agricultural implements.

By her first marriage Mrs. Moreland became the mother of three children: Laura, the wife of Alvah Jayns, lives in Champaign County, Ill.; Leonard and Lillie J. are twins. The former lives in Chase County, Neb.; Lillie is at home with her mother. Of the second marriage there were born three children—Mason B., Ambers J. and Walter G. Mrs. M. is a member in good standing of the Christian Church, and a lady highly respected in the community.



**M**RS. LUCINDA HAYS, widow of William H. Hays, is located upon a good farm of 160 acres in Blue Mound Township, upon which she removed in 1865, with her husband, and where she has since lived. She is a native of Ohio, born in Fayette County, April 8, 1836, and is the daughter of Hugh and Mary (Hughs) Paul, the former a native of Virginia, and the latter of Ohio. Hugh Paul departed this life on the 4th of February, 1837, in Fayette County, Ohio. Afterward, in 1845, the mother came with her little family to Illinois, and located in Money Creek Township, this county, where she died in April, 1855. They have only two children—Matilda J. and Lucinda. Matilda became the wife of John Henline, and died in Money Creek Township in 1856.

Mrs. Hays was ten years old when her mother came to this county, and remained under the home roof most of the time until her marriage. On the 23d of December, 1856, she was married to William H. Hays, in Bloomington, Ill. The parents of Mr. Hays were Henry and Sarah (Smith) Hays, natives of Kentucky. They remained for a time in their native State, after their marriage, and thence removed to Illinois, settling in Lexington Township, this county, in 1835. The father died in the spring of 1860, and the mother in 1848, in Lexington Township. Their seven children, all of whom lived to mature years, were, William H., Matilda, Hettie, Ann E., Henry C., Harriet D. and James. William H. was the eldest of the family; he was born in Lexington Township, Oct. 22, 1835, and

was reared to farming pursuits, which he followed during life.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Hays, of this notice, first settled in Lexington Township, this county, but in 1858 removed to Kansas, where they lived two years. They then returned, and again became residents of Lexington Township, where they lived until the spring of 1865, when they removed upon the present homestead in Blue Mound Township, and there the death of Mr. Hays occurred, April 22, 1881. Of this union there were born nine children, viz., George W., Henry L., Hugh E., Ella and Della, twins, Graec M., Harry M., Floy A., and one who died in infancy. George married Miss Maggie Henline, and resides in Lexington, Ill.; Henry married Miss Sarah Kraft, and is farming in Towanda Township; Hugh married Miss Emma Campbell, and they are living in Blue Mound Township. Mr. and Mrs. Hays many years ago identified themselves with the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which Mr. Hays remained a consistent member until his death, and to which Mrs. Hays still belongs. She is a lady greatly respected and esteemed in this community for her excellent traits of character and kindness of heart. She has managed the farm since the death of her husband in a judicious and wise manner, and shows excellent business ability.



**T**HOMAS B. KILGORE, Supervisor of Lawndale Township, has a pleasant home on section 26, where he is pursuing the peaceful vocation of an agriculturist, and attending, as occasion requires, to the duties of his office. He has been a resident of this section since the spring of 1867, when, after a term of service in the Union army, he came to McLean County and settled in Lawndale Township, where he purchased 320 acres of land, upon which he has since resided, and became identified with the interests of his adopted township and county.

The subject of this history is the son of John and Malona C. (Beach) Kilgore, who were natives of Madison County, Ohio, and after marriage settled in Franklin County, that State, where they

have since made their home. The parental household included four children, of whom the record is as follows: Sarah A. is the wife of Samuel Stauffer, and resides in Lawndale Township; Albert is deceased; John N. lives in Lawndale Township.

Thomas B. Kilgore was born in Franklin County, Ohio, March 23, 1840. His education was received mostly in the common schools, although he attended Wesleyan University one term. He was reared to farming pursuits, and remained at home until the spring of 1861, when, the late Civil War being in progress, he enlisted in the 1st Ohio Cavalry, and served three years, in the meantime being promoted Sergeant. At the battle of Chickamauga he had a close call, barely escaping being shot down by the enemy, the horse he was riding having been killed. After leaving the army he returned to Franklin County, Ohio, where he remained two years, and then started for the West, with the results we have stated. After purchasing his land he immediately entered upon its cultivation and improvement. Mr. Kilgore has now a fine farm dwelling, a good barn and all the accessories of a first-class agriculturist. Everything about the premises indicates the supervision of an intelligent and enterprising mind. Mr. Kilgore has been rarely prospered in his farming and business operations, and has added to his first purchase so that he now has 480 acres, all of which is improved and in a fine and fertile condition. The whole estate presents one of the most attractive spots in the landscape of McLean County.

The marriage of Thomas B. Kilgore with Miss Mary E. Batterton was celebrated in Lawndale Township, April 11, 1867. Mrs. Kilgore is the daughter of Martin Batterton, a sketch of whom appears on another page of this volume. She was born in Lawndale Township, July 18, 1840, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of four children—John M., Lizzie M., Maud B. and Thomas Beach.

Mr. Kilgore has been Supervisor of Lawndale Township nine terms, and still holds the office. He served as Road Commissioner three years, and has occupied other minor offices in the township, including that of School Director. Socially, he is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and of Col-

fax Post, G. A. R. Both Mr. and Mrs. Kilgore are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Our subject is Republican in politics, and greatly interested in the success of the temperance movement, with which he has prominently identified himself.



**G**EORGE J. ARNOLD, Supervisor of Yates Township, owns and occupies a comfortable homestead on section 15, and is numbered among the prominent farmers of the county. He is the son of John C. and Caroline (Tritenbaeh) Arnold, natives of Wurtemberg, Germany. His father at an early age, in forming his plans for the future, indicated the energy and enterprise of his character. He was not satisfied with his condition or his prospects in his native country, and determined to emigrate to the United States. This scheme was violently opposed by his friends, some of whom gathered around him and told him that America was a heathen land, where the people were all thieves, and thus persuaded him to remain for a time, at least, very much against his inclination and his better judgment. After his marriage, however, and children began to gather around the fireside, he became greatly anxious for their sakes to provide something better for them than what he could probably obtain in Germany. Accordingly, in 1853, accompanied by his wife and four children, he left the place of his birth and set sail for the New World.

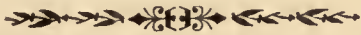
After a tedious voyage of forty days, as steerage passengers in a sailing-vessel, they arrived in the city of New York, whence they proceeded by rail to Dunkirk, that State, and then by way of Lake Erie to Cleveland. Thence they crossed the State of Ohio to Cincinnati, and settled on a tract of land in Clermont County, that State. They resided there four years, and then decided to push further Westward to the Prairie State. Coming to Illinois he located in McLean County, in 1857. He followed farming near Bloomington and in Normal Township for the following ten years, in the meantime having purchased the southwest quarter of section 21, Yates Township, to which he removed with his family and established a comfortable

home, where he spent the remainder of his life. He always attended closely to his business, was industrious and economical, and at the time of his death had accumulated a fine property, consisting of 400 acres of good land, all of which he had properly improved. His death was the result of an accident on the 2d of July, 1881, when he was thrown from a huggy and received an injury which caused his death on the 13th of that month. The wife and mother had passed to the better land five years before, on the 24th of October, 1876. Of the seven children born to them, five are yet living—Maggie, William, Minnie, Osear, and George J., our subject, who is the eldest of those now living.

George J. Arnold first opened his eyes to light in the little kingdom of Wurtemberg, Germany, Aug. 20, 1848, and was thus in the fifth year of his age when the family emigrated to the United States. His parents being in limited circumstances he early in life began to assist in the work on the farm, and was permitted only a few weeks' schooling in each year. He possessed much natural ability, however, and a genuine love for learning, and through his own efforts gained a good practical and business education. In 1871 he went to Cherokee County, Kan., where with his brother he followed farming and stock-raising for three years. Then, returning to Illinois he resumed the old life at home and assisted his father in carrying on the farm until July, 1881. On the 7th of that month he was united in marriage with Miss Cornelia Bell, daughter of John and Anna Grizzella (Kelly) McCune.

Mrs. Arnold was born in Chenoa Township, this county, Sept. 9, 1857, and by her marriage with our subject became the mother of two children: Minnie Grizzella, born May 15, 1882, and Mary Belle, May 13, 1886. Our subject and wife are members of the Presbyterian Church, and in their pleasant and comfortable home are surrounded by all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life. The farm estate of Mr. Arnold consists of 160 acres of valuable land, with a fine modern residence, good barns and all necessary out-buildings. Since becoming a resident of this county, Mr. Arnold has identified himself with its interests and welfare, and has been honored by various township offices,

having been three times Collector, and is now serving his third term as Supervisor. He is a staunch supporter of the principles of the Republican party, and in all respects has built up for himself a reputation as an honest man and a good citizen.



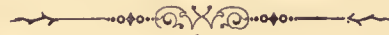
**J**OHN P. MESSER, proprietor of 200 acres of valuable land in Gridley Township, is one of the prominent and progressive farmers of this section, who by his energy and industry has aided materially in its development and progress. He is a native of this county, born near Colfax, March 11, 1836. He received a good common-school education, the best afforded in those days, and remained under the parental roof until he was twenty-two years old. Mr. Messer was reared to farming pursuits and to habits of industry and honesty, and has followed agriculture the whole of his life.

The parents of our subject, John B. and Susan (Estey) Messer, were natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Kentucky, and became residents of Illinois in 1836. They first located in Lexington Township, this county, whence they removed to Gridley and located on section 34. Upon the homestead there established the father died in November, 1879. The mother then went to live with her daughter in Moultrie County, this State, and there died Sept. 5, 1880. The parental family included ten children—Maria J., Sydney A., John P., Margaret E., Isaac, Mary, Elizabeth E., James T., Elizabeth E. (2d) and Rebecea A. Maria, Elizabeth (1st) and James are deceased.

When John P. Messer started out for himself in life he located in Gridley Township, which he has since made his home. He has been twice married, the first time in this township, Sept. 22, 1857, to Miss Mary S. Weakley, who was born in Ohio, Feb. 21, 1842. She became the mother of seven children, of whom the record is as follows: Dora became the wife of Samuel J. Pfillis, and resides in Kansas; Benjamin is at home; Ira died in infancy; the next, an infant, died unnamed; John B. died when less than one year old; Maria J. resides in Kansas, and William in Gridley Township. The

mother of these children died at the home of her husband in Gridley Township, Dec. 27, 1867. She was a lady greatly respected, and an earnest member of the Christian Church.

The second wife of Mr. Messer, to whom he was married in Moultrie County, Ill., Sept. 30, 1869, was Elizabeth J. Dawson, daughter of Canon and Eliza A. (Riggin) Dawson, natives of Delaware. The parental family comprised five children, of whom Mrs. Messer was the third. She was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, Nov. 7, 1838. Of this marriage there were born six children—Henry B., Arthur E., Francis D., an infant who died unnamed, Isaac I. and John L. Mr. and Mrs. M. are worthy members of the Christian Church, and politically our subject belongs to the Democratic party. He held the office of Highway Commissioner four years, and has been School Director. Socially he is a member of Cœur de Leon Commandery No. 43, of El Paso.



**E**LISHA R. SMITH, one of the self-made men and well-to-do farmers of Belleflower Township, is pleasantly located on section 12, where he is following agricultural pursuits and fulfilling the obligations of a good citizen. Mr. Smith was born in Fulton County, this State, March 10, 1844, being the son of William Smith, who was a native of New Jersey and of Welsh descent. The latter was but a boy when his parents moved to Ohio, and there grew to manhood and married in Richland County. In 1838 he came to Illinois, making the journey overland with two horses and a wagon, accompanied by his wife and eight children. Upon his arrival in Illinois he had but \$1.30 in cash. He worked around by the day for six or seven years, farming during the summer season and in the meantime saving his earnings, in which he was assisted materially by his excellent helpmeet. In due time he contracted to buy a farm for which he was to pay \$1,000, and of this sum he had but \$50. The farm was two and one-half miles from Cuba, and Liverpool and Peoria were the nearest markets. Mr. Smith was a very industrious man and was soon enabled to make the

last payment on the farm. He also erected a good set of frame buildings and lived there until 1862. He then sold out and purchased another farm near by, which he occupied, however, but a few months. He soon thereafter retired from active labor and spent the last years of his life in Cuba, dying Sept. 3, 1877, when seventy-eight years of age. The mother of our subject, who was formerly Miss Sarah Cline, died near Cuba, March 26, 1881, having arrived at the advanced age of eighty-eight years.

The subject of this history was the youngest of eleven children born to his parents. He was reared to manhood on his father's farm in Fulton County, Ill., and received a good common-school education. During the progress of the late war he enlisted in Co. G, 11th Ill. Vol. Cav., and served until the close of the war, receiving his discharge in July, 1865. After returning from the army he operated on rented land in Fulton County until 1867, then came to Belleflower Township and purchased the farm which he now owns and occupies. It was then wild prairie and the nearest railroad station was at Champaign, twenty-two miles distant. Mahomet was twelve miles and was the nearest post-office; now the railroad passes through his farm, with the station and post-office forty rods distant from his residence. He has added to his first purchase until he is now the owner of 236 acres, all enclosed and improved, and forming one of the finest country estates of this section.

Mr. Smith was married, Dec. 24, 1863, to Miss Elizabeth, the daughter of Solomon and Martha (McKinney) Murphy, and who was born in Licking County, Ohio. Of this union there are nine children—Annie, William P., Belle A., M. Ross, Clyde S., Nellie, Clarence, Ethel and J. Clarence. Mr. and Mrs. Smith and four of their children are members of the Christian Church, and our subject politically votes the Democratic ticket.

**J**AMES WHITE, JR., one of the best known residents of the township of Padua, has a fine homestead on sections 17 and 18, the handsome and substantial family residence being on the former. He may be classed among the pioneers of the Prairie State. After coming to

this county in 1838, he purchased eighty acres of land in Hudson Township, but later removed to Bloomington for the purpose of contracting and building, and lived there for ten years following. He came to Padua Township in the fall of 1855, and is now the owner of 280 acres of valuable land, finely improved, furnished with a shapely and substantial set of farm buildings. It has taken many years, but Mr. White has now the best drained farms in McLean County, having about 660 rods of tiling from three to eight inches in diameter. The land was formerly low bottom, and very often covered with water, but now produces about one-third more than before the drain was put in. His agricultural implements and machinery are of first-class description, and his stock includes the best grades of horses and cattle.

Mr. White was born on Brooklyn Heights, Nov. 4, 1819. During a period of sixty-seven years the place of his birth has greatly changed from what it was then, being now the resort of some of the most aristocratic people of this continent, who reside in palatial mansions, and are surrounded by all the luxuries of life. The father of our subject, James White, Sr., was the son of Samuel White, who was the son of Peter White. The latter emigrated from England with a brother at an early period in the history of this country, and settled in Norfolk, Conn., where he followed the trade of a blacksmith all his life, and died in the town where he first settled when little more than a boy. His son Samuel, the grandfather of our subject, learned the trade of a silversmith when young, which he followed all his life in his native town, and died on the homestead left him by his father. He was said to be a Tory during the Revolutionary War, and his property was saved thereby when the town was burned by the British.

James White, the father of our subject, was born and reared at Norfolk, Conn., and when a young man learned the trade of a carpenter in New York City. From there he removed to Brooklyn, and some time later was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Vanvoris, who was of German and English parents. After his marriage James White continued in Brooklyn, where he followed his trade successfully for a period of fifteen years. He then went

to Delaware County, N. Y., where he purchased a farm upon which the children were reared. The father died when fifty-eight years old in the city of Brooklyn, N. Y., and the mother lived to be sixty-five years old.

The subject of this history was the fourth of a family of four sons and three daughters, of whom one of the latter is now deceased; the others are married and settled in comfortable homes of their own. James White, Jr., accompanied his parents to Delaware County, N. Y., being then nine years of age. He there completed his education, and remained at home for ten years following. At the age of nineteen he started for the West, and coming into the Prairie State located in this county, where he followed the carpenter trade, which he had learned of his father in his youth. He was married at Smith Grove, Towanda Township, this county, April 4, 1841, to Miss Lavina Smith, who was born in North Carolina, Aug. 19, 1814. When an infant she was carried across the Alleghany Mountains by her parents, who afterward located in Kentucky for three years, and thence removed to White Water, Ind. From there, in about 1830, they came to this State and county, settling in a grove near what is now Towanda Township, and which was afterward called Smith Grove. Here Mrs. W. lived with her parents until her marriage. Her father, David Smith, died in Indiana after living some years in Illinois; the mother died in Iowa.

Of the marriage of our subject and his wife there were born seven children, three only of whom are living: Mary K. is the widow of James Keeney, and is living in Cedar Vale, Kan.; James R. is a builder and contractor of Bloomington; Asa E. married Miss Betty Long, and lives in Bloomington. Those deceased are Sarah R., George H. and two infants who died unnamed.

Mr. White opened the first lumber-yard in Bloomington, which proved a success and was largely patronized; he was closely identified with the building interests of the city for ten years. He was living in Bloomington when the college project was set on foot by Rev. Mr. McKee, who had almost despaired of success in his efforts to found an institution of learning there. In this our subject was greatly interested, being the firm friend of ed-

ucation, and believing it to be the best basis for a young man starting out in life. Although then worth only about \$1,000 all told he subscribed \$400, which he paid up like a man, although as it may be inferred, this large sum taken from his limited capital quite seriously embarrassed him for the time. Mr. White was the first subscriber to the building and says he never paid a subscription before or since with more pleasure. It was with great difficulty that the enterprise was made successful, and many at the time thought that Mr. White had been duped into subscribing so large an amount, but he affirms that he had given the subject careful consideration and has ever felt justified in the steps taken, which resulted as he anticipated. His judgment in this as well as many other enterprises is most commendable. This, however, proved an incentive to other and wealthier citizens, who opened their hearts and purses and made liberal contributions by which a college building was erected which is now an honor to the city. Mr. White in other respects has materially contributed to the growth and prosperity of his adopted county, and is reckoned among its most valuable and reliable citizens.



**F**REDERICK W. KOCH, a retired merchant of Bloomington and the founder of Koehville, also laid out an addition to Bloomington bearing that name, and has been otherwise closely identified with the material interests and the growth of the city. He is now retired from active business and resides in a beautiful home on the corner of Morris and Koeh avenues, enjoying the esteem of his neighbors and acquaintances and passing his declining years in the consciousness of having acted well his part in life.

Our subject is a fine representative of that nationality which has assisted so greatly in developing the resources of the Great West. The German Empire, without doubt, has contributed more of the stability and genuine honesty which have been the secret and success of this Republic than any other country. Mr. Koeh is a native of Prussia and was born on the 4th of September, 1829. His

parents were Henry R. and Louise (Gravey) Koch, natives of the same kingdom, and engaged in farming pursuits. Of the eight children born to his parents five are still living, the record being as follows: Wilhelmina, now Mrs. Meas, is a resident of Bloomington, and has one son, Rudolph S.; Frederick W. is our subject; Carl L. is a resident of his native Prussia, as also are Fredrica and Charlotte. The father of our subject was Mayor of Fabbenstadt for a number of years and always a prominent man, respected and beloved by all who knew him. He was a devoted member of the Old Lutheran Church and a Trustee of the same. He served in the army for two years and always took a deep interest in the affairs of the kingdom. He gave to his children the advantages of a fine education, reared them in the fear of the Lord, and taught them that honesty was the best policy. The faithful and affectionate mother departed this life in her native country in 1862, and the father still lives there.

The subject of this biography remained at home with his parents until fifteen years old. He enlisted when twenty-one years old as a soldier and served two years, during which time he was treated with great respect and consideration in consequence of the high position which his father held under the Government, and was allowed many privileges not accorded to the common soldier. Upon leaving his native country to come to America he was dressed in such uniform that many took him for a policeman, and by a little money and considerable strategy he got away without a passport and landed in New Orleans on the 1st of December, 1853. Young Koch, however, remained only a short time in the Crescent City, and soon proceeded to St. Louis, where he remained for the next three years engaged in the employ of the Pacific Railroad. In 1856 Mr. Koch came to Bloomington and conducted a boarding-house and saloon until the following year when, not liking the business, he closed out. He then engaged in the manufacture of mattresses and in upholstery, with carpet laying, for five years following, at the end of which time he had accumulated quite a little sum of money. After this he became a clerk in a hardware store for twelve years, and at the end of this time purchased eight-

een acres of land adjoining the city of Bloomington on the southwest, laying it out in town lots in 1867. During the time he was in the store he was considerably engaged in the purchase and sale of real estate.

Mr. Koch was married on the 4th of December, 1854, to Miss Wilhelmina Wellenburg, a native of Hanover, who came to this country in 1854. Of this union there were born five children, three now living, and they have adopted a little girl named Bertha. Emilie married John Teske, and they have two children—Dora and Hannah; Helena became the wife of Herman Loufer, and they have three children—Laura, Wilhelmina and Herman; Hannah married George Shultz, and they have one child, a daughter—Stella. Mr. K. put up his present beautiful residence in 1882, at a cost of \$4,000. He has near Kochville, 200 acres of land, eighty-two acres in Dry Grove Township, and a store and two houses in the city. The rents of these latter yield him a handsome income. Mr. K. with his family, is connected with the Lutheran Church. In politics he is Democratic, and is considered by all as one of the solid men of the city.

**C**HARLES A. SCHUREMAN, a member of the banking firm of Means, Schureman & Co., at Saybrook, this county, is a native of Morristown, N. J., and was born Sept. 8, 1860. He is the son of Leonard and Fannie (Howell) Schureman, also natives of New Jersey, and who spent their lives in their native State. The father was born Feb. 17, 1825, and departed this life Dec. 17, 1885. The mother was born in 1827, and still survives, making her home in New Jersey. Both parents were prominently connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church. Their three children were all boys: Frank, who married Miss Isodene Hancock; Elwood S. and Charles A.

Mr. Schureman became a resident of Illinois in 1879. He was married, Sept. 26, 1882, to Miss Katie Ballard, who was born in Saybrook, Cheney's Grove Township, this county, Jan. 7, 1864, and is the daughter of Dr. J. L. and Catherine (Hogan) Ballard, natives of Kentucky, and who are still







Ed. Stubblefield

living. Their children were Love, Lizzie, William, Luey, John, Katie, Charlie and Mildred. Mr. and Mrs. Schureman have one child, a daughter, Fannie B., who was born July 21, 1885.

Mr. Schureman was educated in the common schools of Norristown, N. J., and developed more than ordinary business qualities while still a youth. He is now connected with the leading bank of Saybrook, which was established as a private institution in 1878. His partners are gentlemen of culture and refinement, prominent in business and good eitizens and members of society. Mr. Schurcman is Democratic in politics. He is a member in good standing in the Methodist Episeopal Church, and one of its Board of Trustees. Besides his fine residence he owns other residence property, an interest in the bank building and a fine briek store at Saybrook. He has by careful and constant attention to the banking business during the past eight years, accumulated considerable wealth, and is one of Saybrook's most enterprising eitizens. The estimated worth of the banking firm is \$125,000, with a well paid up capital stock.



**E**DWARD STUBBLEFIELD, a well-known member of one of the most prominent families of this section of Illinois, is an extensive farmer and an intelligent fine stock breeder. He was born in Funk's Grove Township, McLean County, on the 15th of August, 1834, and is the sixth child of Robert and Doretha (Funk) Stubblefield. A sketch of the former appears on another page of this volume.

Our subject received careful training at the hands of his parents, and pursued his primary studies in the schools of his native township, spending the intervening time between school terms in assisting in the labors of the farm. He made his home with his parents until his marriage and then located on the farm which he now owns and occupies. It was an unimproved prairie at the time it came into his possession, but he has industriously cultivated the soil since that time and now has one of the finest farms in this section. A great part of it is tile drained, and the farm buildings and ma-

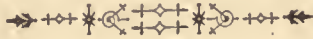
chinery are of first-class description. In 1869 Mr. Stubblefield erected a commodious frame house, and seven years later a large barn, and besides he has all necessary and suitable out-buildings for the shelter of stock and the storage of grain. He is a thorough business man and a skilled farmer, and the evidenees of his industry and enterprise are to be seen on every hand. His farm now comprises, including timber, a little over 700 acres. The main feature of Mr. Stubblefield's farming operations is directed to the raising and feeding of cattle. He also makes a specialty of breeding thoroughbred Belgian horses. He owns several splendid specimens of this breed which have been imported.

Mr. Stubblefield's shrewd business qualifications are illustrated in public enterprises as well as those he has so successfully carried out for himself. For six years he was associated with the Atlanta Agricultural Union Fair, held at Atlanta, Ill., as Director, and for the past six years has been President of the Association. Its success is largely due to the enterprise and energy he has displayed in its behalf. It is recognized by all that this association holds the best fairs held anywhere in Central Illinois. The district embraced by it includes the counties of McLean, Logan, Tazewell and De Witt.

Edward Stubblefield was united in marriage with Miss Eliza Fosset on the 17th of September, 1856. Mrs. S. is a native of Madison County, Ohio, where she was born Jan. 22, 1839. She is the daughter of Lewis and Ann (Shough) Fosset, both of whom were natives of Ohio. The first residence of the young couple was an humble dwelling fifteen feet square, quite a contrast to that they now occupy. They have become the parents of four children, who are recorded as follows: Doretha Ann is the wife of S. R. Sterling, of Mt. Hope Township; Marion Lec married Miss May Young, and lives in Mt. Hope Township; Emma J. became the wife of David Alexander; they reside on their farm near McLean, also in Mt. Hope Township; Wayne is at home.

In politics Mr. Stubblefield affiliates with the Republican party, and as a business man and citizen he carries out the principles which were instilled

in him during his early youth by his excellent and honored parents. As one of the leading and representative men of this county we present his portrait.



**M**ILTON HENLINE, one of McLean County's progressive and exceedingly prosperous farmers, residing on section 1, Towanda Township, is a son of James J. and Sarah (Smith) Henline, the former a native of Boone County, Ky. He came to McLean County with his parents, John and Polly (Darnell) Henline, when he was thirteen years old, in 1828. His wife, Sarah Smith, came to the county about six years later, in 1834. The parents were married in this county, and lived in Lexington Township until the death of the mother, which took place Feb. 12, 1883. The father survives, and is yet living in Lexington Township. Eleven children were born of this union, seven sons and four daughters, the subject of this notice being the second in order of birth.

Milton Henline was born in Lexington Township, Feb. 13, 1843. He received a common-school education and supplemented the same by a course of study at Wesleyan Academy, Bloomington, Ill., for six months. He then went back on the old homestead and lived there, engaged the while in assisting his father in the cultivation of the farm until 1866. During that year he settled in Towanda Township, where he purchased 160 acres of valuable land, located on section 1. On this tract he settled, and at once engaged in its improvement and cultivation, and is now the owner of 320 acres of good land in that township, all in the same section. A view of the residence and surroundings will be found on another page.

Mr. Henline was married at Bloomington, Ill., March 22, 1866, to Irene R. Willhoite, daughter of Alex and Sarah (Gossett) Willhoite, natives of Owen County, Ky. Her parents came to this county in 1850, whence they removed to Missouri in 1868, and thence to Kansas, where the father died the same year of their location in that State. The mother is yet living and now resides in Cass

County, Mo. They had twelve children, eight sons and four daughters, and Mrs. Henline was the fifth in order of birth. She was born in Owen County, Ky., Oct. 30, 1845, and by her union with Mr. Henline eleven children have been born—Carrie I., James I., Claude, Alvin, Buell, Ellis, Ada, Garfield, Alma, Mabel and Milton C. Mr. Henline has held several of the minor offices of his township. He and his wife are members of the Christian Church, and in politics he is Republican.



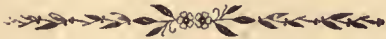
**J**AMES A. GILBERT, of Gridley Township, is pleasantly located on section 3, and following the peaceful occupation of a farmer's life. He is the son of James and Luey (Joquith) Gilbert, and was born in Manchester, Ind., April 1, 1839. His parents were natives respectively of Vermont and Indiana, and after their marriage settled in Lancaster, the latter State, whence they removed to Iowa, remaining in the Hawkeye State, however, only one year. They then recrossed the Father of Waters, and subsequently settled at Brimfield, Peoria Co., Ill., where the mother died. The father is still a resident of that place. Their twelve children consisted of seven boys and five girls, of whom the subject of our sketch was the third in order of birth.

Mr. Gilbert was five years old when his parents removed from Indiana and he remained an inmate of the parental household until he was twenty-eight years of age. He then located on a farm in Woodford County, Ill., where he carried on agriculture for himself two years, and whence he came to Gridley Township, this county, of which he has since been a resident. His homestead includes 160 acres of valuable land, on which he has made good improvements and erected a good set of farm buildings. In addition to his McLean County property he owns 640 acres in Cheyenne County, Neb., which is unimproved.

The marriage of our subject took place in Elmwood, Ill., Dec. 20, 1867, the maiden of his choice being Miss Mary C., daughter of Stephen and Elizabeth (Stewart) Baker, who were of excellent German and Irish ancestry. Stephen Baker de-

parted this life in Virginia, and the mother died in Mereer County, Ill. They had only two children, a son and daughter, of whom Mrs. Gilbert was the youngest. She was born in Elizabeth, W. Va., Sept. 17, 1843. Of her marriage with our subject there were born six children, as follows: Charles J., Minnie A., Bertis S., Blanche E., Luey E. and Nellie.

During the late war Mr. Gilbert served as a soldier of the Union, with the 47th Illinois Infantry, in which he enlisted in the spring of 1865, serving a little less than one year. He retired from the army unharmed by wounds or sickness and returned to his farm, where he has since remained, following the peaceful pursuits of agriculture. Mrs. Gilbert is connected with the Presbyterian Church, and our subject, politically, is an earnest adherent of the Republican party. He is also a member of El Paso Post No. 532, G. A. R.



**W**ILLIAM C. JONES, who is favorably known throughout Cheney's Grove Township and McLean County, is the son of Newton and Mary Ann (Brown) Jones, and was born in Preble County, Ohio, Nov. 5, 1844. When William C. was thirteen years of age the family removed to Huntington, Ind., and in 1869 to Illinois, their residence in the Prairie State dating from March 17 of that year. Our subject commenced a good business education in the common schools of the Buckeye State and in Indiana, which was completed by attendance at the academies of Huntington. He was reared to habits of industry and economy by his excellent parents, and remained under the home roof until he attained to years of manhood. He was then united in marriage with Miss Emma, daughter of William and Martha Duncan, the wedding occurring on the 24th of December, 1868. Mrs. J. was born in Wabash, Ind., whence she removed with her parents in early life to Huntington, that State, and from there to Illinois about 1869.

On coming to this county our subject, who had chosen farming for his occupation, purchased land in Arrowsmith Township where he labored until

1881. He then sold out, removed to Farmer City, De Witt County, this State, and for one year operated as a dealer in live stock, also carrying on a meat-market. This business he afterward merged into agricultural implements. We next find him in Ford County, Ill., where he purchased a farm of eighty acres in Drummond Grove Township, which he occupied about eighteen months, and which he still owns.

Mrs. Emma Jones departed this life Nov. 20, 1885, leaving two children—Lillian and Lerton B. Mr. Jones then abandoned the farm and removed to Saybrook, where he became the assignee of a dry-goods firm and closed out the stock. In 1886 he dealt in agricultural implements for a few months, and later traveled in the interest of the Hamilton Plant Company. He is now a salesman in the drug-store of Dr. J. F. Myers. In politics Mr. Jones is a staunch Republican, and while a resident of Arrowsmith Township served three years as Commissioner of Highways. He is a member of Hope Lodge No. 140, K. of P., and also belongs to the A. F. & A. M., Cheney's Grove Lodge No. 468.

Newton Jones, father of the above, has been a resident of McLean County since the 17th of March, 1869. He also was born in Preble County, Ohio, Jan. 22, 1814. His parents, Newton and Ann (Mote) Jones, were natives of Columbia County, Ga., in which State they were reared and united in marriage. In 1805 they removed to Ohio, crossing the Ohio River on the 12th of June of that year, and first settled in Preble County on a farm. The father only lived to be thirty-six years of age. The mother thereafter remaining a widow survived him more than half a century, living to become nearly ninety-three years of age. Their six children all lived to mature years, and with one exception still survive. They were Henry, Jonathan, Sarah, John, Joseph, deceased, and Newton.

Newton Jones was the youngest of his parents' family, was reared to farming pursuits and received a fair education in the pioneer schools. In 1839 he was united in marriage with Miss Mary Ann Brown, a native of Gloucester County, N. J., born Aug. 18, 1817. They made their home in Preble

County, Ohio, until 1857, and then removed to Huntington, Ind., where they were residents until 1869. They then came to Illinois and the father purchased land in Old Town Township, this county. This he sold in 1873 and secured possession of his present homestead. The latter comprises 150 acres of good land, which he has brought to a fine state of cultivation and supplied with handsome hedges and a substantial set of farm buildings. The present possessions of Mr. Jones are the result of his own industry and energy, as he commenced life at the foot of the ladder and built up his valuable homestead almost from the original prairie. He possesses great force of character and is well informed upon all matters of general interest. Politically he is a strong Republican and expresses his opinions intelligently and forcibly when occasion arises. The children of himself and wife are William C., born Nov. 5, 1844, and Lerton D., Dec. 8, 1852.



**F**RANCIS XAVER WOCHNER, joint proprietor of the well-known Gambrinus Brewery, is senior member of the firm of Meyer & Wochner, of Bloomington. In the biography here presented we find that of a gentleman who began life without other resources than his resolute will, his natural industry and his uncommon good sense. He entered upon the struggle with the world in accordance with his means and position, and adopted the surest method to advance. He was fortunate in the selection of his helpmeet, wise in the investment of the funds which gradually accumulated, and now, surrounded by a blooming family and a wide circle of friends, is enabled to view his career with satisfaction, and the result of his labors with pardonable pride.

Mr. Wochner is a native of Baden, Germany, and was born on the River Rhine, Jan. 13, 1832. When eight years of age he started with his parents, Francis and Elizabeth (Maurrer) Wochner, to America. They landed at New Orleans in January, 1840, whence they proceeded to St. Louis, Mo., and from there to Sangamon County, this State, by wagon. The parents settled on a farm four miles west of Springfield, where they remained the bal-

ance of their lives. The father departed this life on the 18th of May, 1871, and the mother, July 4, 1876. Their children, five in number, included one son and four daughters, two of whom were born in Germany and three in this country. Three only of the family are now living.

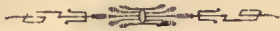
The subject of our sketch remained with his parents on the farm three years after reaching his majority, and until his marriage, which took place Sept. 30, 1856. The maiden of his choice was Miss Amelia Phillips, of Sangamon County, Ill., who was a native of his own country, born April 1, 1839. The parents of Mrs. W. were Joseph Antone and Rosa (Stahlen) Phillips. The mother died in Germany. The father emigrated to America and departed this life in Chicago, Ill. Mrs. Wochner came with her sister to the United States, and finally settled in Springfield, Ill., where she met her future husband, our subject, and where they were married.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Wochner lived upon a farm about six years and then, in 1862, removed to Bloomington. Mr. W., in partnership with his brother-in-law, Antone Meyer, purchased a small brewery, which they operated together until the death of the latter, in 1882, since which time Mr. Wochner has had principal charge of the business. The present building of the firm was put up in 1875, is built of brick, three stories in height, and covers an area of 80x100 feet. It is equipped with the latest improved machinery, and all other modern appliances for the manufacture of beer, of which they turn out between 8,000 and 9,000 barrels per year, a first-class article, which is shipped to different parts of the State.

Besides his interest in the brewery Mr. Wochner is proprietor of a good farm of 110 acres adjacent to the city limits, with a two-story brick residence, a substantial barn, and other excellent improvements. He also has valuable city property in Bloomington, consisting principally of business houses.

The family of our subject and his excellent lady includes nine children, six sons and three daughters, namely: Emma, Frank Z., Ed. A., Pauline R., Albert, Adolph, Hermann. Leonard C. and Olga F. Mr. W. and the various members of his family

are connected with St. Mary's Catholic Church. He is a gentleman decided in his opinions, and heartily endorses the principles of the Democratic party. He has always taken an active interest in current events, and nothing pleases him better than to note the educational and moral welfare of his community. In the various enterprises which have been set on foot, and having for their object the general good, he has been a ready and cheerful contributor, and has thus closely identified himself with the interests of the city and its people.



**D**R. JAMES LOAR, one of the prominent and popular physicians and surgeons of Bloomington, is a member in good standing of the profession in this vicinity, and enjoys the confidence and patronage of a large proportion of the best residents of the city and adjacent country. The subject of this biography was born in Greene County, Pa., Feb. 5, 1830, and is the son of John and Hettie (Stephen) Loar, the father of Maryland and the mother of Pennsylvania.

John Loar removed from his native State to Pennsylvania when about thirty years of age and purchased 160 acres of land, which he occupied for a period of thirty years, and then sold this and purchased 250 acres in the same county, where he passed the remainder of his days, dying in 1872 at the age of eighty-three years. His wife, the mother of our subject, survived her husband eight years and departed this life in 1880, aged eighty-five years. They were descendants respectively of honored German and English ancestry and became the parents of fourteen children, eleven of whom grew to mature years and ten are still living.

Dr. Loar was the seventh child of his parents and spent his younger years in a manner common to most farmers' boys, attending school and assisting in the duties around the homestead. At the age of nineteen he went to Westmoreland County, Pa., and began reading medicine with his brother, Dr. A. Loar, with whom he commenced practice in 1851, continuing seven years thereafter. In the meantime he had taken a course of study in the

Physio Medical College of Cincinnati, from which he graduated in 1858 with honors and practiced his profession in Mt. Pleasant, Pa., until 1868. He then removed to Mt. Vernon, Ohio, and engaged in practice there for the following four years. In November, 1871, he came to this county and located in Bloomington, where he has since resided and practiced with flattering success.

The marriage of Dr. James Loar and Miss Maria Stauffer was celebrated near Mt. Pleasant, Pa., in 1851. Mrs. L. is the daughter of Abraham D. and Mary (Newcomer) Stauffer, both natives of Fayette County, Pa. They became the parents of six children, of whom four are living: Abraham D. married Miss Belle Bonnett and is engaged as a druggist in Bloomington; Hattie, Mrs. Bonnett, lives in Le Roy, this county, and is the mother of two children—James and Yauntz; Emma and Luey are at home; Sadie, Mrs. Dr. Sitherwood, of Bloomington, became the mother of three children, two now living—Grace and Boane; Mrs. Sitherwood died April 16, 1885.

Dr. and Mrs. L. are members of the Christian Church, in which our subject is an Elder. He is a member in good standing of the Masonic fraternity and votes the Prohibition ticket.

During the late war Dr. L. enlisted in the 100-days' service, July 1, 1863, in an independent Pennsylvania company, which received its orders from Gov. Curtin. Our subject received the commission of First Lieutenant, and in company with Capt. W. D. Dick assisted in raising the number of troops required in that vicinity. The family residence is located at No. 602 East Front street, and the office of Dr. Loar is at No. 118 West Washington street.



**D**AVID M. MATTHEWS, one of the substantial farmers of Cheney's Grove Township, is a native of the Prairie State, born in Morgan County, March 9, 1843. He was, however, reared in Logan County, and there received his education. He is the son of Israel and Jane (Caudy) Matthews, natives of Virginia. The mother died when our subject was a child of

only four years, and after this sad event he was reared in the home of his father. Both parents united with the Methodist Church in early life, and were worthy and devoted members. The father of our subject is still living in Logan County, and pursuing his occupation of a farmer. The parental family included three children: John W., who married Miss Eliza Moore, lives in Logan County; Zachariah T., who married Miss Theobald, and our subject.

After arriving at years of manhood, David Matthews was united in marriage with Miss Margaret Reed, the ceremony taking place on the 4th of November, 1869. Mrs. Matthews was born Nov. 17, 1847, in Pike County, Ohio, and was the daughter of George W. and Mary (Nelson) Reed, natives of Virginia. The father, who was born Dec. 4, 1812, was a farmer by occupation, a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and departed this life in Ohio, on the 25th of February, 1859. The mother was born May 10, 1819, also connected herself with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and died in 1877. The parental household consisted of eight children, of whom only two are living. John C. died in 1840; Sarah E. died in 1846; Mary E. died in 1854; George E. died in 1856; Hester M. died in November 1861; James W. married Miss Lucy Carr, and lives in Nebraska.

The farm estate of our subject consists of 160 acres of finely cultivated land, upon which, in addition to general farming, he is carrying on, successfully, the breeding of fine stock, giving most of his attention to thoroughbred horses and Durham cattle. Of the latter he has a herd of thirty head, including some of the finest animals to be found in this section. His horses are the Norman and English coach, models of beauty and symmetry. Mr. Matthews took possession of his present homestead in 1874, and has secured for himself an enviable reputation as a farmer and stock-raiser. He has a beautiful homestead, which in all respects is conducted with that system and good order which are the true secrets of success. Of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Matthews there were born four children, of whom the eldest died in infancy; those living are Lucia L., Dessie B. and John W., all at home with their parents.

During the progress of the late war Mr. Matthews enlisted as a soldier of the Union, in Co. C, 106th Ill. Vol. Inf., and served three years, participating with his comrades on the march and in the field, and sharing uncomplainingly their dangers and hardships. He was present at the siege of Vicksburg, the battle at Little Rock, Ark., and various other engagements, and although he often felt the wind from passing bullets, he was never wounded or made a prisoner. At the close of the war he received his honorable discharge at Pine Bluff, Ark., on the 12th day of July, 1865, and returning to Illinois resumed his former occupation of a farmer. He is Democratic in politics but was always a strong Union man, as he abundantly proved by his patriotic services as a soldier.



**J**OHAN A. TAYLOR, M. D., a highly respected physician and resident of Gridley, is the son of John W. and Abigail C. (Sweet) Taylor, natives respectively of Virginia and the State of New York. After marriage they settled in Morgan County, Ill., whence they removed in 1849, to Woodford County, and in 1851, to Marshall County, same State. There the father died Feb. 19, 1865. During the earlier years of his life he was engaged in milling but later took up the occupation of a farmer. The mother still survives and resides with her children.

The subject of this history was the third of seven children which composed the household circle. He was born near Jacksonville, Morgan Co., Ill., upon ground which is now included in the city limits, June 7, 1850. He received careful home training and attended school until eighteen years of age. He then took a two years' course of study in the High School at Chenoa, and after that engaged in teaching for several terms. In the meantime he began the perusal of medical works and prepared himself for entering medical college. His preceptor was W. E. Banta, M. D., of Chenoa, now deceased, with whom he studied from Sept. 1, 1871, until the fall of 1873, and in September of that year, entered Bellevue Hospital Medical College, where he remained, and from which he graduated



on the 1st of March, 1875. Returning West with his diploma he commenced the practice of his profession in Gridley, May 3, 1875, which he has since followed with more than ordinary success. He made the discovery of the first cases of trichina in Livingston County. He is a close student, an extensive reader, and has been very popular among the people of this locality. Through his exertion the Gridley Library Association was established in January, 1886. It is now in a flourishing condition, having for its membership the most prominent and enterprising portion of the citizens of Gridley and Gridley Township. For two years the Doctor was its Secretary, Treasurer and Librarian, and by his efforts placed it on a safe basis, as a nucleus from which much may be expected.

The marriage of Dr. John A. Taylor and Miss M. Appa Dunham took place at Chenoa, Ill., Nov. 2, 1876. Mrs. T. is the daughter of Samuel and Margaret Dunham, the former of whom died at Eureka, Ill., Aug. 22, 1856. The mother died at Chenoa, Jan. 1, 1875. The parental family consisted of four children, of whom Mrs. T. was the youngest. She was born in Eureka, Ill., Dec. 25, 1856, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of three children—Graeie E., J. Earl and Lola A. Dr. Taylor has been a member of the Village Board for five years, three years of the time acting as Clerk and two as President, in 1884-85. He was instrumental in having the village well drained, there being now over three miles of tile draining, which was laid through his arguments and solicitations. Politically he is a strong Republican and is a member in good standing of the Baptist Church. Mrs. T. is a member and regular attendant of the Christian Church.



**N**ATHAN STINE. The subject of the following sketch owns and occupies a valuable farm on section 11, Cheney's Grove Township, where he is successfully engaged in farming and stock-raising. He was born in the wealthy and populous State of Ohio, in Carroll County, Feb. 13, 1826, and is the son of Solomon and Catherine (Allbaugh) Stine, who were natives respectively of

Loudoun County, Va., and Maryland. Solomon Stine was born on the 17th of July, 1796, and departed this life in Carroll County, Ohio, in September, 1861. He was a blacksmith by trade, in which he possessed more than ordinary skill. He was a man of much force of character, greatly respected by all who knew him, and a staunch adherent of the old Whig party until it was abandoned, when he cast his lot with the Republicans. Religiously he belonged to the Methodist Episcopal Church, and died fully established in the faith. The wife and mother passed to the better land when our subject was but a lad. She also was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and, like her husband, was of German ancestry. The parental household included four sons and two daughters, of whom the record is as follows: The brothers of our subject were John, Cyrus and Samuel; his sisters were Mahala and Margaret; the latter died when seven years of age. The half-brothers were David, William and Solomon, and there was a half-sister, Mary Ann.

Nathan Stine remained an inmate of his father's house until he reached his majority, and was soon afterward united in marriage, Jan. 4, 1848, to Miss Sarah Shannon. She was born in Annapolis, Jefferson Co., Ohio, in about 1826, and was left an orphan at an early age. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. S. took place in West Virginia, where they located, and lived for a period of over seventeen years. They removed from there in October, 1865. Elder Alexander Campbell officiated at their wedding, and our subject was employed by him for about three years at farming. He then removed to Illinois and this county, where he purchased 120 acres of land, which comprises his present homestead.

Of the union of our subject and wife have been born five children: Lewis H., born Sept. 29, 1849, married Miss Cora Gish, of Hopkinsville, Ky.; Melvin was born Sept. 29, 1851, married Miss Aliee Stewart, of Normal, Ill., and lives in this township; William A., born Oct. 2, 1855, died Oct. 24, 1859; Albert, born Aug. 30, 1860; Joseph, May 31, 1863. Mrs. Stine has been a member of the Christian Church for over forty years, and Mr. S. for eleven years; he is an acting Elder. He is Republican in politics, a good business man and citizen, and en-

joys the confidence of his neighbors and acquaintances.

Mr. Stine and his family occupy a fine farm residence. He has a good barn and outhouses, costly and convenient machinery and implements, and all the accessories of the progressive farmer. Their children possess more than ordinary talents and native intelligence, and altogether form a most interesting family. The eldest son, Lewis H., graduated in 1873, at Bethany College, Va., and is now occupying the pulpit of Central Church, in New Albany, Ind.

The parents of Mrs. Stine had a family of eight children, two of whom are living; Mrs. Stine and her widowed sister, Mrs. Mariah Gibson; Mrs. G. makes her home with Mrs. Stine.



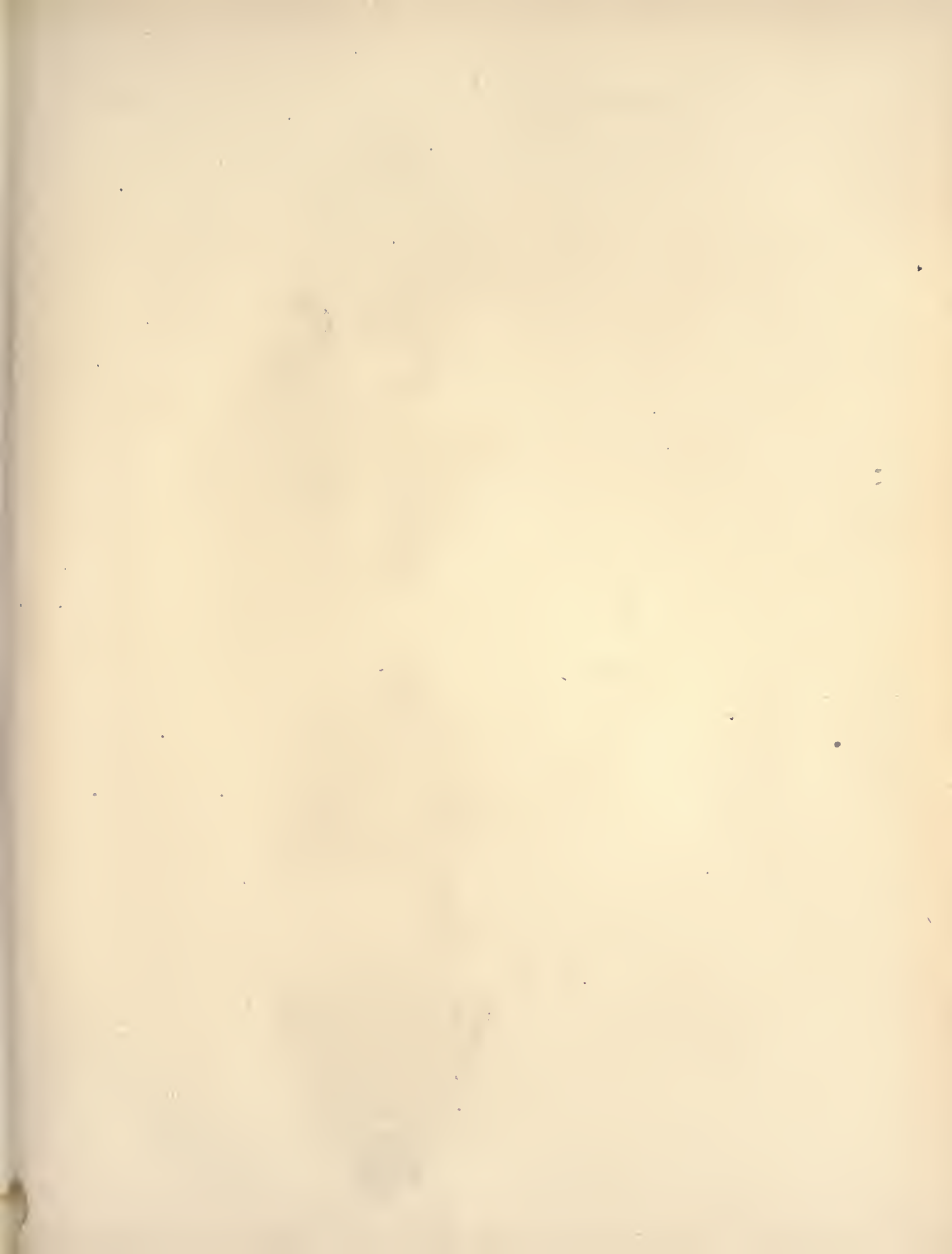
**D**AVID COX. The subject of the following history owns and occupies one of the finest homesteads in Bloomington Township, and has been a resident of the Prairie State since 1826. The changes which he has witnessed since a few years from the time when Illinois was a Territory would form an interesting volume. The first settler on the place which Mr. Cox now owns was a Mr. Dawson, who had emigrated from Champaign County, Ohio, and located here in 1822. There were then no white people within forty miles, and the wild, uncultivated land, although covered with waving grass and flowers during the summer season, in the winter presented a wild and desolate spectacle, sufficient to bring dismay into the heart of even the sturdy pioneer of fifty years ago. This condition, however, in due time gave way to the advance of civilization, and the people of today scarcely realize what they owe to the brave spirits who first tilled the soil and marked out a track for the advance of a later civilization.

Mr. Cox is now the owner of 128 acres of land which he laboriously brought from its original condition to its present fine state of cultivation. This, however, was accomplished partially by the aid of his father, who really was the first owner, our subject being then a young man residing under the parental roof. The former, Benjamin Cox by name, was a native of Pennsylvania, whence he subse-

quently removed to Virginia and was there married to Miss Philena Dye. They removed to Pickaway County, Ohio, soon after their marriage, where the elder Cox engaged in farming pursuits. From there he came to McLean County, Ill., and after selecting his location, returned to Ohio, and while preparing for his final journey to the West, where he expected to establish a permanent home, he was taken ill and died. The mother, however, subsequently carried out the plans of her husband, and in 1826 came to Illinois with her eight children and settled upon the land which the father had purchased. Mrs. Philena Cox remained with her children only until the following year, when she was called to join her husband in the other world. After the mother's death, the children being yet quite young, were left principally under the care of our subject, who subsequently purchased their interest in the homestead, of which he has been the owner since that time.

Mr. Cox was married to Miss Sophronia Walker, in Bloomington Township, at the home of the bride's parents, May 29, 1833. Mrs. Cox was the daughter of William Walker, one of the first settlers of this county. He had emigrated from North Carolina to Tennessee, thence north to Kentucky, and later to Illinois, becoming a settler of the Prairie State in 1823. His neighbors then were Indians, there being no settlers for miles around. The mother of Mrs. C., before her marriage, was Miss Nancy Driscoll, who like her husband was a native of North Carolina. William Walker was a soldier of the War of 1812. He participated with his regiment in all its engagements and skirmishes, among which was the battle of New Orleans, serving bravely and faithfully until the close of that struggle. He was a gentleman highly esteemed by his friends and associates and occupied a prominent position in the affairs of his community. He engaged in farming operations at the termination of his military services, and departed this life in McLean County in 1861. Both Mr. and Mrs. Walker were devoted members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. The mother passed away previous to the death of her husband,

Mrs. Cox was the youngest of five children, four daughters and one son. She was born in Tennessee Oct. 7, 1813, and died at her home in





David Cox



A. M. Stringfield

Bloomington Township, April 13, 1884. Of her union with our subject there were born five children: William M. married Miss Jennie Orendorff, and is engaged in farming pursuits in Bloomington Township; Mary E. became the wife of Dennis Sweney, of Bloomington; Leander married Miss Anna Holcomb, and is engaged in the real-estate business in Courtland, Ore.; Ulda M. is the wife of George Deems, and they are carrying on agriculture on the old homestead; Martha, who is deceased, was the wife of Aaron Rhodes; Aliee died in infancy.

The Cox family are widely and favorably known throughout this section of the State as pioneer settlers. The members have a reputation for being industrious and enterprising, honorable and upright in their transactions, and rank among the most highly respected citizens of McLean County. They have been remarkably successful in their agricultural and business pursuits and have materially assisted in the development of the resources of the Prairie State. They have been the encouragers and supporters of education, temperance and morality, and have contributed their full quota in promoting the interest and welfare of the localities wherever they have made their home.

For over sixty years Mr. Cox has lived in this community, indeed the community has grown up around him. As a venerable patriarch, and one who has done much hard work and given much valuable aid to the county and the molding of the character of the people, his memory should be cherished and preserved. It will live in the minds of those who know him personally as long as they live, but the generations to come will know nothing of his labors, his trials and good works, unless some means are taken to hand down to them a record of his life. This brief sketch and the accompanying portrait will therefore serve as a means to perpetuate his memory.

**CAPT. ALFRED M. STRINGFIELD.** No man in McLean County to-day is so notably a man of "first things" as Capt. Stringfield. He is now spending the sunset of life in quiet and retirement at his home, which is pleasantly located

on section 14 of Randolph Township. This place comprises 160 acres of valuable land, with a comfortable farm residence, a good barn, and all necessary out-buildings. Capt. Stringfield has been one of the most worthy citizens of this locality, and in his declining years enjoys the full confidence and respect of hosts of friends.

Capt. Stringfield became a resident of Randolph Township, in May, 1823, only five years after Illinois was admitted into the Union as a State. The broad and fertile prairie had never been turned by the plow save around some little cabin. Capt. Stringfield was a member of the three first families who settled here at that time. The place took the name of his brother-in-law, Gardner Randolph, who came at the same time, and since that time the grove there has been known as Randolph Grove. Later, after the organization of the township, and after the railroad was built, the station was named in his honor. Mr. Randolph, however, subsequently went to California, and died there some years ago.

Capt. Stringfield is the oldest actual settler of McLean County now living. He was born near Murfreesboro, Tenn., Oct. 14, 1809. His parents, John and Sarah (Boydston) Stringfield, were natives respectively of North Carolina and Maryland, and were married in Buncombe County, the former State. Later the family removed to Kentucky, from there to Tennessee, thence to Alabama, and in the winter of 1819, came to Illinois, settling in Sangamon County. The father lived only nine days afterward, his death occurring on the 1st of January, 1820. Capt. Stringfield has the manuscript books left by his father, who was a surveyor; these are more than 100 years old. Three years later the mother and her family came to McLean County and pre-empted a farm in Randolph Township. In less than a year before the land had come into market, they removed to Galena, Ill., where the mother died in September, 1829.

The grandfather of our subject, James Stringfield, was born in Virginia, lived several years in North Carolina, and died in Kentucky. He married a widow lady, Mrs. Mary Ray, who died at the home of her husband in Kentucky. The great-grandfather, Richard Stringfield, was of English

birth and parentage, and emigrated from his native country at an early day, settling upon a farm in Virginia, and rearing a family, and it is supposed his death also took place there.

The father of our subject was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and participated in the battles of King's Mountain, and at various other places, serving until the close of that eventful struggle. Again, when his country was in danger from the same enemy, he enlisted in her defense. In the War of 1812 he was under command of Gen. Jackson and fought in some of the most hotly contested battles of that conflict. Two brothers besides himself, James and William, were also engaged in the same struggle. A brother of our subject, Thomas Stringfield, was a soldier in this war, and was wounded in the forehead by an Indian. He was for many years afterward a minister in Tennessee, and later became editor of the *Southwestern Christian Advocate*, his work being connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church.

After the family, of which our subject was the youngest child, came to Illinois, and after the death of his father, he remained with his widowed mother until her death. He was then compelled to look out for himself, and employed his hands at whatever he could find to do. He was intensely anxious for an education, and after the labors of the day, would apply himself, by the light of burning wood and candles, to the few books he was enabled to procure. This experience, in which he was forced to rely upon himself, became of good service to him in after life, and bred within him a strong and independent spirit, with a courage to meet and overcome the difficulties which might beset him. He obtained a valuable fund of general information, and kept himself well posted upon the current events of the day. He relied solely upon his own efforts and his own conduct to win for him success. Nor has his been a success solely in the accumulation of wealth, but in doing good to others, in serving others well, and in winning their respect and esteem.

As soon as able our subject entered eighty acres of land, and on the 25th of March, 1832, secured to himself a partner and helpmeet in the person of Miss Amelia T. Hand, to whom he was married in

Randolph Township. Mrs. Springfield was born in Ohio, Oct. 2, 1814, and when a child came with her parents to Hamilton County, Ill., where they resided for several years. They settled upon the farm of our subject, and she remained his faithful and affectionate companion for a period of fifty-three years, departing this life in Randolph Township on the 7th of September, 1885. Of their union there were born eight children, all of whom grew to mature years: Rev. Thomas C., deceased Dec. 22, 1886, was married to Miss Jane E. Hiron, who died, and for his second wife he married Miss Martha E. Pendley, who survives; he officiated as a local minister soon after becoming of age. Jesse married Miss Mary F. Land, who died after the birth of one child, a son, George, who is now a young man and lives with his grandfather and father on the old homestead; Sadie L., deceased, was the wife of A. F. Crose, who lives in Carroll County, Mo.; George H., a grocer of Heyworth, married Miss Ziporah Wright; John H. lives on a part of the old homestead in Randolph Township; he married Miss Amanda C. Rust. Barbara E. is unmarried and resides at home; Elizabeth V. became the wife of Albert L. Crews and lives on a farm in Missouri; Mary E. married Franklin P. Rust and resides with her husband on a farm in Jackson County, Mo.

Our subject was made a Captain of militia in February, 1832, and held the rank until the repeal of the muster law. He was an able and efficient officer, and a great favorite with his fellow soldiers and associates. He was the first Justice of the Peace before the organization of Randolph Township, and held the office eight years. He was also Township Supervisor, and held other local offices within the gift of his fellow-citizens. He was the first white man who ever went from McLean County to Chicago, and drove the hogs from this county to that place. He attended the first Sunday-school ever held in McLean County. This school was held as early as 1825 at the residence of William Walker, who lived at Blooming Grove. James Latte was Superintendent. The Captain was also a member of the first temperance organization in McLean County.

Capt. Stringfield has voted for all the Democratic

candidates for President since the time of Gen. Jackson. He has taken an active interest in the success of every movement for the advancement of education and morality, and has been a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church since a youth of seventeen years. The good record which he has built up for himself will be more enduring than a marble monument, and he will be held in kindly remembrance by hosts of friends long after he shall have been gathered to his fathers. One of his neighbors speaks thus of Capt. Stringfield: "His latch string has always been out, and his purse and heart have always been open to the wants of the destitute, the unfortunate and the friendless." No higher eulogy could be passed on any one, when coupled with his religious convictions. His portrait, which we give, will be gratefully received by the patrons of this work.



**JOHN MARSH.** The subject of this history came to Illinois in the fall of 1852, and is widely and favorably known throughout this section as one of the most enterprising citizens of the county. His homestead is on section 17, of Arrowsmith Township, and he owns 700 acres of land besides twenty acres of valuable timber in this county, and 960 acres in Sumner County, Kan. He is one of the few men in this section who have undertaken sheep-growing, and of this he has made a splendid success. He deals principally in American Merinos, of which he has a large flock, and from his wool growing realizes each year a handsome sum. He is also breeding fine horses, cattle and hogs, and will have no animals about him but those of the very best grades. It is hardly necessary to say that he is a wide-awake and thorough business man, and in whatever he undertakes he is bound to succeed. His agricultural and stock-growing operations have added much to the progress and development of this county, which proudly claims him as one of its most valued citizens.

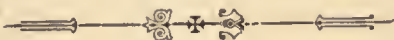
Mr. Marsh was born March 14, 1828, in the town of Romulus, Seneca Co., N. Y., and is the son of Darius and Mary A. (Brown) Marsh, natives respectively of New Jersey and New York. Darius

Marsh was born Aug. 2, 1800, and died in Madison, Lake Co., Ohio, April 10, 1887, after having arrived at the advanced age of eighty-seven years. He followed farming the greater part of his life, was a man greatly respected for his honesty and uprightness, and after the organization of the Republican party, supported its principles and uniformly casts his vote with it. His wife, Mary A., was born in 1804, and passed to the better land two years before her husband, in 1885. Of their nine children seven are now living: Jane married Ira Hodges; John of our sketch was the second child; Margaret married Mr. Neff; Anson married Miss Sarah Wampler; William married Miss Mary Parsons; George was the next in order of birth; Susan, who became the wife of William Parsons, died in Missouri about twenty years ago; Louisa died when twenty-two years old; Samuel was the youngest.

John Marsh remained an inmate of his father's house until he reached manhood, and was then united in marriage with Miss Eliza Hobart, March 4, 1852. Mrs. Marsh was born in Perry, Ohio, May 19, 1830, and was the daughter of Nathan and Cynthia (Page) Hobart, natives of New Hampshire. The mother died nearly fifty years ago, when her daughter, Eliza, was a young girl. Nathan Hobart died in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1883. Their five children were—George, Eliza, Franklin, Jackson and Harvey.

Of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Marsh there have been born eight children: John F. who married Miss Amanda J. Wampler; Rena B.; George; Mary A., who became the wife of John Builta; Cynthia E., Mrs. William Ritter; Harvey H., Ruth, and Eunice who died when fourteen years old. The home residence is a handsome and substantial structure, and the farm is supplied with good barns and all other necessary buildings for the carrying on of stock-breeding in a first-class manner. The estate forms one of the most attractive spots in the landscape of this county, and there is apparent on all sides the intelligence and industry of its proprietor. Mr. Marsh has been prominent in county affairs since coming here, holding the various local offices. He was Commissioner of Highways for eighteen years, has been Township and School Trustee, and is a man whose opinion is invariably consulted

upon matters of interest connected with the welfare and progress of this section. He is a straight Republican in politics, and in 1875 was elected County Supervisor, but declined to serve.



**WILLIAM C. MOOBERRY.** The subject of the following sketch, who is a prosperous farmer of Cropsey Township, occupies a fine homestead on section 33, where he has been engaged in general farming since 1882. He is a native of the Prairie State, born in Tazewell County, July 19, 1850. His parents, William and Matilda (Marion) Mooberry, were natives of Columbus, Ohio. The father was born May 26, 1826, and removed with his parents when six years of age to this State. They located in Groveland Township, Tazewell County, where William grew to manhood and was there married to Miss Matilda Marion. The latter was born in 1830, and came with her parents to Illinois when a child of five years of age. They also located in Tazewell County.

William Mooberry, Sr., was the son of David Mooberry who, besides agricultural pursuits in Tazewell County, also operated a sawmill, in which he was assisted by his son William. After the marriage of the latter he settled with his young wife upon a farm in Fond du Lac Township, Tazewell Co., Ill., where he still lives and is the owner of 370 acres of valuable land. The father of the subject of our sketch is one of the most energetic business men and agriculturists of Fond du Lac Township, always ready and willing to assist in any enterprise which will further the interests of his county. During the late war, as business matters prevented his enlistment in active service, he gave \$1,000 for a volunteer who should take his place in what he considered to be the ranks of duty. This was before a draft had been ordered. The parental family included five children, one now deceased.

William C. of our sketch, the eldest son of his parents, received a good education in the common schools, which was completed in the Illinois State University after an attendance there of nearly two years. He then engaged in teaching, which he followed for fifteen years, alternated with farming, in

Tazewell and McLean Counties. On the 30th of April, 1870, he was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth, daughter of William J. and Susan Martin. M:s. M. was born in Pennsylvania Oct. 1, 1852. After their marriage our subject and his wife located on a farm in Tazewell County, Ill., where they lived until 1882, then removed to McLean County, and located upon the homestead which they now occupy and which his father had previously purchased. Our subject now owns 160 acres which is under a good state of cultivation and supplied with shapely and substantial farm buildings. His stock is well cared for, the machinery and other farm implements kept in good repair, and everything about the premises indicates the industry and intelligence of its proprietor.

Mr. and Mrs. M. are the parents of five children—Frances M., Charles, William Chester, Bertha A. and Maggie E. Our subject is Republican in politics and is at present Road Commissioner of his township. Religiously he is connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and socially is a member in good standing of the Masonic fraternity, at Colfax.



**KERSEY H. FELL**, a resident of Normal, was born May 1, 1815, on a farm in Chester County, Pa. His ancestors were of English-Quaker stock, and all the Fells in the United States are descended from Judge Fell, who came to this country from England in 1705. About the year 1835, the Society of Friends was divided into two sects on account of the slavery question. A gentleman by the name of Elias Hicks, a Unitarian-Quaker preacher, agitated the abolition of slavery and favored all legal and moral means to accomplish that end. Those who believed in this doctrine formed themselves into a separate organization, and were called "Hickites," and to this branch of the Quaker society the Fell family belonged. The other division, called "Orthodox Friends," also believed in the abolition of slavery but did not think it right to interfere in the matter. They believed that the Lord would in his own time free every slave, but they did not wish by their own act to hasten the decrees of Provi-



dence. Although slavery is forever dead in this country still the division among the Friends exists. The father of our subject was known as honest Jesse Fell, and his wife, whose maiden name was Rebeeca Roman, was looked upon as a ministering angel, not only among those of her own faith, but in all circles in which she moved.

There were seven sons and two daughters born to the parents of our subject, and all were obliged to labor for the maintenance of the family. Our subject attended the common schools for two months during each year until he was seventeen years of age, when he had the misfortune to dislocate his shoulder, which unfitted him for farm labor, and he determined to attain an education. Jonathan Gause, a noble-hearted Friend, kept the West Bradford Boarding-School in Pennsylvania, and to him our subject made application for admission. He was poor and could not pay his tuition, but the kind-hearted Mr. Gause took him as a student and gave him the privileges of the school for six months without pay. Mr. Fell, however, promised to pay at some future time, and Mr. Gause answered, "I will trust thee." Our subject afterward taught school and earned sufficient to pay for his tuition and also enough with which to come West.

In the spring of 1836, about six months prior to the settlement of Judge David Davis in Bloomington, Ill., our subject arrived there and located. It was his purpose to visit his brothers, Jesse and Thomas, who had arrived some time previous and then go to a manual labor college, near Hannibal, Mo. This institution was started by Dr. Stiles Ely, a Presbyterian minister and a great theorist, and his pamphlet, which he freely distributed, created a great sensation. But his theory was better than his practice. He selected the location for his college during the dry season and without regard to the chances of overflow from the river. During the following season "the rains descended and the floods came" and washed his college away, and those who had gathered there were obliged to flee to save themselves from a watery grave. Mr. Fell learned, while yet in Bloomington, of the disaster which had overtaken Dr. Ely and his friends, and his plans thereby being broken he accepted a clerkship with Covell & Gridley, merchants.

But it was our subject's intention to study law and he had by no means given up this idea. He had occasion to go to Springfield in the interest of his employers, and while there called at the office of Hon. J. T. Stewart, a practicing attorney, and there met Abraham Lincoln, at that time a young law student. After some conversation with young Abraham, Mr. Fell came to the conclusion that if Mr. Lincoln could study law with the little education he possessed, he could also do the same, and he hesitated no longer. He read law during his leisure hours and the following year was appointed Clerk with power to organize DeWitt County. The county was formed from parts of Macon and McLean, and Mr. Fell continued to hold the position of Clerk from 1838 to 1840. The Democratic party was then in power, and Mr. Fell being a Whig, lost his position by an enactment of Legislature. Going to Bloomington, he became Deputy Clerk of the Circuit Court, and while in this position continued his law study. During the winter of 1840-41 he passed his examination before the nine judges of the Supreme Court, and was admitted to the bar. Previous to being admitted to the practice he had formed a partnership with Albert Dodd, a promising young lawyer from Connecticut, which relationship continued until 1844. During that year Mr. Dodd was drowned in Mackinaw River while returning from the convention which nominated John Wentworth (Long John) for Congress for the first time. While Mr. Dodd was absent he was nominated for the Legislature. Our subject was at this time attending court at Springfield and, detained by the floods, did not learn of his partner's death until ten days after its occurrence. The floods during that year were fearful, and the Mississippi River rose to such a height that a great portion of Cairo was swept away.

After the death of Mr. Dodd our subject continued in practice alone until 1856, when he gave up the profession and made room for the generation of young lawyers then located in his city. He was successful as an attorney and always tried to settle a case before taking it into court. In the fall of 1844 our subject took the papers, books and correspondence of his deceased partner, Mr. Dodd, to his father in Connecticut, and on his arrival at

Hartford he found the people greatly excited over the prophecy of Miller, that the end of the world was close at hand. Many of his followers had given away all of their property, firmly believing they would need it no longer, and were standing around the streets, expecting the call which would translate them to the other world. At a late hour that evening Mr. Fell, not having heard the call, and the angel not having put in his appearance, retired to sleep. The next morning he was awakened by a most fearful sound. He sprang up, thinking indeed that the millennium had come, but on further examination discovered that the noise proceeded from an hotel gong, he never having heard one before.

From Hartford, our subject went to New York, where the Whig convention which nominated Henry Clay for President was in session. At this convention were some of the great lights of the Whig party. That evening a large meeting was held, and after many had spoken Horace Greeley was called out. His speech was short but to the point, and went to the hearts of the people. From New York Mr. Fell went to Philadelphia, thence to Chester County, where he found the lady who was to become his wife, and they were married at Philadelphia on the 1st of January, 1845. Her maiden name was Jane Price, and of their union eight children have been born, five sons and three daughters.

The parents of our subject came West, bringing all their children in 1837. The mother died in October, 1846, and the father, who became totally blind during the last seven years of his life, died in the fall of 1854. All the children took pride in making the last years of the old gentleman's life pleasant, and did all in their power to recompense him for the loss of that greatest of all the senses. Mr. Fell has never been a candidate for any public office but was a member of the School Board for twelve years without pay. He has, however, held some offices which involved much work and no pay. In 1856, at the State Convention at Bloomington, Mr. Fell nominated Abraham Lincoln as a delegate to the National Convention at Philadelphia. Lincoln arose and declined the nomination on account of poverty, and our subject promised that his ex-

penses should be paid. It was subsequently arranged in case Mr. Lincoln could not go, Mr. Fell should go in his place. About two hours before the time for starting, Mr. Fell received word from Lincoln that he could not go, and went himself. Mr. Lincoln was nominated for Vice President at the convention, and on the first ballot received 115 votes, but on the second ballot his name was withdrawn by the Illinois delegation with the intention of putting him forward at some future day for President.

Kersey H. Fell was probably the first man who thought of nominating Abraham Lincoln for President of the United States. He mentioned the matter to his brother, Jesse Fell, and also Judge David Davis, and both of them at first did not think Lincoln could be nominated. Subsequently and very soon after a consultation with his brother, Jesse Fell favored the movement strongly, and farther on in the canvass David Davis took hold also. Our subject also mentioned the matter to Judge Joseph J. Lewis, of Westchester, Pa., and the latter wrote a biography of Mr. Lincoln, which was widely circulated, the facts embraced therein being received from Jesse W. Fell. Our subject did everything in his power to forward Lincoln's chances, and called out his name as a candidate for President at Westchester, Pa., at a public political meeting where they were considering the most available man. In 1860 our subject's hopes were realized, for Mr. Lincoln was nominated and triumphantly elected. Kersey Fell was long and intimately acquainted with Mr. Lincoln, and states "that if Lincoln thought he was right in a lawsuit, he was invincible, but if he thought his cause unjust, he was weak and his arguments without force." He says Lincoln was one of the most tender-hearted men he ever knew.

During the year 1860 Mr. Fell went to Europe, visited Switzerland, Vienna, and many other places of interest, returning in the fall of that year in time to cast his vote for his old friend, Abraham Lincoln. He is a member of the Board of Education at Bloomington. He is slenderly built, well proportioned and active. His hair is gray and his beard almost white; his nose is aquiline and bridged with spectacles when he reads or writes. He is a deep thinker and forms his opinions with

great care. Good nature is apparent in his countenance, and there are few men in the community more respected and honored.

Mrs. Fell, formerly Miss Jane Price, was born in Chester County, Pa., Feb. 5, 1823. Her mother is yet living, being now ninety-seven years old, and resides with our subject. Eight children, five sons and three daughters, have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Fell. Price is in the plow factory at Bloomington; Medora E. married Freeman P. Kirkendall, and departed this life in 1880; Anna M. is the wife of George F. Durant, of St. Louis; William P. is Deputy Sheriff of Huron County, Dak.; Jessie is the wife of Charles A. Cole, of Omaha, Neb.; Charles Carroll is in the theatrical profession; Kersy, Jr., resides in Omaha, of which city Benjamin F. is also a resident.



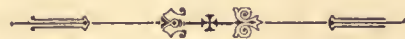
**J**OHN ALEXANDER CAMPBELL, a pioneer of the Prairie State, came to this county in 1849, and amid the vicissitudes of a busy and varied career, has contributed his quota to the prosperity and development of McLean County. He is now proprietor of the Lexington Elevator, which was built by him in 1872, and has become one of the indispensable assistants of the grain dealers of this section.

Mr. Campbell was born on his father's farm, in Clark County, Ky., June 15, 1832. He is the son of Benjamin F. and Dolly (Bateman) Campbell, his father being a Virginian by birth. After the birth of our subject, his parents removed to Indiana. The mother died when John A. was six years of age, and the father four years later, so that our subject was left an orphan when ten years old, and compelled to look out for himself. He worked at whatever his hands could find to do, and at the age of seventeen, came to McLean County in company with Thomas Pirtle, arriving here in 1849, and engaged in farm work for the following six years.

He was married on the 10th of May, 1855, to Miss Adeline Hefner, the daughter of Peter Hefner, Esq., one of the pioneers of McLean County. After marriage Mr. Campbell settled on a farm

three miles south of Lexington, and engaged in agricultural pursuits, which he industriously followed until 1872, in the meantime having become the owner of 160 acres of land south of the town. This he sold in 1864, and purchased another farm one mile north of Lexington. This contained 320 acres and he occupied it until 1873, when he rented it and removed to the village of Lexington. He then built the elevator which he now owns and which has a capacity of 30,000 bushels. When this was completed he began buying and shipping all kinds of grain to the Chicago market. In 1877 he began dealing in coal in connection with his grain trade. The first year he handled about twenty-five cars and every year since his business has increased until he now handles 300 cars annually. During the winter months especially he has all he can possibly attend to. He has for the past few years shipped further East. The elevator is three stories in height, and 48x42 feet in area.

Mr. and Mrs. Campbell became the parents of nine children, of whom three are deceased. Those living are, Arabella, Emery, Oren, Emma, Edwin and James H. They occupy a handsome residence, and have an attractive home, where they, with their children and friends, are enjoying the good things of life, together with the esteem and friendship of the best people of this locality.



**J**ABEZ LEPPA, a successful farmer and stock-raiser of Belleflower Township, is pleasantly located on section 31, where he has a farm of eighty acres, and is contributing his full share toward the business and industrial interests of his county and township. Mr. Leppo is a native of Maryland, and was born in that part of Baltimore County now included in Carroll County, on the 21st of May, 1825. His father, Jacob Leppo, was a native of the same State, of German ancestry, and a tanner by trade. This he followed for a number of years, then purchased a farm in Carroll County, Md., where he engaged in agricultural pursuits until his death, which occurred in March, 1862. He was married to Miss Susan Miller, who was also born in Baltimore County, Md., and died

at her home in Carroll County, in September, 1854.

Of the twelve children born to the parents of our subject, the latter was the fourth child and fourth son. He was reared on the farm and made his home with his parents until he had grown to manhood. He then commenced working for himself at farm labor, at \$7 per month, which the following year was increased to \$9 and the third year to \$10. Notwithstanding this, which would now seem meager wages, he managed to save a portion of his earnings, and at the end of the third year was able to rent a farm. He was soon afterward married, and purchased fifty acres of land on the Westminster & Baltimore Turnpike. He did not settle upon this, however, but operated on rented land four years afterward. He then sold his fifty acres and purchased a tract of sixty-five acres in Carroll County, Md., which was partially improved and supplied with a set of frame buildings. He remained there until the death of his father, then purchased the old homestead, upon which he removed, occupying it until 1868. That year he sold out and came to Illinois, locating first in Tazewell County, where he rented for three years following.

In 1872 Mr. Leppo moved into this county and located in West Township, where he operated on rented land two years. He then purchased forty acres in the same township, which he occupied until 1881, when he sold it and purchased the farm upon which he has since resided. Since taking possession of this, he has erected a convenient frame house, and otherwise improved its general condition. He is now devoting himself principally to grain and stock raising.

Mr. Leppo was married in his native county on the 4th of February, 1854, to Miss M. C. Burns, a native of his own county and the daughter of John and Mary M. Burns. Of this union there have been born four children, three now living: Aliee R., Franklin T. I. and Mary M. Luther J., who was the second, died in 1884, when twenty-eight years of age. Our subject and his wife both united with the Methodist Episcopal Church in their native State. Mr. Leppo in politics is strongly Democratic, and in all respects is an industrious and reliable citizen, who is enjoying the respect and confidence of his townsmen.

**J**OSIAH BIGGS, a prosperous farmer of Money Creek Township, is pleasantly located on section 24. He was born in this township on the 26th of February, 1834, being the son of Lemuel Biggs, who was a native of Delaware; the mother's maiden name was Mullen, and she was a native of Ohio. They removed in early youth with their respective parents to Illinois, and were married in McLean County, first settling in Funk's Grove Township, and in about 1831 removed to Money Creek Township, where the father died in May, 1860. The mother still survives, and lives on the old homestead. Their ten children were named as follows: Andrew E., Josiah, William G., Sarah, Nancy J., E. A., Louisa, Martha, Lemuel A. and Frank.

The subject of this history was the second child of the family. He was reared to farming, received a common-school education, and has been a resident of Money Creek Township all his life. He is now the owner of a fine farm of 180 acres, under a good state of cultivation, with a shapely and substantial set of farm buildings.

Mr. Biggs remained under the home roof until he had attained to years of manhood, and Aug. 30, 1860, was married to Miss Lucy, the daughter of Daniel and Rosanna (Hotmaker) Empire, natives of New York, where they settled after their marriage; later they removed to Shelby County, Ohio, and thence, in 1851, to Iroquois County, this State, where they remained six years, then came to McLean County and located in Money Creek Township, where Mr. Empire died Aug. 30, 1878. Mrs. E. lives with her daughter, the wife of our subject. Mr. and Mrs. Empire had a family of seven children—Benjamin, Alex, Sylvester, John, Mary, Lovina and Lucy.

Mrs. Biggs was born in Livingston County, N. Y., Aug. 30, 1842, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of three children: Javan married Miss Emma Claggett, and lives in Blue Mound Township; Minnie is the wife of R. T. Claggett, and resides in Lexington Township; Nellie married S. A. D. Henline, and lives in Kearney, Neb.

Mr. Biggs has held the office of Supervisor in Money Creek Township five years, and has served





B. Patton



Mrs. Patton

as Assessor and Collector. He was elected Township Treasurer in 1865, which office he has held continuously since that time. Both he and his wife are members of the United Brethren Church, and politically our subject is identified with the Republican party.



**B**ENJAMIN WILEY PATTON. Here and there, scattered over the fertile prairies and through the beautiful woodland of this section of the State, may be found the venerable pioneer. Those who came prior to 1830, however, are very few. Their number, never large, has dwindled down to a mere handful. Of one of this honored number we give the following brief sketch. He made settlement here as early as in the spring of 1828. He was born in Garrard County, Ky., June 18, 1816. His father, John Patton, was born in North Carolina, and in early years settled in Kentucky. He was married in that State, to Margaret Wiley, daughter of William Wiley. The Patton family were of Irish extraction, and the paternal grandfather of our subject, Robert Patton, was a native of that country, and emigrated to the United States in early manhood. The Wileys were of English descent, and on emigrating to this country first made settlement in Maryland.

John Patton was a gunsmith, and also worked at the blacksmith trade, and during the latter years of his life was engaged in agricultural pursuits. He emigrated with his family to Indiana in 1817, and made settlement on the Ohio River. There he continued to reside until the fall of 1827, when he came to this State, overland, passing the first winter in Old Town Timber, McLean County, on the North Fork of Salt Creek. The following spring he moved, and settled near where the village of Selma is now located. There he took up a land claim, upon which he located with his family and engaged in its improvement, and when the land came into market purchased it, and continued to make this his home until his death, which occurred in 1854. His good wife died some six years previously. Twelve children were born of their un-

ion, seven sons and five daughters, all of whom lived to attain the age of man and womanhood. Their names are as follows: Sarah, wife of Aaron Foster; Cassandria was united in marriage with William Wiley; Susanna and John Messer became man and wife; John and William were next in order of birth; Margaret married George Heuline; Benjamin, our subject, was the next; Jenima became the wife of Calvin Adams; Aaron and Moses were twins, and Josephine and Constantine complete the number.

Benjamin Patton was the seventh in order of birth of his parents' twelve children, and when he accompanied them to this county he was twelve years old. His education was somewhat limited, on account of the necessity which required his assistance on the farm, and the scarcity of the public schools in his vicinity. He remained with the old folk until he was twenty-three years old, when he was married to Mary Ann Conover, the date of their marriage being Oct. 13, 1838. She was a daughter of William Conover, who was born in New Jersey. He had moved to Kentucky, and there married Rebecca Hopkins, by whom he had twelve children, eight sons and four daughters, all of whom lived to attain the age of maturity except one, and all now living with the exception of two.

After our subject's marriage he settled near the old homestead of his father, and improved a farm, upon which he lived until his removal to the place on section 22, Lexington Township, where he is at present residing. This was fifty-nine years ago, consequently our subject has experienced the hardships common to old settlers. His farm comprises 140 acres of well-improved land, and he also has twenty-six acres of timber. He has a good residence, barn and out-buildings, and is meeting with fair success in the prosecution of his vocation. For the last six years he has suffered considerably from injuries received by his team running over him and dragging him quite a distance.

Mr. Patton is now in his seventy-first year. He has never had any children, and has devoted the years thus far in life to agricultural pursuits. His good wife is seventy-two years old, and for forty-nine years they have together toiled and labored

for each other's good as man and wife. They are both members of the Christian Church. Our subject was converted to the cause of the Master over half a century ago, and his good wife about sixty years ago. By their energy and perseverance they have secured a competency, and are enabled to pass the sunset of life in peace and quiet. In politics he is a Democrat. In selecting those to be represented in the portrait department of this work, no worthier couple could be found within the confines of the county than Benjamin Patton and wife.



**J**OSEPH MEINER, a successful farmer and stock-raiser of Arrowsmith Township, is a native of the German Empire, born in Prussia, Feb. 13, 1834. He emigrated to this country when a young man twenty years of age, and from the landing at New York City proceeded to Bucks County, Pa., where for the following four years he worked by the month on a farm. With genuine German economy and forethought he saved what he could of his earnings, and soon after coming to Illinois, in 1858, commenced farming on his own hook. His home then was at the house of a Mr. S. Morgan in Dale Township, this county, where he became acquainted with Miss Mary Ulmer, to whom he was married Oct. 12, 1862. This lady was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, March 3, 1839, and came to the United States when a young woman, in 1860, making her home with her brother in Dale Township. She was the daughter of Henry and Catherine (Wagner) Ulmer. Her father was born Oct. 16, 1806, and died in his native country March 14, 1883. His wife Catherine was born Sept. 14, 1811, and departed this life July 3, 1879. Of their eleven children, six are now living: Eva became the wife of Joseph Ditter, now deceased; Matthew married Miss Emily Damaska, deceased; George married Miss Minnie Miller; Mary, of our sketch, was the fourth child; John married Miss Sarah Loga, and Katie became Mrs. Van Paign. Mrs. Meiner received a fine German education, and reads and writes English very well.

In 1864, Mr. Meiner purchased eighty acres of

land to which he afterward added 160, and the whole of which constitutes one of the finest bodies of land in this township, comprising a fine farm of 240 acres. His stock consists principally of Norman horses, of which he exhibits some very fine specimens, especially a pair of two-year-olds, which he holds at a high price. The children of our subject and his wife, seven in number, are George H.; Minnie U., who married Alfred Bane and lives two miles west of her father; Arnold B., Katie T., Matilda E., Edward and Aaron G. Mr. Meiner is Republican in politics, and with his wife is connected with the United Brethren Church at Arrowsmith, of which he has been a member twenty years.

Joseph Meiner is the son of Antone and Margaret (Reihley) Meiner, who were both natives of Germany, and spent their entire lives in their native land, where their remains were laid to rest several years ago. The father was a warm adherent of the Catholic faith. The five children of the parental family included Magdalena, Theresa, Caroline, deceased, Joseph, and George, who died in 1854, at New Orleans, of yellow fever.



**A**LFRID SPRADLING, a resident of the southeast part of McLean County, is pleasantly located in Cheney's Grove Township, on section 36. The place of his birth was Franklin County, Ind., and the date thereof May 17, 1823. His parents were John and Betsey (Chapman) Spradling, natives respectively of South Carolina and Tennessee. His father was born in 1780, served in the War of 1812, afterward removed to La Salle County, Ill., and died there in 1861. The mother was born in 1784, and survived her husband four years. Both were consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church for many years. Their ten children are recorded as follows: Sarah, William, Polley; Naney died when quite small; John died in 1877; Elizabeth, Enoch and James died in infancy; Thomas and Rebecca were next to the youngest.

Mr. Spradling remained under the parental roof in Indiana until 1852, when he became a resident



of Illinois, locating first in Mission Township, La-Salle County, where he made his home about seventeen years. He removed to Champaign County in 1868, whence he came to this county in 1876. On the 12th of October, 1886, he met with a severe loss in the destruction of his house by fire, together with most of its contents. He soon afterward commenced re-building, and has now nearly completed a fine two-story structure with basement, covering an area of 24x24 feet. The basement is 14x16 feet.

Mr. Spradling was married, June 4, 1844, to Miss Amy J. Peterson. She was born July 18, 1827, in Franklin County, Ind., and is the daughter of John and Edith (Clifton) Peterson, both natives of New Jersey. The mother was born in Salem County, Aug. 21, 1796, and married John Peterson, Jan. 12, 1812. After a Christian life of nearly sixty-seven years, during which period she had been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, she departed this life near Philo, Ill., in September, 1877. John Peterson was born in 1794, became a man of note in his county and community, and was possessed of considerable means. He held the office of Trustee in the church, was a farmer by occupation, and died in Champaign County, Ill., in 1873. Their fourteen children were, Mary A., Samuel, Benjamin, Henry, Sarah A., Elizabeth, John, Catherine, Emma J., Ruth, Charlotte, Clara, Annie M. and Hannah.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Spradling are as follows: Elizabeth E., born Sept. 4, 1845; Sarah A., Jan. 7, 1847; Hartley K., May 7, 1848; Emory, Aug. 29, 1849; Alpheus, May 18, 1851; Albert L., Sept. 30, 1854; Ami N., May 10, 1856; Stephen H., Sept. 18, 1857; George S., May 10, 1859; Kate S., July 25, 1861; Frank P., Nov. 30, 1866. Hartley Spradling, the eldest son of our subject, married Miss Mary E. Baker, Jan. 31, 1869, and they have six children—Willie H., Lillie L., Emily, Claude E., John H. and Archie. Hartley is engaged in farming. Emma married Francis L. Harrington, Jan. 28, 1872, and both are now deceased; they left one child, Claude L. Alpheus married Miss Emma Turner, Dec. 25, 1872, and is now deceased; he left two children—Emmet T. and Etta M. Sarah A. married Harvey Cunningham, March 25, 1877,

and they have two children—Emma J. and Fred-dic A.; Albert L., born Sept. 30, 1854, married Miss Hannah Owens, Sept. 14, 1880, and lives in Belleflower Township; Ami N. was born May 10, 1856, and married Mrs. Almeda Wimer, July 3, 1882; they have two children—Jessie M. and Pearl. Stephen H., born Sept. 18, 1857, was married to Miss Ella L. Phares, Feb. 21, 1882; Kate S. married Frank B. Phares, in 1884; Frank P., born Nov. 30, 1866, married Miss Bettie J. Taylor, Dec. 27, 1886.

Mr. Spradling owns 241½ acres of valuable land, which is under a fine state of cultivation. He has been connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church for a period of forty-six years, and the various members of his family belong to the same. Politically he is a straight Republican and uniformly casts his vote in support of the principles of his party.

PETER SCHERTZ, a representative German farmer and business man of Cheney's Grove Township, was formerly a wagon-maker by trade, but of late years has turned his attention exclusively to agricultural pursuits. He was born in the Province of Alsace, on the River Rhine, Aug. 18, 1833, and is the son of Joseph and Mary (Laman) Schertz, natives of the same Province as their son. The father of our subject followed farming all his life. He emigrated to America in 1842, and at once located in Butler County, Ohio. He died in Tazewell County, this State, in 1886, at the advanced age of eighty-seven years. The mother departed this life in Butler County, Ohio, in 1842, when but little over thirty years of age. The seven children in the parental family were Joseph, Christian, John, Peter, Andrew, deceased, Andrew [2d] and Nicholas.

The subject of this history was but nine years old when he emigrated with his parents to the United States. He came to Tazewell County, this State, in 1853, where he remained two years and then came to McLean County. After arriving at years of manhood he was united in marriage with

Miss Catherine Springer, on the 20th of February, 1862, the ceremony being performed by Rev. Christian Gingerich, of the Mennonite Church. Mrs. S. was born in Butler County, Ohio, Aug. 10, 1839, and is the daughter of Christian and Magdalena (Ingle) Springer, natives of France. They emigrated to America and located in Butler County, Ohio, whence they removed ten years later to Illinois. They took up their abode in the town of Danvers, this county, where they lived about twenty years. Of their nine children, one died in infancy. Those living are Joseph, Peter, Christian, John, Andy, Melinda, Catherine and Mary. Our subject and his wife became the parents of the following named children: Emma E., Mary A., George C., Joseph, William, John E., Peter A., Daniel D. and Albert E.

The homestead of Mr. Schertz includes 200 acres of finely cultivated land, with a handsome and substantial set of frame buildings and all the appliances required by the modern farmer and stock-raiser. Of late he has been giving much attention to the breeding of Norman horses. His stallion, Lewis, is six years old, weighs 1,800 pounds, is a bright bay in color, and of magnificent proportions. Bob, a three-year-old colt, is a remarkably fine animal, of a jetty black, and a model of beauty and symmetry. The mare is half-Norman blood. Mr. Schertz is in all respects a representative farmer and business man of one of the wealthiest counties in the State, and has contributed his full share toward the agricultural interests of his section. He is a member of the Mennonite Church at Danvers, and contributed generously toward the erection of the fine church building there. Politically he is an earnest supporter of the Democratic party.



**HUGH HENNING.** The subject of this history has been a resident of McLean County since the 1st of March, 1864, and during a residence of over twenty-three years has identified himself with its agricultural and industrial interests. He is pleasantly located on section 22, Yates Township, where he carries on general

farming, and is giving some attention to the raising of fine stock.

When our subject came to McLean County he purchased the southeast quarter of section 22, in Yates Township, which constitutes a part of his present homestead. At the time of purchase his land was but slightly improved. To this he afterward added and industriously carried on its cultivation, meeting with success in his labors. He now owns 240 acres of land, eighty acres of which lie on section 25. The farm residence and all other out-buildings about the premises are put up in a substantial manner and fulfill all the requirements of a first-class agriculturist. The buildings and fences are kept in good repair and his farm machinery is after the latest and most improved style.

Mr. Henning was married on the 6th of April, 1864, to Miss Elizabeth McKay. Of this union five children have been born—William, Robert and Nettie (twins), Edith and James Elmer (twins). The residence of our subject and his family is finely finished and well furnished, and its inmates enjoy all the comforts of life. Mr. H. is Republican in politics and is highly esteemed both as a business man and a citizen.



**PETER S. GERBER,** formerly an esteemed resident of Oak Grove Village, this county, in March, 1887, removed to Woodford County, this State. He was born in Montgomery Township, Woodford County, Nov. 15, 1846, and is the son of Joseph and Magdalena (Sommers) Gerber, the former born May 6, 1806, in France.

On the 10th of November, 1830, Joseph Gerber sailed for America, landing in New York City on the 10th of February following. From there he proceeded to Canada to visit a friend, Christian Farney by name, and ten days later started for Stark County, Ohio, where he worked as a wagon-maker. There also he met his future wife, Miss Magdalena Sommers, and they were united in marriage on the 11th of January, 1835. Mrs. G. was born on what was called the Sommers' Farm, in

France, Aug. 2, 1815. After their marriage the young people moved into Tuscarawas County, Ohio, where Mr. G., in partnership with his brother-in-law, C. Singeriek, purchased a farm which they conducted together until 1838. In May of the following year Joseph Gerber came to Woodford County, this State, and purchased 240 acres of land in Montgomery Township, which he was occupied in cultivating and improving until his death, which event occurred Feb. 21, 1881. He was a man of great force of character, became thoroughly Americanized, and was a staunch Republican in politics. Both parents were members of the Mennonite Church. The mother is still living on the old homestead in Woodford County. They were among the earliest pioneers of that section and the father of our subject contributed materially to its growth and development, witnessing with keen interest the many and great changes which occurred during a period of over half a century. The ten children of the parental family were named as follows: Christian, Jacob, John, Anna, Joseph, Peter, Eli, Samuel, Elizabeth and Daniel.

The subject of our sketch was reared on his father's farm in Woodford County, Ill., and received his education in the pioneer schools. He remained with his parents until attaining his majority, and on the 19th of January, 1869, was united in marriage with Miss Catherine Habecker. Soon afterward the young couple came to this county and located on the farm given our subject by his father, which they occupied until November, 1879. They then sold it and removed to the village of Oak Grove, where they lived until March, 1887, and from there returned to the Woodford County farm of 160 acres, which Mr. G. repurchased at \$48.50 per acre. The Oak Grove farm property was exchanged for a house and lot in town. While a resident of Oak Grove Township, Mr. Gerber interested himself in its local affairs and was elected to the office of Road Commissioner for three years. In his late removal the citizens of Oak Grove have lost a valued member of the community and Woodford County has been the gainer.

The wife of our subject, also a native of Woodford County, this State, was born June 8, 1848. Her parents were John and Magdalena Habecker.

The former was born in the old Province of Pfalz, Germany, in October, 1824. He emigrated to America in 1832, landing in the city of New Orleans, and from there migrated to Butler County, Ohio, and was there married. His wife, Magdalena Habecker, was born in France, in February, 1823, and emigrated to the United States when a young girl seventeen years old, landing, as did her husband, first in New Orleans, and thence going into Butler County, Ohio. After their marriage the young couple proceeded westward, stopping first in Peoria, Ill., and going from there into Woodford County whence, after a brief residence, they removed to Tazewell County, and not long afterward purchased a farm in McLean County. There the old folk lived until the death of the father, which took place in the fall of 1878. The mother afterward married Mr. J. Stnekey, and is still living.

The six children of the parental household were named Barbara, Catharine, John, Christian, Joseph and Magdalena. Mr. and Mrs. Gerber of this notice, have one child only, a daughter, Erbina.



**H**UGH ROBB, local editor of the Heyworth *Standard*, has been connected with the paper in that capacity since January, 1882. The *Standard* is a weekly, the mechanical work of which is done in the city of Bloomington. Mr. Robb has conducted his department of this journal with ability and success. He is a smooth and easy writer and is especially successful in collecting interesting local items. The *Standard* has a circulation of about 500, and has become quite indispensable to its readers.

Mr. Robb was born in Waynesville, DeWitt Co., Ill., Sept. 3, 1846. He remained in his native county until July, 1871, when he became a resident of Heyworth, which has since been his home. He received his education in the public schools of his native town, where he acquitted himself creditably, being a studious youth, fond of his books, and taking pride in the acquirement of useful knowledge. He first engaged in the grocery trade in Heyworth for about four years, afterward becoming drug clerk for Mr. Shelton, whose biography appears else-

where in this work, and still holds that position, his editorial duties occupying only a part of his time.

Mr. Robb was married in Heyworth, Feb. 26, 1881, to Miss N. J. Scroggy, who was born in Indiana. She came West to Illinois when a young woman, and by her marriage with our subject has become the mother of two children—Earle A. and J. H. L. Mr. and Mrs. Robb are members of the Presbyterian Church, and have been members of the choir since 1878.

Politically our subject is a solid Republican and takes an active interest in the success of his party. Socially he belongs to the I. O. O. F., Heyworth Lodge No. 483, of which he is permanent Secretary, and at present represents the Grand Lodge.



**L**UKE CARNELL, of Blue Mound Township, has been a resident of McLean County since 1854, and is now comfortably located on section 33. Here he has a snug farm of eighty acres, under a high state of cultivation, with handsome and substantial buildings, and all the accessories of a first-class agriculturist. His premises in all respects indicate the supervision of a thorough farmer and business man, and is one of the spots which attracts the attention of the traveler passing through the county.

The subject of our sketch was born in Hampshire County, W. Va., Sept. 25, 1825, being the son of Daniel and Elizabeth (Parker) Carnell, natives respectively of Maryland and Virginia. They settled in Hampshire County, in what is now West Virginia, and in 1839 removed to Ohio, locating in Fayette County. Thence in 1854 they came to the Prairie State and took up their abode in Arrowsmith Township, where they spent the remainder of their lives. Of their ten children, the subject of our sketch was the fourth in order of birth, and was about twelve years old when his parents removed from his native State to Ohio. He came with them to this county and remained under the home roof until he was thirty-six years old. He then married and located in Arrowsmith Township, where he engaged in farming for a time, removing

from there to Martin Township, where he operated the "Harpole farm" three years. He came into Blue Mound Township in the spring of 1873; here he soon erected a good house, which was destroyed by fire March 26, 1879, together with the furniture and clothing of the family. Mr. Carnell, however, did not suffer this disaster to overcome him, but the following spring erected another and finer one, which is universally admired by everyone passing through that section. His main barn and other out-buildings correspond with the dwelling, and the entire homestead forms an attractive spot which is at once a delight to the eye, and a testimonial to the thrift and taste of its proprietor. A view of the place is shown on another page of this work.

Mr. Carnell was married in Arrowsmith Township, May 23, 1861, to Miss Harriet O'Neal, who was born in Ross County, Ohio, July 1, 1839. She was the youngest of eight children of Samuel and Martha (Cogel) O'Neal, who emigrated from Ohio to Illinois in 1857, settling in West Township, this county, where they died, the father about 1865 and the mother about 1862. Mr. and Mrs. Carnell have become the parents of seven children, namely, Ellen, Armilda, Daniel, Mary E., Frank, Willie and Clara B. Daniel and Willie are deceased; Ellen is the wife of Smith Bane, and resides in Arrowsmith Township; Armilda is the wife of David Merwin, and lives in Padua Township. Mr. Carnell is Republican in politics, and has been School Director in his township for many years.



**J**R. HALDEMAN, manufacturer of granite and marble monuments, also all kinds of mantels and grates, occupies Nos. 301 and 303 South Main street, Bloomington, where he is carrying on a successful and lucrative business. Our subject is a native of the Buckeye State and was born July 10, 1830. His parents were John and Mary (Jones) Haldeinan, his father of Pennsylvania and his mother of Ohio, the former of staneh German ancestry and the latter of Scotch-Irish. In his younger days John Haldeinan was engaged in general teaming over the mountains from Pittsburgh to Baltimore, transporting all

kinds of merchandise. He went to Ohio before his marriage and located upon a farm near Zanesville. Selling out in 1831, in the meantime having been married, he started out with a six-horse "prairie schooner," accompanied by his wife and six children, for the prairies of Illinois. He made his first location in La Salle County, purchasing about 1,000 acres of land, near the town of Streator, where he established a permanent home, and engaged in general farming until his death, which took place in 1837. The mother is still living, and at present resides in Missouri. The parental family included six children, only three of whom are now living: James, of Kansas City; Marietta, Mrs. Johnson, of Vernon County, Mo., and our subject.

Mr. Haldeman of our sketch remained with his parents until he was twenty-six years old, and during the latter part of the time assumed the management of his father's farm. In 1848 he commenced to learn the business of a marble cutter, and three years later, in company with two brothers, came to Bloomington and established the present business. They operated in company for the following eight years, when one of the brothers withdrew, and the following year the other sold out his interest. In June, 1873, having now sold out the remaining interest, our subject removed to the southern part of the State, and for two years was engaged in making plows, after which he returned to Bloomington, and has since been engaged in his present business. He employs from five to fifteen men, and the products of his manufacture are shipped to all parts of the State. In addition to his marble business, Mr. Haldeman is the proprietor of a snug farm of fifty-five acres, two miles from the city limits, which he now occupies.

The marriage of our subject to Miss Margaret A. Morsman, took place in 1856. Mrs. Haldeman was born in Massachusetts and is the daughter of Charles S. and Elmira (Lincoln) Morsman, the mother being a second cousin of the late President Lincoln. Mr. and Mrs. Haldeman became the parents of three children: Ida M.; Revillo P., who, although only nineteen years old, is a book-keeper in his father's office, and a graduate of Butler University and the High School; Mamie M., the

eldest daughter, also graduated at the same time as her brother. The residence of the family is one of the most attractive suburban homes in this locality. Mr. Haldeman is a strong Prohibitionist, and with his wife is prominently connected with the Christian Church. He is a straightforward business man, and highly esteemed as a neighbor and citizen.

REV. ROBERT CONOVER, Pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Lexington, Ill., has been a resident of McLean County thirty-one years, since the spring of 1856, when he located in Bloomington. He was born July 3, 1823, in "Jersey Settlement," now Carlyle Station, Franklin Township, Warren Co., Ohio.

His parents, George and Mary (Dubois) Conover, were among the early settlers of that part of the Miami Valley. They were of Huguenot ancestry, who came to America and first settled at Kingston, Ulster Co., N. Y., about the year 1660, having fled from France to escape the religious persecution waged against the Protestants by the Roman Catholics. The family, as it increased, spread out over Eastern New York and New Jersey, and finally one branch immigrated from New Jersey and formed what has ever since been known as the "Jersey Settlement" in the Miami Valley, where many of their descendants still remain.

Our subject was bereaved of his father when fifteen months old, and of his mother when eight years of age. From the death of his mother until twenty-one years of age, he lived in the families of his uncle and a cousin. He united with the Presbyterian Church of Franklin, Ohio, in his nineteenth year, and at the age of twenty-one commenced studying for the ministry at Centre College, Danville, Ky., where he graduated June 28, 1849. He studied theology two years at Princeton, N. J., and one year with Dr. Nathan L. Rice, in Cincinnati, Ohio, and was licensed to preach the Gospel April 26, 1851, by the Presbytery of Transylvania, Ky. His first ministerial charge was a mission church in Cincinnati, Ohio, while he was a student with Dr. Rice. He then established a school and organized a church at North

Salem, Ind., where he labored for three years, and then returned to Cincinnati on account of an affliction from which his wife was suffering. There he labored fifteen months, a part of the time as temporary supply of the Seventh or Broadway Church, and the remainder as State supply of the newly organized Presbyterian Church of Cumminsville, a suburb of the city.

Mr. Conover, in June, 1856, came to Bloomington, Ill., established a female seminary, and also organized a Presbyterian Church at Towanda, which he supplied while carrying on the school. He continued the school eighteen years, until 1875, then removed to Towanda, where he remained until February, 1878, having served that church as stated supply for nearly twenty-two years. Since February, 1878, now over nine years, he has continued in the pastorate work with the church at Lexington.

On the 30th of March, 1852, Rev. Robert Conover was married to Miss Harriet Hilts, daughter of William D. Hilts, of Springdale, Hamilton Co., Ohio. Mr. Hilts also located at Bloomington, Ill., in the spring of 1857, and improved a farm at Towanda, where four of his sons still reside.

Mr. Conover and wife have been highly favored in being permitted to share their labors together without interruption for a period of over thirty-five years, and still have health and strength for active work. He is now the only minister in connection with the Presbytery of Bloomington [which includes the counties of McLean, De Witt, Piatt, Champaign, Vermilion, Iroquois, Livingston and a part of Woodford] who has been continuously in this same field for over thirty-one years.

**W**ILLIAM LEMKE, a substantial German citizen of Blue Mound Township, owns and occupies a snug homestead of eighty acres on section 24, where he has made his home since 1866. He was born in Germany, in April, 1831, his parents being Charles and Mary Lemke, also natives of the "fatherland," where they passed their entire lives, and where their remains are interred.

Mr. Lemke lived in his native country until he

was twenty-nine years of age, and then emigrated to America. After landing in New York he proceeded directly westward and worked about three years in Du Page County, then came to McLean, which has since been his home. He first rented land in Old Town Township five years, then purchased eighty acres in Blue Mound. He has brought his land to a good state of cultivation and erected a convenient and substantial set of frame buildings, and in all respects bears a fair comparison with the other industrious and enterprising agriculturists of this section.

Mr. Lemke was married in Bloomington, Ill., in 1860, to Mrs. Rosa (Wolford) Ziegler, widow of John Ziegler. She was born in Germany, July 6, 1828, and came to America when about twenty-four years of age. Of this union there were born three children, all of whom died in infancy. Mrs. L. is an adherent of the Catholic faith, and our subject is a Lutheran. Mr. Lemke is Republican in politics, and greatly respected for his sterling honesty, and the habit he has of attending strictly to his own concerns. A view of Mr. Lemke's residence is shown on another page.

**P**ETER FLESHER, a pioneer settler of McLean County, is now a resident of Lexington. He was born in Pendleton County, Va., on the farm of his father near Franklin, on the 7th of December, 1809, and is the son of John and Mary (Seibert) Flesher. His father was also a native of the Old Dominion. His grandfather, Henry Flesher, of German ancestry, emigrated to this country at an early day, and served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War.

John Flesher, the father of our subject, emigrated from Virginia to Fayette County, Ohio, with his family, in 1835, and resided in the Buckeye State for the following six years. Then, in 1841, he concluded to move on further westward and, coming into this county, settled on a farm in Money Creek Township. There he passed the remainder of his days, departing this life in 1862, leaving a wife and nine children. Of the latter, eight are still living, and all residents of this county with the

exception of a daughter, Alcinda, who married her cousin, Perry Flesher, and now resides in Warren County, Iowa.

Peter Flesher came to McLean County with his father's family in 1841. He was married in Virginia, May 18, 1834, to Miss Hannah, the daughter of James Campbell, also of the Old Dominion. This lady died in 1842, one year after their removal to McLean County, leaving two children, a son and daughter—James and Mary J.

The second wife of our subject was Miss Julinda, the daughter of James Blake, of this county, to whom he was married Aug. 13, 1843. After his second marriage Mr. Flesher settled in Gridley Township, where he was engaged in farming pursuits until the spring of 1884, when he abandoned farming, and removing to Lexington is now living retired from active labor. He still owns the farm, which consists of 235 acres well fenced and under fine cultivation, with thirty-five acres of valuable timber. During his later years on the farm, he engaged quite extensively in the stock business.

Mr. and Mrs. Flesher have three children: Susan C., the wife of Charles Drury; Sarah L., Mrs. George W. Ogden, and Jennie, at home with her parents. Our subject and his wife are members in good standing of the United Brethren Church and are numbered among the most worthy and highly esteemed residents of Lexington.



**I**SAIAH DILLON, importer and breeder of French draft horses, at Normal, is the son of Aaron and Melinda (Hodgson) Dillon, and a native of Illinois, being born in Tazewell County, on the 25th of May, 1834. Two years later his parents died, leaving two children, himself and his younger brother, Levi. Our subject was reared in the family of his uncle, James Fuller, of Tazewell County, until thirteen years of age and then became the inmate of the family of another uncle, Ellis Dillon. He received a common-school education, assisted in tilling the soil, and as he had the care of a large number of horses, became not only a lover of that noble animal, but a good judge of it as well.

Our subject remained an inmate of the home of

Mr. Ellis Dillon until he was twenty years of age, and the following year was united in marriage with Miss Mary Fisher, like himself a native of Tazewell County. Mrs. Dillon is the daughter of Jesse and Achsah Fisher, who made that county their home for a number of years, and with whom the daughter remained until her marriage with our subject. They located upon 160 acres of land which young Dillon had previously purchased, and engaged in farming pursuits. Three years later, in company with his brother, he purchased a half interest in "Old Louis Napoleon," the first Norman horse brought into the United States from France, imported in 1851, by Fullington & Martin, of Union County, Ohio. He was sold by Fullington & Martin to A. P. Cushman, of De Witt County, Ill., from whom he was purchased by the Dillon Bros. He was sixteen hands high, and his average weight was 1,650 pounds. He was awarded many premiums and was last exhibited at the Illinois State Fair in 1861, together with 112 of his colts and grandcolts. When, in 1858, Mr. Dillon and his brother invested \$1,000 for a half interest in the horse, their friends were unanimous in declaring it a great mistake, which would surely lead them on to ruin; but it was only a few years before others desired to be "ruined" in a like manner. Mr. Dillon subsequently purchased the other half interest, and then allowed his uncle, Ellis Dillon, an interest also, and thus the firm of E. Dillon & Co. sprang into existence, although they little suspected how extensive and profitable would become their enterprise. "Old Louis Napoleon" died Aug. 13, 1871, at the age of twenty-three years.

In 1863 Isaiah Dillon sold his farm in Tazewell County, and the following January purchased 160 acres of land near the city limits of Normal, on which he resided until 1883, since which time he has made his home within the city. He was a member of the firm of E. Dillon & Co. during its entire existence, and as such made nine trips to France after horses. In 1882 he associated with him in business his three sons, Melvin F., Leo A. and Alpheus A., as partners, but the business is being conducted under the name and style of Dillon Bros. They now have forty-nine full-blooded mares, and will, in the future, breed their own

stock. Mr. Dillon is also largely interested in the Northwest Texas Norman Horse Company, of Albany, Tex., where the company own 18,000 acres of land, and have their ranch stocked with over 4,500 head of horses. Mr. Dillon has been remarkably successful in business and now enjoys a competency. He has been an upright, useful member of society, was formerly a Republican in politics, but is now a Prohibitionist. In religious matters he gives his principal support and encouragement to the Christian Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Dillon became the parents of six children, as follows: Melvin F., Leo A., Alpheus A.; Carrie A., now Mrs. Oris Milliken; Jessie M. and Roy H. The family residence is beautifully located, and both within and without is indicative of cultivated tastes and ample means. The family are highly esteemed in the community, and enjoy the friendship of the first people of McLean County.

**G**EORGE W. KNOTTS, one of the oldest merchants of Lexington, has continued the longest in this business of any gentleman now in the place. He is a native of West Virginia, his birthplace being near Clarksburg, Harrison County, and the date thereof March 21, 1814. His father, Levi Knotts, a native of Maryland, was of English ancestry, and engaged in mercantile pursuits the greater part of his life. In early manhood he was married to Miss Rebeeca Fling, a native of the Old Dominion, and they located there and passed the remainder of their lives. They became the parents of twelve children, ten daughters and two sons, all of whom lived to be men and women, married, and had families of their own, and scattered among different States and Territories.

George W. Knotts was the youngest of his parents' family, and spent his childhood and youth under the home roof, receiving a fair education in the subscription schools. When twelve years old he began to serve his apprenticeship at the tailor's trade in Clarksburg, which occupation he followed for twenty-five years. He worked for a time in his native State as journeyman, and while a young man removed to Ohio in 1838, stopping in Mt.

Sterling, Madison County. He was there married in 1840 to Miss Annis Gregory, and continued at his trade until the fall of 1844, when he removed with his family to McLean County, Ill. Here he located in Bloomington, and was employed by D. D. Haggard in the clothing business. He continued in Bloomington about seven years and in the spring of 1852 removed with his family to Lexington, where he opened a store and has carried on a trade in general merchandise since that time.

Mr. Knotts, since coming to Lexington, has thoroughly identified himself with its business interests and has taken an interest in everything pertaining to the welfare of the community. He was appointed Postmaster by President Lincoln in 1862, serving three years and then resigning the position. In 1884 he was again appointed under Arthur's administration and held the office until the 1st of July, 1886. He has also served as Justice of the Peace and in other respects has been prominently identified with public affairs. In former years he was an old-line Whig but now uniformly casts his vote with the Republican party.

Mrs. Annis G. Knotts was the daughter of Jehial Gregory of Mt. Sterling, Ohio, and by her marriage with our subject became the mother of nine children, all of whom are deceased but two daughters: Helen M. is the wife of F. M. Smith of Lexington, and Emma G. remains with her parents at home. Mr. Knotts belongs to Lexington Lodge No. 482, A. F. & A. M. He cast his first presidential vote for Gen. Harrison and has voted for every Whig and Republican candidate for President since that time.

**S**AMUEL A. STOOPS is Supervisor of Blue Mound Township, and owns a comfortable homestead on section 32. He is the son of John Stoops, who was born in Westmoreland County, Pa., and in early manhood married Miss Rosanna Kephart, of Maryland. After this event they settled in Fayette County, Ky., near Blue Lick Springs, where they lived a few years and then removed to Marion County, Ind., settling just east of Indianapolis, where the father followed agricultural pursuits and where both parents passed



the remainder of their days. John Stoops departed this life in 1854, the mother surviving until February, 1881. Their eleven children consisted of six sons and five daughters.

The subject of this history, the third child of his parents, was born in Fayette County, Ky., April 22, 1831, and was but two years old when his parents removed to Marion County, Ind., where, after becoming of suitable age, he attended the common schools, receiving a limited education. He remained under the parental roof until he was twenty years old, then set out to "paddle his own canoe." His first journey landed him in Fulton County, Ill., where he located, and remained twelve months, then returned home and commenced to learn the trade of wagon-making. After gaining a good insight into the business he established a shop of his own in Ipava, Ill., which he carried on for twelve years, then, wishing to change his occupation, he purchased a farm in Fulton County, which, however, he sold after a year, and in the spring of 1867 made his advent into McLean County. Here he purchased 120 acres of land, to which he has since added forty acres, and which constitutes his present homestead. This he has greatly improved with good fencing and an excellent set of farm buildings, and has also brought the land under a good state of cultivation. A view of the place is presented on another page.

After going into Fulton County, Ill., our subject made the acquaintance of Miss Eleanor Clanin, which ripened into mutual esteem and affection, and their marriage was celebrated on the 21st of September, 1854. Mrs. S. was born April 9, 1834, in Hamilton County, Ohio, being the daughter of Alford and Edith Clanin, and the eldest of a family of five children. Her parents were also natives of that county. Of the five children born to our subject and his wife the record is as follows: Artha A., born June 22, 1856, is the wife of Henry Ellington, and lives in Colfax, Ill.; La Salle, born Sept. 19, 1858, married Miss Libbie Brown, who died in Colfax in October, 1886; Elma, born Aug. 31, 1862, is the wife of Frederiek Boston, and they are residents of Old Town Township; Theodore, born Sept. 17, 1867, and Amy J., July 5, 1871, are at home with their parents. Our subject and his

wife are worthy members and liberal supporters of the Methodist Church. Politically Mr. S. belongs to the Republican party. He was elected to his present office in the spring of 1882, and has held it continuously since that time. He has also served as School Director, Trustee and Assessor.



**JONES BROS.** Cyrus H. and Lewis Jones, prominent grain-dealers, living at Belleflower, and Percival G., who is located at Le Roy, are the sons of Isaac W. Jones, one of the pioneers of De Witt County, this State. The father was born in Clarke County, Ohio, Nov. 2, 1811, being the son of Stephen and Jemima Jones, who descended from Welsh and English ancestry. The Jones family were early settlers of Clarke County, Ohio, whence they removed, in 1821, to Indiana, remaining in that State ten years. In the spring of 1831 they started overland for Illinois. They first settled four miles west of the present site of Waynesville, which was then included in McLean County. There Stephen Jones purchased a tract of land, and established a comfortable farm homestead, where he spent the remainder of his days. He lived to see the wilderness transformed into smiling homes, and took a deep interest in the growth of his adopted State. His death occurred in 1855.

Isaac W. Jones was ten years of age when his parents removed to Indiana. He followed them when they came to this State, and remained under the parental roof until his marriage, in 1834, when he located with his young wife three and one-half miles northeast of Waynesville, De Witt County. There he entered 120 acres of wild land, which, however, he did not take possession of at once, but hired twelve acres broken, and spent the first summer after his marriage on the old homestead of his father. In the fall he raised a tent on his land, which the young couple occupied while the husband erected a log cabin. They lived in this humble dwelling three years, and then Isaac Jones erected a frame house, the second one in that locality. His nearest grain market for a number of years was Pekin, which involved a journey of three

and one-half days in making the round trip. Wild game was plenty, deer roamed in sight of the house, and the wolves chased their chickens to the door. Isaac Jones lived there with his family until 1857, when he sold out and removed to Funk's Grove Township. He had been prosperous in his farm labors, and now purchased about 400 acres of land in the latter-named place, which he made his permanent home, his death occurring Sept. 18, 1868.

The wife of Isaac W. Jones, who still survives him, was formerly Miss Elmira McLaughlin. She was born in Champaign County, Ohio, Aug. 12, 1817, and was the daughter of James W. McLaughlin, a native of Scotland, who came to America with his father, Duncan McLaughlin, when a small boy. They located first in Pennsylvania, whence they removed to Ohio, and the father served in the War of 1812. James W. McLaughlin was reared to manhood in the Buckeye State, and was there married to Miss Jemima Stretch, a native of Kentucky. She died in 1827, and Mrs. Jones, wife of Isaac W., then went to live with an older sister, who afterward married James Cantrill, and with them came to Illinois in 1833. Of her marriage with Isaac Jones there are the following-named children living: Ann Eliza, the wife of Enoch Passwaters, lives in Randolph Township; Cyrus H. is a resident of Belleflower Township; Sylvira is the wife of Peter M. Vreeland, and they live near Gibson, Ill.; Lewis lives in Belleflower; Isaac A. is a practicing physician at Bellevue, Idaho; William W. lives in Ford County, Ill.; Elmira, Mrs. Stephen Cunningham, lives at Wichita, Kan. Mrs. Jones lived on the old homestead in Funk's Grove Township until 1881, then removed to Belleflower and thence, in January, 1887, removed to Le Roy, of which she is now a resident. She has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church since a young girl sixteen years of age. Her husband in his political views was strongly Democratic.

Cyrus H. Jones, the eldest of the three sons of Isaac and Elmira Jones, was born in De Witt County, Ill., on the 7th of March, 1841, and was sixteen years of age when his parents removed to Funk's Grove Township. He attended the pioneer schools of De Witt County, and later entered Wes-

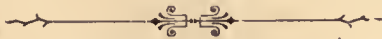
leyan University at Bloomington. He remained an inmate of the parental home until 1865, then purchased a farm one mile from his father's homestead, which he operated until 1871. Then, selling out, he purchased a farm in De Witt County, which he cultivated and occupied until 1882, then formed a partnership with his brother, Lewis, and taking up his abode in Belleflower Township, engaged as a dealer in grain and stock. He was married in 1885, to Miss Tillie Green, of Ohio. He is an active and enterprising citizen, highly respected, and with his wife is prominently connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Lewis Jones was born in Waynesville, De Witt Co., Ill., Sept. 1, 1845, and was twelve years old when his parents removed to this county. He was reared on the farm, and commenced his education in the district schools, completing his studies in a select school at Heyworth. During the progress of the late war he enlisted, in March, 1864, in Co. D, 145th Ill. Vol. Inf., with the 100 days' men, receiving his honorable discharge with his comrades in the fall of that year. He commenced business when twenty-one years of age, as a live-stock dealer, being successful from the start. In 1869 he purchased a good farm on section 16, Belleflower Township, but remained a resident of Funk's Grove Township until 1871, then removed to his farm, which he still owns and operates. In addition to general agriculture he is engaged largely in feeding and shipping stock, the proceeds of which furnish him a fine income. In 1882 he removed to the village of Belleflower, having formed a partnership with his brother Cyrus, and since that time the firm has operated extensively in both grain and stock.

The marriage of Lewis Jones and Miss Ellen Moore was celebrated in Mt. Hope Township, this county, on the 5th of September, 1871. Mrs. J. was born in that township, and is the daughter of Jacob and Bethial Moore, who came to this locality in the pioneer days. Of this union there have been born four children—Grace B., Percival W., Lulu F. and Sarah Edith. Lewis J. is also noted for his enterprising industry, and is contributing his full share to the industrial interests of this section. He is Democratic in politics.

Percival G. Jones, the youngest member of the

firm, was born in Funk's Grove Township, this county, Aug. 11, 1858. Like his brothers he was reared on the family homestead, pursued his first studies in the district schools, and completed them in Normal University. He followed farming on the old homestead until 1881, then removing to Belleflower, engaged in merchandising with his brother-in-law, Mr. Cunningham. He operated thus until the fall of 1885, during which time he also served as Postmaster. Then, on account of failing health, he sold out his interest in the business, and in January, 1887, removed to Le Roy, becoming associated with his brothers in the grain business, and is contributing his full share toward sustaining the reputation of the firm. He was married, Oct. 10, 1882, to Miss Anna E. Loveless, who was born in Delaware County, Ohio, Sept. 2, 1865, and is the daughter of Daniel and Mary J. (Warford) Loveless. They have one child, a daughter, Ethel Elmira, who was born in Belleflower, in 1885.



**J**OHAN H. MARSH, a young and enterprising farmer of Belleflower Township, is pleasantly located on section 8, town 21, and has already identified himself among the representative and progressive citizens of this locality. He is a native of Lawrenceburg Township, Dearborn Co., Ind., and was born about one mile from the town of that name, April 27, 1853. His father, J. Huron Marsh, was a native of the same township and county, and his grandfather, David Marsh, emigrated to Indiana in an early day, and was one of the pioneer settlers of Dearborn County. He purchased a tract of uncultivated land, improved the same, and made it his home until his death, in 1841. Upon this farm J. Huron, the father of our subject, was reared, and remained under the parental roof until he attained his majority. He was married in early manhood and inherited a part of the homestead, the whole of which finally became his by purchase. Here he spent his entire life, his decease occurring Nov. 21, 1869.

The mother of our subject, before her marriage, was Miss Sallie A. Blasdel, a native of the same

county as her husband and the daughter of Elijah Blasdel. Her great-grandfather, Jacob Blasdel, a native of Massachusetts, removed to Ohio in 1799, settling near Cincinnati, then an embryo town, whence he removed to the Territory of Indiana in 1805. He became prominent among the earlier settlers of that region, and it is believed built the first saw and grist mill in that State. He soon afterward put up a rude school-house, and in 1811, with other settlers, built a fort for protection against the savages. Before the admission of Indiana into the Union Mr. B. was one of the first to circulate a petition that it be admitted as a free State, which was done by one majority. He improved a farm and lived there until his death. His wife, formerly Miss Ruth Morse, was a native of New Hampshire, where they first settled after marriage. Here the grandfather of our subject, Elijah Blasdel, was born, and was quite young when his parents removed to Indiana. He was reared in the latter State, engaged in farming pursuits and there spent the remainder of his days. The mother survived her husband several years and died at the home of her son, Elijah B., in McPherson County, Kan., Oct. 5, 1882. Their five children were all sons, of whom three only grew to manhood. David W. lives in Bloomington, Ill. and the youngest, Elijah B., in McPherson County, Kan.

John H. Marsh was reared on his father's farm in Indiana, and received a fair education in the common schools. He remained on the homestead after the death of his father, until 1875, then coming to McLean County, Ill., purchased 160 acres of land on the northwest quarter of section 8, Belleflower Township. His purchase included no buildings or trees, and he has brought about a great change since he took possession of it. He now has a good farm residence, with barn and out-buildings, and has planted fruit and shade trees. The premises in all respects is desirable and comfortable, and indicates the enterprise and industry of the proprietor.

Mr. Marsh was married, Feb. 25, 1874, to Miss Lida Leming, who was born in Miller Township, Dearborn Co., Ind., April 6, 1857, and they have one child, Archie L., born Oct. 20, 1877. Her father, Hiram J. Leming, was a native also of Dearborn County, and her grandfather, John Leming,

one of the pioneers of that county, located in Miller Township, where he spent the last years of his life. There the father of Mrs. M. grew to manhood, married and settled, and has always lived in his native township. He married Miss Pamela Foster, who was a native of Virginia, and both parents are yet living. Mrs. Marsh is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and our subject, politically, is a staunch Republican.



**T**HOMAS HATFIELD is one of the most thrifty farmers to be found in Towanda Township, and has a fine place of 235 acres of valuable land on section 7, where he makes his home. His parents were Samuel and Salina (Harris) Hatfield, natives of Ohio. Settling in Montgomery County, that State, after marriage, they there continued to reside until their death, having reared a family of three children.

Thomas Hatfield was the eldest of his parents' children, and was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, Aug. 4, 1827. He received a common-school education in his native county and lived with the old folk, assisting in the labors on the farm until he was twenty-three years of age. He was then married, and continued farming in his native county for about three years, or until 1853. During that year he came to McLean County, accompanied by his wife and one child, and settled in Randolph Township, on a farm which he purchased. He was engaged in agricultural pursuits at that place for eleven years, when he disposed of it by sale and purchased another, located in Dry Grove Township. On that place he lived and labored for sixteen years, and then bought the farm on which he is at present residing in Towanda Township, and a view of which is shown on another page of this work. The land is under an advanced state of cultivation and he is meeting with financial success.

Mr. Hatfield was married in Montgomery County, Ohio, Nov. 7, 1850, to Johanna, the daughter of David N. and Hannah (Moek) Gaff, the former a native of Pennsylvania, and the latter of Greene County, Ohio. The father died in 1831 in the latter named county, where they had settled after

marriage. She subsequently married John Calhoun, and they emigrated to this State and took up their residence at Decatur, where he died. After his death she came to McLean County, where she is at present residing, having attained to the advanced age of eighty-one years. Mrs. Hatfield was the youngest of her parents' three children and was born in Greene County, Ohio, June 3, 1830. Of her union with our subject four children—Didema, Josephine, Charles S. and James E.—have been born. Didema is the wife of Charles Strimple, and they are living in Dry Grove Township; Josephine became the wife of L. H. Munsell, and they are living at Sedalia, Mo.; Charles S. and Miss Hattie Webb were united in marriage, and they reside at Bloomington, Ill.; James married Miss Abbie Jones, and is a farmer of Towanda Township. Mr. Hatfield has held the office of School Director, and religiously is a member of the United Brethren Church, while his wife holds fellowship with the Methodist Episcopal. In politics Mr. Hatfield is a staunch Republican.



**G**EORGE W. BINGHAM, of Blue Mound Township, has been a resident of the Prairie State since a child of three years old. He was born in New York State, March 22, 1838, being the son of George J. and Amanda (Warner) Bingham, of New England, who after marriage settled in the Empire State, where the father of our subject engaged extensively in the lumber business. In about 1841 he came to Lake County, Ill., where he engaged in farming until the spring of 1855, then removed to this county, settling in Padua Township, where he departed this life Feb. 22, 1879. The mother died in July, 1882. They had a family of ten children, who lived to maturity, while several others died in infancy.

Our subject came to this county with his parents, and with the exception of three years' service in the army, lived at home until his marriage. He enlisted as a Union soldier in August, 1862, in Co. D, 94th Ill. Vol. Inf., serving until the close of the war and receiving his honorable discharge at Springfield, Ill. Upon his return from the army, he re-

sumed farming on the old homestead until January, 1876, when he settled with his wife on section 32, Blue Mound Township, where he has since lived. He has brought about great improvements since taking possession of his farm, the land being under fine cultivation, and upon it a good set of farm buildings. He is also the owner of forty acres in Blue Mound Township and sixty in Padua, all improved.

Mr. Bingham was married in Padua Township, May 5, 1875, to Miss Hannah J., daughter of Henry and Deborah (Searles) Bedell, who were natives of Greene County, N. Y. They removed from the Empire State in the spring of 1861, and settled in Padua Township, this county, where the father died March 21, 1884. The mother is still living. Mrs. Bingham was the eldest of their seven children and was born in Greene County, N. Y., March 4, 1841. Our subject has held various offices in his township, and in politics was formerly a Republican, but now is greatly interested in the success of the temperance movement, and latterly has arrayed himself on the side of the Prohibitionists. Both he and his wife are members of the Society of Friends.

A lithographic view of Mr. Bingham's residence is shown on another page of this work.



**D**AVID L. MEYERS, Supervisor of Gridley Township, is also engaged there as a hardware merchant, which business he has carried on successfully and profitably since 1876, and has become one of the important factors in the business interests of the town.

Mr. Meyers is a native of Stettin, Germany, and was born May 5, 1832. His parents were David L. and Barbara (Swartz) Meyers, natives of Germany, where the father carried on a vineyard and dealt largely in the fruit of the vine. The mother died in Germany in 1840, and the father in 1876. Of their four children, John and Barbara are deceased, Christopher carries on a vineyard in Germany, and David L. is the sole representative of the family in this country.

Mr. Meyers received a good common-school

education in his native land, and when twenty years old set sail for the United States, landing in New York City, whence he soon afterward proceeded to Wayne County, Ohio, where he was employed as a farm laborer for four years. In 1856 he started farther westward, and coming into this State located in Will County, where he worked on a farm one year and then, renting a tract of land, farmed for himself. After two years he rented a farm in Tazewell County, Ill., near Washington, which he cultivated three years. He then purchased a farm in Henry County, this State, upon which he lived one year, then sold out and moved into the village of Annawan, Henry Co., Ill., and engaged in the lumber trade, first as an employe and subsequently as proprietor of the yard. This he operated three years and then, purchasing a stock of hardware, engaged in trade at El Paso, Ill., in company with George and Samuel Zinser. They operated together for six years following, and after continuing in business at that place for three years longer he, in 1874, removed his stock of goods to Gridley, and in company with Henry Sneerer carried on the business at that place. Mr. Meyers became sole proprietor of this in 1877, since which time he has continued alone. He controls a good trade and is classed among the model business men of the town.

The marriage of David L. Meyers and Miss Catherine Zinser was celebrated in Washington, Ill., on the 6th of January, 1860. Mrs. M. was born in Piekaway County, Ohio, and died one year after her marriage, on the anniversary of her wedding day. On the 13th of January, 1862, Mr. Meyers was a second time married, his present wife having been Miss Mary Zinser, a sister of his first wife. Of this latter union there were born three children, of whom George and Edwin died in infancy. Edward L. lives at home. Our subject and his family occupy a good residence in the village, and are greatly esteemed by the people of their community. He was elected Supervisor in April, 1886, and has been a member of the Village Board for several years and also served as School Director. Both Mr. and Mrs. M. are members of the Evangelical Church, and politically our subject is a staunch Republican.

In 1872 Mr. Meyers visited his native land and spent three months among his old friends and acquaintances. During the war he took two horses to Peoria, intending to dispose of them and enlist in the army, but not being able to sell them, returned to his home.



**W**ILLIAM B. HENLINE. The Henline property is the pride of Lawndale Township, and its proprietors are its most valued and estimable citizens. The subject of this sketch is a son of one of its earliest pioneers, John Henline, who pushed his way dauntlessly into an uncultivated country, and has left behind him a record of which his descendants may well be proud.

William B., youngest son and child of John and Mary Henline, first opened his eyes to the light in Boone County, Ky., Dec. 20, 1823. Five years later his parents removed to McLean County, Ill., where our subject has spent the greater part of his life. He was reared to farming pursuits, received a limited education in the pioneer schools and remained under the home roof until he was twenty-seven years of age. He was fond of books, read extensively, and became the possessor of a fund of useful knowledge concerning matters of general interest, and of business especially. In the meantime he became acquainted with the minutest details of pioneer life. When first coming to this section the Indians were still in the vicinity, and the young braves were often the playmates of the little Henlines. The family occupied the primitive log-cabin, were sustained by simple fare, and clothed with "homespun;" but there is no doubt they were as happy and more contented than the people of to-day with their more luxurious surroundings. In the fall of 1830 the family made a brief visit to Kentucky after farming implements and other necessities, and the mother of our subject put a lot of apple sprouts in a stocking with some earth, and thus transported the embryo orchard, which was afterward of inestimable service to the family, and is still standing on the old Henline place in Lawndale Township.

The winter following was made memorable by

the deep snow. During that fearful season the Henlines saw no living person outside their own family for six weeks. The youth and boyhood of our subject and his brother David were filled with interesting incidents, enough to make a good-sized volume. They remember the vehicles of the men who came over the country to speculate and buy land—which vehicles corresponded admirably with the men themselves; and the latter computed distances by tying a rag to a wagon wheel and counting the revolutions.

The youths of those days usually set about the establishment of a home and domestic ties early in life, but William Henline was behind them in this respect—this probably being the only instance in which he was ever delinquent. He was nearly thirty years of age when, in the spring of 1853, he was united in marriage with Miss Jane, the daughter of Hosea Wright, Esq. They settled upon a tract of land on section 29, in Lawndale Township, which our subject had entered from the Government. This consisted of 320 acres, which he improved and cultivated industriously for many years, and which has now become a valuable farm. Of this he is still the possessor, in company with his brother David, the two being joint proprietors of 2,500 acres, which they utilize in their business as extensive stock dealers. Our subject has been engaged thus for thirty-five years past, shipping annually from 1,200 to 1,500 head of cattle. He has been a successful man in his business transactions, but in 1870 lost heavily by becoming security for his friends, himself and his brother having to pay on this account \$27,000 and interest. Besides dealing in cattle and hogs, they have given considerable attention to Norman horses. Of late they have rented their farm, and the magnitude of their operations may be better comprehended when we state the fact that their share of the crops frequently amounts to 20,000 bushels of corn annually. They have seven tenants on their land, and both brothers also live on the farm.

Of the first marriage of Mr. Henline there were born two children—John D., now in business for himself, and Almira A., the wife of John L. Bozarth, a resident of Seward County, Kan. The mother of these children departed this life in 1861,



W. B. Henline



Jane Henline





and five years later Mr. H. married his present wife, who was formerly Miss Jane, the daughter of Aaron Moon, and born in Madison County, Ohio, in 1827.

Some interesting incidents in the parental history of our subject may be found in the sketch of David Henline, on another page in this work. When John Henline came with his family from Kentucky the country was thinly populated, and wild game was abundant. The parents were married in the Blue Grass regions. John Henline was born Nov. 7, 1787, and died at the homestead in Lawndale Township on the 26th of July, 1869. His wife, who in her girlhood was Miss Mary Darnell, was born Jan. 12, 1791, and preceded her husband to the better land, her death occurring Nov. 28, 1865.

Mr. Henline, besides being among the first settlers of this region, is one of the most valued citizens of Lawndale Township, contributing his full quota toward the advancement of its agricultural interests. To such men as himself is due the present status of one of the most wealthy and prosperous counties of the Prairie State. Mr. H. is now in the sixty-fourth year of his age, still hale and hearty, with abundant capacity for enjoying the good things of life. Politically he is a Jacksonian Democrat, and clings tenaciously to the doctrines of the old leader.

The history of McLean County would be considered incomplete without the portrait of William Henline, which we here present, and also that of his wife, Mrs. Jane (Moon) Henline, who has been the kind and sensible companion of her husband for over a quarter of a century.



**A**RTHUR S. CATRON, one of the well-known citizens of Towanda Township, and a grain and stock dealer at Merna, also a farmer and stock-raiser by vocation, is pleasantly located on his fine place on section 25, a view of which appears on another page of this work. He is the son of Israel M. and Savina (Smith) Catron, the former a native of Virginia, and the latter of Tennessee. Arthur Smith, father

of our subject's mother, was one of the early settlers of Fulton County, Ill., and was a soldier in the Black Hawk War. Israel Catron and his wife both came to that county prior to their marriage and while yet young in years. They were married there, and lived on a farm in that county until her death, which took place in 1844. He is yet living, and resides near Des Moines, Polk Co., Iowa. Three children were born to them—Arthur S., Nancy E. and George E.

Arthur S. Catron was born in Fulton County, Aug. 24, 1839. He received his education in the common schools of that county, and lived on his father's farm until he was nineteen years old, after which he followed different occupations until 1861. October 11 of that year he enlisted in the 2d Iowa Cavalry, and served his country faithfully and well for nearly four years. He enlisted as a private and was promoted First Sergeant. On the expiration of his term of enlistment he returned to Des Moines, Iowa, and shortly afterward engaged in mercantile pursuits at Ipava, Ill. There he continued for about a year, when, disposing of his interests in the store, he rented a farm, and for about a year followed that vocation. In the spring of 1868 he came to this county, and purchased 160 acres of land in Blue Mound Township. He has remained a resident of this county since that time, and has owned various tracts of land in different parts of the county, until he is now the proprietor of 233 acres in Towanda and Blue Mound Townships.

Mr. Catron was married in Fulton County, Ill., July 12, 1866, to Mary S. Lacey, daughter of John and Chloe (Hurd) Lacey, natives of Tompkins County, N. Y. Her parents settled in that State after their marriage, whence they removed to Michigan, and then came to this State, and took up their residence in Fulton County. She died there in January, 1879, and he is yet living in that county, having attained the venerable age of eighty-three years. They had nine children—Lyman, Harriett, Elizabeth, Phebe A., John W., Adelia A., Susanna, Richard and Mary S. Mrs. Catron was born in Fulton County, Ill., April 25, 1849. Her union with our subject has been productive of eight children—Manning C., Roscoe M.,

Arthur B., Lyman C., Baird D., Mary D., Bruce H. and John Norvil. Manning and Lyman are deceased. Mr. Catron was elected Justice of the Peace in the spring of 1886. He has held several of the minor offices in his township, and in politics is a staunch Republican. Socially he is a member of the G. A. R., holding fellowship with Post No. 146, of Bloomington. Lyman Lacey, eldest brother of Mrs. Lacey, of this notice, has held the office of Circuit Judge of Tazewell, Mason, De Witt and Logan Counties for many years, and is now on the Appellate bench.



**W**ILLIAM SCOTT ARNOLD, of Blue Mound Township, and the second child of William M. and Ellen C. (Bull) Arnold, is a native of the Prairie State, born in Woodford County, Nov. 17, 1843. His parents were both natives of Indiana, and after their marriage settled in Owen County, where they lived until about 1845. They then moved westward and settled in Tazewell County, this State, whence they came to McLean County, in 1852, settling in Lexington Township. There the father died the following year; the mother still survives. Their four children were, Esther M., William Scott, Missouri A. and Minter P.

The subject of this history was a lad nine years old when his parents came into this county. He received a common-school education and lived at home until he was eighteen years old. Then, the late war being in progress, he enlisted in Co. C, 94th Ill. Vol. Inf., in which he served three years and received an honorable discharge at the close. He was mustered out at Springfield, Ill., and at once returned to his home in this county.

For five years after having been converted from a soldier to a civilian, Mr. Arnold carried on farming pursuits in this county, and in the fall of 1871 removed to Bloomington and engaged in mercantile business. In the latter part of 1872 he engaged in the sale of agricultural machinery in Bloomington, in which business he continued until the fall of 1883. He then disposed of his business

and returned to Blue Mound Township, to his old farm, where he has since remained.

The present homestead of our subject comprises one half section of improved land, upon which he has erected a beautiful residence, second to none in McLean County. His barns and other improvements are in keeping with the dwelling. The farm operations are carried on systematically, and the fences, buildings and machinery kept in good repair.

The marriage of William Scott Arnold and Miss Mattie E. Story was celebrated in Bloomington, Ill., Oct. 25, 1866. Mrs. Arnold was born in 1846, and is the daughter of Palmer and Mary A. (Morris) Story, natives respectively of England and Pennsylvania. They first settled in Ohio, on the Muskingum River, whence they emigrated to De Witt County, Ill., in 1836; and from there, in 1853, came to Bloomington, where they still reside. Mrs. A. was the eighth child of a family of nine and was born in De Witt County, Ill., Nov. 29, 1846.

Mr. and Mrs. Arnold have become the parents of six children, namely, William L., Hettie M., Oliver S., Alfred S., Katie L. and Mattie E. Mrs. A. is a member in good standing of the Methodist Church, and our subject politically belongs to the Republican party. He enjoys the confidence and esteem of his fellow townsmen, as exhibited in their election of him to numerous offices and places of trust.



**E**LIAS B. JOHNSON, one of the respected and prosperous farmers of Blue Mound Township, is a native of Saratoga County, N. Y., born Oct. 21, 1833. He is the son of Lemuel and Lydia (Rowley) Johnson, the former a native of New England, and the latter of New York State, in which latter they settled after their marriage. In 1851 they removed to Fulton County, Ill., when their son, our subject, was about eighteen years of age. Lemuel Johnson was a shoemaker by trade, but after locating in the Prairie State, turned his attention to farming. He established a comfortable home in Fulton County, where

his death occurred April 16, 1860; the mother also died there in about 1873.

Of the ten children in the parental family Elias B. Johnson was the seventh. He was reared to farming pursuits, and lived with his parents in Fulton County until 1869, when he came into Blue Mound Township, this county, and purchased eighty acres of land on section 21, which comprises a part of his present homestead. He has brought about great changes in the original condition of his purchase, and has added to its extent until he is now the owner of 240 acres, all improved and under a good state of cultivation. He has also erected a fine set of farm buildings, which he keeps in good repair. Everything about the premises, including the stock and machinery, is carefully looked after, and the homestead in all respects indicates the supervision of an intelligent and progressive mind. A view of the place is shown on another page.

Mr. Johnson was first married in Fulton County, Ill., Nov. 27, 1856, to Miss Phœbe Lacey, who was a native of Michigan. One of their children, Juliett E., died in infancy; the other, Lyman H., is a resident of Blue Mound. Mrs. Phœbe Johnson, who was the companion of her husband but three years, died in November, 1859. Our subject was again married, in Fulton County, Ill., Dec. 31, 1863, to Miss Emma, daughter of William B. and Sabina (Rowland) White, who was born in Virginia, Oct. 24, 1843. Of this marriage there were four children, one of whom died in infancy; those surviving are Elmer H., Eva S. and Roy W. Mr. Johnson has held various offices in his township, and uniformly casts his vote with the Democratic party.



**J**OHNSON DAWSON, a prominent and successful farmer of Lexington Township, was born in Madison County, near the village of Mt. Sterling, Ohio, on the 4th of December, 1820. His father, James R. Dawson, was a native of Bourbon County, Ky., born in 1794, and followed agricultural pursuits. The Dawson family were of Welsh extraction and emigrated to America during the first settlement of Virginia. The mother of our subject was Miss Mary, the daughter

of Albert and Margaret Ogden, an old and wealthy family of much influence in New York.

James R. Dawson became a resident of Madison County, Ohio, when a youth of fifteen years, and was married in 1817. He first farmed on rented land and then purchased 150 acres which he cultivated and occupied until 1831. He then removed with his family to Illinois, and coming into McLean County in the fall of 1832 settled on a farm near the timber, one and one-half miles southwest of what is now the town site of Lexington, where he made a purchase of 240 acres and began its improvement and cultivation. The purchase of this exhausted most of his ready means, but he was an excellent financier, turning everything to good account, and became very successful in his farming and business transactions. Three years after locating upon this homestead the family met with a severe affliction in the death of the wife and mother in 1837. The children, however, were mostly grown to mature years, and were twelve in number, nine boys and three girls. All are living, the youngest being past forty-five years. James R. Dawson departed this life April 11, 1848.

John Dawson was about twelve years of age when his parents left Ohio for Illinois. Most of his education was carried on in the Buckeye State, as there was no school in this vicinity at the time of his coming here, and he early commenced assisting his father in the labors of the farm. When twenty-two years old he started out in business for himself upon eighty acres of raw prairie, which his father had purchased for him, and at the time of his marriage, two years later, was enabled to offer to his bride a comfortable home. This lady was Miss Arramintia Adams. She was born in Boone County, Ky., and was the daughter of Mathew Adams, who removed from the Blue Grass region to McLean County in 1838. Our subject was prospered in his farming operations and fortunate in his investments, and in due time found himself the possessor of 600 acres of valuable land. Of this 400 acres was prairie, for which he paid \$20 per acre, and which furnished a fine range for the cattle which he afterward dealt in extensively, and realized a handsome income from his purchases and sales. During the first ten years he worked almost

night and day to establish himself upon a firm business footing and lay up something for a rainy day. In 1875, on account of failing health, he took a trip to California, where he remained four years and returned greatly improved, and since that time has lived comparatively retired. His possessions now consist of 340 acres of good land, a handsome and substantial farm dwelling, with a fine barn and all necessary out-buildings. Some of his property took wings on account of his going security to the amount of \$8,262.50, of which he had to pay 20 per cent, but he liquidated this debt of honor to the last penny, and is now living in the enjoyment of a competency.

Our subject and his wife became the parents of eight children, four sons and four daughters. Only two of the sons survive—Thomas A., who is married and a resident of Chenoa Township, and Orlando F., at home. Mr. Dawson politically is a Jeffersonian Democrat and uniformly votes to uphold the principles of his party.

Mr. Dawson is a member of the Christian Church and his wife belongs to the United Brethren.

The brothers and sisters which constitute the parental family of our subject are recorded as follows: Albert is a resident of Del Norte, Col.; John, of this county; Croghan and Samuel reside in Lexington, and George is in Kansas; Cynthia became the wife of Shadrach Kemp; Margaret married William Wroe, and resides in McLean County near Lexington; James M. lives in Chenoa Township; Lafayette is a Judge of the Territory of Alaska; Philander is in Kansas City, Mo.; Mary became the wife of Daniel Underwood, also of Kansas City.



**J**AMES V. McCULLOUGH, one of McLean County's prominent citizens and first-class farmers, resides on section 12, Lexington Township. His parents, Robert and Louisa (Moore) McCullough, were born in Washington County, Pa., where they lived until 1857. In the spring of that year they came to this county, first taking up their residence at Bloomington, where they

lived one year, then removed to a farm on section 1, in Lexington Township. There they lived and labored until the spring of 1868, when they removed to Normal Township, and after a residence there of six years returned to Lexington Township, where they made their home until their death. The father died in May, 1877, and the mother in December, 1882. Their nine children are recorded as follows: Obadiah is a farmer of Blue Mound Township; Robert was a member of the 20th Illinois Infantry, and died of typhoid fever at Mound City, Ill.; Mary J. is living in Blue Mound Township; James V., our subject, was the fourth child; Louisa died in Washington County, Pa., in 1856; Ard is a resident of Lexington Township; David died in Lexington Township in 1883; John is a resident of one of the western Territories, and Frances died in Lexington Township, in May, 1862.

Our subject was born in Washington County, Pa., June 2, 1846, and was about eleven years of age when his parents came to this county. Here he completed his schooling and was reared to the calling of a farmer, which vocation he has followed thus far in life, with the exception of the time he spent in the army. He enlisted Oct. 24, 1863, in the 8th Illinois Infantry, and served until May 4, 1866, when he returned to his home in Lexington Township and again entered upon the peaceful pursuits of farming. He is the owner of 180 acres of good land and is meeting with success in the prosecution of his vocation. Mr. McCullough was married in Bloomington, Ill., Jan. 23, 1877, to Miss Mary A., daughter of William and Eliza J. (Moore) Power, natives of Westmoreland County, Pa. The parents of Mrs. McCullough moved from Pennsylvania to this county in 1856. After living here a year, they went back to the Keystone State, where the mother died in 1858. The father again came to this county and has made this his home until the present time. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Power and named, Mary A., Jane C. and John M. Jane died in infancy and John is a resident of this county. Mrs. McCullough was born in Westmoreland County, Pa., Sept. 18, 1845, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of three children—Frances L., Linden, and one who died in infancy. Mr. Me-





ST. MARYS CATHOLIC COLLEGE, COR. LOCUST & CENTRE STS.

PASTORAL RESIDENCE.

ST. JOSEPH'S ACADEMY.

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, COR. CHESTNUT & MAIN STS (SHOWING SPIRE WHEN COMPLETED,) BLOOMINGTON, REV. M. WELDON, PRIEST.

Cullough has held the office of School Director of his township, and socially is a member of the G. A. R., belonging to Post No. 240, of Lexington. In politics he is a staunch Republican.



**R**EV. FATHER M. WELDON, Rector of the Holy Trinity Church of Bloomington, is one of the most highly respected citizens of this locality, and by his useful life and courteous demeanor has gathered around him a circle of warm friends, not alone including those of his own parish but embracing the community at large.

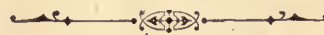
Father Weldon was born in the city of New Orleans, La., in 1845, received his education in Grand Seminary of that city, and was ordained in 1870, his first charge being in Jackson, La. On account of failing health he was forced to abandon it, and coming North, became an assistant in the parish of Monmouth, Ill., with which he was connected the following nine months. He was then transferred to Keithsburg, and after eleven months spent there, returned to Monmouth, whence, after ten months, he was sent to Bloomington, and has been Rector of the Catholic Church in this city since July 2, 1879.

Father Weldon found the church here in a gloomy condition, with an indebtedness of \$46,000 and the church building unfinished. Although realizing the heavy burden placed upon him, he at once set to work to retrieve the condition of his people here. His earnest zeal in the cause to which he had devoted his life and his excellent personal traits of character paved the way for his complete success in his undertaking. During the years following, besides relieving the church from a part of its indebtedness, he has effected the reseating of the building, put in steam heating apparatus, laid walks around the block included in the church property, which contains the parochial residence, school, etc., and in 1885 erected the present school building with all modern improvements. It was built of brick at a cost of \$21,582.85. In this he established a free parochial school, equipped with a force of ten Sisters as teachers, and which now has an attendance of 600 pupils. Connected with the

church is St. Joseph's Academy for girls, under the charge of Sister Emalda, Superior. The parish now includes about 500 families. Father Weldon has two assistants, Fathers Quinn and O'Dwyer.

The original church was built on the ground now occupied by the parochial residence, under the ministrations of Father O'Gara in about 1868. The edifice was destroyed by a hurricane, and the present church, commenced by Dr. McGovern, was enclosed by Father McDermott in 1878. By private subscriptions and favors Father Weldon, after building the school-house and adding other permanent improvements, has reduced the indebtedness to \$25,915.12. He prepares a general statement each year of the church and school for his people, so that they may be satisfied with the disbursement of funds and his management. In looking up the statements we find the following interesting facts: \$56,545.92 have been paid on permanent improvements, interest and old debt, and \$10,940 for educational purposes, making a grand total of \$67,485.92 expended for the work done for seven years. The present cost of the church property in this city, including the school and residence, is over \$135,000. A page view of the church, parsonage and school buildings is shown on an adjoining page.

Father Weldon has exhibited more than ordinary unselfishness in his labors, and his unostentatious life is worthy of the highest praise.



**C**ROGHAN DAWSON, an extensive landholder of this county and residing at Lexington, is entitled to a place among the old settlers of this county, having come here in December, 1832, from Madison County, Ohio, where he was born on a farm near Mt. Sterling, Oct. 10, 1822. The father of our subject, James R. Dawson, was a Kentuckian by birth, and first saw light in Bourbon County, in 1794. His father, grandfather of Croghan, was killed by the Indians while on his way from Virginia to Kentucky. The Dawsons were of Welsh extraction and the great-grandfather of our subject was born in Wales, but became a citizen of the United States, locating in Virginia. He was twice married, having sixteen

children by each of his two marriages—making him the father of thirty-two children. The strange part of it is that they all lived to attain the age of manhood and womanhood, and the father at the time of his demise had reached the age of one hundred and twenty-eight years. He dropped dead while carrying a basket of corn to his pigs.

James R. Dawson, the father of our subject, was a soldier in the War of 1812. He reared a family of twelve children, all of whom are living at this writing. He came to this county with his family in the fall of 1832, and settled on the south side of Mackinaw Creek in Money Creek Township, where he purchased two eighty-acre tracts of land. On this land he located with his family and engaged in farming, where he met with success and where he remained until his death, in April, 1848. The maiden name of his wife was Mary Ogden, daughter of Albert Ogden, of Ohio. She died in this county in about 1834. Of the twelve children, two are living in Kansas City; one in Alaska; the other nine in this county. La Fayette, the son living in Alaska, holds the position of Supreme Judge, to which he was appointed by President Cleveland. He is the only lawyer in the family.

Croghan Dawson is the third child of his parents, and was but ten years of age when he accompanied them to this county. His schooling thereafter was received in the pioneer log school-house, and his years were passed on his father's farm until he was twenty, when he went to work for himself. He had prior to this age, bought small tracts of land, and on becoming his own man, worked his land for a time, and finally traded it for an eighty-acre tract in Money Creek Township. On this he located and kept "bach" with his brother, John, until the latter was married; our subject then lived with him two years, and until concluding that he would join the army of benedicts himself, which he did on the 2d of February, 1847, being then married to Elizabeth Haner. Mrs. Dawson had been brought to this county from Ohio, by her parents in 1826, when an infant of three weeks old. After marriage, Mr. Dawson settled north of Lexington on a farm that he had improved while keeping "bach." On this place he engaged in general farming and stock-raising on a small scale, being

then the proprietor of but little of this world's goods. He soon sold this place to his brother John, and then entered 185 acres to which he afterward added forty acres, and where he made his home for fifteen years. He subsequently bought 467 acres more adjoining his farm, which gave him a total of 842 acres of land all in a body, and which he still owns. On this large farm our subject has six dwelling-houses. He rents out a portion of his land, and cultivates the remainder with the assistance of his son.

In 1858, on the completion of the C. & A. R. R. Mr. Dawson engaged in the buying and shipping of hogs, cattle, sheep and horses. During the war he carried on this business quite extensively, and gradually increased his exchequer, and was thus occupied until 1870, when he settled up his business and abandoned that branch of his vocation. In 1877 he embarked in the breeding of Norman horses on a small scale. He now has two imported stallions and four imported mares, all registered in the National Herd Book, together with some fine yearling colts.

In the fall of 1884 our subject leased the farm and moved into the village of Lexington, where he has since resided. Politically Mr. Dawson is a Democrat, and voted for Andrew Jackson. He and his wife are devoted members of the United Brethren Church at Lexington, and our subject is Assistant Superintendent of the Sunday-school at that place. Mr. and Mrs. Dawson reared an interesting family of children, all of whom with one exception are living, and are respected members of society, living up to the parental precepts in a manner reflecting credit upon their early training.



**E**LLIS DILLON, importer and breeder of French draft horses, is not only a leading citizen of McLean County but is numbered among the leading stock men of the State. Of his ancestors little is known except that the Dillons have been residents of the United States for several generations. The father of our subject, Jesse Dillon, was a native of North Carolina, but when a young man removed with his parents to Clinton



County, Ohio. He was there married to Hannah Pugh, who was born in South Carolina, and removed with her parents to Ohio the same year that the Dillons settled there. Jesse Dillon was a blacksmith by trade, and also owned and cultivated a small farm in Ohio until 1821. He then took a trip to Illinois and traveled over considerable territory, following the Indian trail with a pocket compass, and examining the country. Returning to Ohio he continued to reside there until 1822, when he again came to Illinois and selected Tazewell County as his future home, and the following year, 1823, moved his family there. He soon constructed a rude log cabin, in which the family passed the winter of 1823. They had no neighbors except the Indians for many miles around and the father hauled corn from Elkhart, Ill., which he crushed and which the good wife made into corn cakes for the sustenance of the family. They nevertheless had plenty of fish and wild game, and the winter being mild they did not suffer.

In the spring of 1824 Jesse Dillon erected a double log house in Tazewell County, which afforded them a convenient and commodious place of shelter. The previous summer two brothers, Nathan and William, came from Sangamon County, Ill., where they had lived one year, and his brothers and sisters from Ohio came that year and settled in his neighborhood. When the township was formed it was named in honor of Jesse Dillon. The first post-office in the township was Dillon, and also a creek in that township bears the family name. Jesse and Hannah Dillon were the parents of seven sons and four daughters, six of whom are now deceased, and of the five sons living, our subject is the oldest.

Ellis Dillon was born in Clinton County, Ohio, March 25, 1816, and at the age of seven years came with his parents to this State. His early education was somewhat limited on account of the location of the family in a wild and undeveloped country, where no public school facilities existed. But Ellis D. possessed ambition, and being endowed with a good supply of common sense, he not only gained information from practical observation, but studied at home. His early life was passed on the farm, and on attaining the age of

manhood for seven years he was engaged in running a sawmill. Abandoning the latter business he engaged in farming on Delavan Prairie, Tazewell County, in which he met with success. Like his father he was exceedingly fond of horses. In 1854 he sold his farm and removed to Bloomington. At that time he owned a fine imported French draft horse and had about \$10,000 in cash. From the time he made Bloomington his home he has turned his attention to the breeding and sale of horses.

In 1866 our subject moved to Normal, but had before this time associated himself with his two nephews, Isaac and Levi Dillon, and established the firm of E. Dillon & Co. In 1870 this firm imported four horses, and in 1872 Adolphus Dillon, son of our subject, was admitted as a partner in the business, and that year the firm imported twelve horses. After that they imported eleven lots of horses and met with signal success in the conducting of their business. Our subject has visited France twelve times for horses thus crossing the Atlantic Ocean twenty-four times. The firm spoken of dissolved partnership in 1883.

Mr. Dillon is at present the owner of a fine farm of 250 acres adjoining the city of Normal, for which he paid \$22,000. He has added many fine improvements to the place since he has owned it, and it is now one of the finest farms to be found within the boundary lines of the State, and although he is still a dealer in horses he is enabled to live a somewhat retired life, enjoying his handsome competency. His business career has been marked and successful, and to each of his children he has given liberally from his exchequer. Politically he was, from boyhood, opposed to slavery, and during the time of the Fugitive Slave Law helped the negroes over the Underground Railroad to a place of safety. When the Republican party came into existence he joined its ranks and is still a staunch supporter of its principles. Four years he held the office of Supervisor in Tazewell County, and for two years held the same office in this county. He has been a member of the Christian Church since 1838, and has never united with any secret society.

Mr. Dillon has been three times married. In 1836 Mary J. Fisher became his wife. She was a

daughter of James Fisher, a settler in Tazewell County, and lived only two short years after her marriage, leaving one child who died when eleven years old. In 1832 Mr. Dillon was married to Mary Hodgson, who died in 1844, without issue. Feb. 24, 1845, our subject formed another matrimonial alliance, Miss Martha Fisher, a sister of his first wife being the other contracting party. Of this union five children have been born, two dying in infancy; one, a daughter, Sarah, became the wife of Ruben Bright, and departed this life in 1881. The other two were Adolphus, who was married, Nov. 20, 1873, to Miss Paulina Britt, and resides in Normal, and Emma, who is at home with her parents.



**A**LVAN PACKARD, of Bloomington Township, one of the most prominent and successful farmers of this region, is the possessor of 167 acres of finely cultivated land located on section 11, and near the city limits of Bloomington. In connection with his farming operations he is giving much attention to the breeding of fine stock, in which he has been successful, and exhibits some of the choicest animals to be found in the county.

Mr. Packard located on his present homestead in 1865, having purchased it the year previous. He commenced at the foot of the ladder, and has accumulated his present possessions solely by the exercise of industry and economy. When he came to his farm it was a tract of unimproved land and it has taken years of laborious and persevering toil to bring it to its present condition, and he is fully justified in viewing the result of his labors with pride and satisfaction.

Our subject was born in Millbury, Worcester Co., Mass., Sept. 19, 1821. His father, Job Packard, was a native of Bridgewater, Plymouth Co., Mass., and descended from one of the prominent families of that section who assisted in establishing and maintaining the independence of the colonies. They were originally from England, the first repre-

sentatives of the family in this country being among the Puritan settlers in Massachusetts, and they occupy a position among the most prominent of the old families of Plymouth County. More than 1,000 of that name are registered in the town of Bridgewater.

Job Packard, the father of our subject, died at his home in Millbury on the 17th of August, 1836. He was prominent in the affairs of his community, was a Whig in politics, and an active member of the Congregational Society. After his decease, in 1849 the mother of our subject came West, and locating at Princeton, Bureau Co., Ill., died there on the 17th of February, 1868. She was an affectionate wife and mother and a zealous Christian, and left behind her a record of good deeds and womanly virtues. Her name is held in kindly remembrance by a large circle of friends and acquaintances to whom she had endeared herself by generous acts of kindness and her excellent traits of character.

Alvan Packard, our subject, was the youngest son of thirteen children, of whom four sons and four daughters lived to mature years. He remained under the parental roof and received his early education in the old academy at Leicester, Mass. He was a bright and studious boy, fond of his books, and ambitious to excel, and while yet a young man became a civil engineer and a teacher in the schools of his native State. At the age of twenty-two years he was employed by the Hartford & Springfield Railroad Co. to assist in surveying their line and subsequently on the Worcester & Nashua Railroad, and also the road between New London and Palmer. In 1849 he decided to visit the Western country, and accordingly started for the prairies of Illinois. He purchased a farm in Tazewell County, and after working upon it for nearly two years, became connected with the Military Tract, now the C., B. & Q. R. R., and was engaged on a division of that road for some time as civil engineer. While thus occupied he was solicited by Mr. R. B. Mason, Chief Engineer on the Illinois Central, to take a similar position on their road. He was connected with the first division during the building of the road, and had charge as resident engineer in the spring of 1853. He after-





Wm. H. Victor



A Packard

ward came to Bloomington, Ill., and was subsequently employed by the Missouri & Pacific Company, who were then the managers of what was called the Brough Road. Mr. Schuyler, the financial manager of the road, failed to meet his obligations and business on that line suspended indefinitely, so that Mr. Packard, with many others, lost his situation. He then went to Macon County, and while at Deatur was employed for a few months on the Great Western Railroad. He subsequently purchased a farm in Woodford County.

While in Woodford County, Mr. Packard was united in marriage with Miss Esther J. Ranney, the wedding taking place on the 27th of March, 1855. Mrs. P. was born and reared in Stockbridge, Vt., and came West with her parents when a child eight years of age. Of her marriage with our subject there have been born eight children, as follows: Lenora R., Charles A., Almira E., Luella M., Joel R., Joel A., Edith J. and Edwin S. Joel A. is at home; Edwin S. is attending the State Normal School at Carbondale; the balance of the children are deceased. Mrs. P., the mother of these children, has been an invalid for many years, but although deprived of many of the pleasures of life, she bears her affliction patiently and hopes for something better in the future. She is a lady highly esteemed for her many excellent personal traits of character, and has a large circle of friends and acquaintances in this vicinity. With her husband she is connected with the First Congregational Church of Bloomington, of which Mr. P. has been a regular attendant since its organization. In politics he is a staunch Republican and heartily gives his influence to the support of the principles of his party and much of his time to promote its welfare in his section.

In early manhood, before his marriage with his present wife, Mr. Packard was united in wedlock with Miss Rebecca Newton. She was a native of Vermont. Later she became a resident of Worcester, Mass., where she formed the acquaintance of Mr. Packard. After their marriage in 1850, she removed West with her husband, and died in Tazewell County, Ill. Of this union there were no children, but the young wife is held in kindly remembrance for her amiable disposition and lovable

traits of character, and was deeply lamented by her youthful partner.

Accompanying this sketch may be seen the portrait of Mr. Packard, who is a truly representative citizen of McLean County.



**W**ILLIAM H. VICTOR. He who has no regard for the record of the past, no interest in the present, and no anxiety for the future, is scarcely to be named a citizen of the world. Few can look back to the history of their own lives, family and ancestry, and not discover elements which have shaped their destiny. Like produces like in the moral as well as in the natural world. William H. Victor, of whose life we shall give a brief outline, is a gentleman who in every way honors the dignity of American citizenship, and who toils to make the world better and those around him happier.

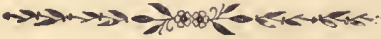
Mr. Victor has been a resident of the Prairie State since 1864. He owns and occupies a fine farm of 230 acres, located on section 3, Normal Township. His land is all improved, and Mr. V. is giving much attention to the raising of fine stock. He was born in Nicholas County, Ky., June 8, 1830, and is the son of Ambrose D. and Eliza (Sturgis) Victor, natives of the same State. The father resided there until his death, which occurred when he was only thirty-three years of age. The mother is still living upon the homestead in Nicholas County, Ky., aged seventy-five years. Their family included four children: William H.; Edy, the wife of James A. Mathers, who lives in Carlisle, Ky.; Sarah, Mrs. Alanson Brewington, of Bates County, Mo.; Martha, Mrs. Robert S. Williams, of Nicholas County, Ky.

The subject of our sketch was the oldest of his parents' family; and the only son. He was reared to farming pursuits, attended the common schools and had the advantage of excellent private instruction at home. At the age of twenty years he crossed the plains to the Pacific Slope, and for four years engaged in mining in California. He then returned to Kentucky via the Isthmus of Panama, and four years later, in September, 1854, was mar-

ried to Miss Susan J. Wood, a native of his own county. The father of Mrs. Vietor, Nimrod Wood, was a native of Kentucky. He was married Feb. 14, 1831, to Miss Margaret McClintock, a native of the same State; there was but one month's difference in their age, and both were born in 1796. They are now deceased. After marriage our subject settled upon a farm in Kentucky, which he occupied and cultivated for the following ten years. He then came to Illinois with his family and purchased his present farm. He has greatly improved its condition since it came into his possession; has now a substantial dwelling, a good barn and all necessary conveniences for the storing of grain and the shelter of stock. He is in all respects a representative farmer of McLean County, one of the best agricultural counties in the Nation, and reckoned among its foremost citizens.

Mr. and Mrs. Vietor became the parents of the following children: Ambrose, Eliza, the wife of Albert Kneass; Maggie M., Annie J., William J., Mattie, Katie and Nimrod. Our subject politically adheres to the Democratic party, and religiously has been an active member of the Christian Church for many years.

Mr. Vietor has been fairly successful in his present occupation, and has shown rare judgment and good management in his business and farming operations. In the various relations of life he sustains the character of an estimable citizen, neighbor and friend, and enjoys the full confidence and regard of those who know him. The accompanying portrait will be gladly welcomed by many who highly esteem him.



**T**HOMAS C. HASTINGS, who has been a resident of the Prairie State since 1855, and owns and occupies a farm of 240 acres in Blue Mound Township, where he has a handsome and substantial residence and all modern improvements, also owns a valuable tract of timber land and village property in Cooksville. This farm he has occupied since 1870, and materially enhanced its value. He is a gentleman of great energy and

resolution, and occupies a prominent position in the agricultural interests of this section.

The subject of this biography was born in Fayette County, Pa., Feb. 10, 1828, and is the son of John and Jane (Carroll) Hastings, also natives of the Keystone State. They spent their entire lives in their native country, and there their remains are buried. John Hastings died of Asiatic cholera Dec. 14, 1832, when but thirty-seven years of age. Mrs. Jane C. Hastings survived her husband twenty-six years, her death occurring Dec. 19, 1858, when she was sixty-two years of age. They were married Sept. 23, 1819, and became the parents of five children—William, Mary A., James J., Thomas C. and Jane.

The subject of our sketch remained with his parents until eighteen years of age, and then was apprenticed to learn the plasterer's trade, which he followed in his native county until 1855. In March of that year he emigrated to Illinois, worked one month at his trade in Bloomington, then went to Atlanta, Logan County, remaining there one summer, and for three years afterward followed his trade in Champaign County. In the fall of 1855 he purchased 160 acres of land in Chenoa Township, this county, which he sold in 1858; he then became a resident of Dry Grove Township, where he remained from 1859 until 1870, when he disposed of his interests there and came into this township, locating upon his present homestead, which by his industry and good judgment he has transformed into one of the most attractive spots in the township.

The marriage of Thomas C. Hastings and Miss Rachel Hays took place on the 5th of July, 1860, in Champaign County. Mrs. Hastings is the daughter of James and Mary (Miller) Hays, the former a native of Washington County, Pa., and the latter of Muskingum County, Ohio. They settled in the latter State and county soon after their marriage, and after a residence there of eight years removed to Vinton County, where they lived until 1857. They then came to Illinois, locating in Champaign County, where the father spent his last days in Homer, dying in September, 1860. The mother afterward removed with her family to Piatt, where she has since resided. Their six children

were—William, Abraham, Rachel, Sarah, Henry and Langartha. Rachel, Mrs. Hastings, was born in Muskingum County, Ohio, April 4, 1844. Of her union with our subject there have been born seven children, of whom one, a little daughter, Ada, died in Blue Mound Township in the fall of 1872, when about five years old. The others were Henry M., Frank C., William M., Charles, Odus and Elmer.

Mr. Hastings has held some of the minor offices in his township; with his wife he is a member in good standing of the Presbyterian Church, and has been an Elder since 1872. Politically he casts his vote with the Democratic party. In all respects he is fulfilling the obligations of a good citizen, and doing his full share toward building up the agricultural and business interests of Blue Mound Township. A lithographic view of Mr. Hastings' residence appears elsewhere in this book.



**S**IMON A. McCARTNEY, Postmaster at Weston, has been a resident of this State since 1875, during which year he located at Gridley, in this county, and has been a resident of this vicinity, with the exception of about eighteen months, since that time. He is held in high respect as an intelligent and thorough-going farmer, a good citizen and valuable member of the community. Mr. McCartney comes from excellent Pennsylvania stock, having been born in Fayette County, Pa., July 19, 1833. His father, William McCartney, was born in Westmoreland County, that State, and became one of the prominent boat builders of that section. The mother of our subject, who before her marriage was Miss Sarah Sadler, was a native of Fayette County, Pa., of which she remained a resident during her entire life. The parental family consisted of eight children, only three of whom are living; one son, J. T., served as a soldier in Co. E, 14th Pa. Vol. Cav., during the late Civil War, and received a gunshot wound at the battle of Winchester which disabled his right arm. After the war, not being able to perform manual labor, he educated himself for the ministry and subsequently became a noted clergy-

man in the Methodist Episcopal Church. He died April 21, 1885, and his remains are buried in the cemetery at Nashville, Ohio.

The subject of this history was the eldest child of his parents. He was reared to habits of industry, and his school days were limited to a few short terms in the district schools. When nineteen years of age, with the permission of his father, he commenced the battle of life for himself as a farm laborer, receiving the munificent salary of \$6 per month. Not being satisfied with the results of hard labor, he took up the early trade of his father, boat building, and located in Monongalia County, W. Va. During the late war he enlisted in the United States service, becoming a member of Co. D, 14th Pa. Vol. Cav., with which he remained until Aug. 28, 1865. Although his term of service was not as lengthy as that of some others, yet he participated in no less than fifteen battles and skirmishes, among which may be mentioned, Solomon's Gap, Harper's Ferry, Martinsburg, Winchester and Bunker Hill. After receiving his honorable discharge and being mustered out, he joined his family in West Virginia, and they continued to reside there until 1875. They then removed to Illinois, locating first in Gridley as before mentioned, and from there, after eighteen months, moved to Tazewell County. Thence, in the spring of 1878, he returned to McLean County and engaged in farming in Yates Township. In 1880 he removed to Weston and subsequently entered the employ of Haynes, Rakestraw & Co., grain merchants, with whom he continued until Aug. 3, 1885, when he entered upon his duties as Postmaster.

One of the most important events in the history of Mr. McCartney occurred Oct. 14, 1852, when he was united in marriage with Miss Mary E. Wood, in Fayette County, Pa. Mrs. McC. was reared in the latter county although born in Monongalia County, W. Va. Of this marriage there were born six children, one of whom died in infancy: Clara E. is the wife of Joel R. Maxwell; Sarah J. married J. T. Vance; William I., George A. and Enoch W. are in charge of two stock farms about eight miles from Peoria, Ill., owned by O. J. Bailey. William I. married Miss Syrenia Smith, of Gridley. George A. is single. Enoch W. mar-

ried Miss Gayman, of Chenoa. Mrs. McCartney has been an active member of the Baptist Church for many years.

Our subject, politically, is a stanch supporter of the Democratic party. He has been prominent in the affairs of his township, served as Constable about four years and was elected Justice of the Peace in 1885, a position which he has held continuously since that time. He is also a member of the G. A. R., Post No. 192.

**W**ILLIAM N. McNAUGHT, senior member of the firm of McNaught & Mereer, is, with his partner, carrying on a profitable trade in hardware and agricultural implements at Lexington. Mr. McNaught is a native of this county, having been born on a farm in Money Creek Township, Jan. 7, 1848. He was the fourth son and child of George and Nancy McNaught, and resided during his boyhood and youth under the parental roof, receiving his primary education in the district school. Later he entered Wesleyan University at Bloomington, where he remained two years. His father then died and our subject was called home to assist his mother in her farming business, and here he continued until 1866, when he removed to Lexington and purchased the interest of his step-father, Dr. J. L. Brooks, and became the partner of his brother, N. F. McNaught, in the drug-store business. This they carried on under the firm style of McNaught Bros. until 1882, with the exception of two years, during which his brother retired, and his mother became a partner in the business. In 1880 she disposed of her interest to John B. Dawson, and in 1882 McNaught & Dawson sold to J. D. Packard & Co.

Mr. McNaught after disposing of his drug business engaged in buying and selling horses until 1884, and then became the partner of John W. Powley in the hardware business. After one year Mr. Powley sold his interest to Robert F. Mercer of the present firm. They are doing a profitable and growing business, both being well known and highly respected for their straightforward methods and excellent personal character.

Mr. McNaught was married, in his twentieth year, to Miss Theresa L. Dishon, whose mother was named Elizabeth, and whose father, William Dishon, died when Mrs. McN. was a young girl fourteen years of age. Our subject and his wife have become the parents of two daughters—Gertie and Edna. Their home on East Main street is a model of convenience and comfort, and the family are held in the highest respect in this community. Mr. McNaught is a member of McLean Lodge No. 206, I. O. O. F., and Damon Lodge No. 10, K. of P. He has served as President of the Board of Councilmen and has in other respects been identified with the public affairs of the town, and at the present time is engaged in the importation of Norman horses.

**J**AMES McHUGH, deceased, was a farmer on section 2, Lexington Township, and successful in the prosecution of his calling. He was born in Harrison County, Ohio, Jan. 13, 1822, and his parents were William and Anna (Lewis) McHugh, of Irish parentage.

James McHugh was the eldest of seven children born to his parents, who died in Monroe County, Ohio. The father was a shoemaker by trade and our subject was reared partly in the village where his parents resided and partly on a farm. When twenty-one years of age he settled on a farm in Monroe County, Ohio, which his father had given him, and there industriously labored for about nine years. He then sold his place and removed to Deatur County, Ind., where he purchased another farm and lived on it for about the same length of time. Disposing of this latter place he, in 1864, came to this county with his family, consisting of his wife and six children, and settled on section 2, Lexington Township, where he purchased 160 acres of land. He continued to live and labor on this place until summoned to another world, his death taking place from consumption, Aug. 6, 1886. He had accumulated a fine property, including 240 acres of valuable and productive land, with all the appliances of a modern country homestead.

James McHugh was married in Belmont County, Ohio, Aug. 20, 1844, to Miss Anna Farra, daughter



of Rees and Raehael (Broomhall) Farrar, natives of Pennsylvania. Her father was a tailor by trade and also carried on farming in Belmont County, where both parents died. They had five children—Lavinia, Milton, Anna, Rees C. and Wilson. Mrs. McHugh was born in Guernsey County, Ohio, March 14, 1823. She lived with her parents until her marriage and by her union with Mr. McHugh became the mother of six children—William R., Thirsa, Uriah C., James N., Clinton and Charles W. The only surviving child is James N., who lives with his mother. William R. was married to Anna E. Guy, and at the date of his death was a resident of Blue Mound Township. Mrs. McHugh is a member of the Presbyterian Church, as was also her husband and three of the children. In politics, our subject was a Republican. Mrs. McHugh controls the estate left by her husband and is meeting with success in the cultivation of the farm.



**H**ENRY C. LANGSTAFF, an old and honored citizen of McLean County, is a native of the Buckeye State, being born near Zanesville, the county seat of Muskingum County, Ohio, March 18, 1816. His father, Asa Langstaff, of New Jersey, was a farmer by occupation and remained in his native State four years after his marriage to Miss Lany Boylan of his own State. He then removed with his family to a tract of wild land in Muskingum County, Ohio, where he opened up a farm and established a comfortable home where he passed the remainder of his days, dying in 1868, when eighty-five years old. His father, the grandfather of our subject, was among the earliest settlers of New Jersey and a soldier in the Revolutionary War.

The children of Asa and Lany Langstaff were eleven in number, seven sons and four daughters, all of whom were living at the time of the father's death, ten reaching maturity and being married and having families of their own. Of these, seven still survive. The mother died in Union County, Ohio, at the home of one of her sons in 1876, when eighty-seven years of age.

Henry C. Langstaff, of this sketch, was the fourth

son and fifth child of the parental household. He passed his boyhood on the farm in his native county, and received a limited education in the pioneer schools. As soon as old enough to work he piled brush with his brothers, carried the chunks together for burning, and assisted in other ways to clear the land and fit it for cultivation. All the boys were taught to work, and our subject remained with his parents until he was fifteen years old, when he was bound out to learn the cabinet trade, at which he served four years and six months. He afterward took up the carpenter's trade.

In 1839 our subject was married to Miss Elsie Wintermide, of Muskingum County, Ohio, and they remained in that State for ten years following. They then decided to remove farther West for the establishment of a permanent home. Proceeding to Illinois they located in Bloomington, where our subject was employed first in the machine-shop of Flagg & Ewing for a period of six years. During this time he saved his money and was enabled to buy a small farm in Martin Township, where he followed general agriculture for many years, and occasionally took a contract for putting up a building, either a school-house, barn or dwelling. In due time he sold the first farm and purchased a larger one in Yates Township, which he occupied until May, 1872. He then practically retired from active labor and removed into Lexington, where he is enjoying the fruits of his early toil, but is by no means idle, always finding something useful to busy himself about. Mrs. Elsie W. Langstaff, after becoming the mother of five children, one daughter and four sons, departed this life in April, 1865. Their children are recorded as follows: John is assistant cashier in the Harness Bank; Leonidas lives in Cameron, Mo., and Brown, at Nevada, that State; Rachel became the wife of William Beddows, and they reside in Ft. Scott, Kan., being the parents of two daughters; Henry W. is a practicing physician of Colfax, this county.

The second wife of our subject was formerly Miss Cynthia A. Smith, to whom he was married Dec. 10, 1868. Mrs. L. is the daughter of Joseph and Rebecca Smith, formerly of Ohio, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of two sons—Frank G. and Osear P., who are now in

school. Mr. L. served as Supervisor six years in Martin Township, and one in Yates. He has also been School Treasurer, and for many years a member in good standing of the Christian Church, holding the office of Elder. He has in all respects been a good citizen and a worthy member of society and enjoys in a marked degree the respect and esteem of a large circle of friends and associates.



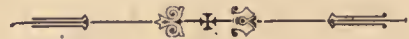
**W**ILLIAM D. JOHNSTON, a pioneer resident of the Prairie State, is now a citizen of Lexington, where he is enjoying his later days retired from active labor. He was born near Mansfield, Richland Co., Ohio, Jan. 5, 1816, on the farm of his father, Daniel Johnston, who was a prominent man in that vicinity and Justice of the Peace for many years. His birthplace was in Pennsylvania, whence he came to Ohio when a young man, and there married Miss Rachel Scott, who was a native also of Pennsylvania and removed to Ohio with her parents when a young child, they being among the early pioneers of the Buckeye State. Daniel Johnston served in the War of 1812, and his father, William D. Johnston, Sr., was a soldier of the Revolution and held office under Gen. Washington. He was an Englishman by birth and ancestry, but sympathized with the colonists in their struggle for freedom.

Daniel Johnston spent his declining years in Richland County, Ohio, and died there in 1831. His children, six sons and three daughters, all grew to mature years, and became established in comfortable homes with families of their own. William D., our subject, was the eldest son and passed his childhood and youth in his native county, receiving a common-school education. After attaining his majority he turned his face to the farther West and coming into Ogle County, Ill., took up a squatter's claim. In the fall of 1838 he returned to Ohio, and was married in Richland County, to Miss Mary A. Griffith, who was born there and lived with her parents until her marriage. Shortly after the wedding the young couple started for their new home which was located near Byron. When the land came into market our subject secured his claim

of 160 acres and immediately began its improvement and cultivation, meeting with success. In due time he added to his estate until he became the owner of 240 acres and employed himself in general farming and stock-raising, continuing in Ogle County until 1856, when he removed with his family to McLean County, settling near Selma, where he remained several years and then removed to a farm two miles north, which embraced 240 acres. There his wife died in 1871, leaving three children, all daughters; Lueretia A.; Alice E., Mrs. George Clayton of Ogle County, and Mary E., who was married to David B. Ralston and is living on his father's farm near Lexington,

Mr. Johnston was the second time married, in September, 1873, to Mrs. S. R. Sloan of Pennsylvania. They located upon a farm near Lexington, remaining there until March, 1880, when they removed to a homestead of ten acres just outside the corporate limits. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are members in good standing of the Baptist Church, of which our subject has been Deacon for many years.

Mrs. Johnston by her former marriage, became the mother of five children, four now living, as follows: Samuel Curtis and Anna, Mrs. Magee, are in Pennsylvania; William T., a physician, is practicing in Elmwood, Ill.; Mary S. is the wife of E. Gabries, a druggist of Elmwood.



**F**RANCIS F. GODDARD, a native of McLean County, was born on the 23d of September, 1847. He was the eldest child of the second marriage of his father, Dr. Abbott Goddard, who was a native of Kentucky. His mother was formerly Mrs. Elizabeth Scott, of Virginia. They removed to this county in 1842, from Indiana, to which State they had emigrated from Ohio at an early day. The father of our subject was reared and educated in the Blue Grass State and practiced medicine in Indiana before coming to this county. After his removal here his professional duties extended from twenty to twenty-five miles in the surrounding country, which was new and thinly settled, with almost impassable roads and unbridged streams. Often he was obliged to swim the creeks

and always had with him a suit of clothes so that he could exchange his wet garments for dry ones after reaching the other side.

In addition to his duties as a physician, Dr. Goddard often filled the pulpit of the absent circuit rider of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and was possessed of rare talent for either calling. Before his removal to Indiana he had had some experience in merchandising at Cincinnati, Ohio, and after coming to McLean County resumed this business at Lexington, carrying a general stock of the things most needed in a new country. By his second marriage, to the mother of our subject, there were born four children, all living, and residents of Lexington, namely, Francis F., Wesley W., Hattie E., and Ella J., the wife of W. H. Smith. Of the first marriage there were five children: Fletcher, Addison, Frank; Lydia became the wife of Milton Smith, and Frances M. married Milton Bartholomew. The boys are deceased. The father died in the seventy-fourth year of his age.

The subject of this sketch was reared to farming pursuits and after a primary course in the common schools, entered the High School in Lexington, where he graduated. During the progress of the late war he enlisted as a Union soldier in March, 1864, in Co. C, 94th Ill. Vol. Inf., serving twenty-seven months and participating in many important battles. After the battle of Vicksburg he was sent to Texas and thence to the coast. He participated in the battle of Spanish Fort and other engagements and was finally transferred to the 37th Illinois regiment. He crossed the Gulf seven times and received his honorable discharge after the close of the war in May, 1866. He then returned to Lexington and engaged in farming for three years, then moved into town and conducted a transfer line for five years following. He was then clerk in a store and soon afterward embarked in his present business where, as a caterer to the public appetite, he has built up a good reputation and carries on one of the best restaurants in Lexington.

Mr. Goddard was married in March, 1872, to Miss Maggie Hefner, of Blue Mound Township, whose father was Nimrod Hefner, and a resident there for many years. Of this union there have been born four children—Wesley Milton, William

F., Asa P. and Ora Lawrence. Mr. G. is connected with the G. A. R., and both he and his wife are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



**S**ANFORD R. CLAGGETT, one of the prominent and successful business men and capitalists of Lexington, is a native of Fauquier County, Va., born near Warrenton on the 27th of April, 1822. His father, Samuel Claggett, also of Virginia, was the son of Dr. Samuel Claggett, a surgeon in the Revolutionary War. The latter was a brother of Bishop Claggett, of Prince George's County, Va., the first person of this distinction who rendered allegiance to the United States. The mother of our subject was formerly Miss Lucy Sanford, a native of Virginia, and his father was engaged in mercantile pursuits in the Old Dominion for many years.

The subject of this history received a fine education and completed his studies in Granville College, Ohio. He began teaching school when nineteen years old, which occupation he pursued after coming West, in Iroquois and McLean Counties. He came to Illinois in 1841, journeying through the States of Ohio and Indiana by wagon, and making his first location in the old town of Bunkum, in Iroquois, where he operated first a store and carding-machine for six years, then abandoned the carding business but continued merchandising. He hauled his goods from Chicago on wagons and at the same time bought horses and sold them in the Chicago market. He was married in Iroquois, Ill., to Miss Amanda A. Karr, daughter of Adam Karr, and in 1854 removed his family to McLean County. Here Mrs. Claggett subsequently died, leaving one daughter, Ella, who was married to S. J. Van Dyke, the present Postmaster at Lexington.

The second wife of our subject was Miss Nancy Terry. After removing to McLean County he at first carried on merchandising in a small way, but his business soon increased, and after the first two years he transacted an annual business of \$35,000, which subsequently increased to \$110,000. At this time he purchased all his own goods, kept his own

books and accounts, and made his own collections, continuing in business until 1882, carrying on his operations after his physical strength had failed, and when he was unable to stand and would sit down in making sales. His mental vigor, however, remained unimpaired and he had always the same bright, energetic mind, capable of directing and attending to all the details.

Mr. Claggett was one of the charter members of the Odd Fellows' Lodge, of Lexington, which is now one of the most prosperous in the State, and in which order he has always retained an undiminished interest. When coming into the State of Illinois he had \$824 in money and has since turned every dollar to good account. When he organized and commenced operating his bank he had a capital of \$50,000 and since it commenced business in December, 1882, not a dollar of its earnings has been withdrawn, its capital being kept always equal to the first amount, and surplus equal to the capital, which makes the actual capital of the bank \$100,000.



**G**EORGE WASHINGTON HISER, a prosperous and enterprising hardware merchant of Lexington, is a native of Wayne County, Ind., and was born near Centerville, the old county seat, on the 2d of October, 1843. His father, Henry Hiser, was one of the early settlers of Indiana, to which he removed from Dayton, Ohio. He was born in Loudoun County, Va., Nov. 20, 1803. The mother of our subject, formerly Miss Deborah Coffman, was a native of Roekingham County, Va., born April 19, 1808, and removed with her parents to Dayton, Ohio, when ten years old. She was married to Henry Hiser in 1824, and they located in Wayne County, Ind., in 1841. They remained there until August, 1856, when they came over into Illinois, settling in the small village of Selma, this county. They lived in different parts of Lexington Township until 1860, and removed from their farm into the village of Lexington, where the father died in 1876. The parental family included ten children, of whom three—John, Sarah and Amanda—departed this life before the death of the father; James is engaged in farming

in Lawndale Township, this county; Jacob resides in Lexington; Mary lives in Iowa; William is a farmer of Anderson County, Kan.; Martha became the wife of Jacob Hiser (no relative); George W., of our sketch; Francis is in Lexington, and the mother resides here, still a bright and active old lady, and a member of the Baptist Church.

Mr. Hiser of our sketch was thirteen years of age when his parents came to McLean County. He received a common-school education, and when twenty years of age entered the store of S. R. Claggett as clerk, where he remained six months, and then took a similar position for the firm of Goddard & McCurdy, dealers in lumber, sash, coal, etc., and remained in this business for four years, continuing after it had changed hands. In 1868 he became clerk for George W. Knotts, hardware merchant, and the following year was admitted to partnership, and they continued in business one year under the firm name of Knotts & Hiser, when our subject sold out his interest to his partner and resumed his former position as clerk, where he remained for the following four years, during which time the business twice changed hands. In 1874 he returned to Mr. Claggett, with whom he remained until 1878, and after one more year was employed as clerk for Carnahan & Poole. He then purchased a farm one mile southwest of town, which he operated about three years and then sold out. In January, 1882, he formed a partnership with J. B. Breneman, and they engaged in the hardware trade at Knotts' old stand until July, 1886, when they dissolved on account of the failing health of Mr. B.

Mr. Hiser put up his present business house in 1882. It is a brick building, 24x66 feet in area and two stories in height. He keeps a general stock of hardware and farm implements, and has been uniformly successful in his business operations.

Our subject was married on the 27th of October, 1864, to Miss Ella R., eldest daughter of John and Margaret Popejoy, of Lexington Township, who were formerly from Ohio. Of this union there have been born four children, two sons and two daughters—Claude L., Dotta L., Orrin L. and Maidie L. Both daughters are deceased. Mr. Hiser was elected Supervisor of Lexington Township in 1879, and





*Geo Gregory*



*James Smith*

served four years in succession. He was a stockholder, Director and Vice President of the First National Bank of Lexington, and belongs to the G. A. R., in which he served as Adjutant and Quartermaster for some time. Both Mr. and Mrs. Hiser are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Lexington.

During the progress of the late war Mr. Hiser, in June, 1862, enlisted in Co. G, 68th Ill. Vol. Inf., for three months, and was sent with his comrades to Alexandria, where he was stationed during the second battle of Bull Run. After serving four months he was mustered out at Springfield, Ill.



**JAMES SMITH.** Engaged in farming on section 13, Money Creek Township, is an offspring of Sylvester and Catherine (Daily) Smith, who is a well-to-do farmer, and a most highly esteemed citizen. The parents of our subject, after their marriage, settled about thirty miles north of Toronto, Ont. There the father worked at his trade, that of a carpenter, and was thus employed until he was accidentally killed by the falling of brick upon him while he was assisting in the erection of a building. His wife also died in that vicinity. They had three children, and only one lived to attain the age of maturity.

James Smith was born about thirty miles north of Toronto, Ont., Nov. 10, 1837, and when about two and a half years old was orphaned by the death of his father. He was then taken by a family in that neighborhood with whom he lived until he was a lad of twelve or fourteen years. At that early age in life he began to do for himself by working at different occupations in the neighborhood, and continued thus to labor until twenty years of his life had passed. In the summer of 1858 he sailed on the lake, and during the latter part of that year came to this county. Locating in Money Creek Township, he worked out by the month and was thus occupied until the breaking out of the late Civil War.

In January, 1862, our subject enlisted in Co. K, 26th Ill. Vol. Inf., and served his country faithfully and well for two years in that regiment. In

February, 1864, he re-enlisted in the same company and continued in the service of the Union until the close of the war, when he was mustered out and returned to Money Creek Township. At the battle of Bentonville, N. C., he received a wound in the left arm while bearing the colors of his regiment. He was promoted from private to Sergeant, and then Color Bearer of the regiment. The same bullet that wounded him, struck a small pass-book which he had in his pocket, and glancing off, left its bloody mark across his breast, but did no further damage than that referred to. Mr. Smith was a member of the 15th Army Corps, commanded by Gen. John A. Logan, and accompanied Sherman in his famous march from Atlanta to the sea.

The regiment in which Mr. Smith so valiantly served, as the history of the late civil strife will always show, saw much hard and dangerous service. We cannot in this brief sketch rehearse the daring deeds of its men, their loyal sacrifices and heroic achievements, but all the experiences of the war were theirs. Could they be told, they would speak of early reverses, sad disappointments, gloomy forebodings for the future, of sickness in camp and hospital, fearful suspense, of midnight marches, of deadly ambuscades, of labor in trenches, and dreary and enforced idleness in camp; of escapes, of wounds, of imprisonments in foul dens, on the dead line, and of death—of all the horrors of fratricidal war. But they would speak too, of privations willingly endured, dangers voluntarily incurred, ceaseless labor gladly undergone, risks daringly assumed, and death most heroically encountered; of dashing assaults, of well-contested fields, of the enemies' retreat, and of countless victories. They would speak of disaster, but also of success; of doubt, but yet of undying hope; of transient defeats, but still of final and enduring victory.

After Mr. Smith returned from the army, for a time he was unable to do manual labor, and engaged in buying and trading stock. He then rented land, and for two years farmed in this manner, at the expiration of which time he was enabled to buy a place in Blue Mound Township. He lived on this place for thirteen years, and then, in the fall of 1880, moved back to Money Creek

Township, where he has been continuously occupied in farming and stock-raising, and is the owner of 300 acres of valuable land, and is meeting with signal success in his enterprises.

Mr. Smith was married in Bloomington, Ill., Dec. 7, 1865, to Miss Martha E., daughter of Lemuel and Naney (Mullen) Biggs. Her father was born in Philadelphia and her mother in Ohio. They were married in this county and subsequently settled in Money Creek Township, where he died May 8, 1860. She survives at an advanced age, and resides in Money Creek Township. Six sons and five daughters were born to them, and Mrs. Smith was the eighth in order of birth. She was born in Money Creek Township, Nov. 1, 1847, and has borne our subject three children—Sylvester, Josiah and Andrew. Sylvester died in infancy, and the other children are living at home.

Mr. Smith has held the office of School Director of his township, and in politics is a staunch Republican. Socially he belongs to the G. A. R., and holds fellowship with Lexington Post No. 240. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Accompanying this sketch is a portrait of Mr. Smith.



**G**EORGE GREGORY. A splendid illustration of what may be accomplished in this country by an honest, hard-working, energetic and enterprising man is given in the record of the life of George Gregory. He is a prosperous and prominent farmer of Normal Township, and is pleasantly located on section 23. His farm comprises 400 acres of valuable land, which is embellished with fine improvements, the result of his own industry and enterprise. The family residence is a model of convenience and comfort. He has good barns and out-buildings, all the appliances for the shelter of stock and the storing of grass, valuable farm implements and the entire paraphernalia of a first-class country seat. Besides general agriculture Mr. Gregory is giving much attention to the raising of fine stock, in which department he has built up an enviable reputation. Besides his farm property he owns valuable real estate in the city of

Bloomington and in all respects is one of the representative citizens of the wealthy county of McLean.

George Gregory was born in Derby, England, Dec. 17, 1826. He was fairly educated in the common schools of his native country and served an apprenticeship at the blacksmith's trade. At the age of twenty-one years he sailed for the United States, landing in New York City, whence he at once proceeded to the State of Illinois. He first located at La Salle, stopping from June until October with a brother who preceded him to this country three years. This brother died at Bloomington in about 1878.

In the fall of 1848, the year of his arrival here, young Gregory proceeded South to Mobile, Ala., where he followed his trade and also steamboating between Mobile and New Orleans. Three years later he returned to Illinois and engaged in the blacksmith business at Pekin. After a short time however, he removed to Bloomington, where he became an employe of the Reaper Manufacturing Company. In 1852 he became a partner in the plow factory of Bunn & Ellsworth, the firm style becoming Bunn, Ellsworth & Co., afterward Brokaw, Ellsworth & Co., and later, Brokaw & Gregory. He remained a partner until 1882, when he withdrew from the business. He has occupied his present homestead about fifteen years and while in the plow business went to town daily. He commenced life poor in pocket and did not accumulate much until he engaged in the manufacture of plows, which business proved remarkably successful.

Mr. Gregory was married in 1856, to Miss Frances A., the daughter of Zachariah and W. B. (Shannon) Lawrence, of Bloomington. Mrs. Gregory was born at McConnellsville, Ohio, and came with her parents to Illinois when but a babe. By her union with our subject she has become the mother of five sons: William E., a farmer of Normal; Edwin L., farming in Buffalo County, Neb., and Harry, Clyde and Richard, at home.

In politics Mr. Gregory is Republican, and although having an intelligent interest in all matters relative to the public welfare, takes no part in politics further than to attend the polls and cast his ballot. Mrs. Gregory was reared an Episcopalian,



but has been a member of the Christian Church for thirty-nine years and at the present time is connected with the church at Normal.

The portrait of Mr. Gregory, which is given in connection with this brief outline of his life, shows the features of a sturdy and fair-minded man and a most excellent citizen.



**W**ILLIAM FOWLER. The Fowler family came from Wales to this country previous to the Revolutionary War. They located in New Hampshire, where one of the first representatives—Lemuel—remained until he became engaged in assisting the Colonies in their struggle for liberty. He was by trade a blacksmith, and after his retirement from the army, located in Hillsboro County, N. H., where he spent the remainder of his days. He was married to an American lady and they became the parents of five children, of whom the father of our subject, Lemuel Fowler, Jr., was the eldest.

Lemuel Fowler, Jr., was born in Newbury, N. H., and remained under the parental roof until he became a young man. He followed the sea for several years and afterward engaged in farming pursuits. For the latter purpose he located in the interior of the Old Granite State and in that vicinity was married to Miss Sarah S. Swett, who was a native of the same State and of Irish descent. They reared a family of ten children, in the meantime removing to Ohio, where the youngest child was born. Of this family, William, our subject, was the fifth in order of birth. The family located in Marietta in 1819, having been preceded by the eldest son, Royal, one year before. They remained there, however, only a short time when they removed to Morgan County, and afterward to Noble County. Both counties were then very thinly settled and the facilities for market very poor. The father of our subject settled upon a tract of wild land which he succeeded in transforming into a fine farm. At one time he possessed a large amount of property, but lost it all on account of going security for his friends. He was a public-spirited man, a good citizen and valued member

of the community. He established a comfortable home in Noble County, and there, with his wife, spent the remainder of his days.

The subject of this history received only the education furnished the sons of the early pioneers in a new country. He was poor in purse when married, as was also the maiden of his choice, but both had been trained to habits of industry and were willing to work and hope for the result. They were married in Noble County, Ohio, on the 14th of December, 1826, the bride being Miss Mary Hutehins. She was born in Lincoln County, Me., in 1804, and remained in her native State until nine years of age. Her parents then came to Noble County, Ohio, it being then called Morgan. They settled in a timber tract and after years of hard labor succeeded in opening a good farm and establishing a comfortable home. Mrs. Fowler was trained to spin and weave and made the cloth for many a suit of clothes.

Upon the marriage of our subject and his wife, they resolved to "pull together." Mr. F. made boots and shoes during the winter evenings, and in the daytime worked at whatever he could find to do. In summer he manufactured salt from wells which contained water impregnated with this mineral. After boiling great quantities of the water he obtained a little of the commodity so necessary as an ingredient of food. After a few years of this incessant and laborious toil, during which he and his wife had saved every penny they could spare, he found himself possessed of sufficient means to purchase 100 acres of land. This proved the turning point in his life, as upon it he found an oil well which proved of great value and enabled him to sell his farm for the sum of \$40,000. With this sum in his pocket he then started for the West and arrived in this vicinity in April, 1865. He purchased 400 acres of land in Randolph Township, and for several years labored industriously and succeeded in bringing it to a high state of cultivation. Of this he now has but 240 acres, having given the balance to his children. Of late years he has given much attention to the raising of fine stock, in which he has been uniformly successful as in all his other undertakings.

There were born to Mr. and Mrs. Fowler ten

children, two sons and eight daughters. Of these both the sons and three daughters are deceased. The parents celebrated the sixtieth anniversary of their wedding on the 14th of December, 1886, at which there were present about 120 grand and great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

Mr. and Mrs. Fowler have been connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church for the past forty years and have built up for themselves a record of good and useful lives, filled with kindly and generous deeds. Mr. Fowler, in politics, is a staunch Republican and uniformly casts his vote in support of the principles of this party.



**G**EORGE W. WHITE, Supervisor of Towanda Township, and one of the large land-owners of that district, as well as one of its successful farmers and respected and prominent citizens, resides on section 10. He is the son of George C. and Julia A. (Noel) White, who were born in York State and Ohio respectively, the former of German and the latter of Scotch ancestry. The parents of our subject after their marriage, settled in Clarke County, Ohio, whence they removed to Tippecanoe County, Ind., and taking up their residence at Lafayette, made that their home until 1850. In October of that year they came to this county and located in Towanda Township, where the father became quite an extensive farmer. He continued to reside in that township for several years and then removed to Blue Mound Township, and there lived for about seven years. His good wife departed this life in Towanda Township in March, 1864, and after her demise he spent his time at the homes of his children and at present resides in Lawndale Township, having attained the venerable age of eighty-three years. He became the father of twelve children, namely: Mary, Eliza, Harriett, Rachel, Malinda, William, John, Ellen, George W., Adeline, Edward and Frank. Mary is the wife of John M. King, and they live in Anchor Township; Eliza married Nelson Jones, and they are living in Towanda Township; Harriett and Lyman Williams were united in marriage, and he is a farmer of Lawndale Township; Rachel is the widow

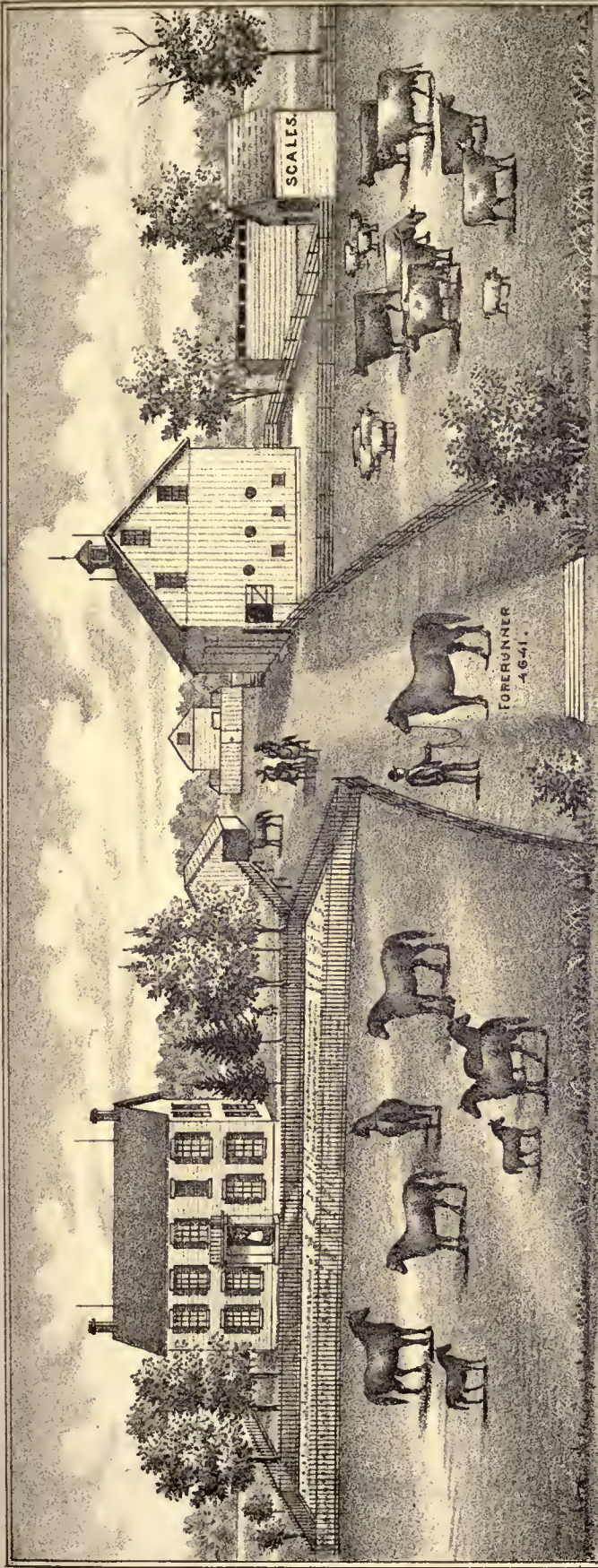
of Sanford Miller and resides in Bloomington; Malinda became the wife of John Abbott, a farmer of Lawndale Township, and William married a Miss Donovan, and is engaged in farming in Blue Mound Township; John married a Miss Hamilton, and they reside in Lawndale Township; Ellen is the wife of Aaron Conger, a farmer of Blue Mound Township; the next in order of birth is our subject; Adeline and William Myers became man and wife, and are living in Lawndale Township; Edward is engaged in business in Bloomington; Frank married a Miss Williams and they reside in Kansas.

The subject of this notice was born while his parents were living in Tippecanoe County, Ind. His birth occurred Aug. 19, 1842, and when eight years of age he came with his parents to this county. His primary education was received in the common schools, which was supplemented by a course of study at Wesleyan University, Bloomington. He remained at home until he attained his majority, but when quite young began the handling of stock on his own account. He has been a resident of Towanda Township since 1850, and from that time until the present has been engaged exclusively in agricultural pursuits and in the raising and importing of stock, and in both departments has met with more than ordinary success. Mr. W. has on hand at present twelve imported and full-blood Norman horses and some sixty head of high grades.

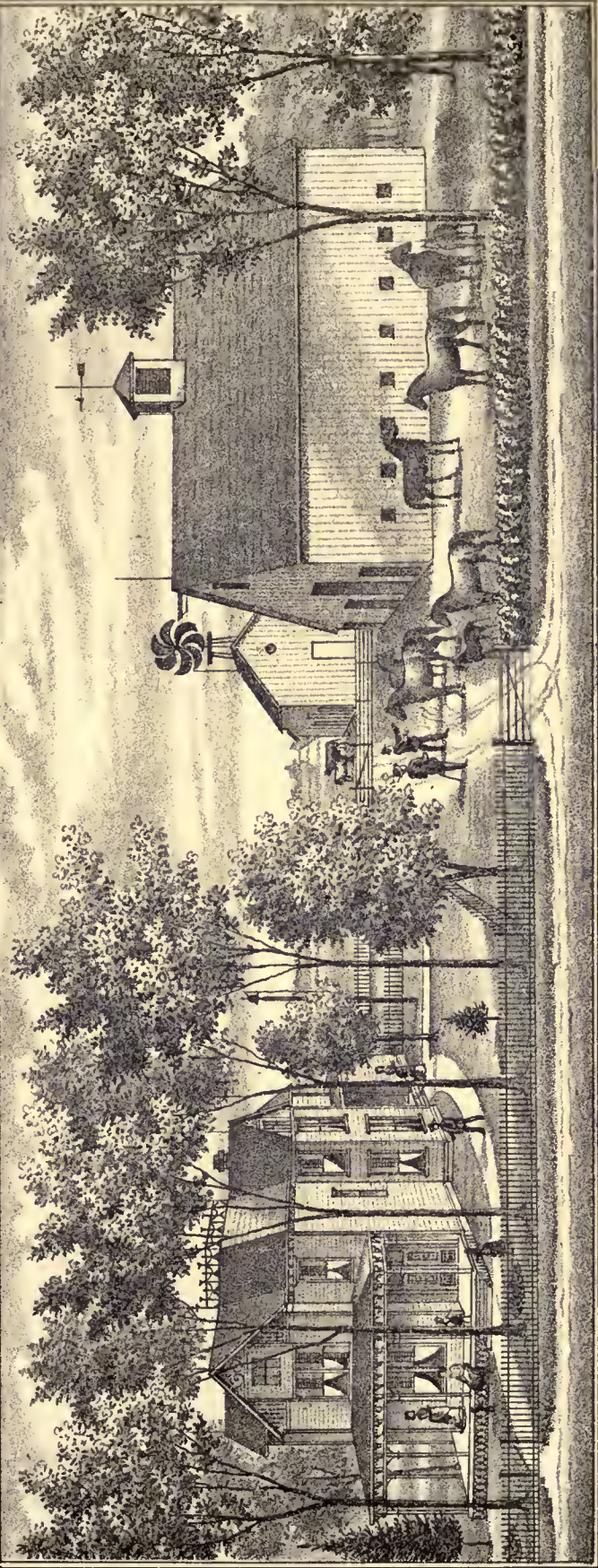
The first purchase of land that our subject made consisted of eighty acres and was located in Towanda Township. He has since added to the same by subsequent purchases until he now owns 400 acres in Towanda Township and 120 acres in Lexington Township. He has erected a residence of modern architecture upon his place, which adds greatly to its beauty, and is one of the finest farm homes, not only of Towanda Township, but of McLean County, and it is with pleasure that we present a view of it in this work.

In 1863 our subject met with a serious accident which resulted in the loss of his left hand. He was in the field husking corn and having his shotgun with him, fired it at a hawk, when the gun burst and so mutilated his hand that he was compelled to have it amputated.

The marriage of Mr. White took place in Lexing-



RESIDENCE OF HARMON HEFNER, BREEDER OF NORMAN HORSES. SEC. 14, MONEY CREEK TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF GEO. W. WHITE, IMPORTER & BREEDER OF NORMAN HORSES, SEC. 10, TOWANDA TOWNSHIP.



ton Township, April 6, 1870, and the lady selected as his life companion was Miss Flora A. Raridon. Her parents were J. S. and Martha (Evans) Raridon, natives of Indiana and of German ancestry. The parents were married in Morgan County, Ind., where they lived until the fall of 1858, when they came to this county and settled in Lexington Township, where the father was engaged in farming until 1878. He then removed to Livingston County, this State, where they at present reside. They had eleven children, viz.: Samuel, Flora A. (Mrs. White), Ella, Dane, Emma, Aliee, Etta, Martin L., Daisy, Minnie and Ray. Samuel is married and living in Ohio; Flora is the wife of our subject; Ella is the wife of Martin Doyle, and they live in Livingston County; Dane also lives in that county; Emma is the wife of Preece Jones, and they are residents of Towanda Township; Aliee married Alonzo Pierson, and they are living in Livingston County, and the remaining children are living with their parents in Livingston County. Mrs. White was born in Morgan County, Ind., March 11, 1855, and came with her parents to this county in 1858. She has borne our subject four children—Warren T., Emma G., Maude A. and Chloe.

Mr. White was elected Supervisor of Towanda Township in April, 1886, and is the present incumbent of that office. He has held other minor offices in the township, and in politics is Republican. Mrs. White is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



**H**ARMON HEFNER. Among the large land-owners and stock-raisers of Money Creek Township, the name of the subject of this notice deserves place. He resides on section 14, where he has 447½ acres of land, all of which is under an advanced state of cultivation, and where, in addition to its improvement, he is extensively engaged in the buying, raising and shipping of stock. The father of our subject, Peter Hefner, was born in Virginia, and his wife in Ohio. A sketch of the former may be found elsewhere in this work. They had nine children, four of whom died in infancy, and five lived to attain

the age of man and womanhood, namely, Harmon, Mary, Adeline, John A. and George M. Mary is the wife of J. P. Curry, and they are living at Lexington; Adeline and John A. Campbell were united in marriage and also reside at Lexington; John A. is a farmer of Money Creek Township; George M. died in that township, July 4, 1877, when about twenty-five years old.

Harmon Hefner was the eldest of his parents' nine children, and was born in the township in which he is at present living, July 18, 1834. He was reared to farm labor, and received his education in the common schools, continuing to remain with the old folk until he attained his majority. He was then married, and settling in Money Creek Township, began to do for himself, and has made that his home all his life. He has a fine farm in that township, well improved and stocked, and is meeting with signal success in conducting his business. He keeps about 100 head of cattle and forty head of horses on his place, and fattens from 100 to 200 head of hogs annually for the market.

Harmon Hefner was married in the township of his nativity, Nov. 15, 1855, to Miss Isabelle Wood. She was a daughter of James and Frances (Hart) Wood, who after their marriage settled in Tennessee, thence removed to Indiana, and after a residence there of several years, in 1850, came to this county and located at Lexington. Up to the time of his coming to this county, he had been engaged in farming, but on locating at Lexington, he embarked in mercantile pursuits, which he followed at that place for several years, and then going back to his first love, farming, he continued at that vocation until his death. His wife died in Money Creek Township, May 11, 1871, and he died in the same township Nov. 11, 1875. They had eleven children—Albert A., Rufus, James, Zebedee, William, Isaac, Mary, Isabelle, Doreas A., Robert C. and Noah A. Albert, James, William, Doreas and Mary are deceased; Rufus is living at Lexington; Zebedee is a retired farmer and also living at Lexington, and Isaac likewise makes that his home; Robert C. is at Girard, Kan., and Noah A. is a resident of Republic City, that State.

Mrs. Hefner was born in Putnam County, Ind., May 25, 1836, and was fourteen years old when

she accompanied her parents to this county, and continued to reside with them until her marriage. She has borne our subject five children, namely, William A., Alonzo C., James P., Della M. and Joseph F. William died in infancy; Alonzo married Miss Winnie Bush, and they are living in Money Creek Township; James married Carrie Carnahan, and is also a resident of Money Creek Township; Della is the wife of Charles C. Busby, and they are living in Gridley Township; Joseph is still an inmate of the parental household. Mr. Hefner has been Collector of his township several years, and also School Director for a number of years. He and his wife are members of the United Brethren Church, and in politics he is a Democrat.

In the illustrated department of this ALBUM may be found a view of the pleasant homestead of our subject.



**W**ILLIAM D. POWLEY, of the firm of W. D. Powley & Co. of Lexington, deals in stoves, hardware and tinware, and is carrying on a satisfactory and profitable trade. He is numbered among the valued factors of the business community and is contributing his full share towards its prosperity and standing. Mr. Powley was born in Shippensburg, Cumberland Co., Pa., on the 26th of March, 1842. His father, William Powley, was a native of Lancaster, Pa., born near the town of Elizabeth, July 22, 1811. The grandfather of our subject, John C. Powley, was of German birth and ancestry, and emigrated to America in about 1798. He married Miss Catharine Seitz, who accompanied him to this country. The voyage occupied eight weeks, during which they lost their only child, who died on the Atlantic but was buried in Philadelphia. They afterward located in Elizabeth, where John Powley carried on whitesmithing, and whence he afterward removed with his family, first to Carlisle and then to Shippensburg, in Cumberland County, where he died in 1840, in the seventy-first year of his age. At the time of his death his family consisted of his wife and four children, two sons and two daughters: John C., now deceased; William; Margaret, who became the wife of Rev. Joseph Straubridge, of the United

Brethren Church, and Wilmena, who married Michael Miller. Of this family only two now survive, one sister, and the father of our subject, William.

William Powley, Sr., spent his early years in Cumberland County, and received his primary education in the common schools. Upon becoming of suitable years, he learned the locksmith's trade, then the tinner's, and at the two combined has worked over fifty years. He was married in 1834, to Miss Susanna, the daughter of Phillip Rhodes, Esq. They located first in Cumberland County, where they remained until 1855, and then Mr. Powley, with his family, emigrated to Illinois, and coming into this county settled in the town of Lexington, where he has followed the tinner's trade and carried on the hardware business until the present. Although now in his seventy-sixth year, he seems as active and industrious as ever and is happiest when the most busily employed. He has not lost a day by sickness in fifty-two years, and there is no doubt that his remarkable health and strength are due to the correct and temperate habits to which he was trained in early youth.

Mr. and Mrs. William Powley, Sr., became the parents of seven children, four sons and three daughters, all living, and of whom the record is as follows: Joseph A. is engaged in the hardware trade at Forest, Ill.; John W. is in the same business at Lexington; Annie E. became the wife of Robert Ambrose, and they live in Arrowsmith Township; William D., our subject, was next in order of birth; Almira, the youngest, married Thomas Henderson, and lives in Fairbury, Ill.; Henry A. is also in that town, engaged in the hardware trade; Susan married John W. Elliott, who is telegraph operator for the Wabash Railroad at Simerton, Ill.; she was born July 4, 1816, and died at the home of her husband in Lexington May 22, 1880. Mr. Powley cast his first presidential vote for Gen. Jackson, but is now a staunch adherent of the Republican party.

William D. Powley of this sketch, was about twelve years of age when he came to McLean County with his parents. He passed the greater part of his time in the town of Lexington during his boyhood and youth, and received a fair education in the public schools. When sixteen years old he began his apprenticeship at the tinner's trade, at

which he worked for a number of years, and then visited the States of Missouri and Kansas, and worked at his trade in those States for about three years. He then returned to Lexington, and in April, 1886, became a partner of his father, with whom he has continued until the present. They give employment to four men, accepting only those who are skilled in their business and able to turn out first-class work.

Our subject was married in December, 1864, to Miss Carrie Funk, who was born in Urbana, Ohio. Of this union there has been born one son, Charles E., and a daughter who died in infancy. Mrs. Carrie E. Powley departed this life in 1876.

Mr. Powley served as a Union soldier in the late war four months, on garrison duty in and around Washington City, D. C. He was City Marshal of Lexington three years, and socially is a member of the G. A. R. and the Masonic fraternity, being connected with Lodge No. 482.



**G**EORGE SCHLOSSER, a well-known citizen of Towanda Township, and a prosperous farmer of the same, is pleasantly located on his fine farm on section 24. George and Elizabeth (Smith) Schlosser, parents of our subject, were born in Germany. They emigrated to this country in 1853, and located in Hamilton County, Ohio, where they died. Three children were born of their union, and George was the second in order of birth.

George Schlosser was born in Germany, Jan. 5, 1835. He came to this country in the spring of 1852, and joined his brother, Henry, who had preceded him and was residing near Cincinnati, Ohio. George lived with his brother for three and a half years, and during that time was almost exclusively engaged in farming. He then took a trip to New Orleans, and after an absence of six months returned to Ohio and settled in Butler County, remaining there variously occupied until 1859. Then, renting a farm, he cultivated it until 1864, when he came to McLean County and purchased a tract of land in Money Creek Township. This he sold the following year, and removing to Bloom-

ington made that his home for about three years. In the fall of 1867 he settled in Towanda Township, on section 24, and has made that his home until the present time. He has fair improvements on his place, which consists of 244 acres, and is doing well in the conducting of his farm.

Mr. Schlosser was married in Butler County, Ohio, March 9, 1859, to Miss Elizabeth, daughter of Henry and Caroline (Dasch) Hoffman, natives of Germany. Her parents came to the United States in 1854, and settled in Butler County, Ohio, where the mother died in the fall of 1854. His demise took place at Columbus, Neb., Feb. 13, 1885. They had three daughters, and Mrs. Schlosser was the youngest. She was born in Germany in the fall of 1838, and by her marriage with our subject has become the mother of twelve children, ten of whom survive. The living are William H., Kate, Charlie J., Andrew C., John, Caroline, Louisa, Freddie, Henrietta and George. George and Albert died in infancy. The names of the children born to the parents of Mrs. Schlosser are Katie, Margaret and Elizabeth, and the children of Mr. Schlosser's parents were Henry, George and Jacob. George Schlosser, Sr., died at Hamilton, Ohio, in February, 1860, and his good wife departed this life in the same city in August, 1866. Mr. and Mrs. S. are members of the Lutheran Church, and in politics he is a staunch Republican.



**M**ORINUS WILLETT STRAYER, deceased. The subject of this history was formerly an attorney at law of Lexington. He was born in Logan County, Ohio, near West Liberty, on the 22d of June, 1835. His father, Nicholas Strayer, removed from Virginia to Ohio when a young man, and his mother, formerly Miss Esther Kinnan, was born and reared in the State of New York, whence she removed to Ohio and was there married. The parental family consisted of ten children, seven sons and three daughters, eight of whom still survive. Morinus W. was the eldest of the family and spent his childhood and youth in his native county, where he received his primary education.

At the age of seventeen years young Strayer was

thrown upon his own resources, by the death of his father. The mother with her family, in about 1853, removed to Illinois and located in De Witt County, upon a small farm, which they improved and cultivated, our subject remaining with his mother until he had attained his majority. He then left the farm, and coming to Lexington entered the law office of Judge Tipton, where he applied himself closely to study and was admitted to the bar in Chicago in about 1860. He commenced the practice of his profession in Lexington and was an active and clear-headed exponent of law. After a successful and praiseworthy career of ten years he was cut down in the prime of life, dying on the 1st of October, 1870. His talents and genial disposition had secured for him a wide circle of friends and acquaintances who mourned him as a useful and valued member of the community.

The marriage of Morinus W. Strayer and Miss Sarah F. Smith was celebrated at the home of the bride's parents on the 4th of September, 1862. Mrs. Strayer was the second daughter of Milton and Lydia Smith, of Lexington, who were among the first settlers of McLean County. She was born in this county in 1842, and received her early education upon its virgin soil. Of this union there were born three children, two sons and one daughter, the latter dying in infancy. One of the sons, Frank W., is in the employ of the Louisville, New Albany & Chicago Railroad as telegraph operator and clerk. The other, Louis B., is assistant cashier of the First National Bank of Lexington.

Mr. Strayer was a strong temperance man and one of the originators of the charter which led to the incorporation of the town of Lexington, which had for its purpose the abolition of saloons. To this work he gave much of his time and his talents, being a fluent and convincing speaker, whose heart was thoroughly in his work. Socially he was a member of the I. O. O. F., and in all respects fulfilled the obligations of a law-abiding citizen.

**R**ICHARD BREESE, a prominent and wealthy citizen of Gridley, whose portrait is given in this volume, with that of his old and highly esteemed partner, came to this section in 1857, and by his energy and enterprise es-

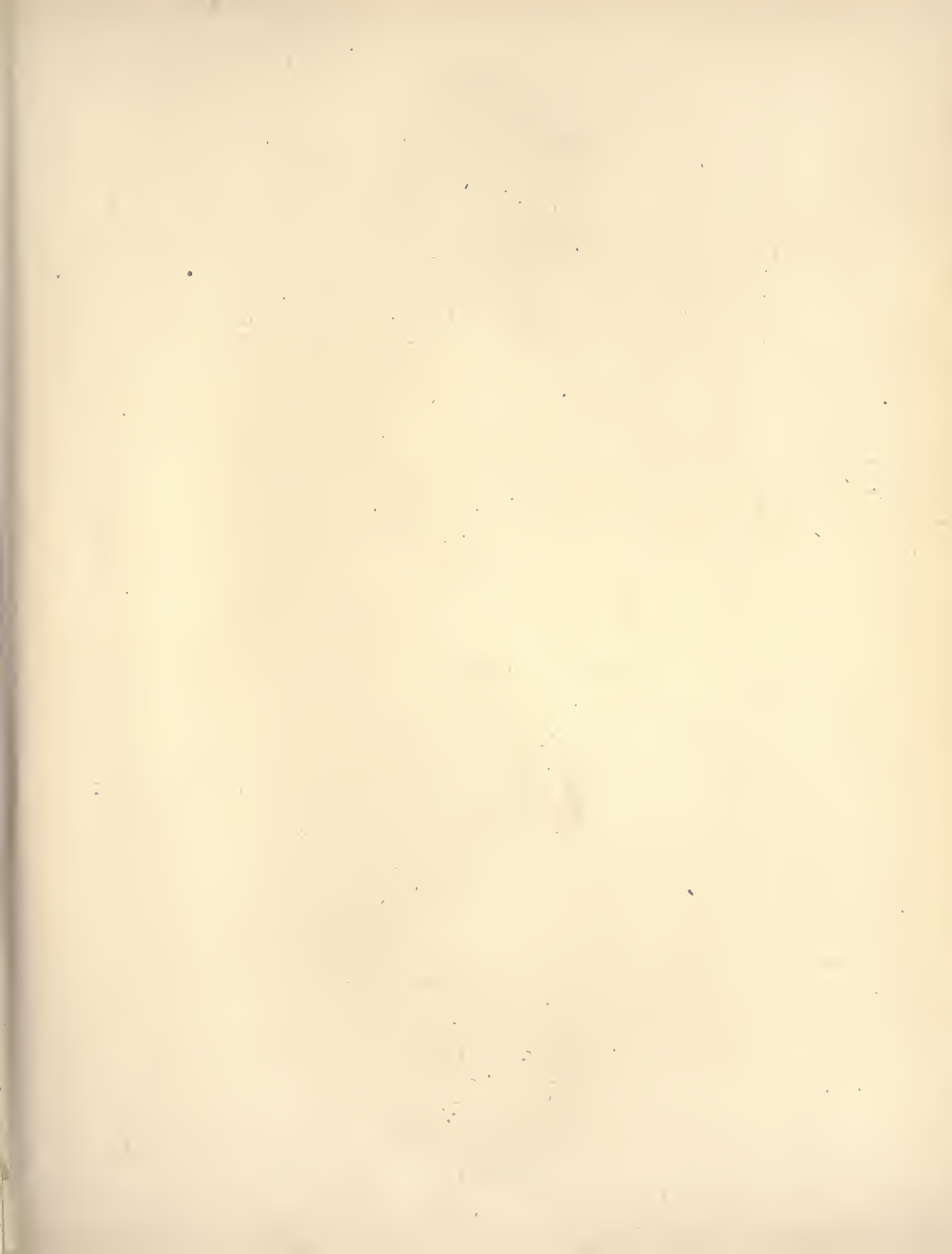
tablished himself in a short time as one of its most progressive and valuable pioneers. He is descended from substantial English ancestry, his parents having been John and Ann (Gunton) Breese, who were born in Huntingdonshire, England, where they married and settled, and where their children were born, and there the old folk passed their lives. Of the household circle, which included four sons and three daughters, the subject of this sketch was the fourth in order of birth.

Richard Breese was born in Cambridgeshire, England, Aug. 20, 1824. His father died when he was but seven years old, and he was then obliged to look out for himself. This, however, was a good school, teaching him self-reliance, and doubtless contributed greatly to bring about his later success. He commenced by working on a farm, and continued in his native England until he was twenty-eight years of age. In the meantime he had been married, and at the age mentioned started with his wife and child for the United States. They landed in New York City, and thence soon proceeded to Butler County, Ohio. There our subject worked out by the month, farming, for two years, and until the fall of 1854. He then rented land until the spring of 1857, and at this time decided to try his fortunes in the further West. After completing his preparations he came into Illinois and settled first in Waldo Township, Livingston County, where he purchased 160 acres of land, and entering upon its cultivation continued to live there until the spring of 1869.

In the spring of 1869 Mr. Breese came to this county and settled in Gridley, having the fall previously formed a partnership with W. H. Boies, for the purpose of dealing in grain and live stock. They operated together until the spring of 1884, under the style of Boies & Breese. Our subject then disposed of his interest in the business, and having accumulated a fine property has since that time retired from active labor. He is the owner of 360 acres of land in Livingston County, which is finely improved, and 240 acres in Gridley Township, this county. He also has a pleasant family residence in the town of Gridley.

Mr. Breese was married in England in 1846, to Miss Mary Miller, who was also a native of Cam-





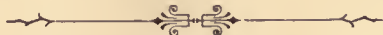


W. H. Boies



R. Buelser

bridgeshire. Of this union there were born two children—Eliza and Richard. The latter died in infancy. Eliza became the wife of Christian Neuhauser, a resident of Gridley, and the mother of eleven children, and departed this life April 14, 1879. Her surviving children were Sarah, Katie, Lucy L., Minerva, Williametta and Mary A.; five are deceased. The first wife of our subject died in England in the fall of 1849, and he was again married in his native county, Jan. 16, 1862, to Mrs. Sarah (Flanders) Harvey, daughter of James and Catharine (Gunton) Flanders, who were natives of Huntingdonshire, England, where they spent their lives. Her first husband was Richard Harvey, who died in 1851. Of the parents' marriage there were born thirteen children, seven daughters and six sons, of whom Mrs. B. was the eldest but one. Her birth occurred in Huntingdonshire, Oct. 30, 1829. Of the present marriage of our subject there have been no children. Mrs. Breese is a member in good standing of the Congregational Church, and politically Mr. B. is a staunch Republican.



**W**H. BOIES. The late W. H. Boies was one of the most prominent and influential citizens who was ever a resident of Gridley. He was largely engaged as a grain and stock dealer, and by his enterprise and activity, for many years assisted greatly in the prosperity of the business interests of this section. Mr. Boies was a native of Livingston County, N. Y., born in the town of Moscow, Jan. 22, 1833. He was the son of James C. and Caroline (Severence) Boies, natives respectively of Canada and Vermont. After marriage the parents of our subject settled in Livingston County, N. Y., and there the mother died, about 1835. James Boies then came to Illinois and made his home in Gridley, this county, until his death, which occurred in January, 1886. There were only two children—Wilber H. and George W. The latter was formerly a conductor on the T., P. & W. R. R. for twenty-one years, but is now engaged in the real-estate business in Kansas City.

W. H. received a good common-school education and remained a resident of his native county

until 1856, five years of that time being employed as clerk in a store. In the year named he came to Illinois, and made his home in El Paso for about five years, where he was engaged in the purchase and sale of grain. From there he went to Watseka, where he was connected with the freight office for a short time, and in the spring of 1862 came to Gridley and took charge of the station of the T., P. & W. R. R. as their agent, a position which he occupied fourteen years; in the meantime he was also engaged in the buying and shipping of grain. After retiring from the employ of his road he devoted his entire attention to his grain and stock operations, to which he added that of farming. He purchased a tract of land which he successfully operated, and at the time of his death was the owner of 400 acres in Gridley Township. The elevator there, which has a capacity of about 30,000 bushels, was projected and built by him, in addition to a warehouse with a capacity of 80,000.

Wilber H. Boies was united in marriage with Miss Mary A. Taylor, in Perry, Wyoming Co., N. Y., Nov. 18, 1857. Mrs. B. was born in Wyoming County, Sept. 12, 1837, and by her union with our subject became the mother of four children—George V., Nettie W., Charles C. and Wilber H., Jr.

In 1884, Mr. Boies, who had been in partnership with R. Breese, purchased the interest of his partner and afterward carried on his business alone. He was a member of the Republican party, greatly interested in the success of the temperance movement, and served as a member of the Village Board for several years. Socially he was connected with El Paso Lodge No. 246, A. F. & A. M., also belonged to Cœnr de Leon Commandery at El Paso, and the Royal Arch Chapter.

The following eloquent estimate of Mr. Boies was penned by an old friend, and one who knew the man of whom he so feelingly writes. Certainly no higher tribute could be paid to the memory of any man than that by this writer to the memory of W. H. Boies.

“Personally Mr. Boies was a man of pleasant manners and genial presence. None knew him but to love him, and to all in this section of the county he stood in the light of a personal friend and advisor. He was the most unselfish of men; his

generosity was almost proverbial; his kindness of heart was extended to everything and everybody; and it was impossible to be in his presence without feeling that he was, in every sense of the word, a good man. There was about him no pretension or hypoerisy; his way of life was open and could be read by all men. There was in him an overflowing charity, a large-heartedness, a philosophy and an unpretending common sense that was peculiarly his own, that lifted him above the ordinary vexations of life, and gave him a serenity and a cheerfulness that influenced all with whom he came in contact. We knew him intimately for many years, and we never knew of his doing a selfish, or small, or an ungenerous thing, or to make uncharitable remarks of anyone.

"In his death, which occurred March 9, 1887, the citizens of Gridley and vicinity lost their best friend. Words cannot express his worth—kind, genial, pleasant, loving and sympathetic, a noble mind and a kindly heart—he was the friend of all, giving advice when desired, never officious, always obliging. He was to the people here a legal advisor, counselor, banker, helper and friend in time of trouble and adversity. Had it not been for his kindness and help nine-tenths of the farmers in this vicinity could not have extricated themselves from the financial embarrassment brought on them by the hard times of 1873 to 1879. He aided them to tide the stream by advancing money on prospective crops, and by giving with a free hand aid to those who could only give their word as surety. It mattered not whether the applicant came in rags or clothed in fine linen; his noble heart, ever open to the cry of distress, turned none away who were in need. His was the hand to raise a broken spirit, to cheer a disponding heart, and bid them be of good cheer, for he would help them, and his promises were made to be kept, not broken, as so many are.

"He had executive ability of the highest order. He could execute any legal business that was brought to his notice, or give such advice as would lead to an easy settlement of the difficulty in question. The people flocked to him to execute deeds, mortgages, contracts, leases; to write their wills and business letters, and to straighten up the tan-

gles in their own business ventures; and never was he so busy but he would stop his own work, which was most voluminous, and help them, and do it with so much kindness that all were drawn instinctively toward him. Thus was a bond woven that the hand of death can never sever. With so much power given him over the people, never did he take advantage of those whose business affairs were in his keeping, but gave to all the helping hand of the kindest parent.

"Since his death men whose heads are stooped by age and whose hair the hand of time is whitening, have come to the writer of this sketch, and with tears streaming down their faces, told of how he had helped them in some hour of greatest need, and bewailed his loss as to them the greatest of all calamities. Of such a man volumes could not tell his worth, nor words portray his kindness."

The portrait of Mr. Boies which we give in connection with this sketch will be welcomed by the many who love his memory so dearly,



**D**ENNIS KENYON, an extensive land-holder and stock-breeder, is a pioneer settler of McLean County, who became a resident of the Prairie State July 18, 1840. He is a New Englander by birth, having been born in Coventry, Kent Co., R. I., on the 24th of October, 1833. His father, Ezra T. Kenyon, was the son of John Kenyon, who was a native of Sterling, Conn., and a farmer by occupation. He remained a resident of the Nutmeg State until 1852, then sold out and came to Mt. Hope Township, this county, and made his home with his daughter, Mrs. O. Arnold, the remainder of his life. The maiden name of his wife, the grandmother of our subject, was Susan Thurston, also a native of Connecticut, and who died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Arnold before mentioned.

Ezra T. Kenyon, the father of our subject, was reared on his father's farm until he had grown to manhood, and then engaged to work in a cotton mill in his native State. In due time he became foreman of the spinning-room, and remained in Windham County until 1840. He then determined

to visit the western country, and on April 6 of that year, started with his wife and two children on a steamer from Norwich to New York City, thence by the Hudson River to Albany, from there by the Erie Canal to Buffalo, and around the lakes to Chicago. Arriving in the latter city they hired a private conveyance to a point in Indiana fifty miles distant. After visiting there with friends a short time, the father purchased a yoke of oxen and a wagon and started for Illinois, arriving after nine days' travel, in McLean County, and landing in Mt. Hope Township on the 18th of July, ill with the ague. Mr. Kenyon had previously purchased 160 acres of land on the southeast quarter of section 32, which, before it was named Mt. Hope, was township 32, range 1 west. The land was still in its original condition, and there were no buildings. Mr. Kenyon rented a house in the vicinity of his property, and the following year built a frame dwelling on his own land. He had broken eleven acres the first year, and he proceeded with the improvement and cultivation of his land with persevering industry, living to improve his entire farm, and adding to his real estate as his means permitted, until he was finally possessed of 400 acres. Upon this he erected a substantial set of frame buildings comprising a handsome farm residence with good barns and outhouses, and all the conveniences for the storing of grain and the shelter of stock. He also planted fruit and shade trees and lived to see the country developed and settled. He contributed in no small degree to the prosperity of this section, and was a remarkable illustration of what can be accomplished by resolution and perseverance. He finally closed his eyes to the scenes of his earthly labors on the 21st of July, 1880, and his name is held in kindly remembrance by all who knew him. His aged partner still survives him, and lives on the old homestead. Before her marriage she was Miss Susan S. Rathburn; she was born in Exeter, Washington Co., R. I., Oct. 4, 1809. Her parents were John and Annie Rathburn, natives of Rhode Island and New York respectively. The parental household consisted of two sons—Dennis and Ezra W. Mr. and Mrs. Kenyon were devoted members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the former, in early years a

Whig, latterly became a member of the Republican party, and uniformly cast his vote in support of its principles.

Dennis Kenyon was in his seventh year when he journeyed with his parents from Connecticut to the prairies of Illinois, and has consequently been a resident of McLean County for a period of forty-seven years. In youth he attended the subscription schools and assisted his parents in the duties around the homestead. In 1852 he went to California, via the Isthmus, and entering the mines, was engaged for the space of eighteen months in searching for the yellow ore. Then, being satisfied with his far western experience, he returned to Mt. Hope, of which he has been a resident continuously since that time.

The marriage of Mr. Kenyon and Miss Adeline G. Peck, was celebrated on the 15th of August, 1854. Mrs. Kenyon was a native of Dighton, Mass., and was born Jan. 30, 1827. She is the daughter of William and Lemira (Mason) Peck, both natives of the Bay State, and descendants of Joseph Peck, of England, who came to America previous to 1738, and settled in Hingham, Mass. The father of Mrs. Kenyon was a Brigadier-General in the State Militia.

During his long residence in this section Mr. Kenyon has fully established himself in the confidence and esteem of his fellow-citizens. As a farmer he is skillful and judicious, and as a business man he is upright and straightforward in his transactions, prompt to meet his obligations, and a man whose word is considered as good as his bond. He is the owner of nearly 2,000 acres, all lying in Mt. Hope Township, and besides this has valuable property in Kansas. He is also extensively engaged in the feeding and shipping of stock, and his various interests yield him annually a handsome income. He has filled various offices of trust in his township, having been Supervisor of Mt. Hope Township, and also Trustee.

During the progress of the late war, Mr. Kenyon enlisted as a soldier of the Union in Co. A, 117th Ill. Vol. Inf., of which he was commissioned Lieutenant, and served until 1864, when he resigned and returned home to resume farming.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenyon are members in good

standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and socially Mr. Kenyon is a Knight Templar, belonging to McLean Lodge No. 469, A. F. & A. M., DeMolay Commandery No. 24, K. T., and Oriental Consistory, S. P. R. S., Chicago, being a 32d degree Mason. In politics he is a staunch Republican.



**P**ETER HEFNER, retired farmer, residing at Lexington, and familiarly known as "Uncle Peter," was born near Franklin, Pendleton Co., W. Va., April 20, 1813. His father, Michael Hefner, was a farmer by occupation, a native of Virginia, and of German ancestry. Our subject's mother, whose maiden name was Barbara Flesher, was also a native of Virginia, and likewise of German ancestry. Michael Hefner and family moved from Virginia to Fayette County, Ohio, in 1816, and made that their home until 1830. During that year they moved to the Mackinaw timber, Illinois, and settled in Money Creek Township. There Michael Hefner entered a tract of 240 acres of Government land, with no improvements upon it. His first house was a log-cabin, and it was in this rudely constructed dwelling that the family passed the winter of the deep snow in 1830-31. Michael Hefner was in every sense a pioneer, and lived on the land which he located in Money Creek Township, engaged in the cultivation of the same until his death, which occurred some ten years after his location there. His family consisted of eleven children, six sons and five daughters; two died in infancy. Seven of the number are still living.

Peter Hefner was the oldest of his parents' children. He passed his boyhood days in Fayette County, Ohio, receiving but a limited education in the common schools, and coming to this county with his parents when seventeen years of age. There were no schools here at that time, and our subject, to his knowledge obtained in the common schools in the East, added a fund of practical information, and is well posted to-day on affairs of State and Nation.

One of the important events in the life of our subject occurred on March 27, 1833, when he was

married to Miss Betsey Flesher. The parents of Mrs. H. moved into this county about the same time that the Hefner family became residents here. After his marriage our subject settled on a new tract of land and began farming for himself. He was the proprietor then of a capital of \$14, but he went to work with a will and improved his land, and during the late Civil War bought and shipped cattle and hogs to the Chicago market and made money quite rapidly. At one time he was the owner of 1,700 acres of land in Money Creek Township, and also 640 acres in Martin Township, making a total of 2,340 acres, and all paid for. He continued to reside on the home farm in Money Creek Township until 1870, when he sold it to his son Harmon, and moved to Lexington, where he has since lived retired from active labor.

Mr. and Mrs. Hefner reared a family of nine children, five sons and four daughters, four only now living. These are, Harmon, who occupies the old place in Money Creek Township; Mary, the wife of J. D. Curry, and Adeline, wife of John Campbell, residents of Lexington, and John A., living on a farm in Money Creek Township. George M. died in July, 1879.

Mr. Hefner has a commodious residence in Lexington, and is passing the sunset of life in the enjoyment of a well-earned competency. He is a man of great strength and nerve, and the exposure of a country life has not injured his constitution in the least. He is a straightforward man in his dealings, and prompt to meet all his engagements. He and his wife are members of the United Brethren Church, in which he has served many years as Class-Leader. Politically he is a staunch Republican.



**M**ILTON SMITH, a pioneer of this county of 1835, was born in Franklin County, Ky., Feb. 19, 1808. His father's name was William Smith, and his mother's maiden name, Obedience Brown. The former died when our subject was but eight years of age. He was born in Pennsylvania, and had emigrated to Kentucky when a young man. Obedience Brown was the daughter of George Brown, who moved to

Kentucky when Obedience was a little girl, and lived in that State until 1818, when he came to Illinois and made this State his home until his death. William Smith became the father of six children: John W., who died at Lexington; James H., deceased; Milton, the subject of this biography; Joseph G., deceased; Matilda P. married Patrick Hopkins, and died at Lexington some years ago; Sarah married Henry Hayes, and is also deceased.

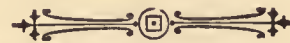
Milton Smith was the third in order of birth of his parents' children. He grew to manhood in his native county on a farm, and attended a subscription school in which he received his education. At the age of eight years he was orphaned by the death of his father, who left to the care of the mother, six children. The family had sixty acres of land, but it required a goodly portion of their personal property to pay their debts, and young Smith, realizing how hard a time it was for his mother to get along with the children, went to work with a will to aid in the support of the family. He continued a resident of Kentucky until the fall of 1835, when he came to this county. Here he bought a claim of eighty acres of land which had been pre-empted and on which he erected a log-cabin. It was located in Lexington Township, and is the same tract on which he has lived until the present time. Soon, however, after coming here he entered about 500 acres of land from the proceeds realized from the sale of the little farm in Kentucky, which they had disposed of at \$40 per acre. The mother of our subject and two sisters accompanied Milton to this county and located with him on the land purchased. The mother died on the farm some thirty years ago.

Nov. 23, 1837, our subject was united in marriage with Lydia A. Goddard, eldest daughter of Dr. Abbott Goddard. After their marriage they settled on Mr. Smith's land, and he began its improvement and cultivation, and they have made that their home until the present time. He has been a successful agriculturist, and has added to that department of his vocation the raising of cattle and hogs. He has experienced all the trials incident to the settlement of a new country, and hauled his pork to Chicago when the present me-

tropolis was but a hamlet. He was economical and energetic, and kept adding to his landed interests until at one time he was the proprietor of 1,500 acres. A portion of this he has given to his children, and yet retains 400 acres in his own name.

Mr. Smith and wife are the parents of eleven children, seven sons and four daughters, and nine of the number lived to attain the age of man and womanhood. Ann M. married George Okeson; Sarah is the wife of M. W. Strayer; William A., Fletcher M.; Carrie, wife of V. D. Pierson; Kate L. married D. Poole; Lewis H., George J. and Estelle are single and living at home.

Mr. Smith is now in his seventy-ninth year, hale and hearty, and superintends the cultivation of his farm. Mrs. Smith is a lady of culture and refinement, with a kind and loving heart, and is able even in her old age to attend to her household duties. Mr. Smith, under the old law, was one of the County Justices who constituted the County Court. He held this office for some eight years, to the entire satisfaction of all concerned. He also served as Supervisor of Lexington Township for two years. He and his wife are members of the Presbyterian-Church, and he has been one of its Elders for about twenty-five years. Politically, our subject was an old-line Whig, but on the birth of the Republican party joined its ranks, and has since voted for its success. He is nevertheless a strong temperance man and hopes to see the day when the sale of intoxicating liquors shall be prohibited by law. His temperance ideas are also against the use of tobacco and he neither chews nor smokes the filthy weed.



**H**ON. JOHN M. SCOTT, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Illinois, and a resident of the city of Bloomington, is a native of the Prairie State, and was born on a farm near Belleville, in St. Clair County, Aug. 1, 1823. He is the son of Samuel and Nancy (Biggs) Scott, the former a native of Virginia, and the latter of Illinois. The mother of our subject was born Jan. 1,

1779, near Kaskaskia, and was the daughter of Hon. William Biggs, one of the earliest pioneers of Illinois, coming with George Rogers Clarke, in 1778. He selected a location near Kaskaskia, and soon afterward sent for his family. The family is descended from Scotch-Irish ancestry, and possesses in a marked degree the characteristics of their forefathers.

The subject of this biography spent his childhood and youth under the parental roof, receiving a common-school education, which included private instruction in the English branches, and later, Latin and the higher mathematics. He remained a resident of his native town until 1848, then commenced the study of law in the office of Hon. W. C. Kenney, and immediately after being admitted to practice opened an office in Bloomington, where he has since remained. In connection with his law business he has been honored with various responsible positions. He served first as School Commissioner of McLean County, the duties of which he has discharged with much credit, and in 1852 was elected Judge of the County Court. He steadily grew in public favor until in 1862 he was elected Judge of the Eighth Judicial Circuit, and served with such ability that he was unanimously re-elected, in 1867. In all respects, both as jurist and as a citizen, he has been an honor to the community, and has received an ample reward in the universal respect and esteem with which he is regarded.

In 1870 Judge Scott was elevated to the Supreme Bench of the State over Hon. E. S. Terry, of Danville. In 1879 he was re-elected against Hon. B. S. Edwards. By allotment he became Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, first in 1875, and again in 1882, also receiving a like distinction in 1886. At the expiration of his present term he will have been eighteen years on the Supreme Bench, thirteen of which he has served as Chief Justice, and eight years as Judge of the Circuit Court.

Judge Scott possesses a mind exceedingly well adapted to judiciary positions, and during his long term of service has distinguished himself for his clear analysis of legal points, and his decisions will be used as authority in the State as long as courts are held. His first decisions appear in Volume 54 of the Illinois Reports, which now comprises 118 vol-

umes, and in sixty-five of which may be found his clear and concise views. His name appears in the April volume of Gillman's, which is the eighth series of Illinois Reports. In most of the volumes since that time his name will be found either as an Attorney, Circuit Judge or Justice of the Supreme Court.

In politics Judge Scott was originally a Whig, but after the abandonment of that party cordially endorsed the principles of the Republican, with whom he has cast his lot since that time. He has never held any political office, although, in 1856, he was a candidate on the Republican ticket for State Senator, being defeated by Hon. Joel S. Post, of Decatur.

The marriage of Judge Scott with Miss Charlotte A. Perry was celebrated in Bloomington, in 1853. Mrs. Scott is the daughter of Rev. David I. Perry, a minister of the Presbyterian Church. In personal appearance Judge Scott is prepossessing, in manners courteous and dignified. He is five feet, eight and one-half inches in height, with dark complexion and hazel eyes. His hair, which was almost black when young, is now nearly white. He has to this day in his writing mostly used the old-fashioned quill pen. In temperament he possesses a happy mien, being neither boisterously merry nor morbidly melancholy. In short he is a finely balanced specimen of manhood, both physically and mentally, and with his devoted partner is surrounded by a large circle of congenial and faithful friends, who experience no greater pleasure than meeting at the delightful home of Judge Scott, talking over the early days, and congratulating him upon the success which has followed his earnest and worthy efforts.

**E**BENEZER B. MITCHEL, a retired farmer now living in the enjoyment of a competency in the village of Danvers, came to Illinois with his parents before it had been admitted into the Union as a State. He was born in Morganfield, Union Co., Ky., on the 17th of August, 1813, his parents being Peyton and Elizabeth (Briggs) Mitchel. His father was born in Virginia, Aug. 26, 1791, and died April 4, 1853. He emi-



grated to Illinois from Virginia, arriving here in November, one month prior to the time when the Territory became a State. It is believed that he was the fifth man to settle north of the Sangamon River, and he located in what is now Sangamon County. He was a farmer by occupation, and also officiated as a minister of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. His time was about equally divided between the farm and pulpit, and sometimes he would ride on horseback over 100 miles to his charge. He was a natural orator, having great influence over his audiances, and was very successful in making accessions to the Church. Upon one occasion, when his appointment lay in Putnam County, being late in his arrival one Mr. Payne essayed to occupy his pulpit until he should arrive. When the regular incumbent came, however, Mr. P. vacated, and Mr. Mitchel taking up the subject of the latter, treated it with such force that one young man became converted, afterward joined the church, and in due time was ordained a minister of the same. At another time, in Logan County, while filling an appointment at a private house, eight or ten people were converted. One young man hurried to the minister and warmly embraced him, addressing him in very forcible language and evincing great emotion. Our subject estimates that his honored father followed the ministry as opportunity offered, for a period of thirty-five years. His services were given gratuitously.

The parents of our subject were married on the 3d of September, 1812. The mother was born Aug. 10, 1795, and departed this life Jan. 12, 1850. The household circle included eight children, viz.: Ebenezer B. of our sketch; John E., William M., Samuel R., James M. C., Louisa A., Mary Jane and Phoebe E. Of these only three are living: E. B., our subject; Dr. Robert Mitchel, and Louisa, now Mrs. Vanee, of Danvers.

Ebenezer Mitchel came to Illinois with his parents, and remained with them until he was twenty-three years of age, his childhood and youth being employed in attendance at the common schools and assisting his parents around the farm. On the 26th of May, 1836, he was united in marriage with Miss Rachel Vance, who was born and reared in Kentucky, and came to Illinois the year before her

marriage. The birth of Mrs. M. occurred Nov. 23, 1813. She is the daughter of James and Jane (Hay) Vanee, natives respectively of Kentucky and Virginia. Her mother was born in 1794, and died in 1824. James Vanee died in 1859, when seventy-two years of age. Their family consisted of four children, two sons and two daughters, viz., Elizabeth, Rachel, Peter and Andrew.

Mr. and Mrs. Mitchel became the parents of seven children, three now living: James P. was born April 30, 1837; John O., Sept. 30, 1839; Elizabeth M., July 16, 1842; Mary L., July 1, 1845; Emeline M., Aug. 28, 1849; Virginia B., April 30, 1853, and Ebenezer B., Jr., Nov. 23, 1855.

After his marriage Mr. Mitchel followed farming until 1854, when he removed to Bloomington, Ill., where he was appointed Deputy Sheriff, and occupied the position for ten years following. In the meantime, however, he had taken the census of the county, completing the task in fifty-eight days, a feat which was unprecedented in the annals of the county. After his term of office had expired he became the agent for H. B. Metcalf & Co., of Providence, who were engaged as grain dealers, in whose employ he remained for about three years. He had removed to Bloomington for the purpose of securing good educational advantages for his children. This having been accomplished he returned to the farm, and from 1870 to 1885 was engaged in the breeding of fine horses. Mr. Mitchel was at one time the owner of 909 acres of land in McLean County. In 1885 he divided his real estate among his children, and removed to Danvers, where he is now enjoying the fruits of his early labors, and also the profound respect and veneration which is tacitly accorded the honored pioneers.

Mr. Mitchel is not connected with any secret organization. When twenty-three years of age he professed religion and united with the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, of which he was a Ruling Elder for a period of twenty years. He was elected a delegate to represent the church at the Ecclesiastical Syndicate, a general assembling of the synods of the United States, several times, and was otherwise very prominently identified with the denomination. Since that time, however, his religious views have experienced a change in regard to those

requirements which constitute the true church, of which he claims there is but one. He believes that by the atonement of Christ all infants will be saved, and that many so-called church organizations are unauthorized by the Scriptures. He believes also that water baptism is an institution of man and not essential to salvation.

Politically, Mr. Mitchel, during the existence of the Whig party, warmly indorsed its views, but when the old party was abandoned by the organization of the new Republican party, he cordially indorsed the principles of the latter, and with it uniformly casts his vote.

**D**AVID H. VANDOLAH, importer and dealer in Percheron and Norman horses, owns and occupies a comfortable and handsome home in Lexington, and is meeting with success in his calling. He is a native of Money Creek Township, this county, and was born Nov. 8, 1841. His father, James Vandolah, was one of the early pioneers of McLean County, coming here in 1835, from Ohio, to which he had removed from his native State of Pennsylvania when quite young. He was married in Ohio to Miss Naney Nutt, latterly of Fayette County, Ohio, but who was born in Virginia. Upon their removal to McLean County, Ill., they permanently located in Money Creek Township, where James Vandolah improved a farm and engaged extensively in stock-raising. In due time he became the proprietor of 800 acres of land, and continued his stock business until he retired from active labor, when he was succeeded by his son David H. His family consisted of seven sons and two daughters, of whom four sons and one daughter are living, David H. being next to the youngest.

Our subject remained on the farm until fourteen years of age and then started out with his father and assisted him in the handling of stock and buying and shipping, and for a mere boy developed unusual business talent. These early experiences served to make him self-reliant, and were of great advantage to him in all his after years.

Mr. Vandolah was married, March 22, 1864, to Miss Britania, daughter of Sion Bray of Lexington,

and continued his occupation as a stock-dealer, making his residence in Lexington. In 1879 he began the importation of French draft horses, and in 1885 shipped sixty-seven head of magnificent animals to different parts of the United States. He has displayed rare talent and genius as a judge of horseflesh, and exhibits some of the finest animals to be found along the Mississippi Valley. For the accommodation and comfort of these he erected a fine barn, which is especially arranged for the purpose and equipped with all modern appliances. His name has become familiar in this section of country as one of the leading horsemen of the Prairie State. His two sons, James W. and Sheridan, are assisting their father in his business and bid fair to develop his own talent and genius in this direction. Mrs. Vandolah is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In politics Mr. Vandolah is a Republican.

**M**ICHAEL H. MILLER, of Randolph Township, owns and occupies a comfortable homestead on section 25, which comprises 160 acres of land, a good farm-house and other buildings, and all the necessary appliances for carrying on agriculture in a progressive manner.

The subject of this history was born in Hagerstown, Washington Co., Md., being the son of Joseph Miller, who was of English and Irish parentage. Joseph Miller was a farmer by occupation and located in Washington County, Md., after his marriage with Miss Margaret Hager, whence he removed to Pennsylvania where he farmed, first in Fayette and then in Westmoreland County. Mrs. Miller was of German ancestry, and born in Maryland. Of their five sons and four daughters, Michael H. was the youngest and was born Sept. 1, 1810. When he was five years of age his parents removed from Pennsylvania to Ohio and there settled in Montgomery County, where they spent the remainder of their lives. Joseph Miller was successful in his farming and business transactions and accumulated considerable means, providing a comfortable home for his family, of which all members, with one exception, accompanied their parents upon their removal to Ohio.





Michael J. McKon



Lewis Batterton

Michael H. Miller was reared to manhood in Montgomery County, Ohio, whence he afterward went to Indiana and was there married in Dearborn County to Miss Matilda Colwell on the 2d of April, 1832. Mrs. Miller was born in about 1810, in Indiana, and died at the home of her husband in Randolph Township in about 1853. Of her union with our subject there were born ten children, six now deceased. The living are, Frank, Samuel, Mary and Minerva, all married and settled in comfortable homes of their own.

Mr. Miller after his marriage located in Dearborn County, Ind., whence he removed after one year to Hamilton County, living there until in October, 1839. He then came into McLean County, and settled on the farm which he now owns and occupies.

For his second wife Mr. Miller married Mrs. Martha (Miller) Daniels, in Funk's Grove Township, in 1855. Mrs. Martha Miller was born near New Albany, Floyd Co., Ind., where she was reared and educated, and there married to Mr. Daniels. They became the parents of five children. By her marriage with our subject there have been born two children, a son and daughter, Josephus and Ellen, who are both now married. Mr. and Mrs. Miller are greatly respected in their community, and our subject is in all respects fulfilling the obligations of a law-abiding citizen. He is an extensive reader, well informed, liberal in religion and Democratic in politics. He possesses great force of character and takes an intelligent interest in current events.



**CURTIS BATTERTON.** This old and honored citizen of Martin Township came to this vicinity in the pioneer days, and with others who ventured upon the territory of a new country, endured bravely the difficulties encountered before the advance of civilization had contributed so much to make life more pleasurable than toilsome. He was born near Richmond, in Madison County, Ky., Jan. 11, 1810, and is the descendant of a family well known in the early history of this country. His grandfather, a native of North Carolina, served as a soldier in the Revolu-

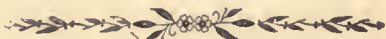
tionary War, and at the close of that conflict became a resident of Kentucky. There he reared a family of sons and daughters, among whom was Abraham, the father of our subject. The latter after arriving at years of manhood married Miss Susan, daughter of George Henline, Esq., of North Carolina, who also was a Revolutionary soldier. Of this marriage there were born eight children. The parents spent the greater part of their lives in Kentucky, there died, and there their remains are buried.

Curtis Batterton, who was the third child of his parents, passed his earlier years in his native county and came to this State in about 1837. He had previously purchased eighty acres of timber land in this county and now entered 240 acres, and later he purchased thirty-five acres more, and now owns 355 acres. Upon the former, for which he paid \$500, he erected a small log cabin and began to open up a farm. The following summer he was married to Miss Melinda, daughter of William Henline, a resident of McLean County. The young couple went to housekeeping in the humble cabin and bravely encountered the many hardships and privations incident to the development of a new country. The nearest market at that time was Chicago and the milling for the family was done at Peoria. The hogs and cattle were driven to the market, a week's time being often occupied in reaching the place of destination. Many of the streams were unbridged, which rendered crossing difficult and dangerous, and teamsters were frequently compelled to go a long distance out of their way to reach the other side in safety. In addition to this, farm produce at best only commanded a low price. As time progressed, however, and the population began to increase, their difficulties and labors grew less and the products of the farm brought a better price. Mr. Batterton being located in one of the finest corn regions in this State raised this cereal in large quantities and fattened large numbers of hogs annually, shipping them by rail to Chicago. By this means he made the larger part of his little fortune and was enabled to effect the necessary improvements upon his farm, adding both to its beauty and value. The shapely brick residence which the family now occupy was one of

the first of its kind erected in Martin Township, and surrounding it are the necessary barns and out-buildings, conveniently arranged for the shelter of stock and the storing of grain. It must not be imagined, however, that he has not encountered reverses as well as others, but he has ever met misfortune with a philosophic spirit and never allowed it to dismay or discourage him. He has always taken an active interest in the welfare and progress of his adopted State, and has been prominent in the counsels of his fellow-townsmen. Politically, he is an earnest Republican and fully believes in the rectitude of the principles of that party. He has not tasted liquor for thirty-five years and does not smoke or chew tobacco.

Mr. and Mrs. Batterton became the parents of four sons and one daughter, namely: John, William, Franklin, Albert and Telitha. The latter is the wife of Miles Waybright, of Lexington; John died of measles in the army. Our subject is now in the seventy-eighth year of his age and is in possession of a sound mind in a healthy body. He still loves to recall the incidents of the old pioneer days and can relate many an interesting story of early life in Martin Township.

In the galaxy of portraits of the leading men and pioneers of McLean County given in this ALBUM, none will receive a warmer welcome than that of Curtis Batterton.



**J**OHN FLESHER, one of the numerous successful agriculturists of McLean County, is living on his fine farm on section 3, Money Creek Township. The father of our subject, John Flesher, and his wife, Mary (Seybery) Flesher, were natives of Pendleton County, W. Va. The parents were married and settled in their native county, whence they removed to Fayette County, Ohio, in 1835. They made the latter county their home for about six years, and then, in 1841, came to this county and took up their residence in Money Creek Township, where they lived and labored until their death. His demise took place in the latter part of the spring of 1863, and she died about 1873. Of their union were born the follow-

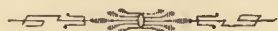
ing-named children: Jesse, Elizabeth, Peter, Polly, Catharine, John, George, Aleinda, Andrew and William.

John Flesher was the sixth child born to his parents. He first saw light in Pendleton County, W. Va., July 4, 1816, and at the time of his parents' removal to Ohio, was about nineteen years old. He lived with them in that State until their emigration to this county, when he accompanied them. Mr. Flesher was reared on a farm, and in fact all his years until the present time, have been devoted almost exclusively to agricultural pursuits, although he has followed shoemaking in connection with his calling. He has resided in Money Creek Township since 1841, and is now the owner of 100 acres, the major portion of which is under an advanced state of cultivation.

May 19, 1849, in McLean County, our subject was united in marriage with Frances J. Eckels, a native of Indiana. She bore him five children—William P., Alex S., Andrew W., Osear E. and Lewis D. A. William P. was united in marriage with Miss Clara Stretch, and is a farmer of Money Creek Township; they have one child, Ethel A. The remaining four children are deceased. Mrs. Flesher departed this life June 14, 1862, and our subject was a second time married in Money Creek Township, Nov. 26, 1865, Miss Catherine E. Barnard being the other contracting party. Of this union one child, Viola A., was born, and is now the wife of Edward Murphey, who resides in Money Creek Township. Mrs. Catherine Flesher died Oct. 31, 1866, and April 1, 1867, in the latter-named township, Mr. Flesher formed another matrimonial alliance. The lady of his choice was Vesta A. (Potter) Fultz, daughter of Samuel and Nancy (Berger) Potter, and widow of Henry Fultz. Mr. Fultz was a soldier in the late Civil War, belonging to the 124th Illinois Infantry, and lost his life at the battle of Champion Hills. By his marriage with Miss Potter he had three children—Mary C., Lucy A. and Sarah E. Mary is the wife of Thomas Richards, and they are living in Money Creek Township; Lucy married A. M. Flesher, and they live in Gridley Township; Sarah is the wife of George W. Curry, and their home is in Morton County, Kan. Mrs. Flesher was born in Floyd

County, Ind., April 17, 1836, and with her husband is a member of the United Brethren Church.

In politics Mr. Flesher is Republican. He has held the office of Highway Commissioner, and is one of the foremost citizens of his township.



**D**ORREL F. BIDDLE, proprietor of 380 acres of valuable land on section 1, Towanda Township, and an energetic and thorough-going farmer of this county, as well as a progressive and successful one, is the son of Noble and Margaret (Wright) Biddle, natives of Ohio. Noble Biddle and wife settled in Fayette County, Ohio, after their marriage, whence in 1850, they came to this county and settled in Lexington Township. There the good wife died, Sept. 7, 1858. Mr. Biddle yet survives. Seven children were born to them, three sons and four daughters, and Dorrel was the second in order of birth.

Our subject was born in Fayette County, Ohio, Nov. 3, 1836. He attended the common schools of his native county, and received such education as was to be obtained therein, and also assisted his father in the labors on the farm. In 1850 he accompanied his parents to this county, and lived with them until 1856, when he worked one season by the month. He then rented land in Lexington Township, which he farmed for two years, when he was enabled to buy eighty acres on section 1, Towanda Township. On this place he erected a residence, which was destroyed by fire in the fall of 1866. He has since rebuilt his house, and surrounded it with good and substantial out-buildings, and to-day has one of the finest farms in Towanda Township, and is meeting with signal success in conducting it. A view of the place is shown on another page of this volume.

Mr. Biddle was married, in Lexington, Ill., Dec. 22, 1859, to Miss Rebecca A., daughter of John and Rachel (McDorman) Lambert, natives of Clarke County, Ohio. Mrs. Biddle was born in Fayette County, Ohio, Oct. 24, 1836, and has borne our subject seven children.—Melissa E., William O., Noble M., Edna M., Elmer F., John P. and Wilmer O. Melissa is the wife of William Merna, and

they are living at Bloomington; William died in infancy; Noble was united in marriage with Miss Mary R. Fletcher, and they are living in Money Creek Township; Edna is the wife of David C. Fletcher, and they are residents of Normal Township. For eight years Mr. Biddle has held the office of Justice of the Peace, and for six years has acted in the capacity of Road Commissioner. He has also served as Township Trustee, and in politics is Republican. He and his wife are members of the United Brethren Church.



**J**AMES H. LINCOLN, deceased, was one of the earliest pioneers of McLean County and a resident of the Prairie State from 1836 to his demise. He was a gentleman of fine education and in early life took up the study of law, being admitted to the bar at Bloomington in 1849, and commenced practice at Le Roy. Three years later he opened a drug-store, which he operated in connection with his practice, carrying these on together for about sixteen years, and remained a resident of Le Roy until his death, which occurred on the 6th of March, 1877.

Mr. Lincoln was born in Greene County, Pa., Feb. 15, 1815, and was the son of Thomas and Mary (Jones) Lincoln, natives of that State. The grandfather of our subject, Mordecai Lincoln, was born in Lincolnshire, England, and upon emigrating to America settled in Pennsylvania. There the father of our subject was reared upon a farm, worked for a time in a woolen-mill, and spent his entire life in his native county. The parents of James H. desired him to become a minister but he preferred the law, and at an early age commenced studying with this end in view. When nineteen years of age he taught school in Pennsylvania two years and pursued this occupation after coming to Illinois, at Ottawa.

In 1837 Mr. Lincoln came to Le Roy which was then but a hamlet with one hotel and store. Young Lincoln conducted the first school in Le Roy and soon afterward entered upon the practice of his profession as stated. He was married, Sept. 12, 1841, to Miss Ellen Merrifield, who was born in

Greene County, Ohio, Nov. 5, 1820, and was the daughter of James and Hannah (Haines) Merrifield. Her father was of Pennsylvania and her mother of English parentage, the latter born in Virginia. The seven children of Mr. and Mrs. L. are: Thomas Abraham, of Ridgeway, Mo.; Benjamin F., of Farmer City, Ill.; Mary E., Mrs. Alexander Dixon, of Le Roy; Mordecai, of Kansas; Edgar C., of Farmer City; James T., of Le Roy, and Eliza E., who married G. B. Dougherty, of Leon, Iowa.

The parents of Mrs. Lincoln came to McLean County in 1832, spending the following winter in Downs Township. In the spring of 1833, they removed to the grove near Le Roy, being the third family that settled there. The father improved a farm and lived there with his family until 1857. He then spent five years in Missouri, after which he returned to Le Roy and remained until his death in 1862. The mother died in 1838 in Buckles Grove.

Mr. Lincoln in early life was a member of the Whig party but later a Republican. He was upright in his business transactions, a valued member of the community, and his name is held in kindly remembrance by a large circle of friends and acquaintances.



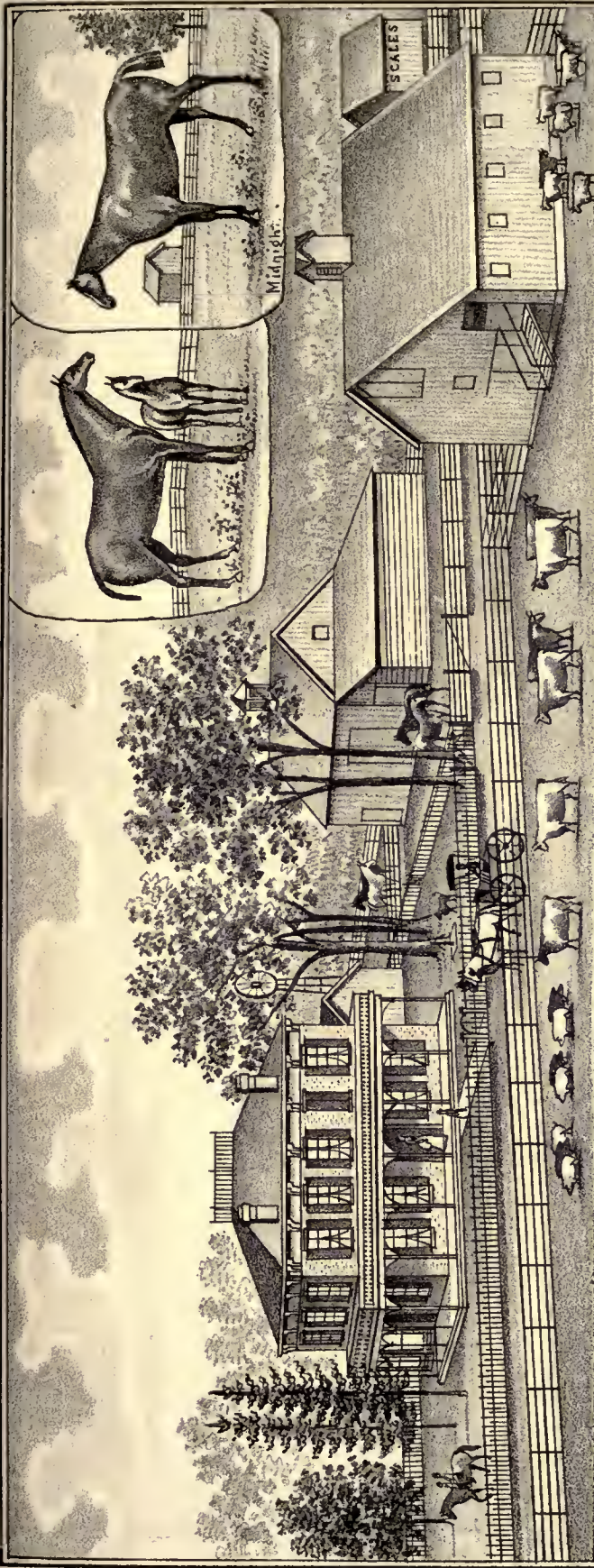
**J**OHN LAWRENCE, a prosperous farmer of Hudson Township, who owns and occupies a fine homestead on section 24, where for many years he has been engaged in the peaceful pursuits of agriculture, has established for himself the reputation of an honest man and a good citizen. He comes from that Empire upon which the sun never sets, having been born in Gloucestershire, England, on the 8th of June, 1828. His parents were William and Ann (Lewis) Lawrence, who had a family of seven children, two of whom died while young and one was lost by shipwreck on the voyage from Jamaica to Quebec. Two, Edward and Clara, reside in England; Ann, the wife of John Langley, lives in Nancey County, Neb., the remaining one being the subject of our sketch.

John Lawrence received a good business education, his earlier studies being pursued in a boarding-school for boys. At the age of sixteen years he boarded the ship Water Lily with the purpose of learning to be a sailor, the brother who was lost being then Captain. The ship was wrecked upon Europee Point, Gibraltar. After this sad occurrence our subject completed his four years' apprenticeship as a sailor upon other vessels. The first year of his sea life he received the meager compensation of \$1.25 per month; the second, \$2.50 per month; the third, \$3.75, and the fourth, \$5. He followed the sea for ten years, during which time he visited different ports on the American coast from Quebec to LaPlatte, S. A., and the West Indian Islands, also the ports of Western Europe, sailing the Mediterranean, the Black and the Baltic Seas. During this time he served in every capacity up to chief mate. Sept. 20, 1853, the ship was capsized by a tornado and became water-logged, in which position they left her, after five days and nights, during which time the crew was without food. They were picked up by another vessel and carried to Newry, Ireland.

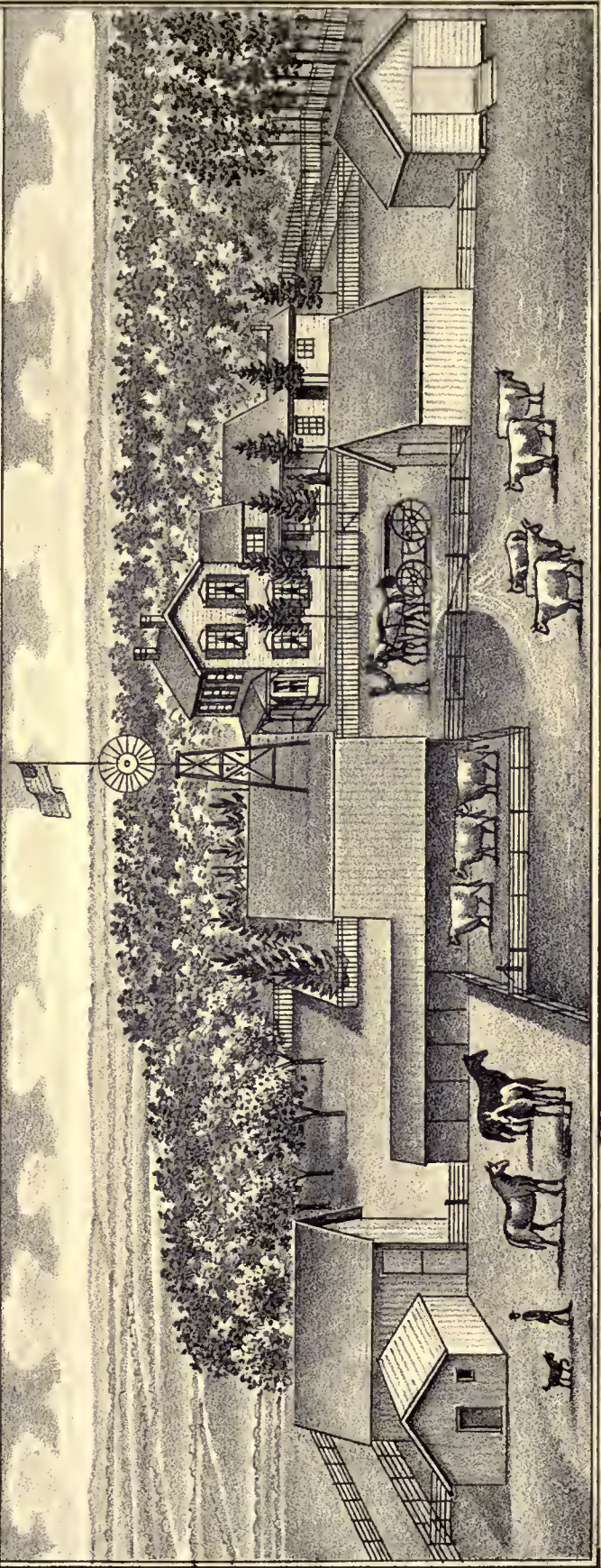
In 1854, while at home, he met some friends from America who had come to England after blooded cattle, and through their persuasions, as well as being tired of sea life, he sailed with them for the United States, accompanied by his brother who is now in England. After reaching American shores he went to Clinton County, Ohio, with his friends, and there assisted in taking care of cattle. His knowledge of farm life was very limited at that time, he never having harnessed a horse. He worked for various parties until early in December, 1857, and then came to Hudson and worked for different parties until the spring of 1859.

On the 16th of February, 1859, Mr. Lawrence was united in marriage with Miss Harriet Drew, the wedding occurring in Bloomington. Mrs. L. is a native of the same country as her husband, having been born in Gloucestershire on the 21st of March, 1824. She was one of a family of ten daughters and one son, the children of William and Mary (Cowley) Drew, and came to the United States in 1854. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence located upon a tract of rented land, where





RESIDENCE OF ENOS A. TRIMMER, BREEDER OF THOROUGHBRED AND SADDLE HORSES, SEC. 17, MONEY CREEK TP.



RESIDENCE OF JOHN LAWRENCE, SEC. 24 HUDSON TOWNSHIP.



our subject engaged in farming and his wife in all necessary household duties. They had but \$300 in cash, but were rich in hope and courage, and pulled together with the resolution of making for themselves an honorable name and a comfortable home.

In the spring of 1865 Mr. Lawrence purchased 160 acres of his present farm, which was unimproved and for which he paid \$17.50 per acre. He at once entered upon its cultivation, was prospered in his farming and business transactions and added to his landed estate as time passed on. He is now the owner of 240 acres which constitutes the home farm and has given to his son eighty acres of valuable property. Of late he has given much attention to stock-raising and exhibits some of the finest animals in the county. Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence became the parents of five children, two of whom died in childhood. One son, Mathew, at the age of fifteen years, was killed by the kick of a horse, this sad accident occurring in the summer of 1882. The two surviving are William and John D.

The subject of our sketch is a liberal Republican in politics and in religion a Baptist. He has never been the incumbent of any office although repeatedly solicited to do so. He is essentially a self-made man, one who commenced life at the foot of the ladder and has climbed up to his present position solely through his own honest and persevering efforts.

McLean County is noted for her elegant farm residences, and among those illustrated in this ALBUM as worthy of prominence in this respect, is that belonging to John Lawrence.



**E**NOS A. TRIMMER. Among the well-to-do farmers of McLean County, those who have succeeded through individual effort and economy in acquiring a handsome property, both real and personal, Enos A. Trimmer deserves prominent mention. He is living upon his large and productive farm on section 17, Money Creek Township, and in addition to the cultivation of the cereals, is extensively engaged in stock-raising.

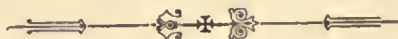
Success in both branches of his vocation is crowning his efforts.

Mr. Trimmer is a son of Jesse and Amanda (Gilmore) Trimmer, the former a native of New Jersey and the latter of Ohio. Coming to this county, the parents located in Money Creek Township, on the same section on which our subject now resides, and made that their home until they passed to the better land beyond. The demise of the former took place in 1876, and his wife joined him two years later. The father was very successful in life, and at the time of his death was the owner of about 2,400 acres of valuable land. He erected a large brick house on his farm, together with other good and substantial improvements, and at the date of his death his land was under a high state of cultivation. He became the head of a family of seven children who lived to attain the age of man and womanhood, namely: William, Eliza A., John F., David F., Sarah A., Mary and Enos A. Three died in infancy. William was a soldier in the 33d Illinois Infantry. He enlisted in 1861, and died at his father's home in Money Creek Township of disease contracted while in the army; Eliza A. is the widow of John McNaught, and is living at Normal; John F. also lives at Normal; David F. is a resident of Lexington; Sarah A. is the wife of Joseph Scott, and they are living in Howard Lake, Minn.; Mary and Frank B. Hobart became man and wife and are living in this township.

Enos A. Trimmer was born in Money Creek Township, this county, Oct. 13, 1856. He was reared to manhood on his father's farm, and has known no other home since his birth than the township of his nativity. All his years thus far in life have been passed in agricultural pursuits and stock-raising, and he is at present making a specialty of fast stock. He is the owner of 642½ acres of valuable land, and keeps about 100 head of cattle and 200 head of sheep, and fattens for the market annually from 100 to 200 head of hogs.

Mr. Trimmer was married in Money Creek Township, Sept. 4, 1879, to Aura O. Ogden, daughter of Albert and Sarah (Pirtle) Ogden, whose sketch is given elsewhere in this work. Mrs. Trimmer was born in Money Creek Township, Dec. 9, 1860, and by her union with our subject three chil-

dren have been born—Elden, Leslie and Fleeta E. Mr. Trimmer has held the office of School Director for several years, and in politics is a staunch Republican. One of the finest views presented in this volume is that of the farm-house of Mr. Trimmer.



**C**HRISTIAN WAHLS, a prosperous German farmer of Yates Township, owns and occupies a good homestead on section 19, where he carries on general agriculture, and by his industry and straightforward business methods, has secured for himself the respect of all who know him. Mr. Wahls was born in Meeklenburg, Germany, May 8, 1830. His parents were Jokin and Dorothea Wahls, who spent their entire lives in their native country, where their remains were laid to rest. Five of their children emigrated to the United States: John, who settled in McLean County, is now deceased; Dorothea, the wife of John Seeman, resides in Chenoa; Sophia, Mrs. Chris Jacobs, lives in Yates Township; Frederiek lives in Le Roy, and Christian, the subject of this sketch, was the youngest.

Mr. Wahls resided in his native country until twenty-five years old. He then came alone to the United States, being the first of the family to seek the New World. He sailed from Hamburg, and after a voyage of seven weeks, landed in New York City, and at once proceeded westward to the Prairie State. His first stopping-place was at Bloomington, where he engaged as a common laborer. He continued working at whatever his hands could find to do, lived plainly and economically, and in time found himself possessed of a sufficient amount of means to invest in a small tract of land. This he did not occupy until 1872. It was located in Yates Township, and comprises a part of his present homestead, but he has made great additions to the first purchase, and brought about a great change in its condition. He is now the owner of 400 acres in a fine state of cultivation, and supplied with all modern improvements. Of late years he has given considerable attention to the breeding of fine stock, and exhibits some of the finest animals to be found in this part of the county.

Mr. Wahls was married after coming to this country, in 1856, to Miss Sophia Vieti Boldt, who was a native of the same Province as himself, and born Dec. 25, 1831. They have four children: Sophia, born Jan. 4, 1856, is now the wife of Fred Brum, of Chenoa; Minnie, born March 5, 1858, married William Schultz, of Chenoa Township; William, born Sept. 18, 1860, is a resident of Yates Township; John, born March 18, 1865, is living with his parents at home. Our subject politically is Democratic, and religiously is a member in good standing of the Lutheran Church.



**J**OSEPH M. WEAKLEY, a resident of Lexington, and a practitioner of law at that place, was born in Licking County, Ohio, near Newark, Sept. 23, 1843. His father, Thornton Weakley, was a farmer by vocation, and born in Virginia in 1817. He married Barbara Jenkins of that State, and soon afterward emigrated to Licking County, Ohio, where he settled on a farm, and followed his calling there until 1856. During that year he journeyed West and located at Lexington, in Money Creek Township, this county. From there he moved to Gridley Township, and then into the village of Lexington, where he and his good wife both died. His demise occurred June 2, 1882, and hers Jan. 5, 1861. While a resident of Lexington, the father was engaged in the grocery business, and lived to attain the good old age of eighty-six years. He was the father of seven children, four sons and three daughters, and Joseph M. is the youngest living.

Joseph M. Weakley was about fifteen years old when he accompanied his parents to this county. He received his primary education in the common schools of Ohio, and on coming to this county he attended Eureka College, Woodford County, this State for two years, and then entered upon the duties of a pedagogue, and followed that profession for upward of thirteen years. During the last three years of his teaching, he read law in the office of M. W. Strayer, attorney at Lexington, and in 1871 was admitted to the bar. After he was admitted to practice, he opened a law office in the

rooms of his preceptor, he dying that year, and at once entered upon the active practice of his profession, and has continued in the same until the present time, in all the courts, and has built up an excellent practice.

Mr. Weakley was married, in 1872, to Miss Louisa Waybright, of Lexington. She is a native of Virginia, and came to this county in 1858. Three children have been born of this union, two daughters and a son. They are, Shelton, Hattie M. and Minnie May. Mr. Weakley is a member of the I. O. O. F., and holds fellowship with Lodge No. 206, of Lexington. He has been City Attorney and Clerk of the city of Lexington for twelve years, and has likewise been clerk of Lexington Township. He and his wife are members of the United Brethren Church.

**B**ERNARD J. CLAGGETT, Cashier of the First National Bank of Lexington, is the son of Sanford R. Claggett, who established that institution in December, 1882. The latter was also President, and is widely and favorably known throughout the community as a man of remarkable energy and business foresight, and who was uniformly prosperous in all his business undertakings. A more extended sketch of this gentleman will be found in another part of this work.

The subject of this sketch was the second son of his parents' family, and was born Feb. 12, 1861, in the village of Lexington, where he passed his boyhood and received his primary education. In 1876 he attended Wesleyan University at Bloomington for one year and then went to Indiana and pursued his studies at Notre Dame University for three years. He then entered Jones Commercial College at St. Louis, from which he graduated in 1880. Returning to Lexington he entered his father's store in the capacity of clerk, continuing thus employed until March, 1882, when he was admitted as a partner, and the firm became Claggett Bros. & Co., and thus continued its operations until December, 1882. The bank was then opened for business and Bernard was made its cashier, which position he has since held.

Mr. Claggett was united in marriage with Miss Nettie McCurdy, of Bloomington, on the 13th of December, 1882. This lady died Dec. 27, 1886, leaving one son—Ralph B. Our subject has largely inherited the business talents of his father and has before him the prospect of a successful future. He is a Director and stockholder of the First National Bank and otherwise identified with the business and industrial interests of Lexington. He is Treasurer of Lodge No. 206, I. O. O. F., having succeeded his father in the office, and is Senior Deacon in Masonic Lodge No. 276.

**J**ONATHAN L. RALSTON, a resident of Lexington, is engaged as a contractor and builder, and is classed among the enterprising business men of this vicinity. He is a native of Beaver County, Pa., and was born on a farm about forty miles from the city of Pittsburgh, Aug. 21, 1837. His father, Adam Ralston, also a native of the Keystone State, was a blacksmith by trade. He was married in early manhood to Miss Elinore McNabb of Ohio, and afterward served as a soldier in the War of 1812. After their marriage the young people settled in Beaver County, Pa., where Adam Ralston presided at the forge for many years, and during the latter part of his life lived retired from active labor. The parental household included twelve children, six sons and six daughters, of whom five sons and four daughters are yet living.

Jonathan L. Ralston was the eighth in order of birth of his parents' children. His boyhood was passed in his native State and he was deprived of the affectionate care of his mother when twelve years of age. He was then thrown mostly upon his own resources, and employed himself for a few years at whatever his hands could find to do. When eighteen years old he commenced to learn the carpenter's trade, which he subsequently followed in Pennsylvania and Ohio. He was married in the latter State, in 1851, to Miss Elizabeth McNary of Trumbull County, where he afterward settled and remained until the spring of 1857. He then, with his family, removed to this State and county, locating

in Lexington, and engaging at his trade until his removal, in 1865, to his farm in Lexington Township. This comprises 120 acres of valuable land in a high state of cultivation, which is principally devoted to stock-raising.

Mr. Ralston left the farm and removed with his family to Lexington in the fall of 1883, since which time he has followed his trade there with success. Mrs. Elizabeth Ralston departed this life on the farm in Lexington Township, in February, 1876, leaving seven children: Mary E. is now the wife of James Arnold; John M. was the second born; Rosalia J. married L. H. Smith, of Selma; Cora M. and Clinton A. are deceased; Lillie and Grace are at home.

The present wife of our subject was Mrs. Margaret Miller, widow of William Miller, and her marriage with our subject took place in 1879; there have been no children. Mr. Ralston was President of the village Council, to which office he was elected in 1885, and with his wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Their town residence is a tasteful structure, handsomely furnished, and the family enjoy the respect and esteem of the best people of the community.



**F**REEMAN E. HUDDLE, editor of the *Odd Fellows' Herald* in Bloomington, was born March 6, 1856. A child of misfortune with some good points and a few bad ones in his character, but nothing in his purse.

*The Odd Fellows' Herald* was first issued Aug. 29, 1878, at Springfield, Ill. It was devoted to the interests of Odd Fellowship, and during the first year of its existence was adopted as the official organ of the Grand Lodge of the State. It was established by A. D. Sanders, and was a five-column folio. In 1881 it was moved to Bloomington and enlarged to a five-column quarto, with F. E. Huddle as editor. In 1882 it was purchased by the Bulletin Company. In 1884, when the Bulletin Company was dissolved, M. T. Scott became the proprietor, and Mr. Huddle editor and manager, under which arrangement it is at present conducted. It is now the official organ of the Grand Lodge of three

States—Illinois, Wisconsin and Michigan. Its circulation is about 5,400. It is neatly got up, and is well edited.



**W**ILLIAM A. SMITH, a prominent citizen and successful and progressive farmer of Lexington Township, was born in the township in which he is at present residing, near Selma, Sept. 27, 1846, and is the eldest son of Milton and Lydia Ann (Goddard) Smith. Milton Smith was born in Franklin County, Ky., Feb. 19, 1808. His father's name was William Smith and his mother's maiden name Obedience Brown. Milton's father died when he was eight years old and he grew up in Franklin County. In the fall of 1835 he came to Selma, this county, and locating on a farm in the neighborhood of that place, he has made it his home until the present time. He helped to build the first house in Lexington. The mother of our subject, Lydia Ann Goddard, was the daughter of Dr. Abbott Goddard, one of the early physicians and ministers of this county.

William A. Smith was reared on his father's farm and educated at the district schools, supplementing his education received therein by a course of study at Wesleyan University, Bloomington. After leaving that institution he returned to the farm and carried on that industry until September, 1870. He was then married to Miss Tinnie Day, daughter of Rev. Allen Day, a Methodist minister of note. After his marriage our subject settled on the farm on which he is at present living, on section 32, Lexington Township, where he has 160 acres of good farm land. He also owns fifty acres on section 31, making his landed interests in the county 210 acres, most of which is under an advanced state of cultivation. He has a good two-story frame residence on his place and substantial barn and out-buildings. In addition to the cultivation of the cereals, our subject has devoted considerable attention to the raising and feeding of cattle. He is at present feeding thirty-six head of fine steers, also has a fine lot of hogs and is meeting with success in his vocation. Two children have been born to our subject and wife, a son and

daughter, and named Albert A. and Mary V. Our subject has always been identified with every interest that was calculated to benefit his community, and has never been known to turn a deaf ear to true charity. Mrs. Smith is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in politics Mr. Smith is and always has been a staunch Republican.



**JAMES WOODARD.** Among the well-to-do and prosperous farmers of Lexington Township, residing on section 27, is the subject of this notice. In addition to the cultivation of his land, he is and has been, to no inconsiderable extent, occupied in the raising, trading and shipping of cattle, in which department of his vocation he has met with signal success. Mr. Woodard was born in Morgan County, Ind., Jan. 22, 1833. The father of our subject, Benedict Woodard, was a farmer by occupation, and born in Maryland, and was an early settler in Indiana. He was married to Elizabeth Wright in Kentucky, whence they removed to Morgan County, Ind., where he and his good wife both died. They were the parents of ten children, five sons and five daughters, all of whom lived to attain the age of man and womanhood, with the exception of one who died aged twenty years. Six are still living, and James, our subject, is the youngest of the family.

James Woodard was reared to manhood on his father's farm, and received his education in the common schools. He remained with the old folk until he was twenty-three years old, when he was married to Miss Luany Evans, daughter of Samuel Evans, of Morgan County, Ind. After his marriage he settled on a farm in that county, and there lived until the fall of 1860, when he removed to this county and located on the farm on which he is at present residing, on section 27, Lexington Township. The place was then owned by Mrs. Smith, and contained only ninety-eight acres. Our subject purchased it, and has added to the same until he is now the proprietor of 540 acres of choice land, 300 of which is in a body. He has two good barns on his place and a comfortable residence,

and is at present the owner of a handsome and valuable property. When Mr. Woodard first came to this county he had but little means, and ran in debt for two-thirds the value of the farm he purchased. In addition to the cultivation of his land he embarked in the raising of hogs, and met with signal success in this branch of his vocation, and has really made more money in that manner than he has by the cultivation of the cereals. To his hog-raising he has added that of buying and feeding cattle, which has also proved a successful undertaking. During the year 1886 our subject shipped four carloads of cattle and three of hogs to the Chicago market. The cattle numbered sixty-four head, and averaged 713 pounds, and he thinks that it is as large an average as any shipment ever made from this county, for three-year olds. His hogs are of the Poland-China breed, and he is perhaps the most successful cattle buyer and feeder in this county. His horses are of the Percheron and Clydesdale breed.

Mr. Woodard's marriage has been blest by the birth of four children, two sons and two daughters: Kansas A. is the wife of William Patton; Sarah married John Shafer; Wesley and Alexander are at home. Politically Mr. Woodard officiates with the Democratic party. He and his good wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



**LEVI DILLON,** importer and breeder of French draft horses and a resident of Normal, was born in Tazewell County, Ill., Oct. 15, 1835. He is a son of Aaron and Melinda (Hodgson) Dillon. Levi Dillon was orphaned when only one year old and immediately thereafter became an inmate of his uncle's family, Ellis Dillon. He continued to reside with his uncle until manhood, engaged the while in farm labor. His uncle always kept a large number of horses, but no matter how large the herd, Levi could always tell which of the number possessed the greatest speed. In fact, from early youth our subject formed a likeness for horses which has never left him.

In 1857 Levi Dillon was married to Mary, daughter of James Wright, in Randolph County,

Ind. After his marriage he purchased 160 acres of land, located in Boynton Township, Tazewell County, and on which he settled and engaged in farming. In 1858, in company with his brother, he purchased a one-half interest in "Old Louis Napoleon," the first Norman horse imported into the United States, and thus, unawares, laid the foundation of a future competency and a successful business career. No breed of horses has attracted more attention in this country during the last fifty years, than the Norman horses from France.

"Louis Napoleon" was the first of that breed owned in Illinois or west of the Alleghany Mountains. In 1861 a gentleman from California visited Tazewell County, and portrayed the advantages of his State in such glowing terms as to induce Mr. Dillon to sell his farm, preparatory to moving to the Pacific Slope. His brother also sold out, and together they purchased a large number of horses which they intended to take to California. But just at this juncture the late Civil War caused the price of horses to advance and they disposed of their herd, realizing a handsome profit, and as the finances of the country were in a depressed condition, they gave up the idea of emigrating to California. Our subject invested a portion of his means in an eighty-acre farm in the neighborhood of Normal.

In 1863 Mr. Dillon removed to Bloomington, and the following year located on his farm near Normal, and there lived until 1884, engaged in farming and stock-raising. He made two trips to France after horses and while in Europe visited England. During the years he was connected with the firm of E. Dillon & Co., he also handled stock individually and in 1883 erected his present barn at Normal, which was the first stock barn erected at that place. He then associated his son, Ellis E., and two sons-in-law, J. C. Dunean and James Railsback, with him as partners, and has since conducted the business as Levi Dillon & Sons, but all advertising and exhibitions made are in the name of Dillon Bros. In 1883 this firm imported twenty horses; in 1884 twenty-five head; in 1885 twenty heads and in 1886 sixteen head. They have also imported twenty mares for breeding purposes and now own over forty full-blooded mares. Mr. Dil-

lon has exhibited horses at every State Fair in Illinois since 1858, besides many local fairs, and has never lost a horse while in transportation, although frequently exhibiting as high as fifty head at one time.

The agricultural reports of Illinois show that the Dillons have taken more premiums than all other importers of horses combined. In 1884 Dillon Bros. exhibited fifty horses at the New Orleans Exposition and received thirty premiums. They lost three horses at that time owing to the sudden change of climate. Our subject has been exceedingly successful in business and yet owns the farm he purchased in 1863, together with an additional eighty for which he paid \$125 per acre, and also another eighty that cost him \$100 per acre. In politics he is an earnest worker for the success of the Prohibition party, which ranks he joined after leaving the Republican party. He has been a member of the Christian Church from boyhood and has been a zealous worker for the promotion of the cause of the Master.

Ten children have been born of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Dillon. One died at the age of two years, another was accidentally drowned in a well when three years of age; Ida died while on a visit to Europe, and is buried at Havre, France. The seven living are, Flora, wife of J. C. Dunean; Lillie, wife of J. Railsback; Ellis E., Willie, Frank, Mabel and Guy.



**P**ETER H. JANES. Among the large land-owners of McLean County, as well as successful and progressive farmers who have succeeded in life through their own energy and good judgment, the name of Peter H. Janes deserves place. He is following his avocation in life on his fine farm on section 22, Money Creek Township. The parents of Mr. Janes, John S. and Sarah (Dunkle) Janes, were born in West Virginia and Ohio respectively. They settled in Fayette County, Ohio, after their marriage, and there the father followed farming until his emigration to this county, which took place in the fall of 1851. Arriving here, he settled in Money Creek Township, and continued to labor at his vocation until



his death, being at that time proprietor of upward of 500 acres of land. His good wife survived him until Feb. 13, 1887, her demise taking place in Money Creek Township. Eight children were born of their union—Peter H., Dona M., Laura, Jacinta, Joseph, Elizabeth, Serena and Barbara E. Dona M. is the wife of Oscar Redding, a resident of Chenoa; Laura and Edward M. Brown were united in marriage, and are living in Money Creek Township; Jacinta died in childhood; Joseph is a farmer of Money Creek Township; Elizabeth married Patrick Larkin, and departed this life in Money Creek Township; Serena is the wife of William Douglas, and they are living in Money Creek Township; Barbara and Adam Carnahan became man and wife, and are living in Lexington Township.

Peter H. Janes was born in Fayette County, Ohio, Dec. 27, 1834, and lived there until 1851, when he came to this county with his parents. Here, in Money Creek Township, he was reared to manhood on his father's farm, receiving his education in the common schools, and continued to live at home until his marriage, which event occurred when he was twenty-three years of age. He has always followed farming, and made Money Creek Township his home since he first settled there with his parents. He is now the owner of 640 acres of valuable land, the major portion of which is under an advanced state of cultivation. He keeps about thirty head of cattle and forty head of Norman horses on his farm, and fattens from seventy-five to 100 heads of hogs for the market annually.

Mr. Janes was married in the township in which he resides, Dec. 31, 1857, to Miss Louisa Crose, daughter of William and Eliza A. (Busick) Crose. William Crose was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, and his wife was also a native of that State. They emigrated from their native State to this county in 1837, and settled in Randolph Grove, whence they removed to Smith's Grove, Towanda Township, and later, to Money Creek Township. Going to Kansas they remained a short time and then returned to this county, and settling in Towanda Township, lived there until their death, his demise occurring July 24, 1880, and hers, Dec. 13, 1883. Eleven children were born to them, namely, Harriet, Rebecca, Louisa, Elijah, Termon, William,

Eliza A., Emma, George, Sarah and Philip. Harriet and John Padget are man and wife and living at Saybrook; Rebecca died when about four years old; Elijah is a farmer of Towanda Township; Termon is a resident of Kansas; William lives in Bloomington; Eliza A. is the wife of George Janes, a farmer of Lexington Township; Emma married David T. Turnipseed, and they reside in Lexington Township; George is living in Kansas; Sarah is the wife of David Wisner, a farmer of Towanda Township; Philip is a resident of Wilson, Kan.

Mrs. Janes was born at Randolph Grove, March 22, 1839. Her union with our subject has been productive of the birth of six children—Annetta, Laura O., Sarah E., Allie M., Barbara E. and Minnie E. Annetta is the wife of John W. Brown, living in Normal Township; Laura and James S. Beasley became man and wife, and reside in Money Creek Township; Allie M. married B. B. Francis, a farmer of Money Creek Township. Mr. Janes has been the incumbent of the office of School Trustee for upward of twenty years, and is much respected for his many good qualities, pleasant disposition and kindness of heart. In politics he is a Republican, and his good wife is a member of the United Brethren Church. A handsome view of the home of Mr. Janes, with its pleasant surroundings, is given in this work.



**T**HOMAS CHAPMAN, who has been a resident of McLean County since 1863, occupies a comfortable homestead in Yates Township, on section 24. where he has carried on farming intelligently and successfully for over twenty years. Our subject comes from excellent ancestry, and was born in Lincolnshire, England, Dec. 14, 1830. He is the son of William and Frances (Wilkinson) Chapman, and was the eldest of four children born to his parents, all of whom, except himself are deceased, namely: John W., Frances and Edward W.

Mr. Chapman spent his childhood and youth upon his father's farm in England, and in 1852, accompanied by his brother, John W., emigrated

to the United States. They first stopped near Rochester, N. Y., where they remained the two years following, with the exception of the time spent in looking up a permanent location. They first went to Wisconsin, which they did not like, and afterward to Michigan, where they followed farming and lumbering, settling down near Iona, that State. In 1855 they were joined by their parents and the remainder of the family. The parents died there, the father May 19, 1862, and the mother, March 30, 1868.

In 1858, Thomas Chapman, who was not satisfied with the outlook in Michigan, went southwest into Missouri, where he first engaged in lumbering, and afterward in the Merrimac Iron Works in Phelps County. He then tried farming near Sedalia, whence in June, 1863, he came to Illinois and stopped for a time in Blue Mound Township, this county. In 1865 he purchased eighty acres of his present farm, which was mainly unimproved. Upon it, however, was a house 14x20 feet in area, which he repaired and put in good order, and in due time brought about other improvements, which aided in giving the place a homelike appearance. He worked early and late, and by the exercise of perseverance and economy, in due time added eighty acres of land to his first purchase, and put up a fine set of farm buildings. The last residence, erected in 1883, is finely located, and is one of the most attractive and convenient farm dwellings in this part of the county. His barn and outhouses are put up in a substantial manner, and his stock and machinery are of that order which indicates the progressive agriculturist and intelligent business man. His land, originally very wet, is now drained by nearly 1,300 rods of tile, and with its rich soil and excellent cultivation produces generous crops. Of late years he has given much attention to the raising of stock, and has produced some of the finest animals in this part of the county.

The marriage of Thomas Chapman and Miss Maranda Buell took place on the 18th of July, 1857. Mrs. C. was born in Cattaraugus County, N. Y., April 13, 1836, being a daughter of Benjamin and Susan (Smith) Buell, the former a native of Connecticut, and the latter of Otsego County, N. Y. The family finally removed to Grand Rapids, Mich.,

where the parents spent the remainder of their days. Mr. and Mrs. Chapman became the parents of four children, one of whom died in infancy: Fannie S. is the wife of William E. Brown, and resides in Kent County, Mich.; Austin E. is a resident of Yates Township, and Lizzie J. lives with her parents. Mr. and Mrs. Chapman have been active members of the Baptist Church for nearly twenty years; politically our subject adheres loyally to the Republican party.



**J**OHN B. CARSON, a well-to-do farmer and goodly land-owner of Lexington Township, resides on section 16. He is the son of Samuel and Abigail (Black) Carson, natives of Pennsylvania, the father of Lancaster, and the mother of what is now Perry County. The parents removed from their native State to Ross County, Ohio, at an early day, and in 1821 to Delaware County, that State, where they lived until their death. Nine children were born to them, two of whom died in infancy; five sons and two daughters lived to attain the age of man and womanhood.

John B. Carson was the seventh child born to his parents, and first saw light in Ross County, Ohio, March 31, 1817. He followed farm labor until he was twenty-one years old, having in the meantime received an education in the common schools. He then taught school for about fourteen years, most of the time at Dublin, Ohio. The father of our subject owned a large tract of land, 1,000 acres, and after his death the estate was divided, and our subject receiving his portion married and settled upon it. His farm was located in Delaware County, and from the time he first located upon that place until the present he has followed agricultural pursuits. Living in Delaware County until January, 1865, he came to this county and settled in Lexington Township, where he purchased 252½ acres on section 16. He now owns 320 acres on the same section, and his farm is under an advanced state of cultivation, and has good and substantial buildings upon it. He also has seventy-three acres of timber land on the Mackinaw, on section 28.

Mr. Carson was married in Ross County, Ohio,

Nov. 13, 1851, to Miss Nancy Jane, daughter of Hugh and Elizabeth (Berry) Carson, natives of Pennsylvania. Her parents settled in Ross County, Ohio, after their marriage, and there reared a family of eleven children, seven girls and four boys, and Mrs. Carson of this notice was the sixth in order of birth. She was born in Ross County, Ohio, Oct. 23, 1817, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of four children—Elizabeth, Abigail, Samuel B. and Frank Henry. Samuel B. was united in marriage with Miss Etta Brown, and they are living in Lexington Township; Frank Henry died when two years old; the other children are unmarried and reside at home. Mr. Carson in politics was an old-line Whig, and on the organization of the Republican party became identified with it. He and his wife are members of the Presbyterian Church.



**J**ACOB CURTIS MAHAN, the oldest merchant of Lexington, is one of its most substantial and prominent business men, and has aided materially in its advancement and importance as a town. He is a native of the wealthy and populous Buckeye State, having been born in Highland County, Ohio, near the line of Brown County, on the 21st of July, 1826. His father, William Mahan, was born in Kentucky and removed with his parents to Clermont County, Ohio, when a mere lad, and there grew to manhood. His father, also Jacob Mahan, is supposed to have been a native of Pennsylvania, and was for many years a minister of the United Brethren Church, and was among the pioneers of that denomination in Indiana. His earthly career closed in about 1830.

The Mahan family came originally from Ireland, and possessed in a remarkable degree the generous traits of the warm-hearted Irish race. William Mahan, the father of our subject, was married to Miss Cassandra, the daughter of Jephtha Curtis, Esq., of Pennsylvania. Her mother's name was Mary. Her father was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, who, after his enlistment, never returned to his home, and it is supposed was killed

in some of the numerous engagements of that unhappy period. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. William Mahan settled in Highland County, Ohio, where they continued until 1842, and then with their family emigrated to Illinois, first settling in Lexington Township, this county, on section 16, where the father engaged in general farming. In 1864 they removed from the farm into the village, where they spent the balance of their days, the father dying in 1883, in the eighty-first year of his age, and the mother the year following, aged eighty-four. Their family included six sons and four daughters, of whom five grew to mature years, and four sons still survive, Jacob C. being the eldest; Isaac S. lives in Champaign, Ill.; Erasmus, in Greenwood County, Kan., and William Quiney in Lexington. Paulina became the wife of R. H. McLean, and died in 1881, leaving three children.

Jacob C. Mahan was sixteen years of age when he came to McLean County with his parents. His education, begun in Ohio, was completed in Cherry Grove, near Abingdon, this State, and he afterward taught school for two years. Then, with a capital of \$200, he opened a small store in Lexington, which he carried on until 1848, and then engaged in farming and stock-raising. After the completion of the C. & A. R. R. he put up an elevator and engaged extensively in the purchase and sale of grain. He was greatly prospered in his farming and stock operations, and in 1867 put up one of the best business blocks in the city, and afterward built the business house now occupied by the First National Bank. He was one of the original and principal stockholders of the J. C. Mahan & Co. Bank of Lexington, which was carried on for fifteen years and of which our subject was President. After retiring from the bank he turned his attention to merchandising and farming, and also to the shipping of grain. He has a large and valuable stock of goods and has built up an extensive and lucrative trade.

Mr. Mahan was first married in 1849, to Miss Ann E. Brown, the daughter of Robert Brown, formerly of Money Creek Township, and they have become the parents of seven children, six living, three sons and three daughters: Charles K. died when fourteen years old; George S. is a resident

of Florida; William R. is manager of his father's store; Francis E. is farming in Money Creek Township; Ella G. married N. K. Jones, of Lexington; Permelia C. is a teacher in the public schools; Maude P. lives with her father and assists in the store. The mother of these children departed this life at the home of her husband in Lexington, in 1872.

The second wife of our subject was Miss Susie F. Poore, to whom he was married in 1873. Mrs. Mahan was the daughter of Prof. Daniel J. Poore, now deceased, and by her union with our subject became the mother of three children, of whom only one, Angie F., is living. The others died when quite young. Mr. Mahan has been a member of the School Board in Lexington for ten successive years, and also served as Councilman. He and his family are members of the Presbyterian Church, Mr. Mahan being a Trustee and Ruling Elder. He was the first Supervisor of Lexington Township, and has been Justice of the Peace and Police Magistrate, which latter position he has held since 1884. He has in all respects been a useful and valued citizen, and has contributed his full share toward the development and prosperity of this section.



**J**OHN POPEJOY, a retired farmer, now living in peace and quiet at his home in Lexington, settled in McLean County in the pioneer days, and has contributed his full quota toward its development and progress. He is a native of Fayette County, Ohio, and was born nine miles east of Washington, the county seat, on the 9th of November, 1825. His father, who was a farmer by occupation, was by birth a Virginian, and first opened his eyes to light in Rockingham County, in January, 1795. He served in the War of 1812 about six months, and for his wife chose Miss Nancy Wiley, a maiden of sixteen summers, and who was born in 1801, being the daughter of William Wiley of Virginia.

The great-grandfather of our subject, John Popejoy, Sr., was of English birth and parentage, and married an Irish lady. He served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War after coming to this coun-

try. His son, William Wiley, the grandfather of our subject, also served in the Revolutionary War, and the name of his wife was Margaret. The families were widely and favorably known in many sections of the Old Dominion, being represented by a numerous following. The father of our subject, after his marriage, settled on a farm in Fayette County, Ohio, and remained there until the fall of 1834, when he removed his family to McLean County, Ill. The household included seven children, and they located upon a claim in Lexington Township, two miles south of the first town site. Upon it stood a small round log house with a mud and stiek chimney, and in this they spent the winter. The following season this was repaired and otherwise improved, and the father engaged in general farming. The nearest mill was then at Ottawa, and when short of flour they pounded corn on a block, with which to make bread. After several years spent on the farm Mr. Popejoy removed to Lexington with his family, where he died on the 29th of August, 1861. The parental household included the following children: Elizabeth, who became the wife of Rev. Robert Baker; William, who lives in Nebraska; Margaret, who married Isaae Haner, of Harrison County, Iowa; John, our subject; Henry is a resident of Warren County, Iowa; Harrison, of Lexington Township, this county; Sarah married Allen McMullen, now of Wilson County, Kan.; George lives in this county; Commodore Perry is in Lexington; Edward is deceased, and one died in infancy.

John Popejoy of this sketch was a little less than nine years old when he came to McLean County. His childhood and youth were passed on his father's farm, and he attended the subscription schools two months in each year. He remained with his parents until twenty years old, and was then married to Miss Margaret Hefner, sister of Peter Hefner, and daughter of Michael Hefner, who came with the deep snow of 1830, and were styled the "snow birds." After marriage Mr. Popejoy and his bride settled on a farm of 140 acres near his father, which he had purchased and to which he afterward added 300 acres, making a fine and valuable tract of land. He then began trading in stock, cattle and hogs, which he fed and disposed

of on the farm, and the proceeds of which yielded him a handsome income, especially during the war, Mr. Popejoy occupied this homestead with his family until in June, 1886, when he and his wife moved into Lexington, the children all being grown. Of these there were seven in number, three daughters and four sons, five of whom still survive: Ella B. is the wife of George Hiser, and lives in Lexington; Manford P. died in 1876, aged twenty-eight years; Peter L. is in Lexington Township; Frances A. became the wife of William Hefner, of Lexington Township; Ida J. married Robert W. Ambrose, of Lexington Township; Edward G. married Miss Emma McGilvra, and lives on the homestead; Michael W. died in infancy.

Mr. Popejoy served as School Director in Lexington Township for a period of thirty years. Both he and his excellent wife are active members of the United Brethren Church, of which Mr. P. has served as Trustee since its organization forty-four years ago. He has also been a Class-Leader for many years, and one of the pillars whom it will be hard to replace when he shall have been gathered to his fathers.



**N**OA H FRANKLIN, a prominent and highly respected resident of Lexington Township, and one of its most extensive farmers and stock-growers, owns and occupies a beautiful homestead. He is esteemed as one of the most valued members of the farming and business community of that section. He was born in Owen County, Ind., near Spencer, the county seat, in June, 1831. His father, Col. John Franklin, was of English ancestry, and his grandfather, John Franklin, Jr., a native of England, emigrated to this country and located in North Carolina.

John Franklin, Jr., the father of our subject, was born in North Carolina, whence he emigrated to Indiana at an early day. He was married to Miss Mary Puette, a native of his own State, and they became the parents of eleven children, six sons and five daughters, all of whom, except the youngest child, a son who died when two years old, lived to maturity, and seven still survive. The father of

our subject left Owen County, Ind., in May, 1855, and coming into this county settled on a farm near the village of Lexington where he died two years later. After the death of his father, the son Nelson remained with his mother, assisting her in the labors of the farm until attaining manhood.

The education of Noah Franklin, begun in Indiana, was completed in the public schools of Lexington. In 1854, when twenty-three years of age, he was married to Miss Sarah, the daughter of Jacob Spawr, who was among the first settlers on the Maekinaw River. Her mother was formerly a Miss Trimmer, and her father died shortly after his removal to McLean County. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Franklin settled on a new farm which our subject had entered from the Government and began making improvements and feeding and shipping stock to Chicago. He dealt in hogs and cattle and met with success, and as his means increased extended his operations until he became one of the largest cattle feeders of Lexington Township. He has now a farm of 1,200 acres in a high state of cultivation, with a fine extent of blue grass pasture. He feeds annually about 300 head of cattle, and on the farm are three fine barns, also three dwelling-houses. The land is well fenced and all the buildings neat and tasteful and kept in good repair. He raises about fifty calves every year. His home, however, since 1877, has been within the limits of Lexington, where he occupies an elegant brick residence which he purchased from the Trimmer heirs at a good round sum. He still superintends the operations of his farm and for many years has been classed among the leading breeders of Short-horn cattle in this part of the State. He now breeds altogether for full blood males, believing that a good calf will not eat any more than a poor one, and the gain in meat and milk will more than counterbalance the first cost of the introduction of the high grade.

Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Franklin there were born five children, three daughters and two sons: Ida M. is the wife of C. D. Bush, a native of Rochester, N. Y.; Lola died at the age of four years; Minnie was married to Harry L. Fell of St. Louis, Mo., who was formerly of Normal; the sons are, Noah E. and Bertram A., living at home. Mr.

Franklin was Supervisor of Money Creek Township two terms before locating in Lexington. His aged mother still lives on the homestead there, being now ninety-two years of age. Our subject and his family are members in good standing of the Christian Church of Lexington; and number their friends and associates among the best residents of the township.



**J**OHN SPAWR, known throughout the county as "Uncle John," is one of the "snow birds" of this county, he having located here some three years before the big suow, in 1827. Uncle John Spawr was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, April 15, 1812. His father, Valentine Spawr, was born in Pennsylvania, and was of German extraction. Valentine Spawr was united in marriage with Margaret Richy, who was born in Germany. She was brought to this country by her parents when three years old, and on the voyage the good mother died and her remains were consigned to a watery grave. The father with his little children arrived at New York City, whence they went to Pennsylvania and settled in that State. Valentine Spawr emigrated from Pennsylvania to Ohio in about 1806, and made settlement in Fairfield County. Later he removed to Pickaway County, where our subject was born, and made that his home until the fall of 1827. During that year he came to this county and took up his residence in Money Creek Township. Living there three years he moved to Lexington Township and located on section 25. The children of our subject were ten in number, four brothers and six sisters. They are as follows: Margaret, wife of Francis Lucas of Ohio; Catherine, wife of Robert Guthrie; Susan A., wife of Zachariah McLean of Ohio; Elizabeth, wife of William Robbins of Ohio; Mary, wife of Charles Beers of Ohio; Sarah, wife of Harrison Flesher of this county; Jacob, living at Lexington; George, who was united in marriage with Rhoda Waldon; Peter married Elizabeth Messer, moved to Iowa and then

to Kansas, where he died, and John, our subject, is the remaining child. Valentine Spawr died on the old home farm in this county, Feb. 5, 1855, aged eighty-five years. His good wife died March 1, 1852, aged eighty-one years.

John Spawr was fifteen years of age when he came to this county with his parents. He received what education he acquired in schools in Pickaway County, Ohio. Coming to this county with his parents he worked on the farm and until he was twenty-two years old, when he was married to Miss Rachel Higgs, daughter of John Higgs. After his marriage Mr. Spawr continued to remain on the old homestead and cared for the old folk as long as they lived. His occupation has always been that of a farmer and he has carried it on in all its different branches, adding to the cultivation of the cereals that of the raising of hogs and cattle. He has fed large numbers of steers on his farm and getting them in good condition for the market, drove them to Chicago where he sold them. All of the improvements on his fine place he has placed there himself. He became the head of a family of thirteen children, ten of whom lived to attain the age of man and womanhood. The record is as follows: Catherine, wife of James R. Moon; Rebecca married Lewis Whittaker of Indiana; Mary is the wife of James Golden; Thomas J. was a soldier in the late war, in Co. C, 94th Ill. Vol. Inf., and died in Missouri in 1862; John M. married Emily Golden, and they are living in Kansas; Martin V. married Elizabeth Hedrick and they are also living in Kansas; William P. was married to Charity Larkey, and they are residents of this county; Isabella is the wife of Charles Smith, also a resident of this county; Joanna was united in marriage with Simon Wonerlin, a farmer of this county. The three last mentioned children are by the second marriage of our subject. Mr. Spawr's first wife died May 7, 1845, and in 1846 he was again married, Mary A. Pickering being the other contracting party. She is a daughter of John L. Pickering and has borne our subject three children as named. Mr. Spawr held the office of Justice of the Peace in his township for eight years. He was School Trustee for some fourteen years and School Director about twenty years. Mr. Spawr was for





*John Shaw*



*Henry Hoats*



many years a member of the United Brethren Church and his wife, who was born and reared a Quaker, still holds fellowship with that sect.



**H**ENRY MOATS. The wealth and magnificence of this county to the early pioneers grew from its beautiful groves as much as from any other one thing. These goodly forests in their primeval beauty drew the pioneer as the magnet does the needle. No other consideration overbore the generous shelter which these islands of shade and cool streams gave—about the only comfort these early settlers found in their new home; all others were surroundings of discomfort. The cramped cabins, the absence of schools and markets, sickness—always the attendant of new locations—severe storms, depredations of wild beasts, fires, snakes, poorly paid toil and the uncertainty of the future—all gave way to the supporting shelter of the grove. Our subject, who is one of the oldest pioneers in this county, can more fully appreciate this statement than those who see the fertile prairies of to-day so well settled and carefully tilled.

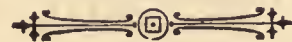
Henry Moats is a progressive farmer and residing on section 31, Money Creek Township. He is a son of Jacob and Sarah (Hinthorn) Moats, the former a native of Maryland and the latter of West Virginia, and early pioneers of this county. After their marriage they settled in Licking County, Ohio, whence they came to this county in the fall of 1829, and in February, 1830, took up their residence in Money Creek Township, where they continued to live and labor until their death.

Henry Moats was the eldest of his parents' nine children and was born in Licking County, Ohio, Nov. 26, 1810. He was nineteen years of age when he accompanied his parents to this county and has been a resident of it since that time. Mr. Moats was reared to manhood at farm labor and while a young man employed his time during the spring seasons in splitting rails. Thus growing up into manhood and passing onward in the rugged pathway of time, disciplined in the stern school of experience, he was prepared to meet any emergency with

a steady and ready hand. All his years thus far in life have been devoted to agricultural pursuits and he is at present the owner of 293 acres of land, 100 of which is in timber. He has held the office of Justice of the Peace for four years and also that of Road Commissioner for several years, and has been the incumbent of the office of School Director of his township. In politics he is a Jacksonian Democrat and cast his first presidential vote for Old Hickory. He is a good farmer and has succeeded in that calling.

Mr. Moats was married in Money Creek Township, Nov. 2, 1837, to Elsie, daughter of Thomas and Ruth (Haines) Van Buskirk. Her father was a native of Maryland and her mother of Virginia, and after they were married they settled in Licking County, Ohio, whence they removed to Pickaway County, that State, and in 1829, came here and located in Money Creek Township, where they died at an advanced age. Eleven children were born to them, four sons and seven daughters, namely: Isaac, Mary, Sarah, Thomas, Elsie, Jesse, William, Eliza, Susanna, Lucinda and Mahala. Mrs. Moats was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, July 26, 1816, and lived in that county until she came here with her parents. Four children have been born of her union with our subject—William J., Francis M., Mary J. and Thomas B. William J. died in infancy; F. M. married Miss Rebecca Arbuckle and they are living in Money Creek Township; Mary is the wife of John Rankin, also of Money Creek Township; Thomas died when two years old. Mr. and Mrs. Moats are members of the United Brethren Church and much respected for their kindness of heart by all who know them.

As one of the venerable and respected pioneers of this county we present the portrait of Henry Moats in this ALBUM.



**J**OHAN FULWILER, an old resident and merchant of Lexington, first visited McLean County in 1842, having made the trip from Cumberland County, Pa., where he was born in December, 1810. His father, Abraham Fulwiler, was also a native of the Keystone State

and a man prominent in the affairs of his county, being one of those who assisted in its division when a part of Cumberland County was laid off into Perry County, of which he became the first Register and Recorder. He also engaged in mercantile pursuits, and at one time conducted three stores in Perry County.

The Fulwilers were of German ancestry, and the mother of our subject was formerly Miss Mary, the daughter of James Black, whose family originated in Scotland. The parents of our subject both died in Pennsylvania.

Mr. Fulwiler remained with his parents during his boyhood and youth, receiving a common-school education. When eleven years of age he entered his father's store, in which he remained for about three years, and was then placed upon the farm where he lived four years, and then returning to the store was there occupied until he became of age. Then, desiring out-door pursuits, he took a contract for grading and laying ties and rails on the Cumberland Valley Railroad, which occupied him about three years. He then went into partnership with McGowen & McKeegan, and operated what was then known as the Juniata Furnace until 1842. He then sold out and made his western trip to McLean County. Upon returning to Cumberland County, Pa., he engaged in mercantile pursuits in Shippensburg, where he lost heavily by indorsing for some iron men. In 1853 he returned to the West and made his arrangements to engage in the dry-goods business at Lexington. The following year he removed his family here, and has since been engaged in general merchandising with fair success.

Mr. Fulwiler was married in Shippensburg, Cumberland Co., Pa., on the 15th of January, 1834, to Miss Mary, the daughter of David Mahon, of Cumberland County, Pa. The sons and daughters of Mr. and Mrs. F. are recorded as follows: William is engaged in building railroads in Arizona, and the Arizona Canal on Salt River; Anna became the wife of Henry Robinson, and the mother of three children, two sons and one daughter; she is now deceased; Laura J. is the wife of William J. Murphy, President of the Arizona Canal and Land Company; David is a graduate of the State Nor-

mal School at Normal, and now resides in Lexington; John A. is a lawyer in Bloomington; J. Alvin is a resident of Lexington; Julia, the youngest daughter, resides at home with her parents.

In 1856, Mr. Fulwiler was elected Justice of the Peace of Lexington, which office he held four years. He has served as Supervisor of the Township, and was one of the delegates to the Bloomington Convention at the time of the organization of the Republican party in this State. Mr. and Mrs. F. are members in good standing of the Presbyterian Church, with which they both became connected before their marriage. Our subject is seventy-seven years of age, and his wife a few months older, and they have lived happily together for over fifty-three years. They are greatly respected in this community on account of the excellence of their character and the genuine goodness of heart which has enabled them to sympathize with the afflicted and distressed, and to exert their influence whenever possible in the cause of truth and justice.

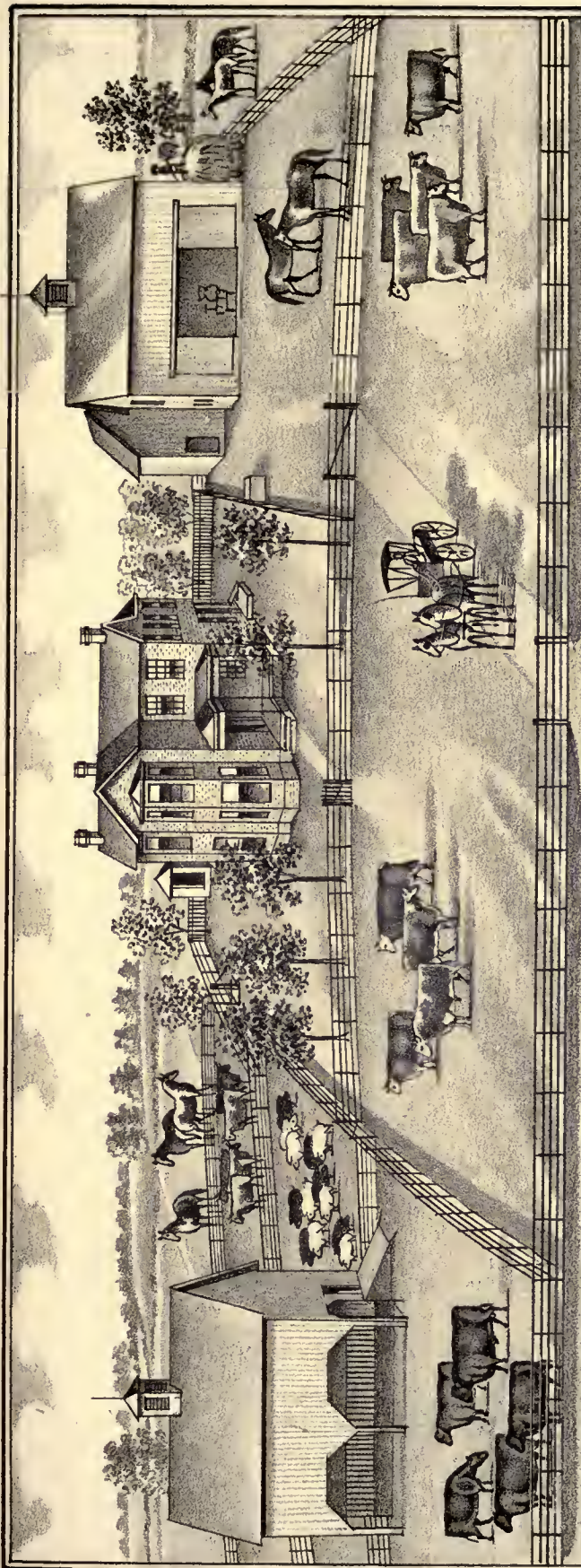


**J**OHN A. HEFNER, a resident of Money Creek Township, is a farmer by occupation and also Justice of the Peace, and the son of Peter and Betsey (Flesher) Hefner, the former of whom has a sketch elsewhere in this work. John A. Hefner was born in the township in which he is at present residing, Sept. 16, 1844. He was brought up on a farm, attended the common schools, and has known no other vocation in life than that in which he is at present engaged. He remained an inmate of the parental household until twenty-two years of his life had passed, when he settled on a place of his own in Money Creek Township and began to do for himself.

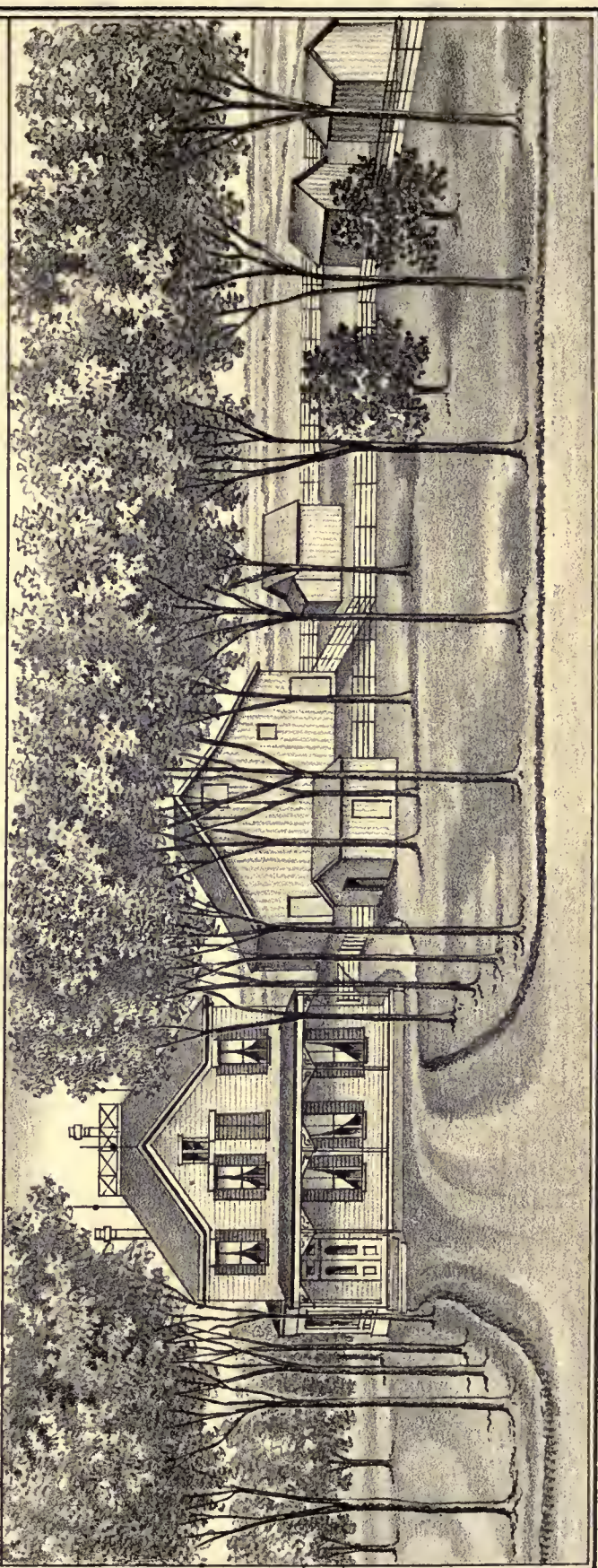
Mr. Hefner is now the owner of 272 acres of valuable and productive land and is meeting with far more than ordinary success in the prosecution of his calling. We give a view of his residence and surroundings in another part of this work. He was married in Money Creek Township, Feb. 14, 1867, to Miss Mary E., daughter of William and Elizabeth (Shook) Stewart, the former of Scotch







RESIDENCE OF ALFRED HARPOLE SEC. 32, LAWDALE TOWNSHIP.

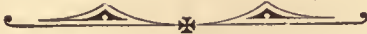


RESIDENCE OF JOHN W. RITTER, SEC. 34 MARTIN TOWNSHIP.



and came with his parents to this county when a lad seven years old. The parents of Mrs. Ritter are both living, and are residents of Nebraska. The six children of Mr. and Mrs. Ritter are William H.; Harriett A., now Mrs. William Winger, of Rollins County, Kau.; Mattie; Nellie; John W., Jr., and Mary. The four latter are at home.

William C. Ritter, a younger brother of our subject, was the second son and third child of the family, and was born in Ross County, Ohio, Dec. 25, 1823. He was educated in the district schools of his native county, and when about seventeen years old, his father having died, he commenced the battle of life for himself. The first property he owned was a colt, which he purchased with money he had saved little by little. He afterward worked by the month, practicing a most rigid economy, and in due time found himself in possession of \$1,000 as the result of his savings. With this, which was a fine capital in those days, he began trading in horses. In partnership with our subject he came West, and to this county, in 1854. Since that time he has been buying, feeding and shipping cattle, for a period of twenty-three years. They continued in partnership until the marriage of John W., and then dissolved by mutual consent. William C. afterward did business on his own account. A part of his time has been spent in Arrowsmith Township, where, during some winters he had fed from 200 to 300 head of cattle. He took a trip to Connecticut in 1876, and returned in the spring of 1886, since which time he has made his home with his brother, John W. A handsome lithographic view of Mr. Ritter's residence is shown on another page of this work.



**A**LFRID HARPOLE, one of the most energetic and enterprising farmers of Martin Township, is the descendant of a family which has been distinguished for many generations for their uniform success, both in trade and in agricultural pursuits. Our subject is the eldest son of John and Mary (Slaughter) Harpole, and was born in Greene County, Ohio, Nov. 13, 1840. It will thus be seen that he is in the prime

of life, and in the full strength of his physical and intellectual powers.

Alfred's grandfather, William Harpole, who was of German ancestry, was born in Virginia and married Miss Betsey Peterson. Their son John, the father of our subject, married Miss Mary Slaughter, daughter of Peter and Elizabeth (Cooper) Slaughter, Mr. S. being of German descent. After marriage John Harpole and his bride located in Greene County, Ohio, where he became an extensive cattle-breeder, and built up for himself an enviable reputation in this branch of agriculture in the Buckeye State. He was remarkably successful in his business and stock operations and accumulated a small fortune. His father, William Harpole, was also the owner of a fine estate, including a tract of 5,000 acres of valuable land in Ohio, in Madison, Greene and Clarke Counties. On the other side of the house, the Slaughters were also people of means, the maternal grandfather of our subject being the proprietor of 3,000 acres of land, and also engaged in stock-raising in Madison County, Ohio. In 1866, Peter Harpole purchased 1,035 acres of land in this county, lying along Mackinaw Creek and which was formerly owned by George W. Funk, of Bloomington. Later, William Harpole purchased 640 acres of Peter Hefner, of Lexington. John Harpole, the father of our subject, was one of the pioneer cattle dealers of Illinois, having first herded cattle in Logan County, in 1838. He was thus engaged in this State for a number of years, but finally returned to Ohio, and died there in 1849, at the early age of twenty-nine years, having been born in 1819. The parental household consisted of six children, four girls and two boys. After the death of the father, the mother of our subject was married to E. Bozarth, and took up her residence with him in Greene County, Ohio.

The subject of this history was but eight years old at the time of his father's death, and even at this early age it became evident that he had to a remarkable degree inherited the business talents of his parent. When nine years old he commenced trading in calves, and continued his stock operations until arriving at the age of sixteen. He then came into this county in company with his step-

father and herded cattle during the summer season. In the winter they gathered these up and fed them with corn, large quantities of which was raised by Mr. Bozarth.

In 1858, young Harpole visited the State of Kansas, and two years later, in January, 1860, was there married to Miss Jane Miller, of Chase County. Mrs. H. was born and reared in Ohio, to which State Mr. H. and his young wife returned after their marriage, in order that our subject might take charge of the estate, a portion of which had become his on reaching his majority. This consisted of a farm, upon which he settled and remained until 1863. They then removed to Logan County, Ill., where he purchased 260 acres of land upon which he lived for two years, when he sold out and thereby cleared \$4,000. He then bought another 160-acre farm near Elkhart, when, owing to the depreciation of property at the close of the war, he became financially embarrassed by having invested too largely in cattle and hogs.

Mr. Harpole farmed in Logan County for nine years, then removed to McLean County and rented the Peter Harpole farm in Martin Township, which he has occupied for the last twelve years. He is the owner of 179 acres in Lawndale Township, and this, together with the land he rents, comprises an extent of 1,500 acres, upon which he raises thousands of bushels of corn each year. A large portion of this he sells, and feeds the remainder to his stock, which includes cattle and hogs. He takes a genuine delight in his stock operations and continues a personal oversight of the whole business, being rarely found out of the saddle either in rain or shine. At present Mr. Harpole has three families of cattle, viz: thoroughbred Short-horn, the Hereford, and the Polled Angus, and two families of horses, the driving horse and the heavy draft horse. Some splendid specimens of these are shown in the view of his place. Besides these he has a large selection of Poland-China hogs, and at present has about 500 head of swine. Mr. H. has 500 acres of corn planted, and about 320 acres of oats sown, which gives an idea of the magnitude of his operations.

The wife of our subject, Mrs. Jane Harpole, departed this life on the 26th of May, 1885, leaving

nine children, namely: Mary E., the wife of L. R. Wiley; Gustie, Phœbe J., Archibald, Sarah R., Gillette, Nellie, Alfred and Pearl. Mrs. Harpole was the daughter of John and Jane Miller, who were natives of Ireland, but who died in McLean County.

At the early age of nineteen years, Mr. Harpole had already saved \$1,000 as the result of his stock operations, which commenced with the buying and selling of calves, starting out with an assortment of one pig and one calf. Those early traits of self-dependence and enterprise have followed him all through life. He is a man of decided views, and takes an active interest in current events. He is an uncompromising temperance man, and has never used whisky or tobacco in any form. He has been public-spirited and liberal, ready to assist by his means and influence in every enterprise calculated to further the prosperity and welfare of his township and county. He is widely and favorably known, and held in the highest respect as a neighbor, friend and citizen. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Evergreen, and also an Odd Fellow, belonging to the lodge at Elkhart, Logan Co., Ill. A handsome lithographic view of Mr. Harpole's residence and fine herds of stock is shown on another page of this work.

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**L**EWIS J. WILLHOITE, the proprietor of 240 acres of valuable land in Martin Township, has been a resident of McLean County since the fall of 1855. He is one of the self-made men who started out by himself early in life and by his perseverance and industry has accumulated a fine competency. His farm is furnished with all the modern appliances required by the first-class agriculturist. The residence is a model of taste and convenience, and his barns, farm machinery and stock all show the superintendence of the intelligent and progressive business man, who knows by what means his possessions have been secured and has a proper realization of their value. When he took possession of his prairie land there was nothing upon it but a small shanty, and the remarkable changes which he has brought about are



silent but foreible witnesses of the character of the man.


Mr. Willhoite is a native of Kentucky, and was born near Owenton, the county seat of Owen County, on the 24th of April, 1829. His grand-father, John Willhoite, of Virginia, removed from his native State to the blue grass regions when a young man, where he married and raised a family. Among his sons was Lewis, the father of our subject, who was born in Owen County, Ky., was there reared to manhood, and married Miss Patsey Taylor, a native of his own State, who became the mother of two children—William and Louisa. The latter died in girlhood. The mother of these children departed this life in Owen County, Ky., at the home of her husband. The second wife of Lewis Willhoite, Sr., was Miss Polly Sheets, also a native of his own county, and of this union there were born four children, three of whom—Henry A., James Franklin and Emily—are deceased, Lewis J. of our sketch being the only survivor of the family.

Lewis J. Willhoite passed his childhood and youth in his native county and was educated at a private school under the oversight of his excellent mother, his father having died when he was but five years of age. He remained with his mother until he was twenty-three years of age, and was then married to Miss Mary A., daughter of Willis C. Willhoite, of Kentucky. Mrs. W. was born in Owen County, that State, April 27, 1829. After marriage the young people settled on a farm in their native county, where they lived until the fall of 1855. They then gathered together their household effects and came North to Illinois, locating first in Downs Township, this county, where Mr. W. purchased eighty acres of land upon which he operated until the purchase of his present farm on section 21, Martin Township. Of this they took possession in 1873, and since that time Mr. W. has devoted his entire attention to beautifying and improving the homestead, which from the first he had decided should be a permanent one. He and a part of his family now live here surrounded by all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life.

The household circle was completed by the birth of five children, three sons and two daughters, as follows: Maria I. is the widow of W. S. Horner,

who died in 1882; Henry L., Willis and Franklin are residents of Sumner County, Kan.; Mary E., Mrs. Joseph Arnold, lives in this county; Ellis L. is at home with his parents. To the children who are married Mr. Willhoite has given a good start in life and still has a fine property to enjoy in his old age. Himself and the various members of his family are connected with the Christian Church, and attend religious services in Blue Mound Township.

Politically Mr. Willhoite takes pride in the fact that he is a staunch adherent of the reliable old Democratic party, although in early years he supported the principles of the old-line Whigs. He has served four years as Justice of the Peace, was Assessor of his township one year, and in 1884 was elected a member of the Board of Supervisors from Martin Township. He has also served a number of terms as School Director, and takes a genuine interest in the establishment and maintenance of educational institutions.



**M**ILES WAYBRIGHT, engaged in the butcher business at Lexington, first established himself in trade at that place in 1866. He was born in Pendleton County, Va., Feb. 17, 1827, on his father's farm. He is the seventh in order of birth of his parents' family of ten children, six sons and four daughters, all of whom lived to attain the age of man and womanhood. The father of our subject, Daniel Waybright, was likewise a native of Virginia. Our subject's mother, whose maiden name was Rachel Arbogast, was the daughter of John Arbogast, an early settler in Virginia, and of German ancestry. Daniel Waybright removed with his family to Ohio, and after a year's residence in that State went back to Virginia and there lived the remainder of his days.

Miles Waybright passed his youth on his father's farm and attended the common schools of the neighborhood. He remained at home until he was twenty-two years old, when he left the parental roof tree and went forth in the world to do for himself. In the fall of 1857 he came to this county, and

stopping in Money Creek Township, spent that winter there, and then went to Old Town Township and made that his home until the following March. In 1859 he removed to Maekinaw Creek and in 1861 took up his residence at Lexington, where he lived for several years, at first engaged in farming. He then opened his meat market at that place and has continued in the business until the present time, with the exception of a short interval. Mr. Waybright is a practical butcher and thoroughly understands the business in which he is engaged. He is the proprietor of a good residence and other town property and has met with financial success in his enterprise.

Miles Waybright was first married to Miss Rebecca Nicholas, a native of Virginia. She became the mother of seven children, four sons and three daughters. The record is as follows: Louisa, wife of J. M. Weakley; Catherine, Amos, Noah F., Willis M., Edward, Jennie, wife of L. B. Hefner. The mother of these children died at Lexington, and our subject was married to his present wife, whose maiden name was Tabitha Batterton, daughter of Curtis Batterton, in 1874. Of this latter union, one child, a daughter, Della, has been born.

**H.** HEWITT, capitalist, and one of the leading financiers of the county, lives at No. 318 Locust street, Bloomington. He was born in Saratoga County, N. Y., in 1839, and is a son of Edmund and Lydia (Mund) Hewitt, natives of that county. The father was a large and extensive farmer and successful in following his calling. The old folk were married June 18, 1825, and came to Illinois in 1865, settling in El Paso, Woodford County, where the father lived a retired life until his demise in 1868, aged eighty years. The mother is still living and makes her home with the subject of this notice.

The grandfather of our subject was a soldier in the Revolutionary War and a native of Connecticut. Early in life he moved to Saratoga County, N. Y., of which he was one of the pioneers, and there purchased a tract of Government land consisting of 120 acres, on which he erected the cus-

tomary log cabin, and entered upon the improvement of his land. He lived on that place until his death, in 1836, aged eighty-one years. His good wife, Hannah Peekham, was also born in Connecticut, and bore him seven children.

The father of Mrs. Lydia Hewitt, our subject's mother, was Thomas Moon, a native of Rhode Island, as likewise was his wife, Deborah (Hoxie) Moon, and they were also early settlers of Saratoga County, N. Y.

Edmund Hewitt was a soldier in the War of 1812, and was often called upon to fill positions of trust and honor in the county where he resided. He was a strong advocate of temperance and was much interested in education. He and his wife were members of the Baptist Church, in which he was a Deacon. They had five children, three of whom are now living: Hattie, now Mrs. O'Brien, of Lawrence, Kan.; Rev. Charles E., pastor of the First Baptist Church at Peoria, Ill., and our subject.

H. H. Hewitt was reared to farm labor until he attained the age of fourteen years. He then supplemented his education which he had received in the common schools, by a course of study at Ft. Edward Institute, Washington County, N. Y. Leaving the latter school he came to Illinois and settled at El Paso, Woodford County, in 1857. There he taught the first public school that was ever taught in El Paso. In 1860 he opened the first hardware store in El Paso and continued the business with signal success until 1869. Disposing of his interests at El Paso, Mr. Hewitt came to Bloomington, and for two years was engaged in the book business. In 1873 he embarked in the hardware trade at Bloomington and occupied his time and attention in this direction for about ten years, when he retired from active labor, and has since lived upon his handsome competency, which has been acquired mainly through his own energy and good judgment.

In 1881 Mr. Hewitt erected a store building at No. 417 North Main street. He purchased his handsome residence in 1869, and has since his residence in Bloomington, operated to no inconsiderable extent in city property, and also has become a stockholder in the National State Bank. He likewise has a tile factory near McLean, in which he em-

plays from fifteen to twenty men and where he has invested about \$10,000. In addition to his possessions in this State, Mr. Hewitt is the proprietor of an orange grove in Florida, and interested in property at St. Paul, Minn., and holds numerous mortgages. He was among the largest subscribers to the fund for building the Baptist Church at El Paso in 1864, and was also one of the building committee. He was a Deacon in a congregation at that place and was also Sunday-school Superintendent and chorister there. Since coming to Bloomington he has been twice elected Superintendent of the Sunday-school of the First Baptist Church, and was also the incumbent of the office of Superintendent of the Mission School for five years and connected with it for nine years. He is a member of the Board of Missions and Treasurer of the Illinois General Baptist Association.

Mr. Hewitt was married to Miss Hattie G. Barker, daughter of James M. and Emily (Gere) Barker, Jan. 17, 1865. She was born in Saratoga County, N. Y., as likewise were her parents. Her father was a farmer and manufacturer, and by his union with Miss Gere, became the head of a family of four children: Jennie, Mrs. Larned, of Chicago; Hattie G., Mrs. Hewitt; William and Julia. The father departed this life in 1877. He was a consistent Christian gentleman, holding fellowship with the Baptist Church, and was a Deacon in a congregation of that denomination. His widow is yet living and resides at Albion, N. Y. Our subject is Republican in politics, and he and his wife are members of the Baptist Church.



**W**ILLIAM McCracken, engaged in mercantile pursuits at Selma, was born in Norwich, Franklin Co., Ohio, July 28, 1828. The father of our subject, Henry McCracken, was by birth a Pennsylvanian, and born in Cumberland Valley in 1796. His ancestors were from Ireland, the grandfather of Henry having been born in that country, and came to the United States while yet a single man. Henry McCracken was married three times. His first wife was Rebecca Black, daughter of William Black, and the family of Blacks were of

Scotch extraction. At the time of his first marriage he was living in the Shenandoah or Cumberland Valley, Pa., and after the marriage they continued to live there for a short time, and then removed to Franklin County, Ohio. This was about 1821, and they located in what is known as Old Franklin on the west bank of the Sciota River. There Henry helped to clear up the forest where the thriving city of Columbus now stands. He was a stonemason by trade and worked in the village for a while when he moved onto a farm and followed that calling. He reared a family of four children, three sons and one daughter. David is deceased; George is living at San Jose, Cal.; William, our subject, was next in order of birth, and Margaret, who married Thomas E. Scrimger, is deceased.

William McCracken passed his youth in his native county, and there in the common schools received his education, supplementing the same by an attendance of one term at Delaware College. In 1852 our subject came to this county and stopped at Selma, where at first he was employed in a grist and saw mill, and subsequently engaged in farming and followed that calling until the breaking out of the late Civil War. In August, 1862, he enlisted in Co. G, 33d Ill. Vol. Inf., and his regiment was assigned to the Western army. He served there until February, 1863, when he was transferred to a gunboat under command of Commodore Foote, and took part in the bloody conflict of Donelson. His boat ran a blockade at Island No. 10, and at the bombardment of Ft. Pillow. After this, in July, 1863, he was discharged from the service on account of disability and returned to Selma, where after convalescing he engaged in the mercantile business. He engaged in partnership with William Bratton, and they opened a grocery store and continued the business for about three years. Mr. McCracken then purchased the interest of his partner and carried it on alone, and by honest dealing has built up an excellent trade, and is yet engaged in the same enterprise and is meeting with success.

Our subject was united in marriage with Nancy J. McKee, in July, 1864. She is a daughter of James W. McKee, and by her union with our sub-

ject has become the mother of six children, four daughters and two sons—Maggie C., James H., George W., Nellie, Bessie F. and Josie R. Mr. McCraeken served as Postmaster of Selma under the administration of President Lincoln for six years, and is one of the foremost and prominent men of that place. In politics he is and always has been a staunch Republican.



**L**EVIN P. SCROGIN, a prominent and successful farmer and business man of Lexington, first opened his eyes to light near Paris, Bourbon Co., Ky., on the 30th of March, 1823. His father, John Scrogin, was born in Maryland, and his mother, formerly Miss Patsey Mills, was a native of Virginia. John Scrogin was a farmer by occupation, and of Scotch parentage and ancestry, with an admixture of the German. John Scrogin went to Kentucky when a young man, and from there emigrated to Morgan County, Ill., with his family, in the fall of 1828, and located upon what is now the site of Jacksonville, where he died about two years later.

Our subject was one of a family of two sons and two daughters, only two of whom survived—our subject, and his youngest sister, who is now a resident of Chico, Butte Co., Cal. He was but six years of age at the time of his father's death. He remained with his sister and attended the pioneer schools, and after becoming of suitable age was employed by Jacob Strawn, the then "cattle king" of Illinois, in looking after his herds on the prairie, remaining with him two years, and was then occupied in driving stock.

Mr. Scrogin was married in 1848, to Miss Sarah E. Holmes, who was born in Morgan County, Ill., and was the daughter of Peris Holmes, of that county. Her mother was formerly Miss Lois Sweet, who with her parents were numbered among the pioneers of Morgau County. Mr. Holmes was born in Connecticut and his wife in New York. After his marriage our subject located in this county, on his present farm in Lexington Township, which consisted of 523 acres, and for which he paid \$1,000, which at that day was considered a high price.

It is now one of the finest farms in the township, and has doubled its first value many times. To this Mr. S. subsequently added until he is now the owner of 870 acres, all in one body. It is well fenced and highly cultivated with a substantial and handsome residence and two good barns. Of late years he has given much attention to the cattle trade, of which he ships annually large numbers to the markets of the East, and which has yielded him a handsome income. His herd now averages ninety head, and he raises from ten to twenty calves every year. He also deals in Norman horses, and the secret of his great success is that he has been enabled to do business on his own capital, and has been enabled to meet his obligations promptly and without embarrassment.

Mr. Scrogin has been largely identified with the business and agricultural interests of this section since he began business on his own account, and has contributed his full quota to the wealth and prosperity of McLean County. He was one of the stockholders of the bank of J. C. Mahan & Co., at Lexington, with which he was connected for fourteen years and until it was closed, and owns the building in which the National Bank is now carried on.

The family of our subject consisted of nine children, of whom five are still living: Arthur J., Austin H., Carrie E., Charlie P. and Emma L.; the others died in infancy. Both parents and children are members of the Baptist Church. Mr. Scrogin has served as Justice of the Peace, and in all respects is an esteemed and valued citizen.



**R**EINHOLD GRAFF, a prosperous and wide-awake grocer of Bloomington, is located on the corner of East Grove street, where he is conducting his business in an intelligent and successful manner. He is a native of the German Empire, having been born in Halle, on the Saale River, Prussia, May 15, 1840. He came to America with his mother, Amelia (Krapff) Graff, in 1852, his father, Ferdinand Graff, having died in Germany. Mrs. Graff with her five children, crossed the ocean, landing in the city of New York, whence they proceeded to Buffalo, thence to Chi-

cago and from there by canal to LaSalle, Ill. They afterward went to Peoria, whence they came to Bloomington by wagon, and settled on a farm near Old Town, which remained the home of the family for sixteen years.

The subject of this history received a limited education, being but eleven years of age when he came to America, and since which time his education has been the result, principally, of his own exertions. He remained upon the farm of his mother until twenty-five years old, then entered the store of Ollis Evans & Co., with whom he remained two years as clerk, and until they sold out, when he occupied the same position with their successors for seven years. In 1879 Mr. Graff engaged in the grocery business on his own account. He commenced on a small scale and was successful from the start. As his business increased he was obliged to enlarge his stock and for this purpose put up a good building 30x45 feet in area, and two stories in height, and in which he keeps a full assortment of everything required in his line.

Mr. Graff was married, in 1866, to Miss Margaret Leiser, of Bloomington, and they have three children—Albert W., Benjamin F. and Anna Bell. The family residence is pleasantly located, and our subject and his family enjoy the association of a large number of friends. Mr. Graff is a member of the I. O. O. F., holding fellowship with Lodge No. 305, Bloomington, and also belongs to the Turner Society of that place.

The mother of our subject is still living and makes her home in Wilson County, Kan. She is now over eighty-one years of age, but is hale and hearty, and in the enjoyment of all her faculties.



**J**AMES M. MCGINNIS, one of the prosperous and progressive farmers of Lawndale Township, is pleasantly located on section 16, on the farm of which he took possession in the spring of 1884. His homestead includes 120 acres of valuable land, upon which he has erected a first-class set of farm buildings, which bear fair comparison with any in the county. He is in all respects a valuable citizen, and by his en-

ergy and enterprise has already proved himself an important factor in the agricultural interests of Lawndale Township.

Mr. McGinnis was born in Parke County, Ind., July 26, 1824, being the son of John and Elizabeth (Wolf) McGinnis, the father a native of Tennessee and the mother of New Jersey, of Irish and Holland-Dutch descent, respectively. They came into Butler County, Ohio, soon after their marriage, where they lived about three years, and thence removed to Parke County, Ind. The father was engaged in farming and teaching alternately. They lived in Indiana until in November, 1834, and thence removed into Tazewell County, this State, settling near Groveland, where they spent the remainder of their days, the father dying in February, 1869, and the mother April 5, 1881. Their family consisted of nine children, as follows: George I., deceased; Temperance, James M., John F., Nancy and Martha, deceased; Mary A., Andrew J. and Kizzie.

Mr. McGinnis was a boy of ten years when his parents removed into Tazewell County. They made the trip overland with horses and wagons. He was reared on his father's farm and remained under the parental roof until he was thirty-three years old. He was then married and continued to live in Tazewell County until the spring of 1859, when he took a trip overland to California, the journey consuming about five months. He remained on the Pacific Slope two years following, and engaged in mining, with fair success. Afterward he took up his home in Nevada with his family, where he lived twenty-three years, coming to this county in the summer of 1884. His homestead consists of 120 acres on section 13, Lawndale Township.

The subject of this history was married in Metamora, Woodford Co., Ill., March 7, 1858, to Miss Patience J. Nesmith, daughter of Cyrus A. and Marinda (Hurlbut) Nesmith. Her father, a native of Antrim, N. H., was born in 1801, and her mother in Ontario, in 1810. After marriage they located in Medina County, Ohio, where Mr. N. pursued the occupation of a farmer. In 1847 they left the Buckeye State for the prairies of Illinois, arriving in Peoria County in November. They

lived there until the spring of 1849, then removed to Metamora, Woodford County, and in 1877, to Washington, Ill., where Mr. N. died in January, 1884. The mother still survives, and makes her home in the latter place. Their seven children were Arthur E., Patience J., Milton W., Mary A., George W., John D. and Charles L. Arthur E. is deceased; Milton resides in Nebraska; Mary is the wife of E. S. Corpe, of Lawndale Township; George and John are deceased, and Charles L. resides in Washington, Ill.

Mrs. McGinnis was born in Medina County, Ohio, Sept. 24, 1835. She received careful parental training, a good common-school education, and remained with her parents until her marriage. Mrs. McGinnis taught school a number of years, and also taught the first public school in Lyon County, Nev., it being the first public school taught in the State. This was in 1862. Of her union with our subject there has been born but one child, who died in infancy. Mr. McGinnis, while a resident of Nevada, was honored with various offices, having been County Commissioner for eight years and was School Trustee for seventeen years, and is highly respected as a business man and a citizen. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and politically an active Republican. A handsome lithographic view of Mr. McGinnis' residence is shown on another page.

**J**A. LASSWELL, editor and proprietor of the Colfax *Chronicle*, published at Colfax, is a native of the Prairie State, having been born in Fulton County, May 22, 1861. He is the son of William and Mary E. (Lippy) Lasswell, natives respectively of Illinois and Pennsylvania. His father is a farmer by occupation, and is now carrying on agriculture in Peoria County, this State. The four children of the parental household were Alice, George, William P. and our subject, John A. William Lasswell is Democratic in politics, and the mother of our subject is prominently identified with the Christian Church.

The subject of this biography spent his childhood and youth on his father's farm, and when

sixteen years of age engaged to learn the printer's trade, at which he served four years. He then abandoned this temporarily and commenced rail-roading on the Illinois Central as brakeman and express messenger, which he followed for four years. Then in company with D. A. Creed he established the *Chronicle*, at Colfax Village, on the 5th of June, 1886. This is a six-column folio, a speedy and independent sheet, and has already a good circulation. Mr. Lasswell is a free and easy writer, and in the conduct of his paper gives abundant satisfaction to its patrons.

Our subject was married on the 4th of April, 1886, to Mrs. Grace H. Webster of Michigan, but who since a child has made her home in Woodford County, this State, whence her parents came and settled on a farm while she was quite young. She is the third of four children who completed the household circle, and her parents now reside at El Paso. Mr. Lasswell belongs to the Democratic party, and occupies a good position in the editorial fraternity of this section.

**D**R. NELSON LOAR, a prominent physician and surgeon of Bloomington, has his office at the intersection of Front and Lee streets, and enjoys an extensive and lucrative practice. He is a native of Greene County, Pa., and was born April 1, 1840. His parents were Jacob and Maria (Nelson) Loar, natives of the same State, where his father carried on an extensive farm, but is now practically retired from active labor. His grandfather, John Loar, was a native of Maryland, and married a lady from Pennsylvania, in which latter State they settled and passed their last days in Greene County. Their son Jacob, the father of our subject, was a Justice of the Peace for twenty years in Greene County, and was frequently called upon to administer upon large estates. He was a capable business man, intelligent and well educated, and possessed a large amount of industry and enterprise. The parental family included ten children, six now living, as follows: John remains in his native State of Pennsylvania;

Nelson, our subject, is the second son; Margaret, Mrs. Allen, lives in Jasper County, Iowa, as does also Dr. George W.; Hester, Mrs. Gribben, lives in Greene County, Pa., and Anna, Mrs. Burns, lives in the same county.

Dr. Loar of our sketch, spent his younger days on his father's farm, and in attendance at the district school until he was about twenty-two years old. He then took a course of study at Mt. Pleasant College where he remained two years, and soon thereafter commenced the study of medicine. In November, 1864, he entered the Cincinnati Medical College, from which he graduated in 1867, and began his practice in Mt. Pleasant, Pa. After one year he turned his face westward, stopping for awhile in Knox County, Ohio, and then came to Bloomington, where he has continued practice since that time. He was successful from the start, and in due time purchased a house on West Washington street, which he occupied with his family for twelve years. He then purchased two lots on Front street, and erected his present residence and office in 1881. He also purchased ground at the corner of Jefferson and West streets, where he built a fine brick hotel 48x60 feet in area, two stories in height, and equipped with all modern improvements. This now yields him a handsome income, being conducted in a manner pleasing to both permanent guests and travelers. The hotel is conducted by Mrs. M. A. Baird, on the European plan.

Dr. Loar was married, in 1866, to Miss Olive Rinehart, who was born in Knox County, Ohio, and was the daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth (Ewalt) Rinehart, natives respectively of New Jersey and Ohio. Her paternal grandfather was Christian Rinehart, of New Jersey, and her maternal grandfather, John Ewalt, of Pennsylvania. Both gentlemen purchased large tracts of land near Mt. Vernon, Ohio, where they spent the last years of their life. Samuel Rinehart was also an extensive farmer, but is now retired from active labor. His family included ten children, eight now living, and the record is as follows: Sarah, Mrs. Bonnett, lives in this county; Mary, Mrs. Rightmire, is in Pottawatomie County, Kan.; Christian D. is also in that State; Olive is the wife of our subject; Clementine, Mrs. Myers, lives in Knox County, Ohio;

Emeline, Mrs. Edwards, in Fredericktown, Ohio; William H., in California, and Frank E., in Knox County, Ohio.

Our subject and his wife have become the parents of five children—Eva, Ira, Ada, Anna and Arthur. In politics Dr. Loar is a staunch Prohibitionist, and with his wife is a member in good standing of the Christian Church. Dr. Loar deserves credit for the position he has won, not only as a physician and surgeon, but in having the confidence of the people whom he serves. As a physician he is patient, constant, sympathetic, yet in the hour of extremity cool, calm and courageous, thus inspiring the sick with feelings of safety in being carried through the scenes of impending danger.



**JAMES OSBORN BARNARD.** The name of James Osborn Barnard was familiar to all the pioneers of McLean County, and his history, from beginning to end, was full of interest. He was a remarkable man in many respects, being from his earliest childhood of an active, stirring disposition, inquisitive and acquisitive, always ready to make an honest penny at a trade, bearing losses and crosses cheerfully, and never discouraged under adverse circumstances.

Mr. Barnard was born July 16, 1800, in Statesville, the county seat of Iredell County, N. C. He was the son of Francis and Jane (McCord) Barnard, the former of English-Quaker descent but American born, and the latter, partially at least, of Irish ancestry. The paternal grandfather of James O., being a Quaker, did not take part in the Revolutionary War, but his mother's father was a very different man. He was no Quaker, but on the contrary considered it his duty to harrass the British at every opportunity. He was not a regular soldier but was in every scrimmage in which he could find a chance to engage. The British took revenge by sacking his house, tearing everything to pieces, and driving off his live stock. Mr. McCord afterward made many of them pay with their lives for the destruction of his property.

The early youth of James Barnard had been distinguished by many social pleasures after the man-

ner of the young men of that period, and he had learned to dance and play the violin, performing to audiences at home and elsewhere, for which he was paid small sums of money and which he invested, sometimes fortunately and sometimes otherwise. His business talents were conspicuous at an early age. Later his mind took a more serious turn and underwent a radical change. He abandoned his social pleasures and turned his attention more to religious matters, and sought to work a similar change in the minds of his companions. In early youth he had been adverse to school but his natural habits of observation enabled him to transact business in a very creditable manner. When eighteen years of age he joined Briar Creek Baptist Church, and was baptized in the Yadkin River. His twenty-first birthday was celebrated by taking his gun to the same river, where he killed a deer, which was quite an event at that time as these animals were becoming scarce. After reaching his majority he entered school at Wilksboro, which, however, he attended but a short time as the teacher refused to give his pupils a holiday on Christmas.

Soon afterward young Barnard went to learn the saddler's trade which, however, he only followed a short time, and the family soon removed to Tennessee, where they rented a farm. In the meantime James engaged as a trader in salt and groceries, doing his own teaming and meeting with fair success. Shortly afterward he revisited his native State and from thence went into Alabama and afterward to Ohio and Indiana. Returning afterward to his home in Tennessee he was appointed Postmaster under Andrew Jackson, but resigned the office in 1829, to come to Illinois. In the meantime he had taken a load of provisions and live stock to New Orleans, this trip and the return being filled in with many interesting incidents and hairbreadth escapes. In his absence his father's house with all its contents was consumed by fire. The family soon afterward removed to Illinois, where they were joined by James O. The latter purchased 160 acres of land near Dry Grove which, however, he did not take possession of until the following year. The city of Chicago was then only known as Ft. Dearborn, of which Mr. Barnard and some of his friends had

heard much but had never seen, and in company with two of his friends, each with an ox-team, they set out to find it. After reaching the fort and remaining a short time they invested in a load of provisions and returned home.

On the 14th of September, 1837, Mr. Barnard was married to Miss Lydia Swallow, and they commenced housekeeping after the fashion of those days. Mr. B. became prominent in the affairs of the county before many years, and in 1834 was appointed Deputy Sheriff and Tax Collector, which positions he held for several years. He identified himself with the Masonic fraternity at Bloomington on the 18th of April, 1848, of whose principles he remained an admirer until his death, which occurred Oct. 17, 1873.

After becoming a resident of McLean County Mr. Barnard crossed the Mississippi, visiting Iowa and Kansas, where he had a brother and daughter. After coming to Illinois he severed his connection with the Baptists and became a member of the Christian Church. He was very conscientious, deliberate in forming his opinions, and adhered to them with great decision. He was of that magnetic temperament which attracted to him hosts of friends, and his record was that of a useful and honest citizen who performed his whole duty in assisting to build up the country around him, and by his influence encouraged the march of emigration and the establishment of educational and religious institutions.

**J**OHN BERTELS is senior member of the firm of Bertels & Stoll, tile manufacturers of Lexington. The Lexington Tile Works, by which name this business is familiarly known, was established in the spring of 1883. The factory is one of the best of its kind in this part of the State and equipped with the latest improved machinery. The propelling power is a forty-horse power engine which was manufactured in Peoria by Nicholas Burr, and the capacity of the works is about 750,000 feet of tile annually. They have three kilns, each holding about 12,000 feet of four-inch tile. There is a constant home demand for



the products of the factory and it will bear fair comparison with any in the West.

Mr. Bertels was formerly engaged in the manufacture of brick, his yards being located in the south part of the town, and he furnished material for the construction of some of the most important buildings in and around Lexington. His systematic methods of doing business and his excellent personal traits of character have gained him many friends in this vicinity and he is widely known as a valuable factor in the business and industrial interests of this part of McLean County.

Our subject is a native of the German Empire and was born on a farm May 4, 1837. His father, Henry B. Bertels, also of German birth and ancestry, and his mother, Lovisa Gravelok, were the parents of three children, two sons and one daughter, our subject being the second born. They were all placed in school when six years of age and continued for a number of years.

When fourteen years old our subject began to learn brick-making, serving an apprenticeship of three years. At the age of twenty he embarked upon the sailing-vessel "Von Stine," bound for New York City, and after a voyage of seven weeks arrived at his destination and at once set out for the West. After arriving in McLean County he was out of funds, but that did not frighten him as he had his strong hands and his willing and courageous spirit, and soon found employment with a farmer, Jacob C. Mahan, where he remained for six years—a good recommendation both for master and man. Here our subject was principally engaged cultivating the soil in summer and feeding cattle during the winter. In the meantime he had been married to Miss Elizabeth Helmer, a native of his own country and the daughter of John Helmer, also of German birth and ancestry. Mrs. B. came to this country with her parents when a young girl. Mr. Bertels then removed into the town of Lexington, where he opened a brick-yard near where the C. & A. R. R. crosses Mackinaw Creek. He began in a modest way and was prospered in his undertaking, his business some years aggregating 1,500,000 brick annually, which he shipped to Chicago and other points. In 1871 he shipped 300,000 brick, for which he received \$16 per thousand delivered in

the city. He continued his manufactory until 1883, and then established the tile works which he now operates, their manufacture at present being mostly for home use.

Mr. Bertels, besides his town property, has a neat little farm of fifty-five acres, upon which is located his residence and where he uses four teams in carrying on its operations, and that of the factory. The family of our subject and his wife at present consists of three sons: August, now of Nebraska; Edward, a clerk in the store of J. C. Mahan in Lexington, and Benjamin, who does business with his father; one child died in infancy.

Mr. Bertels and his wife are members of the Catholic Church, and socially our subject belongs to McLean Lodge No. 206, I. O. O. F., and to the Encampment.



REV. HENRY O. HOFFMAN, pastor of the Independent Church of Bloomington, is a native of Ohio, and was born in the village of Birmingham, Erie County, July 18, 1836. He is the son of Henry Hoffman, Esq., an attorney at law and Justice of the Peace, and his mother was, before her marriage, Miss Frances Reid, also a native of the Empire State. The Hoffmans were of German extraction, the grandfather, Peter H., having been a native of Pennsylvania. The Reids were of New England and of English descent.

The father of our subject removed from Ohio to Indiana, when Henry of our sketch was about eleven years of age, and settled in Crawfordsville, where he followed merchandising, but subsequently removed to Montgomery County, where he died in 1882. The affectionate wife and mother had closed her eyes to earthly scenes while still a young woman, her husband surviving her thirty-five years. Their family included five children, four sons and one daughter, all living.

Henry O. Hoffman was the third child of his parents and passed his youth in Montgomery County, Ind., where his father owned a farm. With his brothers, he was reared to agricultural pursuits

and received his primary education in the common schools, after which he entered Thorntown Academy, where he pursued a thorough course of study for two years. Then, in 1855, he entered the ministry, his first experience being on Lebanon Circuit, in Boone County, Ind. He was next sent to the Northern part of the State, and after making several removals, was appointed Chaplain of the 17th Indiana Infantry.

At the close of the war he was sent South to assist in the reconstruction of the Methodist Episcopal Church and was thus occupied for three years, being afterward appointed general agent of the Freedman's Aid Society, which duties led him over a large tract of territory. He was then transferred to the Illinois Conference and stationed at Stapps Chapel, in Decatur, whence, after two years, he was appointed to Rushville, and the following year to Quiney, next to Hillsboro, and finally to Bloomington, his present charge.

In early manhood Mr. Hoffman was married to Miss Anna Perry, a descendant of Commodore Perry. This lady died in 1882, leaving two sons—H. H., who is one of the staff of the *Evening Journal* of Detroit, and H. R., at home.

Mr. Hoffman was married to his present wife, Mrs. Jeannette Raymond, on the 4th of January, 1886. She is the daughter of E. Burdette of Litchfield, Ill., and the widow of George M. Raymond.

**T**IMOTHY KRAFT is another of those thrifty German citizens who have done so much toward the progress and advancement, not only of this county, but of the different States of the Union. Coming to this county poor in pocket and homeless, as a rule their aim has always been to procure a home for themselves and families, and in a majority of cases they have succeeded. Our subject is a self-made man in every respect the word implies, and what he has of this world's goods has been acquired through his own indomitable energy and perseverance. He is pleasantly located on his large, productive and valuable farm on section 3, Towanda Township, where he is surrounded by everything necessary for the

carrying on of his vocation, and where he also has a pleasant home. His parents, Joseph and Mary (Fordenbarch) Kraft, were natives of Germany. The father was a weaver by trade, and in accordance with the laws of his country, served six years in the army, as a cavalryman. Both heads of the family died in their native land. They had four children who lived to attain the age of maturity, of which number our subject was the youngest.

Timothy Kraft was born in Attenau, Baden, Germany, July 2, 1832. He lived in his native land until twenty-two years of age, and there learned the potter's trade, working at the same for about five years. In 1854 our subject, hoping to better his financial condition emigrated to the United States, and for five years thereafter was a resident of Montgomery County, Ohio. The first year of his residence there he worked out by the month, but the second year rented a small farm, and continued farming in that county until the fall of 1860. During the fall of that year he came to McLean County, and buying eighty acres of land on section 3, Towanda Township, settled upon it and has since made it his home. Since his first settlement in Towanda Township he has labored hard and economized, and in consequence thereof was enabled to add to his original purchase until he owned 600 acres, of which he still retains 440, having recently sold 160 acres to his son. He is one of the most progressive farmers, not only of Towanda Township, but of McLean County. He keeps about fifteen head of horses and eighty head of cattle on his place, and fattens some forty head of hogs annually for the market. He also raises about 7,000 bushels of corn besides several thousand bushels of oats on his place every year, and is meeting with signal success in the prosecution of a vocation he has followed thus far in life. A view of his residence and surroundings is shown in this work.

Mr. Kraft was married, March 5, 1856, in Montgomery County, Ohio, to Miss Walburg, daughter of Cornelius and Noteburg (Schneider) Hurley, natives of Baden, Germany, in which country the father was engaged in the lumber business, and where both died. The parents had four children, and Mrs. Kraft was the third in order of birth. She





W P Brophy



R M Hopkins

first saw light in Germany Nov. 28, 1835, and her union with our subject has been blest by the birth of seven children—Sarah A., Charles, Daniel W., Cornelius, Frank, William and Lula M. Frank died when three years old; Sarah is the wife of Lee Hase, and they are residents of Towanda Township. Mr. Kraft has held the office of School Director, and he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he has been Trustee for many years. In politics he is a staunch Republican.



**R**OBERT M. HOPKINS, a prominent and successful farmer of Lexington Township, is pleasantly located on section 32, where he is following his peaceful calling in a satisfactory and advantageous manner. Mr. Hopkins was born in Owen County, Ind., Feb. 6, 1830, on the farm of his father, Patrick Hopkins. The latter was a native of Sussex County, Del., born June 7, 1799, being the son of Robert Hopkins, Sr., who was of Welsh descent and married Miss Nancy Spence, a lady of Scottish ancestry, and they were among the early settlers of Delaware. The mother of our subject, formerly Miss Mary Bartholomew, of Clark County, Ind., and the daughter of Joseph Bartholomew, was married to Patrick Hopkins in 1820. She departed this life when her son Robert, of our sketch, was but nine years of age. The grandfather of our subject was a General, under Wayne in the Black Hawk War and being well versed in Indian warfare was given a responsible position on the frontier, where most of his life was spent and where he obtained an intimate knowledge of Indian customs, trickery and cunning.

Patrick Hopkins, the father of our subject, removed from his native State to Kentucky with his parents when but seven years of age. When fifteen years old, he went to Indiana, where he remained for three years, and then returned to Kentucky, where he engaged as a brick-mason until 1820. He then returned to Indiana, where he married as before stated and remained in Owen County for ten years following. Then, in 1830, he pushed further

westward into Illinois and settled on the Mackinaw River in this county, where he remained until his death, which occurred in 1874. During his residence here he had engaged in farming and working at his trade alternately. His first wife had preceded him to the better land thirty-five years, her death occurring in 1839. Of this marriage there were born five children, two sons and three daughters: Joseph H., who was married three times, died in 1878 in Missouri; Nancy A. married William M. Smith of Lexington; Elizabeth became the wife of Henry Hefner and they live in Seattle, Wash. Ter.; Robert, of our sketch, was the fourth child; Mary E. married F. M. Bowers, and died in February, 1885.

The subject of this history was an infant of six months old when he was brought by his parents to McLean County. He was reared on his father's farm and attended the pioneer schools, and when twenty-six years of age was united in marriage with Miss Mary L., the daughter of John W. and May (Harper) Smith, a niece of Milton Smith, Esq.

The father and mother of Mrs. Hopkins were natives of Ohio. The father was born in Madison County in 1815 and the mother in Fairfield County, in 1821. They came to McLean County in 1856, locating first in Bloomington, thence to Livingston, where they departed this life, the father dying in 1883 and the mother in February, 1885. The maiden name of the mother was May Smith, daughter of Benjamin and Rachel (Thistlewood) Smith. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. H. settled upon the present homestead of our subject. Mrs. Hopkins died in 1863, leaving two children, one of whom, William G., died in infancy; Charles C. married Miss Effie Lily, and lives in Lexington Township.

Mr. Hopkins was a second time married, to Miss Letetia Lily, in December, 1865. She is the daughter of John and Mary Lily, with whom she came to McLean County when a maiden of sixteen years. She was born in Madison County, Ohio, in 1847. Of this marriage there have been born five children—Orange J., Mary E., Ann E., Theodocia E. and Bertha. The homestead of Mr. Hopkins and his family is finely located, with good farm buildings which are kept in fine repair. The farm is

well stocked with the good grades of domestic animals and Mr. H. of late has turned his attention to the breeding, purchase and sale of Norman and Clydesdale horses, keeping an average of about sixteen head.

Mr. and Mrs. H. are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which our subject is a Steward. Politically Mr. H. affiliates with the Republican party, having been formerly an old-line Whig. He is a strong temperance man and casts the weight of his influence against the sale and manufacture of spirituous liquors.

Mr. Hopkins is worthy to be classed among the representative men of McLean County, notwithstanding that no district in this State contains a better social and business element than it does. Being a man of such character and reputation, we take pleasure in presenting his portrait in this volume.



**W**P. BROPHY, Treasurer and General Superintendent of the Bloomington Stove Company, is not only an important factor of the business of that concern, but is recognized as one of the most enterprising men of the city. The company over which he presides was established in 1870, and is located on the "Y" of the C. & A. R. R.; it manufactures all kinds of cooking, heating and parlor stoves.

Mr. Brophy is a native of East Dorset, Bennington Co., Vt., and was born April 9, 1827. He is the son of Patrick and Lydia (Albee) Brophy, natives respectively of Ireland and Vermont. The father of our subject was sent as a soldier to Canada, and ordered back after a service of one or two years. He remained in the army five years altogether, being then only eighteen years old. After leaving the service he returned to America as a private citizen, in about 1816, and settled in Bennington County, Vt., where he engaged in farming pursuits until his death in 1862, and there the mother died six years later. Their family included seven children, six of whom are still living: John M., of West Troy, N. Y.; Alonzo and Harvey A., of East Dorset, Vt.; Mary, Mrs. William H.

Lampher, of Land Grove, Vt.; Rhoda E., Mrs. James E. Frazier, of Londonderry, and W. P., of our sketch.

The time of our subject up to the age of fourteen years was spent on the farm and in attendance at the district school. He then went to Troy, N. Y., and learned the stove-foundry business, after which he worked a short time as journeyman, and in 1859 accepted a position as Superintendent, where he remained until the spring of 1867. He then went to Salem, Ohio, and established a stove foundry, which he operated for three years. He then sold out there and came to Bloomington, where he was instrumental in organizing and establishing the present company, and has contributed materially to the subsequent success of the undertaking. The works employ about forty men. The original building, which was built of brick, was 68x48 feet in area, and three stories in height; the foundry, 40x120 feet. To this was afterward added a building 40x60 feet, and for the offices and warehouse they put up another 48x60, with three stories. The pattern storeroom is 25x50 feet, also of brick. All the buildings are good and substantial structures and finely adapted to the business.

Mr. Brophy was married in 1850, to Miss Mary E. Brower, of Troy, N. Y., and they became the parents of two children—Dora and Isabel. The former, Mrs. Harvey Butts, of Green Bay, Wis., is the mother of one child, Willie; Isabel is the wife of George Ijams, of Dodge City, Kan. The pleasant home of our subject and his family is located on Division street, where he owns six lots with good improvements. He is prominently connected with the business affairs of this community, and the encourager of every enterprise calculated to advance its importance and prosperity. In July, 1886, he was elected as a Director of the Building, Saving and Loan Association. He was one of the original organizers of the same in 1882, and a stockholder. Socially he belongs to the Masonic fraternity, politically a Republican, and religiously is identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and is one of its most worthy members.

An excellent type of the business man of to-day is found in the person of Mr. Brophy. He is known to be a man of undoubted integrity and substan-

tial business ability, and we take pleasure in presenting his portrait in this volume, which is made from a recent photograph.



**A**DOLPHUS DILLON, of the firm of Dillon & Bright, importers and breeders of French draft horses, is a prominent member of that well-known family. The firm are widely and favorably known as being skillful in their business, and furnish to this and various other States some of the finest horses bred in the United States.

The subject of this history is the son of Elias and Martha (Fisher) Dillon, and was born in Tazewell County, Ill., Oct. 28, 1849. His boyhood and youth were passed upon the farm, and he attended the common schools until 1864. Then, when a youth of fifteen years, the family removed to Bloomington, where our subject for a time attended the city schools, and began to turn his attention to business matters. In 1872 he became a member of the firm of E. Dillon & Co., who were engaged in importing French draft horses, and this partnership continued for ten years, after which our subject continued alone, although ostensibly operating as Dillon & Bright.

Mr. Dillon in 1873 took a trip to France, where he obtained a valuable acquisition to his store of knowledge concerning the treatment and development of the noblest animal which treads the face of the earth. He takes pride in his achievements as connected with his particular branch of business, and is ambitious to excel. Aside from his property in Normal, with its convenient stables and other appliances necessary to his business, he owns a fine stock farm of 130 acres, his landed area in all embracing 500 acres. Of this 160 acres lie in Logan County, 210 in McLean, and a quarter section in the State of Nebraska.

The subject of our sketch was married in November, 1873, to Miss Paulina, daughter of William S. Britt, Esq., of Logan County, Ill., in which county Mrs. Dillon was born, in 1850. Of this union there are three children—Harlen, Myrtie and Bessie. Mr. D. and his family occupy a beautiful

residence, and are surrounded by all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life. They are regular attendants of the Christian Church, and politically our subject simply goes to the polls and casts his vote for the men who, in his judgment, possess the qualities best fitted to make them honest and conscientious office-holders. Mr. D. quietly observes that his own business keeps him constantly employed, and he has little time to attend to that of others.



**D**ENIS MULCAHY, deceased, was a prosperous and prominent farmer of Bloomington Township, of which he had been a resident for a period of thirty-five years. He was a man of great energy and industry, honest and upright in his transactions, and possessed in a marked degree the impulsive and generous character which is a characteristic of the Celtic race. Besides the homestead which he had established by the exercise of his native energy and industry, he was also the owner of valuable property one mile from the city limits of Bloomington.

The subject of this history was born in Waterford County, Ireland, and departed this life in Bloomington Township on the 9th of March, 1876, at about the age of seventy-three years. He was reared in his native county, received a limited education in the common schools, and after attaining to years of manhood was united in marriage with Miss Catharine Fitzpatrick, of Tipperary County, and of pure Irish ancestry. After the birth of several children Mr. Mulcahy, not being satisfied with his condition or prospects in his native Ireland, determined to seek his fortunes in the New World, and accordingly set sail for the United States, accompanied by his wife and children. They made their first location in Ohio, about sixteen miles from Cincinnati, where they remained for four years and then moved to Illinois, locating at once in Bloomington Township, this county, and here the mother is yet living with her children.

The household circle of Mr. and Mrs. Mulcahy included four children, one of whom is deceased. Bridget, the wife of M. Donohue, is a resident of Bloomington, her husband having been connected

with the Illinois Central Railroad but is now retired from active labor; Michael M. married Miss Ellen M. Welch, a native of the South of Ireland, and they have become the parents of two children—Katie and Denis; this son was born in Tipperary County, Ireland, March 6, 1849, and was but a child when his father and mother came to the United States. Denis A. is engaged in farming and lives on the old homestead with his brother; he was born in McLean County, April 10, 1858, and on Christmas Day, 1882, was married in Bloomington to Miss Anna Farrel, a native of Westmeath County, Ireland. She was twenty years old when she came to the United States with her uncle. They have become the parents of one child, a daughter—Agnes. The family are all adherents to the Catholic faith of their fathers. In politics Michael M. is Republican, and Denis A. affiliates with the Democracy.

The mother of the family by her first marriage, with Joseph Maxey, became the mother of four children, two of whom, Bridget and Joseph, are living; the former was married to P. B. Welch, who is carrying on the grocery trade in Bloomington; Joseph married Miss Cathrena Lahey, and is employed in the shops of the Chicago & Alton Railroad.

**I**RA MUNSON, a prominent and influential resident of Randolph Township, has been closely identified with its history for a period of fifty years, and has fully established himself in the confidence and esteem of his fellow-townsmen. The Munson family came from England, first settling in Connecticut, and from a few descendants the family became one of the largest and most prominent in New England. They came over to the New World many years before the breaking out of the Revolutionary War. The great-grandfather of our subject, whose name is believed to have been Stephen, went from Connecticut to New Jersey in company with another brother.

Stephen Munson was the father of a large family, who were mostly boys, and when the war was declared between the Colonies and England he and his sons, five or six in number, were among the

first to enlist in the cause of liberty. Stephen Munson was given a Captain's commission, and with his sons remained in service until the success of the Colonies was assured. They all escaped unharmed and lived to return to their home. Capt. Munson afterward engaged in farming pursuits, and remained in New Jersey until his death. One of these sons, Solomon, was the grandfather of our subject. He located in Morris County, N. J., near his father's old homestead, and died about the age of fifty-five. His wife, formerly Miss Lucy Ball, was of New England birth and parentage, and by her union with Solomon Munson became the mother of nine children, seven sons and two daughters. John, the second child, was the father of our subject. He was reared and married in his native county. His wife, formerly Miss Susan Hopping, was born of parents who were natives of Long Island, as were her grandparents. They all afterward removed to Morris County, N. J., being among its early settlers, and there their lives terminated.

The father of our subject, John Munson, was a plasterer, stonemason and bricklayer, and followed his trade in New York City some time before his marriage. He removed from the city, however, on account of yellow fever, and returning to his native county in New Jersey was there soon afterward married. In Morris County, also, six children were born, our subject being the second, and his birth occurring Feb. 15, 1808. The family emigrated from New Jersey to Hamilton County, Ohio, in 1818. This section of country was then mostly in its original condition, and their journey lay over rough and muddy roads, with sometimes no road at all. The father was poor in purse but possessed a resolute and determined disposition, and by following his trade and keeping a house open to travelers, provided a comfortable home for his family and saved up something for a rainy day. There he passed the remainder of his life and died in White Water Township in 1840, aged about fifty-five years. The faithful wife and mother, who had cheerfully shared the labors and anxieties of her husband, removed after his death to Illinois, and died in Bloomington in October, 1862, at the age of seventy-seven years. In addition to the six



children born in New Jersey three daughters were added to the household circle after they removed to Hamilton County, Ohio. There are yet living: Ira, our subject; Malinda, who lived with her brother and sister several years, being unmarried; Ludisa, the wife of Aaron Kitchell, of Bloomington, and Ann is married to Thomas J. Lucas, of Lawrenceburg, Ind. The average age of these is seventy-two years.

The subject of this history was a lad ten years of age when his father removed from New Jersey to Ohio. He remained under the parental roof until twenty-nine years old and learned the trade of his father while yet a youth. On the 1st of March, 1837, he left his home and came to Illinois, locating in Randolph Township, and on the 10th of December, 1847, was united in marriage near Heyworth, to Miss Sarah J. Noble, who was a native of Hamilton County, Ohio, and born Feb 11, 1820. She came to Illinois with her parents, David and Rebecca (Karr) Noble, in 1831. Her father was one of the first white children born in Cincinnati, Ohio. Her mother was a native of New Jersey, of New England ancestry. After coming to this State they settled on a farm in Randolph Township, and passed the remainder of their days near Heyworth.

Mrs. Munson was the second child of a family of four sons and three daughters, all of whom are yet living except one who died in infancy. By her union with our subject she became the mother of eight children, the record of whom is as follows: John died at the age of twenty-six years; the next was an infant who died unnamed; William married Miss Amanda J. Seogin (see sketch); Henry died at the age of twenty-two years; Charles married Miss Anna McCarty, and they live in this township; an infant girl also died unnamed; Ann became the wife of Isaac Stround, who is now deceased, and she lives with her parents; George is unmarried.

The homestead of our subject and his family is one of the best in Randolph Township. It is beautifully located and commands a fine view of the surrounding country. The farm estate consists of 403½ acres, finely improved and cultivated, embellished with a good dwelling, and compact and tasteful out-buildings. In politics Mr. Munson is

a Republican, strong and steadfast in the principles of the party. Mrs. Munson is a member of the Christian Church.

The grandmother of our subject was formerly Mrs. Betty (Looker) Hoppin, whose brother, Otho Neal, was elected Lieutenant Governor of Ohio, and became Governor by the death of the regular Executive.



**M**oses COCHRAN, a well-to-do and successful farmer, living on section 10, Lexington Township, is a son of George and Catherine (Hoe) Cochran, both natives of Pennsylvania. The parents were married and settled in Shippensburg, Pa., whence in December, 1828, they removed to Clarke County, Ohio, where they continued to reside until their death. The father was a farmer by occupation and followed his calling during life. He and his good wife were the parents of four children—Aaron, Moses, Samuel and George. Aaron is a farmer and resides in Cedar, Mo.; Samuel is an attorney at law and engaged in the practice of his profession at Chicago; George died in Ohio when in his twenty-third year; his demise was caused by an accident while gathering apples, he falling from the tree and receiving such serious injuries as to cause his death.

Moses Cochran was born in Clarke County, Ohio, April 15, 1829. He received his education there in the common schools, and was there reared to manhood on a farm. On attaining his majority in 1850 he came to this county, and for two years worked out by the month, at \$12 per month. He then bought forty acres of land in Lexington Township, on which he settled and where he has since lived. He is now the owner of 280 acres of valuable land which he has acquired through his own energy and good judgment. When he bought his first forty acres, which cost him \$400, he only had \$300 with which to make a payment upon it, and he made the trip back to Columbus, Ohio, on horseback during the winter season to borrow the other \$100 with which to finish paying for his land.

Mr. Cochran of this notice was married in Lexington Township, June 15, 1852, to Miss Margaret

J., daughter of Perry and Sarah (Smalley) Liston, natives of England and Ohio respectively. Her parents died in Ohio, and Mrs. Cochran came to McLean County with the late David Smalley, her uncle. She was born in Adams County, Ohio, Feb. 6, 1831, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of nine children, seven of whom are living, namely, Martha J., Baseom, Kate, Samuel, John W., M. Grant and William. Martha is the wife of William Crum, and they are living in Lexington Township; Baseom was married in Dakota, and is a resident of that Territory; Kate is living at home; Samuel is a farmer in Nebraska, as likewise is John W.; M. Grant and William are living on the old homestead. Mrs. Cochran departed this life in Lexington Township, May 2, 1884. Our subject has held the office of School Director for nine years, and that of Road Commissioner for six years. He is Republican in politics. Religiously he holds fellowship with the Methodist Episcopal Church, as likewise did his good wife.



**W**ILLIAM H. SHEPHERD, editor and proprietor of the Lexington *Review*, which was established by himself and S. A. Stark in April, 1883, is conducting this journal with ability and success, so that it has become an indispensable factor in the business interests of the town. Our subject purchased the interest of his partner at the end of the first year, and has since conducted the paper alone. It is a neat and handsomely printed folio of seven columns, has a good circulation, and is high-toned and first-class in every respect. In connection with this he has one of the best equipped country job offices in the State, and turns out annually a goodly amount of job printing. The paper is independent in politics and devoted to the interests of the town and the section of country from which it receives its patronage.

At the time Mr. Shepherd began the publication of the *Review* he had no experience as a writer or publisher, and the newspaper business at Lexington having met with failures heretofore, was at a

low ebb and regarded with little favor. It had been undertaken by parties who possessed both experience and ability, and when the *Review* was established its early failure was predicted. Mr. Shepherd, however, was possessed of great energy and resolution and determined to profit by the mistakes which had caused the failures of his predecessors. It must not be supposed that he met with no difficulties and that all was plain sailing, but he deserves great credit for the determination which has led him to success. He has proven himself a writer of force and ability, and in the mechanical department has proven himself equal to most practical printers. His job department is equipped with all necessary material and machinery for the execution of plain and fancy printing, and his patrons receive prompt service and courteous treatment. Socially he is one of those genial and whole-hearted men who make friends wherever they are, and in all respects he occupies an enviable position in his community.

Mr. Shepherd was born in Sardinia, Brown Co., Ohio, April 6, 1855. His parents were David D. and Margaret J. Shepherd, and the former died when William H. was but eight years of age, leaving the mother with three boys. The youthful days of our subject were passed partly upon the farm and partly in town. Two years after the death of his father he went to live with Mr. and Mrs. John McNeely, near Sardinia, with whom he remained about three years and attended the common school, and two years afterward he lived with a relative on the farm. In the spring of 1870 his mother with her three boys came to Illinois, and settled in Lexington, where our subject resumed his school studies during the winter seasons and worked on a farm in summer. In 1872 he entered the law office of Isaac S. Mahan, where he was clerk for one year, and was then employed in the dry-goods store of Dement & Co. for the following year. He then returned to Mr. Mahan's office and began reading law, and was afterward taken into partnership with Mr. Mahan and engaged with him in the real-estate, loan and insurance business. They operated together for two years, and then Mr. Shepherd carried on business for himself in the same line for three years. He once more returned

to Mr. Mahan, with whom he remained until he decided to establish his newspaper.

Mr. Shepherd was married in December, 1883, to Miss Edith Mahan, who was formerly a resident of Lexington, but later of Kansas. They have a pleasant and attractive home and enjoy the society and esteem of many friends.

**T**HOMAS J. GRIMSLEY, one of the early settlers of Lexington Township, and yet a resident of the same, where he is engaged in general farming and the raising of stock, was born in Boone County, Ky., May 15, 1832. His father, John B. Grimsley, was born in Culpeper County, Va., May 16, 1800, and the paternal grandfather of our subject was James Grimsley. The Grimsley family are of Irish descent, and were among the first settlers of Virginia. Our subject's father was united in marriage with Miss Julia A. Johnson, of Boone County, Ky. Her father was Hezekiah Johnson, a native of Maryland, whence he removed to Kentucky when a young man. The Johnson family were of French extraction, and after John B. Grimsley had married Miss Johnson he settled in Boone County Ky., and engaged in farming. He had, however, during his younger days been engaged as a pilot on the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers. He reared a family of six children, two by his first wife and four by his second marriage.

Thomas J. Grimsley was one of two children born to his father by his first marriage, Elizabeth J. being the other. Of the second marriage three of the children are living, namely, Russell R., Mary E. and William W., all of whom reside in Kentucky. Our subject was educated in the common schools of Boone County, and was reared to manhood on his father's farm. In September, 1852, he came to this county yet a single man. The journey was made in company with his brother-in-law, William K. Smith, with whom he made his home until 1856. He was then married to Martha A. Fowler, the daughter of Washington and Martha L. Fowler, whose mother had emigrated from Kentucky to this county in 1854, her father having died in the latter-named State. After our sub-

ject's marriage he settled where he is at present living, on section 26, Lexington Township. At that time he had but a little improved land, but now has three forties, one on section 23, one on 25 and one on 26, all of it being in a body and under an advanced state of cultivation. After improving his farm he began buying hogs and cattle, and has been more, or less connected with that industry since he has resided here.

Mr. Grimsley and wife had nine children, six sons and three daughters, five of whom are living at this writing. Charles C. married Louie Wonderlin, and they have a daughter, Iva; Mary E. died when thirteen months old; Richard W. married Laura J. Williams, and they have a son, Benona; Nathaniel died when about a year and eight months old; Benjamin A. is deceased; Fannie L. is the wife of Basil D. Starkey, and they have a daughter, Della; William I. is deceased, and John B. and Nannie A. are living at home. Mr. Grimsley and wife are members of the Baptist Church, having joined that denomination some twenty-five years ago. In politics he is a Democrat.

**A**LBERT OGDEN, a progressive farmer of McLean County, and living on section 9, Money Creek Township, is the son of Samuel and Nancy (Vandolah) Ogden, the former of whom has a sketch elsewhere in this work. Albert Ogden is a native of this county and was born in Money Creek Township, Jan. 9, 1838. Here he received his education and continued an inmate of the parental home, engaged the while in farming, until his marriage. His years thus far in life have been devoted to agricultural pursuits and he is at present the owner of 100 acres of valuable and productive land where he is living. He has first-class improvements on his place, and as a tiller of the soil is meeting with that success which energetic effort is sure to bring. A good view of his residence is given in this work.

Mr. Ogden was married in Bloomington, March 8, 1860, to Miss Sarah C., daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth (McNaught) Pirtle. Her parents settled in Money Creek Township at an early day and there lived until their death, his demise occurring

Dec. 12, 1865, and hers Jan. 25, 1885. Mr. and Mrs. Pirtle became the parents of the following children: Ezra S., Hariett A., John M., James B., Sarah C., Mary E. and Thomas M. Mrs. Ogden was born in Owen County, Ind., July 21, 1843, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of twelve children. They are named, Aura O., Ella E., Elmon O., Dolly E., Mary J., Stella A., Nora E., Pearl A., Coral A., Verna, Earnest and Tressie C. Aura is the wife of Enos Trimmer, and they are living in Money Creek Township; Ella was united in marriage with Manford Trimmer, and they also reside in Money Creek Township; Mary J. and Verna are deceased. Mr. Ogden has been the incumbent of the office of Overseer of Highways, School Director and Highway Commissioner, and in politics is a Democrat. Socially he is a member of the Masonic fraternity and in religion his good wife holds fellowship with the Christian Church.



**S**TEPHEN B. HOUGHTON, a retired farmer of McLean County, is now a resident of Bloomington, occupying a handsome and commodious dwelling on East Front street, No. 609. He is one of the representative men of this locality who have worked their way up to an enviable position in the community and acquired a competency through their own merits and by the exercise of industry and perseverance. He has been a resident of the Prairie State since 1845, and has watched its prosperity with the greatest satisfaction while at the same time he has contributed his share toward advancing it to its present position among the commonwealths of the West.

Mr. Houghton is a native of Muskingum County, Ohio, and was born May 12, 1827. His parents were Richard and Sarah (Burkley) Houghton, natives of Virginia, where they were reared and married, and whence they moved to Ohio in about 1825. There the father engaged in farming, but twelve years later came with his family to Illinois, settling in Clark County, upon a farm which he had purchased. They lived there until 1860, and thence removed to Bloomington, where they spent

their declining years, the father dying in 1875, and the mother in 1866. Of their family of fifteen children, eleven lived to become men and women and seven still survive. These are, Joseph, Stephen B., our subject; Samuel, Deba A., Elijah, Emily and Mahala.

Stephen B. Houghton was reared on a farm and when old enough went out to work. He made his home with his parents until he was nineteen years old and removed from Clark to McLean County in 1845. He was employed for a short time in a mill at Bloomington, then engaged as a farm laborer by the month for six months, when he came to Bloomington and was employed at whatever his hands could find to do. He was finally employed by Judge Davis to superintend the farm of the latter and was occupied four years. When he went there the Judge had one cow and one horse, and when our subject left the farm it was supplied with large numbers of cattle and between fifty and sixty mares.

Mr. Houghton soon afterward purchased a farm in Normal Township. This consisted of seventy acres, which he cultivated for two years and then removed to Jefferson County, Iowa. He there purchased 160 acres, and after remaining upon it eighteen months, returned to this county and purchased ten acres, one and one-half miles south of the court-house square in Bloomington. He afterward added sixty acres and then traded his latter purchase for the Mason farm of 180 acres. Six years later, in 1873, he purchased the Walker farm consisting of 100 acres, and the following year two flats on South Main street in Bloomington, upon which he built a dwelling. He purchased his present home in 1885. Besides the above he owns the old home place of 160 acres, one and one-half miles south of the court-house.

Our subject was married in 1849 to Miss Vashti O. Sumner, who was the daughter of Caleb and Rachel (Farmer) Sumner, natives respectively of New York and Virginia. They were married in Indiana, to which State both had been taken by their parents when quite young. Mr. S. after marriage engaged in farming pursuits upon a tract of land which he had purchased in Coles County, Ill., and which contained 160 acres. He sold this in

1849, and purchased another northeast of Bloomington, which he occupied two years and then removed into the city, where the mother died in 1861. Mr. Sumner then made his home with his daughter, Mrs. Houghton, until his death, in 1882. Three only of the seven children are now living—Alford, Mrs. Houghton and Horace. Our subject and his wife also became the parents of seven children, only three living. James married Miss Lorinda Gardner and lives on the old homestead; Richard married Miss Katie Harmon and they have two children, Grace and Mabel; Alice L., now Mrs. H. P. Hazel, has one son, Stephen B.

Mr. Houghton is Republican in politics and with his wife is a member of the First Methodist Episcopal Church. He gave \$1,100 toward the erection of the church building and has always contributed liberally and cheerfully to the maintenance of the society.



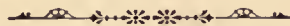
**C**HARLES M. BEEBE. Perhaps no county in the United States of equal size with McLean can boast of so many enterprising and wealthy farmers. One of this number and who has displayed a proportionate degree of enterprise with his brother farmers is C. M. Beebe, who resides on section 32, Lexington Township. Mr. Beebe was born in Madison County, Ohio, near Pleasant Valley, Sept. 2, 1831. Charles Beebe, Sr., died when our subject was but four days old. He was born in New York, Feb. 19, 1799, and his demise occurred near Pleasant Valley, Ohio, Sept. 6, 1831. The maiden name of our subject's mother was Eliza McDowell. She was the daughter of Eber McDowell, born in Montpelier, Vt., May 11, 1801, and of Scotch-Irish extraction. Charles Beebe, Sr., after his marriage settled in Ohio, where he engaged in farming, and followed that occupation in Madison County until his death. He became the father of two children, a son, Sylvester, who died in infancy, and the subject of this notice. The mother subsequently married Henry McCracken, and they removed to this county in 1852, and settled at Selma, where her demise took place in December, 1859. One child was born of the latter union, who died in infancy.

Our subject on first coming to this State located in Henderson County in the spring of 1852, where he taught school one term and then returned to Franklin County, and then with teams made his way to this county, coming with his mother in the fall of 1852. His means were limited, in fact, they were exceedingly so, and the first year he worked at whatever he could find to do.

He was married in April, 1859, to Miss Matilda B. Hayes, a daughter of Henry Hayes, a native of Virginia, and who removed from that State to Kentucky with his parents when a boy. Henry Hayes was married in Kentucky to Sarah B. Smith, sister of Milton Smith, one of the prominent early settlers of this county, who located at Selma. Henry Hayes came to this county in company with Mr. Smith in 1835, and Mrs. Beebe is the oldest daughter of his family now living.

After his marriage our subject located in Lexington, where he lived one winter and then, disposing of his interests there he, in 1863, moved on the farm where he is now living. This farm was known as the Harrison Sowards Place, and was one of the first to be improved in that part of the neighborhood. It is located on section 32, and contains 105 acres. Since our subject has resided upon it he has been engaged in general farming, and not long since turned his attention to the raising of fine horses and other stock.

Three children have been born of his union with Miss Matilda B. Hayes, two sons and one daughter. Luetta is the wife of Thomas P. Owens, and they reside in Blue Mound Township; Charles I. is residing in Harper County, Kan., and Rule O. Mr. and Mrs. Beebe are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in politics he is a staunch Republican.



**B**ENJAMIN C. S. OWENS, who is prosperous as a farmer and stock-raiser of Lexington Township, is a native of the Buckeye State, having been born near Cireleville, Pickaway County, Sept. 25, 1825. His father, George T. Owens, was a cooper by trade and died in the prime of life when his son, our subject, was a child three years of age. The mother of Mr.

Owens, who was formerly Miss Mary Town, was a native of Pennsylvania. Her parents were from Connecticut, whence they removed to Pennsylvania and afterward to Ohio, settling on what was called the Darba Plains. After her marriage with Mr. Owens the young people settled in Pickaway County, where the mother remained for some years after the death of her husband, and later removed with her family to Clinton County, Ohio, whence she came to McLean County. She had six children, four of whom lived to mature years: Harriet became the wife of James Finley; Benjamin C. S., our subject, was the second child; Archibald is deceased, and Ruth A. married William Pendry. She died in Clinton County, Ohio. The grandfather of our subject was Archibald Owens, who followed through life the occupation of a farmer near Circleville, Ohio, and there died.

Benjamin C. S. Owens grew to manhood in Ohio and obtained a fair education in the district schools. Being the eldest son many responsibilities fell upon him as the assistant of his widowed mother in providing for her family and keeping them together, and he remained with her until twenty-two years of age. He was then married to Miss Elizabeth Pendry, who was born in Clinton County, Ohio, Aug. 7, 1825, her father being William Pendry, of that county. After marriage the young people settled in Clinton County, where our subject engaged in farming until the fall of 1855. He then decided to move further westward, and coming into Illinois reached McLean County on the 1st of October.

Mr. Owens purchased his present farm of George A. Creamer. It includes 127 acres and is located on sections 28 and 33. There were very few improvements on the place when he took possession, but he industriously set himself to work and in due time was rewarded with success. He now has a good residence, barn and out-buildings, and all the appliances of a first-class agriculturist. He raises large numbers of hogs and cattle annually, which he feeds and disposes of on the farm, having ready for shipment at the close of each year one or two carloads. In later years he has given much attention to the breeding of Norman and Clydesdale horses, of which he has some fine specimens. His

stables and outhouses are kept in first-class order and everything about the premises is indicative of cultivated tastes and ample means.

Mr. and Mrs. Owens became the parents of seven children, five now living, as follows: Mary J. is the wife of Squire Heller, and resides in Chester, Neb.; Susan B. married Herbert Bliss, and they live in Blue Mound Township; Thomas P. and John B. are also in Blue Mound Township; Ida May became the wife of A. J. Ramey, and they are living in Chester, Neb.; Sarah A. became the wife of John W. Davis, and died Nov. 24, 1886.

Mr. Owens has been prominent in the affairs of his township and served as Pathmaster and School Director for many years. He prides himself upon being an old-fashioned Jeffersonian Democrat, and in all respects has earned for himself the reputation of an honest man and a good citizen.

The mother of Mrs. Owens before her marriage was Miss Mary Sloem, of Wilkesbarre, Pa., and departed this life in Logan County, Ill., in September, 1865. Mr. and Mrs. Owens take pride in the reflection that they are already the parents of eight grandchildren who are as hopeful specimens of Young America as can be produced in the State of Illinois.



**J**OHAN WALKER, deceased. Among the early and enterprising citizens of Lexington Township, the subject of this history was widely and favorably known. A native of Westmoreland County, Pa., he was born near McConnellsville, on the 9th of March, 1804. His parents, John and Barbara (Rice) Walker, lived on a farm in Westmoreland County, Pa., and there their son was reared to manhood, remaining under the home roof until he was married. The Walker family was of Irish descent, and the parental household of our subject included five sons and two daughters, of whom John was the eldest. On the 29th of September, 1836, he was married to Miss Catherine Rubey, a native of Bavaria, born June 11, 1817, and daughter of Michael and Catherine (Martyl) Rubey, who emigrated to America when Catherine was about nine years of age.

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. W. settled on a

farm in Westmoreland County, Pa., whence they removed, in 1852, to this State, and located on a farm near the city limits of Bloomington. From there, in 1855, they removed to the homestead where Mrs. Walker now lives. It consists of eighty-seven acres of finely improved land, located on section 2. Mr. Walker devoted his time and attention to the cultivation of his land, and the establishment of a permanent and comfortable home. He departed this life on the 18th of February, 1886, leaving his wife and seven children to mourn the loss of a kind husband and father. The children, all of whom are living, are recorded as follows: Mary, the eldest, became the wife of Joseph M. Hart, and they are residents of Minier, Ill.; Nancy married J. B. Forbes, of Kumler, Ill.; Thomas, Anna, John and Katie are at home with their mother; Jessie R. is the wife of R. G. Jones, of Lexington Township; John, who is an intelligent and industrious young man of more than ordinary ability, manages the farm, and is the chief assistant of his mother in the transaction of their business. In politics Mr. Walker was a staunch Republican. He was reared a Quaker, but the family now attend the Presbyterian Church.

NOAH N. WILSON, one of the prominent farmers, stock-raisers and feeders of Lexington Township, is also one of the self-made men of this county. He was born near Brookville, county seat of Franklin County, Ind., Sept. 18, 1828, and is a son of John Wilson, a farmer, on a small scale, of Indiana. The father was born in South Carolina, and moved to Indiana, in 1812, with his parents. Our subject's paternal grandfather, William Wilson, married Patsey Charles, a native of South Carolina, and they reared a family of five sons and three daughters, all of whom lived to attain the age of man and womanhood, and were married and had families of their own. John Wilson and Mary Jones, daughter of James Jones, were united in marriage in Indiana. She was born in West Virginia, and her father was a native of that State, and by his marriage became the head of a family of four children, two sons and two daughters. The children born to the parents

of our subject were seven in number, five sons and two daughters. They are Elizabeth, wife of William Warren; Noah N., our subject; Oliver, living near Brookville, Ind.; William, also a resident of Indiana; James, who died in 1857; George, who is living in Indiana, and Nancy, deceased.

Noah N. Wilson passed his boyhood days in his native county, where he worked on his father's farm and attended the common schools, and developed into manhood. On attaining his majority he was united in marriage with Susan P. Coalseott, a native of Philadelphia, and daughter of Othniel Coalseott. He was born in Maryland, and married Rachel Booth, a native of Delaware, and whose parents moved from that State to Philadelphia, Pa.

After our subject's marriage he located in Indiana, whence he removed in the spring of 1857, to Ford County, this State. Living there until the spring of 1864 he came to this county, and in 1865 moved on his present farm on section 22, Lexington Township. The place contains 151 acres of choice land, and has upon it a good residence and barn, together with numerous out-buildings. Since his residence there he has been engaged quite extensively in the raising of stock, in which department of his vocation he has met with success.

Nine children have been born to our subject and wife, of whom four are deceased. The living are Henry C., Ralph C., Charles C., Edwin M. and Jennie F. Mr. Wilson has held the office of Road Commissioner for some twelve years. He has also been School Trustee, and is the present incumbent of that office. Religiously he holds fellowship with the United Brethren Church, of which he is one of the Trustees, and his wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In politics he is a strong Republican.

WILLIAM I. BARNARD, junior member of the firm of Stevenson & Barnard, grocers of Lexington, is, with his partner, carrying on a profitable and steadily increasing trade. Mr. B. is a native of McLean County, and was born in Money Creek Township, on the 1st of January,

1839. His father, Melman N. Barnard, removed from Tennessee to McLean County in the winter of 1828, being classed among the "snow birds." He was born in North Carolina in 1806, and died in Money Creek Township, on the 23d of September, 1873. He married in early manhood Miss Sinia, the daughter of Samuel Philpot, Esq., of Virginia, who subsequently removed from the Old Dominion to West Tennessee, and thence emigrated to Macoupin County, Ill., where he died. The mother of our subject was born in Virginia in 1804, and died in September, 1868, at the home of her husband in Money Creek Township. The parental family included eleven children, six sons and five daughters, nine of whom still survive.

William I. Barnard was the third son and eighth child of his parents, and passed his boyhood and youth under the parental roof and in attendance at the district schools. He remained on the farm until his marriage, on the 14th of January, 1864, to Miss Lydia E., daughter of Samuel McMullen, of Money Creek Township. He then settled on a part of the old homestead of his father, and engaged in general farming and stock-raising until the winter of 1886. Renting his farm that year he removed to Lexington, and became interested in the grocery business, with his present partner, Richard Stevenson. Both gentlemen are well known in this locality, and long years ago, by their upright manner of living, established themselves in the confidence of this community. Besides the property already mentioned Mr. Barnard owns a good farm of 120 acres in Money Creek Township, on section 21.

Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Barnard there were born four children, one of whom died in infancy. Those surviving are Walter E., Hattie E. and Daisy D.

The grandfather of our subject, Francis Barnard, was born on the Island of Nantucket, and became a Quartermaster in the War of 1812. He afterward went to North Carolina, whence he removed to West Tennessee, and from there came North into McLean County, in 1828, and died in about 1856. The Barnards were of Scotch-Irish descent, and an active and energetic race of people, who made good citizens and useful members of society. The Philpots were among the earliest settlers of Virginia,

but the origin of the family is not known. The politics of William I. Barnard is that of a staunch Republican; he and his wife are both members of the Christian Church.

LEONARD A. CRUMBAUGH, who is at the head of the Citizens' Bank, of Le Roy, is one of the early pioneers of McLean County, and located here in the fall of 1830, since which time he has been intimately identified with the industrial and agricultural interests of this section. Within its limits he received his early training and pursued his studies in the humble log cabin, which served as a temple of learning for the children of the early settlers. He was born at Elkhart, Sangamon County, Ill., Nov. 13, 1829, being the son of Daniel Crumbaugh, who was a native of Frederick County, Md. The grandfather of our subject, Solomon Crumbaugh, was also a native of Frederick County, Md., and his great-grandfather, Conrad Crumbaugh, was a native of Germany, who emigrated to America with his family, and locating in Maryland spent the remainder of his days in Frederick County.

Daniel Crumbaugh, the father of our subject, left the parental roof when fourteen years of age and joined an elder brother in Kentucky. In 1812 he enlisted in the army, serving under Gen. Harrison, and at the close of the campaign returned to Kentucky where he remained a short time, then went north into Greene County, Ohio, where he operated a distillery for a number of years. Going back to the Blue Grass regions, he was married, and opened a hotel which he conducted until 1829. In the spring of that year he proceeded northwest to Illinois and rented a farm near Elkhart, Sangamon County, whence he removed after a few months to that part of Tazewell now included in McLean County, and made a claim on section 14 of what is now Empire Township, but was then designated as township 22. In the fall of 1830 he built a cabin of round logs, into which he removed with his family. In the winter following occurred the deep snow which is remembered by all the old settlers, and which resulted in so much privation and distress to



them. They were confined in their cabins for several months and could do little but chop wood and keep warm. Many of the domestic animals perished from the cold, and hunger made the wild ones tame, especially the wolves, who became altogether too neighborly to suit the pioneers.

Daniel Crumbaugh and his family pulled through safely, however, and when spring finally opened he hired a team to turn a portion of the sod, and upon this planted his corn. Before the new crop was ripened, however, a frost came on and destroyed it. He had plenty of corn in Sangamon County but the deep snow had prevented him from hauling it home. This state of weather had also prevented the distant journey to a mill, and the meal for the family was manufactured from corn pounded in a mortar, the latter being made by digging out a log. This constituted the principal article of food during that long and tedious winter. The nearest markets for some years were at Ft. Clark, the present site of Peoria. Each fall, for a number of years, Mr. Crumbaugh, Sr., made nine trips to Chicago, taking away a load of wheat and bringing back supplies of provisions and dry-goods. He was a man of great ingenuity and made all the shoes for his family, shaping his own lasts and manufacturing his own pegs. Through difficulties that would appall the people of the present day in this region, he lived to improve a farm of 450 acres and to see the wilderness developed into smiling fields and growing grain. Upon the homestead which he thus established he passed his declining years in peace and quiet, enjoying the reward of his early toils and patient, resolute spirit. He folded his hands for his final rest and left behind him a record of a useful and worthy life.

Daniel Crumbaugh was twice married, and by his first wife became the father of three children, of whom only one is now living, William H., a resident of Johnson County, Mo. The second wife, formerly Miss Martha Robinson, was the mother of our subject. She was born in North Carolina, and died on the old homestead in Empire Township, this county, in 1856. Of this second marriage there were born ten children, seven now living, as follows: Leonard A. was the eldest born; James T. and Daniel T. were twins; the former lives in

Le Roy, this county, and the latter is living in Empire Township on a farm; Emily, Mrs. Reese, lives in Missouri; Martha, Mrs. Bartlett, in Brooks County, Kan.; Naney, Mrs. Hamilton, in Le Roy, and Francis M., on the old homestead.

The subject of our sketch improved his early opportunity for study in the subscription schools, walking a distance of four miles and return. As soon as old enough his services were required upon the farm and he lived with his parents until twenty-one years of age. He then purchased 240 acres of land and commenced business for himself. This was located on section 24 of Empire Township. He labored for a few years incessantly, improved his land, and added to it until he became the possessor of 700 acres, upon which he farmed continuously until 1882. He then came to Le Roy and engaged as a banker until February following when, in company with his brother, J. T. Crumbaugh, he opened the Citizens' Bank, and since that time has been the active manager of the business.

Mr. Crumbaugh was married, Sept. 27, 1856, to Miss Sarah M. Wiley, a native of Le Roy and born Dec. 18, 1837. Her father, James Wiley, was a native of County Tyrone, Ireland, where he lived until sixteen years old, attending school and receiving a good education. He then went to the Island of Jamaca and became book-keeper for a large sugar and rum plantation, which position he occupied for several years following. The slaves being then limited and business practically at a standstill, he returned to Ireland, whence he soon afterward emigrated to America, and located in Vermilion County, Ill., at an early period in the history of that section. In 1834 he removed into McLean County, stopping at Lytleville for over a year. He then came to Le Roy and opened up a stock of merchandise, engaging in trade until 1848. Subsequently he purchased a farm in Empire Township which remained his home until he departed this life in 1860. His wife who, before her marriage, was Miss Permelia Waters, was a native of Kentucky.

Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Crumbaugh of this notice there were born five children: Permelia J. who died when two years of age; William Franklin, who lives in Empire Township; one son who

died in infancy; Charles and Gertrude, who are at home with their parents. Mr. Crumbaugh, religiously, is connected with the Universalist society. He is Democratic in politics, and socially belongs to Le Roy Lodge No. 221, A. F. & A. M. He is essentially a self-made man and has accomplished a vast amount of work and business during the changes of an active and busy life. He has contributed his full quota toward the development of the industrial interests of this section and has fulfilled all his obligations as a good citizen.



**M**ILTON TOLBERT, occupied in general farming in Downs Township, owns eighty-five acres of improved land on section 4, where he is living in a manner becoming a worthy and useful citizen, and following the peaceful pursuit of agriculture with uniform success. Mr. Tolbert has been a resident of this county since the time when a child three years of age he was brought here with his parents. They first located in Randolph Township, where our subject remained until he took possession of his present homestead in January, 1873.

The subject of this history was born near Throntown, Boone County, Ind., June 23, 1849. His father, William Tolbert, was also a native of that county, where he was reared and educated, and after arriving at years of manhood, was married to Miss Caroline McDaniel, of Virginia, of Scottish ancestry. She came to Indiana with her parents when nine years of age, and is yet living near Heyworth, Randolph Township. The father died in Randolph Township in 1859, of consumption, and three children were also taken from earth at about the same time.

Milton Tolbert was one of the elder members of the family. He was reared and educated in Randolph Township, and after attaining to manhood was united in marriage to Miss Martha A. Cook, Dec. 29, 1870. Mrs. Tolbert is the daughter of T. N. and Elizabeth M. (Ingersoll) Cook, natives of Ohio, who came to this county with their parents and located in Randolph Township, where they were married in December, 1846. The father fol-

lowed farming pursuits, and both parents are now living in Downs Township. Mr. Cook was formerly a merchant in Lytleville, Ill.

Mrs. Tolbert was born in Randolph Township, April 20, 1851. She was educated in the public schools of Downs Township, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of six children, one of whom is deceased. Those living are Lulu Belle, Elizabeth C., Eva E., Ada and Ernest M.

After marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Tolbert located upon rented land in Randolph Township. Our subject purchased his present homestead in 1873. Mr. and Mrs. T. are active and useful members of society, prominent in religious and social matters, and politically Mr. T. uniformly casts his vote in support of the principles of the Democratic party.



**H**ON. JOHN EDDY. The hardy growths of nature are those that battle the storms. The fiercer the conflict the more robust becomes the trunk, and the deeper down the roots descend. Man is but a part of nature. The successful man is not he who dreams, but he who does, and when we see a man who has hewn his way through difficulties and enduring the storms of life in childhood and youth, he is the strong growth; the man of mark. Such has been the experience of Hon. John Eddy, Representative from McLean County to the Illinois Legislature. He has been a resident of Bloomington since 1871, and has built up for himself a reputation as one of its most valuable citizens.

The subject of this history was born in New York City, on the 28th of August, 1852, and is the son of David and Ellen (Ten Eyck) Eddy, natives respectively of Massachusetts and Greene County, N. Y. His father was the owner of a barge on the North River, but resided with his family in New York City, and died there in 1855. The mother survived until 1861. Their family consisted of three children, two now living—Edgar, a resident of Oregon, and who served in the Union army, and our subject.

John Eddy remained in the home of his parents until the death of his mother, which occurred when

he was a lad of only nine years old. Then, an orphan without means or friends who could materially assist him, he was thrown upon the cold world to battle for himself. He was industriously inclined, however, and was willing to be employed at whatever his hands could find to do. For three years he was employed as office and errand boy and was then engaged to collect freight bills. At the age of thirteen he became check baggage clerk on the side-wheel passenger steamer "Wyoming," which position he occupied for three years. In the meantime he had obtained a fair education by attending night schools, and improving other opportunities for reading and study.

In the spring of 1868, John Eddy went to Detroit, Mich., where he engaged as brakeman on a freight train of the Detroit and Milwaukee Railroad for two years, and afterward going to Chicago, served in the same capacity on the C. & A., until 1876. At this time he was accidentally shot through the left arm, necessitating amputation above the elbow. After recovering from this terrible affliction, he was given a position at the Union depot of the same road as flagman, which he retained four years.

Mr. Eddy engaged in the cigar trade at the Ashley House in 1880, and has continued to hold his interest in that business until the present time. His manly and straightforward course obtained him the confidence of his fellow-citizens, and he was elected Alderman of the Second Ward for two years. In 1885 he was appointed Post Trader of the Indian Territory for the Sac and Fox Agency, and in the same year was a candidate for Mayor of Bloomington on the Democratic ticket. In 1886 he was elected Representative to the General Assembly of the State, and in the duties of this position has given general satisfaction to his constituents.

Aside from the duties of his office, Mr. Eddy is engaged as a general speculator. He takes an active interest in everything relating to the public welfare, being the supporter and encourager of every measure tending to its intellectual and moral advancement. Socially he is a member in good standing of the I. O. O. F., with which he has been connected since 1877.

The marriage of John Eddy and Miss Nellie

Long was celebrated at Bloomington in 1879. Mrs. E. is the daughter of John and Nora Long, natives of Ireland, and was born in 1860. They occupy a handsome residence at No. 501 West Washington street, and number among their friends and associates the cultivated people of the city.



**J**OHN ALLISON, one of the honored pioneers of McLean County, arrived here in 1848, and soon afterward took possession of the land in Dale Township, on section 15, which he has since transformed into a comfortable homestead. He traces his descent from a long line of excellent Scottish ancestry, both his grandfathers being of pure Scotch blood, and noted for their sterling qualities of head and heart. The first representatives of the family in this country probably settled in Pennsylvania, of which State our subject is a native, born in the town and county of Bedford, on the 5th of October, 1829. He is the second son of Jonathan and Hannah Allison, and removed with his parents from his native State to Ohio when a boy ten years of age. His father's family then consisted of the parents and five children, and the journey was made overland with three horses and one wagon. They took their household goods and provisions with them, camping out at night and cooking by the wayside. They located in Miami County, where the father rented a tract of land and engaged in farming, and there our subject attended the common schools and assisted his parents in the lighter labors around the homestead.

The parents of Mr. Allison remained in Ohio until 1848, and then again started overland for the farther West. John, of our sketch, was then in his nineteenth year. He came with his parents to this county, and remained with them until he was twenty-three years of age, when he settled on the place which he now owns and occupies.

The father of our subject, Jonathan Allison, was born in Bedford County, Pa., in November, 1800, and was the son of James and Sarah (Bowen) Allison, who became residents of Bedford County during the pioneer days. Jonathan Allison spent his

boyhood and youth in his native county, and was there married to Miss Hannah Stiger, who was of German descent, and the daughter of William Stiger. After leaving Ohio and coming into this county, in 1848, they located first on the north side of Twin Grove, whence the following year they removed into Dale Township, settling on the east half of the northwest quarter of section 15. There in due time they erected a frame house and established a comfortable home, which they occupied until called to mansions in another world. The father passed away on the 4th of November, 1853; the mother survived him twelve years, her death occurring Sept. 6, 1865. They are remembered by those who knew them as people of most exemplary character, both being members of the Friends' Church, and carrying out in their daily lives the simple and worthy practices peculiar to the Quaker sect.

John Allison plowed the first furrow of his present farm of 132 acres in April, 1851, and after the lapse of years in which he has labored industriously he is rewarded with the possession of a good homestead, with fertile fields and pasture lands, and, standing upon the most desirable location, a set of farm buildings which are a credit to their owner.

The wife of our subject, to whom he was married in January, 1865, was formerly Miss Christina Kent, a history of whose parents will be found in the sketch of William B. Kent, published elsewhere in this volume. Mrs. Allison is the daughter of Nathaniel and Annie (Hawk) Kent, and was born in Hancock County, Ind., Feb. 1, 1842. Our subject and his wife have but one child, a daughter, Eva Caroline, born Oct. 5, 1865. It is scarcely necessary to state that this daughter, now an interesting young lady of over twenty years of age, is the light of the household, and is receiving all the benefits which good society and a superior education can bestow. The father, mother and daughter are members and regular attendants of the Christian Church of Dale Township. Mr. A., formerly a Whig, of late years has given his vote and influence in support of the Democratic party.

As an important factor, socially and financially, of Dale Township, and one who has contributed materially to its excellent reputation as a farming

section, it is but proper that the partial result of Mr. Allison's labors should be illustrated by the artist's pencil, and we herewith present a view of the residence and its surroundings, which admirably assists in embellishing the history of McLean County, and delineates perhaps in the most effective manner the character of one of its most worthy citizens.



**E**LIADA DICKINSON, of Le Roy, is one of those men we find so thickly scattered over the county, and who are from the best element of her society, and were reared under the beneficent influences of the schools, religious institutions and the culture and refinement of the society of the older settled States. Such men were well equipped to go forth and open up a new empire. They could lay its foundations, broad, deep and solid, so that the colossal edifice of a great commonwealth might be reared upon it without hazard to the highest pinnacle to which government or human society reaches. To these people Illinois largely owes her greatness, and to this class the subject of this sketch belongs.

Mr. Dickinson has been for many years prominently identified with the agricultural interests of this section and is now living in retirement at his comfortable home in the village. He is an extensive reader and possesses a valuable fund of general information. He is public-spirited and liberal, taking a broad view of life and tolerant in both his religious and political opinions. In religion he has endeavored to adhere strictly to the Golden Rule, and in politics has, of late years, affiliated with the Republican party, although he cast his first vote for Andrew Jackson and in early years upheld the principles of Democracy.

Mr. Dickinson was born in Marlborough, Hartford Co., Conn., Sept. 1, 1810. His father, Jesse Dickinson, was a native of the same town, and it is believed that his grandfather, Nathan Dickinson, was also born there. The great-grandfather of our subject engaged in farming pursuits and spent the last days of his life in Marlborough, and this also comprises in brief the history of his son Nathan.





Chas. Dickinson



Leazer Mansell

Jesse, the son of Nathan, and the father of our subject, was also reared to farming pursuits and inherited the homestead of his father, spending his entire life on the farm where he was born. His wife, formerly Miss Annie Welch, was born in East Hampton, Conn., and became the mother of eleven children, nine of whom grew to mature years.

Eliada Dickinson was the fifth child of the parental union and received careful home training, while at the same time he pursued his early studies in the public schools. He remained under the home roof until he had attained his majority and then going into a foundry, learned to be a molder, which trade he followed until 1836. He then went via the Connecticut River and Long Island Sound to New York; thence by canal to the mountains of Pennsylvania, proceeding from there by rail, canal and river to Naples, in Scott County, Ill.

After a short stay at the last mentioned place he proceeded to Pike County, and by entry and purchase secured possession of 400 acres of land in Flint Township. Upon this he erected a log cabin after the primitive style, and in process of time had improved about 300 acres of the land. He lived here until 1857, with his family, then sold out and purchased a foundry at Perry, in the same county, which he sold the following year. In the fall of 1858 he purchased a stock of goods and engaged extensively in general merchandise, dealing in about every article then in use in the country. Three years later he sold this also, and having purchased 200 acres of land in Sangamon County, removed to it. It was unimproved and lay about one and one-half miles northeast of Mechanicsburg. With characteristic industry he set about the improvement of this also, and in 1865 sold it at a good price and came into McLean County. Here he had previously secured 280 acres in West Township to which he added 140 acres, and occupied this until the return of his son from the army, when he deeded to him 280 acres, and devoted his time to the improvement and cultivation of the latter purchase. In 1876 he came to Le Roy, and two years later purchased twenty acres, ten of which are in the corporate limits. Upon this are a good set of frame buildings, with all the appliances of a comfortable homestead, nicely fitted up and furnished.

The subject of our sketch was united in marriage with Miss Lois B. Fanelier on the 24th of November, 1833. Mrs. D. was born in Bristol, Conn., Sept. 9, 1812, and departed this life at the home of her husband in Sangamon County, Nov. 10, 1869. They became the parents of three children, as follows: Sarah A. became the wife of Isaac P. Cook, now deceased, and is keeping house for her father; David Mouroe lives in Bloomington; Mary Thalia married James C. Williams, and lives in Blanchard, Iowa. Mrs. Dickinson was a member in good standing of the Baptist Church and a lady highly respected. Our subject has held the various offices of his township in Sangamon and McLean Counties and served five years as Justice of the Peace. A portrait of Mr. Dickinson is shown on another page.



**E**LEAZER MUNSELL, a highly esteemed agriculturist of Dry Grove Township, and whose portrait we give in this volume, has been a resident of McLean County since 1837. He was then a lad of thirteen years and came with his parents. They located on the tract of land which constitutes a part of his present homestead, his father at the time making a purchase of 400 acres. Here both parents remained the balance of their lives, the mother passing to the better land in 1850, and the father four years later, being fifty-nine and sixty-nine years old respectively. Both were active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the father of our subject, in politics, was an uncompromising Democrat.

Eleazer Munsell was born in Seneca County, Ohio, July 28, 1824. His parents, Roswell and Sarah (Anstin) Munsell, were natives of Vermont, where they were married. They emigrated to Ohio about 1814, and located in Seneca County, of which they remained residents until the fall of 1830. They then removed to La Porte County, Ind., whence, after a residence of seven years, they came to McLean as above stated. Their family of three children included Roswell, who married Miss Mary A. Perry; Sybil, who married Jesse T. Spitzer, who died in April, 1869; she died in 1885;

and Eleazer. The parents of Eleazer Munsell had both previously been married, and both had children by their former partners.

The subject of this history was reared on his father's farm, and received a common-school education. He remained under the parental roof until twenty-seven years of age, when he formed a matrimonial alliance with Miss Zerelda Perry, the wedding occurring on the 24th of October, 1850. Mrs. Munsell was born in Jessamine County, Ky., Jan. 15, 1827, and was the daughter of John and Charity (Pugh) Perry. Mr. Perry was a native of Massachusetts; the mother of Kentucky, of German descent. John Perry was born in 1792, and the parents were married about 1818. He was a shoemaker by trade, and served his apprenticeship in Philadelphia. After their marriage they located in Jessamine County, Ky., and in 1836 came to McLean County, Ill., and engaged in farming pursuits, and the father died in 1865, in Dry Grove Township. The mother was born about 1801 in Kentucky, and survived her husband about six years. In religious belief he was a Presbyterian, and Mrs. Perry a devoted member of the Christian Church. Their family of seven children included the following: Nathaniel, who married Polly M. McCullough; Mary A., who married Roswell Munsell; John, who married Miss Susan Hiatt, who died about 1872, and his second wife was formerly Mrs. Sarah (Noble) Bethel; Zerelda was next in order of birth; Susan became the wife of Joseph Myers; Louisa first married Stephen McQuarter who died two years afterward, and her second husband is Edward Wilson, of Dale Township; Samuel married Miss Rebeeca Hiatt, who died in September, 1886.

Mr. and Mrs. Munsell are the parents of seven children, as follows: Milon, born June 20, 1852, married Miss Emuna Strimple; Stephen A. was born Dec. 22, 1856, married Augusta Staubus; Zerilda, born March 6, 1858, married Andrew Short-hose, and they live in Dry Grove Township; John R., born Aug. 29, 1860, and lives in Sedalia, Mo.; Josephine H., Sept. 6, 1862; Minnie W., Sept. 12, 1864; Austin E., June 15, 1867; the three latter are at home.

Mr. Munsell came to Illinois in 1837, with his

parents, and is a fine representative of a widely known family containing many prominent citizens. He has held the various offices of his township for several years, having been Assessor, Road Commissioner and School Trustee. In politics he is a conscientious Democrat, in support of which party he uniformly casts his vote. His stock operations embrace transactions in Norman and Clydesdale horses, and he has had an experience in the business of over thirty-two years, having commenced in 1854. The home farm comprises about 400 acres, while his total acreage runs up to 600.

Mr. Munsell has been a devoted member of the Christian Church for a period of over thirty years, and has officiated as Deacon for the last twenty-two years.



**J**OHAN T. BROKAW, who is the owner of a snug farm in Belleflower Township, is a native of New Jersey, born in Raritan Township, Hunterton County, Jan. 4, 1836. He is the son of Abraham Brokaw, a native of the same State. The latter learned the trade of a tanner and weaver in his younger days, and spent the greater part of his life in his native State. He inherited a tract of land from his father in Raritan Township, upon which he established a tannery and carried on the business there until his death, which occurred in 1876. Abraham Brokaw was married, early in life, to Miss Rachel Stivelle, also a native of New Jersey, and who died about 1845. The parental household included six children, four of whom lived to mature years.

The subject of this history was the third child of his parents, and was reared under the home roof, receiving a partial education in the subscription schools, and completed the same in the free schools after their establishment. When not in school he assisted his father in the tannery and on the farm, remaining at home until 1861. Then desiring to see something of the great West, he came to the Prairie State and located in this county, where he worked as a farm laborer for two years, then rented land and engaged in farming on his own account. He was industrious and economical, and in



1873 purchased the farm which he now owns and occupies, consisting of 367 acres. There was upon it at the time a log house and stable. These have been replaced by a fine set of frame buildings, which are pleasantly located upon a rise of ground, and invariably attract the attention of the passing traveler as being the home of a modern and thrifty farmer, who takes pride in his estate and its belongings. The land is tile drained and principally devoted to grain and stock-raising.

The marriage of our subject with Miss Ada L. Easterbrook took place on the 27th of March, 1873, in Belleflower Township. Mrs. B. was born in Fayette County, Ohio, and is the daughter of Joseph M. and Hannah (Middletown) Easterbrook (see sketch). Of this union there have been born two children, daughters—Adelaide, and Beatrice, deceased. Our subject and his wife are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Saybrook. Mr. Brokaw was formerly a Democrat, but of late years has cast his vote in support of the principles of the Republican party.



**R**OBERT SEABORN, an influential business man and farmer of West Township, is a native of Ohio, and was born Oct. 15, 1828. His father, Robert Seaborn, born Oct. 11, 1804, in the State of New York, grew to manhood in his native county and was there married to Caroline Beekford, a native of the same State. They soon afterward removed to Ohio, where they only remained until 1834, then started for Illinois, via the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers. They took with them their three children, but before their journey was completed, met with a sad calamity, the boat being burned and the youngest child, eighteen months old, perishing with it. They lost all their household goods and clothing at the same time. Procuring passage on another boat, they proceeded to their destination, first locating in Maples, where Mr. Sanborn worked at his trade of blacksmithing. After a few years they removed to Griggsville, Pike County, where he followed his trade until he had secured enough money to buy a small tract of land near Griggsville, paying \$1.25 per acre for it.

There he erected a log house and devoted his attention to the pursuit of agriculture. There he lost his homestead and furniture by fire. When arriving in Illinois he had nothing but the clothes upon his back, and when he died his property was estimated at \$100,000. He was essentially a self-made and self-educated man and by his own efforts acquired a remarkably good insight into the best methods of doing business. Seven of the children of this family lived to become men and women.

Robert Seaborn was but six years old when he came to Illinois with his parents. As soon as large enough he began to assist in the labors around the homestead. The nearest mill where his father first settled was at Exeter, twenty miles away, and the nearest market at Jacksonville, twenty-eight miles distant. Our subject remained with his parents until 1849, and was then attacked with the gold fever, which was taking so many men, young and old, across the plains to the Pacific Slope. He started, in company with twenty-seven others, their outfit consisting of thirty-five pairs of oxen and seven wagons. In this manner they made the entire journey to California. They arrived at Oregon in October, after a journey of six months and twenty days. Mr. Seaborn remained there nearly one year, variously employed. He afterward went to San Francisco, and thence to the Sacramento River, where he engaged in the mines until the fall of 1856, then longing for a sight of "the old folk at home" he set his face toward the East, coming by way of the Isthmus, Cuba and New Orleans. He landed in Griggsville, this State, in January, and in the spring resumed farming pursuits on prairie soil, having settled on a tract of land by himself and keeping bachelor's hall until his marriage. After this important event he purchased 120 acres of land in Pike County, this State, upon which he resided with his family until 1874. In that year he sold out, and coming to West Township, purchased the place which he now occupies. This farm is finely improved and furnished with a good set of frame buildings, pleasantly located and kept in the best of repair.

The wife of our subject, to whom he was married Nov. 27, 1851, was formerly Miss Nancy Duff, a native of Franklin County, Ill., and who was born

May 22, 1833. Her father, Asahal Duff, and her grandfather, Phillip Duff, were natives of South Carolina. The latter was among the earliest settlers of Southern Illinois, having emigrated from South Carolina before there was even a wagon road, the journey being made on pack-horses, and before Illinois was organized as a Territory. He took up a tract of Government land in Franklin County, improved a farm and established a comfortable home, where he passed the remainder of his days. The father of Mrs. S. was a small boy when he came to Illinois with his parents. He grew to manhood in Franklin County and was married to Miss Abigail Miligan in what is now Williamson County, Ill., in 1810. This lady was the daughter of William Miligan, who served as a soldier in the War of 1812, and there contracted a disease from which he never recovered. He also settled in Southern Illinois at an early period in the history of that section. The grandparents of Mrs. S., both maternal and paternal, spent the last years of their lives in Southern Illinois. Her parents removed to Pike County in 1834, and were the tenth family to settle in that locality. Their nearest neighbor was six miles distant. Her father spent the last years of his life in that county, dying in 1861. He was a natural mechanic and could manufacture a wagon, spinning-wheel or wash-tub, and with equal facility repair a gun. For the first few years he was kept busy in this line, people coming from long distances in order to have him do their work. His wife survived him for more than twenty years, her death taking place in 1884.

Mr. and Mrs. Seaborn have three children: Celia was first married in Pike County, Ill., to John Phillips, Oct. 8, 1871; by this union there was born a daughter, Carrie A., who was given to her grandmother, Mrs. Seaborn, when but three months old. She then became the wife of Newton Barnhart, and she and her brother William live in West Township. Mary E., Mrs. Frank Jennings, lives in Dakota. Mrs. S. has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church since thirteen years old. Both our subject and his wife are held in the highest respect by all who know them, possessing those amiable and excellent traits of character which make them valuable members of the community. Their

attractive home is the resort of the cultured people of West Township and its hospitable doors are always open to their hosts of friends, while the distressed are never turned empty-handed away.



**J**OHN M. ARTIS, a prosperous farmer of Danvers Township, is pleasantly located on section 24 and has been a resident of the Prairie State since 1859. He first opened his eyes to the light in Clark County, Ky., on the 12th of September, 1840, his parents being Robert and Fannie (McDonald) Artis, natives respectively of Delaware and Kentucky. The former was brought to Kentucky when only three years of age.

Robert Artis was orphaned when a child of tender years and never had much recollection of his parents. He was reared in Kentucky by Mr. George Cramler and was there married. In the fall of 1859 he came to Illinois and located in Bloomington Township, whence, after three years he removed to Danvers Township and established a comfortable home, where he passed the remainder of his days. The affectionate wife and mother departed this life in 1864, having been a consistent member of the Christian Church since 1840, and the father of our subject died ten years later, in 1874. He was a Democrat in politics and in all respects a valued member of the community. Of the children included in the parental family one died in infancy, and later, Marid, Elizabeth and Emily also passed to the Silent Land. Those now living are: Robert, Parker, William, Harriet, Nancy, John M. and Henry.

The subject of our sketch received a common-school education and after arriving at years of manhood was united in marriage with Miss Nancy A. Barnard, on the 3d of November, 1864. Mrs. A. was the daughter of James O. and Lydia (Swallow) Barnard, and was born Jan. 1, 1841, in a little village then known as Wilkesboro, in Danvers Township. The Barnards were of English stock, and the tradition runs that Francis Barnard, the great-great-



RESIDENCE OF JOHN ARTIS, SEC. 24., DANVERS TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF ALFRED FAGERBURG, SEC. 11., DRY GROVE TOWNSHIP.



grandfather of Mrs. A., was carried away in a vision while at sea on a whaling voyage. The wife of our subject has an old printed copy of said vision, which speaks of the wars that should come on the nations of the New World, and of the overthrow of the nations who took arms against it, which prophesy has thus far been fulfilled to the letter. James O., the father of Mrs. Artis, was born in 1800, and when a lad of twelve years old became a member of the Baptist Church, with which he was connected for many years, but subsequently became a member of the Christian Church, with which he continued until his death, which occurred in this township on the 17th of October, 1873. The mother was born in Ohio, Sept. 15, 1820, of English parentage. She was married to James O. Barnard, Sept. 14, 1837, and died in this township April 20, 1847. They became the parents of two children, both daughters, Jane E., who married Mr. F. M. Hall, of Danvers, and Nancy A., now Mrs. Artis of our sketch. For further mention of Mr. Barnard see his sketch given in this volume.

Our subject and his wife have become the parents of seven children, of whom one, Robert P., is deceased; John W. was born Dec. 19, 1865, and received a good education, completing his studies at Eureka College; Nancy A. was born Feb. 13, 1868; Irvin M., July 30, 1870; Robert P. was born Aug. 5, 1873, and died when two weeks old; Harvey C., June 21, 1876; William B., Aug. 30, 1878, and Nettie, April 24, 1881.

The homestead of our subject comprises 238 acres of fine farming land, and in 1883 he erected a handsome and substantial dwelling at a cost of \$2,500. It is two stories in height, 56x36 feet in area, handsomely finished and furnished, and forms an attractive ornament to the surrounding landscape. A view of his comfortable and elegant home is given in this volume. He has a good barn and all necessary out-buildings, and is carrying on his agricultural operations in a skillful and successful manner. Mr. Artis, politically, is a reliable Democrat, and has been a member of the Christian Church since 1863. Mrs. A. united with this church in 1852. The family is highly esteemed in the community, and our subject in all respects is a good citizen and valued member of society.

**A**LFRED FAGERBURG, for years master mechanic of the boiler department in the construction of locomotives at Moberly, Mo., and Bloomington, is now a prominent farmer of Dry Grove Township, and is pleasantly located on section 11. He is a Scandinavian by birth and parentage, and first opened his eyes to the light in the eastern part of Sweden on the 6th of January, 1836. His father, George Fagerburg, died in his native country. The maiden name of the mother was Eve Skogbreg. She is living in Sweden at the ripe old age of about seventy-five years.

The subject of this biography emigrated to America in 1854, when a youth of eighteen years, the voyage consuming seven weeks. He had served an apprenticeship at carriage-making and blacksmithing in his native country, but after coming to America engaged in the manufacture of steam boilers, and after a brief experience was considered one of the most expert workmen of the craft.

After a short time spent in the young city of Chicago, Mr. Fagerburg went to Galesburg, Ill., and for three and one-half years was employed in the shops of the C., B. & Q. R. R. Co. From there he went to Aurora, and lived in that city four and one-half years, when he came to Bloomington, which remained his home for the following eight years. He then crossed the Mississippi to Moberly, Mo., where he was given charge of the boiler department of a large manufactory which he superintended for a period of six years, in the meantime receiving many proofs of the high estimation in which his skill as a workman and his character as a man, were held. In 1878 he was recalled to Bloomington where he again took charge of the same department he had been at the head of when here before. Two and one-half years later, however, he resolved to change his occupation and residence, and leaving the dusty shops for the green pastures and yellow fields of grain of the country, took up his abode on his present farm in Dry Grove Township. His rural property consists of 160 acres of finely improved land, upon which he in 1885, erected a handsome dwelling at a cost of \$2,100. In 1886 his barn was destroyed by lightning, but he at once set about the erection of another, which

he completed at a cost of \$1,600, and which in point of convenience and shapeliness is scarcely equaled in this county. The homestead in all its appointments denotes the thrift and intelligence of its owner, and presents one of the prettiest pictures in the landscape of McLean County, and it is with pleasure that we include it in the pictorial department of this work, as representing one of the many splendid farm residences in the county.

One of the most important events in the life of Mr. Fagerburg, and which doubtless had much influence in shaping his course in life, was his marriage, which occurred soon after reaching his majority. The lady of his choice was Miss Catharine Johnson, and their wedding took place on the 21st of April, 1857, in Rockford, Ill. The wife of our subject is a native of his own country, and came to the United States the same year he did and located with her parents in Canada. She is the daughter of John and Ellen (Parson) Johnson, natives of Sweden. The father died there in 1841; the mother died on the ocean while coming to America, in 1854.

To the household of Mr. and Mrs. Fagerburg in due time there came a family of bright children, only four of whom are now living: William died at Galesburg at the age of seven months; the second child died unnamed; Albert P. married Miss Cora Kemp; Frank B. received a collegiate education, and is Assistant Paymaster of the C. & A. R. R. Co.; Edward is also finely educated; George A. is a bright and interesting youth of sixteen years, well advanced in his studies. Mr. and Mrs. Fagerburg are members of the Baptist Church, and in politics our subject is one of the most reliable members of the Republican party.



**E**DWARD SCHELL, of Bloomington, is foreman of the C. & A. R. R. Round-House and Engine Dispatcher, under William Wilson, Superintendent of machinery. He has the requisite knowledge of the duties of his position, which he is filling with credit to himself and satisfaction to all concerned. Mr. Schell is a native of Tippecanoe County, Ind., and was born in 1840.

His parents were James and Rebecca (Dye) Schell, natives of Ohio, where the father engaged in farming. The latter left Ohio and came to Indiana at an early day, where he cultivated the soil and established a comfortable home, and where he spent his declining years, dying in January, 1850. He was a soldier in the War of 1812, and after his death his sons received a 160-acre land warrant as a pension. The mother departed this life in Indiana, Dec. 23, 1868. The parental household included eight children, of whom only two are living—Sarah, Mrs. Waincott, of Crawfordsville, Ind., and our subject. Sarah was first married to James Sparks, of Lafayette, Ind., and became the mother of one child, Olive E. Mr. Sparks enlisted as a Union soldier in the late war, and was killed in battle. Mrs. S. afterward married James Waincott, and has one child, a son, Edward.

The subject of this biography was eleven years old when his father died. He worked on the farm until 1856, and then served three years at the blacksmith's trade at Lafayette, Ind. In the fall of 1859 he engaged as a brakeman on the F. W. & Western R. R. until 1860, and then accepted a position as fireman until August, 1862. The late war being then in progress he enlisted in the 11th Indiana Battery and served until July 2, 1865. He was engaged in the battles of Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain and Mission Ridge, together with many skirmishes, until they arrived at the Chattahoochee River, where ensued a heavy engagement with the enemy across the river. Afterward the regiment moved on to Atlanta, fighting for thirty-one days, the next regular engagement being at Jonesboro. Then they marched back to Atlanta and Nashville, where they were transferred to the 18th Battery of Indiana, and starting once more through the Southeast, wintered at Waterloo, Ala. In the spring, with Gen. Wilson in command, they marched to Selma and thence to Maytown, Ga., where they captured a rebel hospital, disarmed the soldiers, and remained there until May, 1865, near the close of the war. Our subject was soon afterward mustered out, and returning to Lafayette, Ind., again engaged in railroading, as fireman on the same road. The following year he commenced running extras until 1867, and then took

the position of engineer, being thus employed until 1872. He then engaged with the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern, with which he remained until February, 1873, and then went on the Wabash Railroad as engineer till August, 1880. Then engaging with the C. & A. Company he continued as engineer until 1881, when he accepted his present position. He has the supervision of about 200 men. Mr. Sehell was married, in 1865, to Miss Laura Trenary, of Lafayette, Ind., who was born in Indiana and is the daughter of James and Rebecca Trenary, natives of Ohio, who are now engaged in farming near Lafayette, Ind. Of this union there were born three children—Edgar F., Mamie R. and John C. They occupy a pleasant home on Mulberry street, and enjoy the friendship and association of the cultured people of the community. Mr. S. is Republican in politics, and socially belongs to the Brotherhood of Engineers, the I. O. O. F., and K. of P.



**A** B. FUNK, a member of the family which is so widely and favorably known in the Prairie State, and a resident of Bloomington, was born in Funk's Grove, this county, on the 4th of March, 1841. He is the son of Hon. Isaac and Cassandra (Sharpe) Funk, natives respectively of Kentucky and Maryland, and was one of a family of ten children born to his excellent and worthy parents.

The subject of this sketch was the eighth child, and while at home, in company with his brothers, herded his father's cattle on the broad prairies. He would start out in the morning, taking his luncheon in a basket, and returned home at night with the cattle, who frequently roamed a distance of from five to ten miles in their grazing. Our subject being among the younger members of the family, only once enjoyed the privilege of an overland trip to Chicago, assisting to drive his father's hogs to market, as a few years later the building of the railroads did away with the necessity of going on foot and horseback. A. B. remained on the farm until 1868, having received a practical education in the common schools and two years' instruction at Wesleyan College. After the outbreak of the

war he enlisted in 1864, in Co. K, 145th Ill. Vol. Inf., and with his regiment was detailed for duty in Southwestern Missouri, guarding the railroad for five months, and then at the close of the war, received his honorable discharge.

After he had attained his majority, Mr. Funk received as his portion of his father's estate 2,280 acres of land, to which he has since added 300 acres. He has also a cattle ranch in Montana, which is stocked with an average of from 500 to 2,000 head of cattle. Upon his home farm are four tenement houses, occupied by men who look after his stock, which here consists of 400 head of cattle and forty horses, the latter being Clydesdale and Norman, which he sells when four years old.

Mr. Funk removed to Bloomington in 1868, and has proved a valued addition to its business interests. He is a stockholder and Director of the First National Bank and a stockholder in the Gas Company. He contributes cheerfully and liberally to every worthy enterprise, and in all respects is the worthy son of his honored sire, whose name will be handed down to future generations as a man whose example was worthy of their imitation.

The beautiful family residence of our subject, which was erected at a cost of \$25,000, is located on East Grove street, and commands a fine view of the surrounding country. It is in every respect, with its appurtenances, an ornament to the city and a credit to its builder and projector. The grounds are beautifully laid out with winding walks and shrubbery, and in all respects give evidence of cultivated tastes and ample means.

The marriage of our subject and Miss Sophronia Vandevender was celebrated at the home of the bride's parents in Bloomington, in 1870. Mrs. Funk is a native of Bloomington, and the only daughter of James and Emeline (Smith) Vandevender, who were natives of Ohio, whence they came to McLean County, in 1846. They first settled in Le Roy, where Mr. V. engaged extensively in the buying and selling of stock. Our subject and his wife have two children, a son and daughter, Lyle and Emeline.

Mr. and Mrs. Funk, after their marriage, made a trip to Europe, visiting France, Switzerland,

Italy, Austria, Germany, Belgium, England, Scotland and Ireland, spending about one year abroad.

Mr. Funk uniformly casts his vote with the Republican party, and is a member in good standing of the G. A. R. and of the Royal Arcanum. His business office is at No. 210 North Center street, where he overlooks the details of his transactions. He is in all respects one of the solid men of the county, and an important factor in its business and agricultural interests.

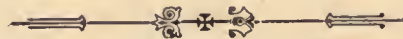


**N**ATHANIEL BECKHAM, who owns a comfortable farm homestead on section 21, West Township, is a native of Kentucky, born in Warren County, May 11, 1836. His father, Nathaniel Beekham, Sr., was a native of the same State, and his grandfather, John Beekham, of Virginia, was one of the early pioneers of the Blue Grass regions. He removed from Virginia to Kentucky before even the day of wagon roads, the journey through the trackless wilderness being made with pack horses. John Beekham was a skillful surveyor and civil engineer and followed his profession successfully for a number of years. After becoming a resident of Kentucky, he obtained possession of a large tract of land in Warren County, where he cleared a farm and remained until his death.

Nathaniel Beekham, the father of our subject, was reared on the farm in Warren County, Ky., and was there married to Miss Elizabeth Low, a native of that county, and daughter of William Low, one of its earliest pioneers. After marriage Mr. Beekham purchased a quarter section of land twelve miles east of Bowling Green, where he established a permanent home and passed the remainder of his days, his death occurring while he was still in the prime of life, Aug. 31, 1844. His aged wife still survives and lives with her daughter in Warren County, Ky., being now eighty-four years old. The record of her eight children is as follows: Anderson lives in Warren County, Ky.; Isaac W. is also a resident of that county; Elizabeth and Sarah A. are deceased; Susan J., Mrs. Gardener; Nathaniel is our subject; Julia E., Mrs. Dodd, and John W., live in Warren County, Ky.

The subject of this history was the sixth child and third son of the parental family. He was reared by his parents on the farm and pursued his early studies in the old log school-house. When twenty-one years of age he started out for himself, first turning his face toward the great West. He spent one season in Illinois, then returned to the vicinity of his old home and worked out by the month for three years following. Then wishing to see something more of the world, he started South, traversing the States of Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, the Indian Territory, Arkansas and Missouri, whence he recrossed the Father of Waters and landed in this county on the 23d of April, 1861. He worked as a farm laborer for two years, then rented a tract of land upon which he operated until 1870. Subsequently he settled on the farm which he now occupies and which his wife inherited from her father. It is a fine tract of land, comprising 320 acres, all enclosed and with good improvements.

Mr. Beekham was married on the 5th of January, 1868, to Miss Rachel, daughter of James and Margaret Bishop, of whom mention is made in the sketch of J. Q. Bishop, published elsewhere in this volume. The ten children born of this union are as follows: Charles H., Margaret E., Susan A., Anna M., Eliza J., James B., Edward W., Sarah A. and Mary A. (twins) and Francis Keys. Mr. Beekham is Democratic in politics and is in all respects entitled to be classed as an honest man and a good citizen.



**S**AMUEL PERRY is a representative of a class of men who are to-day active in carrying on the business of the county, who were brought here by sturdy pioneer parents, and who were reared, educated and entered upon life's labors here. He is now a prominent and highly respected farmer of Danvers Township, occupying a comfortable homestead on section 25.

Mr. Perry was born in Jessamine County, Ky., April 24, 1834, and is the son of John and Charity (Pew) Perry, natives also of the Blue Grass State, who were reared there, and married July 25, 1815.







Samuel Perry



John Frink

John Perry was of Welsh descent; was born in Philadelphia, Pa., Feb. 22, 1790, and remained in his native State until 1836. His wife, Charity Pew, was born March 10, 1800, in North Carolina. The former came to Illinois in 1836, and locating in Dry Grove Township, this county, soon afterward purchased 107 acres in Danvers Township, where he improved a farm and established a comfortable home, which he occupied the remainder of his life. In early manhood he had learned the shoemaker's trade, in Philadelphia, which he followed for a time in Kentucky, and also after coming to this State in connection with his farming. He received but a limited education, and was of a quiet and retiring disposition. He departed this life Aug. 18, 1865, and the mother, March 24, 1873; the latter was a member of the Christian Church at Twin Grove. In politics the father of our subject was a conscientious Democrat. The parental family consisted of nine children, as follows: Nathaniel; Mary A.; William W., who died in Kentucky while young; John; Zerelda, who married Mr. E. Munsell; Jane, who was born July 11, 1816, and died that same year; Susan, who was born April 18, 1830, married Joseph Myers, and lives in Mackinaw, Tazewell County; Louisa, who first became Mrs. Stephen McQuartz, is now Mrs. Wilson, and Samuel, our subject.

Mr. Perry, of this sketch, remained under the parental roof until he attained to years of manhood, and was married to Miss Rebecca Hiatt Nov. 26, 1863. Mrs. Perry was born Sept. 15, 1837, in Stout's Grove, this county, and was the daughter of Jesse and Sarah Hiatt. Her parents were natives of Ohio, and married there on the 25th of March, 1829; they were of Quaker parentage. A few years after their marriage they came to Illinois, being among the pioneer settlers of the State. They became the parents of four children, as follows: Rachel married Mr. William Veatch; Susanna married John Perry; Matilda married William Stewart, and Rebecca married our subject, Samuel Perry.

Mr. and Mrs. Perry became the parents of two children—Rosecoe, born Nov. 21, 1864, died Sept. 21, 1865, and Ella, born Jan. 6, 1866, died September 12 of the same year. The wife of our subject departed this life Sept. 23, 1886, at the age of forty-

nine years, and after an illness of about five months. Although not a member of any church Mrs. Perry was a lady endowed with the highest Christian graces, being kind-hearted, charitable, and possessed of all womanly virtues. She was fairly educated, and proved the true helpmeet and sympathizer of her husband. A portrait of Mr. Perry is shown in this work.



**JOHN B. FRINK.** The Frinks are of New England extraction and are descended from that element of our Republic who exerted in so signal a manner their wisdom and energy in planting the seeds of freedom, piety and learning, the fruits of which are so richly enjoyed from the Atlantic to the Pacific. John B. Frink, of whom we now write, is one of the large land-owners of Old Town Township, and also one of its successful and prosperous farmers, and resides on section 3. His father, John Frink, was a native of Connecticut, and his mother, Rebecca (Sisson) Frink, was born in Rhode Island. Subsequent to their marriage they settled in Massachusetts, whence they removed to Luzerne County, Pa., and in 1807 moved to Western New York, locating in what was known as the Holland Purchase, and there lived until their death. The demise of the latter occurred Nov. 5, 1837, and of the former Dec. 28, 1839. Of their family of ten children, five sons and five daughters, all lived to attain the age of man and womanhood.

The subject of this notice was the eldest son and fourth child in order of birth of the family. He was born in Luzerne County, Pa., April 24, 1802, and was five years of age when his parents removed to the Holland Purchase. There he passed his boyhood days, received his education, worked on a farm, and continued to live until 1869. In March of that year he came to this county and purchased a half section of land in Old Town Township, the same being one-half of section 3. On this he settled and has since lived, engaged exclusively in farming. He is now the owner of 700 acres of valuable and productive land and devotes his time to its cultivation and to the raising of stock.

Mr. Frink was married in China, Delaware Co., N. Y., May 1, 1828, to Harriett Frank, daughter of Simeon and Rhoda Frank, natives of New England. Her parents settled in Delaware County, N. Y., after marriage, whence like Mr. Frink's parents they removed to the Holland Purchase in 1809. They died in Areade, Wyoming Co., N. Y. They had seven children, four sons and three daughters, of whom Mrs. Frink was the eldest daughter and fifth child in order of birth. She was born in Sidney, Delaware Co., N. Y., March 14, 1804, and her union with our subject has been blest by the birth of seven children—Emirett S., Corydon J., Sheridan, Harriette I., Harrison, Isadore and Wells C. Emirett S. is the wife of Sherman G. Lewis, and they reside in Nevada County, Cal. They have become the parents of five children—Harriett M., Minnie, Clara, William F. and Albert F. Corydon J. Frink married Miss Sarah J. Parker, lives in Old Town Township, and has become the father of seven children—Susan, Allen, George P., Arthur, May, Albert H. and Clarence. Sheridan Frink departed this life in Bloomington when in his twenty-first year. Harriette I. married I. W. Harris, and died in California. Harrison was united in marriage with Miss Sarah M. Corey, is a resident of Old Town Township, and they have five children—Cora M., Sheridan J., Charles H., Irene L. and Kittie S. Isadore Frink and E. H. Burbank became man and wife, live in Blue Mound Township, and have one child—Hattie. Wells Frink married Miss Elizabeth Calkins; they live in Dakota, and are the parents of five children—Lewis, Emma, Corydon, Richard and Katie.

Mrs. Frink, wife of our subject, departed this life in Old Town Township, April 24, 1886, having attained to the venerable age of eighty-two years. She was a most estimable and highly esteemed old lady.

While living in York State, Mr. Frink held some of the minor offices of his county. He is liberal in his religious views, and in politics is a stanch Republican. All his family are earnest workers for the promotion of the cause of temperance, and the past record of the life of our subject sparkles with deeds of kindness, and has been such as to make him many friends and gain for him the re-

spect of all those with whom his active, busy life brought him in contact.

Among the large number of portraits of the leading men of McLean County given in this volume, none will be more welcomed than that of Mr. Frink.

**H**ANSON T. FORREST is one of the goodly land-owners, successful and progressive farmers of West Township, and one of the well-known and respected citizens of this county. He was born in Frederick County, Md., Dec. 24, 1834. His father, Solomon Forrest, was also a native of Maryland, a farmer by occupation, and spent his entire life in the State of his nativity, dying about 1867. The maiden name of our subject's mother was Elizabeth Wolf. She was born in Maryland, and was the daughter of David Wolf, likewise a native of that State, and departed this life in Frederick County, Md., about 1857. They had ten children, and our subject was the ninth child and sixth son in order of birth.

Hanson T. Forrest was reared on his father's farm, and took advantage of such opportunities as were afforded to acquire an education. Living at home until he was twenty-four years old, he then went to Ohio and locating in Miami County, worked out by the month on a farm, receiving for his services \$16 per month and board. His employer, however, soon increased his wages to \$20 per month, and furnished him a log cabin to live in and he boarded himself. He continued to labor on the farm by the month for three years after his marriage, when with his savings he bought a team of horses, rented some land and worked it, and for eight years was engaged in farming in this manner. By this time our subject had saved about \$2,000, and he bought eighty acres of the land he had been working, for \$5,000, paying \$2,000 down and giving a mortgage for the remaining \$3,000. He went to work with a will and a determination to pay off the mortgage, and by the closest economy and hard labor succeeded in doing so.

In 1879 our subject rented his farm and came to this county, and settled on the southwest quarter of section 12, West Township. This land at that time

belonged to his father-in-law, but a year later he purchased eighty acres of it, and his father-in-law gave our subject and his wife another eighty. He now owns 420 acres in West Township, all enclosed and improved. Mr. Forrest was married to Naney Snook, Dec. 15, 1859. She was born in Miami County, Ohio, and is the daughter of George W. and Mary (Fuller) Snook. Her father was born in Frederick County, Md., and being orphaned by the death of his father when quite young, he, when thirteen years old, removed to Ohio with his uncle, where he was reared to manhood, married, and whence he came to this State, and after a residence of one year in Logan County, came to this county and purchased 640 acres of land in West Township. He is at present living in Minnesota, and is the owner of upward of 4,000 acres of land in that State. He started out in life a poor boy, and his good judgment and energy have brought him a handsome competency.

Our subject and wife have nine children—George W., John B., Celestia A., Irving G., Emra F., Mary L., Alvah G., Pearl A. and Elsa B. In politics Mr. Forrest is a Republican. He is quite extensively engaged in the raising of stock on his farm, and turns his attention to the Short-horn breed of cattle and the Norman breed of horses, and he has some as fine specimens of these two breeds as are to be found anywhere within the boundary lines of the county.



ISAAC S. MAHAN, deceased, was an attorney at law, living at Lexington, and a resident of McLean County since 1846, and during a period of over forty years was prominently identified with the interests of this section. He was well read in his profession and in his law transactions uniformly met with success. Mr. Mahan was born in Ohio, near the line between Brown and Highland Counties, on the 2d of January, 1832. His father, John B. Mahan, was a minister of the Presbyterian Church and at the time of his death a member of the Chilliothe Presbytery. He was a man of great force of character, bitterly opposed to slavery during the days of its existence, and was President of the first State Abolition Society, and also State

lecturer upon this subject for many years. He departed this life in Brown County, Ohio, Dec. 16, 1844, having all his life cast the weight of his influence upon the side of justice and equality. The mother of our subject was formerly Miss Mary Curtis, the daughter of Joseph and Mary Curtis.

The Mahan family were of Irish extraction but the mother of our subject descended from German ancestry. The parental household included ten children, five sons and five daughters, six of whom yet survive.

Isaac S. Mahan came with his parents to McLean County and they first settled in Lexington where the mother died in August, 1879. Our subject completed his education in the schools of Lexington and then learned the carpenter's trade, at which he worked for three years and then began the study of law with Judge Tipton. On account of defective eyesight he was obliged to abandon his chosen profession and then engaged in business for three years. He was then elected Justice of the Peace, which office he held continuously, with the exception of three years, since 1857, being elected each term successively. He thus held the office twenty-nine years, a longer period than any citizen of McLean County now living. He was admitted to the practice of law in July, 1867, and devoted his time and attention to his practice, in connection with insurance and conveyancing, until his death.

Mr. Mahan was married on the 25th of January, 1857, to Miss Frances S. Luce, the sister of Dr. Luce of Bloomington. This lady died on the 9th of October, 1869. Of this marriage there were no children.

On the 7th of August, 1870, Mr. Mahan was married the second time, to Mrs. Maggie J. Shephard. She was the mother of William H. Shephard of the *Lexington Review*, and sister of William H. Kennedy, manager of the Lexington Band. She died Sept. 20, 1883, leaving a son and daughter—Isaac S. and Neba L.

The third wife of our subject was Miss Anna C. Poore, of Lexington, to whom he was married on the 28th of December, 1885. Mrs. Anna C. Mahan is the daughter of Prof. D. J. Poore who, for many years, was Principal of the Lexington schools. She was a teacher for sixteen years, and now occupies a

pleasant and attractive home in Lexington where she enjoys the association of the cultured people of the community. Mr. Mahan was a member of the School Board for seven years and socially belonged to McLean Lodge, No. 206, I. O. O. F., of which he became a member in 1863. He was also a member of Lexington Encampment. He and his family were regular attendants of the First Presbyterian Church, of which he was a member.



**R**EV. BENJAMIN W. BAKER, Presiding Elder in the Streeter district of the Central Illinois Conference, was born in Coles County, Ill., Nov. 25, 1841. His paternal grandfather was a Baptist clergyman and settled in Coles County with his family in 1837. The maternal grandfather of our subject, Rev. John Adams, was a Methodist Episcopal clergyman, and also settled in Coles County with his family in 1837.

The father of our subject, John B. Baker, was born in Burlington, Vt., and was a farmer and school teacher, when death ended his career at the early age of twenty-five years. Our subject's mother, Sarah E. (Adams) Baker, was born in Licking County, Ohio, and by her marriage with John Baker became the mother of four children, one of whom died in infancy and one at the age of ten years. One enlisted in Co. K, 123d Ill. Vol. Inf., and was killed at the battle of Perryville, Ky.

From the above it will be seen that Elder Baker is the only one of his parents' children now living. He was reared to manhood in the family of his grandfather, Rev. John Adams, who resided on a farm in a timbered country and our subject consequently grew up accustomed to hard labor. In those days there were no public schools, but our subject's mother wove cloth for money to pay his tuition in a select subscription school for from thirty to sixty days annually. The teachers were not the best, but young Baker was a faithful student and thus mastered the fundamental principles of the common branches of study.

In 1861, as soon as the report reached him that rebel shot and shell had been thundered against

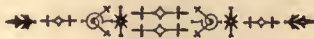
Ft. Sumter, his heart was filled with patriotism for the maintenance of the country of his forefathers and the flag for which they had fought, and he at once enlisted in the Union army. Upon the call of President Lincoln for 75,000 men it was so quickly filled, that the company in which he enlisted was not accepted. He, however, did not have long to wait, for our martyred President soon called for more men, and young Baker enlisted and was mustered into the service by joining Co. E, 25th Ill. Vol. Inf., and served his country faithfully and well on many a bloody battle-field for three years. He participated in all the engagements and marches of his company and among the principal battles in which he took part were Pea Ridge, Corinth, Champion Hills, Stone River, Chickamauga and the 100 days' battle from Mission Ridge to Atlanta. At the battle of Pea Ridge he received a gunshot wound in the left shoulder which disabled him from active service for a time, but at his earnest request the surgeon permitted him to remain in the regiment. At the battle of Chickamauga he received two more bullets in the shoulder, one of which still remains there and in consequence of which he was confined to the hospital one month and permitted to go home on a furlough of one month. In the fall of 1863 our subject was mustered out and returned home. His education was limited but nevertheless he taught school the following winter.

In the spring of 1865 our subject engaged in farming, but the season being wet he only realized \$10 for his summer's work, after settling all claims. He now determined to obtain a thorough education and contrary to the advice of friends he entered the Illinois State Normal University, and to pay his tuition, did janitor's work about the building, and by taking care of horses and doing such odd jobs as he could find, he was enabled by keeping bachelor's hall, to live. He also taught school two terms and earned a little money in that manner, always having in mind the completion of his education. He thus overcame all obstacles, and in 1870 graduated with honors and was subsequently retained in the school as Principal of the grammar department.

The aim and desire of our subject was to be a preacher of the Word, he having been converted to

the cause of the Master and joined the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1864, and consequently he, in 1874, resigned his position as teacher and accepted the charge of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Lexington. After four months' preaching he joined the Central Illinois Conference, which twice re-appointed him to the charge at Lexington. He next preached at Watscka two years, then at Shelden two years, then at Fairbury six months and was compelled to resign his charge on account of ill-health. Going to Denver, Col., he took charge of St. James' Methodist Episcopal Church, and while in that city he went out on the street and procured a subscription, sufficient to build a mission church, which is now known as the Beckwith Street Chapel. In 1883 Rev. Baker returned to Illinois, and accepted the charge of the Christian Union Church at Metamora, a church composed of the various religious denominations of that place, and served the congregation with entire satisfaction until 1885, at which time the annual conference appointed him to his present position. He has not taken a vacation for over twenty years and his labors have been crowned with success. In 1870, after graduating, he took a post graduate course in the Illinois Wesleyan University.

Elder Baker was married, Dec. 14, 1871, to Miss Martha F. Henry. She was born in Lisbon, Kendall Co., Ill., and is the daughter of John and Zilpha A. (Wright) Henry. Their union has been blessed by the birth of six children. The eldest, John E., died aged thirteen years. The living are, Mary J., Webb E., James C., Lois E. and Zilpha E.



**J**OHN WEEDMAN, deceased, son of one of the honored pioneers of this county, was, with his father's family, among the first who set their faces toward the great West, with the purpose of establishing for themselves a home upon the uncultivated prairie. He was a descendant of substantial Pennsylvania stock, of German ancestry, but was born in Perry County, Ohio, Feb. 3, 1828. His grandfather, George Weedman, of Perry County, was among the earliest settlers of

and energy, and established one of the first hotels on the State road leading from Columbus to Zanesville. His wife was an excellent manager, besides being skilled in cookery, and their house became one of the favorite stopping-places along the route. They lived in Ohio until 1820. Coming into Illinois they located in Randolph Grove, this county, where they established a comfortable home, and where the grandfather died at an advanced age, in 1840.

The wife of George Weedman, before her marriage, was Miss Charlotte Hume, a native of the same State as her husband. She also died at the homestead in Randolph Grove, in about 1835. Their son John, the father of our subject, was born in Pennsylvania in 1790, and was but a lad when his parents removed to Ohio. He grew to manhood in the Buckeye State, and was there married and lived until 1830, when with his wife and six children, his parents and a brother-in-law, he started for Illinois. The journey was made overland by wagons. They arrived at what is now the site of the city of Bloomington early in the fall of that year. Not far away was a vacant, double log cabin, into which the emigrants moved, and which they occupied while the male members of the party looked around for a permanent location.

John Weedman, Sr., purchased a tract of land at Randolph Grove, upon which was a small log cabin. In this his family spent the winter, which is ever to be remembered by the deep snow. That winter was probably the most severe ever known by the settlers of Illinois. The cabin of our pioneers, however, was in good repair, and Mr. Weedman spread blankets upon the roof to keep the snow from drifting through the chinks. The snow was so deep it was impossible to go to mill, and Mr. W. chopped down a large tree and built a fire in the stump. In the hole thus burned they placed their corn, and by the aid of an iron wedge pounded it in this improvised mortar, so that they procured a very good substitute for meal. Deer were plenty and venison constituted the principal meat. They passed the winter in comparative comfort, doing little but keep warm and get enough to eat. Mr. Weedman with his family occupied this place until 1837, then sold out and removed to Hurley's Grove, De

Witt County, where he established a comfortable homestead, and with the exception of two years spent in Iowa, passed the remainder of his days there. He departed this life in 1866, having contributed much toward the development of this county. His wife, who was formerly Miss Rachel, daughter of Asa Wilson, one of the pioneers of Perry County, Ohio, was born in Maryland, and became the mother of ten children, of whom the record is as follows: Asa died in De Witt County, in 1866; Harriett became the wife of William Y. McCord, who died near Farmer City, Jan. 18, 1880; she then married Rev. J. C. Rucker, and now lives in Farmer City; George and Amos are residents of De Witt County; John, our subject, was the fifth child; Isaiah served as a Union soldier in the 2d Illinois Cavalry, and was killed at the battle of Holly Springs, Dec. 20, 1862; Lucinda is deceased; Eliza C., the widow of John Williams, is a resident of Farmer City; Zadok C. is a resident of Santa Anna Township, and Thomas S., of Farmer City.

The subject of this history was but two years of age when he came to this county with his parents. He remained under the home roof until 1850, and then, in company with three brothers, started to California, making the journey by the old Oregon route, crossing the Rocky Mountains at South Pass and arriving at Placerville upon the 26th of July of that year. For nine months following young Weedman engaged in mining and trading, and then began to long for a sight of the old home. Upon the 1st of April, 1851, he left San Francisco for home upon a sailing-vessel, via Panama and New York.

After this experience Mr. Weedman settled down to farming, and March 31, 1853, was united in marriage with Miss Mary A. McDonald. Mrs. W. was born in Madison County, Ohio, Sept. 22, 1834, and was the daughter of Thomas and Rebecca (Erwin) McDonald. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Weedman settled on a new farm on section 11, West Township, where our subject, in addition to general agriculture, gave much attention to stock-raising, and was thus industriously engaged during the remainder of his life. He embarked in the banking business at Farmer City, in 1870, which he also

continued until his death, and which is now the John Weedman National Bank. John Weedman rested from his earthly labors on July 31, 1885.

Mr. and Mrs. Weedman became the parents of seven children, four now living: Harriet J. became the wife of C. R. Brodix, and is a resident of Washington, D. C.; Cassius M., Rachel Rosella and John Sherman are at home. Mr. Weedman became one of the representative farmers of this section, and was universally respected for his upright business methods and his genial qualities as a citizen, neighbor and friend. As years rolled on he became widely and favorably known as a man whose judgment could be relied upon in matters of importance, and whose integrity and moral worth were without question. He was a natural gentleman in his demeanor toward all, and a self-made man, who had obtained, through his reading and observation of human nature and current events, a wide and useful fund of information.

Mrs. Weedman, with her three younger children, during the milder months of the year, occupy the old farm homestead in West Township, but in the winter season take up their residence at Farmer City. Through the industry and forethought of her husband Mrs. W. is in the enjoyment of a competency, and able to assist those less fortunate. She is a lady highly respected in this locality for her genuine goodness of heart and womanly virtues. We append the following history of her father's family:

Thomas McDonald was born in Washington County, Tenn., Oct. 15, 1801. He was the son of John McDonald, a native of Virginia. His grandfather was born in the city of Glasgow, Scotland, and emigrating to this country when a young man, settled first in Virginia, whence he removed to Ohio, and spent the last years of his life in Madison County. His son John, the grandfather of Mrs. W., was married in Washington County, Tenn., where he lived until 1808, then moved to Ohio, and was among the earliest pioneers of Madison County. There he purchased a tract of timber land and cleared a farm, erected a good set of buildings, and lived there the balance of his life. His son Thomas, the father of Mrs. W., remained under the parental roof until his marriage, then settled in the same



neighborhood until the death of his wife, when he again became an inmate of the home circle until his second marriage. In 1852 he left Ohio and came to Illinois, locating in De Witt County. He purchased fifty-three acres of land near Farmer City, and 640 acres a mile distant. Upon the latter he carried on farming and stock-raising until the close of the war, then retired to Farmer City. His wife, formerly Miss Rebecca J. Erwin, was born in Madison County, Ohio. Her parents were Joseph and Margaret (Montgomery) Erwin:

Mr. McDonald, although now in the eighty-sixth year of his age, enjoys good health and maintains his mental faculties to a remarkable degree.



**W**IYETT ADAMS, deceased, late a resident of Downs Township, was born in Warren County, Ky., Feb. 1, 1828, and died at his home in Downs Township, on the 11th of November, 1885. He was the son of Jesse Adams, also a native of Kentucky, and who spent his childhood and youth in his native State, where he was also married, the maiden of his choice being Miss Elizabeth Goodman. She, like her husband, was of American parentage, with a little sprinkling of the warm Irish blood which constituted of them the generous and kind-hearted citizens, beloved and respected wherever known. Jesse Adams and his family all came north in 1830, to Illinois, locating in Old Town Township. There the father established a comfortable farm homestead, which he occupied the remainder of his days, his death taking place in 1840. The journey to this county was made with ox-teams, after the manner of the early pioneers, and was only accomplished after several weary weeks of travel. They came into a new and uncultivated country, where neighbors were few and far between, and endured cheerfully the privations and difficulties of life in a new country. Their first purchase of land was from the Government, and thus from the original soil, they opened up a farm in the wilderness, and contributed their full share toward the growth and development of the great West. They were also prospered in their

labors, and were enabled to spend their latter years in the enjoyment of a competency.

The subject of this history was the youngest but two of a large family born to his parents, and was a mere boy when they removed from the place of his birth to Illinois. He developed into manhood on the farm, and was trained by his excellent parents to those habits of industry and economy which became later in life, the secret of his success, and which gained for him the universal respect and esteem of all who knew him. He was prospered in his farming and business operations, and from a very small beginning accumulated a property which included 430 acres of valuable land, all improved and under a good state of cultivation, and supplied with one of the finest farm residences in this part of McLean County. The barns and other out-buildings correspond with the dwelling in every respect, and the entire premises invariably attract the eye of the traveler passing through this locality. Of late years Mr. Adams made a specialty of fine stock which included Short-horn cattle and thoroughbred horses. He was one of the most intelligent and progressive farmers of this section, but in the midst of his prosperity ever had a thought for the good of his community, morally and intellectually, and was always willing to contribute of his time and means toward the support of any enterprise calculated to this end. He was honored with many offices of trust by his fellow-citizens, and politically was a staunch adherent of the Republican party.

The marriage of Wiyett Adams and Miss Charity Bishop was celebrated at the home of the bride's parents in Randolph Township on the 25th of March, 1845. Mrs. Adams was the daughter of Jacob Bishop and was born in Perry County, Ohio, Oct. 18, 1826. She was the fourth child of her parents' family, and was but four years of age when they emigrated to Illinois, settling in Randolph Township, where she grew to womanhood and received her education in the pioneer schools. She remembers distinctly the rude log cabin which then constituted the temple of learning, and through which light was admitted by means of greased paper. The chimney was built of mud and sticks, and the benches and desks, of the most prim-

itive description, knew neither plane nor paint. She made her home with her parents until her marriage with our subject. Of this happy and congenial union there were born fifteen children, five of whom are deceased. Of the living the record is as follows; Elizabeth became the wife of John Harverty, a farmer of Downs Township; Joseph, unmarried, is connected with a music store in Bloomington; Emma, Mrs. Miller Wamsley, is a resident of Heyworth; Luther married Miss Lena Williams, and is a stock breeder at Downsville; Dora, the wife of Alvin Null, resides on a farm in Downs Township; Lida married Frank Cowden, a farmer of Old Town Township; Celia, Mrs. Thomas Campbell, resides with her husband on a farm in Old Town Township; Miller is farming in Downs Township; he married Miss May Whiteomb; Jennie, an accomplished and well educated young lady, lives at home with her mother, of whom she is the pleasant companion and assistant; Nettie is attending school at Downs Village. Those deceased are, John, Jacob, Martha, Susan and Maggie.

The Adams family are prominently connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church in this county. Mr. Adams also was one of the most useful and active members in the church in Downs Township, and officiated as Class-Leader for many years; he was also licensed as an exhorter. Since the death of her husband Mrs. Adams has superintended the homestead in an able manner, and under her supervision it has maintained its old-time reputation as one of the best conducted farms in this part of McLean County.



**M**RS. MARY A. NESMITH, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Wolf) McGinnis, is the owner of a comfortable homestead on section 21, Lawndale Township, which was purchased by her husband, Arthur E. Nesmith, in 1883. The father of Mrs. Nesmith was a native of Kentucky, and her mother of New Jersey. After marriage they located in Butler County, Ohio, whence they removed to Indiana in 1822, settling in Parke County. They resided there until 1834, then came to Tazewell County, this State, where

their lives terminated, the father dying Jan. 10, 1870, and the mother April 12, 1882. Mr. McGinnis was a farmer by occupation. The parental family included nine children, four boys and five girls, of whom Mrs. Nesmith was the seventh; she was born in Parke County, Ind., May 30, 1833, and lived with her parents until her marriage with Arthur E. Nesmith, which took place in Tazewell County, Ill., on the 5th of June, 1859. Mr. Nesmith was the son of Cyrus A. and Marinda (Hurlbut) Nesmith, natives of New England. After their marriage, Cyrus and Marinda Nesmith settled in Medina County, Ohio, whence they removed in 1847, to this State, locating in Peoria County; from there they removed to Woodford County, and thence to Washington, Ill., where the father died Jan. 9, 1884. The mother still survives and lives in Washington, Ill.

Arthur E. Nesmith, the eldest child, and husband of our subject, was born in Medina County, Ohio, Dec. 28, 1833. He was reared on a farm and received a fair education in the common schools. Mr. and Mrs. Nesmith of this notice, in their younger days were both school teachers, Mr. Nesmith having taught two years, and Mrs. Nesmith four years. He also taught singing school for a number of years, and was very successful in that calling. The daughters are all musicians, and Fannie is at present giving music lessons. After marriage, the young people located on a farm in Christian County, Ill., where they remained three years. In 1862 they removed to Woodford County, where they lived until February, 1883. Then they came to Lawndale Township, this county, where Mr. Nesmith purchased 160 acres on section 21, where he made his home until his death, which occurred Jan. 22, 1884. He had a short time previously been visiting his father in Washington, Ill., where he took a severe cold, which developed into pneumonia, and proved fatal in less than two weeks. Mr. Nesmith had been a stirring and energetic man, and besides the homestead where the family resided at the time of his death, he owned 120 acres in Lawndale Township, which constitutes 280 acres in all.

Arthur Nesmith was a worthy member of the Christian Church, and had held various offices





Isaac Vanvorstrand



J. C. Graham

while living in Woodford County. Of the four children born to Mr. and Mrs. Nesmith, one died in infancy; Jennie E. is the wife of Marion A. Kindig, and resides in Woodford County; they have one child, a daughter, Vera. May and Fannie are at home with their mother. Mrs. Nesmith is also a member in good standing in the Christian Church. Her home is pleasantly located, and, surrounded by her children and friends, she is enjoying all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life. She has managed the estate left her by her husband with ability and good judgment, and is highly esteemed by all who know her.

A handsome lithographic view of Mrs. Nesmith's residence is shown on another page of this work.



**ISAAC VANORDSTRAND.** In Mr. Vanordstrand's life we find an excellent example for young men just embarking in the field of active life, of what may be accomplished by a man beginning poor, but honest, prudent and industrious. In early life he enjoyed but few advantages. His school days were limited, nor had he wealth or position to aid him in starting in life. He relied solely upon his own efforts and his own conduct to win for him success. Nor has his been a success solely in the sense of accumulating wealth, but in doing good to others, in serving others well and in winning their respect and esteem. He has ever strictly observed that most important factor in the successful public or business life of any one—honesty. He is a careful, conscientious business man, ever adhering to the dictates of his conscience in matters both of a public and private nature.

Mr. Vanordstrand is senior member of the firm of Vanordstrand & Co., extensive grain and stock-dealers of Heyworth. Their grain business was established in 1857, and it is conceded by all that the firm of Vanordstrand & Co., have been the means of making Heyworth what it is, and bringing it to its present position in the business world. Their elevator has a capacity of 15,000 bushels and their transactions are steadily on the increase.

For ten years our subject was engaged in general merchandising, his stock being located on his farm

near what was then Elmwood, but now Heyworth. In the immediate vicinity of the store was Independence and of this our subject was also Postmaster until his resignation in 1860. He operated the store from 1846 to 1855. In 1860 the name was changed to Heyworth.

Mr. Vanordstrand came to McLean County in 1845. He says he was then as "poor as a church mouse." He landed here with \$5 which he loaned to a man who finally beat him out of it. Mr. V. first engaged in teaching school at the munificent salary of \$14 per month, and after six months thus occupied, during which time by the closest economy he managed to save a small sum of money, he commenced clerking in a store at Independence. In the fall of 1846 he began merchandising at the same place in partnership with J. N. Low and another. In 1848 he bought them both out and carried the business on alone until 1855. Feb. 7, 1857, he embarked in the grain business at Elmwood, now Heyworth, and has been engaged in it since with O. C. Rutledge.

Mr. Vanordstrand was born among the Pennsylvania hills in the extreme western portion of Washington County, Feb. 11, 1824. His father was a native of the same county and was the son of Isaae Vanordstrand, Sr., a native of Trenton, N. J., and of New England birth and parentage. The great-grandfather of our subject was Warden of the Penitentiary at Trenton during the Revolutionary War and being captured by the soldiers of Gen. Howe, in order to delude them, gave his name as Vanordstrand. He having been instrumental in hanging some of the English spies, a reward was offered for his capture, and he afterward retained the name which the family bears to-day. The grandfather of our subject, Isaae, Sr., came to Western Pennsylvania in 1780, being among the early settlers of Washington County. He carried on farming there for a period of fifty-four years and became the owner of a vast extent of land. His death occurred when he was seventy-four years of age.

The father of our subject, William Vanordstrand, was born, reared, married and died in Washington County, Pa. His wife was Miss Sarah Smith, a native of the same county, of Scottish ancestry and

parentage. She died in Washington County in 1861, when fifty-seven years of age, from a stroke of paralysis while away from her home. Of their family of seven sons and five daughters, four only are now living and of whom the subject of this history was the eldest. He remained at home and assisted his father on the farm until he became of age. He then determined to seek his fortune in the West and, coming to Illinois, selected a tract of land in this county and engaged in farming pursuits. He was married in Randolph Township to Miss Eliza A. Low, who was born in this county, April 30, 1832. Mrs. V. was the daughter of Nathan and Sarah (Brooks) Low, natives respectively of Maryland and Pennsylvania. The parents of Mrs. V. were married in Licking County, Ohio, by the late Judge Green, and came to McLean County, Ill., in about 1830. Here Mr. Low purchased land and the deed for it was the first recorded in this county. Here the parents passed the remainder of their days, the father dying when fifty years of age, and the mother surviving him many years, being at the time of her death eighty-seven years old.

Our subject and his wife became the parents of three children, of whom one is deceased. Willie married Miss Nancy Noble, and they are living on a farm in Randolph Township; Craig is unmarried and makes his home with his parents. He has a good education which was obtained by close application to his books in the schools of Heyworth. The home of our subject and his family is finely located and gives evidence of the culture and means of its occupants.

Our subject is Democratic in politics and has held the minor offices of his township. He has been prominent in political matters in this section, and in 1876-1886 was nominated for Representative on the Independent ticket, but was defeated with the other candidates. This, of course, was not unexpected but Mr. Vanordstrand is of that temperament which perseveres in a principle as well as a business pursuit, and if he cannot do all that he wishes, will do all that he can toward the success of a principle, as well as the furtherance of a business project. He is rated as first and best among the men of this community and there are few worthy enterprises or at-

tempts at reform in which he has not been the leader and chief supporter. He owns about 1,200 acres of land, 700 of which lie in this county and in Randolph Township. He is tacitly acknowledged to be the father and founder of Heyworth and has been one of the chief pillars in its industrial and agricultural interests, and as such we take pleasure in presenting his portrait in this volume.



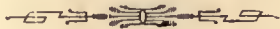
**W**ILLIAM W. MARMON, a wholesale dealer in drugs and medicine in Bloomington, where he has fully established himself in the respect and confidence of his business associates, is a native of Indiana, and was born in the village of Milton, Dec. 7, 1832. His father, David Marmon, was a native of North Carolina, whence he removed at an early day to the Hoozier State, becoming one of the early settlers of Wayne County. He engaged in merchandising there for many years, and there spent the remainder of his life, dying in 1840. His wife, the mother of our subject, who before her marriage was Miss Mary Jane Crookshank, was a native of Ohio, born about 1815.

The Marmon family comes of good old Quaker stock, the maternal grandmother of our subject having been Miss Rachel Diek, sister of Judge Diek, one of the eminent jurists of North Carolina. The Crookshanks were of Scotch origin, the maternal grandfather of William W. having been William Crookshank, who removed to Ohio at an early period in the history of that State. Benjamin Marmon, paternal grandfather of our subject, was among the early settlers of Indiana. The mother of our subject came to this county in 1846, and of the four children included in the parental household only two survive. After the death of her first husband, David Marmon, she married the late Dr. Harrison Noble, of this county.

The subject of this history passed his boyhood in Wayne County, Ind., in the meantime attaining a good common-school education in Cambridge City. When fourteen years of age he went to Ohio, where he attended a private school, and thence removed with his mother, in 1846, to Illi-

nois. They located in this county, where our subject worked on a farm for two years and then entered the drug-store of Messrs. Park & Luce, with whom he remained as clerk until 1851. He then left Bloomington and entered upon the study of medicine in 1853, and after returning took charge of the same store in which he had before engaged, but which had changed hands, the successors of Park & Luce being Paist & Elder. Young Marmon continued with the latter firm until 1856, then purchased the interest of William Elder, and continued as a partner of Mr. Paist until 1874, when the latter died. Mr. Marmon then purchased his interest and has conducted the business alone since that time. The business was first carried on as a large retail house, and has been gradually merged into a wholesale trade. The main building is 23x 80 feet in area, and this, in addition to another which he occupies gives him a floorage of 560 feet. Mr. Harmon is a straightforward business man, obliging and courteous in his manner toward his patrons, and prompt in meeting his obligations. He has consequently been very successful in his operations and ranks among the leading and progressive citizens of Bloomington.

The subject of our sketch was united in marriage with Miss Mary A. Cheney, of Bloomington, in 1858. Mrs. M. is a native of Illinois, born in 1837, and the daughter of Owen and Maria Cheney. Of this union there has been born one child, a son, William L. The family residence is pleasantly located on Washington street, where its inmates are surrounded by all the comforts of life. Mr. Marmon is connected with the Masonic fraternity as a member of Wade Barney Lodge.



**W**ESLEY M. DICKERSON, of Downs Township, is the son of Michael Dickerson, who was of Southern parentage and it is supposed a native of Kentucky. The latter married Miss Jane Rutledge and they located in Tennessee, in which State Michael Dickerson enlisted as a soldier in the War of 1812, and served faithfully and courageously through that struggle. After the war he removed his family to Kentucky, whence

they came to White County, Ill., and settled near Maysville upon a farm. Owing to the unhealthy condition of the climate which induced fever and ague, they moved to what is now DeWitt County, but then included in McLean. The father of our subject was thus one of the early pioneers of this locality and afterward located at Randolph Grove, where he built a flour-mill on Kiekapoo Creek, which was the first structure of the kind put up in McLean County, being erected previous to 1830. This he afterward sold, but continued his residence near Le Roy, where he died Feb. 10, 1836. Michael Dickerson was classed among the "snow-birds" of 1831, and his hardship and suffering during that period was the immediate cause of his death. While the snow was still falling he was obliged to go to mill. The road became impassable and after toiling many hours through the drifts, he was compelled to leave his wagon and tying himself to the tails of his two oxen, turned them loose in hopes they would find a human habitation, or perhaps their home. He was drawn by them to a house where the dogs barking at the approaching cattle attracted the attention of the inmate, who came out to find Mr. D. in a perishing condition. He was at once taken in and cared for in the most kindly manner but never recovered from the terrible exposure.

The mother of our subject died at the home of her son, Wesley M., in April, 1873, being seventy-two years of age. Both parents were members of the Presbyterian Church, and reared their children in those principles which constituted them good citizens and worthy members of society.

Wesley M. Dickerson was the youngest of a family of eight children and was born in Empire Township, this county, Feb. 6, 1834. He was only two years of age when his father died and he remained with his mother until he went to farming on his own account, when he made a home for her and she remained with him until her death. He purchased the farm which he now owns and occupies several years before his marriage. This interesting event occurred on the 27th of April, 1872, at Le Roy, when he was joined in wedlock with Miss Miranda Chapman, who was born in Madison County, Ohio, Oct. 14, 1846. Her father died

before she was born, and the maiden name of her mother was also Chapman. This lady, after the death of her husband, married William Curry of Ohio, who served as a soldier in the late war. The mother of Mrs. Dickerson subsequently came West and died at Dauvers in this county, Feb. 12, 1887, being sixty-nine years of age. She was a member of the Presbyterian Church. Mrs. Dickerson came to Illinois with her mother when five years of age and was reared in Empire Township, where she lived until her marriage. Of her union with our subject there were born five children, one of whom, Omer, died in infancy. Those living are, Vinnie J., Alice, Lulu and Earl M. Mr. Dickerson is Democratic in politics and uniformly casts his vote in support of the principles of his party.

**P**HILIP FAWCETT, a retired farmer living in the village of Saybrook, has been a resident of the Prairie State for over thirty years. He located in De Witt County, in 1854, where he remained two years, then removed to Logan County, and from there, in 1866, took up his abode in McLean County, on a farm in Mt. Hope Township. After eight years he sold that property and purchased the Rankin Grove Farm, a valuable tract of land consisting of 228½ acres, which he now owns. He retired from active labor in 1879, and is passing his declining years in ease and contentment, which is his just due after having performed the duties of a long and worthy life.

Mr. Fawcett was born in Knox County, Ohio, Sept. 13, 1818, and is the son of Arthur and Susan (Smith) Fawcett, the former a native of County Donegal, Ireland, and the latter born in Ohio. Arthur Fawcett remained in his native country during his childhood, and was orphaned at an early age. He then went to the home of his aunt, and when seventeen years old ran away, and taking passage on board a sailing-vessel, started for the New World. After landing upon American shores he proceeded directly to Ohio, locating near Steubenville. He employed himself at whatever he could find to do, was industrious and economical, and in due time became the owner of about 900 acres of

land. He married when thirty years of age, and in company with his wife became a worthy member of the Lutheran Church. Their ten children, five sons and five daughters, included Samuel, Philip, Elizabeth, Lucinda, Anna, Crawford, John M., Izates, Catherine and Mary. Of these six are still living.

The subject of this sketch was the second child of his father's family, and remained under the home roof until twenty-six years of age. At that age he was united in marriage with Miss Martha E. Vance, on the 6th of August, 1844. Mrs. F. was born April 27, 1826, in Guernsey County, Ohio; came with her mother to Illinois, and died in Logan County, Feb. 24, 1865, after having become the mother of seven children. Of these Angelo V. first married Miss Hattie Thomas; his second wife was Corrie Dodson, and she dying, he formed a third matrimonial alliance; Susanna E.; Margary died Sept. 1, 1856; Philip D. and John A.

Philip Fawcett was married to his second wife, formerly Miss Sarah Elliott, Dec. 31, 1865. Mrs. F. was born in Morgan County, Ohio, April 20, 1836, and was the daughter of James and Jane Elliott. Her father was born in Ohio, in 1812, and the mother in Pennsylvania, in 1806. The latter lived to be eighty years old, her death occurring in 1886, and the aged father is still living in Ohio. Their five children included three sons and two daughters: Sarah, the eldest, is the wife of our subject; Julia A. married Mr. Worthington Coffee, who during the late war served as a Union soldier in an Ohio regiment, and now lives in Nebraska; Josiah married Miss Jane Imes, and is a resident of Ohio; Nancy J. became the wife of Elvin Gouchenour, and they live in Ohio; James M. is deceased. Mrs. Jane Elliott, by a previous marriage, became the mother of three children. Her son Alfred lost his life in the Mexican War, and the others were Alexander and Elizabeth.

The present wife of our subject became the mother of one child, Lillie J., who was born April 12, 1870, and died in 1873, aged three years, eight months and twelve days.

The eldest son of our subject, Angelo V., during the late war enlisted in Co. E, 7th Ill. Vol. Inf., serving as a soldier two years, and in the meantime



receiving an honorable wound, which, however, he soon recovered from. The residence of Mr. and Mrs. Fawcett is a handsome and commodious dwelling, finely located in the midst of fifteen acres, which includes a beautiful grove. He has a fine fruit orchard, a good barn, and all other accessories of a suburban homestead. Mr. Fawcett has been incapacitated for labor for the last eight years, on account of rheumatism, but his general health is good, and he presents the picture of a hale and happy old gentleman, who is entitled to, and is fully enjoying the good things of life.



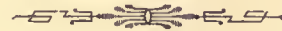
**W**ILLIAM BLUE. One of the large land-owners of Old Town Township, and a gentleman prominent as an agriculturist and respected as a citizen, is the subject of this notice, located on his fine farm on section 34. The parents of Mr. Blue were Zachariah and Jane (Johnson) Blue. He was a native of Ohio, and she was born in Kentucky. After their marriage the old folk made their home in Champaign County, Ohio, whence they came to this county in 1836, and settled in Bloomington Township, where they lived for several years. They then removed to Downs Township; subsequently selling his farm the father took up his residence at Bloomington. There he purchased property, which he afterward traded for a farm in Downs Township, and on this place the lives of the two heads of the family terminated. Eight children were born of their union, and the gentleman whose name heads this notice was the youngest in order of birth.

William Blue was born in Champaign County, Ohio, Feb. 11, 1836, the same year that his parents removed to this county, and consequently he has lived within the boundary lines of the county all his life, and during these years has followed no other occupation than that of a farmer. He is the owner of 400 acres of valuable and productive land, on which he has good improvements, and has met with far more than ordinary success.

William Blue was married in Old Town Township, Jan. 10, 1860, to Miss Catherine, daughter of Joshua and Ann (Hedrick) Wood, natives of

Virginia. Her parents came to this county in 1848, and both of them departed this life in Old Town Township. They had seven children, and Mrs. Blue was the youngest. She first saw light in Pendleton County, Va., June 17, 1840. Of her union with our subject nine children have been born: Albert married Miss Ottie L. Biggerstaff, and they are living in Old Town Township; Harriett is the wife of Robert Carlisle, a farmer of Danvers Township. Our subject and wife have buried one child, Agnes, who died in infancy.

Mr. Blue enlisted in the Union army, joining the 94th Illinois Infantry, in the year 1861, and served for about one year. He enlisted as a private, and participated in the battle of Prairie Grove, Ark., in which he received a wound in the thigh by a musket ball, and in consequence of which he was discharged, and returned home, and after convalescing again entered upon the peaceful pursuits of life. In politics he votes for the success of the Republican party.



**S**AMUEL BECHTEL, of Downs Township, is pleasantly located on section 34, where he is carrying on general farming. He is the owner of 160 acres of choice land with a handsome and substantial set of farm buildings. He located upon his present homestead in 1853, and has occupied it continuously since that time. Mr. Bechtel was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, Aug. 13, 1823, being the son of John and Esther A. (Myers) Bechtel, who were married in Pickaway County, and where the father for some years afterward followed his trade of cooper. They afterward removed to Knox County, same State, settling upon a farm, where they lived until departing from the scenes of earth.

The subject of this history remained under the parental roof until he attained his majority, being the second of five children who completed the household circle. He was married in Knox County, Ohio, in about 1849, to Miss Catherine Koutz, who was born in about 1821, and was the daughter of George and Christina (Frund) Koutz, natives of Virginia, where they were reared and married, being

of German descent and parentage. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Koutz settled in Greene County, Pa., whence they removed when their daughter, Catherine, was ten years of age. They located on a farm in Knox County, Ohio, where they remained until after the close of the war and then came to McLean County, locating in Bloomington, and there passed the remainder of their days. Mrs. B. remained with her parents until her marriage, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of the following children: George, Samuel, now married, Joseph, Lucy A. and Harvey.

Mr. and Mrs. Beehtel lived in Knox County, Ohio, a few years after their marriage, when they removed to the Prairie State, and have made their home in Downs Township since that time. Mrs. B. is a member in good standing of the Lutheran Church and our subject in politics affiliates with the Republican party.



**H**ON. JESSE W. FELL. Until long after the present generation has passed away the name of this lamented citizen will be held in tender and grateful remembrance by the residents of McLean County. He was not only one of its earliest pioneers, but was closely identified with its prosperity, to which he perhaps contributed more than any one man. In the building of its railroads, the establishment of schools and other educational institutions, he not only contributed largely of his own means but was one of the first to secure the assistance of other moneyed men.

Jesse W. Fell was born in New Garden Township, Chester County, Pa., on the 10th of November, 1808, and departed this life at his home in Normal, Feb. 25, 1887. He was the son of Jesse and Rebecca (Roman) Fell, also natives of the Keystone State. The great-great-grandfather of our subject emigrated to America in 1705. The Fell ancestry had been members of the Society of Friends from its origin. The family of Jesse Fell, Sr., was a large one, including seven sons and two daughters.

Mr. Fell was reared to manhood amid the in-

fluences of a country life and a Quaker neighborhood and received a good education. After leaving school he engaged in teaching. In 1828 he started on foot for the Mississippi Valley. After reaching Steubenville, Ohio, he made the acquaintance of the law firm of Stokely & Marsh, who offered to take him as a student upon such terms that he was glad to accept. At the end of two years he was admitted to the bar and proffered a partnership with his preceptors. He, however, declined, still determined to locate in the West. He started out on foot as before, and in the fall of 1831 arrived at William Brown's near Delavan, whose acquaintance he had made when a teacher in Pennsylvania. He stopped there for the winter, during which time business called him to the budding village of Bloomington. He was there induced to open a law office, the first one in town. Although there was not much practice then, Mr. Fell found abundant employment in the adjustment of land claims. It was then not uncommon for the party who desired to locate a particular piece of land to be compelled to make a race for it to Danville with other claimants. Mr. Fell became the owner of a horse named McLean, and on this gallant steed he would frequently make the ninety-mile ride to Danville within daylight hours in behalf of some friend or client. In 1836 he first met David Davis, who was then at Pekin, but at the solicitation of Mr. Fell, became a resident of Bloomington, the latter turning over to him his office, books and law practice. Even at this early day Mr. F. was regarded as a man of large wealth, with the certain prospect of a vast fortune in the near future. In the financial panic of 1837, however, his wealth vanished like that of many others. But he was of too brave a spirit to be discouraged, and a few years later found him again upon his feet ready to push forward with new labors and projects. The first newspaper of Bloomington was the result of his enterprise and he subsequently became its editor.

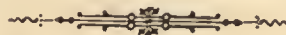
On the 26th of January, 1838, the marriage of Jesse W. Fell and Miss Hester Brown took place. Mrs. Fell survives her husband and lives on the homestead at Normal. After his marriage, the financial crash having depressed real estate opera-

tions, Mr. Fell again took up the practice of law, and among other eminent men enjoyed the friendship of Lincoln, Stuart, Col. Baker and others who afterward became famous. He soon tired of law, however, and turned his attention to farming, spending one season with his family on what is now the Gregory farm, long known as Ft. Jesse. This was the only house then on the prairie. At the end of that summer they left the farm and moved to Adams County, near Quiney, and were engaged in nursery fruit growing six years, at the expiration of which time they returned to Bloomington. Mr. Fell again became proprietor of a newspaper and embarked in the land business, taking an active part in railroad projects and working as the agent especially of the Alton & Springfield road, to secure the right of way through this and adjoining counties. He also led the successful movement for the location of its principal shops, in the young and growing city.

One of the great efforts of Mr. Fell's life was made in 1857, when he succeeded in locating the State Normal University. To this he became the largest individual donor and was instrumental in securing \$141,000 of the money needed for its establishment and equipment, also to obtain the Soldier's and Orphan's Home, Mr. Fell contributing one-fifth of the \$50,000 donated. In all his operations his strong temperance principles were brought to bear and he procured the amendment of the city charter so as to perpetually restrain the authorities from licensing the sale of liquor.

In politics, as in other public matters, Mr. Fell usually took a warm interest. In his younger days he was a Whig. After the formation of the Republican party, he joined it. In the midst of a complicated business, and political and private affairs, Mr. Fell still found time to gratify his love of nature, which was illustrated in his passion for trees and flowers. In Normal alone stand 30,000 trees—maple, willow, walnut, elm and scores of others—which were planted under his supervision around the blocks and along the highways. The Normal School's campus grounds were beautified from a design made by him and carried out by a noted landscape gardener. He named the streets of Normal after trees, and Bloomington, Clinton, Pon-

tiae and other Illinois towns give evidence of the enthusiastic passion of his life. Upon taking up a tract of land in Iowa he planted sixty miles of willow hedge, transporting the scions from Normal.



**W**ILLIAM W. ELDER, of Heyworth, came with his father to McLean County in 1842. The greater part of the time he has been engaged in merchandising, and in partnership with Isaae Vanordstrand, operated in the purchase and sale of grain. They carried on this business for a period of fourteen years, adding to it also extensive dealings in live stock.

The subject of this history was born in Cleves, Hamilton Co., Ohio, Sept. 19, 1828. His father, David Elder, was born and reared in Franklin County, Pa., and descended from a family widely known for its strong moral principles and force of character. Mingled with this was a deeply religious vein which had its influence on all their transactions both in business and social life. In early manhood David Elder was united in marriage with Miss Hannah Wakefield, the sister of Campbell Wakefield, whose biography appears in another part of this work. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. E. located in Hamilton County, but in about 1834, with their family of four children, consisting of Mary J., William W., our subject, Margaret and John, removed to Fayette County, Ind., where they settled upon a farm. In 1842 they once more gathered together their personal effects and came into Illinois, locating in Randolph Township. Here the father died on the 30th of April, 1849; the mother survived until Sept. 2, 1886. After leaving Ohio two more children were born to the parents, all living and now numbering three sons and three daughters. Of these, four are members of the Presbyterian Church, of which our subject has been an Elder at Heyworth for several years.

William W. Elder was married in Randolph Township, at the home of the bride's parents, Feb. 14, 1850, to Miss Amanda J. Rutledge, a sketch of whose parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. O. Rutledge, appears elsewhere in this ALBUM. The marriage cere-

mony was performed by Rev. W. R. Bishop. Mrs. Elder was born on her father's old homestead in Randolph Township, Dec. 28, 1833, and was reared by pious parents, remaining at home until her marriage with our subject. She fully sympathizes with her husband in his charitable and religious efforts and has been in all respects his faithful helpmeet and companion.

Mr. and Mrs. Elder have no children of their own but have performed the duty of parents to Wilbur and Laura M., the son and daughter of Mr. C. C. Lafferty, of Ohio.



**J**OSEPH T. MARTIN. This gentleman is one of the many active business men of this county who were brought here when quite young, by sturdy pioneer parents. Here they were reared, educated and found a splendid field for a business career. He is now pleasantly located on section 1, Township 21, where he is the possessor of 120 acres of finely cultivated land. He secured this home in 1874 of John H. Graber, and has added greatly to its beauty and value. His house is a handsome and substantial structure, built after modern style and furnished with all necessary appliances of a first-class farm estate, a view of which may be seen in this ALBUM. Our subject is an intelligent and progressive citizen and a valuable member of the community.

Mr. Martin was born in Hamilton County, Ohio, Sept. 30, 1831. When four years of age his parents, with their family of three children, started for the Prairie State, and coming into McLean County located at Heyworth, in the fall of 1835. The father of our subject, George Martin, was a native of Kentucky, but removed with his parents to Ohio when a young child. They settled on a farm in Hamilton County, where George Martin was reared and educated, and married Miss Susanna Harvey, who was of New England parentage, born and reared in New Hampshire, and of German and English descent. George Martin was born in Kentucky in 1802, his parents being of Irish ancestry. His father, Joseph, and his mother, Nancy (Thompson) Martin, were both natives of County Down,

Ireland, where they were married and became the parents of one child, a son, John, who was born in 1799. After the birth of this child, they started for the United States, and while on the ocean another was born whom they christened Jane. After arriving upon American shores they proceeded to Kentucky, where the father of our subject was born, being the first of the family who was a native of the United States. The parents afterward went to Ohio, settling in Hamilton County, and there the family circle was completed by the birth of three more children—Robert, Leticia and Margaret. These are all deceased.

After the parents of Joseph T. Martin located in Heyworth, this county, they established a home where they spent the remainder of their days, the father dying in April, 1878, aged seventy-six years, and the mother dying on the 7th of October, 1886. George Martin was a member of the Presbyterian Church and a Democrat in politics, and the mother was connected with the Southern Methodist.

Joseph T. Martin, the eldest child of his parents, was reared and educated at Heyworth, and remained under the parental roof until his marriage. The maiden of his choice was Miss Sarah L. Rutledge, and their union took place at the home of the bride's parents in Randolph Township. Mrs. Martin was the daughter of Robert H. Rutledge, and was born on the old homestead in Randolph Township, March 13, 1833. Her education was obtained in the log school-house of the pioneers, and she grew to womanhood amid the scenes and associations connected with the first settlement of this county. Of this union there were born eleven children, two now deceased: Edgar died at the home of his parents, Aug. 25, 1860, and Dixon, Aug. 20, 1869. Those living are, Cora L., the wife of Frank Romine, a farmer of Wapello Township, De Witt County, and they have one child, Leona B.; Laura E. is the wife of W. D. Niekerson; Linus E. is a machinist, and lives in Santa Anna, Los Angeles Co., Cal., he married Miss Sada V. Connor; Seth A. is farming in Polk County, Iowa; Harvey W. is assisting his father on the homestead, also Albert C.; Campbell W., Mary J. and Eliza A. are all living at home. The parents and three eldest children are members of the Presbyterian

Church of Gibson, Ford County, and the three youngest are connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church in Randolph Township.

Upon the breaking out of the late war, Mr. Martin, laying aside his personal plans and interests, proffered his services to aid in the preservation of the Union, by enlisting in Co. B, 94th Ill. Vol. Inf., under Capt. McFarland, of Heyworth. He participated with his regiment in its several battles and skirmishes throughout Mississippi and adjoining States. At the expiration of his term of service he received an honorable discharge at Galveston, Tex., July 17, 1865. He then returned to Heyworth, where he lived until 1871, and removing thence to Ford County lived there three years, then returned to McLean County and located upon his present farm in Randolph Township, which he has occupied since that time.



**F**REDERICK C. BOHRER, a prosperous German farmer of Normal Township, owns and occupies 294 acres of valuable land on sections 18 and 19, which is finely improved and in a good state of cultivation. He is in all respects a representative citizen and a fine type of that industrious and enterprising element which has so materially assisted in developing the resources of the Great West.

The subject of this history is a native of the German Empire and was born in Bavaria on the 29th of September, 1822. He is the son of George and Catharine Bohrer, of excellent German ancestry and parentage, who emigrated from their native land in 1826, and after reaching the shores of the New World proceeded directly to Brown County, Ohio, where they settled upon a tract of land and engaged in farming pursuits until 1856. They then came to Illinois and located in Bloomington, where they spent the remainder of their lives, the mother dying in March, 1876, at the age of eighty-five years, and the father on the 29th of December, 1879, aged eighty-eight. The parental family included nine children, six of whom were born in Germany, and five are now living: Henry is a resident of Danvers Township; George V. resides

in Montgomery County, Mo.; Frederiek C., of our sketch; Mary became the wife of Phillip Schwaekert, and lives in Brown County, Ohio; Lewis H. lives in Normal Township, this county.

Mr. Bohrer was but four years of age when his parents came with their family to the United States. He grew to manhood in Ohio and assisted his father in tilling the soil. He remained under the parental roof until his marriage, which occurred on the 14th of February, 1853, his bride being Miss Anna M. Zeigler, a native of his own country, and who was born Nov. 21, 1832. Mrs. B. came to the United States with her parents, Jacob and Louisa Zeigler, in 1851.

After their marriage our subject and his wife remained in Ohio until 1856, and then came to Illinois, accompanied by the father of our subject and his family. They settled in McLean County, where Frederick C. Bohrer purchased 209 acres of land in Normal Township, on section 18. He improved and cultivated this until 1884, and then removed to his present homestead which embraces eighty-five acres, located on section 19, in the meantime keeping possession of the other farm. His present possessions are the result of his own industry, and a wise investment of profits. He has never been a speculator but has been willing to make his money by downright hard and honest labor. His real estate is now valued at \$100 per acre. His two farms are furnished with good dwellings and out-buildings and possess all the appliances for carrying on agriculture in a first-class manner.

Of the union of our subject and his wife there were born five children: George; Louisa B., the wife of J. N. Hilton; Mary, the wife of J. E. Otto; Lewis F. and Jacob A., all residing in McLean County. Mrs. Bohrer has been an excellent housewife and mother, the sincere helper of her husband, and is a member in good standing of the Presbyterian Church.

Mr. Bohrer early in life was a staunch supporter of the Whig party, but upon the abandonment of the old by the formation of the new Republican party he cheerfully indorsed the principles of the latter, which he has labored to uphold since that time. He was always opposed to the idea of human bondage, and during the old slavery days,

whenever opportunity occurred, assisted the fugitives along the underground railway and was the means of opening the way to freedom for many of the oppressed. He has thus made for himself a good record as a man and a citizen and in his later days is enjoying the rewards of a well-spent life.



**HENRY WEST CRUMBAUGH**, general merchant and grain dealer at Sabina, is a native of this county, having been born in Empire Township, Feb. 6, 1851. His father, Montgomery Crumbaugh, a native of Bourbon County, Ky., was born June 3, 1813, and his grandfather, Solomon Crumbaugh, was born in Frederick County, Md. His great-grandfather was a native of Germany, and on emigrating to America, settled in Maryland, where he spent the last years of his life. Solomon Crumbaugh was an early settler in Bourbon County, Ky., where he reared his family and spent the last years of his life.

The father of our subject was married, in his native State, to Miss Mary A., daughter of Henry West, one of the pioneers of West Township, this county, and in whose honor the township was named. They resided in Kentucky until 1841, then came to Illinois, and Mr. Crumbaugh entered a tract of land in what is now Empire Township, on sections 31 and 32. There was a log house on the prairie, which he purchased, and into which he removed his family, where they lived for several years. Here the father spent the remainder of his days, tilling the soil and adding improvements from year to year. He lived to see the county finely developed and improved, and departed this life July 15, 1880. The mother had preceded him to the better land nearly nineteen years before. Of their nine children the record is as follows: Mary J. became the wife of Michael Curtis, and lives in Tazewell County; Martha died when three years of age; Margaret E. married A. J. Deffenbaugh, and is now deceased; Sarah L., Mrs. J. B. Savage, lives in Le Roy; Henry W. is the next child; Louisa E. became the wife of Joseph Kruffs, and lives in Forest City, Dak.; Milton M. is a resi-

dent of Empire Township; Mattie E. married Enoch Broek, and lives in Bloomington; Clarence S. is farming in Empire Township.

Mr. Crumbaugh of this history attended the district schools, and assisted his father on the farm, remaining with his parents until he was twenty-one years old. He then crossed the Mississippi, and spent two years in Iowa and Nebraska. After his return he located upon the farm, on section 21, West Township, which he now owns. He devoted his time exclusively to farming until 1885, and then engaged in the grain and coal trade at Sabina, while at the same time he has superintended the operations of his farm. This consists of 140 acres, all enclosed and improved, and with a fine stretch of pasture.

Mr. Crumbaugh was united in marriage with Miss Permelia F. Ross, Oct. 22, 1874. Mrs. Crumbaugh was born in Empire Township, Oct. 22, 1858, being the daughter of Talmadge and Margaret Ross [see sketch]. By her union with our subject she became the mother of six children, as follows: Talmadge Oleff, who was born Nov. 25, 1875, died Jan. 11, 1882; Chloe was born May 24, 1878; Montgomery, June 1, 1880; Pearl, May 27, 1884; two infants, twins, not named, were born July 6, 1886.

Mr. Crumbaugh politically, is an uncompromising Democrat, and has been a man of influence in his locality. He was appointed Postmaster at Sabina, in March, 1886.



**WILLIAM D. JOHNSTON**, a pioneer resident of the Prairie State, is now a citizen of Lexington, where he is enjoying his later days retired from active labor. He was born near Mansfield, Richland Co., Ohio, Jan. 5, 1816, on the farm of his father, Daniel Johnston, who was a prominent man in that vicinity and Justice of the Peace for many years.

The earlier record of the Johnston family, who were of English and Irish descent, is as follows; James Johnston, the great-grandfather of our subject, was born in Ireland, Sept. 28, 1724, and married Jeannet Gaston, who was born June 11, 1731,

their union taking place April 24, 1755. Their eldest son, William, was born in Elizabeth Township, Monmouth Co., N. J., Feb. 16, 1756, and served as an officer in the Revolutionary War under the immediate command of Gen. George Washington. At the close of the war he married Miss Sarah, daughter of Insley and Providence (Davidson) Douglas, of English ancestry, the latter born while her parents were on the voyage to this country. She was named Providence at the earnest request of the captain and crew, because the Divine hand was so manifest in saving the ship during a severe storm. She was married to Insey Douglas Dec. 17, 1761. The third son of the marriage of William and Sarah Johnston was Daniel, the father of our subject, born in New Jersey, and who when quite young removed with his parents to Allegheny County, Pa., and from there, in 1809, to Knox County, Ohio. When the War of 1812 broke out, a block-house was built on his father's farm, to which the neighbors often repaired for safety. After serving in this war, and soon after its close, Daniel Johnston was married to Miss Rachel Scott, by whom he had six sons and three daughters, our subject being the eldest child.

Daniel Johnston spent his declining years in Richland County, Ohio, and died there in 1831. His children all grew to mature years, and established homes, with families of their own. William D., our subject, was the eldest son and passed his childhood and youth in his native county, receiving a common-school education. After attaining his majority he turned his face to the farther West and coming into Ogle County, Ill., took up a squatter's claim. In the fall of 1838 he returned to Ohio, and was married in Richland County, to Miss Mary A. Griffith, who was born there and lived with her parents until her marriage. Shortly after the wedding the young couple started for their new home which was located near Byron. When the land came into market our subject secured his claim of 160 acres and immediately began its improvement and cultivation, meeting with success. In due time he added to his estate until he became the owner of 240 acres and employed himself in general farming and stock-raising, continuing in Ogle County until 1856, when he removed with his family to

McLean County, settling near Selma, where he remained several years and thence removed to a farm of 240 acres two miles north. There his wife died in 1871, leaving three children, all daughters; Lucretia A.; Alice E., Mrs. George Clayton of Ogle County, and Mary E., who was married to David B. Ralston and is living on his father's farm near Lexington,

Mr. Johnston was the second time married, in September, 1873, to Mrs. S. R. Sloan of Pennsylvania. They located upon a farm near Lexington, remaining there until March, 1880, when they removed to a homestead of ten acres just outside the corporate limits. Mr. and Mrs. Johnston are members in good standing of the Baptist Church, of which our subject has been Deacon for many years.

Mrs. Johnston by her former marriage, became the mother of five children, four now living, as follows: Samuel Curtis, and Anna, Mrs. Magee, are in Pennsylvania; William T., a physician, is practicing in Elmwood, Ill.; Mary S. is the wife of E. Gabries, a druggist of Elmwood.

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**L**EANDER BAKER, a prominent factor among the agricultural interests of West Township, owns and occupies a fine homestead on section 7, where he is carrying on farming after the most approved methods and meeting with more than ordinary success. He is a native of this county, his birthplace being in Bloomington Township, and the date thereof, March 19, 1842.

The grandfather of our subject, Dr. Isaac Baker, was one of the pioneers of McLean County, to which he emigrated at an early day. He was born in Fairfield County, Conn., Sept. 13, 1873, and traced his ancestry back to the settlement of Plymouth colony, the first representative of his family in this country having come over in the Mayflower. Dr. Isaac Baker, when a young man, removed to Marietta, Ohio, and during the War of 1812, lived in the block-house at that place, where it was his duty a part of the time to watch from the tree-top for Indians, while the men were at work in the field. He learned surveying in Ohio, at which he became quite skillful. In 1850 he went to New York and

from there to Bath, Me., where he assisted in building the first steam mill erected in that State. Seven years later, he set his face toward the great West and after arriving in Illinois, located in McLean County, in 1827. He settled first at Harley's Grove, where he built a house, but shortly afterward removed to Funk's Grove. In 1831 he assisted in surveying and laying out the city of Bloomington and was afterward chosen Clerk of the first County Commissioners' Court, which position he held for a period of fifteen years. He was one of the first Postmasters at Bloomington, having the office at his residence on South Center street. Dr. Baker remained a resident of that city until about 1854, when he removed to Le Roy and died there, April 28, 1872. His wife was formerly Miss Susanna M. Dodge.

The father of our subject, Seth Baker, was born in Ohio, where he was reared and received a common-school education, and when a young man emigrated to Illinois with his parents, locating in McLean County. Here he was married in 1840 to Miss Sarah Orendorf, who was born in Kentucky, and was the daughter of William Orendorf, a native of Georgia, familiarly known as one of the pioneers of this county. His father, Christopher Orendorf, removed from Georgia to Spartanburg, S. C., and from there to Tennessee, thence to Kentucky, and in 1823 the whole family came North and were among the very first to settle in this county. The Indians still lingered here and in fact claimed that they had never sold their original possessions, at the same time requesting the Orendorfs to leave. They staid however, and were not molested. He was visited by Indians and ordered to leave, but Mr. O. was firm and threatened to call Gen. Whitesides to his aid. The Indians seemed to fear him, and by his strategy he put a hundred of them to flight. Christopher Orendorf was a man of sound judgment and very popular. In 1825 he was appointed Justice of the Peace by Gov. Coles, being first nominated by the House of Representatives and confirmed by the Senate. When the new Constitution of Illinois, making his office elective, went into effect, Mr. O. was continued in his office, the election being held at the house of his son William. The latter inherited genial qualities of his father,

was hospitable and generous and always ready to assist a friend or neighbor. He departed this life May 12, 1869, in the seventy-eighth year of his age, universally lamented.

After marriage the father of our subject located in the city of Bloomington. He had learned the trade of carpenter, was a good mechanic, and established a fanning-mill manufactory from which he turned the first machine of the kind in this county. After a time he laid down his carpenter tools and entering into partnership with his father, engaged as a dry-goods merchant in Bloomington. A few years later he disposed of his interest in the business and crossing the Mississippi, located in Wapello County, Iowa, and once more engaged in the manufacture of fanning-mills, remaining there until his death. He was three times married, his second wife being the mother of our subject and the latter the only child of this marriage. Mr. Baker has two half-sisters by a former marriage of his father, Mrs. Frank Paekard and Mrs. Alonzo Sargent, both of Bloomington.

Mr. Baker of this history was but six years old at the time of his mother's death. He then went to live with his maternal grandfather, by whom he was reared and received a good common-school education. He remained with his grandfather until his marriage and then located on his uncle's farm for one year. In December, 1864, he settled on a farm in West Township, which he now owns and occupies, and which he has greatly improved since it came into his possession. There was, originally, a small plank house and twelve acres were broken when he settled here. He has now the whole under a good state of cultivation with a fine and convenient farm residence and other good frame buildings.

The marriage of Leander Baker and Miss Mary Canouse took place at Blooming Grove, Nov. 26, 1863. Mrs. B. was born in Fayette County, Ohio, March 10, 1842. Her parents, Joseph and Katie (Turnipseed) Canouse, were natives of Pennsylvania and Ohio respectively. Mrs. B. was quite young when her mother died in Ohio, and in 1844, soon after this sad event, she came to McLean County with her father, who located in Lexington, and died there the following year. She then became



an inmate of the home of Samuel Noggle, with whom she lived until her marriage. Of this union there have been two children, only one of whom is living, Effie Alice, who was born Jan. 23, 1865. Their only son, Eddie Alvin, was born April 18, 1867, and died Feb. 1, 1880. The parents and daughter are members of the Christian Church and Mr. Baker is a reliable Democrat.

**G**EORGE H. STRINGFIELD, dealer in all kinds of groceries, shelf hardware, etc., is located on West Main street, Heyworth, where he has been successfully operating since January, 1884, being the successor of Ross, Miller & Co. He has dealt in farm implements for about two years in company with a partner, but since July, 1885, has been sole proprietor and very successful in his business transactions. In former years he engaged in general farming and dairying, and at the same time was connected with the public schools of McLean County for about eleven years. He has been one of the most intelligent and useful citizens of this locality, taking an active interest in its welfare and advancement.

Mr. Stringfield was born in Randolph Township, April 7, 1840, on his father's homestead, which was among the first laid out in this section. See sketch of Capt. A. M. Stringfield. George made his home with his parents until 1863, and in the meantime taught school two years and read law three years in the city of Bloomington. In 1864 he started across the plains in company with his wife and others, driving teams of oxen to Salt Lake City and thence by horse-teams—having sold their ox-team and bought horses—on to Sacramento County, Cal., where they halted and our subject began to teach school. A year later he purchased a tract of land, on which he began to farm and operate a dairy, at the same time having, by his straightforward and courteous manners, established himself in the confidence and esteem of the people of that vicinity. He was appointed Constable and Deputy Sheriff, which offices were at that time quite valuable. These he held for eight years and was absent from his native county nearly ten years in all. Re-

turning to this county on Thanksgiving Day, 1873, he purchased a farm of eighty acres lying on sections 11 and 14 of Randolph Township, and at once began to farm, teaching during the winter. He was engaged in agricultural pursuits for three summers, but found he had undertaken too much, so he rested from his labors in the winter and attended to his farming in the summer seasons.

Mr. Stringfield was married in his native township near his old home, March 15, 1863, to Miss Zipporah Wright, who was born in Kentucky, Sept. 1, 1846. She was the daughter of William T. and Amanda (Hooton) Wright, both natives of Kentucky, and her father engaged in agricultural pursuits. Mrs. S. was only three years of age when her parents came to the Prairie State. A few years later they settled in McLean County, and in about 1868 removed to Lec's Summit, Jackson Co., Mo., where they are now living. Their daughter was carefully trained by her excellent parents and is a lady greatly esteemed in the community where she resides. She has been connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church since-seventeen years of age and her husband since he was eight years old. They occupy a handsome residence on Newton street, and our subject is the owner of considerable property in the town. In politics he is a reliable Democrat.

**F**ERNANDO A. EYESTONE, Supervisor of Funk's Grove Township, has been a resident of the Prairie State since 1865. He was then a young man, and came to this vicinity with his father's family. He was born in Wyandotte County, Ohio, Feb. 22, 1842, and is the son of Ezekiel and Lucretia (Babcock) Eyestone, both natives of Ohio. The grandfather of our subject, John Eyestone, was a native of Pennsylvania and of German ancestry.

Ezekiel Eyestone was a farmer and an extensive dealer in hogs and cattle, which he shipped to New York City. In 1865 he sold his property in Wyandotte County, Ohio, and removing to Illinois, purchased a half section of land in Mt. Hope Township, this county. Here he industriously cultivated and improved his purchase and gathered around him

all the comforts of life and many of its luxuries. He was twice married. His first wife, the mother of our subject, died in Ohio in about 1848; his second wife, formerly Miss Susan Augustine, is still living on the old homestead. There were four children by the first marriage and six by the second. Ezekiel Eyestone departed this life at his home in Mt. Hope Township in 1870.

Fernando A. Eyestone was the second child of his father's first marriage and spent the days of his childhood and youth under the parental roof after the manner of most farmers' boys. He was still at home upon the breaking out of the late Civil War, and in August, 1862, enlisted in Co. A, 123d Ohio Vol. Inf., serving in the Army of the Potomac and participating in many of the most important battles of that army. He was captured at Winchester and confined in the prisons of Belle Isle and Libby for two months. After being exchanged he went with Sheridan's army in the campaign of the Shenandoah Valley and was in the battle before Petersburg, where he was again captured and held a prisoner until the time of the surrender of Gen. Lee. Too great honor cannot be paid to these brave defenders of our country. The suffering in camp, on the march, in prison, and on the bloody field endured by them can never be too highly appreciated by a grateful people.

At the close of the war young Eyestone received his honorable discharge and returned to Ohio. He was there married, April 26, 1866, to Miss Minerva J. Ralston, who was born in Seneca County, that State, and was the daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth Ralston. They remained in Ohio until January, 1868, and then came to MeLean County, locating on the farm of Mr. E.'s father, where they lived two years. Then our subject purchased eighty acres of his present homestead, to which he subsequently added, and has now 160 acres, which is in a fine state of cultivation and supplied with a set of handsome and substantial farm buildings. This is located on section 6, and possesses many natural advantages to which Mr. Eyestone has added, and which have contributed to make it one of the most attractive homes in this section. A view of the place is given in this volume.

Mr. and Mrs. E. have no children. Our subject,

in politics, is strongly Republican. He has been Collector of the township for five years and is now serving the third term as Supervisor. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and greatly respected among their neighbors and associates.

JOSEPH DORLAND owns and occupies a comfortable homestead on section 21, where he is successfully carrying on the manufacture of tile and lumber, turning out about 6,000 of the former per day, and of the latter 4,000 feet.

Mr. Dorland put his sawmill in operation in 1882, and the same year began the manufacture of tile. He also, in connection with this, has a small blacksmith-shop, and a storeroom stocked with commodities for the local trade. He ships both tile and lumber to different parts of the West, his transactions in the latter especially being quite extensive. He came to MeLean County in 1868, and soon afterward purchased the property which he now holds. He at one time owned several hundred acres of land, which he disposed of and turned the proceeds into his business here.

The subject of our sketch was born near Bucyrus, Crawford Co., Ohio, April 11, 1840. His father, Samuel Dorland, was a native of Ohio, a farmer by occupation, and served as a soldier in the Mexican War. In early manhood he was married, in Holmes County, Ohio, to Miss Jane Wilson, who was born in Pennsylvania, and became a resident of the Buckeye State when a child six years of age. The father of our subject died in 1849, and the mother was afterward married to William Johnson, and they located in Hardin County, Ohio, where Mr. J. died in about 1866. She afterward came to Illinois, in 1868, and made her home with her son, our subject, until her death, which occurred Sept. 24, 1883.

The father of Joseph Dorland was a man of integrity and energy, but departed this life before our subject learned much of his history or that of his ancestors. The mother was the daughter of John Wilson, who is believed to have been of Irish birth

and parentage, but emigrated to America with his parents when quite young. There was also an intermingling of Scottish blood in the family. John Wilson lived in Pennsylvania for many years, and was married there, removing later to Ohio, where he died at an advanced age in Hardin County. He served as a soldier in the War of 1812, and afterward engaged in farming.

The subject of this history was the younger of the only two children of his parents. His brother Garrett was born Oct. 11, 1838, was reared and educated in Hardin County, and during the late war enlisted in the 4th Ohio Infantry, from which he was later transferred to the 33d. After having served eighteen months he died at Columbus, Ohio, from disease contracted in the army. During this time he was captured by the rebels in Virginia, and lay in Libby Prison for several months. Later he was paroled and taken to the hospital at Columbus, which he never left alive. His remains were taken to his old home and buried in the cemetery there.

The early life of Joseph Dorland was spent on the farm and in attendance at the public schools. He was married in Hardin County, Ohio, Feb. 25, 1864, to Miss Phœbe Sophia Chamberlain, who was born in Logan County, that State, Feb. 20, 1840. Her parents were Reuben and Elizabeth (Hooper) Chamberlain, natives respectively of New Jersey and Ohio, the former being of New England ancestry. He possessed a fine education, being a graduate at Marion, Ohio, where he afterward taught school the remainder of his life, his death occurring when he was only thirty years of age. The mother was subsequently married to Henry Wilcox, and they live on a farm in Hardin County, Ohio.

There have been born to Mr. and Mrs. D. seven children, one of whom is deceased. The record is as follows: Jennie M. became the wife of Albert Brown, who is engineer in the mill of his father-in-law, and they live with the parents; their two children are John Homer and Florence M.; Mary E. died at the age of seventeen years; Anna F., William S., Charles W., Hugh H. and Maggie M. are at home.

During the late war Mr. Dorland enlisted in Co.

K, 180th Ohio Vol. Inf., and with his comrades participated in the battle of Kingston, N. C., and various other engagements, escaping unharmed and receiving his honorable discharge on the 23d of July, 1865. His first purchase of land in this county consisted of 160 acres. He now has 115 in the township, aside from the homestead, which embraces forty acres. The family residence is a handsome structure, convenient and commodious, and of modern style of architecture, and is shown by a view in this volume. The premises are neatly kept and in good order, and indicate the thrift and prosperity of the proprietor. Most of the members of the family are connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church. Our subject has served as Trustee and Road Commissioner, and in politics affiliates with the Democratic party.



**H**ARRY P. HAZLE, a prosperous farmer of Mt. Hope Township, owns and occupies a comfortable homestead on section 1, and in the pursuit of his dairy business and farming operations, is meeting with deserved success. Mr. Hazle is a worthy representative of his excellent German ancestry, and was born in Mechanicsburg, Ohio, Nov. 19, 1841. His father, James Heazle, also a native of Ohio, was born in Champaign County, March 4, 1828. His grandfather, Jacob Heazle, was a native of Pennsylvania, and his great-grandfather, William Heazle, of German ancestry and parentage, was also born in the Keystone State.

The grandfather of our subject, Jacob Heazle, emigrated from his native State, and became one of the early settlers of Champaign County, Ohio. He cleared a farm from the wilderness, and erected a brick house, which, when the township was laid off, was found to be in Goshen. There he remained until his death, having provided a comfortable home for his family, and building up for himself a good record as an honest man and a useful citizen.

James Heazle, the father of our subject, was reared on his father's farm in Ohio, and also was engaged in a flour and saw mill. The estate of his father consisted of 1,160 acres of land, and

when James was married, his father removed to Mechanicsburg, and left the son in charge of the farm and mills, which he operated until 1851. He then emigrated West to Illinois, and purchased a farm near Bloomington, upon which he lived a few years, and then removed into the city. In 1864 he purchased the St. Nicholas Hotel, which, after eighteen months, he traded for a farm in Mt. Hope Township. He removed upon the latter and followed farming for a few years, then rented it and returned to the city, where he afterward lived a retired life until his death in 1880.

The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Martha J. Bay. She was a native of Champaign County, Ohio, and born Feb. 16, 1824. Her father, William Bay, was born in Pennsylvania, and her grandfather, David Bay, removed from Pennsylvania to Champaign County, Ohio, where he passed the remainder of his days. William Bay afterward removed to Indianapolis, Ind., being among the early settlers of that locality, and for many years engaged in the manufacture of brick. In 1843 he started with his family overland on a journey to Illinois. He located at Bloomington, and engaged in the manufacture of brick there, making that city his home until his decease. He was a man of deep piety, one of the earliest members of the Methodist denomination in that place, and earnestly devoted to Christian work. He often supplied the pulpit in the absence of a minister, and as an exhorter was widely and favorably known, being especially efficient in conducting revivals. He was married, in his native State, to Miss Susanna Corbin, who was born in Maryland, accompanied her husband to Illinois and died in Bloomington. Of the three children born to James Heazle and wife, only two are living: Elizabeth, the wife of B. V. Sharpe, of Mt. Hope Township, and our subject. The first born, William, died in infancy.

The subject of this history was but two years old when he came to Illinois with his parents. After becoming of suitable age, he attended the public schools in Bloomington, and advanced his education by an attendance of one year at Wesleyan University, and two years at Normal. He afterward entered the commercial college of Bry-

ant & Stratton, at Chicago, from which he graduated in 1871. He then formed a partnership with Charles R. Curtis, to engage in the clothing trade and merchant tailoring, at Farmer City. With the design of going to Cincinnati to purchase goods, they boarded a railroad train, and while going through Champaign County the ears were thrown from the track, and our subject, in some unaccountable manner, thrown from the ear. He was picked up unconscious and remained so the greater part of the time for three weeks. This delay in perfecting his business arrangements, induced him to abandon commercial pursuits for the time, and he engaged in teaching school, pursuing this for twenty-seven terms. In 1876 he purchased a tract of land four miles south of Bloomington, upon which he lived until 1881, and then purchased 160 acres of the homestead which he now owns and occupies.

Mr. Hazle was married, in September, 1875, to Miss Alice L. Houghton, who was born in Bloomington Township, and is the daughter of Stephen and Aurilla Houghton [see sketch in another part of this volume]. Of this union there have been born three children, two of whom are deceased; the living is a son—Stephen H. Our subject is Republican in politics, and socially is a member of Remembrance Lodge, I. O. O. F., Bloomington.

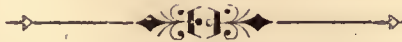


**J**OSEPH P. SHELTON, one of the leading druggists of Heyworth, is located on East Main street, where he established business in December, 1883, and has since steadily increased his stock and his trade. He is a gentleman of great energy and superior business talent, and the prospects are that he will continue as he has begun. Previous to his settlement in this place he was engaged for two years with the druggist, J. E. Espey, of Bloomington, where he gained a rich and valuable experience. He studied pharmacy when quite a youth, and his first experience in the business was as a clerk in Normal, where he was occupied for about three years. His business now aggregates a trade of about \$7,000 annually. Mr. Shelton exercises the greatest care in filling pre-

scriptions, and has thus far escaped blame and censure on account of those accidents which now too frequently happen with druggists, and have often been the cause of great suffering and frequently destruction of life.

Our subject is a native of the Prairie State, having been born in Washington County, Dec. 13, 1858. He was reared in Normal, to which his parents came when he was a lad of eight years. Here he completed his primary education, but later attended the Commercial College at Quincy, and also the Gem City schools for a business education, pursuing his studies in that direction for a period of four years. After perfecting himself as a business man he took up the study of pharmacy and applied himself to this until he had mastered the most important branches. To this he seemed naturally adapted and finally resolved to choose it as his future calling.

Joseph P. Shelton and Miss Sarah Jamison were united in marriage on the 8th of May, 1883, in Shelby County, Ill. Mrs. S. was born and reared in New York City, and came with her parents to Shelby County, in girlhood. Here she was educated in the public schools and remained under the parental roof until her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. S. are favorites in the society of Heyworth, and possessed of those social qualities which are so attractive and engaging among the sterner duties of life. Our subject is connected as Treasurer with Blue Lodge No. 251, of Heyworth, and is a member in good standing of the I. O. O. F. In politics he is a reliable Democrat.



**S**HOWARD STEELE, an enterprising, successful and prominent young farmer of Bloomington Township, is finely located on section 2, his birthplace, and his father's old homestead, and of which he is now the owner of eighty-eight acres. He is engaged in general farming and stock-raising, and bids fair to become prominent among the business and industrial interests of McLean County.

The subject of our sketch was born May 2, 1857, upon the farm which his father established more

than forty years ago. The latter, James Steele by name, was a native of Pennsylvania, born, reared and married in Washington County. The maiden of his choice was Miss Harriet Jackman, a native of his own State and county, where they located and lived until after the birth of two children. They then emigrated to Illinois, and became residents of McLean County in 1855. Here James Steele purchased 264 acres of land, the present homestead, and industriously improved and cultivated it until 1864, when he was called from his earthly labors, dying in the prime of life at the age of thirty-seven years. He was a man of great energy, a hard worker, and very successful in his business and farming pursuits.

The parental household consisted of the following: William J. is married and is a clerk in the United States Express Office in Bloomington; Selena A. died in infancy; James W. died in this township in 1856; S. Howard, our subject, was the next in order of birth; an infant son following, died April 18, 1859; John R. died in 1868; Theodore J., born Dec. 21, 1862, was reared and educated in this township, and now lives with his brother, our subject, on the farm, of which he also owns eighty-eight acres and likewise the family residence.

After the death of James Steele, Mrs. S. was married to Mr. George Hill, a farmer of Galva, Henry County, and the owner at that time of 320 acres of choice land. Of this union there were born three children—Marshall P., Hattie M. and Charles E. The mother died at her home in this township, from a stroke of paralysis, on the 8th of March, 1884. She and Mr. Hill with all the children except Hattie and Charles, were members of the Second Presbyterian Church.

S. Howard Steele was united in marriage with Miss Cathrena L. Roth, at the residence of the bride's uncle in the city of Bloomington, May 2, 1882. Mrs. Steele was born in Victor, Ontario Co., N. Y., Oct. 8, 1855. Her parents are still living in the Empire State, on a small farm in Batavia, her father being a cooper by trade. Mrs. Steele was reared at the home of her parents, and educated in the public schools of Victor. In 1877 she came to Illinois and made her home with her

unele in Bloomington, until her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. S. have become the parents of one child, Harvey, who was born May 21, 1884. They have lived upon the homestead since their marriage. It is pleasantly located, and the inmates are in the enjoyment of all the comforts of life, and many of its luxuries. The brothers work harmoniously together, and in the breeding of stock their aim is to excel. They deal in cattle, Poland-China hogs and thoroughbred horses. The Steele boys are all Republican in politics, and have inherited from their forefathers those principles of honor and honesty for which the family has been noted for generations.



**W**ILLIAM COLAW, a large land-owner and successful farmer of Downs Township, is finely located on section 1, where he is engaged in the breeding of Short-horn cattle and Poland-China hogs. His landed property consists of 840 acres, 320 of which are on section 1, and 160 on section 2 in Downs Township, and the remainder is in Old Town Township. He has a fine residence, a good barn and all necessary out-buildings for the shelter of stock and the storing of grain. The farm machinery, fences and everything about the premises are kept in first-class order, and the entire estate indicates the supervision of an intelligent business man, possessed of cultivated tastes and ample means.

The subject of this history was born near Monterey, Highland Co., Va., Jan. 30, 1813. His father, George Colaw, was a native of Pennsylvania, of substantial German ancestry, and removed from his native county to Virginia with his family when our subject was a lad of twelve years of age. There he followed his former occupation as a farmer, and spent the remainder of his days. George Colaw was reared to manhood in Highland County, Va., and was there married to Miss Elizabeth Wymer. This lady, it is supposed, was a native of the Old Dominion, but descended from an old Pennsylvania family of German descent. Her father served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and at the termination of this conflict located in the Old Dominion and there passed the remainder of his life.

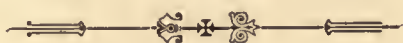
George Colaw and his wife settled upon a farm in Virginia and remained residents of Highland County until their decease, which occurred when they were well advanced in years, the father reaching the age of eighty-nine. Of their family, which included ten children, our subject was the second son and child, and three are deceased.

William Colaw was reared in his native county, and remained with his parents until his first marriage, which occurred on the 20th of March, 1834, the lady of his choice being Miss Sabina Gum. She was born and reared in the neighborhood of Monterey, removed West to Illinois with her husband, and died at the home of our subject, in Downs Township, Jan. 30, 1859. She became the mother of eight children, five of whom are living and married—William, Amos, Benjamin W., Dyer W. and Martha Jane. Those deceased are Laban, Harmon and Ellen. Mr. Colaw was married the second time, in this township, May 16, 1860, to Miss Phebe Wood, who was also a native of Virginia, born in Pendleton County. She came to Illinois when a young woman, and by her marriage with our subject became the mother of three children—Harvey, George, and Lucinda, deceased. Mrs. Colaw departed this life at the home of her husband in Downs Township, Sept. 28, 1858. Mr. Colaw was the third time married, in Bloomington, Dec. 22, 1872, to Miss Sarah A., daughter of James H. and Barbara (Slafor) Wilson, natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Kentucky. They were of German ancestry, and the father was engaged in farming pursuits the greater part of his life. He was born and reared in Pennsylvania but removed to Kentucky when a young man, where he was married. He afterward came to Illinois and settled near Pekin, where Mrs. C. was born July 11, 1836.

When she was about two years of age the family removed to Lee County, Iowa, where the mother died in 1852, aged forty-eight years. The father afterward removed to Chambersburg, Clark Co., Mo., where his death occurred July 10, 1879, at the age of eighty-two years, having been born March 19, 1797.

After the first marriage of Mr. Colaw, in Kentucky, he located upon a farm, where he lived several years and then decided to try his fortunes on

the prairie lands of Illinois. Coming into this county he purchased 240 acres of land on section 1, Downs Township, to which he subsequently added as before stated. He has been remarkably successful in his farming and stock operations, and by his straightforward business methods and promptness in meeting his obligations has firmly established himself in the confidence and esteem of his fellow-citizens. He is an active member and Trustee of the Methodist Episcopal Church and a staunch supporter of the Democratic party.



**S**YLVESTER PEASLEY, one of the best informed men in McLean County, has been a resident of Downs Township since a boy of thirteen years old, in 1836. His father at that time, who had settled near the grove, removed into Downs Township, and being a man of great enterprise and energy, soon made his mark in this vicinity as a business man and a citizen. He was for some time styled "Lord of the Prairie," and did much toward encouraging its settlement by men of his own ambition and resolution. The history of the Peasley family has been quite an interesting one, its various members having been distinguished for the reliable and substantial traits of character handed down to them from their excellent Scottish ancestry. The great-grandfather of our subject, who immigrated from Scotland prior to the Revolutionary War, spelled his name Paisley. He settled in North Carolina, and from him descended the Peasleys of the United States. It is believed from the meager history which has been preserved, that this sturdy old gentleman was an officer in the Revolutionary War on the side of the Colonists. To him there was born John Peasley, of whom our subject is the grandson. He was born and reared to manhood in North Carolina, and also fought in the Revolutionary War by the side of his father. In early manhood he was married to Miss Holt, whom it is supposed was born in North Carolina and of Scottish ancestry. They spent the greater part of their lives in Wilkes County, N. C., where John Peasley followed farming. They reared a family of ten children, of

whom a son and daughter were twins. The name of the former was Isaac, who became the father of Sylvester Peasley of this sketch.

Isaac Peasley started out early in life on his own account, and was employed by Gen. Lanor, of Wilkes County, as overseer of his plantation. Afterward Isaac Peasley engaged in teaming and hauling cotton to the seaport. He operated in his native State and through the southern part of Virginia, and met his wife in Grayson County, the latter State. She was Miss Rachel Halsey, a native of New Jersey, of New England parentage and English ancestry. Her father, William Halsey, served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War. After his marriage, Isaac Peasley settled on a farm in Grayson County, Va., where four children were born, of whom Sylvester of our sketch was the eldest.

In 1836 the family left the Old Dominion for Illinois, making the journey overland with a four-horse team. After a journey of forty-one days, they arrived near the home of Mr. Dawson, in Old Town Township. Their intended destination was Putnam County, Ill., but after meeting Mr. D., who gave them glowing accounts of the prospects in this section, he resolved to remain here, at least until spring. In the meantime he visited Putnam County, but failing to find a satisfactory location, concluded to settle in Downs Township. He purchased a tract of wild land, and immediately began its improvement and cultivation. Here he established a comfortable home, upon which he remained until his death, in 1851. The mother survived only until the following year. Both were earnest members of the Regular Baptist Church. Isaac Peasley, although a native of the South, was entirely opposed to human bondage, and left that section of the country on account of his opposition to slavery. Aside from this he was a staunch supporter of the principles of the Democratic party.

Sylvester Peasley remained under the home roof until his marriage, which occurred in Randolph Township, this county, in November, 1842. The lady of his choice was Miss Mary Stillman, who was born and reared in Morris County, N. J., and of New England parentage. She came West with her parents when a young woman. Her father was

a farmer of Randolph Township, being among its earliest pioneers. The parents there spent the remainder of their days, and were greatly respected by all who knew them for their excellent traits of character, as citizens, friends and neighbors.


Of Mrs. Peasley's union with our subject there was born quite a family of children, and the mother departed this life at her home in Downs Township in 1854. The children, one of whom is deceased, were Granville; Isaae, Susan R., John C., Bissell, deceased. and Esther C. The living are all married.

The second marriage of Mr. Peasley occurred in Downs Township, April 6, 1864, when he was united with Mrs. Susan T. (Barclay) Crosby. This lady was born in Mason County, Ky., June 7, 1822, and is the daughter of Stephen and Naney (Downing) Barclay, natives respectively of Kentucky and Ohio. They were of Scottish descent, and farmers by occupation. The mother died in Mason County, Ky., when her daughter, Susan P., was a young girl twelve years of age. Later the father moved to Lebanon, Ind., where he died in about 1855. He was an honest man and a good citizen, and politically affiliated with the Democratic party. Mrs. Peasley was the eldest of six children, three sons and three daughters, of whom only one son and Mrs. P. are now living. The latter was first married to Andrew J. Crosby, in Mason County, Ky. He was a native of that county and died there in 1849, leaving his wife and four children—William A., Nancy J., Harriett E. and James M. Of the present union there has been born one child, a daughter, Sarah E.

The homestead of Mr. Peasley includes 265 acres of land supplied with a fine set of frame buildings erected after a modern style of architecture. When Mr. P. took possession of his land it was scarcely removed from its original condition. He turned the first furrow and set the posts for the first fence ever built upon it. He has taken pride in its adornment, and besides abundant fruit trees, has planted around the house fine shade and ornamental trees.

For his first labor on a farm he received \$6 per month, but from these small earnings he managed to save enough to set him upon his feet, and fur-

nish him a good start in life. His energy and industry, and straightforward manner of doing business, in a short time secured for him the esteem and confidence of his fellow-citizens, and he was accorded an honored place among their councils and deliberations while yet the township was new. He was the first Supervisor, which office he has held for many years. He was Postmaster of Downs post-office for a period of twelve years, and in the year 1875 assisted in the organization of the County Fire Insurance Company, of which he was first President and has held the office since that time. He is also President of the Agricultural Society of McLean County. He is a member in good standing of the Baptist Church, and was ordained a Christian minister by the Baptist Church in 1843, at Lytleville, this county, and continued actively until about 1853, when he was obliged to abandon speaking on account of sore throat, but is called to officiate at funerals by his numerous friends of this vicinity. At one time he was pastor of five churches, and traveled all over the State. Mrs. P. is connected with the Christian Church.



**W**ILLIAM T. BRADBURY, Supervisor of Belleflower Township, has been a resident of the Prairie State since 1860, and has witnessed with deep interest the remarkable changes which have occurred during a period of over twenty-five years. He was born in Clermont County, Ohio, June 26, 1830. His father, John E. Bradbury, and his grandfather, Benjamin Bradbury, were natives of Maine and descended from excellent English ancestry. Benjamin Bradbury emigrated from his native State to Ohio previous to 1830, becoming one of the early settlers of Clermont County. In 1834, he proceeded still further Westward, to Illinois, and spent two years in that part of Morgan which is now included in Scott County. Thence he went to Pike County, where he purchased a tract of wild land, improved a farm and remained there until one year before his death, which occurred at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Hill, about 1859.

John E. Bradbury, the father of our subject, was



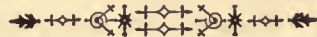
reared in his native State and came West with his parents to Ohio. He was there married and remained in that State until 1836, then joined his father in Pike County, Ill. Soon afterward he was taken fatally ill and died in August of that same year. The mother of our subject, formerly Miss Maria Thomas, is supposed to have been born in Clermont County, Ohio, where she was married to John E. Bradbury. After the death of her first husband she became the wife of William McMahan, in 1840, and spent the last years of her life in Pike County, Ill. There were three children by the first marriage: William T., our subject; James W., deceased, and Ruth A., second in order of birth, who married C. B. Mock and lives at Lebanon, Ind.

William T. Bradbury was but six years of age when his father died. After that sad event he went to live with an uncle until his mother removed to Indiana. He then lived with her three years and afterward with different parties in Marion County, Ind. He received a fair education in the early schools of that day, which were carried on in a log cabin. He commenced teaching when seventeen years old and after two and one-half years thus occupied engaged in mercantile business in Putnam County, Ind. This venture proved to be unsuccessful and he rented a tract of land in Boone County, that State, upon which he remained until 1860, then came to McLean County, and operated upon rented land for nine years following. He afterward purchased eighty acres, partially improved, which he sold one year later and purchased the same amount in Belleflower Township, on section 17. To this he has added from time to time until he has now a half section, all improved, with a fine stretch of of pasture land, and here he raises grain and gives much attention to graded stock. Of late years he has been very successful in his farming and business transactions and is now one of the representative and popular citizens of his township.

Mr. Bradbury was married in Jamestown, Ind., April 4, 1852, to Miss T. E. Gibson, who was born in Boone County, Ind., and was the daughter of John and Elizabeth (Hopper) Gibson. Of this union there were born nine children, six now living: John E.; Edgar S. and Edward S., the latter

twins, are at home with their parents; Myrtle M. married W. D. Barnhart and lives in North Loup, Neb.; Thomas W. and James are at home; Louisa, the second child, died when eighteen months old; Hattie E., the third, became the wife of N. B. Carson, and died in Belleflower Township in May, 1886, aged twenty-nine years.

The homestead of our subject forms one of the most attractive spots in the landscape of Belleflower Township. The parents and children are surrounded by all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life and are held in high esteem by all who know them on account of their high principles and excellent character. Mr. B. is Republican in politics and has held the offices of School Treasurer and Collector for a period of seventeen years. He is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he has been Steward for seven years. He has been Supervisor of Belleflower Township for four years.



**F**RANK H. BLOSE, the "Village Blacksmith" of Delana, is a native of the Buckeye State, born near the village of Ridgeville, in Warren County, May 16, 1860. It will thus be seen that he is a young man, and is possessed of that energy which indicates that he will make his mark in a world increasing in enterprise and ambition. The father of our subject, John W. Blose, of Virginia, was the son of Adam Blose, a native of Germany, who emigrated to the United States with his parents when but an infant. They settled in Virginia, whence Adam Blose removed after he had attained his majority to Ohio, in 1836. The removal from the Old Dominion was made with wagons, after the fashion of the emigrants of those days. There the grandfather of our subject purchased a farm near Springboro, Warren County, and remained a resident until his death, which occurred in about 1884.

John W. Blose, the father of our subject, was but four years old when his parents made the removal from Virginia to Ohio. He remained on his father's farm and made his home with his parents until his marriage. He then purchased a farm near

Ridgeville, and was there engaged in farming until 1878. Selling out he removed to Springboro, where he now lives in ease and comfort, retired from active labor. He was married in early manhood to Miss Jacqueline M. Hayner, who was born in Virginia, and was the daughter of John Hayner, who was of German ancestry and parentage. The father of Mrs. B. spent the last years of his life in Ohio. The family of John W. Blose included two children, of whom our subject was the elder. The only daughter, Jennie, became the wife of Charles W. Smith, and lives near Springboro, Ohio.

Frank H. Blose remained on his father's farm until he was seventeen years old, and was variously employed for the following two years. He then commenced to learn the blacksmith's trade at Springboro, at which he remained two years and six months; when he started for Illinois, arriving in this county on the 27th of October, 1881. He worked at his trade as a journeyman three months, then purchased the shop and tools of his employer, Mr. Snook, and has since carried on business for himself. His courteous demeanor toward his patrons and his upright business methods have secured for him the confidence and respect of his community.

Mr. Blose was united in marriage with Miss Ora B. Batson, on the 5th of April, 1883. Mrs. B. was born near Kokomo, Howard Co., Ind., and is the daughter of Alexander and May C. (Babbit) Batson, of Kokomo. Of this union there have been born two children, Gertrude and Anna M.

**J**AMES B. WILLIAMS, engaged in general farming and stock-raising in Lexington Township, on section 26, owns and occupies a comfortable homestead, where he is leading the life of a law-abiding and worthy citizen, and contributing his share toward the development and prosperity of this section.

Mr. Williams was born in Coshocton County, Ohio, near its county seat of the same name, on the headwaters of the Muskingum River, March 13, 1831. His father, also James B. Williams, was born in Pennsylvania, whence he removed to Ohio,

and at the age of seventeen enlisted as a soldier in the War of 1812. When this conflict was ended he returned to Ohio and engaged in agricultural pursuits. He was also an expert bee hunter, and gathered scores of pounds of sweets where another man would not suspect their existence. He was also engaged in boating on the Muskingum, Ohio and Mississippi Rivers, and transported flour, bacon and potatoes from one point to another, and invested the money thus made in lands, of which he became the proprietor to a large extent. After attaining to years of manhood he was married to Miss Nancy Ballentine, who was born in Muskingum County, Ohio, and who was the daughter of Hugh Ballentine, of Irish parentage and ancestry. After marriage he located in Coshocton County, Ohio, where he passed the remainder of his life. The mother, later, removed to McLean County with her children, and died in 1878. The parental family included five sons and four daughters, all of whom lived to maturity, with only one now deceased. Rebecca married John Cumbecker; Mary became Mrs. John Beehtel, and both are deceased; Richard B. is a resident of Washington Territory, and the subject of our sketch was the fourth child; Perry is in Dakota, and Alexander in this county, near Potosi; Catharine married John Hamilton, of this county, and Nancy became the wife of C. Kilsey; John is in Muskingum County, Ohio.

James B. Williams passed his boyhood and youth in the State of his birth, and when twenty-two years of age took a trip to California in search of gold. He went into the mines and worked four years, being fairly successful in his labors. He then returned to Ohio, and in April, 1855, was married to Miss Julia Powelson, of Coshocton County, where she was born June 18, 1838. Mrs. W. was the daughter of Conrad and Lucinda (Honey) Powelson, of Virginia, and both parents are still living in Ohio. After marriage our subject and his wife came West to McLean County, and settled in Lawndale Township, after which he removed to his present farm in Lexington. The homestead comprises eighty acres of choice land under a good state of cultivation, well stocked with grades of the domestic animals. He has a comfortable and convenient residence, and other nee-

essary out-buildings, and realizes a handsome income from the rearing and feeding of hogs, numbers of which he ships to market every winter.

Mr. Williams was a musician during the progress of the Mexican War, and while yet a resident of Ohio, he assisted in raising volunteers for that war. During the late Civil War he served in the same capacity, as musician, in assisting to raise volunteers. His services consisted in playing the drum at the musters which took place preparatory to securing volunteers.

The family of Mr. and Mrs. Williams included one daughter, Olive, now the wife of Dr. H. W. Langstaff, of Colfax. Living with our subject and his wife are two grandchildren, James Hartsel and Henry Wellington. Mr. and Mrs. W. are prominently connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which our subject has served as local preacher for many years. In politics he is a Republican.



**E**LIJAH ELLSWORTH. The subject of the following sketch, who is now one of the most successful farmers of Cheney's Grove Township, was born in Clarke County, Ohio, Dec. 15, 1815. He continued a resident of his native State until the spring of 1856, when he sought the great West with the view of establishing a permanent home. No State pleased him better than Illinois and no county better than McLean. He accordingly located here and has been an honored and valued resident since that time.

The parents of our subject were Jacob and Rachel (Bibbe) Ellsworth, the father a native of Virginia and the mother of Delaware. Jacob Ellsworth was born in 1775, followed the occupation of a farmer all his life and lived to an advanced age. His last years were spent in Clarke County, Ohio, where he departed this life in 1873. He was possessed of an active and energetic disposition, was a great hunter, and in religious belief adhered to the doctrines of the Methodist Church. The mother of our subject was born in 1771, and departed this life at her home in Clarke County, Ohio, in 1855, having lived worthily and adorned her profession as a Christian and a member of the Methodist

Episcopal Church. Of their eleven children the record is as follows: Nancy married Rev. William Kurl, a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and both are now deceased; John married Miss Susan Runyan and is deceased; Susanna, who became the wife of Jesse Evans, died in Clarke County, Ohio, in 1886; Abraham died at his home in Ohio when twenty-one years of age; Hannah became the wife of Joseph Wilkinson, and also died in Clarke County; Jacob married Miss Sarah Runyan; William married Miss Lydia Whiteomb; Betsey married Martin Spines and lives in Iowa.

The subject of this history remained under the home roof until his marriage, which occurred June 18, 1836, the maiden of his choice being Miss Ellen Powell. She was born in Harrison County, W. Va., June 18, 1818, and died at the home of her husband in this township, Nov. 15, 1884. She was a most worthy and excellent Christian lady, a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and greatly respected by all who knew her. Their four children are recorded as follows: Walter was born Sept. 6, 1838, and is living at home with his father; Charlotte became the wife of George Cornwell and both she and her husband died of consumption; they had no children; Hamilton P. married Miss Martha A. Cunningham in August, 1865. This lady was the daughter of Samuel B. and Luinda (Hamilton) Cunningham. They became the parents of five children—Mary E., Laura A., Charlotte I., Levi H., now deceased, and Charles W.

Hamilton Ellsworth is an extensive grain buyer, operating at switch D on the line of the L. E. & W. R. R. in Ford County, Ill. The first year he sent off 165 ears loaded with grain and the next year 200 cars. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, belongs to the I. O. O. F. and is Republican in politics. During the late war he enlisted in Co. B, the 107th Ill. Vol. Inf., with which he served three years and was in several general engagements. He suffered much from illness in the army, but by a great effort kept at his post and received his honorable discharge at the close of the war, being mustered out in Virginia, May 22, 1865. The next youngest son of our subject was Duncan, also in the army three years, and who married Miss Elizabeth Peffy. They have

seven children—Rose L., Mary Luey, one deceased, Elmer E., Timothy, Rolla and Maude S. Walker Ellsworth is a member of the A. F. & A. M. at Saybrook. Mr. Ellsworth politically affiliates with the Democratic party. He is a straightforward, conscientious business man and citizen, and enjoys the confidence and esteem of a large circle of friends and acquaintances.



**R**OBERT HARRIS BAKER, of Funk's Grove Township, was born near McConnellsville, Morgan Co., Ohio, Sept. 7, 1829. His father, James Baker, was also born in that State, and his paternal grandfather, Samuel Baker, was a native of New England, and of English ancestry. The grandfather was an early settler in Ohio, and lived there until about 1832, when he came to Illinois and located in De Witt County on a farm, and was a pioneer there. He improved his farm in that county, and there lived until his death, which took place June 21, 1852.

The father of our subject grew to manhood in Ohio. He was married there, and remained a resident of that State until 1834. In the fall of that year, accompanied by his wife and seven children, he started for Illinois overland with a team of horses and a wagon. They camped and cooked their frugal meal by the wayside and terminated their journey at Bloomington after about sixteen days' travel. That city was then but a hamlet, and Mr. Baker being a cooper by trade and handy with tools, worked at lathing and shingling. In 1837 he entered forty acres of land on section 11, Funk's Grove Township, and erected a log cabin thereon. Moving his family on the place he began its improvement, and as he could obtain means to do so he entered other land adjoining his until he was the owner of 160 acres. His nearest market for grain and provisions for many years was Pekin, Ill., about fifty miles distant, and which required three days to make the trip. Salt was one of the dearest commodities and at that time cost \$8 per barrel at Pekin. Mr. Baker continued a resident

of this county for many years, thoroughly identified with its growth and development, and then returning to Ohio spent the latter years of his life in Morgan County. He was three times married. His first wife, Sarah Alden, died in Ohio, leaving two children. The second wife, Christiana Roberts, was the mother of the subject of this notice. She was born near Philadelphia, Pa., and was first married to Robert H. Stanberry. She died in Funk's Grove Township, after having borne her husband three children. The third wife of James Baker was the widow of Joseph Roberts.

Our subject was the eldest child of his father's second marriage, and was five years of age when his parents came to Illinois. He remembers distinctly the overland journey that was made to this State, the swollen streams that were crossed, and the numerous times they were compelled to unload their goods to extricate their wagon from the mud. Attaining a suitable age he assisted his father on the farm, and being the oldest son did most of the marketing at Pekin. He continued to live at home until his marriage, and then bought forty acres of wild land on section 11, Funk's Grove Township. He had worked hard and economized, had saved \$50 to pay for his land, and besides this was the possessor of a horse and considered himself exceedingly fortunate. With this capital he began life and soon had a little frame dwelling, 16x18, erected on his land, which served him as a home for quite a time. He is now the proprietor of an estate comprising 420 acres of improved land, with the exception of forty acres which is in timber.

Mr. Baker was married Nov. 13, 1851, to Mary Taylor. She was born in Perry County, Ohio, Jan. 12, 1832. Her father, Joseph Taylor, was a native of Virginia, and his father, Thomas Taylor, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and fought at the battle of Bunker Hill and died in Virginia. Joseph Taylor went to Ohio when seventeen years of age. He was married to Eletha Gardener, a native of Maryland, and they lived in Perry County, Ohio, until 1837, and then came to this State with a team of horses and a wagon, and located in De Witt County. Mr. Taylor bought land there and improved a farm, and there lived until the spring of 1850, when he made an overland trip to Cali-





Litta

fornia. He died in that State in September of that same year, and his widow passed the latter years of her life on the old homestead in De Witt County.

Mr. and Mrs. Baker are the parents of five children. Joseph P. lives on the old homestead; Elmira; Christiana; Letha, wife of James Scott, is a resident of Funk's Grove Township, and Kittie is the wife of Osear Samuels, and they are living in De Witt County. The deceased are Alice, who married Martin Hamill, and died Sept. 28, 1877; Almeda, who became the wife of William Williamson, and died on the old homestead April 20, 1885. In religion, Mr. and Mrs. Baker hold fellowship with the Christian Church, and in politics he is a staunch Republican.



**M**ARIE EUGENIA VON ELSNER, whose professional cognomen was Mademoiselle Litta, was born June 1, 1856, in Bloomington. Her father, Prof. Hugo Von Elsner, was of noble German birth and highly educated. He was a civil engineer. From Freeport, Ill., he came to Bloomington and engaged in teaching music. To her father Litta owed her musical genius and also the rigid early training which proved the foundation stone of her lyric studies and insured her later success. Prof. Von Elsner died a short time before his daughter became famous.

The mother of Litta was Amanda, daughter of William Dimmitt, one of the first settlers of Bloomington, and was married to Prof. Von Elsner in 1855. She was a devoted mother. Litta in return was greatly attached to her home and her parents. Her musical education began out of a little circumstance which occurred when she was but four years old. In attending a Methodist Church with her parents she joined with the worshipers in singing a familiar old hymn, which probably the child had never before heard, taking it up at the second verse and going through with it correctly, attracting the attention of all who heard her. A few weeks afterward, after careful training by her father, she sang the "Last Rose of Summer" before a gathering

of soldiers at Springfield. She soon afterward became known as the "Child Wonder" and her studies were pursued regularly. At the age of ten and after she probably earned more than \$2,000 annually. When twelve years old she sang before President Grant, and was afterward engaged in various concerts under the management of her father, in which the peculiar excellence and purity of her voice attracted universal attention. In due time she entered the family of Prof. John Underner, the leading vocal teacher of Cleveland, Ohio, and under his instruction and that of a private tutor, an Italian, became highly accomplished in her art. She was ambitious to excel and pursued her studies with unremitting industry, her voice developing marvelous progress each year. Prof. Underner saw that she was to become an operatic leader and that she had reached that stage where the training of the great conservatories of Europe was needed to give her the advantages which she deserved. Accordingly, in 1874 she left America and entered upon her studies in the cities of the Old World. In London she sang before the venerable Sir Julius Benedict, who had been the teacher of Jenny Lind, and whose opinion of her voice was highly flattering. Litta, during her studies in Paris, fully justified the hopes of her friends and went through with an immense amount of labor during the following year. Her vocalization was declared simply perfect. She was engaged by Mr. Mapleson for the London season, who would gladly have retained her had his financial condition made it possible. His friendship and recommendation, however, secured her advantages perhaps which he could not have personally given. She studied dramatic training and vocalization under Madame LaGrange, the leading teacher of the age, and in due time reached the zenith of the musical art and was able to challenge the most competent critic, sing to the most captious manager, and appear before the exacting though generous Parisian public.

About this time Litta made the acquaintance of the Countess De Troubiand, a wealthy and kind-hearted lady who greatly interested herself in the fortunes of the young artist and opened her elegant home for musical soirees for Marie's especial benefit, introducing her to critics and influential

operatic managers. Following this Mon. Esudier, manager of the Grand Opera House of Paris, was induced to give Marie an engagement, her first appearance being in Lucia di Lammermoor, in which she sang for the first time under the name of Marie Litta. Of this appearance Miss Kate Field wrote with great enthusiasm concerning her success and the ovation which was rendered the young American prima donna. In this letter she states that ladies stood up in their boxes and burst their gloves clapping. Bouquets were showered upon the stage and thundering calls brought the singer before the curtain many times. From this severe test Litta came out fully triumphant and with her reputation established as one of the first artists of the age. Litta was deeply attached to her family name and the circumstances which led to her adopting the stage name of "Litta" are as follows: The feeling engendered by the Franco-Prussian War had not died out when Marie made her debut in Paris, in 1878. It was thus a perilous time on account of her German origin. Her manager and friends happily thought of "Litta," a noble Italian family name, which Marie adopted to oblige them, and it proved a fine stroke of policy. The next morning Count Litta called upon her and thanked her for honoring his family name by adopting it.

The success of Litta in Paris was followed by similar success at Vienna and other important cities. Her first appearance in America was made in her native city and was attended by one of the largest audiences ever gathered there. She was then under engagement with Max Strakosch, and she afterward sang in all the great cities of the United States and Canada, closing at San Francisco, Cal., where she received probably the greatest ovation of any singer who had appeared on the Pacific slope. She was with Mr. Strakosch several seasons and then, concluding to abandon the opera for a time, in 1880 accepted an engagement with Mr. Henry L. Slayton, of Chicago, under whose management she had a company of her own, which was known as the Litta Concert Company.

Litta sang her last song at Escanaba, Mich., in May, 1883. She was there taken ill and compelled to return to Bloomington, where after a long season of painful suffering she died, July 7, 1883.

The news of her death was quickly telegraphed to points all over the world, and in her native city, which had witnessed her studies and her triumphs, the sorrow was widespread and universal. Long before the hour appointed for the funeral people flocked from all directions by thousands. The services were conducted from the First Methodist Church, and the pastor, Rev. F. C. Iglehart, in the course of his eloquent sermon said: "It was the custom of Litta to go to the groves to hear the birds sing. Her soul of melody sought melody everywhere. She took lessons and the feathered songsters were her teachers. The beauty of the absolute came through the chorus of the trees to her beautiful soul. You who heard her sing, did not know why it was that she sang so much like a bird. It was because she was with the birds so much and learned of them so well. It may be she heard the singing in the distant palm groves and went to listen to it and mingle in it. According to an Indian custom I take a bird out of the cage and cover it with the kisses of the family, with the kisses of this whole city, with your caresses, and send it out to the spirit that has flown to bear to her our love."

The life and death of Litta made such an impression on the people of Bloomington that a fine granite monument was erected to her memory in the cemetery, which was dedicated July 4, 1885, on which occasion the Hon. David Davis delivered a brief address, in which he voiced the sentiments of the world at large in regard to the accomplished singer and the beautiful and lovely woman. He was followed by the Hon. James S. Ewing, who delivered a very appropriate eulogy. In speaking of Litta personally he made use of these words, which may very properly close this sketch:

"Any analysis of her character which ignored her loving and kindly nature, would be like taking away the rich coloring from a beautiful picture. She was generous, and charitable, and kind. She shared everything she had with those she loved. The first fruits of the harvest she laid with thanksgiving upon the altar of filial affection. Even the praise and admiration she won she sought to divide with those who were dear to her. She spoke kindly of all. She was mindful of favors and grateful



for kindnesses. She had no false pride. When the noon had more than fulfilled the promise of the morning, she was the same gentle, modest and winsome woman. And so we have written on this monument: 'She was loved most for her pure and gentle life, and loving hands weave roses with the laurel in the chaplet of her fame.'"



**J**OHAN R. WILLIAMS, Postmaster of Delana, is also carrying on a trade in general merchandise, and is one of the valuable members of that community. He was born in Muskingum County, Ohio, Feb. 2, 1834. His father, John Williams, was born in the same county, and his grandfather, Thomas Williams, was one of the pioneers of Muskingum County, Ohio, and cleared a farm from the wilderness, and there spent the remainder of his life, dying about 1840. His property lay on the national turnpike, three miles west of Zanesville, and there John Williams, Sr., the father of our subject, was reared to manhood. He was also married there, the maiden of his choice being Miss Caroline Rodman, daughter of Joseph Rodman, and granddaughter of Gen. Rodman, of Revolutionary fame. At the time of his marriage, John, Sr., was engaged in mereantile pursuits near Zanesville. He lived but two years after his marriage, his death occurring in November, 1833, before the birth of his son, our subject. His widow subsequently married John Brown, and they removed to Bloomington, where she spent the remainder of her life.

John R. Williams was the only son of his parents, and was reared by his maternal grandparents. He attended school during the winter seasons, and the balance of the year assisted in the labors of the farm. His grandfather died when our subject was twenty years of age, and the latter was given charge of the farm until 1856. On the 14th of February, that year, he set out overland for the West with three horses and a wagon loaded with household goods, accompanied by his wife and another family. After twenty-one days' travel, they arrived at Bloomington, and Mr. Williams purchased forty acres of land in Old Town Township,

upon which he located and commenced its improvement and cultivation. After a few years he sold out and purchased another small farm in the same township, which he occupied until 1861, then sold again and removed to Bloomington. Here he was employed in a flouring-mill for a year following, and was also engaged in the purchase and shipping of grain for five years. He afterward became an employe in the hardware store of Harwood Bros., where he officiated as clerk for ten years. Subsequently he served in the same capacity for J. Thompson, grocer, six years. In November, 1884, he came to Delana, and in company with Mr. Thompson, purchased a stock of goods, and has managed the business here since that time. This consists of almost everything required for the farm and household, excepting, of course, the larger machinery.

Mr. Williams was married in Ohio, five miles from Zanesville, Sept. 15, 1853, to Miss Mary A. Fogle, who was born in Muskingum County, Ohio, and is the daughter of George and Maria (Johnson) Fogle, natives of Maryland. Of this union there were born two children—Julia E., now living at home, and Laura, who died at the age of eight years. Mr. Williams is Republican in politics, and both he and his wife are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



**W**ILLIAM HIETT, leading representative of the saddle and harness trade in Saybrook, also carries an excellent stock of carriage supplies, trunks, and other manufactured articles in leather. Our subject came to the Prairie State in 1858, and purchased 135 acres of land near Saybrook, upon which he farmed for a number of years and then sold out. He next purchased 115 acres still nearer town, of which he still holds possession. His present business was established in August, 1883. His establishment is the leading one of the city and he gives employment to two men.

Mr. Hiatt was born in Brown County, Ohio, Dec. 13, 1830, and is the son of John and Elizabeth (Hawk) Hiatt, natives of Ohio. They were married

in 1829. John Hiett was born in 1808, and is still living. The mother of our subject died in 1833. Their four children were Mary, James and Philip (twins) who died in infancy, and William of our sketch, who was left motherless when three years old. The second marriage of John Hiett was with Miss Sarah A. Odell, and of this union there were born four children—John W., Frank, Susan and Samnel. This lady died in Indiana and the father of our subject was then married to Miss Mary F. Davison, by whom he had eight children, two dying in infancy. Albert C. died when twenty-one years of age. The remainder were, Edward, George W., Luella, Sarah A. and Charles F. John Hiett is Republican in politics and a member in good standing of the Masonic fraternity.

Our subject remained under his father's roof during his childhood and youth, and in 1877 was married to Miss Ortha Nelson, who was born in Indiana in 1862. They have no children. Mr. H. is a worthy member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and politically affiliates with the Republican party. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity, being a member of Cheney's Grove Lodge No. 468, of Saybrook. During the late war he was a sutler in the Wilder Brigade, 98th Illinois Infantry.



**W**ILLIAM E. HENRY, Jr., who is a native of this county, owns a good farm of 160 acres in Anchor Township, on section 20, and is devoting much of his time to stock-raising. His land is in a good state of cultivation, and supplied with a substantial set of frame buildings. As a citizen and a business man he is contributing his full share toward the growth and prosperity of his township, and is held in universal respect for his excellent traits of character and straightforward business methods.

Mr. Henry is the eldest son of William E. and Mary (Snell) Henry, who were among the earliest pioneers of Dry Grove Township, this county, where they are still residing. William E. was born in Dry Grove Township, Oct. 14, 1841, and there grew to manhood. His education was begun in the district schools of his native township, and he

also attended the public schools of Bloomington, in which city his parents resided for about three years. He remained under the home roof until his marriage, which occurred Feb. 18, 1875. The maiden of his choice was Miss Caroline, daughter of Francis and Elizabeth (Boyer) Fantz. She was born in Somerset County, Pa., Oct. 8, 1850. After their marriage the young people settled in Danvers Township, where Mr. Henry followed farming until the fall of 1878. He then removed to his present homestead in Anchor Township.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry have become the parents of three children, as follows: Harvey, who was born March 18, 1877; Mary E., Feb. 26, 1881, and Caroline D., Jan. 24, 1883. Mr. Henry uniformly casts his vote with the Republican party, and in all respects is a citizen deeply interested in the welfare of his county and community.



**J**OHN B. GEARHART, favorably known in Belleflower Township as an industrious and prosperous farmer, is a native of the wealthy and populous State of Ohio, born in Miami County, Oct. 7, 1833. His father, Daniel Gearhart, was a native of Virginia, and our subject's grandfather, it is believed, was born in Maryland, and was of German parentage and ancestry. The grandfather removed from Maryland to Virginia, thence to Ohio, and located in Miami County as early as 1803. There he purchased a tract of land, a small portion of which was cleared, and the balance was heavy timber. There was a log-cabin upon the place, which the family occupied for a time. Subsequently he cleared 160 acres and erected a substantial brick house and large frame barn. Upon the homestead thus established he spent the remainder of his days, dying in 1866, having reached the advanced age of ninety-seven years.

The father of our subject was but three or four years of age when his parents removed to Ohio and settled in the wilderness. He there grew to manhood, assisted his father in clearing the farm and remained under the parental roof until his mar-

riage. He then purchased 160 acres of land about eight miles from the old homestead, only five of which was cleared. In due time he placed 120 acres more under a good state of cultivation. In 1863 he returned to Winchester, Va., to visit his son, who was a soldier and at the time confined in the hospital. While there nursing his son, the rebels captured the town and made them both prisoners, Daniel Gearhart being confined twenty-two months in a rebel stronghold at Salisbury, N. C. He was released about the time of the close of the war, and returning home died three weeks afterward. The mother of our subject before her marriage was Miss Mary Beatty, a native of Virginia. Of her marriage with Daniel Gearhart there were born eight children, of whom our subject was the third child and eldest son.

John B. Gearhart, of this notice, assisted his father in opening up the farm, and made his home with his parents until he was twenty-two years old. He then married and commenced his new life upon a rented farm in Clarke County, Ohio. He continued a resident of the Buckeye State until 1858, when he set his face toward the great West, and coming into Illinois located first in Tazewell County. There he rented land one year, and then purchased sixty acres in Logan County, where he removed, remaining until 1868. He then sold out and purchased the place which he now owns and occupies on section 20, Belleflower Township, and which consists of 160 acres. This was wild prairie at the time of his purchase, but he now has the entire tract enclosed and brought to a good state of cultivation. Upon it is a comfortable and substantial frame dwelling, with fruit and shade trees and all the other requirements of a first-class agriculturist.

Mr. Gearhart was married in August, 1856, to Miss Minerva Fuller, who was born in Clarke County, Ohio, March 11, 1835. She is the daughter of Robert and Margaret (Thompson) Fuller, natives of Virginia, whence they removed to Ohio, and were among the earliest settlers of Clarke County. Mr. Fuller purchased a tract of timber land from which he cleared a farm, built up a comfortable home, and there both parents spent the remainder of their lives. At one time they were the

possessors of 640 acres of fine land in Clarke County.

Our subject and his wife have three children, a daughter Flora, now the wife of W. H. Harrison, and they live near Farmer City; the other two children, Franklin and Elmer, are both at home with their parents. Mr. and Mrs. Gearhart are worthy members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in politics our subject is an earnest Republican. He has been School Trustee several terms, and in 1886 was Township Assessor. He has also served as Road Commissioner.



**L**OUIS A. BURK, a prominent and skillful artist of Bloomington, is a native of Davis County, Ky., born in 1845, and the son of Edward A. and Naney (King) Burk, who were also born in the Blue Grass State. The father of our subject was engaged in farming, and came to Illinois in 1848, settling in Mt. Hope Township, this county. Here he occupied his farm until 1851, then removed to Logan County and engaged in farming near Atlanta, for a period of fifteen years; thence he moved to Missouri, where his life terminated in 1874. The mother is still living in Lathrop, Clinton Co., Mo. Of a family of ten children, three only are now living: James A., residing in Lathrop, Mo.; Louis A., and Naney M., Mrs. Waers, of Iowa.

The subject of this biography remained at home until seventeen years old, and then, the late Civil War being in progress, he enlisted in the three months' service. At the expiration of this time, he re-enlisted in Co. E, 7th Ill. Vol. Inf., serving until July, 1865. At the battle of Altoona, Ga., he was wounded in the right shoulder. When the war was ended, he returned home and remained six months. He was soon afterward married, and lived for a brief season at Spring Hill, Mo., spent two years at Lathrop, then came to Bloomington and engaged in carpenter work for five years. He then commenced sketching for publishing houses, and was thus occupied for seven years, when he took up stock sketching and painting, in which he is at present engaged. He receives orders from

both Eastern and Western States, to sketch and paint the cattle and other animals of the leading stockmen, and has proved himself an adept in the art.

Mr. Burk was married, in 1865, to Miss Maria E. Platt, a native of Bloomington, and the daughter of Ephraim and Sarah Platt, natives of Ohio and Virginia respectively. Their seven children were named as follows: Lucy, Kittie, William, Minnie, Nettie, Birdie and Louis. Mr. Burk is Republican in politics, and belongs to the G. A. R. He purchased his present home in 1879, where he and his family are surrounded by all the comforts of life and many evidences of his art. He ranks second to no one in his line in the western country, and in a few years will doubtless be able to retire upon a competency.



**G** I. DOOLEY, a retired farmer of Downs Township, living at ease on his elegant homestead one and one-half miles from Downs Village, is widely and favorably known throughout this section as a man who has been identified with its business and agricultural interests, and has contributed his full share toward the progress and prosperity of McLean County. The family residence is finely located in the midst of beautiful surroundings, and everything about the premises denotes cultivated tastes and ample means. The life of our subject has been marked by industry and enterprise, and he has evaded no duty, either socially or in a business way, when the performance would tend to the welfare of his neighborhood and his township at large.

Mr. Dooley is a descendant of excellent Scottish ancestry. His grandfather, Obediah Dooley, of Virginia, was the son of one of the early representatives of the family in this country and was married in the Old Dominion to Miss Anna Irvin, who was also of Scotch descent but born and reared in Virginia. A few years after their marriage they removed into Kentucky, settling in what is now Clark County. One of their acquaintances was Daniel Boone, the famous Kentucky pioneer and hunter. There they built up a home in the wilder-

ness, clearing a tract of timber land, where they spent the remainder of their lives. They became the parents of a large family, of which William Dooley, the father of our subject, was about the fifth child. He was reared to manhood near Boonsboro and there met and was married to Miss Minerva Morris, who was born in Kentucky but whose parents were from Virginia. She was the youngest daughter of Samuel and Martha Morris.

After their marriage William Dooley and his wife located on a part of the old Obediah Dooley farm and became the parents of thirteen children, of whom our subject was the eldest. He was carefully reared under the parental roof and remained at home until twenty-two years of age. On the 27th of December, 1849, he was united in marriage with Miss Mary Seabee, in Montgomery County, Ky. Mrs. D. is the daughter of William and Jane (Burroughs) Seabee, natives of Kentucky. Her grandfather was Robert and her grandmother Elizabeth (Crawford) Seabee, of Virginia. Robert Seabee was a farmer by occupation, spending his early manhood in his native State. Later in life he removed to Clark County, Ky., where he carried on agricultural pursuits successfully and died there in about 1838. The mother of Mrs. Dooley died at her home in Montgomery County, Ky., and there her father yet lives, having arrived at the advanced age of eighty-five years.

Mrs. Dooley was the eldest child of her parents, with whom she lived until her marriage. By her union with our subject she became the mother of four children, as follows: James W., a farmer of Downs Township, married Miss Elizabeth G. Cowden, of Old Town Township; Jennie B. became the wife of Rev. T. D. Fyffe, a minister of the Presbyterian Church in Rossville, Ind.; George G. married Miss Lou G. Baremore, and they live on the farm of our subject; Anna is at home with her parents.

Two years after the marriage of Mr. Dooley he and his wife and his father's family all came to Illinois, first locating in Bloomington, and increasing the population of that city by thirteen souls. One child was born to the father and mother of our subject after their removal to this State. The mother died in Bloomington when seventy-four

years of age. The father subsequently located in Old Town Township, whence he removed later to Padua Township, and there died on the 7th of June, 1870, aged sixty-six years.

After coming to this State our subject was a resident of Old Town Township until 1855, and then removed to Putnam County, Ind. After residing there sixteen years, during which time he had been engaged in farming, he returned to Illinois and located in Downs Township, this county. Here he now has a farm of 257 acres, the greater part of which is in a fine state of cultivation. In 1881 he began dealing in coal, grain and lumber in Downs Village, in which commodities he operated four years and then practically retired from active business. He is now living in ease and comfort upon the competency which he has richly earned. Politically he is a sound Democrat, and the wife of our subject is a member in good standing of the Christian Church.



**L**EICESTER S. RUPERT, a prominent citizen of Normal Township, is successfully engaged as a breeder of road horses, in which he is experienced, and exhibits some of the finest animals in McLean County. Mr. Rupert was born in Louisville, Ky., on the 10th of December, 1855, being the son of Elon W. Rupert, of Virginia. The latter, during the greater portion of his life, was engaged in the wholesale drug business in Louisville, but retired upon a competency twenty years before his death, which occurred in 1874, aged sixty-five years. The mother of our subject, Lucy B. (Sargent) Rupert, was born in Massachusetts, is still living, and resides in Philadelphia, Pa. The parental family comprised three children only: Elon S. is a practicing physician of Philadelphia; Minnie B. is the wife of Dr. J. W. Holland, Dean of the Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia; and Leicester.

The subject of our sketch pursued his primary studies in the public schools of Louisville, which were supplemented by attendance at the grammar schools of New Haven, Conn., from which he graduated in 1875. He then returned to Louisville and

engaged in the breeding of trotting horses until 1882, when he came to Illinois, locating first in Woodford and subsequently in Tazewell County, in which latter place he sold his interest to his brother-in-law, A. G. Danforth, and removed to Normal. His stables now include forty head of Hambletonian and Mambrino horses, and include specimens of some of the finest animals to be found in this section. He exhibited several years at St. Louis and Chicago fairs but has now become so well known that he no longer incurs this expense, his stock always being in demand. Mr. Rupert has a fine farm estate of 500 acres, besides his town property in Normal, and has fully established a reputation as one of the leading horsemen of the State. He is Secretary and Treasurer of the Illinois Association of Trotting-horse Breeders, and his judgment and opinions in regard to this industry are held in great value.

The marriage of Leicester S. Rupert and Miss Katie May Danforth was celebrated at Washington, Ill., on the 5th of November, 1879. Mrs. R. was born in Washington, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of one child—Emily Bush.



**W**ILLIAM L. DRYBREAD, formerly an extensive farmer and stock-raiser of West Township, is now a resident of Santa Anna, De Witt County, but is entitled to a prominent place among the worthy citizens of McLean County, as having by his enterprise and intelligence greatly assisted in the development of the business and agricultural interests of this section. Mr. B. was born in Bartholomew County, Ind., near the little city of Edinburg, Aug. 28, 1821. His father, John Drybread, was a native of Butler County, Ohio, and his grandfather, who was born in Germany, emigrated to the United States when a young man, locating in Butler County, Ohio, and being among the earliest settlers of that region. He opened up a farm in the wilderness, which he cultivated and improved, and where he spent the last years of his life. There also his son John, the father of our subject, grew to manhood, married, and resided

there until about 1816, then removed to Bartholomew County, Ind. being among the first settlers who went into that Territory. He purchased a tract of timber land and worked as his father had done in Ohio, in clearing a farm from the wilderness, and there made his home until his death, which occurred about 1833. His wife, the mother of our subject, formerly Miss Nancy Lewis, was born in Wales, and came with her parents to America when a young child, receiving her early education in Ohio. She accompanied her husband to Indiana, remained his faithful and affectionate companion during his lifetime, surviving him several years, and died on the old homestead. Of their eight children seven grew to become men and women, as follows: Margaret, Mrs. Ball, died in Fulton County, Ind.; William L., of our sketch, was the second child; Joseph, and Rebecca, Mrs. Cox, died in Bartholomew County, Ind.; George is a resident of Kansas; Henry lives in Bartholomew County, Ind., and Eliza A., Mrs. Durbin, in Piatt County, Ill.

William L. Drybread was the eldest son of his parents, and was but twelve years old when his father died. Being the eldest child he assisted his mother until he was old enough to manage the farm alone, then took charge of it and remained there until 1849. In the meantime he had been married, and in the fall of that year started for Illinois, accompanied by his wife. Their outfit consisted of two yoke of oxen and two wagons, in which were packed their household goods, and they camped and cooked by the wayside. After ten days' travel they landed in De Witt County and moved into a house occupied by Phineas Page, where they remained until our subject could erect a dwelling on his own land, which he had purchased in Santa Anna Township. This cost him ninety cents per acre, he having obtained it on a land warrant. In 1848 he rented an improved farm, and during the summer following broke the first sod on his own land. By an unfortunate train of circumstances he lost his land, and for a time decided to abandon farming. Removing to Farmer City he engaged in the drug business for one year, then opened a grocery store and bakery. At that time many people were emigrating to Iowa, and much of his patronage came from the traveling public

who then journeyed mostly by wagon, the Pullman palace cars not then being put on the road, and in fact the railroads were not even graded.

Mr. Drybread continued in business until 1862, and then, the war being in progress, enlisted as a Union soldier August 2 of that year, in Co. I, 107th Ill. Vol. Inf., in which he served until the close of the conflict. For more than a year he participated actively with the movements of his regiment, and then on account of ill-health was transferred to the invalid corps. To this move, however, he greatly objected, and was subsequently made driver of an ambulance. In July, 1865, he received his honorable discharge with his comrades at Springfield, Ill. In the spring of 1866 he settled on a tract of land which he had previously purchased in West Township, and thereafter gave his entire attention to the pursuit of agriculture and the breeding of fine cattle. This land, which was partially improved when he purchased it, is now under a good state of cultivation, tile drained, and supplied with a set of first-class farm buildings. The whole premises indicates the supervision of an intelligent and progressive mind, and invariably attracts the attention of the traveler to that region. In 1884 Mr. D. purchased eighty acres across the road from the main farm, and which lie in De Witt County. His live stock includes a herd of seventy head of graded cattle of the Holstein breed, and he has some of the finest animals in this part of McLean County.

Mr. Drybread was married, in August, 1847, to Miss Mary Lowery, who is a native of the same county as her husband, and the daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth Lowery, who were among the early pioneers of Bartholomew County, Ind. Of this union there are nine children, the record of whom is as follows: Nancy, Mrs. Watson, lives in Farmer City; Sarah, Mrs. Latimer, lives in Santa Anna Township, De Witt County; Rebecca, Mrs. Welsh, is residing in Rock County, Minn.; Henry lives at home; Ollie, Mrs. Mitchell, is a resident of De Witt County; Lucy is married and lives in West Township; Annis, Jessie and Clarence are at home with their parents. Mr. and Mrs. D. are members in good standing of the Christian Church, and our subject in all the relations of life has dis-

tinguished himself as a worthy citizen, neighbor and friend, one who is always willing to contribute his share toward the building up of his county and community. He has been one of the important factors in the agricultural interests of this section, and is universally respected wherever known.



**C**HARLES DE GARMO, Ph. D., Chair of Modern Languages, Illinois State Normal University, is one of the highly esteemed professors in this institution, who has many warm friends in this vicinity both on account of his intellectual attainments and his excellent personal traits of character. Prof. De Garmo was born in Waukesha County, Wis., on the 7th of January, 1849, and is the son of Rufus and Laura (Wilbur) De Garmo, natives of New York State. They came with their family to Illinois in 1851, locating in Sterling, whence they removed ten years later to St. Clair County. Rufus De Garmo was Quartermaster Sergeant of the 149th Illinois Regiment, and after the war the family made their home in Shelby County, this State. The mother of our subject died in Wisconsin, and the father, who was married a second time, now resides in Kansas.

The subject of this brief history pursued his primary studies in the district school and passed his early life on his father's farm. At the age of sixteen years the Civil War being then in progress, he enlisted in Co. I, 149th Ill. Vol. Inf., and served as a private, with his father, until the regiment was mustered out. He then joined the family in Shelby County and followed farming until 1870, when he began a course of study in the institution with which he is now connected, and from which he graduated in 1873.

In December, 1875, Mr. De Garmo was married to Miss Ida Witbeck, of Belvidere, Ill., who was born in the State of New York and completed her studies in the Illinois State Normal University. After marriage Prof. De Garmo became Assistant Training Teacher of the above-named institution, and held that position until 1883, when he resigned and with his family went to Germany, where he attended the University of Jena one year,

and the University of Halle for two years. From this last institution he received the degree of Ph. D. He returned to the United States in August, 1886, and was afterward appointed to his present position. So great was his desire to perfect himself in his intellectual attainments that he staked the whole of his worldly possessions, mortgaged his property and resigned a good position to enter upon his studies in the Old World. He has been a frequent contributor to educational journals and is the author of "De Garmo's Language Work below the High Schools," and has gratuitously given his time to conducting Teachers' Institutes during the summer vacations, in different counties.

Our subject and his amiable and accomplished lady became the parents of three children: Walter C., who was born in 1876; Mahel L., born in 1880, died in Halle, Germany, in 1884; Robert Max was born in 1885, in Halle, Germany.



**J**OHAN NICCOLLS. Few of the old pioneers of this section will be held in more grateful or pleasant remembrance than the above-named gentleman. He came here at an early day and experienced with scores of others, the hardships and privations common to the opening up of a tract of unimproved country, and was largely instrumental in contributing to the early and rapid settlement of McLean County, turning the attention of many to this section who, but for his earnest efforts, would probably have located elsewhere. He was the faithful friend and encourager of those who were limited in means, and by his own example induced them to overcome many difficulties and to pave the way for a more prosperous future.

John Nicolls is a native of Westmoreland County, Pa., and was born on the 23d of April, 1810. His parents, John and Jane (Hurst) Nicolls, were natives of the same county and State and of Scotch-Irish parentage. Of their family of six children, all lived to attain their majority and three still survive, viz., Dr. Robert Nicolls, of Bloomington; Rebecca, the wife of Elza Paull, and our subject, who is the eldest of those living. He

is now seventy-six years of age and during his long life has never smoked a cigar or taken a chew of tobacco, and never took any whisky except as medicine.

The childhood and youth of Mr. Nicolls were passed upon his father's farm. His education was somewhat limited, for as soon as his age and size would permit he was required to assist his father in his store and in various other duties. At the age of seventeen, under the instruction of his father, he purchased live-stock in Western Pennsylvania and Ohio, which he drove through to the Philadelphia market and there disposed of it at a reasonable profit. Three years later this parent died, and our subject received \$1,300 as his share of the estate, and continued his live-stock transactions as before.

In 1846 John Nicolls removed from his native State to Harrison County, Ohio, where he continued his operations in live-stock and engaged in agricultural pursuits. He made his first visit to Illinois in 1850, and purchased 15,000 acres of land in McLean County. The following year he removed to the county and located near the city of Bloomington. The first year he was in the Prairie State he purchased 2,200 head of cattle and as this was before the era of railroads he drove the cattle to Eastern Pennsylvania to market. For many years thereafter he continued to handle from 2,000 to 3,000 head annually, with continued prosperity. In the meantime he also increased his real-estate interests by entering land in Missouri, Nebraska, Iowa and Kansas, in each of which he secured a large acreage. At one time, for a period of ten years, he engaged in mercantile pursuits in which he was successful as in all his other undertakings. In 1870, had he so chosen, he could have retired with at least a half million of dollars.

At this period, however, he invested largely in Short-horn cattle at high prices and then commenced to lose. The hard times of 1873 caused a great decline in real estate, and this, with other misfortunes, contributed greatly to diminish his property.

The finest farms in this county to-day were first owned by Mr. Nicolls. McLean owes much of its prosperity to his kindly and generous assistance

which was proffered the early pioneers in their struggles to establish and maintain their homes. Through his influence many excellent families from Ohio and Pennsylvania were induced to remove to Illinois and settle. When a poor family came into the county Mr. Nicolls would open to them his hospitable doors and feed them freely from his bountiful table. He would sell to them their land at a very low price, give them a team and whatever else they needed, and allow them their own time to pay for the same. He was familiarly known as the poor man's friend, and received the blessings of those who, without his aid, would have abandoned what seemed to them a hopeless undertaking. The records of that time show more transfers of land in the name of Mr. Nicolls than of any other three men in the county; but not one will show that he ever wronged any one or committed any act in the least approaching to oppression.

The marriage of John Nicolls with Miss Alvira Smith was celebrated in 1829, in the town of Greensburg, Pa. Mr. Nicolls was then nineteen years of age. His bride was the daughter of Dr. B. Smith, of Westmoreland County, Pa., and after two short years he was bereaved of the companion of his youth, who died, leaving one son, Eben S., who is now engaged in mining in Old Mexico.

The second wife of our subject, to whom he was married on the 31st of December, 1833, was formerly Miss Maria Steele, a native of Fayette County, Pa., who was born Nov. 11, 1807. This excellent couple have now lived peacefully together for a period of fifty-three years. Of their union there were born eight children, as follows: John T. died at the age of forty-one years; one daughter died in childhood. Those living are: William S., a farmer of this county; Cassius M. is a merchant of New Berlin, Ill.; Albert is in El Paso, Tex.; Elliott is a resident of Kansas City, Mo.; Violet became the wife of J. B. Moore, and died in 1875, leaving four children; Harriet is the wife of H. G. Reeves, of Bloomington.

In early life and during the existence of the Whig party, Mr. Nicolls was one of its strongest adherents and a staunch supporter of Henry Clay. When the old party was abandoned and the Republican party built upon its foundations, he cordially



supported the principles of the latter, with which he has uniformly cast his vote since that time. He has never been an office seeker, but has wisely filled up the generous measure of his days with good deeds. In religion he has for many years been an honored and prominent member of the Presbyterian Church. As a man and a citizen his record is without spot or blemish, and he is fully entitled to hear the words: "Well done, good and faithful servant."



**S**TEPHEN SMITH, one of the prosperous and successful merchants of Bloomington, is proprietor of the dry-goods house located at No. 117 East Jefferson street. Mr. Smith is a native of Clarksville, Tenn., and was born Oct 22, 1830, being the son of Aaron and Matilda (French) Smith, natives of North Carolina and Virginia respectively. Aaron Smith left his native State when about eighteen years old, and going into Tennessee, purchased a plantation, and engaged in raising cotton and tobacco, the work being done by his slaves. Some of these he liberated before and some after coming into Illinois, in 1834-35. After coming to this State he engaged in stock and grain raising, his property being located in Greene County, where he remained until his death, in 1849. The mother had died in 1830, in Tennessee. Both parents were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Of their three sons and one daughter, the subject of our sketch is the only one living.

Stephen Smith remained under the parental roof until seventeen years of age, having received a practical education. After leaving home he went to Carrollton, Greene Co., Ill., and engaged as clerk for his brother, Clark M., two years, and then secured an interest in the business. They then sold out, and in 1850 removed to Springfield, where they engaged in the same business for the following ten years, having branch houses at Jacksonville, Decatur and Bloomington. They then dissolved partnership, and Stephen came to Bloomington, in 1860, and established the business which he now controls. He purchased the ground upon

which the Metropolitan Block now stands in 1860, and soon afterward erected the building. He gives employment to from four to seven clerks, and selling only for cash, always knows how his business stands, and the amount of his obligations and profits. This systematic manner of doing business has been the groundwork of his success and influence, and is what has placed him in the front ranks among the business interests of Bloomington.

The marriage of Stephen Smith and Miss Elizabeth L. Dorlan was celebrated on the 6th of October, 1857. Mrs. Smith is the daughter of Lewis Dorlan, of Philadelphia, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of three children—Dudley M. and Howard L., graduates of Bloomington High School, and Nettie B., a graduate of the Misses Grant's School of Chicago. The fine residence of the family is pleasantly located at No. 406 West Jefferson street, where its inmates enjoy the good things of this life and are surrounded by hosts of friends. Mr. Smith is Republican in politics, and a member in good standing of the Masonic fraternity.



**J**OHN HALLIDAY, one of the prosperous farmers and self-made men of Belleflower Township, was born in Dumfriesshire, Scotland, April 7, 1837, being the son of Adam and Isabella (Wells) Halliday, natives of the same shire as their son, where they spent their lives. The father of our subject was a farmer by occupation, and John when but eleven years of age went out to work for his great-uncle, living with him two and a half years. After that he engaged with different parties until he was eighteen years old, then started for the New World with the hope and strength of youth and the belief that he could better his condition. He embarked on the 16th of June, 1855, and after a tedious voyage of nine weeks and three days, landed in the city of New York, with only a few dollars in his pocket. He spent one day in the city, and then going to Cummingsville, Canada, engaged in a sawmill for \$18 to \$20 a month. He remained in that vicinity for about two and a half years, then concluded to return to

the States, and went first to Michigan, where he followed his former employment until 1859. In August of that year he came to this vicinity, and the following year he commenced farming, first on rented land, and in due time purchased eighty acres on section 33, in Belleflower Township, which with the additions he has made, constitutes his present home.

The farm of our subject now comprises 240 acres of good land, 200 of which is enclosed and improved, and besides the ordinary routine of farming, he has of late years given the most of his attention to the raising of grain and a good breed of stock.

The marriage of Mr. Halliday and Miss Mary McIntyre occurred on the 16th of August, 1865. Mrs. H. was the daughter of Allen and Euphemia (Monroe) McIntyre, natives of Scotland. The wife of our subject departed this life on the 9th of November, 1872. They became the parents of four children, two of whom died in infancy; those surviving are Allen and Isabel.



**C**ORODON WINSLOW, a retired farmer residing in the village of Danvers, has been a resident of the Prairie State since 1852, at which time he purchased a Mexican War land warrant of 160 acres in Danvers Township, and for many years worked early and late improving and cultivating it. He was prospered in his undertaking and is now living in ease and comfort, the just reward of his industry and perseverance.

Mr. Winslow was born in Pittsford, Rutland Co., Vt., July 1, 1818, and is the son of Job and Lucy (Spenser) Winslow, natives of Massachusetts, who died in their native State many years ago, our subject being left an orphan at the age of ten years. His father had no worldly possessions and consequently our subject was left to depend upon himself, and at once began to work for his board and what clothing people were disposed to give him. He possessed, however, a large amount of courage and resolution even at an early age, and as soon as possible began to save what he could of his, at first, scanty earnings.

At the age of twenty-one years Corodon Winslow

found himself possessed of \$700 and with this he started West, and after reaching Lieking County, Ohio, purchased 100 acres of unimproved land, upon which he began to labor industriously, cultivating the soil and putting in crops. In due time he built a small frame house but soon afterward met with a great misfortune in the loss of his little property, which had been mortgaged and which he was unable to pay at the time specified. He was then thrown upon the world again, his only possessions being \$100 and a span of horses. With these he set his face westward again and with the proceeds of the sale of his team, secured the land already spoken of and once more commenced the improvement of a farm. From 1845 until 1874, his time was filled in with unremitting toil, making improvements upon his purchase, raising his annual crops and engaged in the breeding of stock. He became very successful and the tract of wild land has now become a highly cultivated farm, valued at \$10,000.

On the 27th of October, 1844, our subject was united in marriage with Miss Sarah A. Wheaton in Danvers Township. Mrs. W. was born in Essex County, N. J., May 2, 1824, and was the daughter of Silas and Mary (Egbert) Wheaton, natives of the same State, whence they removed to Ohio in 1841. Her father was a carpenter by trade and the proprietor of a comfortable homestead in Ohio, where the old folk spent the remainder of their lives, his death occurring in 1866, and that of the mother five years later, in 1871. They were the parents of ten children, as follows: Sarah A., George W. and Mary A. (deceased), Silas P., Emens, Edgar, Elizabeth (Mrs. John Bailey), Elihu, Loyal, and Leviticus who died at the age of eleven years.

Mr. and Mrs. Winslow became the parents of six children, of whom only two are living: Corintha A. was born June 17, 1846, became the wife of Josiah Day and now lives in Calhoun County, Iowa; William F. born in 1848, married Miss Emeline Gregg and lives in Adams County, W. T.; Francis and James M. died in infancy, also a babe unnamed; Mary E. became the wife of Frederick Gansaw, and died three years later.

Mr. Winslow is a striking illustration of what may be accomplished through perseverance, indus-

try and courage amid the most adverse conditions. His earliest recollections are of the influence which strong drink possessed over his father, who finally came to his death by its use, under the most distressing circumstances. It is scarcely to be wondered at then that Mr. Winslow is one of the strongest of temperance advocates and bitterly opposed to the use of whisky in any form. The greatest credit is due him, in that he so bravely fought his way amid misfortunes and discouragements, and has become a man among men in the strongest sense which the term implies. He is now one of the most wealthy and respected citizens of McLean County, and an esteemed member of society. With his family he is prominently connected with the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and in politics is a reliable Republican.

The brothers and sisters of Mr. Winslow were: Elkanah, Horace, William Loyal (now deceased), Franklin, Charles, Mary and Harriet, the latter two dying when quite young. Mr. Winslow was the third in order of birth.



**H**ENRY A. NICHOLS, jobber in cigars and tobacco, is located at No. 210 West Washington street, Bloomington, and attending strictly and successfully to the details of a thriving and increasing trade. Mr. Nichols was born in Madison County, N. Y., in 1836, being the son of Solomon and Caroline (Chapman) Nichols, natives of Massachusetts and New York respectively. Solomon Nichols removed with his parents, Joseph and Sarah (Hemingway) Nichols, from his native State when a child four years of age. They settled in Oneida County, N. Y., and afterward removed to Monroe County, that State, where they spent the remainder of their days.

Solomon Nichols was brought up on a farm and during life was mostly occupied with agricultural pursuits. Of his family of fourteen children, Henry A. was the ninth, and eleven of the fourteen are still living. Both parents died in Monroe County, N. Y., the father in 1864, and the mother in 1879. They were members of the Presbyterian Church, wherein Solomon Nichols held the offices of Deacon

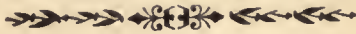
and Elder. He was a Whig in early life, but on the abandonment of the old party, cordially united with the Republicans. His influence was recognized wherever he was known, as he was the friend of education, temperance, morality and everything tending to the advancement and prosperity of his county or community. He was connected with the School Board, and filled various other local offices. To his children he gave the advantages of a good education, and was in all respects the model citizen, husband, father and friend.

The subject of our sketch was reared upon a farm, and remained under the parental roof until twenty-one years of age, in the meantime having graduated from the State Normal School at Albany. He soon afterward engaged in teaching in Monroe County, and for three years presided over a public school in the city of Rochester, as Principal. In 1861 he went to Ann Arbor, Mich., and took a two years' course in the State University, and was afterward Principal of one of the schools of Detroit, Mich., for one year. He also spent one year at New Baltimore, Mich., similarly occupied. Upon removing from here he was employed as a book-keeper for a lumber firm in East Saginaw, whence he returned to Ann Arbor and conducted the Union School there for one year. He then engaged as a traveling salesman, selling goods from Chicago through Michigan, Indiana and Illinois, and was thus engaged for four years.

Mr. Nichols came to Bloomington in 1871, and since that time has been dealing in cigars and tobacco; his trade is steadily increasing and he has three men on the road. He deals in only the choicest material, and has a good understanding of his business in all its details.

Mr. Nichols was married in 1863, to Miss Flora Robinson, who was born in Michigan, and is the daughter of Loami and Isabel (Edmunds) Robinson, who were natives respectively of Vermont and New York. Her father was a farmer by occupation, and departed this life in 1872; the mother is still living in Michigan. Mrs. Nichols is the ninth of a family of thirteen children, and remained with her parents until her marriage, except when away at school and three years as teacher in the Bishop Union School at Detroit. By her union with our

subject she has become the mother of three children—Harry W., Lyell S. and Isabel R. They have a pleasant and attractive home located at No. 216 East Washington street. Mrs. Nichols is a member of the Baptist Church, of which our subject is a regular attendant. He is Republican in politics, and socially belongs to the Knights of Pythias.



**J**AMES FULTON, of Downs Township, is the owner of 100 acres of choice land, part of which is located in Randolph Township. His residence is situated on section 31. He has been a resident of the Prairie State since 1852, and since he has made his home in this locality has proved one of its most valued citizens. Our subject is a native of the Buckeye State, having been born in Harrison County, Ohio, Sept. 10, 1826. His father, William Fulton, of Westmoreland County, Pa., was of Scotch-Irish ancestry, and a descendant and kinsman of Robert Fulton, who first discovered the application of steam as a means of locomotion. The father of our subject was reared to manhood in his native county, and was there married to Miss Leah Thompson, a native of the same State, and of ancestry similar to that of her husband. Soon after marriage they located in Harrison County, Ohio, and became the parents of two children, and there the mother died about 1822. These children are both now deceased, one having lived to mature years, and being married.

The second wife of William Fulton was Miss Mary Moore, who was born in Harrison County, Ohio, about 1803. They afterward came to Illinois, and Mrs. Mary Fulton departed this life in November, 1883, at the home of her grandson, Albert Fulton, in Randolph Township. The father died in Bloomington in 1872. Of this marriage there were born four children: William married Miss Eliza Boyd, who is now deceased, and he is a practicing physician of Colorado; our subject was the second son and child. The others are deceased.

James Fulton was about twenty-six years of age when he came, a single man, with his father to Illinois, and he has since made this county his home. He was first married in Harrison County, Ohio,

Jan. 6, 1853, to Miss Mary Boyd, who died at her home in Bloomington, in August, 1856. She was reared in her native county, being the daughter of an Ohio farmer and merchant. By her marriage with our subject she has become the mother of two children, both living. Eliza A. is the wife of Bone Bloek, of Harrison County, Ohio; Albert married Miss Mattie Morrow, and they reside with Mr. Morrow in Randolph Township.

The second wife of Mr. Fulton, to whom he was united in Randolph Township on the 9th of September, 1858, was Miss Mary E. Bishop, who was born on her father's homestead in this county, June 24, 1836. Mrs. Fulton is the sister of George Bishop, of whom a sketch may be found in another part of this work. She was reared under the parental roof, and remained at home until her marriage. Of her union with our subject there were born five children, two now deceased. Mary B. became the wife of A. J. Welch, a farmer of Downs Township; Mattie E. is a teacher, having received her education in the State University at Normal, and holds a position in the public schools of Randolph Township; James F. is at home with his parents. The deceased are Sarah E. and John C.

Mr. and Mrs. Fulton are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which our subject was formerly Steward for fifteen years, and is now Trustee. He has served as School Director, Road Commissioner and Assessor, and in politics casts his vote in support of the principles of the Republican party.

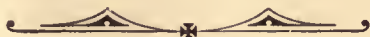


**S**AMUEL C. WARE, Postmaster of Towanda, has been a resident of McLean County since 1863, to which he came from Richmond, Ky., with his family. He was born in Massachusetts, Dec. 9, 1810, being the son of Jason and Jemima (Cowell) Ware, natives of Wrentham, Mass. The parental family consisted of five children, two sons and three daughters—Martha, Harriet, Leander, Angenette and Samuel C.

Our subject was the youngest of the family, and was about fourteen years old when he left his native town and went to Worcester, where he learned

the trade of cabinet-maker. When twenty-one years of age he went to Providence, R. I., and remained there until he was thirty-five. Thence he proceeded to Cincinnati, Ohio, and after two years to Richmond, Ky., where he taught singing and day school for about ten years, and followed his trade as opportunity afforded until 1863. In June of that year he came to this county, settling soon afterward in Towanda, and has been a resident of this village since that time. He at first engaged in carpentering and farming, which he followed until 1873, and was then appointed Postmaster, which position he has since held.

Mr. Ware was married in Richmond, Ky., April 29, 1839, to Miss Sarah J. Millen, daughter of Frederick Millen, whose family included six children: Samuel F. is Supreme Judge of the United States; Sarah J., Amelia, William, Mary and Angeline. Mrs. Ware was born in Richmond, Ky., Feb. 2, 1818. Of her marriage with our subject there have been born eight children—William F., Martha, Leander M., Samuel M., Amanda, Stephen W., Angenette and Edward. They have a pleasant home in Towanda, and number among their friends and acquaintances the most cultured people of the city. Mr. Ware has served as Township Clerk and Police Magistrate, and in politics is a staunch Republican. The parents and all their children are members of the Presbyterian Church, of which Mr. Ware has been an Elder for many years.



**H**ENRY F. HAWLEY, Assistant Superintendent of the Chicago Division of the C. & A. R. R., is an honored resident of Bloomington, having his home at the corner of Lueust and East streets. He is a native of Chittenden County, Vt., and was born in October, 1835, being the son of Don C. and Mary (French) Hawley, also natives of the Green Mountain State. Don Hawley was engaged in farming until 1853, when he emigrated West, and locating in Chicago became extensively engaged as a contractor, and was Street Commissioner on the South Side for a

number of years. He departed this life in 1863. The mother died in Michigan in May, 1886.

The Hawley family descended from Welsh ancestry, and the father of our subject inherited in a marked degree the substantial qualities of his ancestors. He was Republican in politics, and belonged to the I. O. O. F. He exerted a good influence upon all who knew him, and was universally respected for his integrity and kindness of heart. The family of Don Hawley included four children, one now deceased. Henry F. was the eldest; Sarah, Mrs. Lewis, is a resident of Kansas City; Lucius L. is connected with the St. Paul, Minneapolis and Montana Railroad.

The subject of this history remained under the parental roof until seventeen years of age, and completed a practical education in the village academy. While with his parents he assisted in the labors of the farm, and after coming to Chicago was employed for a short time as clerk in a retail store, and then in a wholesale house until 1857. He then became brakeman on the C., B. & Q. R. R., where he continued two years and was promoted to conductor. The war then coming on, he enlisted in the 89th Illinois Infantry for three years, and marched with his regiment to the scene of conflict. He was taken prisoner at Cassville, Ga., and put in the Miller stockade, which greatly resembled Andersonville prison in its horrors and suffering. After remaining a captive forty-two days he was liberated by a "Yankee" trick, and this being near the close of the war he received his discharge and returned North. Coming to Galesburg he again engaged on the C., B. & Q. R. R. as conductor, and from that went into the Superintendent's office as Trainmaster, continuing until 1873. Thence he was transferred to Aurora, and afterward to Chicago.

In December, 1874, Mr. Hawley went into the employ of the M. C. R. R. as Trainmaster at Detroit, whence he was transferred to Michigan City, to take charge of the Western Division of the same road, where he remained three and one-half years. From there he went to Jackson, Mich., and had charge of the ear service two years. He accepted his present position with the C. & A. R. R. in September, 1880, and has charge of from 200 to 250

men. He possesses a large fund of information in regard to railroad matters and is well fitted for his responsible duties.

Mr. Hawley was married in October, 1865, to Miss Marietta Chapman of Connecticut, who was born in 1844, and is the daughter of Joshua P. and Jane (Hyde) Chapman. Our subject and his wife have one child, a daughter, Meta C.



**D**E WITT R. GOOCH, a wealthy and prosperous farmer of Belleflower Township, has been a resident of the Prairie State since the spring of 1858. He is the possessor of a fine homestead, pleasantly located on section 9, and is surrounded by all the comforts of life. He may be properly numbered among those intelligent and enterprising men who have assisted in bringing McLean County to its present proud position, and made it the home of the best class of people, noted for their intelligence, and as citizens worthy and valuable.

The subject of this history was born in New York City Sept. 17, 1841. His father, Thomas Gooch, was born in Boston, Mass., and his grandfather, also a native of the Bay State, enlisted as a soldier in the War of 1812, and died in the service. Thomas Gooch was reared to manhood in his native city, and received a good education in its public schools. When of suitable age he commenced learning the cabinet-maker's trade, but from 1825 to 1835 held the position of book-keeper for the mercantile firm of Viles, Atkinson & Co. In the year last named he removed to New York City to take a similar position with Hayes, Dorr & Co., importers of dry-goods. He was in their employ and that of their successors, Allen, Hazen & Co., until after the breaking out of the war, and remained a resident of New York City and suburbs until his death, which occurred in 1869.

The mother of our subject, who before her marriage was Miss Lydia C. Roulstone, was also born in Boston, Mass., and departed this life in the city of Brooklyn, N. Y., in 1851. Three or four children belonging to the parental household grew to ma-

ture years; only one married. Thomas R. died in 1876, at Dorehester, Mass.; De Witt R. was the second child; Caroline F. lives in Delavan, Tazewell Co., Ill. Thomas Gooch contracted a second marriage, and of that union there is one son living, Camille D., a resident of Brooklyn, N. Y.

Mr. Gooch of this notice was a child two years of age when his parents removed from New York City to Brooklyn. Eight years later they moved to West Farms which is now included in New York City, and remained there until 1858. There young De Witt attended school quite steadily, and being naturally intelligent and fond of his books gained a good insight into his studies at an early age. Before he had completed his education he suffered greatly from ill-health and was obliged to abandon his studies. Coming West, accompanied by a friend, he located in Tazewell County, where he engaged in outdoor work on a farm until the spring of 1860. He then rented and engaged in farming for himself until the summer of 1862. The Civil War being then in progress he enlisted in Co. B, 73d Ill. Vol. Inf., with which he served until March following, when his health began to fail and he was sent to the hospital. In August, 1863, he was transferred to the Veteran Reserve Corps, from which he received his honorable discharge the following November. Mr. G. was in several engagements, among which we mention Perryville and Stone River.

After receiving his discharge he then returned to New York City, visited three months among his old friends and acquaintances, and thence came back West. He was soon afterward married, in Tazewell County, and settled down on a farm owned by his wife two miles east of Delavan, where he lived until 1885. He then sold out and came into this county and purchased the place in Belleflower Township which he now owns and occupies. Here he has a tasteful and comfortable farm residence, with a good barn and all necessary out-buildings, and is industriously engaged in raising grain and stock.

The marriage of our subject to Miss Rosetta Rathmell took place in Delavan, Feb. 14, 1864. Mrs. G. is the daughter of James Rathmell, who was born in Pennsylvania. Her grandfather, John



ing his part as a valued citizen and useful member of society. He is located on a good farm in Belleflower Township, which is supplied with the necessary farm buildings, the grounds around the residence being ornamented with fruit and shade trees, and presenting in all respects a comfortable homestead.

Our subject's father, John Funk, was a native of Ohio, and his father was also named John. The great-great-grandfather of Isaac E., Adam Funk, a native of Germany, emigrated to America with his father when a lad six years old, settling in Pennsylvania, where he was reared, and in due time established a home and family ties of his own. His son John came to McLean County at an early period in the history of this section, and here spent the last years of his life. Here also the father of our subject grew to manhood, in Funk's Grove Township, and was married here to Miss Bettie Hougham. She was a native of Ohio, and daughter of Isaac and Annie (Gordan) Hougham. John Funk and wife remained residents of this county until the father's death in Allin Township in 1847.

The parents of our subject, John and Bettie (Hougham) Funk, were widely and favorably known throughout this section, and the mother was especially noted for her kindness of heart and ready sympathy with the afflicted and distressed. Their names are held in kindly remembrance by a large circle of friends whom they made during their long residence here. Of their five children, two only are now living—Elizabeth Ann, who became the wife of James C. Finley, of Kansas, and our subject. Mrs. Funk was a second time married, to John Finley, in 1853, and lives in Kansas.

The subject of this history was but four years old when his father died. He lived with his mother until he was fifteen and then started out to earn his own living by working on a farm. He at first received \$10 per month, which was afterward raised to \$15. After the breaking out of the war he enlisted as a Union soldier, Oct. 27, 1862, in Co. A, 117th Ill. Vol. Inf., and served until the close of the war. He engaged with his comrades in the battles of Ft. De Russy, Pleasant Hill, Nashville and Ft. Blakesley, and was in other minor engagements. He was transferred to the 33d Illinois In-

fantry, and was mustered out in October, 1865. After returning from the army Mr. Funk continued his labors by the month for a year, and then farmed on rented land until 1870, when he purchased his present homestead, which was then unimproved prairie.

Our subject was married, Dec. 24, 1867, to Miss Mary E. Jenkins, a native of Virginia, and born March 23, 1848. Her father, Henry Jenkins, a native of the Old Dominion, was born in Madison County, whence he emigrated to this county in 1850. The parents of Mrs. F. died when she was quite young. Her mother was formerly Miss Julia A. Price. Mr. and Mrs. F. of this notice have seven children—Bettie L., Guy J., Lafayette, Minnie M., Luey B., Isaac Logan and Charlie Delight. Julia A. died in the fourth year of her age. Mr. F. is Republican in politics.



**G**EORGE W. BLAND, who is industriously engaged in the prosecution of a calling upon which the wealth of the nation depends, and is meeting with success in his labors, came into the Prairie State and located in Champaign County in 1869. He lived there until 1885, and then took possession of his present homestead on section 35, Cheney's Grove Township. His farm comprises one of the finest bodies of land in this section, and includes twenty acres under a fine state of cultivation. He has a tasteful and convenient residence, a good barn and all the out-buildings and machinery required by a first-class modern agriculturist.

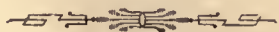
Mr. Bland was born in Pendleton County, W. Va., April 25, 1836. His parents were Eli and Annie (Hager) Bland, natives of West Virginia, where the father died in 1862. The mother still survives, making her home in West Virginia, and is now seventy-seven years old, a stout and healthy old lady, who retains her mental faculties as good as ever. Her ten children included eight sons and two daughters—Miles H., William, Amos, Lucinda, George W., John W., Mary, Eli P., James S. and Benjamin F.

The subject of this history remained in his na-



tive State until he reached his majority, then decided to seek his fortunes elsewhere. Going into Indiana he worked out by the month until twenty-four years old, and was then married to Miss Virginia Whitecotton. She was born in Virginia, July 6, 1843, and when six years of age removed with her parents to Montgomery County, Ind., where she was married to our subject, Oct. 30, 1861. Her parents were James and Catherine (Robinson) Whitecotton, natives of the Old Dominion. Her father, born in 1792, served in the War of 1812, and after the termination of that conflict removed to Indiana, where he died, Dec. 19, 1855. The mother was born Oct. 30, 1808, accompanied her husband to Indiana and survived him about twenty-seven years, dying in Montgomery County, Ind., in 1882. Their sixteen children were as follows: Cornelius, Noah, Salem, Mordecai, Mary, James, William, Wayne, Zephaniah, Esau, Francis M., George, Jacob, Virginia, Lueinda and Isaac.

Mr. and Mrs. Bland have seven children—James, John W., William S., Mary C., Franklin, Manson and Annie J. Mr. Bland is Democratic in politics. During the late war he enlisted as a Union soldier in the 120th Indiana Infantry, serving eighteen months in Company C, in the meantime being promoted Orderly Sergeant. He participated in the battle of Resaca, Ga., and in the engagements at Peachtree Creek and Joesboro. After going into Tennessee he was in the battles of Franklin and Nashville, escaping, however, without injury. After receiving his honorable discharge he resumed the peaceful pursuit of agriculture, in which he has since been engaged with fair success. A lithographic view of Mr. Bland's residence is shown elsewhere in this ALBUM.



**J**OHN HOWARD BURNHAM, of Bloomington, one of its well known and most highly respected citizens, is a native of Massachusetts, born at Essex, on the north side of Cape Ann, Oct. 31, 1834. His parents were of the old Puritan stock, his father, John Burnham, being a descendant of John Burnham who came to this country in 1634, and located on

a farm which has descended from father to son for six generations. The mother of our subject was Sarah Choate Perkins, and on her mother's side a Choate, a second cousin to Rufus Choate, the famous lawyer.

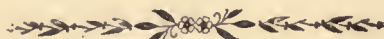
The paternal grandmother of our subject was a Goodhue. Mr. Burnham is quite proud of his ancestry. He possesses the printed genealogy of the Burnham and Perkins families, and can trace both sides back to their homes in England. He is quite antiquarian in his tastes, and a corresponding member of the Historical Society of Chicago. He wrote a history of Bloomington and Normal in 1879, and besides this has prepared quite a number of historical sketches of other localities in this region.

Mr. Burnham emigrated to Illinois in the fall of 1855, and for two years afterward lived at Barrington, Cook County, where he taught school two winters. In the spring of 1858 he came to Bloomington and entered upon a course of study in the Normal School, from which he graduated July 4, 1861. Then, the Rebellion being in progress, he entered the army in August, as First Lieutenant of the Normal students, Co. A, in the 33d Regiment Ill. Vol. Inf. He was in the battle of Fredericktown, Mo., Oct. 25, 1861, in the fight at Cotton Plant, or Cache River, Ark., July 7, 1862, and in several skirmishes. He was promoted Captain, Sept. 5, 1862. During that summer he was taken ill with malarial fever, caused by exposure in the swamps along the bottom lands of the Mississippi, and was compelled to resign on account of disability, in April, 1863.

In the year following his retirement from the army, having lost none of his interest in the cause of education, he was appointed Superintendent of the Bloomington schools, and in July, 1864, became editor of the *Pantagraph*, occupying this position nearly three years. He has also done considerable literary work of a miscellaneous character for the *Pantagraph* and other newspapers.

Capt. Burnham was united in marriage with Miss Almira S. Ives, on the 23d of January, 1866. Mrs. B. is the daughter of A. B. Ives, of Bloomington. She is an accomplished and highly respected lady, who has cultivated a natural talent for art, to such

an extent, in fact, that the products of her brush have quite an enviable reputation in local art circles. Their beautiful home in this city is the resort of its most cultured and intelligent people, whose friendship and society they enjoy in a marked degree. Capt. Burnham, in 1867, became general contracting agent for an iron highway bridge company, which position he now fills.



**M**RS. LYDIA A. SAUNDERS, a well-known and highly respected lady who has been a resident of West Township since 1866, occupies a comfortable homestead on section 30. She was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, on the 1st of January, 1825, and is the daughter of Henry R. Coleman, who was a native of Pennsylvania, born Oct. 29, 1803. Her paternal grandfather was a native of Pennsylvania, and one of the pioneer settlers of Montgomery County, Ohio, where he cleared a farm from the wilderness, four miles from what became the site of the city of Dayton, and where he spent the last years of his life. Upon this farm Henry R. Coleman lived with his parents until he was twenty years of age, and then engaged in teaching school. In 1823 he went to Cincinnati, then an embryo city, where he engaged in merchandising a short time, and whence he removed to Millville, Butler County. He pursued the same business there until 1849, when he joined the great caravan that was pushing toward the California gold fields. He chose his route via the Isthmus, and remained on the Pacific Slope until 1852. In that year he returned as far East as Illinois, and coming into this county, purchased a tract of wild land on section 30 of what is now West Township, being one of the first settlers of that township. Here he improved a good farm and remained a resident until his death, which occurred in 1865. His wife before her marriage was Miss Rachel Watkins. She was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, accompanied her husband to Illinois, and died on the old homestead in West Township, in 1877. Of their nine children, eight grew to man and womanhood.

The subject of this history made her home with

her parents until her marriage with William A. Saunders, which occurred in 1844. Mr. Saunders was born in Maysville, Ky., Feb. 7, 1816, being the son of Clark Saunders, a native of Kentucky, who was a painter by trade and spent his entire life in his native city. William A. Saunders was raised at Maysville and there learned his trade of house and sign painting. He went to Ohio when a young man and carried on business in Cincinnati for a period of twenty-five years. In September, 1866, he came to Illinois, and having bought out the interest of the heirs in the Coleman homestead, settled on the farm which remained his home until his death, March 12, 1881. He was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, having assisted in the organization of the society at Mt. Olive and in the erection of the building. Mrs. Saunders is connected with the same church. Her father was a Presbyterian, and her mother a Methodist in belief.

Mr. and Mrs. Saunders became the parents of four children, two of whom are still living: Sarah Florence became the wife of John R. Palmer, and lives in Normal, Ill.; Lida A. married Alvin Whitaker, and lives on the homestead. This is a fine tract of land containing 160 acres, and supplied with all the necessary and convenient farm buildings. Since the death of her husband, Mrs. Saunders has filled his place in a worthy and capable manner, and is greatly respected in her community for her excellent personal traits of character.



**J**OHAN S. McCLURE, Deputy County Clerk, residing at Bloomington, is one of the most highly respected citizens of the county. Our subject was born in Logan County, Ohio, on the 11th of January, 1844, his parents being John and Sarah (Slaughter) McClure, natives of Virginia, the former born in 1808, and the latter in 1815. John McClure, Sr., was a farmer by occupation and Republican in politics. He removed with his family from Virginia to Ohio in 1832, and located in Logan County, remaining there until 1858. The father then came to McLean County, where he still lives. The mother died in Ohio in

1846. The record of their seven children is as follows: The eldest born died in infancy; Charles; Sarah, Lucy and Mildred are deceased; John S., our subject, and Susan.

John S. McClure remained at home until he had arrived at years of manhood, receiving a common-school education and assisting in the labors of the farm. He was united in marriage with Miss Mary E. Workman, Jan. 14, 1869. She was born in the same county and State as her husband, on the 10th of June, 1846, and was the daughter of Daniel M. and Helen (Pratt) Workman, who were also natives of the Buckeye State, and are both still living there. Their five children were named—Mary, Sarah, Lucy Clara, Ella and John.

During the progress of the late Civil War Mr. McClure enlisted as a soldier in the 4th Illinois Cavalry, at Bloomington, on the 27th day of September, 1861. He served in the same regiment until October of the following year when he was discharged for disability. In July, 1863, he re-enlisted in the 2d Ohio Artillery, and was mustered out in August, 1865, having participated in several general engagements, among them being Ft. Henry, Donelson and Shiloh. At the close of the war he returned home and soon afterward came to Tazewell County in this State, whence after residing there three years he came to McLean County, which with the exception of four years spent in Ohio, has been his residence since that time. He belongs to the G. A. R., Post No. 146, at Bloomington. In politics he is a straight Republican, and Mrs. McC. is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Of the children born to our subject and his wife the eldest, Willie, died when one year old; the five living are Howard, Daniel, Arthur, Alice and Walter. The family homestead in Dry Grove Township embraces eighty acres of fine land, upon which is a good farm dwelling and all necessary barns and out-buildings, with implements and machinery for the carrying on of agriculture after the most approved methods.

Mr. McClure represented the people of Dry Grove Township in the Board of Supervisors for three terms; has been Township Clerk two years, and is now Deputy County Clerk. He has been

a member of the Central Republican Committee. He exercises a marked influence upon the politics of this section and is a man whose judgment is universally respected.



**J**M. DOOLEY, President of the Third National Bank of Bloomington, has been a resident of the Prairie State since 1853, and thereafter extensively engaged in farming. He is a native of Kentucky and was born in Winchester, Clark Co., Mo., Nov. 11, 1830. His parents were William and Minerva (Morris) Dooley, both born in Kentucky, and the father an extensive farmer and stock-grower. He came to McLean County in 1851, and purchased land of the Government in Old Town Township. He became possessor of a large area, some of which he sold and upon some he farmed, and remained a resident of this county until his death, in 1869. The mother had died in 1844, before the removal of the family from Kentucky. Of their thirteen children eleven are still living; all received a practical education, and those living are capable and prosperous business men.

The subject of this sketch was reared on a farm, and after leaving the primary schools attended Bartlett College, Cincinnati, Ohio, from which he graduated in 1849. He then returned to the farm in Kentucky, and subsequently came with his father to Illinois. Two years later he purchased land in Old Town Township, where he operated 500 acres and raised cattle, horses and hogs. He continued stock-raising and general farming until 1883, when he sold his farm property and purchased a residence on East Grove street, Bloomington, where he is now living and enjoying the fruits of his early labors. He has been prominent in the affairs of this section since coming here, and was Supervisor of Old Town Township three years.

Mr. Dooley was married, in January, 1853, to Miss Susan Nelson, a native of Montgomery, Ky., and the daughter of William and Annie (Smith) Nelson, natives of that State. Of this union there were born eleven children, as follows: Florence, Mrs. Singleton, resides in Bainbridge, Putnam

Co., Ind., and has three children—Edith, Sylvia and Stella; William L. married Miss Stella Lawrence, and is a resident of Humboldt, Kan.; Romulus W. is engaged in teaching at Bloomington; Annie, Mrs. Charles Brown, is a resident of this county, and has one child, a daughter, Alice; Henry S. married Miss Edith Reyburn; Samuel C., Charles W., Emma C., Raymond D., Edna and Berenice are all residents of Bloomington. Mr. Dooley belongs to the Democratic party, and socially as well as in a business capacity is considered a useful member of society.



**A**E. SWAP, who is engaged in merchandising at Weston, came with his parents to Illinois in about 1847, settling first in La Salle County. He has been a resident of this county since 1844, and is now an important factor among the business interests of Yates Township. He was born in Erie County, Pa., Jan. 21, 1839, and is the son of Andrew and Sybil (Hitchcock) Swap. The former was a native of New York and the latter of Connecticut. The parental family included eleven children, ten of whom grew to mature years, and eight are still living. Upon leaving New York, the parents of our subject removed first to Wisconsin, whence, eighteen months later, they came to Illinois and the father followed farming in La Salle County for a number of years. From there he removed to Kansas, and after a residence there of a few years returned to his old home in Erie County, Pa., where the mother died in August, 1884, at the advanced age of seventy-nine years. The father, who was born in 1802, is still living.

The subject of this history received a fair education in the common schools, and was reared to manhood on his father's farm. At the outbreak of the late Civil War he enlisted as a Union soldier in Co. C, 7th Ill. Vol. Cav., entering the service Aug. 13, 1862, and serving until July 12, 1865. He participated in all the engagements of his regiment and escaped serious wounds and illness, receiving his honorable discharge at the close. He then returned to La Salle County, Ill., and was there en-

gaged in farming until February, 1879. He then sold out and removed to Eppard's Point, Livingston County, where he purchased 160 acres of land, of which he still retains the ownership. In 1884 he removed to Meriden, La Salle County, and engaged in the mercantile business for nine months. He then sold out, and coming to Weston purchased the business of John Poole, which he has since continued to carry on with profit and success. He is a staunch Republican politically, served as Town Clerk seven years in La Salle County, and for a long term was a member of the Board of Education. Socially he belongs to the G. A. R., connected with the post at Fairbury, Ill.

Mr. Swap was married on the 13th of December, 1866, to Miss Sarah E., daughter of Joseph and Elsie Ann (Phillips) Watson. Mrs. S. was born in Windham County, Conn., Feb. 8, 1843, and when a young girl of eleven years came to Illinois with her father. Her mother died in Mt. Hope, Conn., in 1848. They first located in La Salle County, and her father was a second time married, March 15, 1849. He now resides near Mendota, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. S. became the parents of four children, one of whom, Claude L., died at the age of nine years; Elsie died in infancy. Albert J. and Ethel L. are at home with their parents. A lithographic view of Mr. Swap's store building is given on another page of this volume.



**G**EORGE H. WELCH, an enterprising farmer and stock-grower of Downs Township, owns and occupies a fine homestead of 240 acres on section 16, the most of which is under a good state of cultivation. The whole estate is enclosed with good fencing and the land drained with 800 rods of tile. The stock operations of Mr. Welch have been quite extensive and successful and he bears the reputation of being one of the most thorough and intelligent agriculturists of this section.

Mr. Welch is the youngest son of a family of four sons and four daughters born to his parents. Of these, five are yet living, married and comfortably settled in homes of their own. Our subject is

a native of Downs Township, born June 13, 1858, and pursued his early studies in the district schools. These were completed at Wesleyan University and the Evergreen City Business College. At the conclusion of his studies he returned to the farm, and since that time has devoted his whole attention to its peaceful occupation. He remained at home until some time after the death of his father, Henry Welch, which occurred April 17, 1881. His mother, formerly Miss Mary Caldwell, is still living, and makes her home with her eldest son, James A., in Randolph Township.

The subject of this history was married in Le Roy, at the home of the bride's parents, on the 6th of February, 1884, to Miss Sarah E. Phillipps, a brief history of whose parents will be found in the sketch of D. F. Phillipps, elsewhere in this work. Mrs. Welch was born in Dale Township, this county, Nov. 23, 1863. Her parents afterward removed to Downs Township and she remained with them until her marriage, receiving a good education in the common schools. Of her union with our subject there has been born one child, a son, Henry.

After the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Welch they settled on their present farm, Feb. 14, 1884, where Mr. W. had already prepared a home for his bride, having erected a fine residence, finished with all the conveniences of modern life. The barn and other out-buildings correspond with the dwelling and the entire premises is well cared for and kept in good order. Our subject and his wife are regular attendants of the Methodist Episcopal Church, with which Mrs. W. has been connected for several years. Mr. Welch is a firm supporter of the principles of the Republican party, with which he uniformly casts his vote.



**S**AAC HARNESS, one of the pioneer settlers of MeLean County and prominently engaged as a farmer and stock-dealer, is a native of Bourbon County, Ky., and was born near what is now known as Cane Ridge, on the 17th of March, 1811. His father, Jacob Harness, of Virginia, was born and reared on the Potomac, being the son of Peter Harness. Jacob Harness removed with his

father to Kentucky and there married Miss Christina, the daughter of Jacob Smith, whose family were of German ancestry and settled in Virginia at an early period in the history of that State, whence they removed to Kentucky. Jacob Harness served as a soldier in the War of 1812, and remained in Kentucky until his son Isaac, our subject, was seventeen years of age. Then, with his family, he removed to Fayette County, Ohio, locating near Washington Court House. His father, Peter Harness, had preceded him to what was afterward the Buckeye State and purchased a tract of land 1,200 acres in extent, and gave to each of his seven sons 100 acres of timber land. These sons having been reared on a Southern plantation where the work was done by slaves, were at first quite unequal to the task of opening up a farm in the wilderness, but they came of a sturdy race and in time proved themselves equal to the emergency. Jacob, the father of our subject, and one of these seven sons, cleared the timber from his land and proceeded with its cultivation, establishing a comfortable homestead where he reared his family. Subsequently he went to Indiana and located on Wolcott Prairie, where he remained for many years. The parents of our subject both died near Lexington, where their remains were laid to rest.

Isaac Harness came to MeLean County in 1832, and was joined about four years later by his father and mother and they settled on the Vermilion River, near Pontiac. The country was new and very sickly, and soon they all removed to Lexington and settled on a farm one mile south of the present village. This, which now constitutes the homestead of our subject, comprises 2,000 acres all in one body, and he has 1,000 acres in another part of the county. He owns beside, in the States of Missouri and Kansas, 1,140 acres. His farms are well stocked. Much of this is leased and his rents amount to over \$50,000 per annum.

When Isaac Harness came to MeLean County his possessions consisted of one horse, and his career is a most remarkable illustration of what may be accomplished by a resolute and determined will. Hard work was never a bugbear to him and he only asked for his health and strength. This was granted him and he proceeded, with the courage of

youth and high hopes for the future, to cultivate the little tract of 160 acres which comprised his first purchase. Even a part of this he was obliged to give up in order to keep other parties from bidding against him when the land came into market. After this first setback he industriously set himself about the improvement of his land and the establishment of a home. His first transactions in live-stock consisted in the purchase of three poor, scrawny little calves, which he fed until they became of good value. He enlarged his facilities as fast as possible and was soon fattening a drove of 300 hogs which he sold at \$1.50 per hundred, receiving one-half cash in nine months, and the other half in store pay to be drawn at such times as he might need goods. He then commenced to buy steers as his money accumulated and finally secured forty head which he fattened on grass and corn and which, when three years old, he sold at \$4 per head. This, in those days, was a good profit, and encouraged him to continue his operations as a stockman. He soon afterward began to accumulate money rapidly and then formed a partnership with a Jew by the name of Joe Greenebaum (now in Chicago), and embarked in the clothing trade, establishing trade both at Lexington and Pontiac, the goods being purchased in Cincinnati, Ohio. Mr. Harness furnished funds to the extent of \$10,000, which he put in a carpet-sack and started for Cincinnati, having previously given his note for \$37,765. He paid the \$10,000 and ten per cent interest on the notes until they were paid up.

In 1867 Mr. Harness organized the Lexington Bank, and became its President. It has a large paid-up capital and has become one of the permanent institutions of the town.

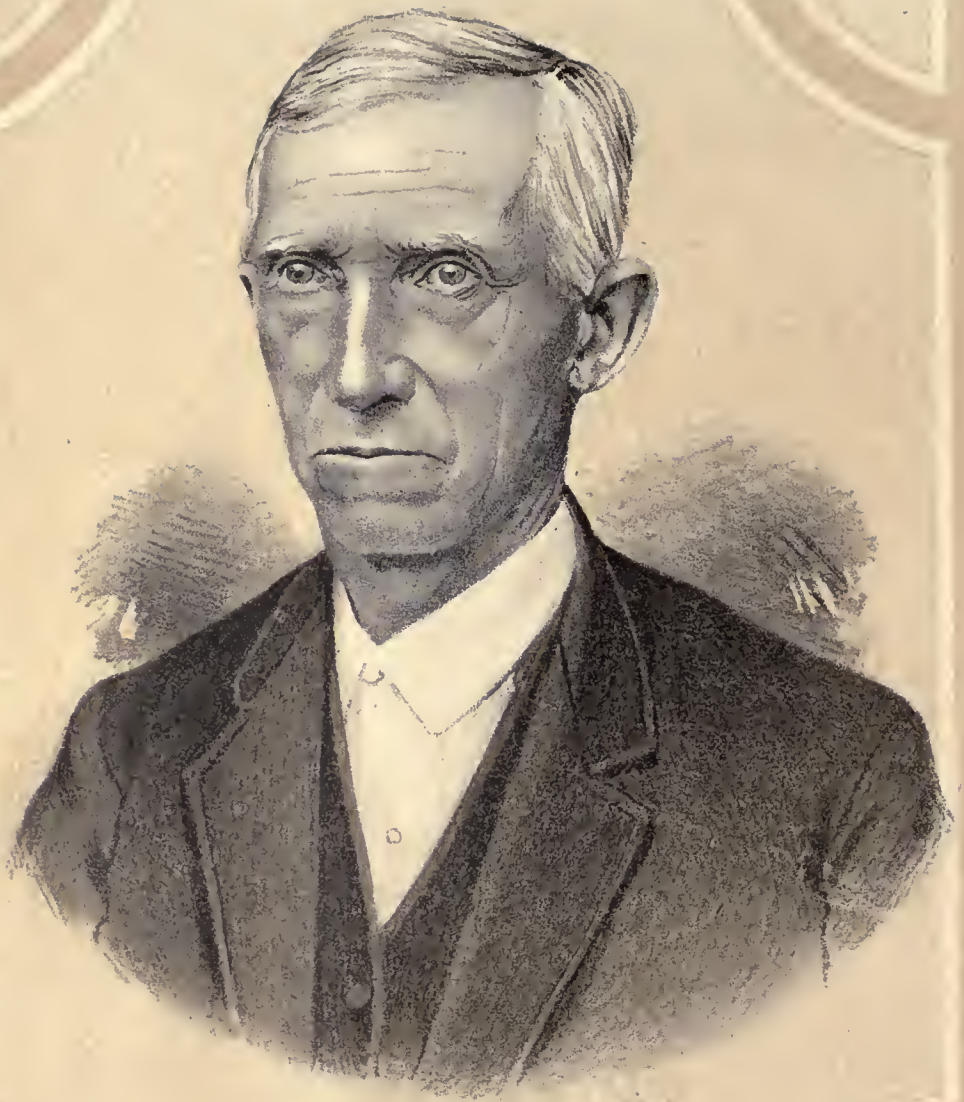
**B**ENJAMIN M. QUINN. During the years from 1854 to 1860 the fertile prairies of McLean County were more rapidly settled up than during any other half dozen years. Enterprising men began to come in then and improve them, and to-day what was thought by the earliest settlers to be only fit for grazing purposes.

are the most highly cultivated and productive fields found within the borders of the Prairie State. A well-known gentleman who came in during the earliest part of the above mentioned period is B. M. Quinn, of Dale Township. He was born in Madison County, Ky., on the 3d of September, 1820, and is the third child and second son of Hiram and Elizabeth Quinn, a sketch of whom will be found on another page of this volume.

The subject of this brief history was reared in his native county and, as soon as he was large enough, assisted his parents in the labors of the farm, and attended the subscription school which was held in the log cabin. He inherited a part of the old homestead and lived there with his mother until 1854, when, accompanied by her and his brother James W., with the wife of the latter, started overland for the prairies of Illinois. Their outfit consisted of five horses, two wagons and a carriage. Their journey was commenced on the 9th of October, and they arrived in McLean County on the 2d day of November. The household goods were brought with them and they camped and cooked by the way. They spent the first winter with the brother Hiram and Mr. Jonathan Park, and in the spring moved to a tract of land on section 34, which they occupied until the following November and then Benjamin Quinn settled upon the place which he now owns and occupies. At the time of his purchase there was upon it a one-story dwelling which included two rooms, and a shed with a straw roof. He at once set about the cultivation and improvement of his land and in due time erected a good set of frame buildings and planted fruit and shade trees. In this home, which he had provided for her, his mother lived until the 6th of October, 1881, when she closed her eyes forever to the scenes of earth.

From his early boyhood Mr. Quinn had been reared to habits of industry and economy and he has all his life pursued a course in accordance with his early teachings. He has thus become a good citizen, promptly meeting his various obligations in life and taking an interest in everything pertaining to the welfare of his community. He was a Whig in politics during the existence of that party, but since the formation of the Republican party he





*B. M. Quinn*





H. W. Quinn



has uniformly cast his vote in support of the principles of the latter.

The features of Mr. Quinn are shown on an accompanying page and portray those of one of the most highly respected citizens of the county.



**H**IRAM W. QUINN, a leading member of the family bearing that name so well known in this section, is a native of Madison County, Ky., and was among the first settlers who came from that region to the territory of Illinois. He located in Dale Township, McLean County, before the hand of cultivation had redeemed the soil from its original condition, and has assisted materially in developing the resources of the Prairie State.

The subject of our sketch was born on the 8th of January, 1825. His father, Hiram Quinn, was also a native of Madison County, Ky., and his grandfather was born in Virginia. The family removed at an early day from the Old Dominion to the Blue Grass State, Hiram Quinn, Sr., being then quite young. He grew to manhood in Madison County and was there married to Miss Elizabeth Moberly, a native of the same locality as her husband. After their marriage Hiram Quinn, Sr., purchased a tract of land in Madison County, where he established a home, which he occupied until his death, which occurred in 1827. He had served in the War of 1812, and his widow received a pension from the Government during the last years of her life. She removed to this State late in life and died in Dale Township, in October, 1884, at the advanced age of nearly eighty-six years. The parental family included five children: Sidney, who died in Bloomington Township; Benjamin M., who lives in Dale Township; Barthana, who was united in marriage with Jonathan Park (see sketch); James W., who lives in Dale Township, and our subject.

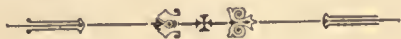
Hiram W. Quinn, of our sketch, was the fourth child and third son of his parents, and was but two years old when he was deprived by death of a father's care and protection. The mother bravely kept her children together on the old homestead

and Hiram W. remained with the family until March, 1852. He then determined to see something of the Western country and accordingly started for the Prairie State. He went by rail to Louisville, then by river to Pekin, in Tazewell County, and there he secured a team to bring his family and goods to McLean County. He rented a house in the village of Bloomington, which he occupied for seven months and in the meantime purchased 240 acres of land on section 35, in Dale Township. Upon this there was a log cabin and sixty acres of it were broken. In the fall of the same year Mr. Quinn erected a comfortable frame house and in 1853 commenced to improve and cultivate the land. He prospered in his farming and business operations and added to his landed possessions as time passed on. He now owns 260 acres, all enclosed and improved, with a fine area of pasture and the balance under a good state of cultivation. His residence and other farm buildings are of the best description and the homestead in all respects presents the picture of one of the finest farm estates in McLean County.

Mr. Quinn was married to Miss Elzira Barelay, Dec. 16, 1847. Mrs. Quinn was a native of the same county as her husband and was born May 18, 1832. They have become the parents of seven children, who are recorded as follows: James L. is a resident of Dale Township; Flora, the wife of Thomas Stubblefield, lives in Allin Township; William Quinn is a resident of Bloomington Township; Bell married Mr. John Norris and also lives in Dale Township; Ellen and Frank are at home with their parents; Mary is the wife of Olie Norris, of Dale Township. All the members of the family are connected with the Christian Church, of which Mr. O. has been Elder and Deacon. In earlier years he affiliated with the Whig party, but after its abandonment by the organization of the Republican party he cheerfully indorsed the principles of the latter and since that time with it has uniformly cast his vote.

Mr. Quinn has always been the encourager and supporter of everything calculated to advance the welfare of his community, socially, morally, religiously or educationally. He has served as School Director in his district for many years and

is greatly respected by his fellow-citizens for his excellent personal traits of character and his ability as a business man.



**T**M. BATES, General Superintendent of the Chicago & Alton Railroad, with residence at Bloomington, is a native of Pierpont, Ashtabula Co., Ohio. Mr. Bates was born in 1840, and is a son of Melzo and Laura H. (Gould) Bates, natives of Massachusetts and New York respectively. The father of our subject moved to Ohio from Massachusetts in 1836, and settled at Pierpont, Ashtabula County, where he embarked in mercantile business, first as a clerk and then for himself, and followed this calling through life. He held the office of Postmaster and was Justice of the Peace from about 1840 to 1860. He was a prominent citizen, a successful business man, and always took a deep interest in county, State and Nation. He was a strong advocate of temperance and held fellowship with the Congregational Church. His demise occurred in 1875.

Melzo Bates was of Scotch lineage and a descendant from three Scotch brothers who came to this country in 1770, and made settlement in the New England States. Melzo became the father of three children: T. M., our subject; Ozro, who was an engineer on the Erie & Pittsburgh Railroad and was killed by a collision at Middlesex, Pa., Sept. 8, 1885. He was married to Miss Kate Ritz and they had one daughter, Irma, and mother and child are now living in Erie, Pa.; Vesta L. became the wife of Herbert A. Mixer, of Pierpont, Ashtabula Co., Ohio, and they have one child, Grace. The mother of these children is still living and resides at Pierpont. She is a devout Christian lady and holds fellowship with the Congregational Church.

The subject of this notice lived at home until he was eighteen years old, employed the while in clerking in his father's store. He received his education in the common schools and supplemented the same by a practical education received while clerking in his father's store. While clerking, he became much interested in the study of electricity, and purchasing books on chemistry and other scientific works,

lost no time. He made a telegraph instrument, somewhat after the Morse patent, but not being satisfied with it he purchased a Morse telegraph instrument and learned to manipulate it with rapidity in an exceedingly short time. In 1859 he attended the academy at Conneaut, Ohio, and while there spent his leisure hours in the railroad office. During the same year he accepted a position as telegrapher on the Cleveland & Erie Railroad, now the Lake Shore & Southern. He remained in this position until 1861, when, on account of the small wages he received, he gave it up and returned home and entered into partnership with his father in the mercantile business. This relationship existed until the fall of 1864, when our subject disposed of his interest and accepted a position with the Hon. William L. Scott, President of the Erie & Pittsburgh Railroad, as clerk and telegraph operator. He remained with this gentleman until 1879, in that capacity, when he was promoted to Train Dispatcher, Superintendent of Telegraphy and Trainmaster. He held this position until he received a call from the Chicago & Alton Railroad as Division Superintendent of 200 miles of its track between Bloomington and Mexico, Mo., which he accepted. Two years later he was given charge of the Kansas City Division, together with the St. Louis Division, making in all 600 miles directly under his immediate charge. June 1, 1883, Mr. Bates was called to Bloomington, and placed in charge of the entire system of the Chicago & Alton Railroad, as Superintendent of transportation and having the entire charge of operating the road, 900 miles, and in doing which he employs about 3,000 men. The gradual but constant promotion of Mr. Bates since he has engaged in railroading speaks for itself and is all the encomium needed.

In 1872 the Y. M. C. A., for railroad men was started at Cleveland, Ohio. The second one that was started was at Erie, Pa., and Mr. Bates was the instigator. In 1881 he started another at Roodhouse, Ill., and in 1884 he started one at Bloomington, which had a membership at that time of only three. At the present time over 200 railroad men are members of the Y. M. C. A. at Bloomington. There are sixty-nine organizations of its kind in the United States. In politics Mr. Bates is a Re-

publican and socially he is a member of the Masonic fraternity. He was married to Miss Frances F. Dutcher, daughter of Daniel R. and Rowena (Wright) Dutcher, residents of Loekport, N. Y., and of this union there are the following children: Charles T., born Jan. 10, 1864; Flora F., Nov. 18, 1865; Frank A., May 27, 1868; Blanche R., Dec. 7, 1875. The residence of our subject is at No. 508 East Douglas street.



**G**EORGE M. STUBBLEFIELD, of Mt. Hope Township, is the son of Robert Stubblefield, so widely known throughout this section, and whose decease in 1870 was so universally lamented. Quite an interesting episode occurred to Robert Stubblefield, the father of our subject, in May, 1840. It will be remembered that at that early day the county was new and unsettled and plenty of horse thieves infested the country. About the middle of May, 1840, two men came to Mr. Stubblefield's home, then in Funk's Grove Township, being directed there by a citizen of Funk's Grove, for information concerning horse thieves. Purporting to be detectives, they wanted to ascertain something about a family by the name of Reading. Mr. S. replied that he only knew them by reputation, which was not very good, and that they were supposed to be horse thieves. After talking some time, he proposed to go with them, and staid all night with a settler, 'Squire Robbs, about three miles from Mosquito Grove. Sunday morning they went to within one-half mile of the grove, and sent some spies in to see if the Readings were at home. Whilst they were parleying, Jack Reading and a man named Holmes mounted horses and tried to escape. Mr. Stubblefield said to the detectives and other men, "Now is your time, if you wish to capture them." They ran about four miles in a southeast course, near where the iron bridge spans Sugar Creek, nearly east of Stanford. When Mr. Stubblefield got there the only persons in sight were the two horse thieves. After crossing the creek, they continued the race and ran about four miles farther, when Mr. S. came up with the two men, and Reading recognized Mr.

S. and swore if he did not go back he would kill him. They rode about twelve miles farther, to Hill's Grove, Tazewell County, where Mr. S. came up with them again, and talked to them. Holmes remarked that he did not know him, but Reading replied that he knew him, and that he was Old Bob Stubblefield, a brother-in-law of Ike Funk. They followed them to near Delavan, where they captured Holmes, and Reading escaped. Holmes was brought back and tried and convicted, and sent to the penitentiary for five years. Two days after, the Readings were notified to leave the county by the 4th of July following, or they would hang them, and they left for parts unknown.

The subject of our sketch was born in Fayette County, Ohio, Aug. 29, 1823, and was the eldest son of Robert and Dorothy (Funk) Stubblefield. He was but little over one year old when his parents removed from Ohio to Funk's Grove, McLean County, the date being Dec. 18, 1824, and this county has remained his home since that time, a period of sixty-three years.

Mr. Stubblefield received his early education in the subscription schools of McLean County, and as soon as large enough assisted his father on the farm. The first flourmill in the vicinity was at Waynesville, De Witt County, nine miles distant, and the nearest post-office for some time was Springfield, fifty miles distant, which also was the nearest trading-post. Later, a post-office was established at Mackinaw Town, eighteen miles distant, and much time was spent in going to and from these places. Our subject remained with his parents until he was twenty-seven years of age, and was then married and located with his wife on the farm which he managed for two years. Then, in 1853 he removed to the place which he now owns and occupies.

At the time Mr. Stubblefield took possession of his present homestead, the land was unimproved and without buildings. He put up a one-story and a half frame house, 20x30 feet in dimensions, and a stable, and then commenced to improve and cultivate the land. In 1869, the first residence becoming insufficient for the needs of the family, he erected his present comfortable mansion, and subsequently built the fine barn and supplied other

necessary out-buildings. He is now the possessor of 530 acres, all of which is improved with the exception of twenty acres. This land is laid off into three separate farms, all enclosed and tile-drained, and all managed by Mr. S. and his sons.

The subject of this history was married on the 14th of March, 1850, to Miss Eliza J. Murphy. Mrs. S. is a native of McLean County, and was born July 30, 1832. Her father, Samuel Murphy, was a native of Virginia, and born Jan. 10, 1799, on the banks of the Potomac River. He removed with his parents to Ohio when a little lad of ten years old, and they settled in Muskingum County, being among the early pioneers of that region. In this locality Mr. Murphy grew to manhood, and was there married to Miss Nancy Goodwin, a native of his own State, who was born March 29, 1808, and who removed to Ohio when she was a young lady. After the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. M., Sept. 8, 1829, they removed to Illinois, making the entire journey overland with teams, and settled in Funk's Grove, entering land in the township of the same name and opening up a farm. They remained there until 1856, and then Mr. Murphy sold out and moved into Caldwell County, Mo., where he purchased a farm upon which he remained until his death, which occurred in 1862. His wife, the mother of Mrs. S., survived her husband for twelve years, and also died there, in 1874.

Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Stubblefield, there have been born seven children, six sons and one daughter, of whom the record is as follows: Charles W., the eldest born, is single and engaged in farming and stock-raising, and makes his home with his parents; Mary E. became the wife of Albert Longworth, and resides in Funk's Grove Township; Samuel M. married Miss Mary E. Stillwell, and they live in Mt. Hope Township; Joseph W. married Miss Louie McCormick, and they are residents of Mt. Hope Township; Isaac and Thaddeus are at home and both single. Mr. and Mrs. S. and three of the children are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In politics Mr. S. was formerly a Whig, and cast his first vote for Henry Clay, and is now a staunch Republican.

Mr. Stubblefield is in all respects a worthy representative of the family so well and widely known

in this section of the State. He has been a man of energy and enterprise, and has received the just reward of his labors in a handsome competency, and a high position in his community. He has been the encourager and supporter of everything calculated to promote the welfare of the county, morally, socially, educationally and religiously.

The homestead of our subject is finely located, and is the observed of all travelers throughout this section. The residence commands a fine location; the grounds are commodious and tastefully arranged, and within and without there are abundant indications of cultivated tastes and ample means. Mr. Stubblefield has contributed his full quota toward the development of the resources of the Prairie State, and is deserving of the esteem in which he is held as one of its most valued citizens.



**E**DWARD M. BROWN, a goodly land-owner and successful farmer of Money Creek Township, has his residence on section 14. He is the son of Robert and Sheridan (McGinnis) Brown, natives of Kentucky and Ireland respectively. After their marriage they settled at Frankfort, Ky., whence they removed to Morgan County, Ill., and from there they came to this county, in 1846. They located in Money Creek Township and there lived and labored until their death. He was a blacksmith by trade and followed the same until he was about thirty-seven years old, when he also engaged in farming and followed those two vocations connectedly during life. They had five children, two of whom lived to attain the age of man and womanhood—Permelia and Edward M. Permelia departed this life in Money Creek Township when in her twenty-first year.

Edward M. Brown was born in Morgan County, Ill., April 24, 1841, and was but five years old when his parents made their home in this county. He was reared upon his father's farm and received what education he possesses in the common schools. Agriculture has been his vocation during life and Money Creek Township has been his home since 1846. He is now the owner of 272½ acres of land,

all of which is under an advanced state of cultivation.

Mr. Brown was married in Bloomington, Ill., Aug. 8, 1851, to Laura D. S., daughter of John S. and Sarah (Dunkle) Janes. Mrs. Brown was born in Fayette County, Ohio, Dec. 28, 1839, and by her union with our subject nine children have been born—Permelia A., Francis E., Sarah S., Nellie, Charlie, Mary, John, Willie and Lillie. The last five children died in infancy and the others are living at home. Mr. Brown has never sought office, preferring to devote his time and attention to the cultivation and improvement of his land and to his own business. In politics he is Republican, and religiously he and his wife are members of the Presbyterian Church.



**J**AMES STEELE, a prominent and influential citizen of West Township, besides being an extensive farmer and stock-raiser, carries on general merchandising at Weedman, and is largely identified with the business and industrial interests of this section. He comes from excellent Scottish ancestry and is in all respects a fine representative of the sturdy honesty and industry which is characteristic of his race. He was born in Glasgow, Scotland, Sept. 20, 1835, being the son of John Steele, and the grandson of John Steele, Sr., who were both natives of Scotland. The latter, who was born in Haddington, entered the English army when young, in which he received an officer's commission. He participated in the principal battles of the Peninsula campaign, and was under Wellington at the battle of Waterloo, receiving an honorable wound. After the termination of that conflict he emigrated to America, in about 1841, and settled among friends near Louisville, Ky., where he departed this life in about 1851, at the advanced age of eighty-five years.

John Steele, Jr., the father of our subject, was reared to agricultural pursuits, and continued a resident of his native Isle until 1842. He then joined his father in America, making his first location with him near Louisville, Ky. Thence he removed to Clark County, Ind., where he followed

farming until his death, which occurred ten years later, in 1852. He had married, in Scotland, Miss Margaret Weir, who was a native of Ayrshire. She accompanied him to the United States, and died in Louisville, Ky. Of their ten children, nine grew to mature years. The two youngest were born in America.

James Steele, of our sketch, was the second child of his parents, and was seven years of age when they came to this country. He lived with his parents until eleven years of age, then went to Indiana and began to work out on a farm at \$8 per month. In 1853 he came to Sangamon County, Ill., where he worked on a farm for three years. Although not receiving the educational advantages accorded to many boys, he possessed the love of learning, and pursued his studies unaided as well as he could, so that at the expiration of the time mentioned he was well fitted to teach, which he did for several years following. During the years of his farm work he had saved his earnings so that he might pursue his studies, and devoted his winters mainly to attendance at the district schools, doing chores for his board. In 1855 he made such good progress that he entered the Illinois State University at Springfield, where he was a classmate of Robert T. Lincoln, in the Preparatory and Freshman, and part of the time in the Sophomore class. He attended this institution until the fall of 1860, with the exception of one term spent as a teacher in the family of John T. Stewart, and then engaged in teaching elsewhere until he was called to canvass the Sixth Illinois District in the interest of Abraham Lincoln and the Republican party. After discharging this obligation he continued teaching until the fall of 1862.

During the summer of 1862 Mr. Steele raised a company of soldiers, in Menard County, of which he was elected Captain, and which when organized, was named Company K, and assigned to the 115th Illinois Infantry. In less than a year he resigned his commission and took up his former occupation, as teacher in Athens and Sweet Water, Menard County, which he continued for thirteen years following.

In 1876 Mr. Steele came to Weedman, this county, having previously purchased a farm in West

Township. That same year he purchased the southeast quarter of section 11, of what is now West Township, and soon afterward secured a railroad station on this land. In 1878 he commenced buying grain, the following year opened a grocery store, and two years later added a stock of dry goods to his other merchandise. He now conducts a large general store, including almost everything required by the farmer and villager, while he still manages his farm intelligently and successfully. He was appointed Postmaster at Weedman in 1879, which position he has held since that time. The marriage of James Steele and Miss Sarah Elizabeth Ham, a native of Sangamon County, Ill., took place on the 11th of April, 1861. Mrs. S. was the daughter of Hezekiah and Mary (Arnold) Ham, who were natives of Kentucky and pioneers of Sangamon County. Their four living children are John H., Albert H., Laura B. and Minnie. Mrs. Steele departed this life at the home of her husband, Jan. 6, 1883. The second marriage of our subject occurred in May, 1884, to Miss Emma Hall, who is a native of Menard County, and the daughter of James P. Hall. Of this union there has been born one child, a daughter, Inez. Mr. Steele is Presbyterian in religious views, and politically a staunch supporter of the Republican party since its organization, in 1856. He was Secretary of the Republican Club at Springfield, in 1858, which conducted the campaign between Lincoln and Douglas.



**R**M. FUNK, a well-known resident of Bloomington, belongs to a family whose name has been familiar since the settlement of McLean County. He was born in Funk's Grove, Aug. 13, 1836, being the son of Hon. Isaac Funk, and was raised on the home farm, remaining with his parents until twenty-four years of age. He was trained to habits of industry in early childhood, his first labors being on the farm, when at eight years of age he commenced to drop corn in the field. His early education commenced when he six years old, in the log school-house with its puncheon floor, and seats and desks of slabs, and the huge fireplace which occupied nearly one end of the structure. Light was admitted through a square

hole sawed out of the logs, and the window-panes were made of greased paper. Here our subject pursued his studies during the winter season, and during the summer, when only nine years old was engaged in herding his father's cattle, which embraced a large drove, and with which he was often left alone for six weeks at a time. He could then pick out any one of them from a drove of 1,000. In connection with this duty he always rode a pony and had many interesting and lively experiences in keeping the drove together. At the age of ten years he took his first trip to Chicago, assisting in driving a drove of cattle to that point. The following spring he assisted in driving the last hogs to Chicago which were taken through overland from McLean County, being accompanied by his father and a man named George Stokes. On account of high water in the Kankakee River they could not cross at Kankakee, so they turned and crossed at Morris, swimming the animals and having only two drowned. They had a spring wagon, the box of which they removed, and took apart the other pieces, which they loaded on a skiff, rowing it across, then returned and caused one horse to swim besides, and after they had got him safely landed went back for the other. They recovered the drowned hogs, loaded them into the wagons and took them to Chicago, and Mr. Stokes went on ahead with them as rapidly as possible, so that they would make good soap grease.

Our subject continued each fall to assist in driving cattle to Chicago until about 1853-54, when they were enabled to ship by rail. When twenty-one years old our subject, wishing to add to his store of knowledge, entered the Illinois Wesleyan University at Bloomington, where he spent three years in study. He returned to the farm, and in the fall of 1864 was married, and began to improve and cultivate the land which his father had set apart for him, and which then amounted to 160 acres. This he fenced and built a comfortable house upon it.

By the death of his father Mr. Funk came into possession of about 2,000 acres additional land, which adjoined the first, and he was occupied for ten or eleven years following in raising stock and corn and buying and selling. In the meantime he



erected three tenement houses upon his land, and has given employment to from ten to fifteen men, including his tenants. Later he commenced raising high-grade cattle, and Berkshire and Poland-China hogs, the proceeds of which have added greatly to his fine income. He never plowed over 600 or 700 acres. He ships cattle and hogs to the Eastern market several times a year, and keeps in stock about 400 head of cattle, from 200 to 400 head of hogs and thirty head of horses. The last three years he has turned his attention principally to the breeding of Norman draft horses.

In 1875 Mr. Funk left the farm and removed to Bloomington, having erected an elegant residence at No. 317 Chestnut street, where he now lives, but still superintends the management of the farm. In connection with this he has been engaged in the drug business for the last six or seven years. He is a stockholder in the First National Bank and in the Walton Plow Company, of Bloomington. He was Supervisor of Funk's Grove Township for four or five years, and at present is a member of the city School Board. He has large interests in Kansas, with a ranch stocked with 250 head of three-year-old cattle, which he employs a man to care for.

Our subject was married, in 1864, to Miss Mary E. Houser, who was the fifth child of Jonathan and Susan (Mason) Houser, natives of Kentucky. Mrs. F. came to Illinois with her parents when a child six years old. They settled first at Randolph Grove, whence they removed to Bloomington in 1878, and made their home with our subject and his wife. Here the father died in 1880 and the mother is still living. The parental household consisted of seven children, five now living—Wilson, Anderson, Mary, John and Mrs. Isabell Rector. Mr. and Mrs. F. have two children—Grace S. and Dwight J. Laura died in 1881, when eleven years of age. Mr. Funk is Republican in politics, and socially belongs to the A. F. & A. M., and the Royal Arcanum. He and his wife are members of the First Methodist Episcopal Church, of Bloomington, to the support of which they contribute liberally and cheerfully.

The changes which our subject has witnessed during a busy and eventful life would make an interesting volume. The family name is held in honor

far and wide, and will go down to successive generations long after the bodies of its founders have crumbled into dust. No more enduring monument could be erected than a history of their deeds and virtues, which their descendants and others may read and profit by.



ISAAC FUNK, one of the leading farmers and stock dealers of McLean County, is widely and favorably known throughout this section, as senior member of a family who have distinguished themselves by their industry and energy of character, their straightforward business methods, and excellence as citizens, neighbors and friends. The subject of this history was born on the 13th of May, 1844, in Funk's Grove Township. His parents were Isaac and Cassandra (Sharp) Funk, whose biographies appear in another part of this work.

Isaac Funk was reared on his father's farm and began to assist in herding stock, numbering all the way from one to 2,000 head, when a lad eight years old. Two years previously he commenced attending school, and pursued his studies winters, being engaged on the farm in the summer time until twenty years of age. The war being then in progress, he enlisted in the 146th Illinois Infantry, serving for one year, until the 20th of March, 1865. His father had died in January of that year, and our subject made a special application to President Lincoln for a discharge, which was granted. He then returned home and with the other brothers carried on the farm for three years. In the winter of 1866 he attended Wesleyan University, where he remained for a year, then returning to the farm he was occupied there until the fall of 1881. In the meantime, on the 28th of October, 1869, he was married to Miss Frances Correll, a native of Sangamon County, and the daughter of Thomas and Sarah (McDaniel) Correll, of Kentucky. They removed from the Blue Grass region to Illinois in 1832, and settled on a farm in Sangamon County. The family included eight children, of whom Mrs. Funk was the youngest. Mr. and Mrs. Funk became the parents of four children, three now living—Arthur C.,

Lawrence P. and Helen F. The second child, Mabel, was born in 1873, and died when eight months old.

In the fall of the year 1881 Mr. Funk purchased the fine residence on East Chestnut and Prairie streets, which he occupies winters and goes to the farm in summers. He owns 2,260 acres of land in Funk's Grove Township, and is largely engaged as a dealer in live stock. He has upon the farm 130 head of Norman and other fine horses, and also 400 head of cattle. He has upon this vast extent of territory, four tenement houses which are occupied by the employes who look after the stock and attend to the other necessary duties on the farm. The land which comprises this valuable estate, is highly improved and cultivated, the greater portion being enclosed with a board fence. Mr. Funk gives his chief attention to the buying and selling of cattle and horses, and as a breeder, has attained an enviable reputation. Aside from his valuable farming and stock-breeding interests, he is identified with various other important enterprises calculated to advance the growth and prosperity of this section. He is a stockholder in the First National Bank of Bloomington. In politics he is a staunch Republican, socially belongs to the Masonic fraternity and the G. A. R., and aside from his duties as a citizen, is one of the most genial and kind-hearted of men, who has made many friends, and is held in the highest respect by all classes of the community.



**R**H. HILL, druggist of Heyworth, established his business there in 1879. He has since that time industriously devoted himself to the requirements of his business, and has been successful in building up a lucrative and steadily increasing trade. In 1885 he put up the largest brick building in the place, and has in all respects a finely appointed store.

Mr. Hill was born in Holmes County, Ohio, Feb. 3, 1850. His father, Samuel Hill, was a native of Washington County, Pa., and came to Ohio when a young man, where he was married, in Holmes County, to Miss Permelia Edgar, a native of that

county. Both were of excellent Scottish ancestry, and the father engaged in farming pursuits. After the birth of four children, of whom our subject was the youngest, the family, in 1864, came to Illinois, and locating in Heyworth the father purchased a stock of general merchandise and engaged in trade. He was thus occupied until 1871, at which time he retired from active business. He departed this life on the 4th of May, 1881; the mother's death had occurred previously, Nov. 26, 1870. Of their four children, three are living, as follows: Capt. J. E. Hill is a stock-dealer of Beatrice, Neb., and was married to Miss Laura Stewart; Annie M. is the wife of Nathan Low, and they reside in Heyworth; Alexander died when only three years of age.

Samuel Hill, the father of our subject, was a Democrat of the Jackson school. He was elected Justice of the Peace at the early age of twenty-two, and served as such in Ohio about twenty years, and was also County Commissioner of Defiance County, Ohio. He was also, during his residence in Heyworth, a Ruling Elder of the Presbyterian Church. He was likewise one of the organizers of the Heyworth school district, and at the time of his death President of the Board of Education.

After completing his education in this county, Mr. Hill, the subject of this sketch, followed teaching for a period of eight years. He had attended Wesleyan University two years, and while teaching gave his leisure hours to the study of pharmacy. In this he was greatly interested and it seemed adapted to his tastes, and he has been successful in his operations in connection therewith. The building which he erected and in which is located his store and adjoining rooms, contains the Town Hall, which occupies the upper floor, and is 40x80 feet in area. Besides his village property, he also owns 160 acres of land on section 4, in Randolph Township. Of this Mr. Hill is sole manager; superintends its improvements and has a general oversight of the operations conducted thereon. As may be supposed his time is all occupied, but he is equal to the emergency, being of that energetic and industrious temperament which is able to accomplish much in a brief space of time.

Mr. Hill was married on the 5th of June, 1873,

to Miss Maggie B., the daughter of J. E. Wakefield, of Randolph Township, the wedding taking place in Heyworth. Mrs. Hill was born in Randolph Township, July 6, 1853, and completed her education at Steubenville, Ohio. Of her union with our subject there have been born four children—Myrtle E., A. Fern, Raymond C., and one who died in infancy. Mr. Hill is Democratic in politics, and with his wife is a member in good standing of the Presbyterian Church.



**S**AMUEL STRAWN, who has been an honored citizen of McLean County for a period of over seventeen years, owns and occupies a valuable farm estate in Bloomington Township, on section 21, where he is successfully engaged in general farming. His homestead consists of 107 acres, and besides this he operates 249½ acres in another part of the county.

Mr. Strawn was born in Greene County, Pa., on the 14th of November, 1839, and remained in his native State until he was fifteen years old. Then, in the fall of 1854, his parents' family emigrated to the State of Illinois, and locating in La Salle County, established a comfortable home where the old folk still live, the possessors of a fine property. The parents of our subject were John R. and Adeline (Dance) Strawn, natives of the same county and State as their son, and engaged there in farming pursuits. John Strawn was born in 1812, and his wife, Adeline, two years later. Samuel Strawn was the eldest of his parents' children, and remained with them until he was about thirty years old. He then came to this county, and since that time has been closely identified with its industrial and business interests.

The marriage of Samuel Strawn and Miss Hester J. Knapp took place in Fulton County, Ill., on the 27th of December, 1874. Mrs. Strawn was born in Logan County, Ill., Dec. 11, 1850, and was the daughter of Porter and Martha (Brittenhaur) Knapp, natives respectively of New York and Ohio. They were married in Madison County, the latter State, whence they removed to Fulton County, Ill., in 1851, where the father died eleven years

later, in the city of Canton. He was a shoemaker by trade, an honest, industrious and highly respected citizen. The mother is now living with her daughter, Mrs. Strawn, and is sixty-nine years old.

Of the union of Samuel Strawn and his wife there were born five children, one of whom, John, is deceased. Those living are: Fred L., Mattie A., Spencer N. and Alice L., the latter twins. Mr. and Mrs. Strawn have "pulled together" in their efforts to secure a permanent and comfortable home and are now reaping the reward of their self-sacrifice and industry. They have an attractive farm residence, good barns and out-buildings, and all the appliances of a first-class country estate. Mr. Strawn, politically, is an uncompromising Democrat and a loyal citizen, actively interested in everything that pertains to the welfare of his community.



**W**ALTER W. ROGERS, a wealthy and enterprising farmer of Normal Township, is a fine illustration of the industrious business man, who has improved his opportunities, kept his eyes open to what was going on around him and has profited thereby. As a citizen he is held in high esteem, on account of his courteous demeanor toward all, and his excellent traits of character. He has occupied his present homestead only about five years, but in that time has made \$10,000 worth of improvements, and it is now one of the most attractive spots in the landscape of McLean County. He has a beautiful residence, good barns and out-buildings, and all the appliances for the shelter of stock, the storing of grain and the carrying on of agriculture in a first-class manner. The homestead invariably attracts the eye of the traveler passing through this section, and reflects great credit upon its proprietor as being a model home in every respect.

Mr. Rogers is a native of Kinderhook, Columbia Co., N. Y., and was born April 4, 1841. His father, John Rogers, was a native of the same county, and in early life engaged in the manufacture of prints. He then became occupied in general inc-

chandising, which yielded him a handsome competency, and now, although having attained the advanced age of eighty-eight years, is engaged in banking in his native county. The mother of our subject, Eliza (Shipman) Rogers, was born in the same county and State as her husband and son and is still living, being seventy-eight years of age. Of this household there were but two children—Martha, who married Edmund S. Best, and resides on the homestead with her parents, and the subject of our sketch, who was the elder.

Mr. Rogers entered upon his primary studies in the common schools of his native town and afterward attended the old Hadley Academy of New Amherst, Mass. He also took a course at Claverack Institute in Columbia County, being the first student to occupy a room in the building, and later studied in Kinderhook Academy. Finally, on account of failing health, he was obliged to leave school, weighing only 115 pounds when seventeen years of age. It was then thought that a change of climate would be beneficial and young Rogers accordingly came West. After a few months spent in Bloomington, he weighed 152 pounds and once more experienced the delights of perfect health. He returned home and spent the winter and came back in the spring to Bloomington, where for nearly three years afterward he was book-keeper for Mr. E. S. Benjamin, engaged in general merchandising.

In 1863, Walter W. Rogers was united in marriage with Miss Caroline, daughter of William H. Allen of Bloomington, and a native of this city. After marriage the young people went to New York, where our subject engaged in farming near his native place for the following five years. He then removed into the village of Valatie in the same county, where he resided fourteen years, after which he was engaged in looking after the landed interests of his father in the Western States and Territories. In 1882 he returned to Illinois and settled upon the farm which he now owns and occupies. Here he has 200 acres of valuable land, the cultivation of which he superintends, and also still continues as the agent of his father. His stock consists of Hambletonian and Norman horses and Jersey and Holstein cattle. Of this business he has a thorough understanding and exhibits some of the

finest animals to be found along the Mississippi Valley.

Mr. Rogers in early life took a great interest in politics but has now practically abandoned it, although he uniformly casts his vote in support of the principles of the Democratic party. Religiously he was reared a Quaker and adheres to the faith which was taught him from his earliest childhood. He is in all respects fulfilling the obligations of a good citizen and numbers hosts of warm friends in this part of McLean County.



CHARLES E. HAYWARD, M. D., represents the medical profession at Cropsey, where he has been located since the spring of 1881. He is a native of the Prairie State and was born in Brimfield, Peoria County, Feb. 10, 1853. His parents, Charles and Harriett Hayward, were natives of England, and emigrated to the United States in 1851, settling in Peoria County, where the father engaged in mercantile business at Brimfield. From there, in 1857, they removed to Woodford County, and located on a farm near El Paso. There Charles Hayward, Sr., became the owner of a farm, but only applied himself to agricultural pursuits for a few years. After selling his land he removed to Minonk, and pursued his former business of a merchant, which he continued until 1876, when having arrived at an advanced age, he retired from active labor. He now resides at El Paso in the enjoyment of the competency which he accumulated during his earlier years of active enterprise and industry. His first wife, the mother of our subject, died in November, 1853, leaving five children: Stephen K.; Elizabeth, now the wife of William Edwards; Edward; Annette, now Mrs. William Renord, and our subject, who at the time was not a year old. The father was again married, in 1854, to Miss Cordelia Gilbert. The result of this union was one child, a daughter, Jessie, now the wife of S. W. Smith of Cropsey.

The subject of this history received a good common-school and literary education, and when nineteen years of age, commenced reading medicine in the office of Drs. Wilcox & Blanchard, of Minonk.

He took his first course of lectures in the winter of 1875, at Rush Medical College, Chicago, from which he graduated in the spring of 1877. After receiving his diploma, he located in Morton, Tazewell County, whence, in 1881, he removed to Cropsey, which has since been his home and where he has built up a flattering patronage.

Dr. Hayward was married at Morton, Tazewell County, in 1880, to Miss Sylvia C., daughter of Joseph L. and Mary (Seeley) Hayward. Mrs. H. was born at Morton, and by her marriage with our subject, has become the mother of two children—Louise and Eugenia. Aside from the income derived from his practice Dr. Hayward is a member of the firm of Loar & Hayward, who are carrying on a thriving drug business at Cropsey. The Doctor occupies a high position among his professional brethren in this locality, and socially enjoys the confidence and esteem of a large circle of friends and acquaintances.



**W**ILLIAM BROWN. On section 15, in Downs Township, lies a snug farm of eighty acres, finely improved and in a good state of cultivation, and which invariably attracts the eye of the passing traveler as being the home of thrift and prosperity, and under the supervision of an intelligent and enterprising proprietor. This pretty and comfortable homestead is the property of the gentleman whose name stands at the head of this sketch. He has been a resident of this county and township since the spring of 1853, and since taking possession of his present homestead has brought about many improvements, among them a tasteful and substantial dwelling, handsomely finished after the most approved style.

Mr. Brown studied his first lessons in the schools of his native township, and completed his education in Wesleyan University at Bloomington. He afterward engaged in the hardware and grocery trade at Le Roy. In this he was very successful. Being of an inventive turn of mind, in 1873 he patented the well-known Brown Hog Ring and Ringer. He obtained his first patent the following year, subsequently improved and repatented it,

and after still further improvement started a manufactory in Le Roy and controlled the whole business until 1875. He then received what he considered a good price for his patent and sold it, but afterward found that he had parted with it for far less than its real value, and had allowed a small fortune to slip out of his hands. This contrivance has since been manufactured and sold at great profit. After disposing of this Mr. Brown also sold out his hardware business and going to La Fayette, Ind., engaged as a traveling salesman for the firm of Harding, Barber & Co., manufacturers of ornamental fencing, etc. He was thus engaged two years, then returned to Le Roy and began business on his own account in the grocery trade, which he carried on for some years and until he purchased his present farm, in the fall of 1885. This he has since operated successfully and is bringing it to the condition of a first-class modern farm estate.

Mr. Brown was only thirteen years of age when his mother died and since that time he has been battling for himself. He came to Le Roy in 1869. His father, Elijah Brown, carried on the hardware trade in Zanesville, Ohio, for some years and at the same time was engaged in farming. He finally removed to Kingman, Kan., and died there in 1881. The parents of our subject were natives of Ohio, but of German descent and parentage. The mother before her marriage was Miss Rebecca Peck. Our subject was the youngest but two of a family of three sons and four daughters, one of the latter being now deceased. Those living are married and settled in comfortable homes. Two brothers, John W. and George P., served as soldiers of the Union, enlisting in an Illinois company. One was in the Army of the Potomac, the other in the Army of the West. George P. was wounded, being shot through both knees. He was in the last battle of the war and present at the time of Lee's surrender. He is now a traveling salesman for Marshall Field of Chicago.

William D. Brown was united in marriage with Miss Laura Barnett on the 21st of January, 1873, in the village of Le Roy. Mrs. B. was born and reared in McLean County, of which her parents were among the earliest settlers. Her father opened

one of the first stores at Le Roy, keeping a stock of general merchandise, suited to all the needs of the pioneers both for the household and farm. The name of her father was Thomas J. Barnett and her mother before her marriage was Miss Emeline Gibb. The latter was a graduate of Oberlin College, Ohio, and is now living in Le Roy, being sixty-nine years of age. Thomas Barnett departed this life at Le Roy, Sept. 1, 1882, and the latter part of his life lived in retirement.

Mr. and Mrs. Brown have one child only, a son, Orrin. Both our subject and his wife are members in good standing of the Baptist Church, and politically Mr. Brown is a solid Republican.

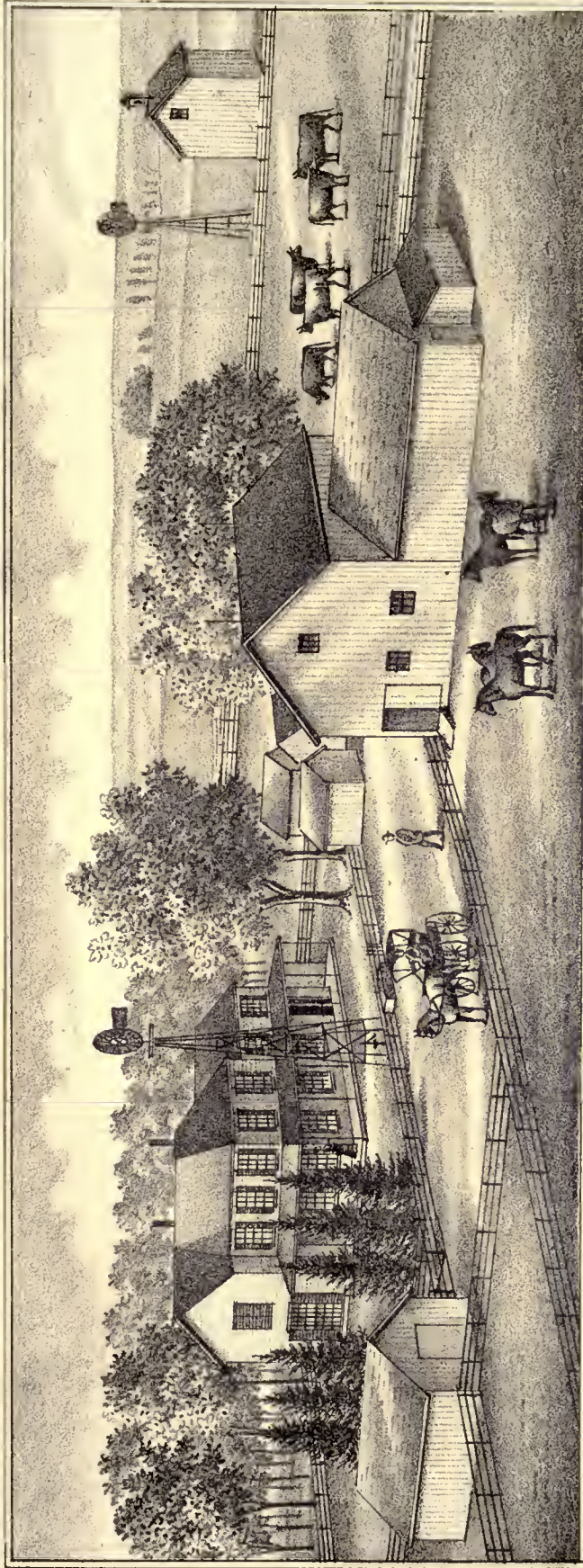


**W**ILLIAM PFITZENMEYER, a well-to-do and an enterprising German citizen of Empire Township, was born in the village of GroszAspach, in Wurtemberg, Germany, April 14, 1827. He is the son of Joshua and Catherine Pfitzenmeyer, who spent their entire lives upon a farm in their native land. In accordance with the laws and customs of his native country, our subject commenced attending school at a very early age, and continued his studies until fourteen years old. He then served two years at brick-making, after which he worked as a journeyman at a salary of \$30 per year. Not being satisfied with his condition or his prospects in his native land, he decided to emigrate to the United States, and in May, 1848, set sail from the city of Antwerp. After a voyage of forty-two days he landed in New York, whence he came directly to Illinois, locating first at Pulaski. The trip from New York was made via the Hudson River to Albany, by rail to Buffalo, and by the lakes to Cleveland. Thence he proceeded to the Ohio River, by that and the Illinois to Pekin. He worked at his trade in Pulaski, and was soon enabled to pay the debt which he had contracted in order to come to America. After four or five years he became a resident of Bloomington, and in 1854 returned to the old country to

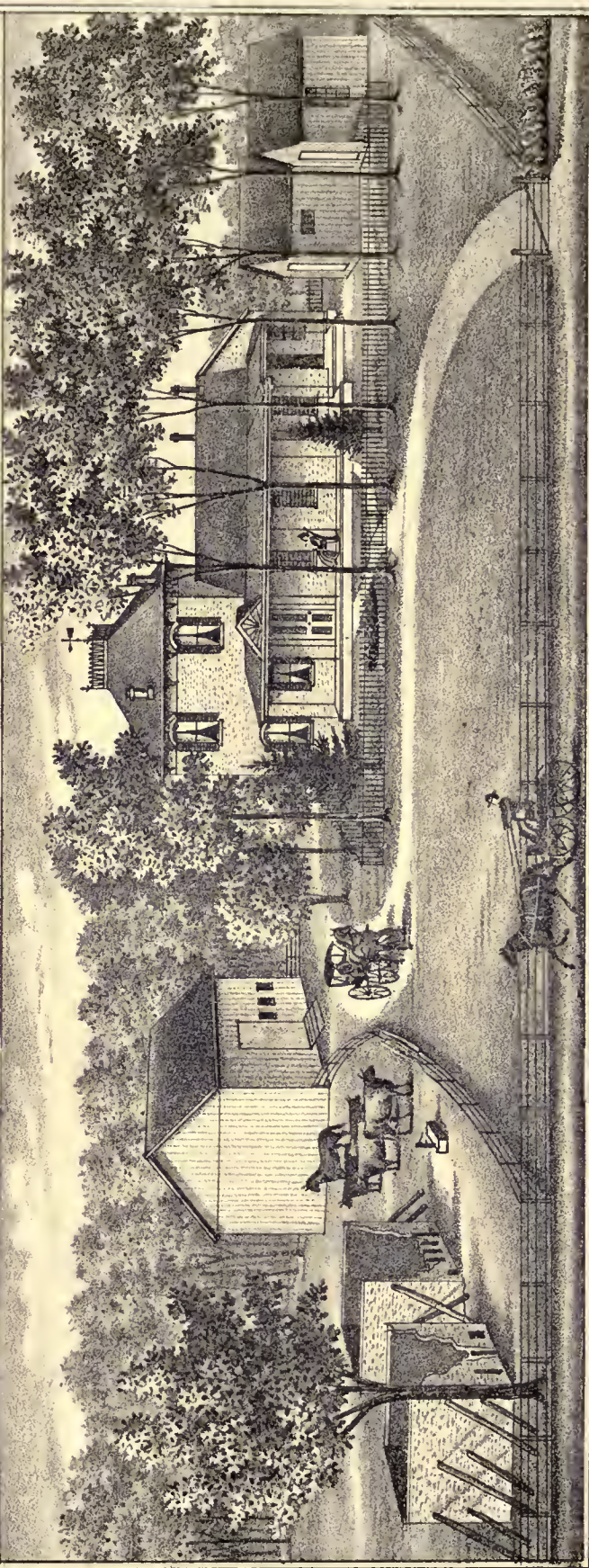
visit among his old friends and acquaintances. He also attended to some important business while there, namely, the taking unto himself a partner and helpmeet, in the person of Miss Sophia C. H. Ruter, to whom he was married on the 27th of March, 1855. The young couple soon set sail for the new home, which the husband had prepared in Le Roy, this county, where they remained, however, only one year and a half. Mr. P. then purchased five acres of wild land, which was the beginning of his present homestead. This land was covered with hazel brush and stumps. He erected a small frame house in accordance with his means, and commenced the manufacture of brick, which he has continued successfully since that time. By adhering to his first purpose of living within his income, he soon found himself with quite a little capital at his disposal. This he invested in real estate, and from time to time purchased small tracts of land until he is now the possessor of 210 acres, upon which he has erected a fine brick dwelling and frame barn. These and other improvements rank with the best in the county, and while still carrying on his brick manufactory he has engaged successfully in general agriculture and stock-raising. A view of his place is shown in this volume.

The wife of our subject was born in Eibensbaeh, Wurtemberg, Germany, Jan. 18, 1827, and is the daughter of Charles and Elizabeth (Beilhartz) Ruter, both natives of the same Province. Her father was a teacher in the public schools for a period of sixteen years, and a member of the Teachers' Association there, from which his widow now draws a pension. Mr. and Mrs. P. became the parents of two children, of whom only one is now living, a son, Hugo G. Their first-born, a daughter, whose birth occurred April 9, 1857, met her death by falling into a well and drowning, on the 10th of July, 1862. Our subject and his wife were reared in the doctrines of the Lutheran Church. Mr. P., politically, is a staunch supporter of the Democratic party.

Four sisters of our subject emigrated to America after his arrival here. A brother of Mrs. P. came in about 1854, and after a brief residence in Montreal came to Bloomington, where at the commence-



RESIDENCE OF JOSEPH JENNINGS, SEC. 4, PADUA TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF W<sup>m</sup> FITZENMEYER, SEC. 28, EMPIRE TOWNSHIP.





ment of the war he joined the engineer corps of Col. Bissel, and died in the United States service at Vicksburg.



**J**OSEPH JENNINGS, one of the most successful farmers and stock-raisers of Padua Township, has for many years given special attention to the breeding of Short-horn cattle, in which business he has made for himself an enviable reputation. He is a gentleman of great energy and industry and nothing pleases him more than to see everything about him in a thriving and prosperous condition, whether it pertains to his own premises or to his community and county at large. He has been a resident of McLean County since the spring of 1865, and is now the owner of 560 broad acres of the best land in Padua Township. This is all improved and supplied with a shapely and substantial set of farm buildings. The residence is a handsome and convenient modern structure, finely located, and invariably attracts the attention of the passing traveler. This ALBUM is embellished with a view of this dwelling and its surroundings. The farm with its appurtenances constitutes one of the prettiest spots in the landscape of McLean County and indicates in all respects the supervision of the intelligent and progressive farmer.

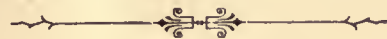
Mr. Jennings is a descendant of excellent English and Irish ancestry and is the son of John Jennings, who was born in the Empire State, of which our subject is also a native, having been born in Niagara County, May 17, 1818. When about five years of age the parents removed from Niagara to Erie County, locating on a farm where the mother died a few years later. The father then came to Illinois and settled in Tazewell County, where he spent the remainder of his life, dying at the home of his son, our subject, in the fall of 1864. The mother before her marriage was Miss Polly Sherman.

Joseph Jennings grew to manhood in Erie County, N. Y., receiving a fair education in the common schools. He was married Jan. 12, 1845, to Miss Polly, daughter of John and Lucinda (Dewey) Arnold, natives of Hartford, Washing-

ton Co., N. Y. There they were both reared and after marriage removed to the southern part of Erie County, N. Y., settling on a farm in Collins Township, where all their children were born. Of these Mrs. J. was the third child and second daughter, in a family of four sons and three daughters. The parents late in life removed to Illinois, where the mother died in Tazewell County, Aug. 20, 1865. The father afterward removed to Peoria, where he departed this life in about 1866.

Our subject and his wife first located upon a farm in Erie County, N. Y., where five of their children were born. In 1857 they came to this State, locating on a new farm of 160 acres in Tazewell County, which remained their home until they came to this county. Here three children were added to the home circle; one is deceased.

Their family record is as follows: Malinda became the wife of George Wells, a farmer of Paxton, Ford Co., Ill.; Josephine married William Murphy, a farmer of Woodbury County, Iowa; Emeline married Howard Larue, a lumber dealer of Corning, Iowa; Rebecca, Mrs. Oliver Story, resides with her husband on a farm in Blue Mound Township; Lucinda, Willis and James are all living on farms in Martin Township; Sarah, who married John Dickey, a farmer, lives in Belleflower Township; Wilford remains with his parents and assists his father in conducting the farm. Mr. and Mrs. Jennings are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and politically our subject is identified with the Republican party.



**G**EORGE KIRK, one of the most highly respected citizens and successful farmers of Belleflower Township, is a native of Mason County, Ky., and was born Aug. 24, 1843. His father, Benedict Kirk, was a native of Maryland, and descended from excellent Scotch-Irish ancestry. Benedict was but one year old when his parents removed from Maryland to Kentucky, where they were among the earliest pioneers, and there his father died. His widow, the grandmother of our subject, afterward removed to Rush County, Ind., where she spent the remainder of her life. Her

son Benedict grew to manhood in Mason County, Ky., where he married, purchased a farm and established a permanent homestead, and where he spent the remainder of his life, his death occurring Jan. 25, 1887. Benedict Kirk was up to the time of the war one of the most prominent farmers and stockmen in Mason County, Ky. Being an uncompromising Union man he lost heavily in consequence of the war. The mother of our subject before her marriage was Miss Ellen Curtis, who was born and spent her entire life in Mason County, Ky. Her death occurred over thirty years before her husband, on the 20th of March, 1855. Their seven children were named James N., John, Maggie, George, Rochester B., Robert and Charles. Maggie became Mrs. Joseph Wood, and lives in Mason County, Ky.; Robert C. is a resident of Maysville, Mason Co., Ky., and in fact all the family are residents of the latter-named county except our subject.

George Kirk remained under the home roof until 1861. The Civil War being then in progress he enlisted in November of that year in Company L, 2d Kentucky Cavalry, and was in active service three years and three months. He was assigned to the Army of the Cumberland, and was at Chickamauga, and was taken prisoner just prior to the battle of Murfreesboro. He performed his duties as a soldier in a brave and faithful manner, and was honorably discharged in February, 1865. His company served as escort to Gen. Nelson for some time, and later for Phil Sheridan. Our subject was present at various minor engagements, but escaped unharmed.

After his return from the army Mr. Kirk resumed farming in his native county, in the Blue Grass regions, of which he remained a resident until 1868. He then went to a point near Louisville, where he engaged in agriculture and also dealt in fancy horses. In 1874 he came to this county, first renting a farm in Mt. Hope Township, and in the fall of the year purchased 100 acres of land in Belleflower Township, which constitutes his present homestead. He has brought about a great change from its original condition, the land being now all improved, and he has erected a good set of frame buildings. In 1882 he purchased the northeast quar-

ter of section 6, which is also finely improved, so that his possessions in all amount to 263 acres, for the cultivation of which he has all the machinery and appliances required by the intelligent farmer.

The subject of this history, on the 4th of February, 1873, was united in marriage, in Bracken County, Ky., with Miss Euphrasia Reynolds, who was born in Bracken County, that State, Jan. 9, 1846, and the daughter of W. H. and Lucretia Reynolds. Mrs. K. became the mother of five children—Linden, Theodore H., May F., Cary B. and Arthur R.—and after having been the faithful and affectionate companion of her husband for over twelve years, departed this life on the 25th of November, 1886. She was a most amiable and highly respected Christian lady, and was greatly mourned by her husband and family, and a large circle of friends and acquaintances. She was a member of the Presbyterian Church of Sharon, Ky., and her remains were taken there for burial.

Mr. Kirk is a gentleman of fine personal appearance, and by his excellent character and straightforward business course in life, has fully established himself in the esteem and confidence of his associates and fellow-citizens.



JACOB SPAWR, an old pioneer of this county of 1826, and residing at Lexington, was born Jan. 24, 1802, in Westmoreland County, Pa. His father's name was Valentine Spawr, and his mother's maiden name was Margaret Richer. Valentine Spawr was American born but of German descent. His wife was born in Germany, and came to the United States when only two years of age. Valentine was a soldier and served under Gen. Anthony Wayne against the Indians, and received quite a severe wound while in the service.

In the fall of 1826 Jacob Spawr came to Illinois in company with the Fox family and Robert Guthrie. His father's family came the following year. The journey was made overland and Mr. Spawr was active in driving the sheep and cattle which they brought with them. On arriving here he located in Money Creek timber and there commenced work-

ing for Mrs. Trimmer, who had a large family of children and had lost her husband by death a short time previous. Dec. 3, 1826, Jacob Spawr married one of his employer's daughters, Eliza Ann Trimmer. He had no license, for the distance to Vandalia was too great for him to make the journey, and he consequently posted up notices to the effect that he intended to marry one Eliza A. Trimmer. William Orendorff, a Justice of the Peace, married him and made return of the marriage to the Clerk of the Court at Vandalia, and it was pronounced legal. Six or seven years later Mr. Orendorff married a second wife, and our subject, who had been elected Justice of the Peace, had the pleasure of returning the compliment by performing the marriage ceremony.

After our subject's marriage he began farming on his own account. In 1827 the settlers were much excited by the Winnebago War, which was threatened by Red Bird, chief of the Winnebagoes. While the excitement continued, Old Machina, chief of the Kickapoos, came down to Mr. Spawr to inquire the condition of affairs, whenever the latter returned from Bloomington, where he went to attend a militia drilling. Machina declared that in case of war the Kickapoos would help the whites. After a while an order came to send fifteen men, and Mr. Spawr being First Lieutenant of the company, was ordered to go with them. But the Rev. Mr. Latta insisted on taking Mr. Spawr's place and at last was allowed to do so. The fifteen men were taken to Peoria, but the Indian troubles were soon quieted and the soldiers came home. During the winter of the deep snow our subject was compelled to pound corn to provide sustenance for his family. For nearly sixty days the sun did not shine with sufficient warmth to make even a wet spot in front of the south door. During that winter a gentleman by the name of Rook came down from Rook's Creek (Little Vermilion) with a hand-sled, walking with snow-shoes, and obtained corn for his family from Conrad Flesher, who lived where Lexington now stands.

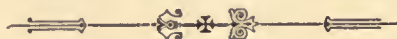
During the Black Hawk War the people of Maekinaw and Money Creek timber were excited and apprehensive, and many of them moved to Sangamon County. Many parties from Eppard's

Point, on the Little Vermilion, moved their families into Money Creek Township. The volunteers from Indiana, about 600 in number, camped within twenty or thirty rods of Mr. Spawr's house, and during the night they had two false alarms. At one time a lightning bug showed its phosphorous and one of the guards fired at the harmless insect and the camp was in an uproar. But after awhile matters were quieted. Soon another gun was discharged and it was found that a soldier, who had a pique against two others, had fired into their tent. The excitement among the soldiers was very great for awhile, and one of them while loading his gun, mistook a can of buttermilk for a powder-horn and loaded his gun accordingly. The soldiers woke Mr. Spawr to issue a warrant for the arrest of the man who attempted to shoot his comrades, but Mr. Spawr told them that their own martial law should settle such matters.

The town of Lexington was laid off in 1835, and in 1836 Mr. S. moved there from Money Creek timber. It was during December of that year that the great sudden change of the weather occurred, and Mr. Spawr says that he saw the water blown into waves and frozen that way. He speaks of another sudden change almost as severe. In November, 1842, he started for Chicago with a party to drive hogs. The weather had been mild but it snowed and melted, and by the 7th of November, it froze up. On the return of the party from Chicago they crossed the Kankakee on the ice at the rapids, where the water runs as swiftly as a mill race. The thaw came in January but the cold weather again returned, and winter continued until March.

The union of our subject with Miss Trimmer has been blest by the birth of eight children, and five are living at this writing, all daughters. He has twenty-four grandchildren living and four deceased, and also nine great-grandchildren living and one dead. Our subject was Justice of the Peace in Money Creek Township for about nine years, and also Postmaster for a number of years, in the early history of Lexington. He was likewise Notary Public for several years, and in 1840, took the census of the county. He was familiarly acquainted with President Lincoln, Judge David

Davis, Judge Sweet of Chicago, and other leading men of the State, who used to stop at his house frequently in early days, and our subject takes great delight in relating stories of these great men as they appeared in those good old days. His good wife died about seven years ago, and he is now passing the sunset of life in peace and quiet, retired from active labor at Lexington. He is of medium height, rather stoutly built, and seems to be enjoying good health in his old age. He is of a quiet disposition, kindly disposed, and much looked up to among the old settlers. He is universally respected for his worth and integrity and is well known throughout the entire county.



**H**ON. GEORGE W. FUNK, of Bloomington, is a native of McLean County, and was born May 14, 1827, at Funk's Grove. He is the son of Isaac and Cassandra (Sharp) Funk, and spent his earlier years upon his father's farm. His early education was begun when he was seven years of age, and he traveled one and one-half miles from his father's house to the school at Funk's Grove, which was conducted in a log cabin. He was considered honored by the schoolmaster when he was requested to remain after study hours to roll up the logs which were to be used next day for fire.

Our subject pursued his studies in this manner until he was ten years old, and after that time attended only in the winter and worked on the farm in the summer season until he was eighteen. Then the old log school-house gave place to a smart frame building, and he pursued his studies in this until twenty-one. During the summer season he spent part of his time in the saddle herding his father's cattle on the prairies, the balance being employed plowing corn, wielding the cradle in the grain fields, and the scythe mowing grass. He continued on the parental homestead until the death of his father, in 1865, and being the eldest of the family had become general manager, buying and selling stock and shipping the same to New York. From the age of eighteen until twenty-five he drove cattle and hogs to the Chicago market. Be-

fore leaving home the hogs had to be weighed by means of a pole laid across the fence, the steelyards being upon one end and the hog in a sort of harness on the other. A man at the end of the pole hoisted up the porker, and after his weight was ascertained he was ready for market. In these days this would be considered a tedious process, but the pioneers of that time gloried in the resolution with which they overcame difficulties, and this little inconvenience was only one of the many which they cheerfully encountered and overcame.

Mr. Funk continued his stock operations in this manner until about 1854, and then commenced shipping to New York City. He has been remarkably successful in his business transactions, and nearly every week he and his brother have sent earloads of stock either to Chicago or New York. He assisted in the settlement of his father's estate in 1865, and received 1,000 acres more than any other member of the family on account of having remained upon the homestead and taken care of it after the other sons had left. A peculiarity of this family, probably not possessed by any other in the State, is the fact that the land which passed from father to son has been religiously retained and invariably added to by thrift and industry.

The subject of our sketch is now the possessor of 4,400 acres of land in McLean County, 1,600 of which lie in Funk's Grove Township. In West Township he owns the old Indian Town. The farm buildings appertaining to his estate are beautiful and substantial structures, and invariably attract the eye of the traveler through this section. The agricultural operations on this large tract of land have been carried on in the most systematic manner, everything moving with the precision of clock work; the farm machinery being after the most approved patterns, and the barns and other out-buildings furnished with all the appliances necessary for the shelter of stock and the storing of grain.

The subject of this history was married in January, 1868, to Miss Susan Pumpley, a native of Ohio, who was reared in Kentucky and came with her parents to Illinois in 1863. Mrs. Susan Funk departed this life on the 15th of December, 1868, leaving one child, Isaac G., now eighteen years of age, and a student at Lawrenceville, N. J. Mr.





J. M. Munton

Funk married, for his second wife, Miss Rose, the daughter of William and Hannah Fitzwilliams, of Bloomington, and they have two children—Madeline and Julius F. The town residence of Mr. F. and his family is located at No. 401 East Washington street, where they are surrounded by all the refinements and luxuries of modern life.

George W. Funk is a worthy member of the family so well known throughout this section as having been closely identified with its agricultural and industrial interests, and who have so materially assisted in the development and progress of one of the richest counties of the Prairie State. The word of Mr. Funk is considered as good as his bond. Socially he is kind and generous in disposition, charitable and hospitable, and a liberal contributor to, and supporter of every measure calculated for the well-being of society. In earlier years he was identified with the old Whig party, but later has cheerfully endorsed the principles of the Republicans. In 1870 he was elected a member of the General Assembly of Illinois, and served two years with credit to himself and satisfaction to his constituents. He has been Supervisor of Mt. Hope Township; is a stockholder in the First National Bank of Bloomington, a stockholder and Director in the Gas Company and, in short, identified with most of the enterprises which have been set on foot and were calculated for the material good of the county and township. It may be truly said that in all respects Mr. Funk has fulfilled the obligations of a good citizen in a manner not excelled by any before him, or that could be excelled by any who may come after.



**J**ACOB M. MINTON. Worthy of mention among the successful stock-raisers of McLean County, and their number is not a few, is J. M. Minton. Though young in years as well as in his chosen department of business, he has already established for himself an enviable reputation as a good citizen and a thorough-going and enterprising member of the agricultural and industrial community. Mr. Minton is comfortably located near Heyworth, on section 9 of Randolph

Township. Upon his farm he is making a specialty of Poland-China swine, and is in possession of some valuable registered animals. His herd was started at Wapella, Ill., in 1882, and he has materially increased it since that time. He has now one of the best herds, and probably the largest, in Central Illinois, and his animals have taken more premiums than any others in this part of the State. His herd was started with Young Roe, No. 2,201, Vol. 5, of Central Poland-China Record. He has since had at the head of his herd the well-known J. C. Eye, registered No. 2,803, in the same book. He has now Arnold's Choice, who will be registered in Vol. 8 of the Central Herd Book, and is among the best hogs in the State. This department of stock-raising yields our subject a handsome income, and he has gained a reputation.

Mr. Minton was born in Claiborne County, Tenn., July 16, 1850. His father, Phillip Minton, was a native of the same State and a farmer by occupation. During the late Civil War, he served in the Confederate army, and was shot through the head at Kennesaw Mountain. He survived nine days, and then died at Atlanta Hospital. The maiden name of Mrs. Minton was Marinda Huddleson, and she is still living on the Minton homestead in Claiborne County, Tenn., being seventy-five years old. After the death of her husband she was married a second time. The subject of this history was the eldest of his father's family. Following him came Frank M., who is now living with Jacob M., and also W. B. and Cornelia M., who came North in 1884.

Jacob M. Minton received a good education in his native county, and remained at home after his father's death, until eighteen years of age. He then went West, first settling in Atehison County, Kan., whence, after three years, he returned to Tennessee and remained until 1873. He then came to Illinois, and engaged as a farm laborer for a few years, living temperately and within his means, and becoming well fitted for the further struggle of life. Thus growing up into manhood and passing onward in the rugged pathway of time, disciplined in the stern school of experience, he was prepared to meet every emergency with a steady and a ready hand.

The marriage of our subject occurred on the 19th of December, 1878, at Heyworth, in this county, the lady of his choice being Miss Mary A. Creswell, of Quebec, Canada, who was born Aug. 14, 1856. Her parents were of Scotch ancestry, and came from the North of Ireland to Canada, where her father died when she was a child of about six years old. Her mother, formerly Miss Sarah Lowrey, now lives in Heyworth with her two daughters—Jennie and Maggie.

Mr. and Mrs. Minton have become the parents of four children, all living—Charlie C., Chesley W., Wiley B. and John P. Mrs. Minton is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and their pleasant home is the resort of many warm friends who are hospitably entertained. Mr. Minton, in politics, is a staunch Democrat, and while in De Witt County, held the office of Township Collector.

As a splendid example of what may be accomplished by an energetic, enterprising and determined man, we point to Mr. Minton, and take pleasure in giving his portrait in this volume.

**A**LFRED J. WELCH, a very successful farmer of Downs Township, is proprietor of 311 acres of valuable land, finely located on sections 17 and 18, and twelve acres on sections 5 and 7, the residence being on the first. The greater part of the farm is improved and under a good state of cultivation, and well drained with 700 rods of tile. The place is furnished with good buildings and fences, and all the appliances of the modern and progressive agriculturist.

Mr. Welch is a native of this county, born in Downs Township July 5, 1855, and the youngest of four sons and four daughters born to his parents. He pursued his earlier studies in the district schools and completed his education in Wesleyan University. He made his home with his parents until his marriage, Nov. 19, 1879, to Miss Bell, the daughter of James Fulton, of whom a sketch will be found elsewhere in this volume. Mrs. W. was born, reared and educated in Downs Township, and when sixteen years of age commenced teaching, which she

followed successfully for a short time. Of her union with our subject there have been born three children, of whom one, Walter H., is deceased. The two daughters living are Grace and Martha.

Mr. and Mrs. Welch since their marriage have lived upon their present homestead, where our subject has followed his chosen vocation with more than ordinary success. The farm is well stocked with cattle, horses, sheep and swine, and everything about the premises is kept in the best condition. Our subject and his wife are not connected with any church organization but have endeavored as well as they knew how, to do unto others as they would be done by. Mr. Welch politically is an earnest supporter of Republican principles.

**R**EV. JOHN G. CAMPBELL, a highly respected resident of Bloomington, resides at No. 906 Moulton street, and enjoys the friendship and association of the cultured people of the city. He is a native of Bourbon County, Ky., and was born Aug. 1, 1813. Mr. Campbell is the son of James and Nancy A. Campbell, natives of Virginia, who were members of the Christian Church, and the father was engaged in farming pursuits. The parents removed from the Old Dominion to Missouri, in 1856, and there spent the remainder of their lives. Of their family of seven children, four are now living—Hugh, John G., James O., and Mary E., now Mrs. Richards, of Missouri.

The younger days of the subject of this sketch were spent on his father's farm and in school. When twenty-one years of age he went to Indiana and attended the State University one year. He afterward engaged in farming and preaching alternately, being connected with the Christian Church. He was a resident of Monroe County, Ind., for eleven years, and then returned to his former home, where he remained two years, and in October, 1849, came to this State and county, and located at Bloomington, where he was engaged as formerly until 1880, when on account of failing health, he retired from active life.

When twenty-one years of age, in 1834, Mr.



Campbell was united in marriage with Miss Sallie A. Campbell, a native of Bourbon County, Ky., and the daughter of Hugh and Mary (Alexander) Campbell, who were engaged in agricultural pursuits. The mother died in Bourbon County, Ky., and the father in Indiana. Nine of their eleven children are now living, as follows: Nancy J., Mrs. Alexander; Sallie A., Mrs. Campbell; William A., Hugh B., James T., Grenberry W., Wright, Robert, and Mary Catherine, Mrs. Dr. Molett, of Florida. Mr. and Mrs. Campbell of this notice have two children: Newton M., who married Miss Mary Guinn, and they have two sons—Charles L. and Ira C.; Minnie M. is a graduate of the Bloomington High School, and resides with her parents. All the family are members of the Christian Church, and our subject in politics is Republican.



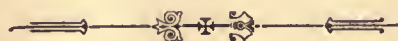
**F**RANK A. WEISHAAR, a contractor and builder, with an office on the corner of Mulberry street and Morris avenue, Bloomington, enjoys a successful and lucrative trade. Our subject is a native of Lee County, Iowa, and was born Nov. 5, 1849. His parents were Anthony and Josephine (Hizer) Weishaar, natives of Germany, who came to America with their parents when children. They settled in New Orleans, and after arriving at suitable years were married there. In 1846 they removed to Iowa, where Anthony Weishaar purchased 220 acres of wild land and commenced the improvement of a farm. He was successful in his agricultural and business operations, and the home which he established remained in his possession until his death, which occurred in 1879. The mother still lives on the old farm.

The grandfather of our subject, whose name was also Anthony, was one of the first settlers of Lee County, Iowa, where he opened up a large farm and became one of the prominent men of that section. His son, Anthony, the father of our subject, possessed the traits of his sire in a marked degree, and in early manhood held the offices of Supervisor and Pathmaster, and with his wife and children was prominently connected with the German Catholic Church. Their household included nine chil-

dren, six of whom are living: William, of Lee County, Iowa, is engaged as a carpenter and cooper; Malinda, now Mrs. Keiner, lives in Lee County, Iowa; Frank is a resident of Bloomington; Charles is engaged in farming in Lee County, Iowa, as is also George; Lizzie, who married a brother of the aforesaid Mr. Keiner, lives in Lee County, Iowa.

Frank A. Weishaar remained with his parents until the 7th of August, 1864, in the meantime receiving a practical education and doing farm work. He then went to learn the carpenter's trade of his cousin, Lewis Weishaar, of Lee County, Iowa, with whom he served for three years, and then worked as a journeyman for seven years. In 1870 he came to Bloomington, and after two years returned to Lee County, where he remained six years. He then again came to Bloomington and started out as a builder and contractor, which business he has followed since that time. He is a skilled mechanic, a straightforward business man, and is considered one of the representative men of the city.

The marriage of Frank A. Weishaar and Miss Frances Angersbach took place in 1872, at Bloomington. Mrs. W. is the daughter of Joseph and Frances Angersbach, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of one child, Gussie J. Mr. and Mrs. W. are members of the German Catholic Church, and the former belongs to the German Benevolent Society.



**W**ILLIAM ELLSWORTH, one of the younger children, but eldest son of John and Phebe Ellsworth, of New York, is of American parentage. John Ellsworth grew to manhood in his native State, and enlisting in the Revolutionary War, served seven years as a soldier in defense of American liberty. He fought under Gen. Wayne, and miraculously escaped death on several occasions, his clothing being pierced through and through with the enemies' bullets. He passed through many of the thrilling scenes of that period, and much of the time performed special duty as a messenger, carrying important dispatches. At the close of the war he received an honorable discharge, and lived many years to talk of its thrilling inci-

dents and the glorious victory which followed. John Ellsworth had learned the trade of a carpenter when a young man, and after his return from the war pursued this and farming the remainder of his life.

After marriage they settled near Bowling Green, Ky., where their son William, of our sketch, was born, on the 1st of September, 1817. Six years later John Ellsworth set out with his family for Illinois, and located in St. Clair County, about thirty miles from St. Louis, where the parents passed the remainder of their lives, the father having attained the age of eighty-four years.

William Ellsworth set out early in life to earn his own livelihood, working first upon a farm in St. Clair County, Ill., and employing himself for a number of years at whatever his hands could find to do. After reaching manhood he was married to Sarah Tolbert, of St. Clair County, Ill. Three children were born of this union: John, who lives in Wichita, Kan.; George, a resident of Cowley County, that State, and Jane married Joseph Bishop, and they are living at Heyworth. Mrs. Sarah Ellsworth died in St. Clair County, in 1847. The second marriage of our subject took place in St. Clair County, Ill., Nov. 8, 1848, with Mrs. Mary E. Chesney, widow of Robert Chesney, and daughter of Kineheon and Elizabeth (Elder) Pitts. By her union with Robert Chesney there was born a daughter, Harriet, who married John S. Bishop, and they live in Randolph Township. Mrs. Ellsworth was born near Murfreesboro, Tenn., May 10, 1823. Her parents were natives of the same State, her father being engaged in farming. They left their native State in 1828, and came with their two children, Mary E. and Nancy, to St. Clair County, Ill., where they located upon a farm. Afterward, in 1873, they removed to Nashville, Washington County, this State, where the father died in November, and the mother in March, 1875, both aged seventy-five years, and both members of the Baptist Church, as also were John Ellsworth and his wife before they died.

Mrs. Ellsworth remained under the home roof until her marriage, assisting her parents in the labors of the farm and household duties. By her marriage with our subject she became the mother of eight children, of whom the record is as follows:

Kineheon, who married Miss Mary J. Bishop, and they live on a farm in Downs Township; William S. married the adopted daughter of William Elders, and is engaged in butchering in Heyworth; James M., deceased; Emily became the wife C. I. McCombs, a farmer and blacksmith of Downs Township; C. Walter married Miss Minnie Candle, and is carrying on a real-estate business at Wichita, Kan.; E. W. is unmarried, and does business with his brother, C. W., in Kansas, and Mary B. is the wife of John Crookshank, and resides with her father on the old homestead.

After marriage Mr. Ellsworth staid in St. Clair County until the fall of 1859, when he removed with his family to McLean County, and located in Downs Township, where he has since lived. He at one time owned considerable land. The homestead embraces 170 acres, in a good state of cultivation, with a handsome and convenient residence and all necessary out-buildings. He is considered one of the representative men of this county, being enterprising and industrious, prompt to meet his obligations, and in all respects is fulfilling the duties of a good citizen. Mrs. Ellsworth is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and our subject, politically, affiliates with the Republican party.

PETER R. NAFFZINGER owns and occupies a fine homestead in Montgomery Township, Woodford County, where he lives retired from active labor, the farm being managed by his son. The subject of our sketch is a native of Germany, born Oct. 11, 1824. His parents were Peter and Barbara (Beek) Naffzinger, natives of Germany, the father born Feb. 23, 1789, and the mother in 1796. They were married March 8, 1812, and ten years later emigrated to the United States. They landed in New York City, whence they proceeded to Canada, where they remained three years, then returned to the States and located in Butler County, Ohio. There Mr. N. purchased forty acres of land, which he cultivated and upon which he lived until 1843. He then removed to Woodford County, Ill., where his death occurred in September, 1885. The fol-

lowing children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Peter Naffzinger: Elizabeth, who married Michael Kistler; Jacob, who married Magdalena Rokie; Magdalena, who became the wife of Michael Kinzinger; Barbara, who became Mrs. Daniel Otto; Phebe, Mrs. Christian Scheattler; Peter R., of our sketch; Catherine, who married Michael Zimmerman; Valentine married Miss Elizabeth Stiger. The parents were connected with the Mennonite Church.

The subject of this history was but two years of age when his parents came to America. He was reared at home; educated in the common schools, and remained under the parental roof until his marriage, which occurred in Woodford County, Ill., Jan. 26, 1851. The lady of his choice was Miss Magdalena, the daughter of Joseph and Barbara (Rokie) Ingle, natives of Germany, where they were married in 1816. Joseph and Barbara Ingle became the parents of eight children—Joseph, Catherine, Barbara, Magdalena, Mary, Christian, and two who died in infancy unnamed. They also are members of the Mennonite Church.

After his marriage, Mr. Naffzinger purchased 100 acres of good land, upon which he erected a handsome and substantial farm dwelling, which he still occupies. He subsequently added to his original purchase and now has 200 acres of good and productive land.

Mr. and Mrs. N. became the parents of ten children, of whom Barbara and Mary are deceased; Catherine became the wife of Samuel Garber; Valentine married Miss Susan Knapple; Joseph is deceased; Benjamin married Miss Florence McLachlin; Phebe is deceased; Samuel, Rosa and Anna are at home. Our subject and his wife belong to the Mennonite Church, and politically Mr. Naffzinger is a staunch Democrat. During the late war he was drafted into the army, but secured a substitute and returned home.



**G**EORGE McNAUGHT, deceased, was one of the most substantial business men of Lexington, where he was engaged for a number of years. He was a native of Owen County, Ind., born near Indianapolis, Jan. 17, 1812, his parents

being Thomas and Catherine (Bartholomew) McNaught, the former a native of the North of Scotland, and the latter the daughter of Gen. Bartholomew who fought under Gen. Harrison in the battle of Tippecanoe.

Thomas McNaught, the father of our subject, emigrated to America when a young man, before his marriage. George was the first born son and one of fourteen children, seven sons and seven daughters, twelve of whom lived to become men and women who married and had families of their own. Of these seven still survive. The father removed to Indiana at an early period in the history of the State. Our subject only enjoyed the advantages of a nine months' education in school, but he was fond of reading and through his own exertions became a fair scholar and well informed upon all matters of general interest. He remained under the home roof until he attained to years of manhood and in August, 1839, was united in marriage with Miss Naney, the daughter of Col. John and Mary Franklin. In the fall of 1840 our subject made his first trip to McLean County, and purchased from Gen. Bartholomew a tract of land three miles west of Lexington. He then returned to Indiana after his family and the following spring took possession of his purchase, where he became successfully engaged as an agriculturist and stock-trader. This was before the time of railroads, and during the first year he drove his animals to Chicago which was then a small town. He continued in this business, shipping later by railroad, until his death, which occurred May 25, 1864.

Mr. and Mrs. McNaught had become the parents of six sons, all of whom were living at the time of his death. John T. is now deceased; James, who has become prominent as a law practitioner, is attorney for the Northern Pacific Railroad and resides at Seattle, the Queen City of Washington Territory, where he has accumulated a fine property; M. Frank is in the grain and stock business in Southwestern Kansas; George W. is engaged in mercantile pursuits in the northern part of Iowa; William N., of Lexington, is engaged in the hardware trade and also conducts the business of his farm; Joseph F. is the partner of his brother James in Washington Territory; John T., deceased, left a

wife and son, Elza, the latter being an importer of and dealer in Norman horses at Normal.

After the death of her first husband, Mrs. McNaught was married to Dr. J. L. Brook, an old physician and druggist, who departed this life in September, 1867. Mrs. B. was then married in 1870 to Rev. Butler, who was a pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church for twenty-five years, and who died Oct. 16, 1886. He was a most efficient minister and highly esteemed by all who knew him.



**E** DIAS, one of the prominent cigar manufacturers of Bloomington, established his present business in 1875, and is located in the Royce Block at No. 103 East Front street, and also No. 103 North Main street. Mr. Dias was born in England in 1842, and is the son of Elisha and Rachel (Noble) Dias, who were of English birth and ancestry and emigrated to the United States in 1856, landing on the 4th of January, and soon afterward settled in Boston, Mass. Elisha Dias was an appraiser and auctioneer and died in Cambridgeport in 1865. The mother departed this life in Boston the year of their arrival here. Of their family of nine children, only three are living: Priscilla and Rebecca, the latter of whom is married, and both are residents of Detroit, Mich., and our subject.

Young Dias received his early education in the schools of his native country and soon after coming to the United States commenced to do for himself. He was first employed by S. & J. Myers of Boston and then engaged to learn cigar-making, serving an apprenticeship of three years. The war then coming on, he enlisted as a soldier in the 3d Massachusetts Infantry, serving a three months' term and then re-enlisted in the 38th Massachusetts and served for two and one-half years. He participated in several battles and skirmishes and was slightly wounded at Winchester. Soon after entering the army he was promoted Corporal and served bravely and faithfully until the close of the war.

After his retirement from the army Mr. Dias went to St. John's, N. B., and was foreman of a cigar manufactory there for four years. Thence

he went to Detroit and engaged in business for himself until 1872. Selling out he proceeded to South Bend, Ind., and engaged in the manufacture of cigars from 1870 to 1875. He then came to Bloomington and established his present business. From a modest beginning he has made good progress and now employs sixteen men, keeping one on the road continuously.

Our subject was married in 1870 to Miss Esther, daughter of Daniel J. and Amelia (Solomon) Holland, natives of England. Mrs. D. was born in New York City and of her marriage with our subject there have been born four children—Alexander E., Amelia R. Henry N., and Rachel, deceased. Their pleasant and comfortable home is located at No. 601 East Jackson street, and they enjoy the friendship and association of some of the best people in the city. Mr. and Mrs. D. are members of the Moses Montefiore (Hebrew) Congregation, and in politics our subject uniformly casts his vote with the Republican party. Socially he belongs to the Order of Red Men and to the B'nai B'rith.



**J**AMES H. SCOTT, a resident of this county since the spring of 1880, and a prosperous and well-to-do farmer living on section 7, Towanda Township, is an offspring of Samuel and Nancy (Biggs) Scott. The father was born in Virginia, in 1777, and the mother, in 1787, in what is now Monroe County, Ill. James Scott, grandfather of our subject, emigrated from Kentucky to Illinois and settled in St. Clair County. There Samuel Scott was reared to manhood on his father's farm. It was during this time that William Biggs, father of our subject's mother, came to this State from Georgia and settled in Monroe County. While acting as Sheriff of that county Mr. Biggs, while on his way to Kaskaskia, Ill., with a load of furs, was attacked and taken prisoner by the Indians and held as such at what is now Vincennes, Ind., for about nine months. During his absence the mother of our subject was born, the year being 1787.

Our subject's parents were married in St. Clair County, Ill., and there reared a family of eleven

children, all of whom are deceased except two: John M., Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Illinois, and the other, James H., subject of this notice. Samuel Seott departed this life in 1837, and his good wife survived him until 1861, when she crossed the river to meet him on the other shore.

The subject of this notice was born near Turkey Hill, St. Clair Co., Ill., Oct. 20, 1821. He was reared to manhood on his father's farm, and received a good education in the common schools. Living with the old folk until 1849, engaged the while in agricultural pursuits, he then made an overland trip to California, for the purpose of replenishing an almost empty exchequer, by mining. On the route they were attacked once or twice by Indians, but escaped without loss of life, and his party were among the first trains to arrive in California from the States after the discovery of gold. They arrived at Sacramento City, July 23, 1849, having been eighty-seven days on the route from St. Joseph, Mo. Our subject remained in California for about two years, meeting with moderate success, and then returned via the Isthmus to New Orleans, thence to St. Louis, and from there back to St. Clair County. Again he engaged in farming, and was thus occupied in that county until the spring of 1880, when he came to this county. He was the owner of quite an extensive farm in St. Clair County, together with considerable stock, farm implements, etc., and disposing of them, he on his arrival here purchased 272 acres of good land in Towanda Township, the same being known as the "Duncan farm," where he at present resides, and is extensively engaged in farming and stock-raising.

Mr. Seott was married in St. Clair County, Ill., April 27, 1853, to Miss Eliza C., daughter of William and Barbara (Teter) Rutherford, natives of Kentucky and Virginia respectively, and both of whom departed this life in St. Clair County, his demise occurring in 1849, and hers in 1864. They had six sons and seven daughters. Mrs. Seott was born in St. Clair County, Ill., Jan. 4, 1830, and by her union with our subject two children have been born—Millard and Anne E. Millard married Miss Belle Begole, a relative of ex-Governor Begole, of

Michigan, and they are living in Towanda Township, having become the parents of one child, Harriett. Anne is the wife of J. H. Falkingham, and they are also living in Towanda Township. Mr. Seott, while a resident of St. Clair County, held the office of Justice of the Peace for sixteen years. Since coming to this county he has served one term as Supervisor of Towanda Township. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and socially our subject belongs to the Masonic fraternity. In politics he was a Democrat until the birth of the Prohibition party, since which time he has voted for its success, and believes it a sin against God, and humanity to vote a man the right to sell liquor by license.

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**W**ILLIAM HANNA. On section 21, Yates Township, may be found the pleasant homestead of the subject of this sketch, which he established in 1874, and where he has lived for many years in the enjoyment of the fruits of industry, and the respect and confidence of his neighbors and acquaintances. Mr. Hanna was born in County Antrim, in the North of Ireland, in 1836. His parents, James and Nancy Hanna, both died in that country. The parental family consisted of fifteen children, ten of whom came to the United States, namely: Isabella, John, James, Mary, Catherine, Jane, Nancy, Eliza, Samuel and William. All of these are living, seven residing in Illinois, one in Pennsylvania and two in Nebraska.

William Hanna was born and reared on a farm in his native country, where he resided until about twenty years of age. He emigrated alone to the United States, his first stopping-place being at Phoenixville, Lancaster Co., Pa., where his brother James had preceded him. Young Hanna first engaged in a rolling-mill at that place, where he worked four years. He then started westward, and coming into Illinois, located first in Putnam County, where he worked a few years as a farm laborer. Thence he went to Winona, in Marshall County, where he rented land for about nine years, meeting with fair success. He then began looking about for a permanent homestead, and coming into

this county purchased eighty acres of land in Chenoa Township, where he made his home for the following six years, and then selling out he purchased his present farm, in Yates Township. This consists of 160 acres of finely improved land furnished with a good set of farm buildings. His possessions have been the result of his own industry and perseverance, and he can look back upon the past with a clear conscience and the satisfaction derived from steady habits and a well-spent life.

The marriage of Mr. Hanna took place in the fall of 1863, the maiden of his choice being Miss Anna Burns, a native of his own county, and who emigrated to the United States with her parents, Robert and Mattie Burus, when a young girl. Of this union there were seven children, as follows: Mary, born in Putnam County, Ill., became the wife of Samuel McAllister, and resides in Marshall County, Ill.; Nancy was born in Winona, Ill.; Matilda, born near Chenoa; Cassie, James, William and Isabella, were born in this county. Mr. and Mrs. Hanna are connected with the Presbyterian Church, and politically our subject uniformly casts his vote with the Republican party.



**F**RANK OBERKOETTER, one of the reliable and substantial business men of Bloomington, is senior member of the well-known wholesale grocery firm of Oberkoetter & Co. of Bloomington. He came to this vicinity in September, 1857, and during his residence of thirty years in this county has contributed his full share in building up its industrial and mercantile interests.

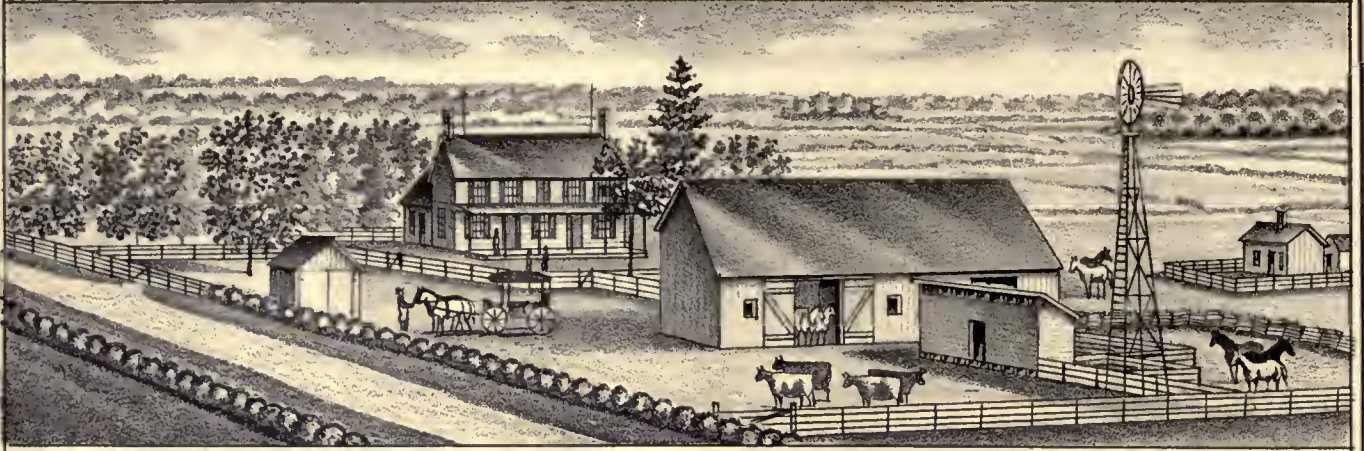
Mr. Oberkoetter is a representative of that nationality which has done more, perhaps, than any other in assisting to develop the resources of the Prairie State and the great West. His birthplace was in the Empire of Germany, where he was born on the 25th of January, 1828. His parents, Henry and Katie (Lemme) Oberkoetter, were natives of the same country, and came of excellent German ancestry, who illustrated in a marked degree the reliable characteristics of their race. Their son Frank was placed in school when seven years of age, where he pursued his studies until fourteen.

After serving a brief apprenticeship at the carpenter's trade and agricultural pursuits he, in 1850, boarded a vessel bound for the United States, and after a safe voyage landed in the city of New Orleans. After four months spent there he went up the river to St. Louis, Mo., where he passed one summer, returning in the fall to the Crescent City. The following spring he went back to St. Louis, which remained his home for five years following.

In September, 1857, Mr. Oberkoetter started North, and coming into Bloomington, this State, opened a small retail grocery store, which he operated successfully until 1871. That same year he formed a partnership with Jacob Jacoby, and they are operating together profitably. The business has been merged into the wholesale trade, and under the new regime, as before, it has steadily grown, and their trade extends throughout this and adjoining counties where they have built up a fine patronage. Both partners are practical business men, and well and favorably known in business circles. Their present building on Main street was put up in 1875. It is 54x105 feet in area and three stories in height, besides a good basement, and the whole is devoted to their extensive operations. They employ three traveling salesmen besides five men at the store. Mr. Oberkoetter began life at the foot of the ladder, and has climbed up to his present position solely by his own industry and energy. He started in business with \$900, \$600 of which he made after coming to the United States, and during the financial crash of 1857 he lost about half of this. He was not of the spirit to be dismayed, however, but applied himself closely to business and in due time recovered his losses. Besides his interest in the building occupied by the firm he has another on South Main street, equal to this in dimensions, and a good residence in the same locality. Although now beyond his prime he still possesses the energy and resolution of his earlier years, and is a fine illustration of the well-preserved man, both physically and mentally, who has been temperate in his habits and pursued that honest and upright life which enables him to look the whole world in the face.

The marriage of our subject took place at St. Louis, Mo., in February, 1857, the lady of his





RESIDENCE OF G. J. MURPHY, SEC. 18. MT HOPE TP.



RESIDENCE OF F. W. LOWENTROUT, 603 MARKET ST., BLOOMINGTON, ILL.



choice being Miss Mary Schroeder, of that city, but who was a native of his own country. Of this union there were born nine children, seven of whom still survive, four boys and three girls: Frank, Jr., is a partner in the business of his father; Henry is a traveling salesman; Harmon a shipping clerk, and William the bill clerk of the firm; Anna, Rose and May are at home. The parents and children are members and regular attendants of the German Catholic Church of Bloomington:



**F** W. LOWENTROUT, one of Bloomington's highly respected citizens, now retired from active business, occupies a pleasant and commodious residence at No. 603 West Market street. He is a native of Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, and was born April 15, 1830, and is the son of Peter and Anna M. (Maus) Lowentroust, natives of the same Province. Peter Lowentroust entered the German army at the age of sixteen years, and was in the military service for the following twelve years and eleven months, all this time being actively engaged. He captured a Richmond flag of the English troops in Spain, being at that time Fort Master, and having a horse and sword. He at one time captured five men with their flag, and the following day was presented a Captain's commission, which was signed by Napoleon Bonaparte. Afterward, in battle with the Spaniards, he was taken prisoner and held by the enemy for two years. After being released he was transferred to the 1st Regiment of Infantry. He remained in the service until the close of the war, and was then given the position of Harbor Master at Germersheim, which he held until his death, in 1847. The parental family consisted of seven children, six of whom are now living: Barbara, Mrs. Licandecker, is a resident of New York City; our subject is the next in order; Peter lives in Newark, N. J.; Lizzie, Mrs. Bort, Charles, and Anna, Mrs. Salch, are in Bloomington. The mother came to Bloomington with her son Charles, and remained an inmate of his home until her death, in 1863.

F. W. Lowentroust received a common-school education and during his earlier years worked upon

a farm. In the fall of 1846 he commenced to deal in grain on commission, and the following year established a business on his own account. The first year he was successful and made considerable money. In 1849, while with a party of friends, he made some remarks derogatory to the Duke of Hesse-Darmstadt, and upon this account was soon afterward obliged to leave the country. He came to America in 1851, landing in New York on Christmas Day. He was there variously occupied for two years, and then learned the trade of japanning, which he followed until 1854. He afterward, in company with his brother, engaged in that business and they operated until December, 1859, when their shop and machinery were destroyed by fire, involving a loss of \$150,000, and throwing their 200 men out of employment. He was then penniless and obliged to employ himself at whatever he could find to do. He engaged with T. P. Howell in the patent-leather business, and remained with him until 1861, and then with his family came to Bloomington.

For eight years after his arrival in this county, Mr. Lowentroust was in the employ of the C. & A. R. R. Co., during which time he was enabled to considerably repair his shattered fortunes. He then purchased ground on the corner of Market and Oak streets, and started a saloon in the basement of a building. He operated this until 1872, and then, by reason of a broken limb, lay on his back for ten months, and in the meantime lost money. After being sufficiently recovered for business he began the purchase and sale of city property, and was soon once more upon his feet. He now owns the front half of the block at the corner of Oak and Market streets, besides five dwellings and several other buildings. In addition to this he has a farm of 176 acres in Old Town Township, which is all improved and under a fine state of cultivation. He was one of the projectors and a charter member of the Third National Bank, and in all respects is a solid and prominent member of the business community.

Mr. Lowentroust was married in 1852, to Miss Lessate Hoffman, a native of his own country, and the daughter of Friedrich Hoffman. Of this union there were born seven children, six now living:

Margaret, Lewis, John, a twin brother of Lewis, who died Dec. 16, 1885, at the age of twenty-seven years; Lizzie, Mrs. Diedrich; Otto, Clara and Oscar. The residence of our subject and his family, a handsome and commodious structure, and a view of which is given in this volume, was built in 1885, at a cost of \$6,000. Here they enjoy all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life. Politically our subject, on local matters, is independent, voting for those he considers the best men, but in National affairs he votes the Democratic ticket.



**G**EORGE W. STUBBLEFIELD, importer and breeder of Percheron and Norman horses, with his father, John Stubblefield, has been engaged for thirteen years in the importation of French horses, of which they have brought 300 head of valuable animals across the ocean and to this State. With the exception of the summer of 1882, during which they suffered terrible losses by fires and otherwise, they have been remarkably successful, and it is universally conceded that to their enterprise and excellent judgment in selecting draft stock, there is due not a little credit for the high standard to which the stock of Central Illinois has been raised. Mr. Stubblefield is President of the Seerity Live Stock Insurance Company of Bloomington, the office being located on the corner of Madison and Grove streets, and is connected with every measure of importance which is set on foot and has for its object the advancement of this branch of industry in the State.

The subject of this history is a native of this State, having been born in this county in 1849. His father, John Stubblefield, was a native of Ohio, born in Marion County in 1820, and came to Illinois with his father, Robert S., when a child of four years old. The family settled in Funk's Grove at an early period in the history of this county, and purchased a large tract of land. There Robert Stubblefield remained until his death, in 1876. Of his family of thirteen children, twelve are still living, John being the fourth of the family. He was reared to farming pursuits, received a common-school education and at the age of twenty-two

years, settled upon a claim of 160 acres, one mile north of Funk's Grove, eighty acres of which he improved and upon which he built a frame house and set out an orchard. To this tract he subsequently added and is now the possessor of 2,000 acres in this county. He married Miss Ellisannah Howser, daughter of David and Elizabeth Howser, natives of Fayetteville, Ohio. Of this marriage there were born nine children, eight now living, as follows: Sarah E., Mrs. Rayburn, lives in Shirley, this county; David R., in Covell; George W. of our sketch; Phineas M., also living in this county; Mary F., Mrs. Crumb of Virginia, Cass County; Henry B., of Shirley; Simon P., of McLean, and John W., at home.

The subject of this history spent his earlier years upon his father's farm, and after pursuing his primary studies in the common schools, entered Wesleyan College, where he completed his studies in 1872. He had already indicated unusual business talent and commenced purchasing and feeding stock. Two years later he made his first importation, which included Percheron, English draft and French coach horses. He was joined in this business by his father, John Stubblefield, in 1875, and has been successful from the start. In pursuance of this he has crossed the ocean fifteen times, bringing over at one time thirty-seven fine blooded animals. They operated with remarkable success and profit until the night of Sept. 1, 1882, when the barn and twelve noble steeds, valued at \$18,000, were destroyed by fire. The same summer they had lost six horses valued at \$8,000. With the exception of that summer they have lost only three horses in all the time they have been importing. In 1886, their importations consisted of twenty head, which is about the average of the number they annually import and keep on hand in their stables. Mr. Stubblefield spent one summer in Oregon and California in connection with his business and their horses are now sent all through the Western States.

Mr. Stubblefield, besides his large investment in the business which occupies the most of his time and attention, is the possessor of 620 acres of valuable land in Missouri, and has an interest in the jewelry firm of Walker & Stubblefield of Bloomington. He

ranks among the leading business men of McLean County and in all respects is a fair representative of the family which is so widely and favorably known throughout the State. Politically our subject affiliates with the Republican party, and socially belongs to the I. O. O. F., the Modern Woodman of America and the Improved Order of Red Men.

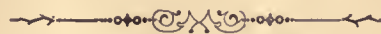


**J**AMES B. RUTLEDGE, dealer in groceries on Main and Colman streets, Heyworth, is the son of Thomas O. and Cynthia A. Rutledge, a sketch of whom is also given in this work, and was born on his father's old homestead in Randolph Township, Aug. 5, 1845. He remained on the farm until he was twenty-three years old, pursuing his studies in the common schools and at the Normal University. He was married in Woodford County, Dec. 30, 1868, to Miss Willie Smading, daughter of Frederick and Christina Smading, natives of Germany, who descended from pure German ancestry. Her parents were reared and married in their native land and there six children were born to them, Mrs. Rutledge of this notice being one of twins. She was eighteen months old when her parents with their family emigrated to the United States and settled near Eureka, Woodford County, where the father successfully engaged in farming and where he now lives at the advanced age of ninety-three years. The mother died there in September, 1873. There also Mrs. R. grew to womanhood and was educated.

After his marriage in 1868 Mr. Rutledge began to cultivate and improve a farm, which he had previously purchased on section 36, then comprising ninety-five acres. He has since added to the tract until he is now the owner of 170 acres of valuable land, which is supplied with good frame buildings. Mr. Rutledge was extensively engaged in farming and stock-raising there until he embarked in the grocery business in 1874. He first started in company with William W. Elder, and has since successfully represented this department of trade at Heyworth. They began business on the first Monday in January, 1874, under the firm name

of Elder & Rutledge. The partnership existed until 1878, when they dissolved, and the stock became the property of Mr. Robb. It was subsequently purchased by Mr. Rutledge and Mr. Battershell, who operated together until 1881 and then, owing to the death of Mr. B., Mr. Rutledge became sole proprietor, and has conducted the business alone since that time. Besides his finely improved farm, which is worked by a tenant, he is also the owner of some valuable town property.

Mr. and Mrs. Rutledge have one child, Lyman T., who was born April 5, 1872. He has an excellent education obtained by a thorough course of study in the schools of Heyworth. Mr. and Mrs. R. are connected with the Presbyterian Church. In politics the former subscribes himself as a "thoroughbred Democrat."



**M**ARCELLUS SYPULT, an enterprising young farmer of West Township, is a native of West Virginia, born in Monongalia County, March 3, 1855. His father, Jesse Sypult, a native of the same State and of French ancestry, was taken by his parents when a young child to Virginia, where he was reared to manhood, and married Miss Amelia A. Rogers, a native of the Old Dominion. He purchased a tract of land in Monongalia County, and lived there until the fall of 1863. The mother had died July 28, 1859. In the year first mentioned, Jesse Sypult removed to Illinois, first locating in Woodford County, and thence, in 1866, came to this county and purchased land on section 23, West Township. The journey from Woodford County was made overland with three wagons. At Bloomington he unloaded some of his goods, which he exchanged for lumber, and after arriving in West Township, put up a temporary shanty in which the family lived until a more substantial dwelling could be erected. They occupied this place until 1876, when the father sold out and purchased 160 acres of land in Ford County. After four years he sold that farm likewise and removed to Buena Vista County, Iowa, where he purchased a tract of land which he cultivated and improved until his death, which took place in March,

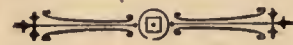
1883. He had thus opened up four different farms in three States. The one in Virginia he cleared from the wilderness and erected a log house where the young people first set up housekeeping.

Mr. Sypult was Republican in politics and a staunch Union man during the war. Although not going into active service in the field he did what he could by his voice and influence at home, and was Captain of a company of minute men in Virginia. He was strictly temperate in his habits, and although suffering for a long period from ill-health, was never heard to complain, but bore his affliction with manly fortitude. Religiously, he was connected for many years with the Methodist Episcopal Church. The parental family included six children by the first marriage and three by the second, our subject being the fifth child of the first.

Mr. Sypult was but eight years old when he came to Illinois with his parents, and three years later located in West Township, of which he has been a resident since that time. He was reared on a farm until eighteen years old, then bought his time and rented land of his father two years. He then purchased eighty acres of the old homestead, which he has occupied since that time. He was married, Dec. 24, 1874, to Miss Anna Johnson, who was born in Clark County, Ind., Jan. 4, 1857. Mrs. S. is the daughter of Jacob Johnson, of Ohio, who removed after his marriage to Indiana and from there to this State in about 1860. Nine years later he returned to Indiana, and in 1871 came back to Illinois, settling in Brown County, where he remained until his removal to Fairbury, Livingston County, where he still lives. He was married in early life to Miss Mary A. Neal, who was born in Ohio, and was the daughter of Rev. James Neal, a minister in the Christian Church. Mr. and Mrs. Sypult have three children living—William Rolla, Clyde Delbert and Earnest Edward. Arthur B., twin brother of Earnest, died when seven months old. Our subject was a prominent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in politics is a straight Republican.

When the parents of our subject first removed to Illinois, they found themselves in a wild country where but few settlers had made a claim. Deer roamed at will over the prairie and other wild game was plenty. The father of our subject possessed

remarkable energy and resolution, and contributed his full share toward the development and progress of the different localities where he at times made his home. The son possesses in a marked degree those elements of character which have made all the family of that name good citizens and worthy members of the community. He is yet a young man, but bids fair to take a prominent position in the business and agricultural community, because he is industrious, enterprising, and willing to do his share in the busy world.



GEN. JOHN McNULTY, senior member of the law firm of McNulty & Weldon of Bloomington, is a native of New York City and was born Nov. 9, 1837. He remained under the home roof until reaching manhood, in the meantime receiving his education at a private school in his native city. In 1857 he drifted West to Bloomington, and subsequently commenced reading law with the firm of Sweet & Orme, prominent attorneys of the city. About the time he had completed his studies the breaking out of the late Civil War materially altered his plans for the future.

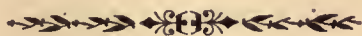
In April, 1861, Gen. McNulty enlisted in a New York cavalry company, of which he was made Captain, and served in that capacity until July, 1862, under Gen. Grant, who was at that time Colonel of a regiment. After serving with distinction he was promoted, Aug. 20, 1862, Lieutenant Colonel of the 94th Infantry, and became Brigadier General in 1865. He suffered with his command bravely and faithfully the vicissitudes of war and at its close was mustered out, in the fall of 1865.

After his retirement from the army Gen. McNulty returned to Bloomington. He became prominent in the political affairs of this county, and in 1872 was elected State Senator. He served four years, which included five sessions of the Legislature, and, still advancing on the road to honor, was made a member of the Forty-third Congress.

General McNulty served as Master in Chancery in this county for a period of six years, which posi-

tion he resigned in the summer of 1885, having been appointed Receiver of the Toledo & Cleveland Railroad. He is now President of the National Mutual Accident Association of Bloomington, serving also as attorney for the same. He at present spends a goodly portion of his time in Chicago, having been appointed Receiver of the Wabash Railroad Company, and having headquarters in that city. In the various positions of trust and responsibility to which he has been called he has distinguished himself as a man of more than ordinary ability, with a clear head for business and a keen sense of honor and principle. He has been connected with many important enterprises and always lends his influence and more substantial aid to whatever project is calculated to advance the progress and prosperity of one of the most wealthy counties of the Prairie State.

General McNulty was married, July 15, 1862, to Miss Laura, daughter of Robert Felton, Esq., of Litchfield, Conn. Of this union there have been born three children—Herbert, Robert and Donald.



**C**HARLES S. JONES, of the firm of C. Wakefield & Co., of Bloomington, is engaged in the manufacture of the Wakefield Family Medicines, which have gained so wide a celebrity in the United States. Our subject ranks among the pioneer settlers of the State, having come here when a boy ten years of age from Madison County, N. Y., where he was born May 30, 1833. He is the son of James and Julia (Dunham) Jones, natives of the same county and State as above mentioned. James Jones, in early life, was a manufacturer of boots and shoes in Madison County, and removed thence to Illinois and settled on a farm four miles west of Bloomington, in 1843. Subsequently he located in Twin Grove, and died the following year; the mother had died in 1841, before the removal West, in Madison, N. Y. Both parents were members of the Baptist Church, and James Jones in early manhood served as a soldier in the War of 1812. The parental household included four children: William B. resides at Exeelsior, Minn., where he located in 1854, and is engaged in general merchan-

dising; Warren L. is a druggist of Atlanta, Ill.; Charles S., our subject, and Mary E., Mrs. Page, of Minneapolis, Minn.

The subject of this biography, after the death of his father, went to live with an uncle, Oliver Pease, at Twin Grove, and worked on the farm with him until he was fourteen years old. Then, preferring to go elsewhere, he started out to seek his fortune. The first day he walked twenty-five miles across the prairie, and the second day, after proceeding ten miles, he secured work on a farm at \$10 a month, which was the first money he ever received as wages. He was subsequently employed in the harvest field at \$1 per day and the following winter he stopped with Jacob Brining, in Logan County, and worked for his board. He passed the following summer at the same place and the next spring commenced breaking prairie with five yoke of oxen and was thus employed until he had turned over the sod on 125 acres. In the fall of 1851 he returned to Twin Grove, where he attended school and worked nights and mornings for his board, and was similarly employed until 1853, when, in the spring of that year, he came to Bloomington and engaged to learn the drug business with James E. Parke. Six months afterward Mr. Parke died, and the store being sold young Jones accepted a clerkship in the post-office where he was occupied for six months and then became mail agent between Bloomington and Chicago.

In the spring of 1854 Mr. Jones resumed his experience in the drug business under the instruction of Drs. Wakefield and Thompson, and on the 1st of January, 1857, purchased the interest of the former and the firm became R. Thompson & Co. This relation continued until September, 1864, when Mr. Jones disposed of his interest to Dr. J. M. Major, and going to Chicago became traveling salesman for the firm of Fuller, Finch & Fuller, being promoted to head salesman, and continued in that position until March, 1871. Mr. Jones then, in company with a partner, engaged as a wholesale dealer in druggists' sundries, operating under the style of Jones & Torrey. This firm continued its transactions until the Chicago fire, in October of that year, when their entire stock was destroyed, and from an insurance of \$57,000 they only re-

alized \$11,000. Mr. Jones then left Chicago, and returning to Bloomington became associated with his old employer, C. Wakefield, and under the firm name of C. Wakefield & Co., has continued the manufacture of the medicines. The firm gives employment to forty hands and keeps four men on the road.

Charles S. Jones and Miss Martha Richardson were united in marriage on the 6th of November, 1856, at the home of the bride's parents in Watertown, N. Y. Mrs. Jones was born on the 3d of March, 1835, in Watertown, and is the daughter of Josiah and Cynthia (Tolman) Richardson, natives respectively of Sterling, Mass., and Nelson, N. H. The marriage of Mrs. Jones' parents occurred at Watertown, and they trace their ancestors to stanch old families of Scotch and English origin. Josiah Richardson removed from Massachusetts to Watertown, N. Y., in 1803, when at the age of nineteen years, he having been born in 1784. His wife was his junior by one year. After removing to New York State he was engaged in agricultural pursuits until his death, which occurred in 1854. Mrs. Richardson survived her husband until 1870, when she too passed to the land of the hereafter. Of their ten children seven are now living; Charles, and Juliet, now Mrs. Dodge, are residents of Watertown, N. Y.; Harriet is the wife of Dr. Wakefield, the partner of our subject; Cynthia, now Mrs. Robert Thompson; Josiah, Mary, Mrs. Orrin Waters, and Martha, Mrs. Jones, all live in Bloomington. Mr. Jones is Republican in politics and socially is identified with the A. O. U. W. His pleasant and comfortable home is located at No. 514 East Douglas street, where, in 1872, he erected a fine residence at a cost of \$7,000.



**J**AMES HEAGLER. On section 29, Martin Township, is located one of the finest homesteads in this section of country. It is the home of the subject of this sketch, and he has occupied it since 1857. He has made great improvements since taking possession of it and has built up for himself an enviable reputation as an

honest man and a good citizen. James Heagler is a native of the wealthy and populous State of Ohio, born in the town of Washington Court House, Fayette County, on the 29th of February, 1827.

The grandfather of our subject, George Heagler, a native of Virginia, removed to Ohio in the pioneer days, becoming a resident of Fayette County in 1814. His death occurred while on a visit to Lancaster, that State. His son, Zebedee W., the father of our subject, married Miss Rosanna Grove, who was of Holland descent but born in Pennsylvania, and reared principally in Hagerstown, Md. After their marriage the young people located at Washington Court House, Fayette Co., Ohio, where the mother died in 1863. The father is still living, having arrived at the advanced age of eighty-four years. He served as County Treasurer in Fayette County, first by appointment and then by election under a Whig administration, beginning in 1837 and serving continuously for a period of fourteen years. Subsequently he was elected Recorder, and has been Justice of the Peace for a long period, and Mayor of Washington when it was first incorporated as a city. Their family consisted of two sons and one daughter—James, Ellis H. and Elvira Rose. The latter became the wife of Mortimer Collier.

James Heagler was the eldest of his parents' children, and passed his childhood and youth in his native town, receiving a fair education in the common schools. He remained with his parents until his twenty-third year, when he was married to Miss Samantha J., daughter of James and Eliza Pope (Dawson) Henton. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. H. settled in Washington Court House, where they remained five years, whence they removed in 1855 to this county, and took up their abode in Padua Township. From there they removed in the spring of 1857 to their present farm in Martin Township. It was then but an uncultivated prairie, but James Heagler was possessed of a good stock of courage and resolution, and began his farming operations with the intention to succeed. In this he has realized his expectations and has now 120 acres of valuable land under a fine state of cultivation. Upon it he has erected a comfortable and substantial residence, a good barn and all other

buildings required by the intelligent and progressive farmer. He has been a man of note in his township since coming here, and has distinguished himself as a Jeffersonian Democrat of the old school.

Mr. and Mrs. Heagler, of this notice, have become the parents of seven children, five sons and two daughters, of whom the record is as follows: Alphonso died when eighteen years of age; Frank H. and Charles A. are residents of Martin Township; Eliza R. became the wife of William McClure, and is living in Nebraska; Alice L., Jane C., Robert Lee and Harry are at home, the latter attending school. Our subject is not a member of any church, but lives a pure life and enjoys the friendship and society of the best people of Martin Township.



**D**R. T. F. WORRELL, one of the skillful and experienced physicians of Bloomington, and holding a high position both socially and professionally, is a native of North Carolina and son of Rev. Thomas and Susan (Ellis) Worrell, natives of Granville County, N. C. The father of our subject received a fine education at the Academy at Petersburg, Va., and in about 1810 entered the Methodist ministry, while at the same time being engaged as Principal of an academy for a number of years. The parents were married in 1807, and had a family of ten children, seven of whom lived to mature years, four being now deceased. Dr. T. F. of our sketch was born in 1821; Rev. Wesley W., in 1822, and is now a resident of Mayfield, Ky.; Susan J., born in 1823, married Thomas Hutchinson of Bloomington. Rev. Thomas Worrell departed this life in 1838; the mother had preceded him to the better land in 1825.

The subject of this biography pursued his primary studies in the common schools. At the age of eighteen he entered Stewart College at Clarksville, Tenn., and pursued a course of instruction there for six months, and afterward attended a private classical academy in Christian County, Ky. In the meantime he had charge of a classic

school for three years, during which time he improved the opportunity to read medicine, and afterward entered the Medical Department of the University of Louisville, from which he graduated in the spring of 1845. He commenced the practice of medicine in Trigg County, Ky., whence, in the fall of 1850, he came to Bloomington, where he followed his practice continually until the present, but is now gradually withdrawing from its more active duties.

Dr. Worrell has built up for himself an enviable reputation for skill and fidelity to the interests of his patients, and is held in high esteem by the profession as well as the citizens of this locality. He belongs to the Illinois Medical Society, of which he has been President, and is connected with the National, and the McLean County Medical Societies, of which latter he was President two years. He is also a member of the Illinois Central District Society, and for several years has been Medical Director of the Bloomington Mutual Life Association. He is connected with the Board of Pension Examiners of this district, and has been identified with all measures tending to the elevation of the profession in McLean County. He has also been largely connected with other interests in this portion of the State, having been one of the original stockholders of the McLean County Coal Company, its President for twelve years and since its organization one of its Directors. In 1854, he was elected Alderman and politically is a staunch supporter of the Democratic party. Socially he belongs to Bloomington Lodge, A. F. & A. M., being one of the oldest members now living.

Dr. Worrell was married on the 8th. of September, 1841, to Miss Catharine A. Ewing, a native of Christian County, Ky., and daughter of Nathaniel and Sophia (Wallace) Ewing, of Iredell County, N. C. They have no children of their own but several years ago adopted two, one of whom, William W. Stephenson, is a brother of the First Assistant Postmaster General, A. E. Stephenson, of Washington, D. C., and is Assistant Superintendent and a stockholder of the Bloomington Coal Mines. He became an inmate of the family of our subject at the age of ten years and was given the advantages of a fair education. After arriving at years of manhood he

married Miss Catharine Williams, a native of Christian County, Ky., and the daughter of M. D. Williams. They have become the parents of five children—Charles, James, William, Henry and Ida. The second child of adoption was Ida Harwood who, at the age of sixteen months, was taken into the household and received parental care and training.

Dr. Worrell has accumulated a comfortable property, his present home being located at the corner of Albert and Olive streets. He built the house in 1851, hauling the lumber from Pekin, Ill., forty-five miles, over the prairie. It is the abode of comfort and cultivated tastes and forms one of the landmarks in the development of the city.

The business office of Dr. Worrell is in the Royce Block, at the intersection of Main and Front streets. He is now in his sixty-seventh year, and still retains his physical and mental powers unimpaired, except a recent affliction which will soon terminate. The Doctor is a friend of every human being of his acquaintance and is not aware of a living enemy.



**G**EORGE W. PARKE, a retired merchant of Bloomington, owns and occupies a handsome residence at the corner of North and Lee streets, where he is enjoying his later days in ease and comfort, surrounded by the friends whom his life of virtue and rectitude long ago attached to him. Mr. Parke has been a native of the Prairie State since 1837. He was born near Parkesburg, Chester Co., Pa., on the 29th of April, 1815, his parents being George W., Sr., and Mary (Fleming) Parke, natives of the same county and State as their son.

Our subject's paternal grandfather was Joseph Parke and his grandfather on his mother's side was John Fleming, also of Chester County, Pa. Both families descended from the Scotch-Irish, and were among the early pioneers of Pennsylvania, the town where our subject was born taking its name from the first representatives of the Parke family in that State. This town was then the terminus of the Pennsylvania State Railroad, which afterward extended to Harrisburg. This road ran

out from Philadelphia to Petrolia, twenty miles distant, the cars to this point being propelled by horse power and afterward supplied with steam.

The Parke family were mostly agriculturists and all well-to-do. They raised large families and trained their children to habits of industry, and to principles of honor and strict integrity. The parental household of our subject included seven children, three only now living. The families on both sides were Presbyterians, and almost without exception spent their entire lives in Pennsylvania.

George W. Parke spent his childhood and youth upon the farm and when sixteen years of age engaged as clerk in a store at Coatesville. He then attended Moseow Academy for two years. In 1836 he left his native town and went to Pittsburgh and soon afterward to Cincinnati, where he became employed as freight clerk on a steamer bound for New Orleans. After one winter thus occupied he returned to the old homestead, where he remained until the following year and then came to the Prairie State. He first stopped at Metamora, Woodford County, and in company with friends laid out a town which was first called Hanover, but subsequently changed to Metamora and there the county seat was established. He remained there until 1840, and then returned with his brother, John F., to Pennsylvania. There he entered into partnership with Joseph Stott and was occupied in general merchandising for one year. He then went to Philadelphia, where he engaged as clerk in a wholesale dry-goods store for a year, then purchasing a general stock of goods he shipped them to Illinois and set up a store in Metamora, which he operated for two years. Part of his goods were sold on credit, but he was successful in making his collections and enjoyed a good profit from his trade.

In 1845 Mr. Parke sold out in Metamora and went to Bloomington in company with two brothers, John F. and Samuel S., and they put up a three-story brick building on North Center street for the purpose of manufacturing furniture, and two years later the building was destroyed by fire. The brothers partially rebuilt and continued their business, and soon afterward erected the first three-story brick building in the city on Center street, on the west side of the square, and in this carried







*P. Whitmer*

on the grocery trade, their store being the first of its kind in Bloomington. In about 1848 they dissolved partnership. George W. took the store and his brothers continued the manufactory until they sold to its present proprietors, Hayes and Evans. Our subject continued his grocery trade for nearly four years, then sold out and purchased the north-west corner of the block now occupied by H. H. Green as a drug and jewelry store. After Mr. Parke abandoned merchandising he engaged in real-estate business and purchased the forty-acre addition laid out by Perry in 1865, and west of the C. & A. R. R. shops. He also laid out thirty acres east of the cemetery which is called the G. W. Parke Addition.

It will thus be seen that Mr. Parke, from the time of his arrival here, has been intimately identified with the business and industrial interests of Bloomington. He was one of the projectors of the People's Bank, was its first President and held the office until failing health compelled him to abandon it. He was Alderman of the Second Ward for a number of years and always took an active interest in every measure calculated to advance the interests of his adopted county and city.

Mr. Parke built his present residence in 1870, and has within the last three years put up two tenement houses adjoining. He still remains connected with the People's Bank as a stockholder. He has been the cheerful and liberal supporter of everything tending toward the intellectual and moral advancement of the city, and a law-abiding and peaceable citizen who has performed all his obligations in a faithful and creditable manner.

Our subject was married on New Year's Day, 1857, to Miss Rebecca A., daughter of John and Rebecca (Hilyard) Rodgers, natives of Pennsylvania and New Jersey, respectively. Mrs. Parke was born at Valley Forge, Pa., in 1828, and was the youngest of her parents' family, there having been seven children, five now living. Mr. and Mrs. Parke have only one child, a daughter, and now the wife of Theodore Braley, one of the editors of the *Bulletin*.

Mr. Parke politically affiliates with the Democratic party and uniformly casts his vote in support of its principles.

PETER WHITMER, President of the People's Bank of Bloomington, and a citizen held in the highest esteem by the people of McLean County, is a native of Franklin County, Pa., and was born Feb. 22, 1828. He is the son of Peter and Mary (Hess) Whitmer, also natives of the Keystone State. His father was extensively engaged in farming pursuits. The latter was born in 1777, and died in the same house which witnessed his birth, his decease taking place in 1852. The mother, who was born in 1785, had preceded her husband to the better land, she dying in 1844. They had a family of nine children, only four of whom are living, viz: Catharine, Mrs. George Grove, of Sterling, Ill.; Mary, Mrs. Christian Royer, of Franklin County, Pa.; Peter, our subject, and Rev. A. C., a minister of the Reformed Church, of Lancaster, Pa.

The father of our subject occupied the farm of his father, also Peter Whitmer, who purchased it of John, Thomas and Richard Penn, the sons of William Penn. Originally, the Whitmers were of German birth and parentage, the early ancestors of our subject settling in Lancaster County, Pa., and all engaging in agricultural pursuits.

Peter Whitmer spent the most of his time on his father's farm until he was sixteen years old, receiving his education in the district school. He then left the parental roof and went to Chambersburg, where he served an apprenticeship of five years at saddlery and harness-making. In 1849 he set out on a tour through the Western States, continuing his travels until the spring of 1852. He then located at Bloomington, and formed a partnership with M. L. Moore, with whom he continued in the saddlery and harness business for two years following, when he sold out to his partner and engaged in the grocery trade on Center street, in company with Messrs. Parke and Hoopes, under the firm name of Parke, Whitmer & Hoopes. They operated together for three years and then our subject disposed of his interest in the business and engaged in the lumber trade, having one office on the East and one on the West Side.

Mr. Whitmer continued his successful operations in this line for a period of seventeen years, when he practically abandoned it. During this time,



mony, and continued buying and selling stock of all kinds until 1840, when they dissolved. They had practiced the strictest economy and each working moment was employed at something useful. The people of the present day, who enjoy the use of modern inventions and conveniences, can in no manner realize the hardships to which the early settlers were subjected. For the first seven years after his arrival here, Isaae Funk did not own a wagon, but carried his corn to mill to Springfield, fifty miles away, on the backs of horses. When a plow required sharpening or repairing, he loaded it on the back of a horse to have it conveyed to and from the blacksmith-shop, and one time conveyed a barrel for sauer kraut in the same manner ten miles to his home. Nothing seemed too great for him to undertake, and he was in the main remarkably successful, seldom having to abandon a project which he had in view.

When he found that the means would justify the step, Mr. Funk took unto himself a partner and helpmeet in the person of Miss Cassandra Sharp, of Peoria, their wedding occurring in June, 1826. Mrs. F. was born in Baltimore, Md., and was well fitted by disposition and training to be the companion of such a man as our subject. She was possessed of practical good sense and sterling worth of character, and was the faithful encourager and assistant of Isaac Funk during those days when the struggle was to "keep his head above water." The father of Mrs. F. emigrated to Ohio when she was a child three years old. They remained there thirteen years, then came to Illinois, and her marriage occurred when she was twenty-four. Of this union there were born ten children, and those now living are numbered among the substantial people of McLean County.

The industry, energy and intelligence of Isaae Funk soon received a suitable recognition, and he became prominent in his community, and in 1840, he was elected to the Legislature on the Whig ticket, and in 1862 to the Senate to fill the unexpired term of Gen. Oglesby, who had taken his sword and placed himself at the head of an Illinois regiment. Mr. Funk was re-elected, and remained a member of the General Assembly until his death. He was an uncompromising Union man, and a ter-

ror to traitors and secessionists. His whole course through life was one amply worthy of imitation by those who can but peruse his history with thoughtfulness and admiration.

Isaae Funk departed this life in Bloomington, Sunday morning, Jan. 29, 1865, and four hours later, Mrs. Funk closed her eyes to earthly scenes. The funeral services of this honored pioneer and his devoted wife were perhaps the most impressive ever held in this county.

Mr. Funk at his death was worth about \$2,000,000, which included 20,000 acres of land. All this was left to his children without will, and the family settled up the estate without the aid of an administrator, but all within themselves by quit-claiming to each other.

JAMES H. TILGHMAN, deceased, was the husband of Mrs. Caroline Tilghman, who is comfortably located on a good farm of 120 acres in Randolph Township, on section 14. The property of Mrs. T. is well improved with a good set of frame buildings, and she has occupied it since 1849. She has conducted the affairs of her homestead for the last nine years in a creditable and successful manner and is a lady of more than ordinary business ability. She was born in Monroe County, Va., Dec. 7, 1826, being the daughter of William and Nancy (Goar) McDaniel, both also natives of the Old Dominion. Her father was of Scotch-Irish and her mother of German descent. After marriage they located upon a farm in West Virginia where they remained until after the birth of all their children, Mrs. T. being the youngest in the family. She was only nine years old when her parents removed to Boone County, Ind., where they improved a farm, established a comfortable home and remained until the close of their lives. Both lived to an advanced age. The father, in politics, was strongly Democratic and both were members of the Christian Church. Mr. McDaniel has been Probate Judge and Justice of the Peace for many years in Virginia and advanced the freedom of the slaves by purchase from their owners. He had a presentiment that the existence of the peculiar institution was of short duration, as has since been

proved. William McDaniel was a soldier in the War of 1812, and held a Captain's commission.

Mrs. Tilghman remained with her parents, assisting in the duties around the home and obtaining her education in the public schools. On the 12th of August, 1847, she was united in marriage with William Tolbert of Boone County, Ind., where he was born in 1829, and reared of American parents. His father, Elias Tolbert, was born in New Jersey and was of New England ancestry and parentage. He came West, and locating in Boone County, Ind., died there at the advanced age of eighty-two years. He married Miss Sarah Robinson, who is yet living near Thornton, Ind., and is about seventy-six years old. Mr. and Mrs. Tolbert located in Indiana after their marriage and remained there until after the birth of their second child. They then removed to McLean County, Ill., and located in Randolph Township, where Mr. Tolbert departed this life April 20, 1858. He was successful in his business pursuits, a Democrat in politics, and religiously adhered to the doctrines of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Of this marriage there were born six children, of whom four are deceased, viz., Nancy, Benjamin F., William and Newton J. The latter married Miss Sallie Marker, now also deceased; they left two children. Those surviving are: Milton, who married Miss Alice Cook, of Downs Township, and is engaged in farming; and Henry, who married Miss Minerva Thompson, and is carrying on agriculture successfully in Dickinson County, Kan.

Mrs. Tolbert was married to James H. Tilghman May 20, 1863, and they became the parents of two children, Arthur L. and Charles N., who are both on the homestead with their mother.

**W**ILLIAM W. HAMMOND, of West Township, came to this county in the spring of 1855, and seven years later commenced farming on his own account. In 1867 he removed to the homestead which he now occupies and which comprises a quarter section of land, finely cultivated and improved. He has a good farm residence with barns to correspond, and all other nee-

essary appurtenances of the intelligent and progressive agriculturist.

Mr. Hammond was born in Staleybridge, Lancashire, England, April 2, 1839. His father, William Hammond, was a native of the same shire, where he was reared and learned the trade of a blacksmith. He followed this in his native country until 1841, and then, accompanied by his wife and six children, started for the United States. After arriving here he first located in Trenton, N. J., where he followed his trade until 1857, then came Westward to Illinois, and purchasing a tract of land in Empire Township, this county, engaged in agricultural pursuits. In 1863 he sold this property, and returning to Trenton, N. J., spent the remainder of his life there, dying on the 13th of October, 1867. His wife, the mother of our subject, was formerly Miss Elizabeth Shaw, also a native of Lancashire. She survived her husband until Oct. 12, 1875, her death also occurring in Trenton, N. J. Of their children the record is as follows: Thomas served as a soldier during the late war, in Co. G, 94th Ill. Vol. Inf., and after returning from the army located in Trenton, N. J., where he died in January, 1885; Martha married George W. Lanning, and Sarah A. became the wife of Joseph Y. Lanning, both living in Trenton; John died there when four years of age; William W., of our sketch, was the fifth child; James H. lives in Trenton; James and Henry (twins) died in infancy.

The subject of this history was but two years old when he accompanied his parents to America. He lived with them in Trenton until sixteen years of age, in the meantime securing a good common-school education. After coming to this county he labored industriously and honestly, and soon gained the confidence and esteem of all who knew him. His present possessions are the result of his own energy and industry, and he is numbered among the substantial and reliable citizens of West Township.

Mr. Hammond was married, Dec. 9, 1861, to Miss Catherine Bishop, who was born in Empire Township, this county, April 4, 1842, being the daughter of Mahlon and Catherine Bishop [see sketch]. Of this union there have been six chil-

dren: Ida married Thomas J. Rutledge, and lives in West Township; James Walter, Charles B., Elizabeth C. and Oral Mildred are at home with their parents; William Malon, the fifth child, died when seven months old. Mr. and Mrs. Hammond are consistent members of Mt. Olive Methodist Episcopal Church, and our subject, politically, is an uncompromising Democrat. He has held the various offices of his township, and is a gentleman highly respected for his sterling worth, and takes an active interest in everything pertaining to the welfare of his county and community.



**G**EORGE STEPHENSON. The subject of this brief history is a carpenter and joiner, and a skilled mechanic, whose work attests the thoroughness with which he has learned his trade. He is at present a resident of Normal and has been in McLean County since the spring of 1866. He was born in Jefferson County, Ohio, Nov. 8, 1838. His father, John Stephenson, lived and died in Bowling Green, Jefferson Co., Ohio, and was also a skillful carpenter. The family is of Irish ancestry, and represented by many descendants in the United States. The mother of our subject, formerly Miss Julia Anderson, was for many years a resident of Bowling Green, and died there in 1866, several years before the death of her husband.

The boyhood and youth of our subject were passed under the parental roof, and he learned the carpenter's trade under the instruction of his father. When twenty-one years of age he set out on his own account as a journeyman, and followed his trade in his native State for several years. He afterward went to Pennsylvania, and during the latter part of the war, with others set, out for the West, finally landing in the Hawkeye State. He visited some of its principal cities and worked at his trade there until 1866, when he recrossed the Father of Waters, and came back East as far as McLean County, locating in Heyworth and following his trade. That same year he was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Maria Vanordstrand, who was a native of Washington County, Pa., born

Sept. 12, 1848. (For parental history see sketch of Isaac Vanordstrand.)

Mrs. Stephenson was reared in her native county until seventeen years of age, attending the common schools. She then came to Illinois with her parents, and afterward attended a select school at Heyworth, and was engaged in teaching for a short time previous to her marriage. They located at Heyworth after marriage, and resided there until the latter part of 1886, Mr. Stephenson pursuing his trade, and his wife faithfully devoting her time and energies to the duties of the household, and the rearing of their five children. Of these the record is as follows: Nannie J. is attending the Normal University, and preparing herself for a teacher; she is a bright, independent and spirited young lady, and great things are expected of her in the future. Oakley V., Charles A., Anna M. and William M. commenced their education in the schools of Heyworth, but will probably finish them at Normal.

Mr. and Mrs. S. have greatly interested themselves in the education of their children, and in training them to lives of honor and virtue. Both are members of the Presbyterian Church, and greatly esteemed in the community. Our subject is a man of strong views, and politically casts his vote in support of the principles of the Democratic party.



**W**ILLIAM YOUNG. Much attention is given to stock-raising by the farmers of McLean County, and a gentleman who is eminently successful in this industry, as well as an influential and prosperous farmer, is William Young, of Padua Township. He owns and occupies a beautiful homestead of 375 acres, upon which is erected a modern farm residence, good barns and other out-buildings, which we take pleasure in showing in a view given in this volume. Mr. Young has brought his land to a high state of cultivation, all the buildings are kept in good repair, and altogether the homestead presents one of the most attractive spots within the boundary of McLean County.

Mr. Young was born in Darke County, Ohio,

Jan. 10, 1843, being the son of Isaae Young, a native of the same State and descended from excellent German ancestry. Our subject was the second child of a family of four sons, two of whom are deceased. Anderson, the eldest, is a successful farmer and stock-raiser of Arrowsmith Township, this county, and married Miss Rachel Wampler; William was but a young child when, in June, 1851, his parents started for Illinois. They lived one year in Bloomington Township, this county, and thence removed to Padua Township, where the father purchased 200 acres of land on section 21, which was the scene of his labors and is now the homestead of his son. Isaae Young was a man of great energy and force of character, and after coming to the West opened up a fine farm and established a comfortable home for his family. He departed this life in November, 1856. The mother was afterward married to William Harrison and lives in Padua Township. Her maiden name was Barbara Naggle, and she was born in Darke County, Ohio.

William Young lived at home until his father's death. He completed his education in Wesleyan University at Bloomington, having taken a three years' course of study. He afterward engaged in teaching school, and after the outbreak of the late war responded with thousands of others to the second call for troops and enlisted in Co. H, 68th Illinois Infantry. He was in the service nine months without being in any active engagement with the enemy. After the expiration of his first term of enlistment, he again entered the ranks, becoming a member of Co. G, 145th Illinois Infantry, serving with the 100-day men, returning home after receiving his honorable discharge. He then went to Denver, Col., where he was engaged in prospecting. He then returned home, and was married, Jan. 27, 1867, to Miss Adelaide, daughter of William and Mary J. (Dawson) Harrison. The parents of Mrs. Y. were natives respectively of Ohio and Illinois, the mother being born and reared in McLean County. She died in Padua Township in 1864, when about forty years of age. Mr. Harrison was then married to Mrs. Barbara Young, the mother of our subject. Mrs. Young of this sketch, the second daughter of her parents, was born in

Padua Township, Dec. 19, 1845, and after the death of her mother, officiated as her father's housekeeper until her marriage. Of her union with our subject there were born seven children, of whom one, Mary E., died when about three years of age. Those living are Charles E., who is preparing himself for a teacher; Dora, Etta A., Frank W., Grace J. and Mattie L.

Politically Mr. Young is a solid Democrat, and a more than ordinarily intelligent citizen, who has always taken a deep interest in the establishment and maintenance of the school system. He has held some of the minor offices of his township, and is regarded with genuine esteem and confidence.



**P**ATRICK W. COLEMAN, of Bloomington Township, is one of the rising young farmers of this section, and is the owner of forty acres of land on section 15, which is all under a good state of cultivation and yields its proprietor a handsome income.

Mr. Coleman was born in the city of Bloomington, July 31, 1858, and is the son of John Coleman, who was of Irish descent and parentage, and born in the city of Cork, June 24, 1810. He emigrated to the United States while a young man, in 1846, before his marriage, and settled in Tarrytown, N. Y., where he became connected with the Hudson River and New York & Erie Railroads, as foreman. He afterward became a foreman of the C. & A., and in the interest of that company came to Illinois. For sixteen years he occupied the position of foreman, and was held in great favor by the officials of the road. After coming to this part of Illinois he established a home for himself and family in Bloomington, where he departed this life on the 6th of June, 1886. He was a remarkably strong man physically, and retained his eyesight perfectly until within a few weeks of his death, having been able to read without glasses. He was well informed, and possessed a good knowledge of the current affairs of his country, both generally and politically. He remained a staunch adherent of the Catholic faith of his fathers, and in politics was an active Democrat. It may be said that in



every respect John Coleman was esteemed as one of the best citizens of his community. He was kind and generous in his disposition, always ready to lend a helping hand to those who needed, and was strictly upright and honorable in his business transactions. His wife, the mother of our subject, before her marriage, was Miss Mary Jones, born in Ireland in the same city as her husband, and came to the United States when a young woman. She was married to John Coleman in the State of New York, and came West with him in 1851. She is now living with her son, our subject, and is about sixty-seven years of age. She also, with her children, is a consistent member of the Roman Catholic Church. She became the mother of three children, one of whom, John, died when eighteen months old; Mary A. resides with her brother, our subject.

Patrick W. Coleman is considered one of the representative citizens of this locality, and none are held in higher respect. He seems to have inherited the excellent qualities of his father before him, whose memory he holds in that reverence which is due to so good a man and parent. In both religion and politics he follows in the footsteps of his sire, being connected with the Catholic Church and the Democratic party.



**G**EORGE W. PAYNE, who is widely and favorably known throughout McLean County, and now one of the prominent citizens and business men of Delana, was born in Bloomington, Monroe Co., Ind., Dec. 28, 1851. His father, James Franklin Payne, a native of the same town and county, was the son of Jacob Payne, of Virginia, who emigrated from the Old Dominion to Indiana, and was among the earliest pioneers of Monroe County. He took up a tract of timber land adjacent to the present city of Bloomington, and besides attending to the cultivation and improvement of his farm, officiated as a local preacher of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He was a man of rare intelligence, great force of character, and represented his district in the State Senate.

He only lived to be fifty-one years of age, dying at his home near Bloomington about 1853.

His son James, the father of our subject, was reared to farming pursuits, and remained a resident of his native county until 1854. He then removed with the family to Illinois, the journey being made overland with wagons. He purchased a tract of wild land at \$2.50 per acre in Arrowsmith Township, this county, upon which he built a log house, in which he lived four or five years, then removed to Iowa, remaining a resident of Warren County for two years. He then recrossed the Father of Waters, and returning to Arrowsmith Township, purchased the farm where he established a permanent homestead and has since lived.

The mother of our subject, who before her marriage was Miss Martha A. Gray, was also born in Bloomington, Ind., and by her union with James Franklin became the mother of seven children, of whom George W., our subject, was the eldest. He was but three years old when the family came to this county, and was reared on the farm, receiving a fair education in the district schools. He lived at home with his parents until twenty-one years of age, and then engaged as clerk for J. R. Krum, grain dealer at Arrowsmith, with whom he remained six and one-half years, when he started in business for himself as a general dealer in grain and merchandise, and there formed the nucleus of his present extensive and lucrative trade. He became associated in partnership with Thomas Clarey under the firm name of Clarey & Payne, and they commenced operations with a capital of \$1,500. The business of the firm now represents \$30,000. They own large tracts of land in Iowa, Nebraska and Kansas, their farm near Hastings being splendidly improved and stocked with fine cattle. This is managed by a brother of Mr. Payne, John W. In 1882 they started a branch at Delana, having bought out Mr. Snooks who had established the business at that place. Mr. Clarey manages the business at Arrowsmith, and Mr. Payne at Delana. In 1884 they disposed of the mercantile department, and have since confined their operations to grain and coal.

Mr. Payne was married, Jan. 5, 1873, to Miss Marie E. Clarey, who was born in Lincolnshire,

England, and is the daughter of Thomas N. and Elizabeth Clarey. Of this union there have been born two children—Stella E. and Rinnie C. Mr. Payne is Republican in politics, and has served as a member of the Board of Supervisors from West Township, also as Assessor. He is a member of Undine Lodge No. 570, I. O. O. F., of Arrowsmith. In this he has filled the various offices, and for two years represented the lodge in the Grand Convocation at Chicago and Springfield.



**D**AVID H. McFARLAND, physician and surgeon, is one of the oldest and best-known practitioners in the southern part of McLean County, and has followed his profession since 1862. He came to this county from Indiana, and at once secured the good will of the community by his close attention to business, his studious habits and his evident knowledge of his professional duties.

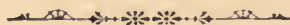
Dr. McFarland is a native of Pennsylvania, being born in the village of Mercersburg, in what was then Bedford, but now Fulton County, Oct. 16, 1831. His father, Joseph McFarland, was a native of the same State, and occupied in both farming and merchandising. Joseph McFarland descended from excellent Scottish ancestry, and in early life was married to Miss Naney Humphreys, also born in Pennsylvania, and whose ancestors were likewise from Scotland. The parents of our subject remained in Pennsylvania, until after the birth of all their children, removing to Indiana in 1848. There the father died, in Clinton County, and the mother in Jefferson County. Their five children are all living, three of them in Illinois, one in Pennsylvania, and all married. Mary J., after the death of her first husband, married Milton McCorkel, who is also deceased; she lives in Heyworth; James C., also of that village, was Clerk of the Circuit Court for eight years; Rowanna became the wife of Moses Scott, of Monongahela City, Pa.; Martha, the widow of John Dunn, resides in Hanover, Jefferson Co., Ind.

The subject of this history attended the common schools of his native State and afterward graduated

from the preparatory department of Marshall College. He was eighteen years of age when his parents removed to Indiana, and soon afterward commenced the study of medicine under the instruction of Drs. Dunn, Carter & Byers, of Frankford. He afterward turned his attention to a collegiate education in surgery and medicine at Rush Medical College, Chicago, whence he graduated in 1869. He had, however, been engaged in practice.

Dr. McFarland came to Heyworth and opened an office in 1862. Shortly afterward he began to make purchases of land, and is now the owner of 325 acres on sections 9 and 11, in Randolph Township, the cultivation of which he superintends and from which he derives a handsome income.

Dr. McFarland was married in Clinton County, Ind., June 22, 1859, to Miss M. E. Dunn, who was born in the county named, and was a popular teacher of music there, both before and since her marriage. She is the daughter of J. H. Dunn, formerly a prominent farmer of Indiana, but now deceased. They have no children. Both our subject and his wife are members of the Presbyterian Church, and in politics the Doctor casts his vote in support of the principles of the Republican party. He has been a close student and an extensive reader, and not only has an excellent knowledge of his professional duties and agricultural pursuits, but possesses a fund of general information which constitutes him a fine conversationalist and a useful member of the community.



**D**AVID W. STANGER. The subject of the following sketch is one of the enterprising citizens of Arrowsmith Township, and occupies a fine homestead on section 14. He became a resident of the Prairie State in 1849, locating at once in McLean County, where he was employed as a farm laborer at \$12 per month. After seven months thus occupied he engaged in feeding cattle by the month, which he varied by splitting rails, for which he received all the way from 37½ to 75 cents per hundred. Afterward he was engaged in a sawmill. He lived economically and saved his earnings, and in due time

established a business for himself, and was the first man who shipped cattle from this locality to Chicago. This "shipping" was first done by driving the animals, and one herd he transported in this manner, in 1852, to Cadiz, Ohio, making the return trip on horseback. The following year he purchased 160 acres of land, which constitutes his present homestead. He is now considered one of the best swine growers in this township. To this department of farming he has given much attention, and from it has realized quite a little fortune.

In 1859, having become infected with the California gold fever, he started for the Pacific Slope, and remained a resident of that region for a period of sixteen years, engaged alternately in farming and mining, which yielded him a handsome income which, however, went as easy as it came. He made the trip there by a steamer via Panama, but in 1875 returned by rail. He speaks of the climate of California as charming, but all things taken together thinks Illinois is about as good a State as one can find. While in the farther West, Mr. Stanger went into Oregon and remained three months hunting among the Cascade Mountains, and afterward making a short stay at the city of Salem.

Mr. Stanger was born in Monroe County, Ind., Oct. 13, 1828, and is the son of John and Katie (Brownlow) Stanger—his mother having been a full cousin of Parson Brownlow, of Tennessee, the famous Union man, editor, orator, and preacher of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The parents of our subject were natives of Virginia. John Stanger was born in April, 1799, and removed to Indiana in early manhood, where he first carried on the trade of a tanner, but afterward engaged in farming. He departed this life Oct. 14, 1884. The mother of our subject died in early life, in 1828. Of this first marriage there were born—Mary, Sylvester and Strother (twins), John E., James H., and David, of our sketch. The second wife of John Stanger was formerly Miss Aun Thomas, and of their marriage there were born nine children, namely, Catherine, Lorenzo D., Jacob, Margaret, Tillma, Dorothy A., Ephraim, Thomas and Withe.

The marriage of our subject with Miss Nancy M. Duke occurred Feb. 18, 1877, at Mr. Stanger's residence. Mrs. S. was born in Clark County, Ky.,

Sept. 16, 1840, and was the daughter of Joel and Mary (Trowbridge) Duke, both natives of the Blue Grass State, and descended from excellent Dutch and Welsh ancestry. Joel Duke was born in 1789, followed the occupation of a blacksmith the greater part of his life, and died in 1849, in Owen County, Ky. His wife, Mary, was born in 1799, and survived her husband about sixteen years, her death occurring in 1865. Of their ten children, two died in infancy. The remainder were William M., Silas P., James H., Martha A., Amanda, Nannie, Sarah E. and Julia F., all now deceased except the four youngest. The parents of these children were connected with the Christian Church for over twenty years, and their offspring have religiously followed in their footsteps, all, including Mrs. Stanger, being members of that church. Joel Duke with several of his sons became connected with the Masonic fraternity many years ago, the latter of whom at their death were buried with the honors of that order. Mr. Stanger in early life was a Democrat, but later considered that he had reason to change his political views, and he is now a staunch supporter of Republican principles. A fine view of his residence is shown elsewhere in this volume.



**W**ILLIAM H. HOSELTON, one of the prominent and enterprising farmers of Anchor Township, has been a resident of this State since a boy of fourteen years old. He was born in Holmes County, Ohio, May 1, 1843, and is the son of John Hoselton, of Virginia. His mother, formerly Miss Nancy Dalbey, was a native of Pennsylvania. The parents were married in Ohio and resided in that State until 1857, when they came to this county, and are now living on a farm in Normal Township. Of their five sons and two daughters, William H. was the oldest. Much of the land was uncultivated and at that time prairie fires were numerous, and our subject relates a thrilling incident of his own experience, when the fire threatened his father's property, and he used up all his clothes excepting his underwear to fight it with. In so doing he caught a severe cold. The next morning he mounted a horse which was kept

in the stable, for the purpose of going after those that were turned out to graze at night, and in driving them home the horse he was riding got into a fight with one that he was driving, and in the altercation he was kicked on the heel. This, together with the excitement he had undergone, caused inflammation to such an extent that the doctor decided to amputate his foot. His father, however, was decidedly opposed to this and it was not done, but for several years our subject was obliged to walk on crutches. He gradually recovered the use of his foot, however, and is now enabled to get around like other men.

William Hoselton was reared on his father's farm, pursued his first studies in the district schools and later attended the Illinois State University at Normal two years. During this time and subsequently he taught school for nine winters successively, assisting his father in the farm work during the summer. Aug. 19, 1873, he was united in marriage with Miss Anna Hutchison, who was born in Belmont County, Ohio, July 10, 1856, and was the daughter of James and Bathsheba (Foreman) Hutchison. The day after their marriage the young couple located upon the farm which they now occupy, and which Mr. H. had previously purchased. This was in almost its original condition when he took possession of it, but he entered industriously upon its cultivation and improvement, and has now a snug farm homestead of eighty acres, very fertile, and adapted to the growth of grain and all other products common to this section. The farm buildings are tasteful and substantial and Mr. and Mrs. H. are greatly enjoying the home which they have built up by years of industrious toil and economy. Their possessions are the result of their own efforts, and their homestead is unincumbered.

Mr. Hoselton has given much attention to stock-raising of late years, and Mrs. H. presides over a fine dairy. In the space of fourteen years they have opened up and improved their snug little farm, which is all well drained and enclosed with good fencing. They became the parents of two children, one of whom died in infancy: Ada Ella, born Sept. 7, 1879, is a bright and interesting child and the light of the household. Mr. Hoselton is Republican in politics and although repeatedly so-

licitated by his friends to become a candidate for some local office, has no aspiration in that direction, but simply contents himself by casting his vote in support of that body. Unsolicited Mr. H. was elected to the office of School Trustee at the last spring election, which office he is filling to the satisfaction of all. He has never been connected with any secret or religious society, but is a strong friend of temperance and interested in the success of the Prohibition party.

A lithographic view of Mr. Hoselton's handsome residence is shown on another page.

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**W**ILLIAM BEELER, of Dale Township, is a native of the Blue Grass State, having been born in Elkhorn County, Ky., Feb. 8, 1822. He is the son of William Beeler, born Sept. 6, 1796, in the same county. The grandfather of our subject, Samuel Beeler, was a native of Virginia, and of German descent. He served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War. After the close of the war he removed to Kentucky, being a pioneer settler of that region. He was a great hunter and possessed rare skill in the use of the rifle. At one time, during the Indian troubles, himself and two companions went on a hunting expedition after buffalo and deer. Mr. Beeler killed a buffalo and three doe deer. While engaged in skinning one of them he heard a disturbance in the bushes and upon looking up saw a man who proved to be an Indian looking from behind the tree. Mr. B. seized his gun and started, and after him also started six Indians, who fired at him as they ran. He stubbed his toe and fell and the Indians gave a whoop of triumph. They did not rejoice very long in their victory, however, for he sprung up and being very fleet of foot soon distanced his pursuers with the exception of one, whom he shot dead as he turned around. After some difficulty he found the camp of his companions and after all the party had come in they "pulled up stakes" and returned home.

In 1806 Samuel Beeler removed with his family to Hamilton County, Ohio. Six years later the War of 1812 was in progress, and Samuel Beeler, shouldering his musket, once more started out for

the scene of conflict. He was as brave a soldier as he was a pioneer settler and after the battle of Tippecanoe, during which he had distinguished himself, he was promoted Colonel of the regiment. When peace had been declared Mr. Beeler returned to his home, and subsequently came to Illinois and spent the last years of his life in this county.

William Beeler, the father of our subject, was but ten years old when his father removed from Virginia to Kentucky. He grew to manhood in Hamilton County, Va., and after going to Kentucky was united in marriage with Miss Mary Hall, who died in the latter State in 1824. Shortly afterward Mr. B. went to Ohio, and was there subsequently married to Miss Elizabeth Sheley. In the fall of 1830 he started for Illinois with his family, making the trip overland with an outfit of three yoke of oxen and one wagon. His father, Col. Beeler, accompanied him with a horse and carriage and he had two or three men to look after the teams. Mr. Beeler had previously visited the State and purchased a claim on section 3, Dale Township, where he lived until his death. He was a man of many excellent traits of character, straightforward and upright in his dealings.

William Beeler was but two years old when he was deprived, by death, of the tender and affectionate care of his mother. Shortly after this sad event his father removed to Ohio, where he resided until 1830, and then came to McLean County, Ill. When William Beeler was eighteen years of age he went with his Uncle Henry to Chicago, each having charge of a team of horses and a wagon loaded with apples to sell. After they had disposed of their produce they purchased a quantity of fine salt at \$2.50 per barrel, and taking it home, sold it at 100 per cent profit. After this young Beeler made several trips to the great city.

William Beeler remained an inmate of his father's home until his marriage. In 1850 he commenced the improvements on his present farm, which is located on sections 9, 10 and 13, of Dale Township. His first marriage occurred on the 25th of July, 1844, the maiden of his choice being Miss Catharine Layton, who died the 8th of April, 1862. Their children were as follows: William H. died in infancy; Harriett A., now Mrs. Westmoreland; Sarah

J., Mrs. Frye; Mary E., Mrs. Banner; John D., and Alfaretta, who also married a Mr. Frye; Daniel E., Stephen A. and Juliet, deceased.

The second marriage of Mr. Beeler occurred Jan. 11, 1868, and he was then married to Miss Mary A. H. O'Neill, who was born in Greene County, Ind., in 1835. She was the daughter of Cary and Louisa (Boyd) O'Neill. Her paternal grandfather, John O'Neill, was a native of South Carolina; and her maternal grandfather was Hon. Drury Boyd, of Georgia, who removed thence to Kentucky and later to Indiana, and became a pioneer settler of Greene County. He was prominently connected with public affairs, and served two terms as a Member of Congress.

The second marriage of Mr. Beeler has been blessed by the birth of six children: Arthur, born Oct. 11, 1868, died July 27, 1875, and an infant unnamed; Elzada F., born April 30, 1871; Silas C., Jan. 12, 1873; George Samuel, born Aug. 14, 1874, died Sept. 5, 1875, and Walter C., born March 23, 1876. The subject of our sketch, with his family, occupies a comfortable homestead comprising 200 acres. The family are well and favorably known throughout McLean County, and are held in the highest respect by their friends and associates. They attend the Christian Church, and in politics Mr. Beeler is a Democrat.



**EZEKIAH HORNEY**, a well-known and respected citizen, as well as a progressive and successful farmer and stock-raiser of Lexington Township, has for the last eighteen years been quite extensively occupied in the breeding of Norman horses. Mr. Horney was born near Jeffersonville, Fayette Co., Ohio, July 3, 1826. His father, Daniel Horney, was born in North Carolina, whence he accompanied his parents to Ohio at an early day and settled with them in Greene County. Our subject's grandfather, William Horney, was of English extraction, and his son Daniel, our subject's father, was a soldier in the War of 1812. Daniel Horney and Margaret Calaway were united in marriage in Ohio. She was

born in Maryland and was the daughter of John Calaway, who moved from that State to Ohio in an early day.

Of the union of Daniel Horney and Miss Calaway the following children were born: Sarah, unmarried; John married Naney Chaney; Anna was married to Fredell Chaney; Mary is the wife of Harrison Janes; James married Elizabeth Fuel; Margaret died when eleven years old; Daniel; Job; Hezekiah; William; Paris was a Captain in the late Civil War, and was taken prisoner and confined at Andersonville and actually starved to death in that foulest of foul prisons; David G. and one other died in infancy. The mother of these children died in August, 1855. The father died in the winter of 1866, having attained the venerable age of eighty years.

Hezekiah Horney passed his boyhood days on his father's farm in Fayette County, Ohio, and attended the pioneer schools where he received his education. He remained with the old folk until he had attained his majority, and when he was twenty-three years old he was married to Miss Sarah J. Gaff, daughter of David M. and Hannah (Moek) Gaff, of Greene County, Ohio, and in which county Miss Gaff was born. Her father was a native of Pennsylvania and was of Irish descent. After marriage Mr. Horney located in Fayette County, Ohio, where he lived until the fall of 1853. He then came to this county with his family and first settled in Blue Mound Township, living there until 1865; he then removed to his present farm on section 29, Lexington Township. The farm contains 278 acres of valuable and productive land and is under good cultivation.

In 1866 Mr. Horney began the breeding of Norman horses and has met with success in that undertaking, raising some of the finest animals in the county. He has taken the first premium at the St. Louis Fair and also the sweep stake at the Illinois State Fair. He has at the present writing thirty-one head of horses of this breed and has done much toward the introduction of this noble breed of horses throughout the county and State. He has disposed of some of his horses of his own raising for as high as \$900.

Mr. and Mrs. Horney have had five children.

Melissa C. is the wife of William Craggett, of Lexington; Morgan M. was united in marriage with Miss Emma Brooks; Emma J. married C. W. Heller; Edward C. married Maey Craggett, and James P. and Minnie Shelley became man and wife. Mr. Horney served as Road Commissioner of Lexington Township for about ten years. He has likewise held the office of School Trustee. In politics he is a staunch Republican. A fine lithographic view of the residence of Mr. Horney and some of his fine stock is shown on another page of this work.



**T**D. HARTSON, a representative citizen of Bloomington, was born in Randolph, MeLean County, Nov. 16, 1836. His parents were James and Martha (Carr) Hartson, natives respectively of Hamilton County, N. Y., and Walpole, Mass. James Hartson, when twenty-two years of age, came West and settled in Waynesville, Ill., where, in 1827, he opened the first store in De Witt County. Eight years later he removed to Randolph Township, MeLean County, and purchasing a tract of unimproved land from the Government, opened up a farm which he occupied until his death in 1840. This was occasioned by a fall from a horse. The wife and mother died that same year. Of this family there were only two children and the subject of our sketch is the only one now living. He was but four years old when he was left an orphan and went to live with his grandfather, Dr. Carr. The latter was one of the oldest settlers of MeLean County, coming here in 1825. Young Hartson remained with his grandfather until he was twenty-three years old and was then, in 1859, married to Miss Elizabeth Mormon, of Ohio. After this marriage he returned to the homestead in Randolph Township, which had been the home of his father and mother, and which he occupied for two years. He then traded the farm for another, three miles further West, upon which he engaged principally in stock-raising. Here he gave his attention to the breeding of high-grade Durham cattle and Norman and Clydesdale horses. From there he removed to Bloomington, and since

that time has been engaged with the pork-packing company of that city.

Mr. and Mrs. Hartson became the parents of five children, of whom the record is as follows: Martha, Mrs. Douglas Rust, has three children—Emery A., Ethel and William—and they live in Ida County, Iowa, where Mr. R. is engaged in mercantile pursuits. The other children at home are: William H., Amie M., Sarah and Thomas J. Mrs. Elizabeth Hartson departed this life in 1870, and for his second wife Mr. H., in 1875, married Miss Sarah Richardson, of Illinois. This lady died in 1879.

On the 5th of October, 1881, our subject was united in marriage with Miss Clara Bunn. Mrs. H. is a native of Tazewell County, Ill., and the daughter of James C. and Amanda (Smith) Bunn, natives respectively of Ohio and Kentucky. Mr. B. came to Illinois in about 1840, and settled in Washington, Tazewell County, where he engaged as a contractor and builder. Thence, in 1882, he removed to Peoria and still follows his former business. His family included six children, viz., Clara, Mrs. Hartson; Gaines W., Dora, Edgar, Forrest and Hattie.

Politically Mr. Hartson is a staunch adherent of the Democratic party. Religiously he is a member of the Christian Church, and socially, a K. of P. He is a straightforward business man, a worthy citizen, and enjoys in a marked degree the esteem of his fellow-citizens.



**H**ENRY BUTLER, a resident of Cheney's Grove Township, and one of her wide-awake and prominent citizens, owns and occupies a good homestead on section 3, where he is devoting his attention to farming and stock-raising. He has been a resident of the Prairie State since 1856, and occupied his present farm since the fall of 1874. He has distinguished himself as a thorough business man and a good citizen, and has contributed his full quota toward the development and progress of his township.

Mr. Butler was born in Lexington, Greene Co., N. Y., Dec. 16, 1833, and is the son of Jonathan and Lovina (Schemmerhorn) Butler, natives of

the same county. Jonathan Butler was born in 1806, followed the trade of a carpenter and millwright and also carried on farming, and departed this life at his homestead in 1882. He was Democratic in politics, and with his wife closely adhered to the doctrines of the Old-School Baptist Church. The mother of our subject was born in 1808, and died in New York State in 1871. The nine children were as follows: Charles, the eldest, was married and lives in California; Darwin went to California in 1849, where he still lives; Henry, of our sketch, was the third son; Rensselaar married Miss Catherine Ford and settled on the old homestead; Annetta, Mrs. Henry Lasher, lives in New York; Sarah became the wife of James Phelps, and lives in Washington, D. C.; Mr. Phelps is the foreign correspondent at Washington; Lonisa, Mrs. Hiram Angle, lives in Hunter, N. Y.; Eugenia married Richard Cox, of England, and they are living in Denver, Col.; Flora married Phillip Turner, of Brooklyn, N. Y.

After coming into this State Mr. Butler located first in Tonia, La Salle County, where he remained until March, 1874. In the meantime he had been united in marriage with Miss Augusta E. Thompson, on the 8th of February, 1861. Mrs. Thompson was born in New York, July 18, 1843. She is the daughter of Nathan and Ann Eliza (Petitt) Thompson, and her mother was the daughter of Rev. Petitt, of the Old-School Baptist Church, who preached in one parish for a period of fifty-two years. There were only two children in Nathan Thompson's family, Mrs. Butler and her brother James E., who married Miss Margaret Shelton, a native of Ohio, and now lives in Gibson City, this State.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Butler, eight in number, are Mellie C., Alvero E., Charles F., Annetta, Gussie H., Ida M., Hugh and Bessie Leona. Mellie C. became the wife of Wallace Zook, now deceased; she has one child, a son, Frank, and they reside in Winfield, Kan. After coming to this county Mr. Butler first purchased 160 acres of land, to which he has since added eighty more, and in addition to general agriculture is engaged quite extensively in the breeding of fine stock. In this latter department he intends to increase his facili-

ties, together with the grade and breed. He has some fine roadsters of the Morgan stock. Mr. Butler has been very successful in raising hogs, and as a feeder and shipper has realized a fine income.

Mr. Butler is Democratic in politics, and has held the various offices of his township. Socially he belongs to the K. of P. at Saybrook. Mrs. Butler is a member of the United Brethren Church.

The grandfather of Mrs. Butler, John Thompson, was born on the Atlantic Ocean while his parents were crossing from their native Ireland to the United States. He descended from excellent ancestry, his forefathers having been large land-owners in Ireland. He settled in New York, where he became prominent in public matters and was Justice of the Peace for many years.

The homestead of our subject is finely located and comprises, besides his fertile and valuable land, a good frame barn and all necessary out-buildings, a view of which is shown in this ALBUM. Mr. B. and his family are surrounded by all the comforts of life, and enjoy the esteem of all who know them.

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**D**M. FUNK, President of the First National Bank of Bloomington, is a native of McLean County, and was born June 1, 1832. His parents were Isaac and Cassandra (Sharp) Funk, natives respectively of Kentucky and Maryland. Isaac Funk, with his parents, Adam and Nancy (Moore) Funk, removed to Ohio when he was a child three years of age, and located in Fayette County. There they engaged in farming and stock-raising, and became prominent and influential citizens. Both were of German ancestry, whose families settled in Pennsylvania, where Adam and Nancy Funk were born. Their son Isaac, who was born Nov. 17, 1797, was reared on the farm, received a limited education in the pioneer schools, and remained in Ohio until the fall of 1823. He then turned his face toward the prairies of Illinois, and located in what subsequently became Funk's Grove Township, in McLean County, arriving here on the 15th of May, 1824. He was accompanied by his brother Absalom, who was ten years his senior, and William Brock. There were

only a few settlers in this county at the time, and facilities for boarding were extremely limited. These pioneers, being single men, joined together and put up a small log house in the edge of the grove, which latter contained about 2,000 acres of heavy timber, principally burr, red and white oak and black walnut.

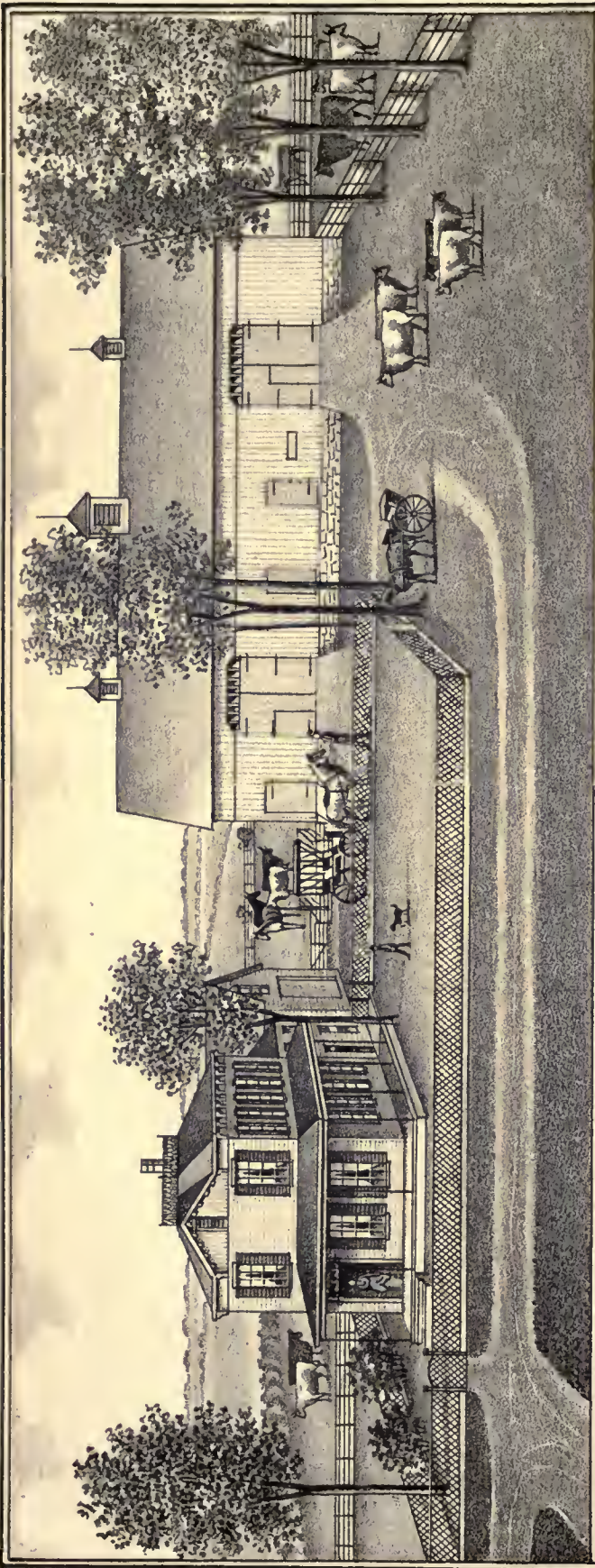
The two brothers took up a tract of land and jointly engaged in its improvement and cultivation, working together until 1840, when Absalom, desiring to go to Chicago, sold his interest to Isaac, who then had 20,000 acres in one body. He also had 5,000 acres in the eastern part of the county and became the largest stock-grower in this section.

In 1826 Isaac Funk was married, at Peoria, to Miss Cassandra Sharp, and they became the parents of ten children, nine of whom are still living: George W., who resides in Bloomington and is a Director of the First National Bank; Jacob, President of the State National Bank of Bloomington, resides in Mt. Hope Township, where he superintends the operations of his farm, a large part of which is devoted to the raising of fine stock; our subject was the third son; Lafayette is a member of the Illinois Legislature from the 28th Senatorial District; his home is in Funk's Grove Township, where he has a farm devoted largely to stock-raising; Francis Marion, also a farmer and stock-raiser, is located in Bloomington Township; Benjamin F. resides in Bloomington, and is also proprietor of a fine farm and valuable stock; Absalom is a resident of Bloomington and engaged in farming and stock-raising; Isaac has a fine farm estate in Funk's Grove Township; Sarah, Mrs. Kerick, is the wife of an extensive farmer and stock-raiser of Funk's Grove Township.

The parents of our subject died on the same day, Jan. 29, 1865, at the residence of their son D. M., aged sixty-seven and sixty-four years respectively, and were buried in one grave at Funk's Grove. Isaac Funk was a Representative to the General Assembly of Illinois in 1840, and Supervisor of his township for a number of years. He also was a Senator in the State Legislature of the counties of McLean, De Witt, Macon and Piatt, being first elected to fill out the unexpired term of Richard J.







RESIDENCE OF H. P. HAZLE , ONE HALF MILE EAST OF MC. LEAN . ILLS .



RESIDENCE OF JOHN W. KERSHAW, SEC. 21, DOWNS TOWNSHIP.

Oglesby who had resigned to enter the army. Mr. Funk was re-elected in 1862, as Senator, which position he occupied at the time of his death. Mr. and Mrs. F. were worthy members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the name of Isaae Funk became familiar throughout the State as the encourager and supporter of every measure calculated to advance the interests of this section socially, educationally, religiously and politically.

The subject of this history was reared to farming pursuits, and received a practical education in the pioneer schools of McLean County. He remained under the parental roof until twenty-five years of age and then, coming to Bloomington, engaged in the dry-goods trade with William Temple for seven years. He then sold his interest to his partner and engaged in farming and stock-raising until 1873. From the first he displayed unusual business talent, and had made rapid strides in the confidence and respect of the citizens of the county. During the year last mentioned he was elected President of the First National Bank of Bloomington, which position he now holds, and this bank, under his management, has become one of the solid institutions of the State. Besides other important trusts reposed in him he has been State Trustee for the Soldiers' Orphans' Home at Normal since 1877, and Supervisor of Bloomington Township since 1874. He is a stockholder in the First National Bank of Shelbyville, Ill., and holds a like interest in the Gas Company, and is also stockholder and Director of the Walton Plow Works of Bloomington. In politics he is a staunch Republican, and socially belongs to the Masonic Lodge of Bloomington.

Mr. Funk was married, April 16, 1857, to Miss Elizabeth Richardson, who was born in Indiana but came to McLean County with her parents when a child three years of age. She is a daughter of Samuel T. and Mary (Welsh) Richardson, natives respectively of New York and Pennsylvania, who after their marriage emigrated to Illinois, and were among the pioneers of McLean County. They entered a tract of land here and opened up a farm, upon which they passed the remainder of their lives. Of this marriage there were born only two children—Belle, now Mrs. H. M. Rollins, of St.

Paul, her husband being engaged in commission business, and Isaae L., at home. The family residence is a handsome structure, finely located at No. 110 East Chestnut street, Bloomington, where our subject and his family extend a generous hospitality to a host of friends. Besides his city property Mr. Funk owns 2,400 acres of land in Funk's Grove and Dale Townships, which constitutes a magnificent estate, and is devoted mostly to the breeding of fine stock.



**J**OHN W. KERSHAW, one of the wealthiest and most extensive land-holders of Downs Township, is the possessor of 518 acres, which constitutes his home farm, and which is located on sections 21 and 28. He also owns 300 acres of valuable land in Empire Township, which is highly improved. He has other valuable property in McLean County which he has amassed by the exercise of his excellent business talent and industry. His family residence is a handsome modern structure, beautifully located, and is the resort of a host of warm friends and acquaintances. In addition to general farming, Mr. Kershaw has of late years given much attention to the raising of fine stock, Short-horn cattle and Poland-China hogs, and in this business has been remarkably successful. He has been the architect of his own fortune, and presents a fine example to the ambitious youth of to-day, of what may be accomplished by having a steady purpose in view, and backed by untiring industry and good judgment.

Mr. Kershaw is a native of this State, and was born in Williamson County, Sept. 11, 1838. His father, Joseph Kershaw, now deceased, settled in Downs Township in 1851, having taken up the last acre of land secured by pre-emption from the Government. Joseph Kershaw was a native of Lancashire, England, where he was reared and learned the spinner's trade, commencing to labor at the early age of twelve years. After arriving at years of manhood, he was married in his native shire to Miss Hannah Robinson, who was also born and reared in Lancashire, and there learned the weaver's trade. After the birth of one child, a daughter,

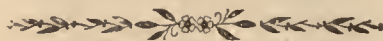
Elizabeth, they resolved to emigrate to the United States. This was in 1834, and after reaching American shores, they proceeded directly to Illinois, settling first in Williamson County, but soon afterward removed to McLean County, where the mother died in March, 1858. The second wife of Joseph Kershaw, to whom he was married in Empire Township, was Miss Lucinda Gilmore.

Our subject remained under the home roof until his marriage, in Empire Township, in 1860, the lady of his choice being Miss Emeline Buckles. She was born and reared in Empire Township, of which her grandfather was the first settler, locating in what is yet known as Buckles' Grove. His son, Abraham, the father of Mrs. Kershaw, was married to Miss Mary Williams, and both he and his good wife are now deceased.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Kershaw located on their present homestead, which they have occupied since that time. They have "pulled together;" the wife has labored side by side with her husband in the mutual effort to secure a competency for their later years, and in this they have succeeded. The entire landed property of Mr. Kershaw aggregates 818 acres, which is drained with over 6,000 rods of tile from three to ten inches in diameter. His herd of cattle includes 150 head, and he feeds annually about that number of hogs. Mr. Kershaw commenced life at the foot of the ladder. His first work was breaking prairie when twelve years old, with a team of five yoke of cattle. When married he could boast of owning \$5 only, and gave \$3 of that to the minister who married them. His father gave him \$15, with which he bought his outfit to commence house-keeping.

To our subject and his wife there have been born thirteen children, three of whom died in infancy: Joseph married Miss Rosa Myers, and is farming in Empire Township; John W. married Miss Gertrude Dodds, of Saybrook, and lives in Empire Township; Cloa E. became the wife of Samuel R. Morton, and lives in Lamont, Cook Co., Ill.; Lizzie married John F. Welch, of whom a sketch is given in another part of this ALBUM; Burr, Lucinda, Robert, William C., Ruth E. and Samuel are at home with their parents. Mr. and Mrs.

Kershaw are prominently connected with the United Brethren Church, and our subject politically is connected with the Democratic party. A handsome view of his residence and pleasant home is shown on another page of this work.



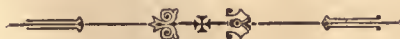
WILLIAM H. LOPER, "the village blacksmith" of Weston, was born among the Ohio hills in Hamilton County, May 12, 1846. His father, John R. Loper, was a native of New Jersey, where he was born Jan. 6, 1821. He emigrated with his parents to Ohio when a young man, locating first near the city of Cincinnati. There the father, who also labored at the forge, located and lived for a number of years. In early manhood he was united in marriage with Miss Mary Cole, who was born in Ohio May 6, 1825; they removed further Westward to Indiana, settling near Lawrenceburg, where the father died in 1860. The parental household included five children, of whom the record is as follows: Sarah, who became the wife of Rudolph Neff, is a resident of Kansas; William H., our subject, was the second born; Derostes M. resides in Freeport, Jackson Co., Ind.; John R. is a resident of the same place; Emma, the wife of Scott Burrows, lives with her husband in Dillsboro, Ind. The mother of our subject married a second time, her husband being Jacob Hoover, and of this marriage there were born two children—Rollie and Corda. Mrs. Hoover resides in Sparta, Ind.

The subject of this history was only enabled to obtain a very limited education, and when about ten years old removed to Indiana. In February, 1862, and during the progress of the Civil War, although not yet fifteen years of age, he enlisted as a Union soldier, being enrolled as a drummer boy in Co. B, 52d Ind. Vol. Inf. He remained with the regiment until September following when he was discharged on account of physical disability. He then returned home, but as soon as he recovered his health, he re-enlisted May 12, 1864, as a private in Co. I, 139th Ind. Vol. Inf., and served 100 days. He then went to Cincinnati, Ohio, intent upon serving his country until the close of the war. He there

enlisted in Co. E, 187th Ohio Vol. Inf., in which he served until the victory of the Union armies no longer necessitated the use of soldiers. He participated with his comrades in the battles of Ft. Donelson, Shiloh and various minor engagements, and in all things strived to emulate the bravery of his comrades in enduring fatigue, privation and other hardships connected with a soldier's life.

After his return from the army Mr. Loper returned to Lawrenceburg, Ind., and was employed as a farm hand until September, 1867. He then took up the blacksmith's trade, which he learned of Alva Barnes, after going back to Hamilton County, Ohio. He worked in that State and in Indiana at intervals until 1871. In March of the year following he visited Chicago, whence he came into this county, and engaged as a journeyman in Chenoa. In June, 1872, he took a trip to Colorado, but soon returned and resumed his trade, following it until 1874. In April of that year he located at Weston, where we now find him one of the substantial and reliable citizens of the place.

Mr. Loper was married in this county, in 1873, to Miss Antoinette, daughter of Samuel and Ellen Powell, who was born Oct. 26, 1853. Of this marriage there were four children: S. Ellen, born Nov. 14, 1874; Phebe, Nov. 8, 1877; Thomas Wilbur, Nov. 9, 1882, and Elsie P., March 15, 1884. Mr. Loper is independent in politics and a firm believer in the Christian religion. He is connected with the Masonic fraternity as a member of Chenoa Lodge No. 292, and Chenoa Chapter No. 143. A lithographic view of Mr. Loper's residence and shop is shown on another page in this ALBUM.



**E**DGAR BLAISDELL, one of McLean County's numerous self-made men, is prominently identified with the industrial interests of Weston, where he is engaged in the grain and lumber trade. He is a native of the Empire State, and was born in Washington County, N. Y., March 5, 1834. His parents were John and Sarah (Collins) Blaisdell, and he is one of a family of six children, all of whom lived to attain their ma-

jority, and two of whom, J. O. and Jane, are now deceased. Those surviving are, John C., a farmer of Washington County, N. Y.; Louisa, who resides at Saratoga Springs; Sarah, the wife of Joseph Leeret, of Syracuse, and our subject, Edgar, who was the youngest of the family.

Edgar Blaisdell passed his boyhood and youth upon his father's farm in New York, and received a common-school education. He remained under the home roof until 1855, then, having attained his majority, started West to seek his fortune. He first went to Walworth County, Wis., where he followed farming one season, and then went into Dane County, that State, where he remained until 1858; thence he went to Columbia County, and was occupied as a grain dealer one year, after which he resumed farming in Dane County, in which he was occupied until the whole country was electrified by news of the attack on Ft. Sumter. Young Blaisdell then with all his patriotism aroused, at once enlisted as a soldier of the Union, being mustered into service with Co. K, 1st Wis. Vol. Inf., in which he served until August, 1861, under the first call for three months' troops. At the expiration of that time he returned to Dane County, Wis., and followed farming there until the spring of 1866. He then came to Illinois, first locating at Chenoa, this county, where he had charge of a lumber-yard one year, and then went to Chicago, serving in the same capacity there one season. We next find him in his native State where he passed the following winter; coming back in the spring to Chenoa, he resumed his old occupation in the lumber trade.

Mr. Blaisdell became a resident of Weston in the spring of 1872, and for four years superintended the grain business of Haines, Jordan & Co. In the fall of 1875 he formed a partnership with Albert Rakestraw, and under the firm style of Blaisdell, Rakestraw & Co., they operated in grain for one year, then purchased a warehouse. Afterward Mr. Blaisdell for four years operated in company with Joseph Leeret. The firm was dissolved in 1882, since which time our subject has carried on business alone.

On the 21st of September, 1871, Edgar Blaisdell was united in marriage with Miss Susan A., daugh-

ter of Longworth and Sarah A. (Fry) Armstrong. Mrs. Blaisdell was born in Peoria, Oct. 20, 1848, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of six children—Fannie, Louisa, Edgar, Alma, Amelia and Jay. Mr. Blaisdell is a fine illustration of the self-made man, who, by the exercise of his own energy and industry, has attained a good position in the community and in a business way. He is careful in his business transactions, prompt in meeting his obligations, and in all respects is entitled to be classed as an honest man and a good citizen. A lithographic view of Mr. Blaisdell's residence, elevator and office, appears on another page.



**J**OHN McCONNELL. In McLean County are many extensive land-owners, and frequently these gentlemen have amassed their property by their own energy and business tact. Prominent among this number is Mr. McConnell of Downs Township, who is proprietor of 500 acres on sections 35 and 2. This is finely improved and cultivated, and provided with a handsome and commodious residence, from which may be obtained a fine view of the surrounding country. Our subject is one of the enterprising and progressive farmers of McLean County, who has made the most of his opportunities and taken advantage of modern progress. His barns and out-buildings are of first-class description, finely arranged for the shelter of stock and the storing of grain. He has a fine lot of high-grade cattle and blooded horses, and everything about the premises indicates the supervision of an enterprising and intelligent man.

Mr. McConnell came to McLean County in 1854, while a young man about twenty-one years of age, and purchased 160 acres of land, which constitutes a part of his present homestead and of which he took possession in 1855. His first dwelling consisted of a board shanty, 14x15 feet square, in which he made his temporary abode and which gave place to a better one, a frame building 19x32 feet in area, and with four rooms. This constituted a comfortable home for his family for a number of years, and still continuing in the march of progress,

he later put up his present handsome and substantial residence, which is considered one of the best in the township. It is set in the midst of fine grounds, with handsome shade trees and shrubberies planted by the hand of the proprietor, and in the summer time is a delightful resort.

Mr. McConnell was born in Hamilton County, Ohio, April 9, 1832. His father, William McConnell, was born in Pennsylvania, April 12, 1778, and served as a soldier in the War of 1812. He participated in various engagements, receiving wounds which made him a cripple, and on account of which he was given a pension. He lived in Pennsylvania several years after leaving the army and then removing to Hamilton County, Ohio, opened a public house which became very popular throughout that section. He was a neighbor and staunch friend of Gen. Harrison, whom he assisted greatly by his influence at the Presidential election in 1840, and was a prominent figure generally in the "log cabin campaign." William McConnell was a staunch Whig in politics, a man of great force of character, and respected by all who knew him. He was not connected with any church but was an advocate of the Presbyterian faith. He died at his home in Hamilton County, Ohio, Oct. 2, 1876. His wife, formerly Miss Catherine A. Lafever, was a native of Pennsylvania, in which State she was married. They afterward removed to Connersville, Fayette Co., Ind., and Mrs. McConnell was the first woman buried in the cemetery at that place. The parental household consisted of thirteen children, three only of whom are now living.

Our subject was the twelfth child of his parents' family and grew to manhood in Ohio. He pursued his studies in the common schools and completed his education at Farmer's College, in Hamilton County. He then taught school nine years following, in the meantime having come to this county, a part of his labors being in Downs and Empire Townships. He was successful as a teacher, has been so as a farmer, and soon after coming here identified himself thoroughly with the interests of the county. He became a resident before the organization of the township, and when this took place was elected Township Clerk and afterward Assessor and Supervisor, holding the former office five con-

secutive years, and the latter two years. He was also Road Commissioner two years, early in the history of the township, being one of the first who made the survey for a public thoroughfare. He has served as Justice of the Peace for about fifteen years and in politics is a solid Republican.

John McConnell was married in Empire Township, June 17, 1862, at the home of the bride's parents, to Miss Martha E. Buck, who was born at Le Roy Dec. 14, 1838, and is the daughter of Hiram Buck. She is a high-minded and intelligent lady and greatly respected by all who know her. Of this union there were three children, of whom one daughter, Anna B., died when about nineteen years of age. The two sons, Hiram E. and William M., are twins; the former is attending Wesleyan University, and the latter the Business College at Bloomington.

Both Mr. and Mrs. McConnell are members of Downs Grange No. 1163, having been among its organizers and still holding offices in the order. Our subject has been a delegate to the State Grange upon three occasions. He has been Master Lecturer, Overseer and Gate Keeper. Mrs. McC. has been Master and Secretary of the Subordinate Grange, and was for a long time Secy of County Grange.



**D**AVID SIMMONS, retired farmer, has his residence in Bloomington, at No. 802 North Oak street. Mr. S. is a native of the Old Dominion, having been born at the foot of Peter's Mountain, in Monroe County, W. Va., the date July 15, 1802. His parents were Ephraim and Elizabeth (Galaway) Simmons, natives of the same State, where they engaged in farming pursuits. Of the eight children born to the parents of our subject, only two are living, David and his sister Elizabeth, the latter now Mrs. Jackson Lucas, of Bloomington. Ephraim Simmons departed this life in Cabell County, W. Va., in 1821.

The subject of this sketch remained at home and worked on the farm until the death of his father. Then, with his mother and her family, he started West and locating in Decatur County, Ind., leased

a tract of land which he farmed for a period of nine years. In 1830 he came to the south side of Blooming Grove, and purchased eighty acres, which he cultivated and improved until 1859

In 1836, Mr. Simmons entered 240 acres of land in Bloomington Township, and was the first man to put up a building on the prairie in that vicinity. With the exception of thirty-six days when he served as a soldier in the Black Hawk War, he has resided in this county continuously since that time. He improved his farm, building, and setting out trees, and hewed the logs for the first store building that was erected in Bloomington. For this labor he received seventy-five cents per day, without board. He is now eighty-four years old, never took a chew of tobacco, never smoked a cigar or pipe, and never took but one pinch of snuff, and that when a boy. He never signed a temperance pledge, and was never intoxicated but once, and that when he was about twenty-four years of age. He possessed all the energy and resolution of the genuine pioneer, and was ready for any emergency.

Mr. Simmons was married in 1825, to Miss Elizabeth, daughter of Reuben and Martha Jones, natives of Georgia. Of this union there were born ten children, only four now living: Levi, of Wilmington, Kan.; Annie, now Mrs. Lash, of Bloomington Township; Benjamin, of Missouri, and Mary, Mrs. Fielder, of Randolph Township.

Our subject purchased his present property in 1859. After living upon it one year he was placed in charge of the Poor House Farm, and remained its Superintendent for three years, when the institution was first established, this being the first of the kind in McLean County. Afterward, Mr. Simmons returned to his home in the city. In the fall of 1886 he sold the last of his lands, eighty acres, receiving for it \$50 per acre. While in possession of his farm he engaged principally in stock and grain raising, which he carried on intelligently and successfully. When coming to this vicinity there was only one log cabin upon the ground which is now occupied by the beautiful and flourishing city of Bloomington, and he has watched with that pleasure and satisfaction enjoyed by most of the pioneers, the remarkable growth and prosperity of McLean County and its capital. He was the first

Supervisor of Bloomington Township, which office he held several years, and with his wife has been a consistent member of the Christian Church since early in life. The latter still remains the affectionate and devoted companion of her husband, and they are patiently waiting until the summons shall come for them to cross over the river.



**D**R. ZERA WATERS, physician and surgeon, of Bloomington, was born in Watertown, Jefferson Co., N. Y., in 1836, and is the son of William and Elizabeth (Wakefield) Waters, also natives of the Empire State. William Waters was there engaged in farming during the earlier years of his life, and came to Illinois in 1844, settling in De Witt County, where he departed this life four years later. The mother died in 1852. Their four children were, Henry, Orin, Dr. Z., and Susan E., now Mrs. N. O. Andrews, of Bloomington.

The subject of this history lived on the farm until his father's death, and attended school until sixteen years old. He then engaged as engineer for a sawmill at De Witt, and thence went to the lumber woods where he was employed as "sealer," and kept the books for the proprietor, Charles Smith. The next summer he followed fishing on Lake Huron, then resumed his work in the lumber regions in the winter, and soon afterward came to Bloomington, and entered the employ of Dr. Wakefield as traveling salesman. He afterward took a two years' course of study at Lombard University, Galesburg, and subsequently became engaged in the furniture and agricultural implement trade in Clinton, Ill. All this time he devoted his spare moments to the study of medicine, and finally, going to Van Buren, Ark., gave his entire time to his studies for one year, then commenced practice. He located at Lees Creek about 1861, and being known as an Abolitionist was pronounced a dangerous man. After the attack upon Ft. Sumter, he was waited upon by a vigilance committee, who intended to hang him. By a strategic movement, however, he got possession of some liquor, and managing to get them intoxicated, made his escape

at 11 o'clock at night, taking with him four horses. Two of these were taken by United States troops, for which he received pay fourteen years afterward. After coming North he landed at Bloomington, July 3, 1861, whence he went to Cincinnati, where he attended medical lectures and received his diploma in the spring of 1862. He then returned to Bloomington, and enlisted in the fifteen-day service to guard the prisoners at Camp Butler, Springfield, where he was made Assistant Surgeon of the 68th Illinois Infantry, and joining them at Alexandria, Va., remained there five months, then returned with his regiment to Springfield, and was discharged.

After his return to Bloomington, Dr. Waters opened an office and entered upon the practice which he has since continued with ability and success. He was married, in 1870, to Miss Martha A. Frazier, of New York, and they have one child, a son, Robert A. The Doctor is a Greenbacker politically, and socially belongs to the Masons, the Knights of Honor and the A. O. U. W. He is a stockholder in the Co-operative Stove Works, and in all respects an energetic and worthy representative of the business element of the community. The pleasant family residence is located at No. 1207 North Main street.



**M**AJOR WELLMAN PACKARD, of Bloomington, is the oldest practitioner of the McLean County bar, and during a residence of over forty years has built up for himself an enviable reputation as counselor, advocate, friend and citizen. He comes from an old and honorable family, his father having been a descendant of Samuel Packard, who emigrated from England to the New World in 1638. Our subject's father, John A. Packard, a native of Vermont, was the first child born in St. Johnsbury, that State, and his grandfather, Richard Packard, made the first clearing on St. Johnsbury Plain. Richard Packard was born in Bridgewater, Mass., in about 1760, and was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, enlisting when a youth of about sixteen years of age, and for many years before his death received



a pension on account of services and wounds. His son, John A., the father of our subject, served later in the War of 1812. Early in life he followed farming pursuits but later became a local preacher of the Methodist Church. He married Miss Maria Bullock, who was born in Brattleboro, Vt., and was the daughter of William Bullock, Esq., who was prominent in that locality as a business man and useful member of the community. They became the parents of thirteen children, nine boys and four girls, all of whom lived to become men and women and, with two exceptions, all married and raised families of their own.

Major Wellman Paekard of this history, was born in St. Hyacinthe, on disputed Canadian territory, May 31, 1820. He pursued his primary studies in the schools of his native town and later attended school at Holliston, Mass., where he completed his studies and engaged as a teacher in Manchester, N. H., and other places near his old home in Canada. In the summer of 1844 he started for the Great West, and settled in Bloomington during the Presidential campaign of Clay and Polk. He commenced reading law in the office of Asahel Gridley and completed his studies with the late David Davis of Bloomington. Two years later he was admitted to the bar and opened an office in Bloomington, where he followed the practice of his chosen profession until 1850. He then crossed the plains to California in company with hundreds of others who emigrated that year to the Pacific Slope. He remained there until March, 1855, engaged in mining and general merchandising. He then returned to Bloomington and resumed his law practice which he has continued uninterruptedly until the present time, having now had an experience of about forty years, and having distinguished himself as being of sound judgment and possessing more than ordinary ability.

Our subject was first married in the summer of 1846, at Clinton, Ill., to Miss Maria W., daughter of Samuel W. Bullock, who died two years afterward, leaving an infant son, Albert W., who followed his mother to the silent home four months later. After his return from California Mr. Paekard was again married, in May, 1857, to Miss Ellen Harris of Ohio. Of this union there were born

four children, three living: Lou M. became the wife of Fred Gay, a member of the firm of Gay Bros., book publishers in New York City; Frankie died when two years of age; Eugene and Nellie are at home with their parents. Major Paekard since coming to this locality has thoroughly identified himself with its interests, and as opportunity afforded has been the encourager and supporter of every enterprise calculated to advance the growth and prosperity of his adopted city. He has been a member of the Board of Education and its President for seven years, and in all respects has fulfilled his obligations as a worthy factor of the business community and of society at large.



**A**USTIN RAWLINGS, general merchant and grain dealer, and also Postmaster at Kummer, is a native of Fleming County, Ky., where he was born May 31, 1836, and is the eldest son of John E. and Polly (Scott) Rawlings. He was less than a year old when his parents came to Illinois, and received his early education in the pioneer schools of Menard County. As soon as old enough he began to work on the farm with his father, and remained under the home roof until he was twenty-five years of age. When a young man he was employed in hauling merchandise from Beardstown to Petersburg, a distance of forty miles. His mother raised flax, which she spun and wove, and in this manner provided the clothing for her family until our subject grew to manhood.

In 1861, the Civil War being in progress, Mr. Rawlings was desirous of enlisting as a Union soldier, but the quota for Illinois being filled he was obliged to go to St. Louis, where he became a member of the 1st Missouri Cavalry, and served faithfully through the war. He was in many battles and skirmishes, including the engagements at Wilson Creek, Sugar Creek, Pea Ridge and Prairie Grove. He received his honorable discharge with his regiment at Little Rock, Ark., in 1865, after a service of four years and two months. He entered the army as a private, was commissioned Second Lieutenant of Company B, in January, 1865, and

that same year promoted First Lieutenant. He was also an ambulance officer, from April, 1865, until his discharge, and served on the staff of Gen. West for some time.

After his retirement from the army, Mr. Rawlings returned to McLean County, and engaged with his father in the grain business for the following year. Soon after the completion of the U. P. R. R. he went to California, where he spent a few months, and purchasing a hotel in Wilmington, Will County, operated it one year. In 1874 he purchased a farm on section 31, Belleflower Township, where he lived until 1881. He then purchased a store at Kumler, which has been his home since that time.

Our subject was married on the 8th of April, 1875, to Miss S. L. Wildman. Mrs. R. was born in Logan County, Ill., June 18, 1854, and was the daughter of William Wildman, a native of Ohio, and the son of Jonas Wildman, one of the pioneers of Martin County, Ind. William Wildman was young when, with his parents, he went to Indiana, and after reaching manhood, was married in Martin County to Miss Ellen Howard. This lady was born in Kentucky, whence she removed with her parents at an early age to Martin County, Ind., and was there reared to womanhood. The family came to Illinois in 1852, settling first in Logan and afterward in Menard County, where Mr. W. died in 1866. The mother still survives, and makes her home with Mrs. Rawlings. Our subject and wife have one child, a son, Edward E., born in 1876, and who is living at home.



**J**OHAN P. ZEIGLER, of the firm of Zeigler & Ferre, contractors and builders, of Bloomington, is a native of Carlisle, Pa., and was born in Cumberland County, Jan. 6, 1837. He is the son of Jacob and Lydia (Furner) Zeigler, natives of Pennsylvania. The grandfather of our subject, Phillip Zeigler, was born at Carlisle Springs, Pa., and descended from German ancestry, his father having been born in Germany and emigrated to the United States when a young man. Phillip Zeigler's father located at Carlisle Springs,

Pa., and purchased 160 acres of unimproved land, being among the first settlers of the Keystone State. His family included five children—Phillip, Jacob, Henry, Eliza and Mary. After the death of the parents, Phillip purchased the interest of the heirs in the homestead and remained upon it during the balance of his life. His children were four in number—Jacob, Andrew, William and Margaret.

After the death of his parents, Jacob Zeigler sold his interest in the homestead to his brothers and moved into Carlisle, Pa., where he raised a family of six children—Margaret, Mary, John P., Julia, Kate and David. After leaving the homestead Jacob Zeigler followed the trade of a blacksmith, which he had previously learned. He set up a shop and gave employment to three men, finally becoming engaged in the manufacture of wagons, in which he was occupied the latter years of his life. He was a prominent member of his community and held the office of Supervisor for many years. With his wife he was a member of the Lutheran Church and a Deacon for a long period. He gave all his children a good education and lived to see them married and comfortably settled in life. He rested from his earthly labors at the age of seventy-two years, dying in 1881, at Greenview, Menard County, this State, whither he had removed the year previously. He came with his family to Illinois in 1874, first settling in Farmer City, De Witt County. After the death of her husband the mother of our subject went back to Pennsylvania on a visit and died there in 1885, aged sixty-seven years.

The subject of our sketch attended school until he was sixteen years old and then engaged as clerk in a dry-goods store for two years. He afterward learned the carpenter's trade, serving an apprenticeship of four years, and worked for one year as journeyman. In 1860 he proceeded to Ohio, and after a sojourn of six months returned to his native State and was married to Miss Elizabeth K., daughter of Thompson and Maria (Winecoop) Bosler. He worked at his trade for three years after his marriage and then removed to Chambersburg, Pa., where he spent the following two and one-half years.

In 1871 our subject came to Illinois, locating in Farmer City, De Witt County, where he became





Wm. Van Schoick.

engaged as a contractor and builder, and continued until 1880. Thence he removed to Bloomington, still following the same business, and in 1886 became associated with his present partner. The firm has been remarkably successful in its operations and employs from six to eight men.

Mr. and Mrs. Zeigler have become the parents of four children, as follows: Annie, Mrs. Adolph, of Bloomington, is the mother of one daughter—Mabel; Thomas is engaged in blacksmithing at Brooklyn, Iowa; William, also a blacksmith by trade, is in Bloomington; Irena is with her parents. Mr. and Mrs. Z. are members of the Second Presbyterian Church. Our subject was Alderman of Farmer City for two years. Socially he belongs to the Knights of Pythias, and as a citizen and business man ranks among the representative men of the city of Bloomington.



**M**ILTON BULL, farmer, stock raiser and feeder, of Lexington Township, is a native of Owen County, Ind., and born near Martinsville, Jan. 31, 1825. He is the son of William Bull, a native of Virginia, a farmer by occupation, and a soldier of the War of 1812. By his first marriage he had two children, George and John. The former is at present residing in Kansas, having attained the venerable age of eighty-two years. William Bull's first wife had two children by a previous marriage, namely, William and Mary Goodwin. William Bull after his marriage with Esther Goodwin *nee* Fowler, settled on a farm in Owen County, Ind., and made that his home until the fall of 1853, when he came to this county and, settling in Lexington Township, passed one summer at Selma. He then rented a farm, having but little means, having lost almost all his accumulations while a resident of Indiana, by going senility. He never recovered his financial standing. He lived with his son, our subject, until his death, in 1852, in his seventy-second year. His wife died in 1858. By his latter marriage he had eight children, six daughters and two sons, namely: Eleanor, wife of William Arnold; Caroline married John Haner; Eliza, Mrs. Edwin McMaster, wife of a Methodist

minister of note; Washington is deceased; Milton was next in order of birth; Julia A. became the wife of Henry Myers, and both died in Cumberland County, this State; Mahala was united in marriage with James Moore, a resident of Wichita, Kan., and Margaret became the wife of Nicholas Reed, and is now deceased.

Milton Bull was about eighteen years old when he came to this county with his parents. He received his education in the common schools of Owen County, Ind., and worked on his father's farm, and when twelve years old was almost able to do a man's work on the place. When he came to this county he hired out as a hand to Milton Smith for \$10 per month for the first year. He continued with that gentleman about fourteen months and with the money he had earned and saved, bought fifty-five acres of land, going in debt for a portion of it. He soon, however, paid for it, and by economizing was enabled to purchase more from time to time until he became the proprietor of a handsome property.

When in his twenty-fifth year our subject was married to Miss Naney Newlon, of this county, but a native of Owen County, Ind., and daughter of John Newlon, born in Virginia. Her mother's maiden name was Anna Walker. The Newlon family were of German origin. After marriage Mr. Bull located on his present farm, section 28, Lexington Township. He commenced on a small scale and kept adding as he could to his possessions, and now is the owner of 640 acres of valuable land in one body. He also added to the cultivation of the cereals, the industry of raising and feeding cattle for the market. He has also been successful in the raising of hogs and feeds from seventy-five to 100 head for the market annually. He has a fine two-story residence on his place, together with good barns and substantial outbuildings, and has met with far more than ordinary success in his business.

Six children, three sons and three daughters, have been born to our subject and wife. They are, William S., Isaac H.; Margaret A., wife of James N. Smail; Mary A. married Harvey Smith; George, Jr., Martha E. Two of their children died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Bull are members of the

Methodist Episcopal Church. He has given to each of his children some forty to eighty acres of land and retains on the home farm 140 acres.



**J**USTUS CASTLE. Among the manufacturing establishments of Chenoa the steam tile works of Pike & Castle occupy the most important position. The business was established in 1880 by Ellington & Castle. Two years later Mr. E. M. Pike purchased the interest of Mr. Ellington and it has since been conducted by the firm of Pike & Castle. The factory buildings are fitted up with the most approved machinery, including an engine of fifty-horse power, and the annual output is over 1,300,000 tile, and some years has gone beyond even these large figures. The factory is kept in operation all the year round and 7,000 feet of steam pipe contribute to keep an even temperature throughout the works. They give employment to about eighteen men and ship the products of their manufacture to different parts of this State, besides supplying a large home demand.

Mr. Castle is a native of the Green Mountain State, and was born near Brattleboro, Nov. 5, 1823. His father, Philo, and his grandfather, Timothy Castle, were natives of Connecticut, and were descendants of excellent French and English families. The father of our subject in early manhood was united in marriage with Miss Jerusha Dix, who was born in Connecticut, and whose father, Ozias Dix, removed to Vermont and there passed the remainder of his days. Philo Castle, after his marriage settled on a farm in Windham County, Vt., and established a home there which he occupied until his death. The parental household included eight children, all of whom lived to mature years. Justus of our sketch was the youngest and remained with his parents on the farm until twenty-one years of age, in the meantime obtaining his education in the district school. In 1845, desiring to see something of the Great West, he came to Illinois and spent one year in Adams County. He then returned to his home in Vermont but did not give up his original intention of locating perma-

nently in the West. In 1850 he returned to this State and purchased a farm in Bureau County, upon which he lived until 1867. In the meantime, however, he had revisited his native State, and upon his return to Illinois was accompanied by his bride, who was formerly Miss Harriett A. Boyd of Wilmington, Vt. They located upon a farm as we have stated until 1867, then came to this county, taking up their abode in Yates Township, where Mr. Castle engaged in farming until 1879. In that year he removed to Chenoa, and the year following established his present business.

Our subject and his wife became the parents of five children, viz., Timothy, who died aged three years; William D. married Miss Nancy E. Hamilton; Hattie M.; Walter died at the age of five years; Jesse died when about three years of age. While living in Yates Township, Mr. Castle served four years as Justice of the Peace. During his early life he was a Whig politically, but after the abandonment of the old party by the organization of the Republican, he cheerfully endorsed the principles of the latter, with which he uniformly cast his vote.



**W**ILLIAM H. BALL, a native of Cheney's Grove Township, in which he is now located, residing on section 10, was born Nov. 24, 1841. He is the son of Hilleary and Calista (Hildreth) Ball, natives of Kentucky and New York respectively. The father was born March 8, 1817, and the mother, May 27 of that same year. They are still living and make their home in this township. The children of the parental family were William H.; Elizabeth T. married William Evans; Julia A., Mrs. Gallagher, is a resident of Kansas, her husband being the Clerk of Ford County; Amos married Miss Hannah Stephens; Hattie is the wife of Robert Means, a banker of Saybrook.

The grandfather of our subject's wife, Benjamin Thomas, was the second white man who came into Cheney's Grove Township for permanent settlement, arriving here in 1826. He was born on the 12th of May, 1799, and died on the 1st of April,

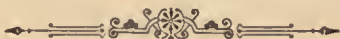
1834. His wife was born Dec. 26, 1799, and died April 8, 1836. It will thus be seen that they were born in the same year and both died in April. The grandmother survived her husband a little over two years.

William H. Ball is the eldest member of his parents' family. He was reared to farming, received a fair common-school education, and after reaching manhood was united in marriage with Miss Mary Harrison on the 10th of November, 1864. Mrs. Ball is also a native of Cheney's Grove Township, and born Sept. 11, 1843. She is the daughter of Davis and Temperance (Thomas) Harrison, the father a native of Pennsylvania, and the mother of Ohio. Davis Harrison was born Feb. 26, 1819, and died at his home in Saybrook, Feb. 9, 1884. His wife, the mother of Mrs. Ball, was born Aug. 23, 1823, and departed this life about the 10th of March, 1873. Four of their eight children are yet living: Mary, of our sketch, was the eldest. Benjamin T., born Aug. 8, 1846, married Miss Love C. Hogan; Leander J., born Sept. 13, 1848, died May 20, 1871; Hannah, born Aug. 20, 1851, died Sept. 24, 1853; Charles, born Jan. 27, 1854, died March 31, 1874; Aaron, born Oct. 28, 1856, died Sept. 11, 1858; Ellen C., born Oct. 10, 1860, became the wife of Floyd W. Collins, Oct. 13, 1881; Esther M. was born Sept. 11, 1864. Mr. and Mrs. Ball have four children: Harriett E., born Sept. 30, 1865; Harrison, Oct. 25, 1866; Minnie E., May 31, 1868, and Frank M., Dec. 22, 1876. Harriett graduated at the Bloomington High School in 1886, and is now teaching five miles East of that city.

The homestead of our subject comprises 290 acres of valuable land under an advanced state of cultivation. In September, 1881, he removed to Bloomington, where he remained until March, 1887. He then returned to the farm, which seems more like home to him than any place in the world. Here he has a substantial and convenient residence which, together with his substantial out-buildings and live stock, comprises the model farm estate of an enterprising and representative citizen. Mr. Ball has one of the finest farm estates in this section besides the finest spring in McLean County, it having a capacity sufficiently large to water 1,000

head of stock daily, even in the driest season of the year.

Mr. and Mrs. Ball, with two of the children, Hattie and Minnie, are members of the First Methodist Church of Bloomington. A view of Mr. Ball's residence is shown on another page.



**J**AMES M. SELLS. One of the handsomest homesteads in Martin Township, lying on section 14, is occupied by the subject of this sketch, of which he took possession in the spring of 1864. The family residence, which is splendidly located, is one of the neatest and most tasteful in that locality, and the barn and other necessary farm buildings are handsome and substantial structures, calculated alike for beauty and utility. The fences and farm machinery are kept in good repair, and the stock and other accessories of the estate testify in a silent and forcible manner to the intelligence, industry and enterprise of the proprietor.

Anthony Sells, the father of our subject, and Benjamin Sells, the grandfather, were both natives of Virginia. The former emigrated to Indiana when a young man, where he remained a short time, and then came into Woodford County, this State. There he was married to Miss Mary Mundell, a native of Woodford County. After their marriage the young people settled at Dixon, Ill., whence they shortly afterward removed to Johnson County, Iowa. Anthony Sells being a miller by trade put up a mill on the Iowa River, near Iowa City, which he operated for a number of years, and then pushed southwestward into Kansas, where he passed the remainder of his days. The mother had died while living in Johnson County, Iowa.

James M., our subject, after residing three years in Johnson County, Iowa, returned to Woodford County, making his home with his uncle and grandmother. He started out in life for himself at the early age of ten years, and commenced working on a farm and herding cattle. He soon learned the value of money, and saved what he could of a very limited income. During the war he dealt largely in cattle for other parties, and in time be-

gan to trade on his own account, investing what means he could raise in live stock. As his operations extended he began shipping cattle from Kansas and Colorado to Chicago, New York, and other Eastern points. His transactions in this line continued for a period of over thirty years. He has been remarkably successful in his operations and accumulated a handsome competency. His career from first to last has been a striking illustration of what may be accomplished from very small beginnings. His first property in the cattle line was a yearling calf, which he secured in payment for cutting corn stalks. He has fed as high as 500 head of cattle during the winter, for which purpose he raises an immense quantity of corn, probably more than any other man in this township. Besides his cattle operations, which have included large numbers of thoroughbred Short-horns, he has been engaged quite extensively in the breeding of Norman horses. His stables contain some of the handsomest animals in this section of the State.

During the war Mr. Sells made money rapidly, but in the panic of 1873, which brought ruin to so many men, he suffered heavily. His was not the spirit to be dismayed or discouraged, however, and he recovered from his losses as best he could, and set about with dauntless courage to retrieve his fortunes. In due time he found himself again upon his feet. He purchased his present farm in 1864, taking an entire section of land, and giving as part payment 100 head of cattle, but it was not long until he had the whole of it paid for.

The marriage of James M. Sells and Miss Emma F. Brooke, of McLean County, took place in 1873. Mrs. S. was born near Shirley, Ill., and is the daughter of Matthew and Mary (Thompson) Brooke. Matthew Brooke removed from Pennsylvania to Ohio, and thence to Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Sells have four children, three daughters and one son—Mary, Lavisia, Charles B. and Rachel.

When Mr. Sells first took possession of his present farm there were no improvements upon it, it having been chiefly devoted to the herding of cattle, numbers of which he himself had looked after upon the same land years before he was in a condition to think of buying. Since he took possession of it he has effected a wonderful change, and has

brought most of the land to a good state of cultivation, some years raising as high as 20,000 bushels of corn on 320 acres. Our subject was elected Assessor of Martin Township, which office he held for three successive terms. Politically he is independent, and is a strong temperance man.



JAMES S. BLAND, a self-made man, is today a prosperous and highly respected farmer of Empire Township. He came into the Prairie State after the war, poor in pocket and without influential friends, but by the exercise of his native energy and resolution has secured for himself a comfortable home and a competency and has established himself in the esteem of his fellow-citizens.

Mr. Bland was born in Pendleton County, W. Va., Jan. 23, 1845. His father, Eli Bland, was a native of the same county and State, and his grandfather, Henry Bland who, it is believed, was also a Virginian, followed the occupation of a farmer in the Old Dominion, spending most of his life in Pendleton County. His son Eli, the father of our subject, was also reared to farming pursuits, and spent his entire life in his native county, dying there in the winter of 1862 or 1863. He married in early life Miss Annie Haigler, a native of his own county, who still resides there.

James Bland attended the subscription schools of his native county and assisted his father in farming until 1862. Then, upon the outbreak of the Rebellion, and when a youth of seventeen years, he enlisted as a soldier of the Confederacy in Co. A, 18th Va. Vol. Cav., and served until the close of the war. He was in the army of Gen. Lee and was present at the battles of Fisher's Hill, Winchester, Newmarket, Lynchburg and Gettysburg. He was captured by Federal troops in September, 1864, and confined at Camp Chase, Ohio, eight months, being released at the close of the war. He then returned to his native county in Virginia and resumed farming on the old homestead until 1867. Not being quite satisfied with his condition or his prospects he resolved to emigrate to Illinois. He stopped first in Champaign County for one year,



working on a farm, whence he went into DeWitt County and was similarly occupied until his marriage. He then rented a farm in De Witt County until 1878, when he came into McLean and purchased the farm which he now occupies. He has greatly improved the condition of this since it came into his possession, although it was then supplied with a good set of frame buildings. On the 2d of November, 1882, the first house was destroyed by fire and he put up the one he now occupies. This is a substantial and convenient structure, pleasantly located, and makes a pleasant home for himself and family. His first purchase consisted of 188 acres and to this he has added and now has in all 287 acres divided into three farms, two of them being supplied with good frame buildings.

Mr. Bland was married in this county on the 23d of July, 1871, to Miss Elizabeth Helmick, who was born in Rutledge Township, De Witt Co., Ill., July 10, 1851, and is the daughter of Elisha and Mary (Trimble) Helmick, both natives of Virginia, who came to De Witt County in about 1846. Mr. and Mrs. Bland became the parents of seven children—Ashley, Mary, Hattie, Walter, Ewell, Bessie and Dell. The parents are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

A lithographic view of Mr. Bland's residence is shown on another page of this work.



**W**ILLIAM J. KIMLER, Supervisor of West Township, is a native of the Prairie State, and was born near the city of Bloomington, Nov. 10, 1838. His father, Caleb Kimler, was a native of Virginia, whence he removed into Kentucky and lived until about 1830. He then came into that part of Vermilion County, Ill., which is now included in McLean, and lived a few years in what is now Bloomington Township. He then purchased a tract of timber and prairie near Randolph Grove, upon which stood a log house, and he there located and commenced the serious business of life in a new country. He had served an apprenticeship as a carpenter and cabinet-maker and after locating here, in company with others put up the first sawmill in the county, at the east end of

Randolph Grove. He engaged a man to operate his farm and employed himself at his trade most of the time. His death occurred in Randolph Township, Jan. 9, 1848.

The maiden name of Caleb Kimler's wife was Elizabeth Orendorff, and she was born July 29, 1814, in Kentucky, her parents being William and Sallie (Nichols) Orendorff, the former a native of Georgia, and the son of Christopher Orendorff, who was of German descent and parentage. Mrs. Kimler came to this county with her parents in 1823, being among the very first settlers. She died in Randolph Grove Oct. 13, 1843, and her remains lie beside those of her husband in Downs Cemetery. Of their four children, Lewis C. and Marena J. died near Bloomington; the latter was the wife of James W. Abel, who died in Belleflower Township; our subject was the third child; America became the wife of Christopher Noggle, and lives in Old Town Township.

The subject of this history was but ten years of age when his father died. He lived with his maternal grandparents for two years, then made his home with his uncle, John L. Orendorff, until he had grown to manhood, receiving a fair education in the common school, and teaching one term. Upon the breaking out of the Rebellion he enlisted Aug. 29, 1862, in the 4th Illinois Cavalry, and served until the close of the war. He was in the Valley of the Mississippi the entire term of service, his regiment for the most part doing garrison duty.

After his return from the army Mr. Kimler lived with his uncle until his marriage, and then removed to West Township and settled on section 2, town 21. After five years he traded his farm there for the one which he now owns and occupies. This consists of 200 acres on section 35, all enclosed and improved, and furnished with a good set of frame buildings. Mr. K. is largely engaged in grain and stock raising, and everything about the premises denotes the supervision of a methodical business man.

The marriage of our subject occurred on the 2d of April, 1867, the lady of his choice being Miss Mary E. Hoover, who was born in Clermont County, Ohio, and the daughter of Joel and Nancy (Houser) Hoover, natives of Maryland. The chil-

dren of Mr. and Mrs. K. are as follows: Cora May, Ola E., Mary Frances, William B. and Jessie Pearl; one son, a twin brother of William, died in infancy. Mr. Kimler is Democratic in politics, has been Township Clerk for several years, School Trustee and Treasurer, and has served three terms as Supervisor.

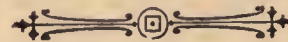


**H**ENRY C. LOWREY, importer and breeder of French draft horses, is a native of Woodford County, this State, where he was born March 28, 1856. He has been a resident of Normal Township since 1865, and has fully established himself in the confidence and esteem of the citizens of this community, by his straightforward business methods and his upright life. He is a fine judge of horseflesh, and in the business which he has selected for his vocation, is meeting with well-merited success.

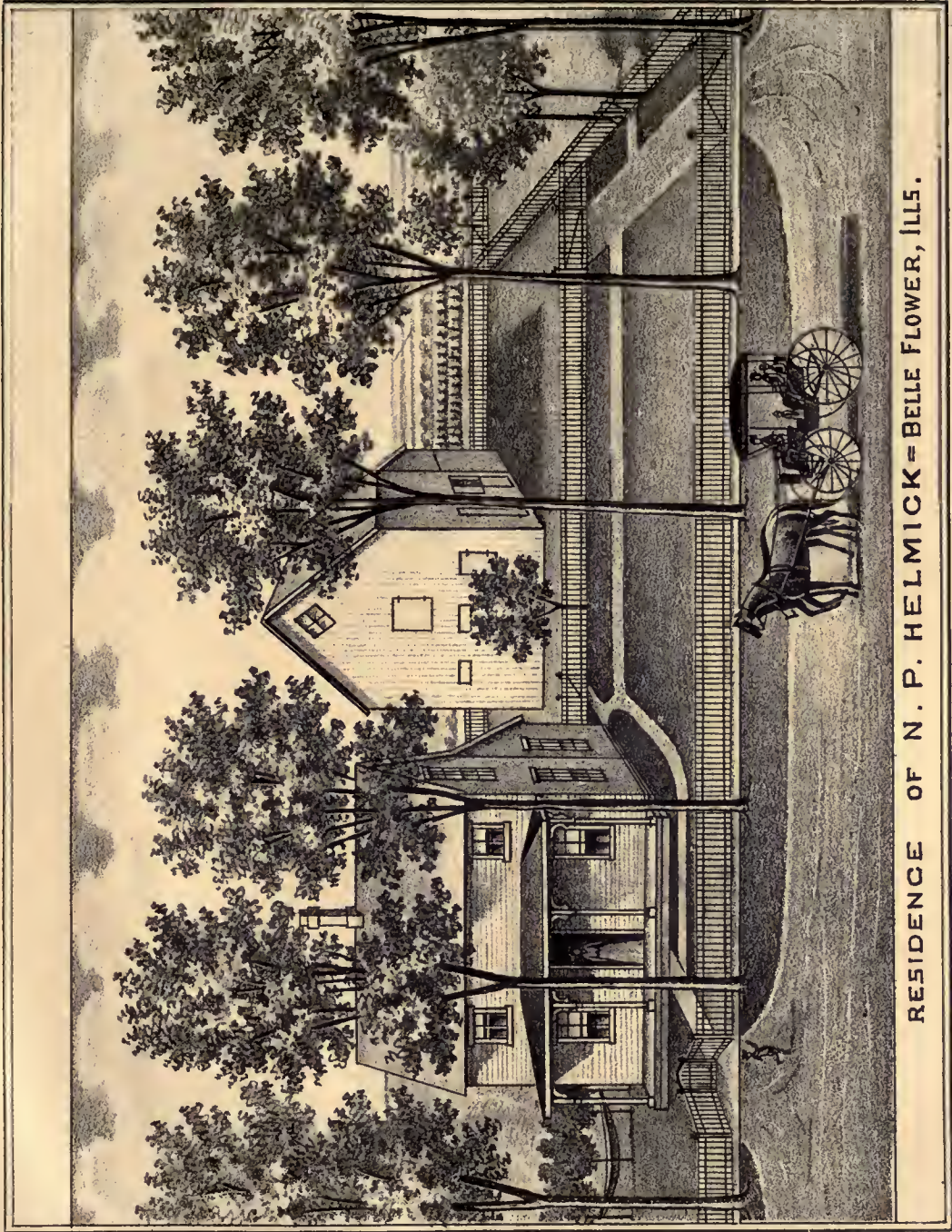
The father of our subject, Joseph Lowrey, a native of Scotland, came to the United States with his parents when a boy ten years of age. They settled in Lancaster County, Pa., where Joseph grew to manhood, and in 1835 came to Illinois and located near Springfield. Here he was united in marriage with Miss Josephine Jenkins, who was a native of Baltimore, Md. After their marriage they located upon a farm, and Joseph Lowrey also carried on a real-estate and live-stock business. He subsequently removed into Woodford County, this State, and thence came to this county, locating on a tract of land in Normal Township. He subsequently became the owner of 225 acres, besides land in Woodford and Logan Counties and also in Iowa and Nebraska, making in all an area of 1,400 acres. He departed this life in 1870. He was prompt to meet his obligations, a strictly honest and reliable business man and was held in the highest respect by his business associates and acquaintances at large. His wife survives and resides on the old homestead in Normal Township. Their household circle included six children, of whom the record is as follows: Edwin is an engineer in the United States Navy; Mary became the wife of Frank Peppers, a dealer in agricultural implements and also in Norman horses at Albia, Iowa; Henry C.

of our sketch; Adaline lives in Nebraska with an uncle; Josephine married Arthur Keenan, of Le Roy; Alice is at home.

Henry C. Lowrey of our sketch received a fair education in the common schools and assisted his parents in the duties around the farm. After attaining his majority he went West to look after some real estate for his father. After arriving in the territories, whither he had gone with some cattlemen, he passed three seasons, and then returning home remained a year. In 1881 he embarked in his present business, and subsequently visited France, bringing home with him six valuable horses. In 1882 he imported fifteen more choice animals; in 1883, seventeen head, and in 1884, fourteen head. In 1885 he formed a partnership with John J. Kemp, and under the firm style of Kemp & Lowrey they were soon the possessors of forty-three head of valuable animals, importing during 1886 sixteen head, and in 1887 they imported thirty-eight fine horses. They still have a large number of mares for breeding purposes and are rapidly building up a reputation as the most successful and skillful horsemen in this locality. Our subject has been admitted as a member of the National French Draft Horse Association, and has the ambition to strive for the highest excellence in his important work, which so materially affects the industries of this country.



**N**ATHANIEL PIERCE HELMICK, a successful hardware merchant of Belleflower, and still a young man, as a good citizen and an honest and thorough-going member of this community, is contributing his full share toward the business interests of his locality. He is the son of Nathaniel Helmick, Sr., who was born in Virginia, grew to manhood in his native State, and there married Miss Mary Tingler, also a native of the Old Dominion. After a few years they removed to Ohio and thence, in 1839, to Illinois. The journeys from Virginia to Ohio and from the latter State to Illinois were made with wagons, in which they carried their household goods, camping and cooking by the wayside. The father of our



RESIDENCE OF N. P. HELMICK = BELLE FLOWER, ILLS.



subject first purchased a claim in Rutledge Township, De Witt Co., Ill., where he erected a log house, the nearest mill being in Tazewell County, and the nearest market for cattle was Chicago, 140 miles distant. The elder Helmiek improved his farm there and occupied it until 1882, then sold out and removed to Farmer City, where he spends his summer seasons and in winter takes up his residence in Florida.

The subject of this history was the tenth of twelve children born to his parents. He was reared on his father's farm and received a good common-school education, remaining under the home roof until he had attained his majority. His father then gave him 100 acres of land, located on section 28, Belleflower Township, which he occupied and cultivated until 1882. That year he rented his farm and removing to Belleflower, engaged in his present business, in which he has been fairly successful.

Mr. Helmiek was married in Belleflower Township, on the 2d of October, 1876, to Miss Martha Greene, who was a native of Illinois. They have become the parents of four children—Milver F. P., Nancy M., Clara P. and Thomas N. P. Mr. H. is Democratic in politics and has served as Collector of his township.

A lithographic view of Mr. Helmiek's residence and store building is to be seen on another page.



**W**ILLIAM VAN SCHOICK. There are few men more widely or favorably known throughout McLean County than the subject of the following sketch. He came to this vicinity nearly thirty years ago, and the aid which he has extended in encouraging the mark of progress and building up the city of Bloomington, can scarcely be estimated. He is of that energetic and enterprising disposition which will not allow him to be idle for a moment, and at those times when perhaps his hands are unemployed his busy brain is devising something which shall not only be a benefit to himself but to those around him. There are few enterprises in the capital city of McLean with which he has not been connected, and he is con-

ceded by all to be one of the best financiers and business men of this county.

Mr. VanSchoiek is a native of Monmouth County, N. J., where his birth took place Aug. 2, 1829. His parents, David and Emily (Williams) VanSchoiek, were natives of the same State, where they remained until after marriage and then started West, locating in Ohio in 1836. There the father was engaged in farming and milling, and remained a resident of the Buckeye State for thirty years. In 1866 he came to Bloomington, where he resided until his death, which occurred in 1874. The mother is still living in this city, honored and respected by all who know her.

The subject of this history in early life learned the printer's trade, but this not being suited to his tastes he took up stove-molding and brickmaking, at which he served a thorough apprenticeship and became an expert. When twenty-three years of age he established himself at Richmond, Ind., and engaged at his trade, turning out the largest amount of work in the molding of sand brick that has ever been known. At one time in the space of thirteen hours he finished off 14,369 brick. After this day's work he was carried on the shoulders of his men and the students two miles to and fro through the city. An account of this was published throughout the United States and Canada, and young VanSchoiek was conceded the champion brickmaker of the country.

From his early youth, Mr. VanSchoiek was always ambitious to progress. He was never content with mediocrity, but in whatever he undertook it seemed the most natural thing in the world that he should aim to excel. After becoming thoroughly proficient in the manufacture of brick, he began to engage as a builder and contractor, and superintended the erection of many important buildings in and around Richmond, Ind., among them the Friends' College, a handsome and substantial structure, reared by the Quakers, and devoted to the higher branches of study.

Mr. VanSchoiek came to Bloomington in 1858, and continued as a builder and contractor, meeting with the same success here which had signalized his efforts elsewhere. Among the important buildings in this city which bear the mark of his perse-

verance and genius are the Wesleyan College, the People's Bank building, and the Bloomington Stove Works. He possesses more than ordinary executive ability, and has had at times 175 men in his employ. He was one of the organizers of the Bloomington Stove Works, has been a stockholder and Director from the beginning, and was elected President in 1885. The company commenced business with six members, and a capital stock of \$40,000. The capital has since been increased and the products of their manufacture are sent into most of the Western and Southern States. Mr. VanSchoick is also identified with the plow works of the city, and is a stockholder in the Third National Bank.

One of the most important interests of the city is the Bloomington Pork Packing Company, which is transacting a large and profitable business, and lying in close proximity to the tracks of the I. B. & W. and the L., B. & M. R. R., has fine facilities for shipping, and transports annually many carloads of this almost indispensable commodity to different parts of the East and South. A man who has had the faculty of successfully engineering so many important interests, has naturally become an important factor in the building up of the city, which now largely depends upon him to assist in sustaining the reputation to which it has attained. Mr. VanSchoick has steadily declined to become an office-holder, feeling that his business affairs claimed his entire attention, but in 1860 the citizens elected him Alderman, the duties of which office he filled with credit to himself and satisfaction to all concerned. He is a man who can never be anything in a half-way manner, and during his incumbency of this office introduced many measures which were of great benefit to the city. He is largely interested in property here, and no man has taken greater satisfaction in noting the march of progress and civilization throughout the Prairie State, and in devising methods which shall result in the best good of its people. The measures which have had the tendency to encourage them in their efforts at building up homes and becoming worthy and permanent citizens have originated and been upheld by such men as the subject of this sketch.

The portrait of Mr. VanSchoick which we pre-

sent in connection with this sketch, forms one of the interesting features in a work of this kind, and takes the rightful place among the pioneers, to whose first efforts the city is indebted for being placed upon its feet, and thus enabled to effect the rapid progress which long ago relegated it to a position among the important cities of the West.



**E**PHRAIM HESTER. McLean County is dotted over with many well-improved farms, and a goodly number of them are owned by men who began life poor in pocket, but with an abundance of energy and pluck, and have made life a success. Among this class of citizens is Mr. Hester, of Cheney's Grove Township. He has been variously engaged as farmer, carpenter and school teacher, but is at present comfortably located on section 11. He was born in Northampton County, Pa., whence he removed with his parents to Northumberland County and thereafter to Illinois, in 1867. He is the son of Christian and Elizabeth (Mensch) Hester, who spent their last years in Pennsylvania. The mother died in 1851, and the father surviving her nearly thirty years, departed this life in 1880, having arrived at the advanced age of nearly eighty-four years. Their eleven children were Phillip, Sylvester, Catherine, Caroline, Abraham, Lucy A., Christian, Ephraim, William, Henry and Daniel.

Mr. Hester after coming to this county employed himself at whatever he could find to do, some of the time in the cornfield, but most of the time teaching. He followed the latter profession for a period of twelve years with marked success. He has a natural love of learning and was finely educated. During the progress of the late War he enlisted in 1863, in Co. E, 131st Pa. Vol. Inf., as Corporal. He served nine months in the Army of the Potomac, was held with his company as a reserve in the battle of Fredericksburg, and participated in the engagement at Chancellorsville. He was never wounded but suffered greatly in health from hardship and privation. He received an honorable discharge in 1864, and going into the State of Michigan resumed teaching, which he followed

for two years, although scarcely able to do so. In 1872 he purchased 120 acres of land in this county, to which he subsequently added until he is now the owner of two fine farms including 240 acres. Upon this he has a handsome and substantial residence, good barns and out-buildings, and all the appliances of a modern agriculturist. He has given some attention of late years to the breeding of Norman horses and high-grade Short-horn cattle. He takes a genuine interest in the affairs of his county and township, especially in the establishment and maintenance of schools. He has filled various township offices, and is a man of sound judgment, whose opinion is uniformly consulted upon all important occasions. Politically he is independent, and religiously was carefully reared by his parents in the doctrines of the German Reformed Church.

The marriage of Ephraim Hester and Miss Arey A. Crigler took place on Christmas Eve, 1868. Mrs. H. was born in McLean County, Ill., Feb. 2, 1850, and is the daughter of Thomas B. and Sarah R. (Deal) Crigler, both of whom are living. Their eight children are William H., C. F., C. E., John M. B., Arey A., Julius W., Martha S. and Maggie E. Mr. and Mrs. Hester are the parents of six children, all of whom are living—Arthur, Eugene E., Eunice R., Jme, John T. and Lucy E. Mr. Hester is a member of the Knights of Honor, at Gibson, Ill. Mrs. Hester is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, of Gibson, Ford Co., Ill. A handsome lithographic view of Mr. Hester's place is shown.



**O**WEN A. MEANS, a prominent farmer and stock-raiser of Cheney's Grove Township, is the owner of a fine farm estate on section 15. He is a native of Kentucky, and was born in Lewis County, Sept. 21, 1831, and is the son of Robert and Sarah (Rumsey) Means, natives of Pennsylvania, where the father was born in 1785. Robert Means emigrated to Illinois in 1829, locating in this county, of which he remained thereafter a resident, and departed this life Aug. 15, 1835. He was an old-line Whig politically, and religiously, a firm believer in the doctrines of the Methodist Church,

of which his wife was also a member. She was born Nov. 10, 1795, and died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. James McMackin, March 1, 1875. Their ten children are recorded as follows: America, who became the wife of Snowden Ball, died in Cheney's Grove Township in 1885; Katurah married James McMackin, and lives in the same township; Jenima and John were twins, the former became the wife of A. G. Stansberry of Kansas, and the latter died when fifteen years old; James R. married Miss Nancy Stansberry; David D. first married Miss Mary Cline, who died after a few years, and he then married her sister Rebecea; Joseph K. married Miss Matilda Rankin; he served as a soldier in the Union army during the late war, being a member of the 116th Illinois Infantry, and died at Vicksburg in 1863; his widow was left with four children; Owen A., our subject, was the eighth child; Elizabeth, Mrs. Green, lives in Lynn County, Kan.; Margaret became the wife of James Vanseoyoc, and lives on the old home place where the parents settled in 1829.

The subject of this history remained under the home roof during his childhood and youth, receiving careful home training and a good common-school education. After reaching manhood he was united in marriage with Miss Lydia Pitts, Oct. 4, 1855. Mrs. M. is the daughter of William and Naney (Armstrong) Pitts, who were natives of Kentucky and removed to this State in 1855. Both are now deceased. The father died June 6, 1857, and the mother, Sept. 6, 1863. William Pitts was a farmer and carpenter, an industrious and enterprising man and a good citizen. Politically he was a firm adherent of the Whig party, but after the abandonment of the old party inclined to Democratic principles. Both parents were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The record of their ten children is as follows: John first married Miss Mary J. Zook, who died soon afterward; his second wife was Miss Mary Means; Lydia, the wife of our subject, was the second child; William died in infancy; Lucinda, who became the wife of Granville Rayburn, is a resident of San Jose, Cal.; Justina, Mrs. Frazier, is now deceased; Thomas married Miss Jane Stansberry and lives in California; Charlie died when six years of age; the

next, an infant, died unnamed; Nancy J., unmarried, is a resident of California; Owen died when two years old.

Mr. and Mrs. Owen Means became the parents of ten children: William died when two years of age; Alvira, Mrs. Woodruff, is a resident of Dakota; Bell, Mrs. Thornton, lives at Cullom, Ill.; Charlie was the fourth child; Matie, Mrs. John Williams, lives at Colfax, Ill.; Luther died when seventeen months old; Amos B., who was born Aug. 17, 1870, is attending the High School at Saybrook, and is a youth of more than ordinary ability, being well advanced in his studies and fond of learning; Joseph K., born March 9, 1873, attended the common schools until 1887, and on the 3d day of March following, started for Hyde County, Dak., to assist his brother, Charles, in opening up a farm. This consists of a tract of 1,220 acres, and these enterprising young men will doubtless in time become worthy and valued citizens. Joseph is a great favorite with all who know him, full of life and spirits but of excellent habits. Daisy, the youngest daughter, was born March 6, 1876, and Jay, the youngest son, Sept. 17, 1880. The latter is now a bright boy of nearly seven years, the pet and sunshine of the home circle.

The homestead of Mr. Means comprises 250 acres of fine farming land. Of late years he has made a specialty of stock breeding and bears the reputation of being one of the best breeders in this part of the State. His herd of cattle comprises some of the finest animals to be found in the West. Two years ago he shipped to the Chicago market two earloads of the heaviest fat steers that ever left the township. He also has some fine English draft horses and has operated largely in Poland-China swine.

Mr. Means has a fine dwelling built of brick, two stories in height, with handsome veranda in front and a porch around the L. The house is finely finished and furnished. A view of the residence is given in this work. The barns and other out-buildings are adapted in every respect to the requirements of a first-class farmer and stock-raiser. Mr. Means is now building one of the finest barns in this community, its dimensions being 36x48 feet, and capable of holding fifty tons of hay and shelter-

ing about forty head of stock. The grounds are finely laid out and the whole estate presents one of the most attractive spots in McLean County. Mr. Means, politically, casts his vote in support of the Democratic party and all the family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

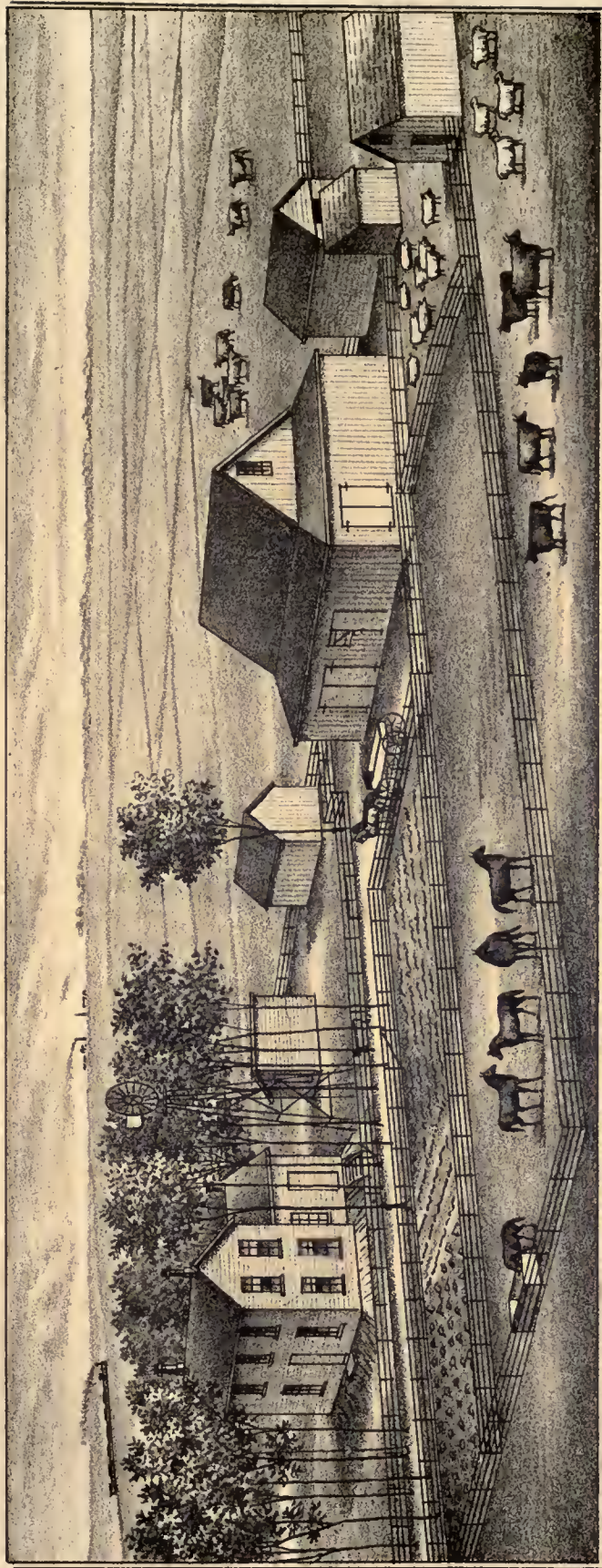


**F**LINT BROS. George H. and Charles A. Flint are widely and favorably known among the farmers and stock-raisers of Bellefleur Township, as being especially worthy representatives of the latter department of farming. They were born among the New Hampshire Hills, and descended from a family who were among the earliest settlers of New England, its first representatives having crossed the waters about the time of the settlement of the Plymouth colonists. The paternal grandfather of the Flint Brothers, who was a native of Andover, Mass., removed to New Hampshire about 1790, and was among the first settlers of Hillsboro County, that State. He purchased a tract of Government land, cleared a farm from the wilderness, and established a comfortable home, where he remained until the close of his life. For many years Boston was the nearest market for the settlers, who usually made the journey with ox-teams. The Indians lingered there for some years afterward, and wild game was plenty.

Luther Flint, father of Flint Brothers, of our sketch, was born in Hillsboro, N. H., and is living on the farm which his father cleared there. He is now eighty years of age, and although not in robust health, still possesses his vigorous and active mind, and keeps himself well posted upon current events. His wife was Miss Sarah D. Richardson, also a native of Hillsboro. She departed this life in 1884. The record of their six children is as follows: Sullivan lives on the old homestead and takes care of his father; Ellen M. became the wife of Giles Brown, and lives in Deering, N. H.; Sarah F. lives with her father; Fred W. is a resident of Hillsboro; the remaining two brothers are the subjects of our sketch.

George H. Flint was born in Hillsboro, N. H.,





RESIDENCE OF GEO. H. FLINT, SEC. 32., BELLE FLOWER TOWNSHIP.





four of the living are married. Our subject was born on the 3d of July, 1846; spent his childhood and youth under the parental roof, and received a good education in the common schools. He was married at Normal, this county, March 16, 1871, to Miss Urie Hersey, who was a native of Gratiot, Ohio, and born July 9, 1844. Her parents were Adam and Mary (Meliek) Hersey, natives of Virginia and Ohio. They were married in the latter State, and located there upon a farm, whence they came West with their family in about 1857. The father carried on farming in De Witt County, this State, until about 1866, and then removed to Normal, where the parents now live. Mrs. Johnston was the fourth of eight children born to her parents, and completed her education in the State University at Normal. When seventeen years of age she began teaching in the public schools, which profession she followed until her marriage with our subject.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnston are the parents of eight children—Charles C., Edward W., Robert C., Maude G., Carrie E., Roseoe H., Burley C. and Urie May. Our subject and wife take especial pride in their blooming young family, who are all children of more than ordinary intelligence, healthy, hearty, and full of life. Mr. Johnston is a representative business man, and politically an active Republican.



**P**ALMER STORY, one of the honored pioneers, and a retired farmer of McLean County, is passing his declining years in the city of Bloomington, enjoying the fruits of his early labors with a good conscience, and at peace with all men. His pleasant and tasteful residence is located at the corner of Longworth and Denver streets, and with his faithful wife he is surrounded by affectionate friends and the citizens who long years ago learned to revere him for his personal worth and upright course in life.

Mr. Story was born in Shawnee Flats, Pa., on the 5th of March, 1805, and is the son of John and Naney (Jones) Story, natives of Germany and Pennsylvania respectively. John Story was a sol-

dier of the Revolutionary War, and possessed in a marked degree the characteristics of a sturdy and honorable ancestry. The parental family consisted of four children, the subject of our sketch being the only one living. The latter, after five years of age, was reared on a farm in Ohio, and was married in 1824, to Miss Mary A. Morris, a native of England, and the daughter of Joseph and Hester (Perry) Morris, also of English birth and ancestry.

In 1835 Mr. Story removed from Ohio to Illinois, settling in McLean County, eighteen miles southwest of Bloomington. He purchased 240 acres of land upon which was a small cabin, and commenced its improvement by building fences, planting orchards, and providing those comforts and conveniences necessary to the farm and household. He occupied this with his family until 1852, then sold out and removed to Bloomington, where, in company with three other gentlemen, he purchased eighty acres of land east of the city, and laid off his share in town lots. These, while providing comfortable homes at a reasonable price, assisted to enlarge the boundaries of the city, and yielded our subject a handsome income.

Mr. Story at different times has purchased about 400 acres of land in McLean County, part of which he has given to his children. These were seven in number: Luey, Mrs. Graves, is a resident of Colorado, and the mother of five children—William, John, Mary, Edward and Harry; Mary, Mrs. Proctor, of Missouri, has nine children—Eveline, Palmer, Hester, Eva, Amy, Speneer, John, Carrie and Willie; William married Eliza Pharis, of DeWitt County, Ill., and has seven children—Palmer, Mary, Cynthia, Luey, Sarah, John and Dell; Hester married William Alexander in 1855, becoming the mother of one daughter, Lue M., and died of apoplexy March 20, 1887, in Bloomington; Hannah married James R. Murphy, and has four children—William, Mary, Riley and Della; Mr. Murphy died March 28, 1863. During the late war he was Captain of the 33d Missouri Volunteers. Cynthia, Mrs. Enoch, of Colorado, has become the mother of five children—Frank, Gertrude (deceased), William, Jennie and Mary; Mattie, Mrs. Arnold, of Illinois, has six children—Lewis, Hester, Oliver, Alpha, Kate and Mattie; Oliver married Rebecca

Jennings, of McLean County, and has two children—Nellie and Maude.

Mr. Story has of children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, over 130. He has been married sixty-two years. He was converted when fifteen years old, and joined the United Brethren Church, with which he remained five years; since that time he has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, his wife and children also being connected with the same. Of this he has been Steward and Class-Leader for many years, and now, with his companion, is waiting on the shore of time to cross over the river to the mansions prepared for them on the other side.



**J**L. WOLCOTT, engaged in the undertaking business, is located at No. 203 South Main street, Bloomington, and is contributing his full share as a useful factor in the business interests of the city, being honest and upright in his business transactions, prompt to meet his obligations, and a useful member of society. Mr. Wolcott is a native of the Bay State, having been born in Sandisfield, Berkshire Co., Mass., Aug. 30, 1808. He is the son of William and Huldah (Denning) Wolcott, also natives of Massachusetts, whose ancestry came from England.

The parents of our subject were married April 12, 1834, and became the parents of seven children, five now living—Nelson, Honor, John L., Homer and Mary. William Wolcott was a builder and contractor, and during the last years of his life was principally occupied as a cabinet-maker. Both parents died in Sandisfield. The father was born June 12, 1774, and departed this life Oct. 25, 1843. The mother, born in 1776, died Nov. 27, 1841.

John L. Wolcott received a common-school education in his native town, which was principally obtained during the winter seasons while he worked on a farm during the summer until sixteen years old. He pursued his studies some three years later, and also worked in the cabinet shop with his father until he attained his majority. In the spring of

1829 he went to Connecticut and engaged as a journeyman and housebuilder in Hotchkissville. He pursued his trade for two or three years following, spending his winters mostly at home, and in the fall of 1831 came Westward as far as Gainsville, N. Y., where he remained until the spring of 1832, then went to Geneseo, still working at his trade as carpenter and cabinet-maker. On the 2d of April of the year last named he was married and settled at Greigsville, where he remained until 1843, when he started for the Prairie State. After reaching McLean County he located at Bloomington, and engaged with the firm of Goodman & Ferre, wagon and furniture manufacturers. He soon became a partner in the business, the firm being Ferre, Wolcott & Co., and they operated together for six years following, when our subject withdrew and set up in business for himself as cabinet-maker and undertaker. He finally dropped the former, and conducted undertaking alone until 1884, when he passed the management of his business over to his son.

Mr. Wolcott purchased the property which he now owns and upon which he resided soon after coming into Bloomington. It is six acres in extent and he paid \$50 an acre in trade. He laid the ground out in city lots, to which he made an addition, in 1852, and afterward purchased seventy acres south of Normal. He has been prospered in his business transactions, and is considered one of Bloomington's best citizens, being always ready to contribute of his means to worthy and charitable objects. His kindness to the poor has been proverbial, and he has been especially the friend of those in need.

The marriage of our subject took place in 1834, the lady of his choice being Miss Caroline L., daughter of James and Martha (Ellis) Baker, who were natives of Chester, Washington Co., N. Y. Mr. Baker was a shoemaker by trade, which he followed through life. His family included thirteen children, of whom only three are living—Caroline, Malvina and Martha. The parents lived to be eighty-five and ninety-three years old respectively, and died in their native State.

Of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Wolcott there have been born twelve children, seven now living,

of whom the record is as follows: John H. married Miss Maggie Derryman, and they have one son—Albert; William H. married Miss Lydia Tilton, who died in 1884, leaving four children—Lorens, Mamie, Maude and William; Ellen, Mrs. Baumgardner, has five children—Harry, Alice, Tillie, Minnie and Clara; Edwin M. married Miss Belle Butler, and they have four children—Jessie, Arthur, Eddie and Ethel; Oliver E. is unmarried; Charles C. married Miss Ettie Burdick, and they have one daughter—Allie; Alice C., Mrs. S. H. Vanscoit, has become the mother of three children—Howard, Edna and Charles W. Mr. Wolcott is Republican in politics, belongs to the Masonic fraternity, and is an attendant of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which Mrs. W. is a consistent and devoted member.



**F**RANCIS J. FITZWILLIAM, an old and well-known resident of Bloomington, having come here in 1866, is proprietor of one of the largest wholesale and retail dry-goods houses in the city. It is located at No. 107 West Jefferson street, and its operations extend throughout this State and the Northwest. The reputation of the house is only equaled by its prosperity, which has been phenomenal from the start, and has been carried on in that straightforward and business-like manner which is the only true basis upon which trade can properly be conducted.

The subject of this history is a native of Bainbridge, Ohio, and was born July 11, 1840. His parents were William M. and Hannah (Kelley) Fitzwilliam, natives respectively of Washington County, Pa., and Bainbridge, Ohio. The great-grandfather of William M. was James, the son of an Earl, Fitzwilliam, of England. James was sent to Ireland to superintend the linen mills that belonged to the Earl's estate, and there married a beautiful Irish Quakeress, which so displeased his father that he cut him off with a dowry of £1,000 per year, which was to continue during his lifetime. He only lived to be about thirty-five years old, leaving a wife and five children, three daughters and two sons, the latter named John and William.

William Fitzwilliam, the grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was reared in County Antrim, Ireland, and married Miss Jane McCully, in 1787. After the death of James Fitzwilliam, his widow having no resources left, emigrated with her children to America, in about 1750, and settled in Washington County, Pa. Her son William moved to Ross County, Ohio, in 1817. He had a family of nine children, five daughters and four sons, of whom the youngest, named William, was the father of our subject. William Fitzwilliam, Sr., died at Bainbridge, Ohio, in 1829, when sixty-eight years old. His wife, returning to Pennsylvania, died there, at Washington, in 1844, aged seventy-three years.

William M. Fitzwilliam, Jr., our subject's father, was born July 13, 1813. He was reared to farming pursuits, but this not being quite to his taste, and possessing considerable mechanical skill, he engaged in the manufacture of fanning-mills at Bainbridge, Ohio, and sent teams through the country selling them. He continued thus occupied for a number of years, then purchased a stock of goods and engaged in merchandising at Bainbridge for twenty-five years, carrying on an extensive trade, and in connection with it operating a tannery. He afterward purchased a large extent of land and amassed a valuable property in that section. In 1870 he concluded to come to Illinois, whither his son, Francis J., had preceded him, in 1866, and accordingly sold out his store, tannery and farm, and journeying to the Prairie State made his location in Bloomington. Here he lived, honored and respected for a period of ten years, being an active member of the Second Presbyterian Church, and a citizen who was always interested in everything pertaining to the welfare of his community. He departed this life Jan. 10, 1880, and his name is held in kindly remembrance by a large circle of friends and acquaintances. The mother is still living, and makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. George W. Funk, of Bloomington. The parental family included nine children, of whom only two are now living (1887): Francis J., of this biography, and Rosealtha, now Mrs. George W. Funk.

Francis J. Fitzwilliam pursued his primary studies in the schools of his native town in Ohio,



Lean County, and ranks high among the leading journals of Illinois. In 1837, the *Bloomington Observer* was established by James Allin, Jesse W. Fell and A. Gridley, with William Hill as editor. Subsequently Mr. Fell took charge of the editorial department. In 1846, the name of the paper was changed to the *Western Whig*, and was conducted by Charles P. Merriman. In 1852 the name was again changed to the *Intelligencer*, the paper again passing under the management of Mr. Fell, who subsequently sold out to Charles P. Merriman, when the paper was rechristened, receiving the name of the *Pantagraph*.

In 1856, Mr. Merriman sold the paper to William E. Foute, who a few years later sold it to Messrs. Carpenter & Steele, and they sold to Messrs. Seibold & Waters. They held the paper until 1868, when it passed into the hands of Messrs. Davis, Fell & Taylor. The first number of the *Daily Pantagraph* was issued June 19, 1854.

The *Pantagraph* is one of the leading Republican papers in the State, is ably conducted, has a large circulation, and exerts a potent influence for the good of the community as well as for the prosperity of its party.



**WASHINGTON DAWSON**, who is pleasantly located on section 29, Chenoa Township, is a native of McLean County, having been born near Lexington, Money Creek Township, July 3, 1834. His parents were James R. and Mary (Ogden) Dawson. James R. Dawson, who was a native of Kentucky, removed to this county in 1832, and settled in Money Creek Township. There he followed farming and passed the remainder of his life. The mother of our subject died at the old homestead in Money Creek Township, when Washington was an infant of but eleven months old. She was a native of Ohio, and was a lady of English and Irish extraction. Washington was a twin; his brother was James M.

After the death of his first wife Mr. D. was married again, and our subject remained with him until twelve years of age. He then went to live with his older brother, Albert, with whom he remained

until he was sixteen. Soon afterward he engaged to work on a farm by the month and was thus employed for three years. Then, desirous of farming on his own account, he rented a tract of land and commenced life in earnest. One of his first arrangements was to secure a partner and helpmeet, and he was accordingly married on the 5th of November, 1855, to Miss Mary R., the daughter of Thomas Fell, of McLean County. The young people went to housekeeping with high hopes for the future, and in due time became the parents of two children—Emma, now deceased, and Charles H. Mr. Dawson was married the second time to Mrs. Martha (Durham) Berlin, widow of Thomas J. Berlin, who died in Andersonville Prison during the late war. Of this union there have been born five children, one now deceased—Frank J. Those surviving are: William S., James R., Howard U. and Oliver D. Of the first marriage of Mrs. Dawson there was born one son.

The splendid homestead of Washington Dawson includes 140 acres of finely cultivated land, which, however, is only half of what he formerly owned. Not caring for such a wide extent he disposed of a part. He erected a fine residence in 1886, which is two stories in height, finished and furnished in modern style. The premises in all respects denotes the supervision of the intelligent and progressive farmer, which is very clearly shown in the view given in this ALBUM.

Soon after he had commenced his farming operations there came the first call for troops to defend the threatened Union. He at once laid aside his personal plans and interests and proffered his services as a soldier, enlisting in Co. C, 94th Ill. Vol. Inf., in August, 1862. His regiment was assigned to the 13th Army Corps, and our subject and his comrades participated in the engagement at Prairie Grove, Ark., and were at the siege of Vicksburg, where Mr. Dawson with others lay in the rifle pits for a period of twenty-one days. He escaped, however, from the conflict uninjured, and was present at the attack on Ft. Hudson, near Brownsville, Tex., and all the other engagements and skirmishes which the regiment encountered until the close of the war. He was remarkably fortunate, never having been obliged to report illness, and



never evaded any duty which he was called upon to perform. At the close of the war he received his honorable discharge in August, 1865, at Galveston, Tex., and was paid off at Springfield, Ill. He then returned home and resumed his farming operations in which he has since been engaged. Mr. D. served as Assessor of Chenoa Township one year and was Road Commissioner in 1881. Both Mr. and Mrs. D. are members in good standing of the United Brethren Church, attending religious services at Lexington. Politically Mr. Dawson is Republican and greatly interested in the success of the temperance movement.

The present wife of Mr. Dawson was born in Morgan County, Va., March 21, 1842, and was the fourth of a family of six children. She is a distant relative of Gen. Zachary Taylor. She removed with her mother to this county in 1865, her father having died when she was four years old. Her father was George and her mother Rosanna (Ambrose) Durham, the former a native of Virginia, and of Scotch and English ancestry. Her grandfather, Joseph Durham, was born in England and emigrated to this country in the colonial days. Her maternal grandfather, Matthew Ambrose, was a Captain during the Revolutionary War in the Colonial Army. The father of Mrs. Dawson died in Virginia. The mother afterward emigrated to this State and died at the home of her daughter in this county in 1866.

**T**HOMAS J. WARREN, of Belleflower Township, was born in Ross County, Ohio, March 18, 1844. His father, Lemuel Warren, was a native of North Carolina, and his grandfather, Henry Warren, of Maryland. The latter removed from his native State to North Carolina when a young man and was there married. In about 1815 he removed to Ohio, the journey being made overland, the grandmother of our subject riding on horseback and carrying a child in her arms. They located on a tract of timber land in Ross County, being among the earliest settlers. There Henry Warren opened up a farm, upon which he remained until his death, which occurred in about 1854. His

wife survived him for a period of eighteen years, her death occurring in Logan County, Ohio, in 1882.

Their household included eight children, of whom Lemuel, the father of our subject, was the eldest. He was a mere child when his parents emigrated from his native State to Ohio, and as soon as large enough was put to work and kept at it steadily until he started out to do for himself. He inherited the substantial traits of his parents and at the time of his marriage had already enough means to purchase a tract of land, mostly timber, near his father's farm. He erected a log house to which he afterward put a frame addition, and this remained his home until 1859, when he came to Illinois. He located in Sheridan Township, Tazewell County, upon a tract of 240 acres of prairie land, only part of which was improved.

With characteristic energy and industry, Lemuel Warren set about the cultivation of the soil and erected a good set of frame buildings, residing upon the homestead thus established until his death, in September, 1873. His wife was Miss Elizabeth Wendel, a native of Guernsey County, Ohio, and the daughter of William Wendel, of Virginia, who emigrated from his native State at an early day and was numbered among the earliest settlers of Guernsey County, Ohio. The journey from Virginia to Ohio was made after the fashion of travelers in those days with ox-teams.

Lemuel Warren remained a resident of Guernsey County, Ohio, until about 1847, when he removed to Ross County, and in about 1856 started for the Prairie State. He purchased a farm in Sheridan Township, Tazewell County, which he occupied with his family until his death, in 1876. His wife, who was Miss Effie Delong, also a native of Virginia, died a few hours later and was buried the same day as her husband. The family consisted of ten children.

The subject of this history was the third child of his parents and was fifteen years old when they removed to Illinois. He was reared to farming pursuits, received a common-school education and remained under the home roof until his marriage with Miss Mary A. Lucas, which occurred Dec. 11, 1867. Mrs. Warren was born in Corwin Township, Logan Co., Ill., and was the daughter of

George M. P. Lucas, a native of Tazewell County, Ill., whose father was among the earliest pioneers of that region. Her father, who was left an orphan at an early age, grew to manhood in Tazewell County. He learned the trade of a carpenter and joiner and settled soon after his marriage in Corwin Township, Logan County, where he still lives. His wife, the mother of Mrs. Warren, formerly Miss Elizabeth Penee, was born near Dayton, Ohio. Her parents were Joseph and Sarah (Reeter) Penee, natives of Kentucky, whence they removed in 1828, to Illinois. They located first in Peoria but soon afterward removed to Springfield, and in the fall of 1830, to Logan County, where the father made a claim and built a log cabin. Mr. Penee, the grandfather of Mrs. Warren, departed this life in 1872. The grandmother still lives in this County, having arrived at the advanced age of ninety years, and is drawing a pension on account of her husband's service in the War of 1812.

Soon after the marriage of Mr. Warren he rented land in Sheridan Township, Logan County, one year, then purchased 110 acres in that vicinity, which he cultivated, improved and occupied until 1883, then sold out and purchased the farm which constitutes the present homestead of himself and family. This is situated on section 31, in Belleflower Township. Our subject and his wife are the parents of eight children, five living as follows: Sarah, Allie, Elmer D., Lulo and Katie. Mrs. Warren is a member of the Regular Baptist Church, and our subject, politically, is a Democrat.

**N**ELSON JONES. One of the pioneers of Towanda Township, and now one of the largest land-owners of the county, was born in Clarke County, Ohio, April 5, 1826, and was there reared to farm labor. He is the son of Abraham R. and Matilda (Noel) Jones, the former a native of Cayuga County, N. Y., and the latter born in Kentucky. The parents of Mrs. Jones moved to Maryland, and when she was seven years of age they moved back to Ohio, where they died. The parents of Nelson Jones lived in Ohio until 1856, when they came to this county and made a

settlement at Smith's Grove, Towanda Township, where the father engaged in farming, and where his demise occurred Feb. 11, 1865; the mother afterward removed to Towanda Village, where she died March 7, 1880. The parents had a family of ten children, and Nelson was the seventh in order of birth.

Nelson Jones was reared to manhood on his father's farm, receiving his primary education in the common schools, and afterward supplementing the same by an academeial course of five months at Springfield, Ohio. Remaining with the old folk until he attained the age of manhood he started out to do for himself. He came to this county in the spring of 1848, and located at Smith's Grove, and in 1849 he and his brother A. R. purchased 600 acres of land in Towanda Township. In 1850, Cyrus Jones purchased a one-third interest, and the three brothers continued farming and stock-raising in partnership until 1854, since which time our subject has been operating by himself. His capital upon arriving in the county consisted of \$342 in cash and one horse and saddle. During the year 1854 he entered some 200 acres of land, and is now the owner of 927 acres of good and productive, as well as valuable land, upon which he has three sets of good farm buildings. His large brick residence was erected in 1869, at an expense of upward of \$12,000; his main barn was built in 1873, and cost about \$4,500.

On first coming to the county, our subject worked out herding cattle, and was thus occupied for about two years, and afterward engaged in herding and feeding cattle by himself, and in partnership with his two brothers, as stated. Subsequently he settled on his purchase on section 15, Towanda Township, and there lived until 1870, when he moved into the fine brick residence on section 16, and where he has continued to reside until the present time. Mr. Jones is one of the prominent men of Towanda Township, and has taken a deep interest in its welfare since its organization, and is now the second oldest settler and voter of the township. Aside from farming he is largely engaged in raising and feeding stock, making a specialty of blooded Short-horn cattle. He keeps about 35 head of horses; 150 head of cattle,

and fattens from 100 to 150 head of hogs annually.

Mr. Jones was united in marriage with Eliza A. White, March 4, 1857. She is the daughter of George and Julia (Noel) White, natives of New York and Ohio respectively, and the vocation of the father was that of a farmer. Her parents after marriage settled in Clarke County, Ohio, whence they removed to Tippecanoe County, Ind., and from there came to McLean County in 1850, and made settlement in Towanda Township, where the good mother died March 25, 1865. The father is yet living, and is now a resident of Lawndale Township. Their family of children were twelve in number, and Mrs. Jones was the third in order of birth. She first saw light in what is now Lafayette, Ind., Nov. 20, 1830, and of her union with our subject five children have been born: Ward B., June 17, 1858; Lattie Grant, April 5, 1863; Julia A., Sept. 7, 1867; Elmetta M., June 21, 1869, and Mark C., Sept. 24, 1871. Ward was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Stover, and they are residents of Towanda Township.

Mr. Jones is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and in politics is Republican.

**G**EORGE T. MURPHY. The home of this worthy resident of Mt. Hope Township is pleasantly located on sections 7 and 18, where he has 200 acres of land, and devotes the greater part of his time and attention to stock-raising. He is a gentleman of excellent education, having attended the Bloomington Commercial College and the Wesleyan University, and this, together with his acknowledged business talents, has secured for him a good position in the farming community and the business world generally.

Our subject is the second child of William J. and Frances (Stubblefield) Murphy, and was born on his father's farm in Mt. Hope Township, Dec. 3, 1858. His boyhood and youth were spent after the manner of most farmers' sons, and while his constitution was being healthfully built up in the pure air of the rural districts, his mind and his morals likewise received more than ordinary attention from his excellent parents. After the com-

pletion of his college course, he remained upon the farm of his parents two years, assisting his father on the homestead. Then wishing to establish a home and domestic ties of his own, he was married, Nov. 17, 1881, to Miss Naney J., daughter of William and Lucinda (Gardner) Hieronymus. Mrs. Murphy was born in Little Township, Tazewell County, Jan. 22, 1860. Her father was a native of Kentucky and descended from old German stock. Of this marriage there are two children, bright little girls, who are the joy and pride of their parents' hearts, viz., Lena Rose, born Sept. 23, 1882, and Joy Dell, May 9, 1884.

The farm of Mr. Murphy is finely located, and everything about the premises neatly kept and in the best of order. His stock consists of about thirty-five head of cattle and horses. Our subject and his wife are members of the Christian Church, and Mr. Murphy, politically, like the balance of the male members of his father's family, affiliates with the Republican party.

**C**HARLES B. LAWRENCE, a native of De Witt County, Ill., was born Nov. 7, 1845, and is the son of Samuel Lawrence, a native of Pennsylvania, who removed to Indiana with his father's family. There he grew to manhood and married, and later became a resident of De Witt County during its early settlement. Thence he removed, in 1850, to Tazewell County, purchasing land in Mackinaw Township, where he opened up a farm which he occupied a number of years, then sold out and came to this county, where his death occurred not long afterward.

The mother of our subject was formerly Miss Magdalene Bergen, a native of New York, and now deceased, her death taking place at the homestead in Tazewell County. The parental family included eleven children, eight of whom grew to mature years. Of these Charles B. remained under the home roof until eighteen years old, and soon afterward, the Civil War being in progress, enlisted in Co. I, 3d Ill. Vol. Cav., in which he served two years, and until the close. He was in the battle at Nashville, and was at Memphis dur-

ing the raid of the rebel General Forrest, besides participating in various minor engagements with the enemy. At the close of the struggle he returned to his father's farm, which he worked on shares by the year, and after a brief residence in McLean and Piatt Counties returned finally in 1874, and took possession of eighty acres of land in Belleflower Township, which he had previously purchased and which is included in his present farm.

The homestead of Mr. Lawrence is most creditable to the industry and skill of the proprietor. His land is thoroughly drained with 520 rods of tile, and the buildings thereon bear fair comparison with those of his neighbors. The lady who has presided over his household for the last sixteen years was formerly Miss Sarah Wilson, who became his wife in October, 1869. She was born in Bloomington Township, March 20, 1854, and is the daughter of John Wilson, a native of Tennessee, and one of the early pioneers of this county. He still lives on his farm near Bloomington. His wife was Miss Jane Abel, of Indiana.

**D**R. JOHN M. CRIGLER, of Saybrook, a large property-holder and a prominent-citizen, is a native of Rockingham County, Va., where his birth took place Dec. 13, 1847. His parents were Thomas B. and Sarah R. (Deal) Crigler, both natives of the Old Dominion, the former born in 1816, and the latter in 1820. The parents of Dr. Crigler came to this county in 1849, and the father, formerly a saddler by trade, took up farming, which he still continues. He is a worthy citizen, a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and Democratic in politics.

Our subject, the fifth of ten children born to his parents, after reaching manhood was married Dec. 21, 1871, to Miss Love E., daughter of Dr. James L. Ballard, and born in Jessamine County, Ky., April 7, 1849. Her father, one of the pioneers of Saybrook, is still practicing after the principles of the Old School. Dr. and Mrs. C. are the parents of four children, namely, Maude F., Katie B., John M. and Essie R. The Doctor is a Master Mason,

Democratic in politics, and takes an interest in matters affecting the welfare of his community. He is well educated and stands high in his profession as a dental surgeon, in which he perfected himself under the best tutors and established his first office in this city Dec. 14, 1868. During his nearly twenty years' residence here he has built up a large and lucrative practice, and while in no wise neglecting his profession, deals extensively in city property and farm lands. He has one of the finest homes in his township, and commands the respect of all who know him.

**C**APT. JAMES KENNEDY, one of the oldest and most highly respected citizens of Martin Township, has followed farming pursuits the greater part of his life, in which he has been eminently successful. He is a native of Kentucky and was born on a farm in Jessamine County, Nov. 3, 1803. His grandfather on his mother's side was Richard Crews, who was a native of Virginia, and served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War at three different times and was regularly discharged three times, his papers being now in the possession of Capt. Kennedy of our sketch, and are valued as old and curious relics. He married in early manhood Miss Esther Puckett, and they raised a family of five children, one son and four daughters. The paternal grandfather of our subject was James Kennedy, a native of Ireland, who married in his own country and soon afterward emigrated to America, settling in Chester County, Pa. Their family also consisted of five children, four daughters and one son, the son, James, being the father of our subject.

James Kennedy, Sr., after reaching his majority was married to Miss Esther, daughter of Richard Crews, and they became the parents of three sons: Eleazer, Thomas S., and James, our subject. The latter was the youngest of the family and passed his boyhood in Jessamine and Madison Counties, Ky., receiving a limited education in a private school, his entire school days probably not exceeding one year. The father of young James had been educated for the priesthood but turned his at-

tention to farming, and died when our subject was but a few weeks old. Young Kennedy then went to live with his grandfather, Richard Crews, with whom he remained until he was nineteen years of age. At that early period in his life he was married to Miss Louisa Freeman, and remained upon the old homestead of his grandfather, taking care of the latter until his death, which occurred when he was eighty-seven years old. The grandmother also lived to an advanced age, being eighty-four at the time of her death.

After the death of his grandparents James Kennedy purchased a farm seven miles from Winchester in Clark County, Ky., which he occupied with his family until the spring of 1851. He then came North to Illinois and rented 1,000 acres of land in McLean County from Samuel Lander. The following spring he removed his family hither, and for seven years following was extensively engaged in raising wheat, corn and oats, meeting with remarkable success. He also raised large numbers of thoroughbred cattle and mules. In the meantime he purchased a farm in Blue Mound Township, and besides this also bought the farm on which he now lives. After removing from the rented land he located in Blue Mound Township on section 21, where he continued to reside until 1874, then took up his abode on section 21, in Martin Township, which is his present homestead. The Blue Mound farm was purchased by his son-in-law, James A. Doyle.

The homestead of Capt. Kennedy comprises 160 acres of choice land, enclosed with beautiful hedge fences and embellished with a handsome and substantial set of farm buildings. He has one of the best fruit orchards in the township and the entire farm is in a fine state of cultivation. The residence is a model of beauty and comfort and everything pertaining to the premises indicates the supervision of a gentleman of cultivated tastes and ample means.

Mrs. Louisa Kennedy became the mother of two children, a son and daughter: George F., now deceased, and Leanner, who became the wife of Mr. A. Eubanks. The second wife of our subject was Miss Asenath Gentry, of Madison County, Ky. This lady died in Martin Township, this county, leaving four children: Thomas, now de-

ceased; Eusebia M., who became the wife of James A. Doyle, of Nebraska; William Lee, a resident of Iowa, and Martha, who married John Stanger, of Boulder, Col.

The present wife of our subject, to whom he was married in 1874, was Mrs. Maggie Elkin, widow of Henry Elkin, by whom she became the mother of one son, who died when a year old. Of this union there has been no children. Mrs. K. is a lady of more than ordinary intelligence and differs materially in politics from her husband, she being an earnest Republican and the Captain a staunch adherent of the Democratic party. Both are prominently connected with the Christian Church. The father of Mrs. K. is Gideon D. Crumbaugh, who has been Postmaster of Le Roy for a period of seventeen years, and Police Magistrate twenty-nine years. Mrs. K. is about forty-six years of age, and the Captain eighty-four. He is still hale and hearty, in the enjoyment of all his faculties, and still in possession of that remarkable intelligence which has characterized him since he began to make his mark among men and in the business world. He has always taken an active interest in public and political affairs and during his early life identified himself with the Whig party. During the Mexican War he assisted in raising and equipping a company of soldiers at his own expense, but did not succeed in having them ordered to the front. He has a natural taste for military tactics and has been Captain of militia for many years.



**G**EORGE BISHOP, general farmer and stock-raiser, is the possessor of a well-cultivated farm of 110 acres, part of which lies on section 21, in Randolph, and the balance in Downs Township. He has been closely identified with the interests of this section for many years, and is numbered among its representative men and most highly respected citizens.

Mr. Bishop, a native of Perry County, Ohio, was born near Janesville, April 22, 1823, and is the son of Jacob Bishop, who was born in Pennsylvania, and was of German parentage. The history of the family in the United States dates back prior to the

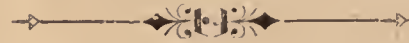
Revolutionary War. From the record possessed by the later descendants it appears that Jacob Bishop in early life became with his parents a resident of Perry County, Ohio, where he remained during his boyhood and youth, and where he took upon himself the responsibilities of manhood. He chose for his wife among the maidens of that region, Miss Mary A. Weedman, who was a native of the Buckeye State and of German ancestry. Her family also removed from Pennsylvania to Ohio during its early history, and from there came to Illinois in the fall of 1830. They located in Randolph Township on section 34, where the father became the owner of a large tract of land, most of which was wild prairie and a larger part of which he redeemed from its original condition. He is still living on the old homestead, having now arrived at the ripe age of ninety years. The mother passed to her final rest in February, 1873, aged seventy-two. Both became members of the Methodist Episcopal Church early in life.

George Bishop was the eldest but one of a family of thirteen children, six sons and seven daughters, which present the remarkable record of a circle still unbroken by death. With one exception, all are married and have families of their own. The youngest of this remarkable family is forty-six years of age, and the eldest, a daughter, sixty-five. George, of our sketch, spent his childhood and youth with his parents, and was eight years of age when they came to this county. After reaching manhood he was married, in 1844, to Miss Susanna Wright, who was born, reared and educated in the county. She only remained the companion of her husband eleven years, departing this life June 17, 1855, leaving three children: John T. married Miss Mary Passwater, and is a resident of Heyworth; Mary J. is the wife of K. Ellsworth, who is farming in Downs Township; Joseph William is deceased.

The second wife of Mr. Bishop, to whom he was married in Le Roy Township, Nov. 20, 1856, was formerly Miss Mary, daughter of Ashby and Catherine (Waters) Neal, who were natives of Kentucky, of Irish and English descent. Mr. Neal was a skilled mechanic, and came to Illinois after his marriage, locating in Vermilion County, where

the wife of our subject was born Nov. 15, 1836. She was but a child when her parents came to this county. Her father, in 1850, went to California, and died ten years later in the city of Sacramento. Mrs. Neal died at her home in Le Roy, in July, 1880.

Our subject and his wife are the parents of five children, namely, David, who married Miss Ida Turner, and is farming in Downs Township, and Emma B., Grant H., Ada C. and Martha at home. Mr. and Mrs. Bishop are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which the former is Steward and Trustee.



**G**EORGE T. GLENN. The principal events in the life of this highly respected citizen of Cheney's Grove Township, are as follows: He began life in Center County, Pa., March 19, 1846, under the roof of his parents, William F. and Sarah J. (Thompson) Glenn, natives of the same State, whence they removed to La Salle County, Ill., in 1855. The father died that same year. The mother is still living, and is sixty-six years of age. Both became members of the Presbyterian Church early in life, and commanded the respect and esteem of all who knew them.

Our subject, who was the eldest of his parents' four children, remained under the home roof until after the outbreak of the late war, and although but a youth, determined to fight for the Union. He enlisted in Co. C, 7th Ill. Vol. Cav., and participated in many important battles, going through the States of Tennessee, Mississippi and Alabama, and experiencing the hardships and sufferings incident to army life. He was never wounded, but was confined in the hospital two months with illness. After the close of the war he returned to the farm, and in 1879, purchased 102 acres on section 35, in Cheney's Grove Township, which is included in his present homestead, and where he has been successfully engaged in farming and stock-raising. The farm is in a fine condition and well conducted, and everything about the premises is indicative of energy and enterprise.

One of the most important events in the life of

our subject was his marriage, Feb. 22, 1870, with Miss Carrie M., only child of Jacob and Anzina (Wood) Lewis, who was born Dec. 4, 1851, in Rhode Island. Her parents were also natives of that State. The father died in 1863. The mother is still living, and a resident of New Bedford, Mass. Mr. and Mrs. Glenn have one child only, a daughter, Cora A., born Sept. 25, 1872, and still at home with her parents.

Mr. Glenn is a staunch supporter of the Republican party, and has been quite prominently identified with local affairs. He was one of the three Commissioners appointed to superintend the erection of roads and bridges in the township, and after serving three years was re-elected in the spring of 1886. His clear head and cool judgment have rendered him a useful official, and in thus disbursing the funds of the township, he has acquitted himself with great credit, and to the satisfaction of the people.

**W**ILLIAM BARRY is senior member of the firm of Barry & Weishaar, contractors and builders, and dealers in stoves and hardware at No. 723 West Chestnut street, Bloomington, Ill. He is the son of James and Margaret (Meade) Barry, and was born in Canada, of which Dominion both his parents were natives. They had been extensively engaged in stock and grain raising for many years.

Mr. James Barry passed through the terrible fire of March, 1825, when the flames swept with great velocity over 100 miles of territory, consuming everything before them. In the dead of night he fled with his mother to the river, seeking refuge from the advancing fire. They stood in the river for many hours with the water up to their necks, and on coming out were obliged to wrap themselves in wet blankets for protection from the burning atmosphere. His father is still living on the old homestead in Canada, and has reached the age of seventy-four. His mother died in 1869. Their family consisted of eight children, seven of whom are now living. Their names are, Thomas, a resident of Nebraska; William, the subject of this biography; Margaret A., a resident of Canada;

Richard and Michael are residents of Canada; Joseph A., a resident of Boston, Mass., and Alexander, a resident of Canada.

William Barry was engaged in business three years in Maine, and from there he went to Boston, Mass., where he successfully carried on the business of contractor and builder for four years. In 1878 he came to Bloomington, and has since made this place his permanent home. He formed his present partnership with Mr. Weishaar in 1881, and in 1886 engaged in the hardware business.

William Barry was married, in 1875, to Miss Helen Keenan, a native of Canada, and daughter of Patrick Keenan. Mr. Barry's family is of Irish extraction. His ancestors came from Ireland about the year 1760, and settled in Canada, where they were engaged in farming. In later years the Barry family have made their home in the States. William Barry learned the trade of contractor and builder in Canada, and at fifteen years of age went to Calais, Me., where he first engaged in business.

Mr. Barry, with his wife and family, belong to the Catholic Church. They have a family of six children—James E., Thomas M., Margaret A., Joseph A., Richard M. and Alexander. Mr. Barry purchased his place of business and his residence, No. 1207 West Chestnut street, in July, 1886.

**L**EWIS C. BLAKE, a resident of Arrowsmith Village, is a product of the Buckeye State, his birth taking place in Guernsey County, Aug. 25, 1817. His parents, John B. and Catherine Blake, were natives respectively of Massachusetts and Maryland, the former born July 25, 1787, and the latter June 6, 1790. They were married, Oct. 10, 1813, after becoming residents of Ohio, and remained residents of that State until 1818, when they removed to Virginia, where the elder Blake followed millwrighting, and where his death took place April 12, 1855. The mother died in 1869. The parental family consisted of ten children.

Our subject remained with his parents until reaching his majority, receiving a common-school education. He followed shoemaking for a number of years, and was considered an expert at his

trade. He was married in Virginia in 1839, to Miss Elizabeth Ann Datson, and remained in the Old Dominion two years, whence he removed to Maryland on account of the failing health of his wife. This removal, however, was in vain, as her death took place on the 21st of March, 1848, when she was but twenty-seven years of age. Of this marriage there were born four children. After the death of his wife, Mr. Blake returned to Hardy County, now in West Virginia, and engaged in wagonmaking and blacksmithing for five years following. He was married the second time in 1850, and with his wife came to McLean County in October, 1852, stopping first in Lexington, where he followed blacksmithing, and to which he came with a cash capital of fifty cents. He conducted a shop there one year, and in the spring of 1854 rented an old sawmill, which became the family residence until he could do better. His industry and perseverance have been richly rewarded. He is now the owner of 240 acres of finely improved land besides valuable property in the village. In the meantime he has also been prominently connected with the local affairs, serving as Justice of the Peace, and as School Director for twenty-one years. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, being chairman of its building committee, and besides contributing much toward its prosperity has been greatly interested in charitable objects, and further extended his benevolence by rearing several orphan children, having been bereaved of his own, the offspring of his last marriage, a son and daughter, John B. and Elizabeth, who died of scarlet fever. Mr. Blake is a staunch Democrat, politically, and Treasurer in the Masonic lodge.



**J**C. JOHNSON. The family of Johnsons in the United States of which our subject is a descendant came to this country prior to the Revolutionary War, the first representative being William Johnson, our subject's grandfather. This gentleman was a native of Germany, and was there married to Miss Catherine Tartar;

after emigrating to America they located upon a farm ten miles north of Philadelphia, Pa. Soon afterward William Johnson enlisted as a soldier in the Revolutionary army, where he distinguished himself for his bravery and fidelity, and was honored with a Captain's commission early in the struggle. After the independence of the Colonies had been established he engaged in agricultural pursuits, and departed this life at his home near Philadelphia, his wife following him some years later. Their family included thirteen children, among them Nicholas, the father of our subject. He was reared and married in his native State, his first wife, Mary, dying after the birth of one child, a daughter, Mary, now the wife of George Cress, deceased. Mrs. C. is living near the Quaker City.

After the death of the mother the father, leaving the infant daughter with a sister, came to Indiana, settling in Dearborn County. There he was married to Miss Malinda Cloud, a native of that county. There were born to them thirteen children, three sons and ten daughters, four of the latter now deceased. Of these our subject, J. C., was the second born. His birth occurred Sept. 13, 1823, in Dearborn County, Ind. Nicholas Johnson was greatly respected wherever known, and became prominent in the affairs of his adopted county. He was a Captain of Militia for many years, and having been finely educated held with much dignity and credit the office of County Commissioner and other positions of trust. Both parents were active members of the Baptist Church. The mother died while still a comparatively young woman, from cancer in the breast. Nicholas Johnson attained the age of seventy-four years, and was carried away suddenly by disease of the heart. The family are now scattered in different States, all married and settled in comfortable homes of their own.

The subject of this history received a fair education, and worked on a farm with his father until twenty-three years of age. He was then married, Sept. 13, 1846, to Miss Elizabeth, the daughter of Rev. Thomas and Ann (Sutton) Hargitt, who were natives of England. Rev. Hargitt was born April 20, 1798, at Bagby, Yorkshire, England, and came to the United States with his parents when twenty-



two years of age, and was married in Dearborn County, Ind., to the widow of Charles Sutton, Anna Mason being her maiden name. They lived there until the death of Mr. H. at the advanced age of eighty nine-years, Nov 17, 1886. The mother died in 1858, when sixty-three years of age. Mr. Hargitt was a local minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, having been ordained in 1830, while in England. As a minister, he was earnest and efficient, the possessor of an eloquence which was strong and fervid. He was a zealous temperance advocate, teaching by precept and example. As a citizen he took an active interest in all public affairs, contributing liberally to enterprises of public utility and always warmly loyal to his adopted country. The family of which Mrs. J. was a member consisted of seven children, of whom she was the fifth in order of birth, and was born March 3, 1828. She was reared and educated in Dearborn County, and by her marriage with J. G. Johnson has become the mother of twelve children, one, Adda, deceased; Melinda became the wife of George Nickerson, a farmer of Downs Township; Thomas N. married Miss Sarah A. Lawler, and is farming in Anderson County, Kan.; Mary E. became, first, the wife of Jesse Passwaters, who died; and she then married his brother John, and they live in Anderson County, Kan.; George S. married Miss Hester Peasely, and is farming in Hamilton County Kan.; Richard married Miss Alice Cabness, of Cass County, Mo., and is farming in Downs Township, this county; William married Miss Hattie McComb, and is farming in Randolph Township; Jennie, the wife of Dr. J. F. Myers, resides in Saybrook, this county; Charles W., Alfred E. and Albert W., the two latter, twins, and James A. are at home. They were all educated in the public schools, and are children of whom any parent may be proud.

Mr. Johnson resided in Dearborn County, Ind., after his marriage until 1852, in the meantime having spent one year in California, mining with fair success. After returning to Indiana he soon removed to this State, settling for a short time on a new farm in Livingston County, whence later he came to McLean. In 1864 he visited Idaho and Montana in search of both health and gold, but

owing to Indian and Mormon troubles, which made it very disagreeable for visitors to that section as well as the residents there, he was glad to return home, being nearly starved when he was on the journey home, but improved, nevertheless, in health. He then resumed his farming operations and has been fairly successful. His homestead consists of 125 acres of land with good improvements. He is Democratic in politics, has been Justice of the Peace, and held other local offices.



**J** C. ELDER, Postmaster of Randolph, and Station Agent of the I. C. R. R., also deals extensively in grain, coal and general merchandise. He came to this vicinity in 1875, and successfully established himself in business where other parties had repeatedly failed, and increased the trade of the railroad company four-fold while at the same time his own business prospered proportionately. He now does an annual trade of \$25,000, and it is unnecessary to say, is one of the most energetic and valued citizens of Randolph Township. He has a splendid residence and has been interested in most of the enterprises set on foot for the advancement of his community. He has had considerable experience in farming, but has proved himself particularly adapted to trade.

Mr. Elder has been a life-long resident of Randolph Township, having been born there March 21, 1845. He was the youngest but one of a family of nine children, of whom six are yet living, all married and with families of their own. He was deprived of a father's care when but three years of age and continued with his widowed mother until twenty-four. He received a good education, completing his studies in the business college of Bryant & Stratton of Chicago.

After the outbreak of the late war Mr. Elder enlisted in the 150th Illinois Infantry and went to the South. He saw but little fighting, however, it being near the close of the struggle, and a year later received his honorable discharge. He returned to Bloomington and engaged with L. B. Thomas, his brother-in-law, present Mayor, in the in-

surance business. He was married, Dec. 3, 1869, to Miss Belle, daughter of the late William Thomas, who died in Bloomington, April 12, 1881, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this work. Mrs. Elder was born in Bloomington July, 14, 1841, was finely educated in the schools of her native city, and remained with her parents until her marriage. She is a lady of rare intelligence and refinement, and, especially noted for her benevolence and hospitality. Of this congenial union there were born three sons—William C., Frank W. and Herman H.

Mr. Elder has been connected with the post-office at Randolph for about eleven years. He is a solid Republican and for the last twelve years has been Secretary of the McLean County Fire Insurance Company, besides having other important interests in this locality. He belongs to John A. Logan Post No. 146, G. A. R., and with his wife, is a prominent member of the Presbyterian Church.

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**D**R. A. T. BARNES, senior member of the firm of Barnes & Orner, is a native of Kentucky, born in 1832, and the son of Craven and Mary (Howard) Barnes, also of the Blue Grass region. The grandfather was Shadraeh Barnes, a native of Virginia, an extensive farmer and a Lieutenant in the Revolutionary War. His father was John Barnes who, with a brother, emigrated from Scotland in the colonial days. John settled in Virginia and his brother in New York, and from these two it is supposed sprang the Barnes family of this country. They were a prolific race, and their representatives are largely scattered throughout the United States.

Shadraeh Barnes went to Kentucky when a young man, where he became an extensive farmer and spent the balance of his days. His son, Craven, followed the occupation of his father and operated all his life on the soil of Kentucky. He died in 1833, and the mother selling the farm, removed North and settled near Madison in Indiana, where she purchased a farm which she occupied until her death, in July, 1872. The parents were both members of the Baptist Church. Of their nine chil-

dren eight are still living: Cynthia, Mrs. Borden, is a resident of Louisville, Ky.; Woodford C. and George B. are in Indiana; Fielding G. is in Georgetown, Ill.; Henry H. in Clay County; Adeline Y., Mrs. Woods, and Mary C., Mrs. Scott, are living in Jefferson County, Ind.

Our subject remained on the farm until fifteen years old, and a year later, being well advanced in his studies, entered college at South Andover, and soon afterward commenced the study of medicine. He employed his vacations in teaching, and finally entered the office of Dr. David McClure, where he gained a good insight into the duties of his chosen profession, and later attended lectures at Louisville, Ky. He commenced practice soon after reaching his majority at Austin, Ind., and three years later, returning to Louisville, took another course in the college there and graduated. He soon afterward entered into partnership with the celebrated Dr. P. Green, whose daughter he married, in 1857. While a resident of Clay County he was twice elected Superintendent of Schools, and during the war was appointed Assistant Surgeon of an Illinois regiment, being afterward promoted Chief Surgeon. He was captured while attending his patients in the hospital at Chickamunga and also at Buzzard Roost, being both times soon afterward released. The only severe injury he received while in the service was one night while riding on the Kennesaw Mountain after dark, when his horse fell upon him. He had charge of the hospitals at Murfreesboro, Tenn., Bowling Green, Ky., and the field hospital at Chickamauga.

Dr. Barnes remained with the army until the close of the war and then coming to Centralia, entered into partnership with Dr. J. L. Hallan, with whom he remained until 1872, building up his extensive practice, and in the meantime he was appointed surgeon for the Central Illinois Railroad, was Alderman of Centralia four years and Mayor of the city one term. He officiated as Superintendent of the Insane Hospital of Anna from 1872 until 1879, then resigned.

Dr. Barnes came to Bloomington in the latter part of December, 1879, and became the partner of Dr. William Hill, with whom he continued two years, and then practiced alone until 1885. That

year he became a partner of Dr. Orner, with whom he has since continued. In February of the same year he was elected Medical Director of the G. A. R. and re-elected the following year. He has been a useful member of society, prominent in local affairs and politics, and in 1886 served as Chairman of the Republican Central Committee. He is a member of the various medical societies in the West, including that of McLean County, this State, the Southern Illinois, the National and the Physicians' Club of Bloomington.

The lady who has been the companion of our subject for the last thirty years, was formerly Miss Elizabeth H. Green, to whom he was married in 1857. They became the parents of one daughter, Beldva, who is now the wife of H. H. Green, a druggist of Bloomington, and the mother of one child, named Maurene. Dr. Barnes is a Republican in politics and belongs to the Masonic fraternity. He is one of the stockholders of the Walton Flour Works, the Gas Company, and the Nail and Iron Works of Centralia. He owns a fine property in Bloomington, and with his wife is a member of the Methodist Church, being also one of its Trustees. As a citizen and a practitioner he has built up an enviable reputation, and counts among his friends the best people of Bloomington.



**M**AJ. J. C. McFARLAND is one of the well-known citizens of McLean County, where he has held many official positions.

In 1876 he was elected Clerk of the Circuit Court by the Republican party. Since the organization of the county, he has held the office of Supervisor of the township, and as early as 1860, was appointed its Clerk.

When the war broke out in 1861, he left his business and attempted to raise a company, but at the same time one was being organized in Normal which drew its recruits largely from that part of the county, and so seriously interested with the company that Maj. McFarland was attempting to form, that he could not raise enough volunteers to make the number complete, and consequently was obliged to relinquish his plan. When the second call for

troops was made, Aug. 5, 1862, he organized Co. B, 94th Ill. Vol. Inf. It was the twelfth regular organized company and Mr. McFarland was elected its Captain. The regiment was ordered to Prairie Grove, where, December 7, they met a rebel command and a contest ensued, which resulted in the immediate retreat of the enemy. After several skirmishes, the next siege in which they were engaged was at Vicksburg, and there the regiment was in the hottest part of the conflict. Prior to this Maj. McFarland had been made Quartermaster, but he rejoined his regiment and assumed command July 29, 1863, at Ft. Hudson, Miss. Some time after he was attacked with typhoid fever at New Orleans, and after remaining in a hospital several weeks, was sent home, in September, 1863. At the siege of Ft. Morgan, Maj. McFarland with restored health had again rejoined the regiment and assisted in capturing the fort. In 1865 Capt. McFarland received his commission as Major. The brigade was then marched to Spanish Fort, Alabama, and was brought into action in the blockading battle on the right wing of the army. This was the last active engagement. Gen. Lee surrendered, the war was ended, and the regiment was mustered out in August, in Springfield, Ill.

Maj. McFarland was a brave and efficient officer always ready at the post of either duty or danger. He returned home and engaged in business in Heyworth, and in 1876 was elected Clerk of the Circuit Court. Maj. McFarland was born in Franklin County, Pa. His boyhood was passed with his father who was a merchant of Mercersburg. When thirteen years old he engaged as clerk in Janesville, for his uncle, James William Kirkpatrick, and remained with him two years. He then spent some time with Dr. William A. Murphy, another uncle, who resided at St. Thomas, Pa. In 1847 he was married in Bedford, Pa., to Miss Betty W. Logan. She is the daughter of Thomas and Mary (Taggart) Logan. Her family is of Scotch and Irish extraction, and her parents were natives of Bedford County, where she was born and educated.

Mr. and Mrs. McFarland had a family of nine children born to them, five of whom are yet living: Carrie L., Martha E., A. W., Edgar H. and Herman E.; those deceased are Mary V., Emily A.,

Joseph F. and Thomas L. Maj. McFarland and family are members of the Presbyterian Church, in which he was for many years an Elder. He is a Republican.



**D**R. GEORGE M. SMITH, oculist and aurist, located at No. 106 West Washington street, Bloomington, spent the first years of his life in Washington County, Ohio, where his birth took place Jan. 21, 1845. He is the son of Samuel W. and Elizabeth (Bear) Smith, natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Ohio, and of English and German ancestry. Samuel Smith was a carpenter by trade, and after his removal to Ohio was for some time employed in building mission churches for the Indians. He became well acquainted with various important personages among the Wyandottes, and often ate and slept with the tribe. He was familiarly known in that region as "Uncle Sam," and was distinguished for his large heart and generous disposition, being always ready to assist the oppressed. He was a rabid Abolitionist, one of the chief promoters of the underground railroad, and was the means of securing freedom to many a fugitive. With his excellent wife he reared a family of eleven children, all of whom lived to mature years, and with the exception of one son, were all over six feet in height and weighed over 200 pounds, presenting as fine a family as is often seen. Of these, four are still living, namely, Curtis G., a resident of Springville, Iowa; Dr. George M., of our sketch, who is six feet and three inches in height and weighs 209½ pounds, and Roxanna, now Mrs. Harness, of Slater, Mo.

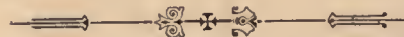
The father of our subject, on the 1st of May, 1855, gathered together his family and household goods, and with the aid of three teams traveled across the country westward to Springville, Iowa, where he arrived after a journey of thirty days. In that vicinity he purchased 160 acres of land, a part of which he obtained from the Government, and lived in the Hawkeye State nine years. He then purchased property in Mt. Vernon, Ill., to which place he removed for the purpose of giving his children the advantages of Cornell College, and

there his death took place that same year, in October. The mother is still a resident of Slater, Mo., having attained to the age of eighty-three years. Samuel Smith was converted to religion under the ministrations of Rev. James B. Finley, the pioneer Methodist of Ohio, and continued faithful to that church the remainder of his life. He served as Justice of the Peace both in Ohio and Iowa, and was prominently connected with the Masonic fraternity.

Our subject was well educated in his youth, and commenced teaching when nineteen years old, at which he employed himself winters and worked on the farm summers. He commenced studying medicine with his brother-in-law, Dr. Sharp, of Middlebury, in 1866, and not long afterward began practicing. Subsequently he took a course of study in the Western Reserve Medical College, at Cleveland, Ohio, where he graduated at the head of his class, and from which institution he afterward received the Degree of Aedem. After twenty-two months spent in Pottersburg, Ohio, he practiced in Lewisburg until 1883, thence came to Bloomington, where he has since remained.

Dr. Smith possesses considerable literary talent, having contributed considerably to various local publications and has written up the incidents of the battle of Gettysburg which were published for the benefit of the Historical Society at Lewisburg, besides a history of Mexico in simple style for the benefit of the school children, and at the request of the McLean County Medical Society.

Dr. Smith was married in 1871 to Miss Lovina E. Hollingsworth, a native of Ohio, and they have two children—Ada I. and Ward M. He is Republican in politics, and a Master Mason, and with his wife a member in good standing of Grace Methodist Church.



**C**HARLES W. SCHNEIDER, Secretary and General Manager of the Mutual Accident Association, of Bloomington, is a native of this State, born in Beardstown, Cass County, June 10, 1847. His father, Rudolph B. Schneider, a native of Germany, emigrated to the United States

when a young man, locating at once at Beardstown, where he married Miss Elizabeth Crow. The mother of our subject was a native of this State. After marriage the parents continued to reside at Beardstown the remainder of their lives. Rudolph Schneider was born in 1805, and departed this life in 1855. His wife Elizabeth was born in 1821, and survived her husband until the summer of 1883, when she too passed to her final rest. Of their four sons and two daughters, two died in infancy.

The subject of this sketch, the fourth child of the family, received his early education in his native town, and when quite young gained a good knowledge of business affairs by being in the store of his father, who was one of the principal merchants of Beardstown. By the death of the latter he was thrown upon his own resources at a tender age and began the struggle of life as a clerk. He made friends and money and in due time set up in business for himself which he followed until 1876. He then sold out his stock of goods and commenced traveling for an insurance company, going to Kansas City and other points in the farther West, on behalf of the Accident Insurance Company of North America, which made their headquarters at Montreal, Canada. After five years he resigned his position to connect himself with the company which he now represents at Bloomington. In this he officiated as Superintendent and a few months later was elected to his present position.

Our subject was married in 1871, to Miss Henrietta Sudbrink, of Beardstown, and they number their friends and associates by the score, among the best residents of Bloomington. Mr. Schneider was one of the charter members of the Knights of Honor, in which order he has always been greatly interested and whose principles he has actively assisted in maintaining.

**C**HRISTIAN NAFFZIGER, an aged citizen and farmer of Danvers Township, occupies a good homestead on section 2, of which he took possession in 1853. His birthplace was on the other side of the ocean in the Empire of Germany, and he began life over eighty-three years ago,

in 1803. His parents, Peter and Phebe Naffziger, also of German birth and parentage, were married in 1826, and spent all their lives in the Fatherland, where their remains are buried. The parental family included five children, namely, Christian, Peter, Valentine, Catherine and Barbara.

Our subject remained with his parents until reaching his majority, entering school at an early age, and receiving a fair education in his native town. He emigrated to America when over fifty years of age, in 1853, and coming to the West purchased the farm upon which he now resides. This includes 490 acres, finely improved and cultivated, and where he has been engaged for over thirty years tilling the soil successfully and enjoying the respect of his friends and neighbors.

Our subject was married in Germany, March 26, 1826, to Miss Barbara Stehley, and they became the parents of twelve children. Of these three died in infancy in Germany, and two in this country, also in their earliest childhood. Those surviving are Elizabeth, Lena, Barbara, Christian, Peter, Valentine and John. Mr. N., politically, affiliates with the Democratic party, and with his family, is a member and regular attendant of the Mennonite Church.



**G**EORGE W. RUST, deceased, was one of the most highly respected members of the farming community of Randolph Township, where his death took place at his homestead, Nov. 13, 1871. He was among the early settlers of McLean County, coming here with his father, William Rust, from Nashville, Tenn., where both father and son were born. Our subject was reared in the South, and educated in the common schools. After reaching manhood he was married, Jan. 27, 1843, in Randolph Township, to Miss Meroy Ann, daughter of David and Rebecca (Karr) Noble. Mrs. Rust was born in Hamilton County, Ohio, of which State her father was also a native, while the mother was from New Jersey. She was about seven years of age when she came with her parents

to this county, which has since been her home. Her birth took place Aug, 16, 1826. Her parents are now deceased. Mr. Rust first located upon forty acres of partly improved land, and subsequently became the owner of 160 acres which is still in the family, and which he always maintained was accumulated in part through the economy of his excellent wife and helpmeet, who was ever ready to assist him in his efforts at building up a home.

Mrs. Rust after the death of her husband exerted herself to bring up her children in a worthy manner, and gave them all the advantages within her power. Of these, seven in number, one died in infancy. Those surviving are Sarah R., the wife of Isaac Dorsey, a resident of Hastings, Neb.; Francis M., who married Miss Julia A. Hollis, and is residing on the farm with his mother; Harry A., who married Miss Sadie Irwin, and is farming in Randolph Township; Mary E., the wife of William Lafferty, of Heyworth; Lou E., Mrs. O. P. Rutledge, of Randolph Township; John B., who assists in carrying on the homestead, and Andrew J., also on the farm. The Rust family is well known and highly respected, and both the mother and children are members and regular attendants of the Christian Church. The boys are Democratic in politics, as was their father before them.



**J**AMES M. MURPHY, a rising young and prosperous farmer, is the son of William J. and Francis (Stubblefield) Murphy, and was born in Mt. Hope Township, this county, Aug. 14, 1859, being the third child in a family of five sons and two daughters. His education, begun in the district schools, was supplemented by a course in the Bloomington Commercial College and two terms at Wesleyan University, after which he staid at home for a year with his parents, and then began life on his own account. As a preliminary to later important business, he was soon afterward married, Jan. 18, 1883, to Miss Sadie A., only daughter of Mathias and Nancy A. (Paugh) Kampf. For a year afterward the young

people resided with the father of Mr. M., but on the 28th of February, 1884, moved into their handsome new residence on their present farm. This contains sixty acres, but adjoining it lies 240 acres which Mr. Murphy also cultivates, raising grain and making a specialty of corn and oats. The residence is situated upon a beautiful rise of ground, commanding a view of some of the finest farming lands in the Prairie State. The little household has been enlarged by the arrival of two bright boys, namely, William Claude, born Nov. 29, 1883, and Harry Kampf, July 22, 1885.

In the biographies of W. J. Murphy and Mathias Kampf, elsewhere in this volume, will be found the parental history of our subject and his wife. Mr. Murphy is looked upon as one of the representative men of his community, and has already distinguished himself as a gentleman of fine business abilities, and taking a lively interest in the moral and intellectual welfare of his township. He is a Director in his school district, and one of the most promising lights in the Republican party of that section.



**W**ILLIAM A. WATSON, proprietor of McLean County Nurseries, was born on the other side of the Atlantic, in Suffolk, England, Sept. 5, 1839. His parents, William H. and Charlotte (Kent) Watson, natives of the same country, came to the United States in 1847, when our subject was a child six years of age. They located on a farm in Dane County, Wis., where the mother died in 1882. The father is still living. Of the thirteen children comprising the parental household, twelve yet survive.

William A. Watson came to the United States with his father's family and completed his education in two terms at the district school. His father, however, instructed his children evenings for many years and they thus obtained a good insight into book knowledge. William A. studied one term at the State University and improved his time admirably while there. He assisted his father in tilling the soil, remaining under the parental roof until the afternoon of his twenty-first birthday and then

started out for himself; and after much difficulty succeeded in obtaining a position with the Winneshtiek Insurance Company, of which he became the first agent. A month later, however, he went to Chicago and purchased a jewelry outfit with which he traveled through the country, peddling. These experiences induced him finally to return to farm life and going to Dane County, he rented a tract of land and farmed in that and Rock Counties until 1867. During that year he visited Normal, and finally entered the employ of F. K. Phœnix, the well-known nursery man of McLean County, with whom he remained eight years, finally becoming foreman. He had then saved sufficient to purchase his present property, which was then known as Coleman's Nurseries. For the forty acres which he now owns he paid \$8,000, and has since erected upon his land a fine dwelling, and made other improvements. The land is underlaid with tile three rods apart and is admirably adapted to the purpose to which it is devoted. The property is now considered worth \$20,000. Mr. Watson came to this county a poor man and his career illustrates in a forcible manner the results of perseverance and industry.

Our subject was married, Dec. 4, 1862, to Miss Jane N. Miller, who was born in Vermont, and came with her father's family to Rock County, Wis., where he still resides. The three children of Mr. and Mrs. Watson are Alpha, Fred T. and Harry S.

**W**ILLIAM D. BROWN, one of the successful young farmers of Downs Township, is pleasantly located on section 15, where he has eighty acres of finely cultivated land and a handsome modern residence. He came to this county in 1852, and completed his education in Wesleyan University. His first business venture was in hardware and groceries at Le Roy, and being of an inventive turn of mind he patented the well-known Brown's Hog Ringer, which at once became a favorite in the agricultural districts and which, with the improvements which he has added in its design, has been the means of bringing him in a handsome little fortune. After a few years spent as a traveling salesman and in the grocery trade he

decided to take up farming, and located on his present homestead in 1885.

Our subject was married, Jan. 21, 1873, to Miss Laura Barnett, who was born and reared in this county, of which her parents were among the earliest pioneers, and her father established the first store in Re Roy. He died in Le Roy several years ago. Her mother is still living there, being sixty-nine years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Brown are the parents of one child, by name, Orrin. They are both members in good standing of the Baptist Church, and our subject, politically, is a solid Republican.

**M**ARTIN L. POPPLE, senior member of the firm of Popple Bros., dealers in hardware and tinware, slate roofing, etc., is, with his partners, doing a good business in the city of Bloomington, where they are reckoned among its representative business men. Mr. Popple is a product of the Empire State, born in Jefferson County, May 24, 1853, and the son of John S. and Rachel (Baldwick) Popple, whose birthplace was across the sea in England. John Popple was a minister of the Methodist Church, and after coming to this country died in New York, in 1856. The mother is still living and resides with her son, our subject, in Bloomington.

Martin Popple came to this county and made a location first in Danvers, to which his mother had removed in 1863, and where Martin completed his education. After a short residence on a farm the family removed to Bloomington, where our subject learned the tinner's trade, at which he served two years, and then returning to Danvers, purchased, in company with his brother, the hardware stock of W. M. Estes and continued the business until 1881. He then sold out and removing to Bloomington again, established himself with his younger brother in his present business. Their store, 22x90 feet in area, is two stories in height with a basement, and they have a well-selected stock of everything pertaining to their line of trade. They are both wide-awake business men and their straightforward methods have secured the confidence and esteem of the community.

Our subject, in 1876, was married to Miss Ada, daughter of George W. Price, of Bloomington, and they have become the parents of two children, named respectively Walter and Price. Mr. Popple takes an intelligent interest in local and township matters, and socially is a member of Bloomington Lodge No. 43, A. F. & A. M.





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