





Class \_\_\_\_\_

Book \_\_\_\_\_



















THE  
BIOGRAPHICAL RECORD

OF

WHITESIDE COUNTY,

ILLINOIS.

ILLUSTRATED.

— — —

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

CHICAGO  
THE S. J. CLARKE PUBLISHING COMPANY,  
1900

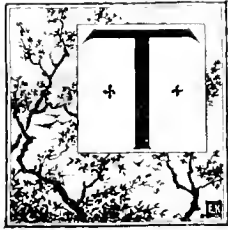
"Biography is the only true history."--Emerson.

4/10-1-11



FROM THE PRESS OF WILSON, HERRICKS & CO.  
FOURTH ST. LOGANSBURGH, IND.

# PREFACE.



THE greatest of English historians, MACAULAY, and one of the most brilliant writers of the present century, has said: "The history of a country is best told in a record of the lives of its people." In conformity with this idea, the BIOGRAPHICAL RECORD has been prepared. Instead of going to musty records, and taking therefrom dry statistical matter that can be appreciated by but few, our corps of writers have gone to the people, the men and women who have, by their enterprise and industry, brought this country to a rank second to none among those comprising this great and noble State, and from their lips have the story of their life struggles. No more interesting or instructive matter could be presented to an intelligent public. In this volume will be found a record of many whose lives are worthy the imitation of coming generations. It tells how some, commencing life in poverty, by industry and economy have accumulated wealth. It tells how others, with limited advantages for securing an education, have become learned men and women, with an influence extending throughout the length and breadth of the land. It tells of men who have risen from the lower walks of life to eminence as statesmen, and whose names have become famous. It tells of those in every walk in life who have striven to succeed, and records how that success has usually crowned their efforts. It tells also of many, very many, who, not seeking the applause of the world, have pursued the "even tenor of their way," content to have it said of them, as Christ said of the woman performing a deed of mercy—"They have done what they could." It tells how many, in the pride and strength of young manhood, left the plow and the anvil, the lawyer's office and the counting-room, left every trade and profession, and at their country's call went forth valiantly "to do or die," and how through their efforts the Union was restored and peace once more reigned in the land. In the life of every man and of every woman is a lesson that should not be lost upon those who follow after.

Coming generations will appreciate this volume and preserve it as a sacred treasure, from the fact that it contains so much that would never find its way into public records, and which would otherwise be inaccessible. Great care has been taken in the compilation of the work, and every opportunity possible given to those represented to insure correctness in what has been written; and the publishers flatter themselves that they give to their readers a work with few errors of consequence. In addition to biographical sketches, portraits of a number of representative citizens are given.

The faces of some, and biographical sketches of many, will be missed in this volume. For this the publishers are not to blame. Not having a proper conception of the work, some refused to give the information necessary to compile a sketch, while others were indifferent. Occasionally some member of the family would oppose the enterprise, and on account of such opposition the support of the interested one would be withheld. In a few instances men never could be found, though repeated calls were made at their residence or place of business.

January, 1900.

THE S. J. CLARKE PUBLISHING CO.



# INDEX.

PAGE	PAGE	PAGE
Abbott, Alfred N. .... 114	Burr, Caroline H. .... 455	Fagan, Thomas ..... 47
Ackerman, Charles E. .... 354	Burratt, Leverett S. .... 60	Easton, Thomas L. .... 192
Albertson, Samuel ..... 421	Bush, Loren T. .... 12	Eddy, York ..... 469
Allen, Edwin G. .... 414	Butman, William ..... 281	Edlund, Jonas. .... 80
Allen, William E. .... 217	Byam, Abel ..... 511	Ege, C. P. .... 498
Allen, William H. .... 510		Elhott, George T. .... 237
Anthony, Frank ..... 248	Cabot, Charles W. .... 242	Elhthorpe, Carl S. .... 220
Arnett, Lewis C. .... 202	Card, Martin V. .... 157	Fly, George L. .... 178
Ashling, Edward ..... 453	Carney, Michael ..... 384	Emmons, Lehman A. .... 389
Austin, Dennis. .... 95	Case, Charles LeRoy ..... 333	Entwistle, John J. .... 38
Austin, Isaac ..... 86	Chamberlain, H. G. .... 340	Eslinger, John. .... 459
	Clark, John. .... 81	
Baer, Frank ..... 482	Cleaveland, Jay. .... 267	Farley, Joel W. .... 305
Baird, James H. .... 153	Clendenen, George W. .... 136	Farwell, Solomon ..... 278
Baldwin, Joel M. .... 322	Coats, James ..... 385	Finch, Oliver E. .... 163
Barber, Sidney. .... 458	Cole, Caroline B. .... 280	First National Bank. .... 69
Bastian, Fred R. .... 208	Cole, Horace B. .... 498	Fitch, Frank E. .... 29
Baum, Edgar G. .... 296	Coleman, Martin ..... 388	Fitzgerald, Frank ..... 49
Beardsworth, Herbert T. .... 433	Collins, Palmer. .... 497	Forward, William ..... 254
Beeler, John ..... 436	Collins, Sherman D. .... 436	Francis, Isaac ..... 293
Bell, James R. .... 259	Cook, John Henry. .... 95	Frank, Theodore ..... 353
Bent, Charles ..... 106	Cooney, John ..... 323	Fraser, William ..... 59
Besse, John J. .... 510	Coxell, Emory D. .... 210	Frost, John. .... 52
Beswick, William A. .... 43	Cox, Sylvester M. .... 274	Fuller, John P. .... 492
Bickert, John P. .... 58	Crawford, David M. .... 301	Furry, John P. .... 464
Birt, George W. .... 26	Crosier, Edward I. .... 219	
Bittinger, J. E. .... 264	Curtis, William E. .... 412	Gage, Edward S. .... 235
Blackmer, William ..... 155		Galt, Edgar H. .... 395
Blagg, Samuel. .... 505	Dal, Robert ..... 516	Garwick, Charles P. .... 400
Blean, William W. .... 383	Daniels, Burrell V. .... 55	Gerdes, Henry E. .... 373
Bogart, Hiram ..... 282	Darling, Wilford L. .... 310	Gibler, Isaac ..... 508
Booth, Jason C. .... 20	Dauen, Louis. .... 345	Goodenough, George E. .... 66
Bowman, Edmund. .... 154	Davis, Susanna R. .... 148	Gray, John H. .... 31
Boyd, Hugh A. .... 169	Deets, Margaret W. .... 462	Green, John Gilbert ..... 83
Boyd, John ..... 214	Delp, Charles ..... 133	Green, John H. .... 112
Boyd, Peter R. .... 489	Dillon, Lloyd H. .... 292	Greene, Giles ..... 119
Boynton, Benjamin F. .... 465	Dillon, Moses ..... 475	Greene, John J. .... 131
Boynton, Joseph H. .... 227	Domichy, Robert H. .... 372	Gurtusen, Benjamin ..... 299
Breed, Ralph Y. .... 506	Draun, Thomas A. .... 300	
Brewer, Fernando N. .... 444	Dudley, William O. .... 56	Haberer, Andrew K. .... 225
Brooks, Benjamin F. .... 206	Durward, Andrew S. .... 116	Hamilton, Charles A. .... 499
Buell, Jewett C. .... 435	Durward, Peter T. .... 100	Hamilton, George R. .... 118

	PAGE		PAGE		PAGE
Hanks, Stephen B. ....	342	Lehman, Jacob Y. ....	426	Olmsted, George W. ....	151
Hanson, A. M. ....	268	LeFevre, John F. ....	347	Olson, Oliver D. ....	247
Hardy, Richard F. ....	62	Limerick, John G. ....	412	Onken, John F. ....	358
Hardy, Winfield J. ....	71	Lockheart, Mary R. ....	286	Osborne, Andrew J. ....	392
Harrison, David G. ....	129	Longsdon, Charles J. ....	378	O'Neil, Francis ....	394
Harrison, Joshua L. ....	427	Lublimer, Joseph A. ....	306		
Harvey, Samuel C. ....	360	Ludens, Peter M. ....	33	Pace, John A. ....	508
Heath, Henry D. ....	32	Lum, Cyrrel A. ....	117	Paddock, George E. ....	183
Heath, Wilbur D. ....	494	Lyon, Marcus R. ....	137	Paddock, Orrin. ....	213
Hecker, John F. ....	88			Pape, Noah E. ....	61
Hein, Henry ....	514	McCalmont, Samuel McKean. ....	211	Parker, D. J. ....	387
Hein, William A. ....	519	McCarty, Jerry V. ....	476	Parker, William. ....	429
Helms, Henry E. ....	22	McCartney, David. ....	390	Parnonter, Allen E. ....	518
Hendricks, Wesley Y. ....	50	McCauley, James S. ....	352	Parnham, John C. ....	68
Hill, Ezra B. ....	171	McEntire, E. Joe. ....	448	Parrish, Isaac S. ....	174
Hoak, Ira F. and Orion A. ....	222	McGrady, Barney. ....	224	Patrick, William M. ....	104
Hodges, Frank ....	446	McKenzie, Marlow C. ....	412	Payne, Edwin W. ....	27
Holbrook, Watson C. ....	188	McMahon, C. C. ....	121	Payson, Charles H. ....	461
Hollinshead, Daniel. ....	10	McNeil, Alexander J. ....	449	Peck, John ....	330
Hollinshead, Joshua. ....	501	McNeil, Robert ....	480	Peckham, E. M. ....	517
Holmquest, Oke ....	277	McWhorter, Tyler ....	288	Peterson, Christian P. ....	317
Hoofstutler, Jacob H. ....	313	McWhorter, William L. ....	470	Pittman, Elwood J. ....	370
Hoover, B. Franklin ....	85	Manahan, J. G. ....	451	Pollock, D. J. ....	283
Hoover, Henry ....	139	Mangan, Erwin J. ....	203	Pope, Aaron. ....	275
Hubbard, James C. ....	516	Mangan, Naomi J. ....	166	Pott, Henry ....	368
Hubbard, Solomon. ....	123	Mangan, Samuel T. ....	168	Powell, Clark R. ....	487
Huggins, Thomas. ....	504	Marcellus, Fennimore E. ....	131	Powers, Warren F. ....	396
Hulett, John W. ....	132	Marlett, George T. ....	472	Pratt, James M. ....	364
Hull, Harvey C. ....	490	Marvel, Earl E. ....	122	Proctor, David G. ....	423
Hunter, John M. ....	318	Matthews, L. E. ....	484	Proctor, George R. ....	382
		Matzick, Frederick. ....	430		
Jackson, Edmund ....	181	Mead, Mergl ....	64	Ramsay, Frank D. ....	9
James, Anthony A. ....	329	Meek, Nathan ....	284	Rapp, Andrew ....	506
James, Robert S. ....	118	Meighan, James A. ....	513	Reed, Benjamin ....	321
James, Samuel N. ....	59	Meus, Harm T. ....	481	Reed, John ....	376
Jenks, Henry L. ....	521	Mensch, John H. ....	597	Remers, John J. ....	68
Johnson, Bernard. ....	450	Middagh, William H. ....	460	Remor, John R. ....	106
		Miller, Joseph ....	375	Reynolds, Charles F. ....	51
Kilmer, Elias H. ....	243	Milroy, John E. ....	432	Reynolds, J. T. ....	113
Kirkland, John T. ....	316	Mosier, John E. ....	395	Rice, Lucius E. ....	70
Knight, Charles C. ....	142	Murphy, Samuel L. ....	47	Richards, Daniel. ....	117
Kohl, John M. ....	230	Mystic Workers of the World. ....	185	Richards, William D. ....	13
				Richmond, George P. ....	200
Laicester, Edward ....	204	Namiga, Garrett. ....	260	Riley, John. ....	165
Landis, Henry C. ....	457	Needham, George T. ....	303	RJordan, William G. ....	295
Landis, Henry S. ....	425	Neer, George ....	512	Rishell, Dyson. ....	298
Lane, William. ....	261	Nevitt, Edward H. ....	474	Robertson, Christian C. ....	94
Langdon, Buel A. ....	43	Noon, Charles, Sr. ....	208	Robinson, Thomas, Sr. ....	391
Langdon, Samuel A. ....	75	Noon, Thomas. ....	194	Royer, C. F. ....	339
Lathe, Benjamin F. ....	403	Norrish, Robert A. ....	25	Russell, Charles N. ....	495
Leahy, James. ....	348	Norrish, Robert S. ....	276		
Lee, Marshall T. ....	135	Northern Illinois College. ....	265	Schwab, John. ....	110
		Nowlen, James A. ....	46	Scobfield, Hull. ....	431



PAGE		PAGE		PAGE	
Scotchbrook, Edward	102	Thomas, Frank B.	191	Warner, John H.	228
Scott, John E.	437	Thompson, Albert L.	350	Wetzell, Henry	231
Scott, Josiah S.	377	Thompson, John R.	466	Wheerlock, Samuel L.	366
Scoville, James	349	Thompson, John L.	446	White, Clarence E.	262
Seger, Dana B.	49	Thompson, Nathan	460	White, Sarah M.	23
Shannon, Hugh	470	Thompson, R. A.	509	Wilber, Thomas J.	459
Shuler, George F.	356	Thompson, Reuben M.	319	Wickens, James	297
Simonson, J. H.	39	Thompson, Samuel A.	424	Wilbur, Jacob D.	195
Skinner, James W.	31	Thomson, Peter	245	Williams, Frederick F.	87
Slaymaker, Leonard A.	449	Thomson, William	76	Williamson, A. C.	275
Slaymaker, William D.	520	Tilton, William B.	19	Willsey, Ira	158
Smack, James	413	Timmerman, Frank P.	287	Wilson, O. A.	349
Smedley, Ralph	255	Titus, Abraham B.	405	Wilson, Robert L.	2121
Smith, Adam	481	Tracy, George S.	334	Winchell, Jacob J.	218
Smith, Harlow	456	Tuttle, Lauren E.	240	Winters, Elhaman C.	332
Smith, Leander	46			Winters, James M.	186
Smith, Ralph N.	205	Underhill, Emmett E.	304	Wolfersperger, Aaron A.	257
Smith, Richard	258	Upton, Eh.	78	Wood, A. D.	407
Snyder, James	177	Upton, George Y.	65	Wood, Frederick	502
Snyder, John H.	201			Woodburn, Charles H.	121
Spafford, Dwight S.	311	Van Demark, Jacob M.	359	Woodburn, James	120
Stoeckle, Leopold	447	Van Osdol, A. L.	232	Woods, Rollin H.	439
Sturtevant, Charles P.	173	Van Osdol, William A.	324	Worman, Thomas J.	401
Sturtz, Charles	467			Wyatt, Edward	141
		Waite, Cyrus H.	150	Wyman, Viana	84
Taber, William P.	350	Waite, De Witt C.	496		
Talbott, Oliver	478	Ward, Henry C.	245	Young, Adam B.	212
Thomas, Addison P.	41	Ward, David W.	190	Zschiesche, August	316
Thomas, Francis M.	92				







F. D. RAMSAY.

## BIOGRAPHICAL.

**H**ON. FRANK D. RAMSAY. In the last half century especially, it is seldom that one wins prominence in several lines. It is the tendency of the age to devote one's entire energies to a special line, continually working upward and concentrating his efforts toward accomplishing a desired end; yet in the case of Judge Ramsay it is demonstrated that an exalted position may be reached in more than one line of action. He is an eminent jurist, an able judge and a leader in political circles.

The Judge was born in Prophetstown, Whiteside county, September 27, 1846, a son of Luther B. and Caroline M. (Smith) Ramsay. The father was born in Deerfield, Oneida county, New York, and first came to Whiteside county with Leonard Woodworth as one of the engineers in the construction of the canal around the rapids above Rock Falls. During the six months spent here, he made a claim in what is now Hume township. At the end of that time he returned to New York, but in the fall of 1840 again came to this county and took up his residence upon his farm in Hume township, where he remained for three years. He was next engaged in farming in Prophetstown and also manufactured cheese on an extensive scale, and in 1853-54 conducted a store in the village of Prophetstown. He was one of the leading citizens of his township, and died in Prophetstown in November, 1886.

Judge Ramsay acquired his early education in the common schools, and later attended the college at Dixon. After leaving that institution he began the study of law in the office of Frederick Sackett, at Sterling, and remained with him until admitted to the bar by examination at Dixon, in 1868. He began practice immediately at Morrison, forming a partnership with O. F. Woodruff, under the firm name of Woodruff & Ramsay, and he was connected with him in business for two years. He then opened an office and was engaged in active practice alone until the summer of 1887, having charge of many of the most important cases that came up for trial in this county. He also took quite a prominent part in political affairs and served as a delegate to different Republican conventions, including those of the state.

In the fall of 1887, Judge Ramsay removed to Kansas City, where as a member of the firm of Ramsay & Getman, he was successfully engaged in practice for two years, but as times began to change, he returned to Morrison in November, 1889, and was engaged in general practice here until his election as circuit judge in June, 1897. His circuit covers the counties of Whiteside, Rock Island, Henry and Mercer. He had previously served as master in chancery for Whiteside county for several years, and resigned that position to accept his present office. He has also been mayor of Morrison

and during his incumbency in that office was instrumental in establishing a good system of sewerage in the city. In connection with his law practice the Judge is also interested in farming to some extent.

On the first of February, 1872, Judge Ramsay married Miss Lovisa McKenzie, of Prophetstown, a daughter of William R. and Harriet McKenzie, old and honored residents of that place. They have two sons: Luther Richmond, born May 18, 1876, graduated from the Morrison high school, took an elective course of two years at Oberlin College, and is now practicing law in Morrison in partnership with S. M. McCalmont under the firm name of McCalmont & Ramsay; and Robert M., born February 14, 1879, also graduated from the Morrison high school, and took a two years course of study at Exeter, New Hampshire, and Mt. Vernon, Iowa, and is now serving as court reporter.

The Judge is a prominent member of the Morrison Club and is now serving on its executive committee. After his return from Kansas City, he was chairman of the Republican executive committee of the county up to the time of his election as judge, and filled that position during the Harrison, Cleveland and McKinley campaigns, being especially active in the last named. The county was well organized and the county committee did effective work under his leadership. He was made a Mason in Dunlap lodge, No. 321, and now belongs to Prophetstown chapter and Sterling commandery, and is a member of Medinah temple, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. He has proved himself in all the relations of life, an earnest, honest, upright man, and a citizen of whom any community might be justly proud.

DANIEL HOLLINSHEAD, a leading farmer and stock raiser of Ustick township, residing on section 8, was born on the 7th of February, 1834, in Kingston, Canada, about thirty miles from Toronto, and is a son of John and Elizabeth (Rush) Hollinshead. The mother was a native of Pennsylvania and a grandniece of Benjamin Rush, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. Her mother, Mrs. Julia Ann Rush, belongs to a very patriotic family, and she heartily espoused the cause of the colonists. Frequently she would put on male attire and perform picket duty during the Revolutionary war. She accompanied her son-in-law, John Hollinshead, to Canada, and later came with the family to Whiteside county, Illinois, where she died in 1842, being the first to be interred in the cemetery located on the Hollinshead farm.

John Hollinshead, father of our subject, was born in Jersey City, New Jersey, January 6, 1798, and when a mere lad removed with his father, Jacob Hollinshead, to Canada, where the latter died. He was a native of one of the eastern states, was a hatter by trade, and a Quaker in religious faith. John Hollinshead was married in Canada, where he continued to make his home until the spring of 1839, when he came to Whiteside county, Illinois, accompanied by his wife and five children. They made the journey by way of the Great Lakes to Chicago, and after spending a few hours in that little hamlet, they proceeded on their way across the country. They located in what is now Clyde township. The father was impressed with the idea that Chicago would one day become a large city on account of the facilities it possessed for trading and shipping, and he returned to it and verbally bargained for a farm in what is now the

heart of the city, but as he was unable to collect money which he had loaned, he could not secure the land. He made his home in Clyde township for two years, during which time he hauled his grain twice to the Chicago market, where he received for the same sixty cents per bushel. At the time of his death, which occurred in 1845, he possessed a good farm of four hundred and forty acres in Ustick township. His wife died in the spring of 1863. Of the nine children born to this worthy couple, four are still living: Joshua, a resident of Ustick township; Daniel, our subject; Mary, wife of Herman Worthington, of Fulton; and Emily, who married Nathaniel Hollinshead, a cousin, and resides in Fulton.

Our subject was but five years old when brought by his parents to Whiteside county, and he began his education in a little log school house under what is known as the Bluff. He continued his studies there for some years, and remained at home until he attained his majority, when he and his brother Jacob rented the place of their mother and operated it together for about four years. He still lives on the old homestead, where he had two hundred and thirty acres of valuable land on sections 7, 8 and 17, Ustick township, besides seventy-one acres on section 1, Fulton township. He follows general farming and stock raising, and has met with most gratifying success. Of late years he has given considerable attention to the breeding of fine horses and has one fine stallion, a Morgan, and owns an interest in a Belgian draft horse, the latter having cost twenty-five hundred dollars. He also feeds cattle and hogs for the market quite extensively.

On the 2nd of July, 1859, Mr. Hollinshead was united in marriage with Miss

Mary Knight, a native of Hancock county, Illinois, and a daughter of Wesley and Louisa (Cowles) Knight, who were of the Mormon faith and when the people of that denomination were driven from Nauvoo they came to Fulton. Later her father died while on his way to California. His wife was a daughter of Elder Cowles, one of the elders who was opposed to Brigham Young on the question of polygamy. Mrs. Hollinshead died April 8, 1867. Of the four children born of that union, three died in infancy, the only one living being Dora, now the wife of Quincy L. Slocum, of St. Louis, by whom she has three children, Leith H., Lloyd Q. and Liebking Mary.

Mr. Hollinshead was again married, September 16, 1868, his second union being with Miss Rebecca M. Hubbell, who was born in Summit county, Ohio, July 31, 1837. Her parents were Matthew and Betsy (Foote) Hubbell, the former a native of Bridgeport, Connecticut, the latter of western New York, and her paternal grandfather was Andrew Hubbell, a farmer by occupation. In New Berlin, New York, Matthew Hubbell learned the tailor's trade, which he continued to follow until forty-five years of age, when he turned his attention to farming in St. Clair county, Michigan, whither he had removed from Ohio. There he died in November, 1886. In early life he was a Democrat, but prior to the Civil war was a strong Abolitionist and took an active part in the operation of the underground railroad. Mrs. Hollinshead's mother had died January 19, 1840, and in 1842 he married her sister, Seraphina Foote, by whom he had one child, Matthew, who married Effie Denton, has one child and resides on the old homestead in St. Clair county, Michigan. There

were five children born of the first marriage, of whom one died in infancy; Lucy died at the age of twenty-two years; Lois is the wife of Harvey Coburn, of Sanilac county, Michigan, and they have six children; Angelina is the wife of John Allen, of St. Clair county, and they had four children, two now living; and Rebecca M., wife of our subject, completes the family. To Mr. and Mrs. Hollinshead have been born five children: (1) Delia married a cousin, Frank Hollinshead, who is engaged in the ice and coal business in Fulton and they have two children, Jeanette A. and Thayer. (2) Hubbell, a farmer of Ustick township, married Phernia Wilson and has two children, Bayard and Gareld. (3) Earle is engaged in business with his brother Hubbell. (4) Archie died at the age of five years. (5) Burton assists his father in the operation of the home place. (6) Clare is at home.

Mr. Hollinshead is identified with the Garden Plain Mutual Insurance Company. Politically, he affiliates with the Democratic party, and he has been called upon to serve as road commissioner for six years and school director for a number of years, and is now serving as a justice of the peace. He is a progressive and enterprising man, who takes a deep and commendable interest in public affairs and gives his support to every measure which he believes calculated to prove of public good. His estimable wife is a member of the Episcopal church.

**R**EV. LOREN T. BUSH, who has been pastor of the Baptist church at Morrison since May, 1895, was born at Busti, near Jamestown, Chautauqua county, New York, January 31, 1844, and is a son of Selden F. and Florina (Blackman) Bush.

The father was born in Herkimer county, New York, but when a young man moved with his father to Chautauqua county, the family becoming pioneers of that section of the state. The grandfather helped to cut the road through the woods to his home at Busti. He had thirteen children who located within twelve miles of the old homestead, so that the Bushes are very numerous in that part of the county. In connection with farming the father of our subject followed contracting at building at Jamestown, New York, until Loren T. was fourteen years old, and then removed to Strawberry Point, Iowa, which at that time was a new country, there being no railroad west of Freeport. He purchased a large tract of land, which he transformed into a good farm. He was an ardent supporter of the Republican party, with which his sons also affiliated, and was a member of the Baptist church. Our subject, who is next to the youngest in a family of six children, lost his mother when only six years old, and the father subsequently married again and by the second union also had six children.

Loren T. Bush began his education in the schools of Busti, New York, and after the removal of the family to Iowa continued his studies there, preparing for college at the Burlington Collegiate Institute. In 1861, during the dark days of the Civil war, he enlisted on the first call for seventy-five thousand men, becoming a member of Company C, First Iowa Volunteer Infantry. He participated in the engagement at Wilson Creek soon after the battle of Bull Run, and was with the western army until discharged on the expiration of his term of service. In January, 1864, he re-enlisted in the First Iowa Cavalry, which also belonged to the western army. Most of the time he was de-



tailed for clerical duty with the quartermaster of the regiment, having been wounded at Little Rock and being unable to do regular work. He remained in that position until the close of the war.

Before his second enlistment Mr. Bush finished preparing for college, and being finally discharged entered the University of Chicago, from which he was graduated in 1868, receiving the degree of A. B. and three years later that of A. M. Immediately afterward he entered the Baptist Theological Seminary, a department of the same institution, and was graduated from the same in 1871. While in Chicago he was connected with the Shields Mission of the First Baptist church for four years, during which time he organized it into the Twenty-fifth Street Baptist church. He was connected with the city relief work the winter after the great fire, and was ordained pastor of the Twenty-fifth Street Baptist church in 1872, holding that position five years, during which time the church became self-supporting and had a membership of two hundred and twenty-five, with five hundred in the Sunday school.

On the 12th of September, 1876, Mr. Bush married Miss Fannie E. Eaton, of Chicago, and they removed to Osage, Iowa, where he accepted the position of professor of languages in the Cedar Valley Seminary, of which his brother was at the head, while his wife had charge of the music. She had received excellent instruction both in instrumental and vocal music and for a time played the pipe organ in several of the Chicago churches. For two years Mr. Bush was pastor of the Baptist church at Cedar Falls, Iowa, and at Waukegan, Illinois, for eleven years. The latter was a most satisfactory pastorate. There had been trou-

ble in the church, but under his leadership the congregation again became united and the church prosperous. The house of worship was repaired, the membership was largely increased, and it proved a very successful and pleasant pastorate.

Mrs. Bush being in poor health the doctors advised a trip to the coast, and she and her husband went to Portland, Oregon, where he was pastor of the Emanuel Baptist church for three years. In search of a better climate they went to the beautiful city of Oakland, California, and doing the two years spent at that place Mr. Bush was assistant pastor of the First Baptist church and in charge of the city mission work. While there he received a call from the church at Morrison, Illinois, and finally accepted it in May, 1895. He has built up the membership here from one hundred and twenty-five to one hundred and eighty and has thoroughly organized every department of the church work. The church edifice was extensively repaired in 1898 and is now in excellent condition. But any estimates of material progress give no indication of the great work he has done in molding and shaping to higher issues the lives of those to whom he has given his best thought. His life is entirely devoted to the ministry, and he is revered and loved, not only by his own congregation but by all who know him.

**W**ILLIAM D. RICHARDS, a retired carpenter and honored citizen of Morrison, where he has made his home since April, 1874, was born near Easton, Pennsylvania, November 12, 1827, and is a son of Isaac R. and Hannah Christine Richards, also natives of that place. There the grandfather Richards spent his entire

life. He was of English descent, but our subject's maternal ancestors were of German extraction. About 1848 Isaac R. Richard brought his family to Stephenson county, Illinois, where he purchased a farm and engaged in agricultural pursuits until called from this life at the age of seventy-seven years. In early life he followed the carpenter's trade. The wife and mother died at the home of a son near Lena, Illinois, in 1897, aged eighty-three years. Both were members of the Evangelical church, and were held in high regard by all who knew them.

Our subject was educated in the schools of Easton, Pennsylvania, and there learned the carpenter's trade. On the 15th of April, 1853, he arrived in Stephenson county, Illinois, and located near Davis, where he worked at his trade until entering the army. In 1861 he responded to his country's call for troops, enlisting in Company G, Forty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He was in the service four years, being on duty in Tennessee, Kentucky and as far south as New Orleans. He participated in the battles of Fort Donelson and Pittsburg Landing, and was then detailed to take care of the commissary department, being stationed much of the time on Presidents Island until he veteranized. He then went to New Orleans and up the gulf to Fort Gaines, where with his command he remained until the battles of Fort Blakely and Spanish Fort, when they went to Mobile. During this time it rained almost incessantly and they had no tents or shelter of any kind. They were next sent to Selma, Alabama, to guard some meat the rebels had failed to secure, and divided it among the darkies and poor people, after which they returned to Mobile and New

Orleans, then up the Red river to Shreveport, Louisiana, where they were finally discharged February 12, 1866. Mr. Richards returned home by way of the Mississippi river, and was mustered at Springfield, Illinois. After some time spent in Stephenson county, he removed to Butler county, Iowa, where he lived for three years and a half, and then traded his farm there of two hundred and twenty acres, for his present home in Morrison, where he located April 15, 1870. Here he engaged in contracting and building until ill health forced his retirement from active labor.

On the 15th of April, 1855, Mr. Richards was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Epley, of Davis, Illinois, who was born in Dauphin township, Centre county, Pennsylvania, April 24, 1835. Her father, Benjamin Epley, was a native of Berks county, the same state, where he made his home until attaining man's estate and then moved to Centre county, where he wedded Miss Salome Heckman, who was born in the house where their marriage was celebrated. The first thirteen years of their married life were passed in Centre county, and from there removed to Stephenson county, Illinois. The father engaged in preaching for the Evangelical church until 1851, when failing health caused his retirement and he turned his attention to farming. He was one of the first ministers of his denomination in Stevenson county, and the church which he established grew to be quite large under his pastorate. He also traveled over the country on horseback, preaching at various places. In 1873 he left the farm and moved to Davis, and from there went to Waverly, Iowa, in 1885. He died in the latter place in 1896, and his wife passed away November 15, 1897. She

was the daughter of John Heckman, a farmer of Centre county. Mrs. Richard's paternal grandfather was John Epley, who was born in Berks county, that state, and died young. Of the ten children born to Mr. and Mrs. Richards only three are now living. Three were born before our subject entered the army, namely: David A., now a farmer of Cherokee county, Kansas, who married Mary Angel, of Iowa, and has one child by a former marriage, R. Roy; Levi E., who died at the age of three years; and Daniel L., who died at the age of ten years. The others are Benjamin Franklin, who was born while his father was in the service and died at the age of eleven months; Jacob N., who died at the age of five years; Ellen S., who died in Iowa, at the age of four months; George W., who was born August 30, 1868, and is now a resident of Freeport, Illinois; John H., who was born December 17, 1869, and is also a resident of Freeport; Salome, who was born May 5, 1871, and is now deceased; and Mary E., who was born in July, 1875, and is also deceased. Formerly Mr. and Mrs. Richards were members of the Evangelical church, but as there is no church of that denomination in Morrison, she has united with the Methodist Episcopal church. Both are earnest, consistent Christian people, and Mr. Richards believes in taking the Bible as his guide and not the word of man.

**W**ILLIAM B. TILTON, deceased, was one of the honored early settlers of this county, as well as one of the leading citizens and representative farmers of Clyde township, his home being on section 3, where his widow still resides. He was born in Licking county, Ohio, July 20, 1832,

and was the oldest in a family of ten children whose parents were Richard J. and Betsey (Burns) Tilton, also natives of that state. In connection with farming the father operated a sawmill on his place in Licking county for many years. At a very early day he and his son William B. came to Illinois and took up government land in Ogle and Carroll counties, and also in Clyde township, Whiteside county, securing in this way about twelve hundred acres of land. The father became quite an extensive land owner, having at one time between two and three thousand acres of land, and he was a stock raiser of considerable prominence. His death occurred in 1859, the result of being kicked by a horse. His wife survived him many years, dying March 26, 1899, at the age of eighty-four.

William B. Tilton grew to manhood in his native state, and was provided with good educational advantages, attending first the common schools of Licking county, and later Granville College. He was about twenty years of age when he first came with his father to Illinois, making the journey in a one-horse wagon, but after four or five months spent here, he returned to Ohio, while his father remained in this state. In 1854 our subject again came to Illinois, and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of raw prairie land in Clyde township, Whiteside county. He was married in 1860 and for three years thereafter he made his home in his native county, but at the end of that time he took up his residence permanently in this county. He engaged in stock raising quite extensively, shipping two or three car loads of stock each year, but his principal business was that of loaning money. At the time of his death he owned the home farm of two hundred and forty acres in Clyde.





*George Smith*



ness activity. Of this class the subject of this sketch was a notable representative, his financial operations assuming breadth and scope which indicate the determination, persistence, sound judgment and power of combination which distinguish the born leader of men.

Mr. Smith was born in Templeton, Massachusetts, February 10, 1810, and was of good old Puritan stock. The early home of the family was in Ipswich, Massachusetts, but our subject's grandparents, Nathan and Nancy (Lamson) Smith, were both born in Mt. Vernon, New Hampshire, the former in 1777, the latter in 1782. They had only two sons, Nathan, Jr., and Leander. The father, who was a woolen manufacturer and also a farmer, removed to Templeton, Massachusetts, at an early day, and in 1838 to Royalston, that state, where he died in 1849, his wife in 1854.

Leander Smith remained upon the home farm until sixteen years of age, when he entered the academy at New Ipswich, New Hampshire. He acquired a good elementary education and at the age of seventeen commenced teaching school, a profession which he followed for six years. In the meantime he took up the study of medicine and matriculated at the medical department of Dartmouth College, from which he was graduated with the degree of M. D., in 1842, at the age of twenty-three years. For three years he was successfully engaged in practice at Richmond, Vermont, but not being satisfied with the scope of profession and in order to extend his business relations he went to Tioga county, Pennsylvania, where the lumber resources of the place were being developed and it seemed to offer a more promising field for the exercise of abilities and ambition such as Mr. Smith

possessed. He located at Elkland, and from 1845 to 1853 was identified with varied interests in the county. His professional skill won him a large and lucrative practice, and his energy and financial ability were brought to bear on other lines of business which he conducted with all the ardor demanded by the exigencies of the location. He entered heavily into the lumber business and was interested in mercantile trade of considerable proportions.

Exciting reports of the gold discoveries on the Pacific coast reached him and in March, 1849, Dr. Smith joined the argonauts of California. At that time Sacramento was a village of tents and San Francisco contained but a few houses. The government was very poor as the rapid influx of all kinds of people set aside law and order and each man seemed to rule himself. Mr. Smith engaged in prospecting on the north fork of the American river for a year and rendered efficient aid to the administration of measures to secure protection of the people, the government being in a formative condition and dependent on the efficiency of authorities constituted irregularly in the absence of a systematic government.

After a year spent in California, where he met with good success, Dr. Smith returned to Pennsylvania in 1850 and resumed his former duties and business relations. Under the same impetus which led him to that state, he went to Vinton, Benton county, Iowa, in 1853, established practice and was soon extensively identified with the general interests of the place. He owned a large tract of government land, upon which he platted a part of Vinton. A year later he went to Lyons, Iowa, and engaged in practice and business there until 1856, when he came to Fulton, Whiteside county, Illi-

nois. Here he devoted his time to financial projects and enterprises, and was extensively engaged in the manufacture and sale of lumber for ten years. He purchased large tracts of government land in Wisconsin and Minnesota, from which he cut the timber, and then sold the land to the settlers. In 1856 he established the banking house of Smith, Root & Company, of which he owned a controlling interest until 1864, in which year the financial institution of L. Smith & Company was established at Morrison. In 1865 the latter was converted into the First National Bank, of which he was president and A. J. Jackson, cashier. In 1876 he became a resident of Morrison, and two years later founded the banking house of Smith & Mackay. Mr. Smith was also interested in the real estate business and owned and helped improve two thousand acres of land in this county besides several thousand acres in Iowa, Nebraska, Wisconsin and Minnesota. He was conceded to be at the head of finances in this county.

On the 18th of August, 1843, at Richmond, New Hampshire, Mr. Smith married Miss Elizabeth Parkhurst, a daughter of Dr. John Parkhurst, of that place. She died at Elkland, Pennsylvania, January 31, 1851, and he was again married, May 2, 1855, his second union being with Miss Dolly A. Allen, a native of Cortland, New York. To them were born six children, namely: Alice; Frank L.; Lewis W.; Edward A., a member of the firm of L. Smith & Son, and now president of the First National Bank of Morrison; and Harry W.

In 1868, Mr. Smith again visited California and noted the remarkable changes that had taken place in that state since his mining operations there. Socially he was a

member of the Masonic lodge at Fulton. He was reared a Jeffersonian Democrat and supported that party until 1848, when he became identified with the Free Soil movement and voted for Van Buren. In 1856 he espoused the cause of the Republican party and continued one of its earnest supporters. In religious sentiment he favored the Baptist church, but was tolerant of all bodies based on Christianity and was generous to all. He took quite an active and prominent part in public affairs, and while at Fulton was elected to the state Legislature in 1862 and again in 1864. He was an able legislator, was a member of the committees on banks, corporations, state institutions and others of less importance, and introduced a number of important bills, one of which was for the building of the Rockford, Rock Island & St. Louis Railroad, now a part of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy system. For a number of years he was a member of the city council of Fulton and also city treasurer, and was alderman in Morrison for a time. On the organization of the College of Northern Illinois at Fulton, he was made a member of the board of trustees and was treasurer of the same until his death, with the exception of one year, having entire charge of its endowment fund. He died August 7, 1889, honored and respected by all who knew him.

**J**ASON C. BOOTH, the present commander of Alpheus Post, G. A. R., of Morrison, is one of the honored veterans of the Civil war whose devotion to his country was tested not only by his service on the field of battle but in the still more deadly dangers of a southern prison.

This gallant soldier was born in Sin-



clairsville, Belmont county, Ohio, March 17, 1843, a son of Caleb Evans and Lucinda (Cobb) Booth. The father was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, November 7, 1807, and at an early day removed with his father, Edmond Booth, to Ohio. The latter came to this country as a British soldier during the Revolutionary war and took part in the battle of Bunker Hill, but after serving for two years with his countrymen, he was captured by the American forces and later joined the Sixth Maryland Regiment, as a member of the company commanded first by Captain Harvest and later by Captain Duff. After the war he settled in Cecil county, Maryland, where all of his children were born with the exception of the father of our subject. From there he removed to Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, later to Sinclairville, Ohio, and finally to Nashville, Holmes county, Ohio, where he died in 1836, at the advanced age of ninety-two years. Throughout life he worked at his trade as a stocking weaver. In Sinclairville, Caleb E. Booth, father of our subject, learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed until two years prior to his death. For some years he made his home in Wheeling, West Virginia, and was a man of considerable prominence in his community. He served as justice of the peace for two years, and was deputy sheriff of Sinclairville. He died in March, 1854, but his wife long survived him, passing away in Morrison, Illinois, March 9, 1891. She was born in Columbiana county, Ohio, October 13, 1811, and was a daughter of Pleasant and Amy (Terrill) Cobb, the former born November 5, 1790, the latter November 8, 1766. Her father was quite well off, having had large landed interest in Columbiana

county, and on his removal to that place from Richmond, Carolina county, Virginia, took with him a number of slaves. Mrs. Booth was reared in the Quaker faith, but after her marriage both she and her husband united with the Methodist Episcopal church.

As a contractor the father lived in different places, but principally at Wheeling, and in the common schools of those places our subject was educated. On the President's first call for three months men to assist in putting down the rebellion he enlisted in Company E, First West Virginia Volunteer Infantry, under Col. B. F. Kelley, and later re-enlisted for three years in Company A of the same regiment, commanded by Col. Joseph Thoburn. He was all through the campaign in the Shenandoah valley, his first engagement being the battle of Winchester, where Stonewall Jackson was defeated. At Port Republic he was taken prisoner, June 9, 1862, and after being confined for three months in the prison at Lynchburg, Virginia, was sent to Belle Isle, where he was finally liberated. He was then taken twelve miles to Aikens Landing, on the James river, by boat to Baltimore and by railroad to Washington, D. C., where the soldiers were given a feast. Mr. Booth's health was entirely broken down and he was ill with typhoid fever in a hospital at Washington for some time, after which he was sent to the convalescent camp at Alexandria. He finally returned to Wheeling on parole, and spent a short time at home before rejoining his regiment at North Mountain, West Virginia, where they remained from December, 1863, until Lee made his raid, in June of the following year. They crossed into Maryland, fording the Potomac near Hancock at night,

and arrived at Petersburg about the 1st of September. While there our subject was one of two hundred detailed, September 10, 1863, to capture a small band of rebels encamped near Moorfield, and in the engagement was wounded in the left thigh. After lying for some time where he was injured he was taken to the home of a rebel and it was two days before his wound was dressed. His brother, who was with him, finally got a man to take him to a hotel in Moorefield, eleven miles outside of the Union lines. Later he was taken by wagon to Petersburg, a distance of eleven miles. At this time his leg was again broken and he came very nearly losing the limb. On the approach of General Early with his army the other soldiers left, leaving our subject alone with his mother, who had secured a pass through the lines and had come to care for him. They were unmolested by Early, and when the Union troops returned they were taken in an ambulance to New Creek. Mr. Booth was given a thirty days' furlough and returned to Wheeling. At the end of that time the surgeon would not allow him to rejoin the regiment, and as his term of enlistment expired September 19, he was discharged October 19, 1864.

In 1865, Mr. Booth went to Columbiana county, Ohio, where he attended school for a time, and then started to learn the carriage-maker's trade, but on account of his injured leg he was unable to follow the same. He lived in Alliance, Ohio, until 1866, then in Canton until 1872, when he removed to Cleveland, the same state. With his brother he came to Prophetstown, Illinois, but at the end of a year returned to Cleveland, and did not locate permanently in this state until 1876, when he brought his mother to Prophetstown. Subsequently

he lived for a time in Como, and spent three months in Chicago, after which he came to Morrison, where, in 1880, he purchased the residence which has since been his home. He was married in 1889, to Miss Isabel Hopton, of Barnesville, Ohio, who was born near Woodsfield, Monroe county, that state, and is a daughter of Edward Hopton, of Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Booth both hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church, and he affiliates with the Republican party and is a prominent member of Alpheus Clark Post, G. A. R., of which he is now master.

**HENRY E. HELMS.** Only those lives are worthy of record that have been potential factors in the public progress, in promoting the general welfare or advancing the educational or moral interests of the community. Mr. Helms was ever faithful to his duties of citizenship, and by the successful conduct of his business interests not only promoted his individual prosperity but also advanced the general prosperity.

He was born in Hanover, Germany, in 1833, and came to America in 1853, settling in Whiteside county, Illinois, two years later. On his arrival in the new world he was not only without capital, but was unfamiliar with the English language, but being ambitious, enterprising and energetic, he soon acquired an excellent knowledge of English, and before his death became one of the prosperous and influential men of his community.

In 1860, Mr. Helms was united in marriage with Miss Lucy Gould, who was born in Lexington, Massachusetts, March 3, 1838, a daughter of Thomas C. and Sarah (Locke) Gould, also natives of that state. The

Locke family is of English origin, and was founded in the new world at a very early day, ancestors of Mrs. Gould having been buried at Lexington, Massachusetts, since 1669. Mrs. Helm's paternal grandparents were Thomas and Abigail (Chase) Gould, also representatives of old Massachusetts families. In 1837 Thomas C. Gould came to Whiteside county, leaving the family in Massachusetts, but in 1840 he returned to Massachusetts and started west with the family, arrived here in January, 1841, and took up their residence in Whiteside county, Illinois, where the father afterward purchased a tract of land and successfully engaged in farming. Upon that place he died in 1876, and his wife passed away in 1897, honored and respected by all who knew them. In their family were four children, two sons and two daughters, namely: Thomas C., a resident of Lyndon township, Whiteside county; Sarah L., widow of John Hazard, by whom she had two children, Jessie, wife of William Lohr; John G., a resident of Rock Island; Lucy, now Mrs. Helms and Harvey, who died in infancy. Mrs. Helms was only three years of age when brought by her parents to this county, and here she grew to womanhood and was married. Of her five children, one died in infancy; Albert E. married Samanta L. Crits and lives in Arizona; Emily T. is the wife of Charles A. Hamilton, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume; Cora E. is the wife of William Millikan, of Joplin, Missouri, and they have one child, Emily T.; and John W. lives with his brother-in-law, Mr. Hamilton; Bertha, daughter of Kate and Deidrick Brandes, lived with Mrs. Helms from the age of eight years until she was married, in June, 1899, to H. W. Baldridge, a minister of Indiana. She was edu-

cated at a normal school and engaged in teaching prior to her marriage.

As a farmer Mr. Helms met with most excellent success, and became the owner of a valuable place of two hundred and forty acres, which he kept under a high state of cultivation and in first-class order. His time was devoted to stock raising and general farming and he was numbered among the best agriculturists of his locality. On locating on his farm it was only partially improved, but he soon transformed it into one of the most desirable places of its size in the county. He died February 18, 1899, and up to the time of his death continued to carry on his farm.

Mr. Helms was one of the most public-spirited and enterprising men of his community, and took deep interest in all things for its betterment. He was a recognized leader in Lyndon township and a strong Republican in politics, being often sent as a delegate to the county conventions of his party and several times to the state conventions. He was a prominent member of lodge No. 750, F. & A. M., and of the commandery at Sterling, and at the time of his death all neighboring lodges sent letters of condolence to the family. Those who knew him best speak in unqualified terms of his uprightness and integrity in business affairs, and his willingness to aid any enterprise for the public good. Mrs. Helms, an estimable lady, of many sterling qualities, is still living in the same house with her son-in-law, Charles A. Hamilton.

**M**RS. SARAH M. WHITE, who resides on section 4, Lyndon township, traces her ancestry back several generations, being of Scotch extraction on her father's side,

and of English on her mother's. She was born in Craftsbury, Orleans county, Vermont, September 21, 1818, and is a daughter of Nehemiah M. and Sally (Durrell) Lyon, the former a native of Woodstock, Connecticut, born November 25, 1789, and the latter a native of Concord, New Hampshire, born October 27, 1788. They were married in Craftsbury, Vermont, February 27, 1814, and to them were born eight children, all of whom reached maturity. Royal C. married Betsy Wilkins, and they were the parents of six children—Willard, Sarah, Dow, Delight, Virginia and Emma. Of these, Virginia and Delight are deceased. Royal C. Lyon was born in 1814, and died in 1873. He first lived in Lodi, Medina county, Ohio, from which place he removed with his family to Michigan, where his death occurred. Baxter, born in 1816, married Sarah A. Vaughn, by whom he had eight children: Sylvester, Martha (deceased), Marcus, Edwin (deceased), Dwight, Frank (deceased), Rhoda (deceased), Ella and Cora. After a separation, he later married Mrs. Jane Ritter, *ne* Stewart, a widow lady, by whom he had two children: William (deceased), and Myrtie. He also lived for a time in Medina county, Ohio, but afterwards came to Whiteside county, and later moved to Newton, Kansas, where he died in 1889. Sarah M. is the subject of this sketch. William H., born in 1821, married Harriet Persons, and to them were born Royal M., Harriet, Sarah, deceased; Jennie, Ada and Ida, the two last named being twins, Ada now being deceased. William H. never came west, but died in Craftsbury, Vermont, in 1872. Augustus, born in 1823, married Mary Widdleton, and they had four children, the first born dying in infancy. The others were May, Angie and

Frank. The family made their home in Massachusetts for some years and then removed to Peoria, Illinois. Judah, born in 1825, married Laurinda Ketchum, and they have seven children: Chauncy, deceased; Chauncy, Celestia and Caroline, twins, the former being deceased; George, deceased; Royal and Ed. From Craftsbury, Vermont, Judah moved with his family to Lodi, Ohio, a few years later to Lyndon township, then to Wisconsin and later to Etna, Washington, and there died. Marcus, born in 1828, never married. He came to Whiteside county, and died in 1858, being killed in a runaway. Martha, the twin sister of Marcus, born in 1828, first married Thaddeus Leonard, by whom she had one daughter, Susan E. Her husband dying, she later married Charles Ristew, and is now living in Sterling. They have four children: Charles F., in Chicago; Sarah, deceased; Julia M. and Minnie.

Nehemiah Lyon, the paternal grandfather of our subject, was born October 9, 1753, and April 16, 1778, married Betty Bugbee, who was born July 6, 1753. They were the parents of nine children: Hitty, Walter, Baxter, Betty, Lucretia, Sally, Nehemiah, Walter (second) and Benjamin. Lemuel Durrell, the maternal grandfather of Mrs. White, and father of Sally Lyon, was a lieutenant in the Revolutionary war.

Sarah M. Lyon grew to womanhood in her native state, and on the 14th of May, 1845, was united in marriage with Ruel Hurlburt, who was born December 27, 1819, in Clover, Orleans county, Vermont, and by this union four children were born, of whom the first three—Martha L., Marcus M. M. and Nathan H., died in early childhood. Zella E., who was born December 26, 1856, was married December

30, 1874, to Ira H. Slater, who was born near New Laceyville, Susquehanna county, October 3, 1854. His father, Roswell Slater, came to Lyndon, Whiteside county, in 1855. He was a soldier in the Union army, belonging to the Seventy-fifth Illinois Volunteer Regiment, and died in July, 1863. To them have been born five children, as follows: Ruel, born June 5, 1879, died May 20, 1880. Pearl A., born May 20, 1878, was married December 30, 1896, to Fred Ansen, and they have one son, Floyd, born January 26, 1898. Ruby L., born July 1, 1880; Martha V., born February 14, 1882; and John A., born May 16, 1884, are all at home.

Almost immediately after their marriage Ruel Hurlburt and wife came to Whiteside county, arriving here June 19, 1845, and settled on a farm now owned by Mrs. White. Here Mr. Hurlburt engaged in farming, and here all their children were born. At the time of their arrival the country was thinly settled, and there were no roads worthy of the name. The land purchased by Mr. Hurlburt was wild prairie land, on which not a furrow had been turned. He at once commenced the improvement of the place, and in due time had a well improved and well cultivated farm. He continued to farm until his death, April 24, 1860. His death was deeply lamented by his family and their many friends.

In December, 1860, Mr. Hurlburt was united in marriage with Matthew White, who was born in Craftsbury, Vermont, in April, 1821. He was an old schoolmate of Mrs. Hurlburt. They remained on the old homestead, and Mr. White continued to manage the farm until he, too, was called to his reward. He died October 18, 1884,

and our subject was for the second time left a widow. She still remains on the home farm, which consists of one hundred and twenty-five acres of well improved land. She is a consistent member of the Congregational church, and is well known and highly respected in the community which has been her home for more than half a century.

**R**OBERT A. NORRISH. Among the progressive and enterprising farmers of Whiteside county who thoroughly understand their business and pursue the avocation of their chosen calling in a methodical and workmanlike manner, is the subject of this biography. He resides on section 2, Mount Pleasant township, where he owns and operates a valuable farm of three hundred and sixty acres.

Mr. Norrish was born on his pleasant farm, December 18, 1866, and is a son of Robert S. Norrish, of Morrison, who is represented on another page of this volume. After attending the district schools of Mount Pleasant township for some time, he became a student at Beloit College, Beloit, Wisconsin, and later entered the Sterling Business & Phonograph College, at Sterling, Illinois. After completing his education, he returned to the home farm, which he operated with his brother for one year, and then conducted it alone after his father's retirement from business. In the spring of 1899, he purchased the place, which comprises three hundred and sixty acres, and is now carrying it on with marked success. He has always given the greater part of his attention to stock, breeding some and feeding more, and usually ships to the city markets about four car loads of cattle each year and

two of hogs. He is also interested in horses, principally coach horses, and generally has upon his place from twenty-five to thirty head. He is a man of good business ability, energetic and progressive, and generally carries forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes.

On the 5th of February, 1892, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Norrish and Gertrude Harnham, who was born in Ustick township, Whiteside county, February 3, 1871, and is a daughter of John C. and Jane (Ridley) Harnham, natives of Lincolnshire, England, who are now living on section 34, Ustick township, honored and highly respected citizens of that community. Our subject and his wife have one child, Frank Parnham, born September 10, 1895. Mrs. Norrish is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, of Morrison, and both she and her husband are held in high regard by all who have the pleasure of their acquaintance. He is not identified with any particular political party but casts his ballot in favor of those candidates which he believes best qualified to fill the offices.

**G**EORGE W. BIRT, a representative farmer of Whiteside county, who owns and operates a well improved and highly cultivated farm of one hundred and sixty-four acres on section 17, Ustick township, was born February 1, 1858, in the same township, about a half mile from his present home. His father, Henry J. Birt, was born in Gloucestershire, England, in 1825, and was a son of George W. Birt, a native of the same county and a weaver by trade, being employed in the silk mills of England in early life. After his emigration to America, he worked in woolen mills in New

Hampshire until 1841, when he and his son Henry J. came to Whiteside county, Illinois, passing through Chicago when it was a mere hamlet. They took up land in Clyde township, but after residing there for a few years removed to Ustick township, where the grandparents both died. In their family were six children.

Henry J. Birt was quite small when brought by his parents to the new world and was only sixteen years of age when the family came to this county. Here he married Miss Louisa Craiton, who was born in Ohio of German parentage. By this union four children were born: (1) Mary is the wife of W. D. Yopst, a mason of Albany, Illinois, and they have three children. (2) Ella, a resident of Independence, Iowa, first married Albert Harn, by whom she had two children, and is now the widow of Daniel Blue, by whom she had one child. (3) George W., our subject, is the next of the family. (4) Alfred C., who lives on the old homestead in Ustick township, married Hepsie Stowell and has three children. Throughout life the father engaged in agricultural pursuits, making a specialty of stock raising. He died April 14, 1887, and his wife passed away January 29, 1895. Both were earnest and consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and in politics he was first a Republican, but later voted independently.

Our subject received his education in the district schools of Ustick township, and remained under the parental roof until his marriage, which was celebrated February 5, 1877, Miss Nellie Farwell becoming his wife. She was born in this county, September 3, 1859, and is a daughter of Solomon and Margaret (Plank) Farwell, both natives of Denmark, Lewis county, New York, the

former born January 11, 1827, the latter September 21, 1828. Her grandfathers, Solomon Farwell, Sr., and John Plank, both spent their entire lives in the Empire state. The father, who was a carpenter by trade, came to Whiteside county, Illinois, in 1855, and located in Unionville, where he worked at that occupation for a few years. He then purchased land in Ustick township and turned his attention to farming, but is now living retired in Unionville. His wife is still living and with one exception all of their nine children still survive, Mrs. Birt being the fifth in order of birth. To our subject and his wife have been born eight children: William E., born March 26, 1880, Lula, born April 11, 1882; George H., born August 26, 1884; Emma, born November 22, 1886; Millie Dale, born May 3, 1889; Lee H., born March 16, 1893; Nellie M., born February 5, 1895; and Ella L., born May 28, 1897. All are still living and are at home with the exception of Millie Dale, who died September 18, 1893.

Mr. and Mrs. Birt began their domestic life upon his present farm in the home he had previously built, and there he has since successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising, keeping on hand a good grade of horses, cattle and hogs. Politically he is thoroughly independent, always voting for the men whom he believes best qualified to fill the offices, regardless of party ties.

**E**DWIN WATERS PAYNE, an honored veteran of the Civil war and a prominent citizen of Morrison, where he has made his home since October, 1865, was born in East Lebanon, New Hampshire, February 8, 1837, and is a worthy representative of an old and distinguished New England

family, which was founded in America by Thomas Paine (as the name was then spelled), who came to this country from England and was made a freeman of Eastham, Massachusetts, in 1639. His son, Elisha Paine, was born at that place, and there he was married, January 20, 1685, to Rebecca Doane. Four years later they removed to Canterbury, Connecticut. His brother, John Paine, was one of the ancestors of John Howard Payne, the author of Home-Sweet Home. Rev. Elisha Payne, son of Elisha and Rebecca (Doane) Paine, was born in Eastham, Massachusetts, December 29, 1693, while his parents were there on a visit. He was a minister of the Separatists church and was imprisoned five different times for preaching the gospel without a license from the established church. He was a noted evangelist, preaching in several different colonies, and devoted his entire time to the work after 1742, prior to which time he was a distinguished attorney of Connecticut November 24, 1720, to Mary Johnson, and died at Bridgehampton, Long Island, August 26, 1775.

Colonel Elisha Paine, son of Rev. Elisha and Mary (Johnson) Payne, was born in Canterbury, March 7, 1730, and was a brother-in-law of Colonel Aaron Cleveland, of Revolutionary fame. In 1774, Colonel Payne removed to East Lebanon, New Hampshire, of which place he became a prominent lawyer and successful farmer. He held the rank of lieutenant, colonel in King George's Thirteenth Regiment, New Hampshire Militia, and took a very active and influential part in public affairs and in the politics of his state. He was one of the most prominent men of New Hampshire for some years, was dean of Dartmouth College, and lieutenant-governor of Ver-

ment in 1784, on the organization of the state. He died in East Lebanon, July 20, 1807. He married Anna Waldo, April 12, 1753. She died May 15, 1759, in Connecticut. For his second wife he married, May 20, 1762, Elizabeth Spaulding, of Plainfield, Connecticut, who died in East Lebanon, New Hampshire, August 29, 1809. Their son William, the grandfather of our subject, was born in Plainfield, Connecticut, September 18, 1772, but the greater part of his life was spent in East Lebanon, New Hampshire, where he followed farming. At Killingly, Connecticut, he was married March 19, 1807, to Ruth Waters, who died October 13, 1849, and his death occurred in East Lebanon, January 24, 1826. Her father, Daniel Waters, was a lieutenant in the Fifth Connecticut Infantry during the Revolutionary war and served two terms of enlistment. Through him our subject is eligible to membership in the Society of Sons of the American Revolution.

William Payne, Jr., father of our subject, was born in East Lebanon, New Hampshire, February 15, 1808, and there grew to manhood and was educated. On the 8th of November, 1832, he married Miss Eliza Wells, who was born in the same place, January 16, 1808, a daughter of Reuben and Polly (Sweetland) Wells, also representative, of old New England families. William Payne followed farming in his native state until 1838, when he came to Vergennes, Jackson county, Illinois, and purchased a tract of wild land on which he made his home until coming to Albany, Whiteside county, in 1845. Subsequently he removed to Newton township and entered government land, upon which he engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1873, owning and operating a fine farm of two

hundred acres. He was called upon to fill several township offices. In 1873 he laid aside active labor and removed to Morrison, where he lived retired until his death, which occurred November 16, 1892. His wife died November 17, 1895. They were faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and he served as class leader and steward in both the church at Morrison and in the country. Of the seven sons born to them, three died in early life: Allen W. died April 6, 1848; Charles A. died April 18, 1848; and George H. died February 16, 1848. The others were all soldiers of the Civil war; William A., now a resident of Morrison, was captain of Company F, Ninety-third Illinois Volunteer Infantry; Edwin Waters, our subject, and Lucian Augustine, now of Hastings, Nebraska, were members of Company A, Thirty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry; and Ira Arthur was sergeant in the same company, of which his brother, William A., was captain, and was killed in the battle of Missionary Ridge, November 25, 1863.

Edwin Waters Payne, of this review, was educated in the common schools of this state and the Mt. Morris Seminary. He assisted in the work of the home farm until nineteen years of age and then took up the carpenter's trade, which he followed for five years and a half or until his enlistment, August 25, 1861, soon after the first call for three years' men. He was one of the original sergeants of his company and filled that position until discharged April 7, 1865. With the Army of the Cumberland he participated in the battles of Shiloh and Liberty Gap, and was all through the Atlanta campaign, including the engagements at Resaca, Rome, Kenesaw Mountain and Jonesboro, and constant skirmishing for four months.



In 1862 he was detailed in the recruiting service and was connected with that department for four months. At Jonesboro, September 1, 1864, during the last battle fought for the possession of Atlanta, he lost his right arm, and was sent to the hospital in Atlanta, where he remained until the 23d of October. He arrived home November 4, but gangrene set in and the arm had to be re-amputated November 21. On the 1st of March, 1865, he left home to join his regiment at Goldsboro, North Carolina, expecting to serve as lieutenant, but was not accepted on account of the loss of his arm, and was soon discharged. On his way home he stopped in Washington, being in that city on the night of President Lincoln's assassination.

Locating in Morrison in 1865, Mr. Payne served as deputy county clerk for four years, and was then elected county clerk, which office he most creditably and acceptably filled for twenty-five years—the longest period any one ever held office in this county. During his incumbency the business of the office was largely increased, and he was the first to occupy the new office rooms and arrange them. He was also one of the aldermen of the city for six years, and during his first term of two years the water works were established. On the expiration of his term, December 3, 1894, he opened an insurance and real estate office in Morrison, and now represents a number of important companies and is doing a good business in that line. He loans money on farm lands and for the past three years has been special tax examiner and has paid taxes for the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company in Illinois.

On the 14th of February, 1884, Mr. Payne was united in marriage with Miss

Cornelia Hudson, who died April 13, 1882, leaving no children. He was again married, December 30, 1884, his second union being with Miss Letitia Happer, by whom he has one son, Edwin Happer, born September 21, 1887. They have a pleasant home on North street, and are active and prominent members of the Presbyterian church, of which Mr. Payne is now a trustee. He is also a prominent member of Alpheus Clark post, No. 118, of which he has been commander one term and quartermaster three terms. He is widely known and is quite a popular and influential citizen of his community. At his first election he received all but eleven votes cast in the county, and at another time all but fifteen, and with one exception was always elected without any exertion on his part.

**F**RANK E. FITCH. Among the progressive, energetic and successful farmers and stock raisers of Whiteside county, who thoroughly understand the vocation which they follow, and are consequently enabled to carry on their calling with profit to themselves, is the subject of this sketch. He is actively engaged in agricultural pursuits on section 15, Lyndon township, where he owns a fine farm of two hundred and eighty-two acres.

Mr. Fitch was born in the same township, November 21, 1852. His father, George W. Fitch, was born in Pike, Bradford county, Pennsylvania, February 21, 1822, and when young removed with his parents to Ohio, where the family made their home for a few years. In 1837, at the age of fifteen years, he came to Whiteside county, Illinois, and took up his residence in the western part of Lyndon township. The

country at that time was very new and unsettled, and surrounded by primitive pioneer scenes he grew to manhood. On attaining his majority he purchased a farm of the government. He successfully engaged in farming up to within a few years of his death, which occurred August 10, 1887. He retired from active labor but still resided on his farm. During his business career he was also a prominent and successful stock buyer, and was one of the popular and influential men of his community. In politics he was a Republican, and for one year he filled the office of supervisor. On the 4th of February, 1845, he was united in marriage with Miss Ellen D. Millikan, who was born in Stockbridge, Massachusetts, March 24, 1825, a daughter of Daniel F. and Aurelia (Pease) Millikan, natives of Washington and Stockbridge, Massachusetts, respectively. From that state they removed to Ohio, where they lived for eight years, and in 1838 came to Whiteside county, Illinois, locating in Lyndon, where their home was the third or fourth building erected in the village. Her father was a shoemaker by trade but also followed farming to a limited extent. He died August 18, 1879, and his wife passed away March 20, 1875.

Of the eight children born to George W. and Ellen D. (Millikan) Fitch, three died young. Robert H. died at the age of twenty-two years. Flora A. married Charles Abernethy, of Fairmount, Nebraska, and died March 18, 1895, leaving one child, Winnifred, who is now living with an aunt in Nebraska, while her father is in California with his parents. Frank E., our subject, is the next of the family. Emily A. first married Judson Pollard, by whom she had one child, Genevieve, and is now the

wife of A. Megrew, of Denver, Colorado. Nellie A. is the wife of Walter D. Ambler, who is engaged in the dry goods and grocery business in Weeping Water, Nebraska.

Frank E. Fitch was educated in the Lyndon school, and remained at home, working for his father most of the time until he came into possession of the old homestead by purchase in the spring of 1884. He has since added many improvements to the place, and is successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising, giving particular attention to the latter branch of his business.

On the 18th of July, 1883, Mr. Fitch was married to Miss Carrie M. Sweatt, who was born in Canon City, Minnesota, September 20, 1864, a daughter of Meltiah C. and Cynthia (Amy) Sweatt, natives of the New England states. They had seven children, of whom two died in infancy; Orlando J. is a mason of Osakis, Minnesota; Clarence A. is a carpenter of North Dakota; Elroy E. is a farmer of Osakis, Minnesota; Carrie M. is the wife of our subject, and Arthur, also a resident of Osakis, wedded Mary Judkins, and they have two children, Frank and Percy. Mr. Sweatt died April 1, 1897, and his wife departed this life November 25, 1896. Mr. and Mrs. Fitch have two children: Flora A., born in 1885, and Genevieve, born in 1899.

Although Mr. Fitch still lives upon his farm, he has rented the place since 1894, and has practically laid aside business cares and is living retired. He casts his ballot with the Republican party, but has never aspired to any political prominence. Religiously his wife is a member of the Congregational church, and he is highly respected and esteemed by all with whom he comes in contact.

REV. JAMES W. SKINNER. Only the history of the good and great comes down to us through the ages. The true religion has been the strongest influence known to man through all time, while the many false doctrines that have sprung up have flourished only for a day and then vanished. More potent at the present time than at any period in the world's history are the work and influence of Christianity, and among those who are devoting their lives to its inculcation among men is Mr. Skinner, the honored pastor of the Presbyterian church at Morrison. He is one of the leading ministers of that denomination in this section of the state, and his life is a source of inspiration and encouragement to all who know him.

Mr. Skinner was born in Versailles, Kentucky, October 11, 1855, a son of Thomas and Jane (Biggar) Skinner. The father was born in Ayre, Scotland, on the estate of the Duke of Bandean, where the grandfather, Thomas Skinner, Sr., was employed as a gardener. The former was educated in the schools of Edinburg, and under his father's able instruction learning gardening, serving his apprenticeship upon the Duke's estate. He came to America in 1850 as a landscape gardener and was employed to lay out the estate of Robert Alexander at Woodford, Kentucky, who was one of the most prominent stockmen of that state in early days. He remained with him for some years, during which time he was married at Lexington, Kentucky, to Miss Jane Biggar, a native of Dumfries-shire, Scotland. Her father, William Biggar, was a Manxman, being one of the old settlers of the little independent island, known as the Isle of Man, before it was attached to Great Britain. After his death, his daughter, Mrs. Skinner,

came to America in 1847, and six years later gave her hand in marriage to the father of our subject. They continued to live upon the Alexander estate for some time and there our subject was born. Later the father owned a fine large nursery at Maysville, Kentucky, and not only supplied many with fruit trees in that state, but had agents scattered throughout Missouri as well. He was one of the first to engage in the business in Kentucky and continued in successful operation there all through the war and up till 1877, when he went with his son to Hiawatha, Brown county, Kansas, where he died in 1897. His estimable wife is still living in that state. For many years he was an active and consistent member of the Presbyterian church and held the office of elder for a quarter of a century. He also took an active interest in the Sunday-school and every department of church work.

Mr. Skinner, of this sketch, began his education at a private school in Maysville, taught by his uncle, William Richardson, who was the Kentuckian that whipped General Grant as a school boy under him. He remained for college at Danville, Kentucky, and engaged in teaching there for a time. He pursued a three years course of study at Centre College, Danville, where he was graduated in 1880, with the degree of B. A. and M. A., and later attended the Theological Seminary at that place for two years, but completed his preparation for the ministry at Princeton College in 1853.

The same year Mr. Skinner was called to a mission in Terre Haute, Indiana, and was there ordained Wednesday, September 2, 1883. He organized the mission into a church, which was first known as the Moffat church and later as the Washington Street church. Two years later locating there the

church became selfsupporting through his untiring labors, and they purchased an old church building. The membership steadily increased, and on leaving there in October, 1886, the church was in a strong and flourishing condition. That fall he accepted a call to the church in Morrison and was installed as pastor the following spring. There has since been a marked increase in membership, which has doubled. This is partly due to the disbanding of the Congregational church, but to a great extent to the influence and teachings of our subject. The church edifice has been remodeled and a fine pipe organ put in.

On the 12th of October, 1884, Mr. Skinner was united in marriage with Miss Julia Barfield, a daughter of Castillo Barfield, of Lexington, Kentucky. She is a graduate of Sayre Institute of that city, and was a teacher in a young ladies' seminary at Danville, holding the chair of Latin and Greek, and also mathematics. Mr. and Mrs. Skinner have two children, Julia F. and Jane N.

**HENRY D. HEATH** is the owner of a fine farm of one hundred acres lying in sections 19 and 30, Hopkins township. He was born on the farm where he now resides December 29, 1852. His father, Ira Heath, was born in Berkshire county, Massachusetts, May 22, 1818, while his grandfather, William Heath, was a native of the same county and state, born July 26, 1779. The latter married Olive Brown, who was born April 16, 1781. They were the parents of twelve children, as follows: Alvin, born in 1805; Samantha, in 1807; Caroline, in 1808; Laura, in 1809; Ransom, in 1810; Thetes, in 1813; Lucian R., in 1815; Will-

iam, in 1816; Iva, in 1818; Russell B., in 1820; Philenia, in 1822; and Heman, in 1825. The children are now all deceased.

In 1840 Ira Heath married Mary A. Harmon, who was born February 22, 1822, and the daughter of Walter and Azubah (Hyde) Harmon, both of whom were born in 1805 in Berkshire county, Massachusetts. They were the parents of five children, two of whom died in infancy. Those who grew to maturity were Porter J., who died in Dakota in 1897; Mary A., the mother of our subject; and William, living in Hopkins township. Mr. and Mrs. Ira Heath were married in Massachusetts, and in 1846 came to Whiteside county, Illinois. For about four years after his arrival he worked at odd jobs, but in 1849 purchased the farm where our subject now resides. They were the parents of five children: George W., born December 7, 1841, married Electa Fellows, who was born in 1846. His death occurred September 13, 1875. Samantha C. married Henry Clark, and they moved to Iowa, where her death occurred May 17, 1872. Rosella A. died when two years of age. Henry D. is the subject of this sketch. Frank died in infancy. An adopted daughter, Martha L. Figures, was married in 1876 to N. J. Cole, of Morrison, but died July 23, 1877, when nineteen years old. Ira Heath continued to engage in farming until his death in 1886. He was a member of the Baptist church, and in politics was a Republican. His wife survived him and makes her home with her son, Henry D. Her paternal grandfather, John Hyde, was a soldier in the Revolutionary army. The family was of English descent.

The subject of this sketch was reared on the home farm, and assisted his father in its cultivation until he was twenty-one years

old, in the meantime attending the public schools as the opportunity was afforded him, which was principally in the winter months. On the 25th of December, 1877, he was united in marriage with Miss Jennie Dickey, who was born June 16, 1860, in Venango county, Pennsylvania, and daughter of David D. and Margaret (Hayes) Dickey, who were also natives of Pennsylvania and the parents of ten children, seven of whom are yet living. Ira died when young. Leah married David G. Lindsley, by whom she had thirteen children, eleven yet living. She died in Hopkins township in 1898. Emma died when twenty years old. Nelson H. married E. Jennie Mayberry, and they have two children, Blanche and Vivian G. They reside in Sterling. John married Maggie Windland, and they reside in Clay county, Illinois. Anderson D. married Mary Eveland, and their seven children are David, May, Harmon, Eunice, Viola, Daisy and a baby. They reside in North Hume. Jennie is the wife of our subject. Charles married F. Annie Bryson, and they have three children, Ralph, Marie and ———. Their home is in Hume Center. Ezra, unmarried, is living in Allentown, Pennsylvania, where he is principal of a business college. Cyrus W. is living in Sterling, Illinois, where he is in the office of the Keystone Manufacturing Company. The family came to Whiteside county, Mr. Dickey first making a home for them in Como. They later moved to a farm in Hume township, which he purchased and operated for a time. Subsequently he returned to Como, where his death occurred. His widow died in Rock Falls in 1894.

After his marriage Mr. Heath took his young bride to the old homestead, where he was reared and where they still continue to reside. Three children came to bless their

union. Mary L., born December 29, 1878, was married March 15, 1890, to Otto W. Harrison, and they now live in Union Grove township, where Mr. Harrison is engaged in farming. Clark F., born September 16, 1880, is now telegraph operator at Fulton Junction. Raymond H., born June 20, 1885, is at home. In politics Mr. Heath is a staunch Republican. He has served his district faithfully for a number of years as school director. As a farmer he is a success, and he gives his attention strictly to his business and enjoys the respect of his friends and neighbors.

PETER M. LUDENS, LL. B., a well-known attorney of Morrison, Illinois, was born in Rochester, New York, December 21, 1867, and is a son of John and Dorothy (Vanderburg) Ludens, who were born, reared and married in Holland and came to the United States in May, 1867. They first located at Rochester, New York, where the father engaged in farming, and from there removed to northeastern Wisconsin, and two years later to Fulton, Whiteside county, Illinois, settling here when our subject was about five years old. After operating rented land for a time the father purchased a farm and engaged in agricultural pursuits there until his death, which occurred May 8, 1893. The mother still survives and now makes her home in the city of Fulton.

Our subject is one of the oldest of a family of eight children. His primary education was obtained in the common schools of Fulton, and later he became a student in the Northern Illinois College at that place, taking first an elective course and subsequently a course in the law department.

In the meantime he worked on the farm through the summer months and in this way paid his own way through college. He was graduated with the degree of LL. B. in 1893, and then spent a year or more in the law office of Mr. McMann, of Fulton. In 1894 he was appointed deputy circuit clerk by L. E. Tuttle, and during the two years he filled that position he had ample opportunity to examine the records and other documents prepared by different lawyers, which has proved of great benefit to him in his professional career. On resigning his position he entered upon practice alone and opened an office in Morrison in 1897. Having already become favorably known, he soon picked up a good practice and is now one of the promising young attorneys of the city. He is an able and successful lawyer engaged in general practice. He attends and supports the Methodist Episcopal church, and is a member of Anchor lodge, No. 120, K. P.

**J**OHAN H. GRAY, M. D., is one of the most successful homeopathic physicians of northwestern Illinois, and a prominent resident of Morrison. He has much natural ability, but is withal a close student and believes thoroughly in the maxim "there is no excellence without labor." His devotion to the duties of his profession therefore, combined with a comprehensive understanding of the principles of the science of medicine, has made him a most successful and able practitioner, whose prominence is well deserved.

The Doctor was born in Spencer, Indiana, March 24, 1855, a son of James and Rebecca (McGinnis) Gray. The father was born in Londonderry, Ireland, about 1802,

of Scotch parentage, his father being James Gray, Sr., who was a representative of an old Scotch family, but lived and died in Ireland. The Doctor's father came to the new world when a young man and located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where he was employed for a number of years by the dry goods firm of Blackstock & Company. Later he successfully engaged in the same business on his own account at Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, until the panic of 1837, when he closed out his business and emigrated to Spencer, Indiana, where he was principal of the city schools for a number of years, having been highly educated in Ireland. Subsequently he purchased a farm near Spencer and was extensively and successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits throughout the remainder of his life. He was a consistent member of the Presbyterian church and a Republican in politics. During his residence in Pittsburg, he married Miss Rebecca McGinnis, a native of that place and a daughter of Francis McGinnis, one of its pioneers. To them were born ten children, of whom our subject is the youngest. The mother died in April, 1867, the father in October, 1890, honored and respected by all who knew them.

During his boyhood Dr. Gray attended the common and high schools of Spencer, and at home received considerable private instruction from his father. Later he engaged in teaching school for a number of years, mostly in Carroll and Jo Daviess counties, Illinois, and then took up the study of medicine with Dr. Van Patten, of Mt. Carroll. He attended lectures at the medical department of the University of Iowa and Hahnemann Medical College, Chicago, and was graduated from the latter institution with the degree of M. D., in 1883. Returning to



J. H. GRAY, M. D.





Mt. Carroll, Illinois, he engaged in practice there for one year, and then went to Lincoln, Nebraska, where he remained four years, during which time he was president of the State Homeopathic Society and lectured in the medical department of the University of Nebraska for two winters. He next went to Kansas City, where during the winter of 1888-9 he held the chair of theory and practice in the Kansas City Homeopathic Medical College—the leading chair of the institution—and he also engaged in private at that place. In the spring of 1889 he came to Morrison, and has since been actively and successfully engaged in practice here. He is quite a prominent member of the Rock River Institute of Homeopathy and is also a member of the State Homeopathic Society, and took an active part in the work of those organizations, but his large and constantly increasing practice claims more and more of his attention. He is one of the leading Homeopathic physicians of this section of the state, and he is often called in consultation in the surrounding counties. In former years he wrote largely for medical publications, but this also has had to be curtailed. Socially, he belongs to Dunlap lodge, No. 371, F. & A. M.; Prophetstown chapter, R. A. M.; and Sterling commandery, No. 57, K. T., and at one time he also held membership with the Knights of Pythias and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

Dr. Gray was married June 9, 1885, to Miss Adda L. Mackay, of Morrison, who was born in Carroll county, Illinois, June 13, 1861, and died October 26, 1898, in the faith of the Presbyterian church, of which she was a consistent member. Of the three children born of this union, Duncan Mackay, the eldest, was killed by a railroad train at

Morrison; and Edward Everett died at the age of two years and three months, the only one now living being Adelaide. Mrs. Gray was educated at the Young Ladies' Athenaeum and Conservatory of Music at Jacksonville, Illinois. She was a daughter of Duncan Mackay, who was born in the highlands of Scotland, amid the heather hills of Sutherlandshire, and was reared in a good Christian home, where he aided in the farm work and tended flocks. At the age of twenty-one he came to America to prove his powers of endurance under the adversities that tried his patience and developed his integrity. After battling with difficulties in Nova Scotia and Maine, he sought and found a home in the west, settling in Carroll county, Illinois, in 1840. His industry and rare good judgment soon brought him prosperity. He opened up farms, started manufactories, established banks and gave organic form and system to enterprises that sprang up with the advancement of the country. Throughout northwestern Illinois his name became the synonym of honorable success in every line of business he touched. His character was beyond reproach and his record above the reach of suspicion. The crowning glory of his manhood was religion. Under divine discipline his soul had developed strength. His gentleness was the outgrowth of love and devotion to Christ, in whose service a naturally impetuous disposition was subdued to a tender and patient method of thought, speech and action. He was a consistent Christian and for many years served as elder in the little church at Oakville, his farm residence. His home in Morrison, in later life, was marked by a genial and unostentatious piety. No deserving charity was ever passed by him without recognition. He gave with a free hand to all the causes

the church presented. Park College, to which he gave twenty-five thousand dollars, has a memorial building bearing his name. His benefactions were constant and numerous during life; in dying he failed not to remember the needs of many charities without as well as within the range of the Presbyterian church. Among other tokens of public recognition was his appointment, unsought, as a commissioner from Illinois to the World's Fair at Vienna, where he discharged his duties in an admirable manner without cost to the state. But he preferred the quiet of home life to public positions, and to honors of state the joy and privilege of a private sphere of usefulness, where his influence might tell on the welfare of society and the prosperity of the church. His well rounded life had an appropriate closing. Death, though not unexpected, was sudden, but it found him ready for the call. It was a brief struggle, but it was victory throughout. He died in Morrison, September 5, 1889, in his seventy-eighth year. Truly such a life is worth having been lived, and such lives deserve permanent record on the pages of their country's history, that others, seeing their good works, may follow in their footsteps.

**J**OHAN J. ENTWHISTLE, a thorough and skillful farmer residing on section 34, Ustick township, was born on the 20th of March, 1857, in Jo Daviess county, Illinois, near Elizabeth, in the township of that name. The father was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in August, 1832, and when a small boy came to this state. As soon as old enough he commenced farming and successfully followed that pursuit in Jo Daviess county until 1870, when he

sold his property there and purchased one hundred and twenty acres of improved land in Whiteside county, to which he has added until he now has two hundred and forty acres. He is still living on the original purchase, and is one of the most highly respected men of the community. In politics he is a Republican. In Jo Daviess county, he was married to Miss Ellen Lawton, who was born in New York, and they became the parents of seven children, two of whom died in infancy. The others are as follows: Margaret is the wife of J. D. Odlin, of Union Grove township, Whiteside county, and they have one daughter, Nellie; John J., our subject, is the next of the family; Carrie is the wife of W. L. Abbott, of Chicago; Hannah is at home; and George W. married Caroline Steiner, a native of Ohio, and had one child who died in infancy.

During his minority, John J. Entwhistle remained on the home farm, was educated in the district schools of the neighborhood, and for two years worked by the month for his father. Later he rented one of the farms until he was able to purchase eighty acres, for which he paid forty-two dollars per acre. In February, 1879, he led to the marriage altar, Miss Orena M. Goff, who was born in Ustick township, in October, 1855, a daughter of Franklin B. and Mary (Baker) Goff, early settlers of this county, who are now living in Clinton, Iowa. Mrs. Entwhistle is one of a family of five children, the others being as follows: Armena is the wife of Charles Roberts, a farmer of Franklin county, Iowa, and they have six children, two sons and four daughters: Lynn J., an employe of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company, residing in Ustick township, married Adelia Bull, and has six children living; Sylvester W. is deceased; and

Nary Delos married Eva Smaltz, and is a railroad fireman living in Clinton, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Entwistle have four children, Sadie, Arthur and Arlie, twins, and Leta, all at home.

After his marriage Mr. Entwistle located on one of the farms owned by his father, and still resides upon that place, successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising. He owns eighty acres of land on section 34, Ustick township, also a half interest in one hundred and forty-eight acres, his brother being his partner, and besides this he also operates two hundred acres belonging to his father. He is systematic and methodical in business affairs and thoroughly understands the occupation he has chosen as a life work. Socially, he affiliates with Ustick lodge, No. 9, Mystic Workers of the World, and politically is identified with the Republican party. He is an active worker for his party's interests, has held the office of school director for a number of years, has also served as road commissioner, and is at present supervisor of his township, an office he is most creditably and satisfactorily filling.

**J**H SIMONSON, deceased, was one of the highly respected and honored citizens of Whiteside county, who was for many years prominently identified with its agricultural interests. He was born in Berkshire county, New York, November 6, 1829, and was a son of Frederick and Sebina (Harvey) Simonson, also natives of the Empire state, where the father followed farming until 1839, when, in company with his wife and children, he came to Illinois in a prairie schooner. He located in what is now Hopkins township, Whiteside county,

where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of Thomas Mathews, now deceased. Upon the place was a small log house, into which the family moved their few household goods, and there in true pioneer style they began life in the west. To the improvement and cultivation of his land the father immediately turned his attention.

Upon the home farm in Hopkins township our subject grew to manhood, and his education was obtained in the subscription schools, which for some time were conducted at his home. He and the other children of the family were largely assisted in acquiring a good fund of information by their father, who was a well-educated man. Previous to his marriage our subject engaged in teaching school for a number of terms, and afterward followed farming for a time on the Rock river in Lyndon township. On selling his farm there, he purchased one hundred and sixty acres in Mount Pleasant township, which was already under cultivation, and to that tract he added until at the time of his death he owned four hundred acres of valuable farming land in one body, besides a tract of timber land in Hopkins township.

On the 3d of January, 1853, Mr. Simonson married Miss Lavinia M. Sherwin, who was born in Bennington county, Vermont, July 15, 1830, a daughter of Jacob and Polly (Lyon) Sherwin, natives of Massachusetts. Her grandfather, Jacob Sherwin, Sr., was the first Presbyterian minister in Massachusetts. He was a graduate of Yale College and the diploma he received from that noted institution of learning is still in possession of the family. Both he and his wife died in the east. Mrs. Simonson's father, who was a farmer by occupation, also died in Vermont, but the mother came

west and passed away in Whiteside county, Illinois. She was a daughter of Jonathan and Olive (Poole) Lyon, natives of Massachusetts, who removed to Bennington county, Vermont, after the Revolutionary war, and died there. Her father was a soldier of the Continental army and lost an arm in the service. Mrs. Simonson is the younger in a family of two children, the other being Elijah O., a resident of Centralia, Illinois, whose wife, Mary Stevens, died leaving four children. To Mr. and Simonson were born five children, namely: Marcia is the wife of Walter E. Know, of Clark county, South Dakota, and they have three children: Kate W., is the wife of J. H. Chamberlin, an insurance agent of Chicago, though their home is in Austin, Illinois, and they have four children; Walter died in infancy; Cora B. is the wife of W. J. Austin, a postoffice employe in Chicago, and they have four children; and Effie May died in infancy.

Mr. Simonson died March 21, 1882, while on a prospecting tour through South Dakota. Politically he was identified with the Republican party, and socially affiliated with Dunlap lodge, F. & A. M., of Morrison. He was a consistent and faithful member of the Round Grove Methodist Episcopal church, and his upright, honorable career gained for him the confidence and esteem of all with whom he came in contact either in business or social life.

**D**ANA B. SEGER, M. D., is a skilled physician and surgeon, of Morrison, Illinois, whose knowledge of the science of medicine is broad and comprehensive, and whose ability in applying its principles to

the needs of suffering humanity has gained him an enviable prestige in professional circles.

Dr. Seger was born in Rumford, Oxford county, Maine, January 4, 1842, a son of Allen and Achsa (Howard) Seger. His paternal great-grandfather was a resident of Boston, but his grandfather, Nathaniel Seger, removed from Massachusetts to Maine at an early day, and took up a tract of new land in Oxford county, where he made his home. He was once captured by the Indians and was a member of a Massachusetts regiment in the Revolutionary war. The Doctor's father was born in Hanover, Bethel township, Oxford county, Maine, in 1792, and was reared amid pioneer scenes. In early manhood he married Miss Achsa Howard, of Temple, Hillsboro county, New Hampshire, a daughter of Samuel and Mary Howard. The Howard family was founded in Boston in 1635. There Mrs. Seger's father resided in early life, and from Massachusetts removed to New Hampshire, where he died February 11, 1815, at the age of seventy-five years. He was a member of the New Hampshire militia and was a very influential and prominent man. In 1852, the Doctor's parents removed with their family from Rumford, Maine, to Kewaunee, Illinois, but after residing there for a short time came to Erie, Whiteside county, where the father purchased land and made his home until his death. Both he and his wife died in 1872, honored and respected by all who knew them. They were faithful members of the Christian church and the father was a Republican in politics.

During his boyhood Dr. Seger attended first the public schools of Maine and later of Erie, Illinois. In 1860 he commenced reading medicine with Dr. Taylor, of Erie,

but the following year laid aside his text books to join the boys in blue of Company I, Forty-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, which was mustered in at Chicago and first sent to Cairo. The Doctor participated in the battles of Fort Henry and Fort Donelson, but soon afterward was taken ill and sent to St. Louis, where he was discharged on account of disability. In 1862, he resumed the study of medicine, but as soon as his health would permit, he re-enlisted in Company K, Seventy-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, which regiment was from Rockford and was assigned to the Army of the Tennessee under the command of General Thomas. As soon as Dr. Seger arrived he was detailed as hospital steward, and in that capacity was in the field hospital of the Fourth Army Corps for two years or until the close of the war, during which time he gained much valuable experience in surgery and the treatment of various diseases. Returning to Chicago he attended lectures at Rush Medical College, from which he was graduated with the degree of M. D., in 1868. He immediately opened an office at Erie and was not long in building up a good practice in the village and surrounding country. While there he was married, February 16, 1873, to Miss Katherine L. Reynolds, a daughter of William and Ann Reynolds. They have become the parents of three children, namely: Inez, Ivy and Ralph.

During his residence in Erie the Doctor was a member of the County Medical Society, served as coroner of the county and held different township offices. In May, 1872, he removed to the county seat, where he has since successfully engaged in general practice, though he makes surgery his specialty and has most of the cases along that

line in the place. He stands high among his professional brethren and is an honored member of the Rock River Valley Medical Society. He also belongs to Dunlap lodge, F. & A. M., the chapter at Prophetstown, and of different insurance orders. Religiously, he supports the Presbyterian church.

**A**DDISON P. THOMAS, an honored veteran of the Civil war, and a successful farmer residing on section 20, Lyndon township, was born on the 12th of June, 1845, in Mount Pleasant township, this county. His father, George W. Thomas, was born in St. Clair county, Illinois, in 1820, a son of Anthony and Jane Jordan. Thomas, natives of South Carolina, in whose family were the following children: Polly, wife of Felix French; Margaret A., wife of G. O. James; Julia, wife of Samuel Currey; Grizzy, wife of Henry Paschal; James, who married Sarah Platt; Elizabeth, wife of William French; George W., father of our subject; John, who died unmarried in California, and William, who married Mary Hodges. In Cass county, Illinois, George W. Thomas was married, in 1842, to Miss Mary Paschal, who was born in Wilson county, Tennessee, March 4, 1823, a daughter of Isaiah and Agnes (Freeman) Paschal, natives of North Carolina. Their children, William Henry, who married Grizzy Thomas, as previously stated, John D., who married Nancy Short; David, who married Mary Snyder; Emily, wife of Joel Horn; Coleman, who married Sally Street; Amy, wife of Allison McCord; Samuel, who married Hannah Street; Lucy, wife of James Thomas; Amanda, wife of Samuel Stevenson; Jared, who married

Margaret Shaffer; Green, who married Sarah Deweber; Mary, mother of our subject, and Joann, wife of Richard Wright. Mrs. Thomas is the only one of the family now living. In 1842, immediately after their marriage, George W. Thomas and wife came to Hickory Grove, Whiteside county, and he then pre-empted land in Union Grove, where he opened up a farm and made for himself and family a home. He was a successful farmer and carried on that occupation up to within three years of his death, owning two hundred and thirty-six acres of land in Mount Pleasant township. His last days were spent in retirement in Morrison, where his widow still lives. At the time of his death, which occurred August 30, 1893, he was one of the oldest settlers of the county. In politics he was a Republican. He was an earnest, consistent Christian, a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, to which his wife also belongs, and he was a leader in church and Sunday school work.

In the family of this worthy couple were eleven children, two of whom died in infancy, and two others died young. The others are as follows: Francis M., a retired farmer, of Morrison, married Margaret Hawk and has one son, Henry; Addison P., our subject, is the next of the family. Samuel T. married Margaret Harrow and follows farming in Mt. Pleasant township. Nathan J., a retired farmer of Morrison, married Emma Heaton, and has two children living, Eunice and Cleo. Elizabeth is the widow of David Finch and lives in Sterling. She has nine children living, Clara, Elma, Albert, Martha, Margaret, Jennie, George, Ole and Roy. John Milton, a resident of Ustick township, married Annie Cope, and has three children, Nellie, John and Edna.

George E. married Grace Quackenbush and died at the age of twenty-five years. Minnie is the wife of Jacob Feldman, a farmer of Mt. Pleasant township, and they have three children, Alice, James and Joseph.

Addison P. Thomas grew to manhood on the home farm, and was educated in the common schools of the locality. Prompted by a spirit of patriotism, he joined the boys in blue during the Civil war and was in the service for six months doing garrison duty most of the time. It was in 1864 that he enlisted for one hundred days in Company unteer Infantry. On receiving an honorable discharge from the service, he returned home, and continued to work for his father until twenty-two years of age, after which he rented land and engaged in farming on his own account.

On the 18th of February, 1868, Mr. Thomas led to the marriage altar Miss Bernice M. Hiddleston, who was born in Sullivan county, Pennsylvania, February 18, 1851, a daughter of John and Rosetta (Taylor) Hiddleston, also natives of that state, where the father died. Later the mother married Fletcher Sperry, with whom she came to Whiteside county, Illinois, settling in Mt. Pleasant township. Mr. Sperry died in 1867, but his wife is still living and makes her home in Morrison. By her first marriage she had four children, of whom one died young; Mary died a year after her marriage to William Dillenbeck; and David M., who married Elma Heiner, died in 1897, leaving four children, Alice, Iva, Earl and Frank. Mrs. Thomas is the only one of this family now living. Of the thirteen children born to our subject and his wife two died in infancy. The others are as follows: Rosa is the wife of Robert James, a farmer of Clyde township, and they have

one child, Vera B.; Julia is the wife of Louis Emery, of Rock Island, and they have one daughter, Cheryal M.; Della married John Emory, of Rock Island, and died in 1895; Fred is at home attending school; William assists his father in the work of the farm; and Cora, Ella, Allie, Glenn, Carl and Neva are all at home.

For two years after his marriage, Mr. Thomas rented a farm in this county, and then, having been successful, he moved to Greene county, Iowa, and purchased eighty acres, which he improved and cultivated for four years. Selling his property, he returned to Illinois, and for three years operated rented land in Ustick and Mt. Pleasant township. In 1877 he purchased one hundred and twenty acres of partially improved land in Lyndon township, to which he has since added twenty-three acres, and as a farmer and stock raiser is meeting with marked success.

Religiously, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas are both consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and socially he belongs to Lyndon post, No. 739, G. A. R., and the Modern Woodmen camp, No. 72, of Lyndon. Politically, he affiliates with the Republican party, and taking an active interest in educational affairs, he has most efficiently filled the offices of school trustee and director.

**B**UEL A. LANGDON, the well-known editor and proprietor of the Morrison Record, a bright weekly journal, was born in Chillicothe, Ohio, October 8, 1869, and is a son of Samuel A. and Lucelia (Brewer) Langdon, who are represented elsewhere in this volume. In 1871 the family came to Morrison, Illinois, but a year latter removed

to a farm in this county, where the father made his home until 1894.

Upon the home farm our subject grew to manhood and he acquired a good practical education, attending the common schools, Dixon College and the Sterling high school. In 1890 he embarked in the florist's business in Sterling, where here mained until the spring of 1892, when he rented his father's farm, which comprises three hundred and twenty-six acres and is one of the most desirable places of its size in the county. After successfully operating the farm, he returned to Morrison in the spring of 1894, and purchased a half interest in the Record in August of the same year, his partner being H. E. Brown. Together they conducted the paper until the 1st of January, 1897, when our subject bought out Mr. Brown and has since been alone in business. He has met with excellent success as a journalist and is now at the head of one of the most prominent papers of the county. It is an eight-page sheet, and under his able management enjoys a large and constantly increasing circulation. The paper was started March 17, 1894, and Mr. Langdon has practically been with it since its inception. On the 14th of September, 1892, he married Miss Hattie Swarthout.

**W**ILLIAM A. BESWICK is one of the most prominent and influential citizens of Clyde township, where he owns a valuable and highly improved farm on sections 20, 30 and 31. There he was born January 1, 1850, a son of Richard and Hannah (Knight) Beswick. The father was a native of Scarborough, Yorkshire, England, and a son of George and Elizabeth (Naggs) Beswick, old time yeomanry or farming people

of that country, who came to Canada, settling near Toronto Bay. After a short time there they came to the United States in 1838, coming direct to Whiteside county and locating on the farm where our subject now resides. In their family were six children who reached years of maturity. Richard Beswick was nineteen years of age when he crossed the Atlantic with his parents to Canada, having previously been educated in the schools of his native land. Shortly after his arrival he married Miss Sarah Patrick, by whom he had two children: Belinda, who married Richard Trye and died in Union county, South Dakota, in the spring of 1899, leaving two children; and George, who died unmarried at Camp Rollo, Missouri, while a soldier of the Union army.

Mr. Beswick made his home with his parents near Toronto, Canada, until 1838, when he came to Whiteside county, Illinois, and took up one hundred and twenty acres of government land in Clyde township, to the improvement and cultivation of which he at once turned his attention. Shortly after locating here his house was destroyed by fire in the night and he was forced to erect another. He hauled his first load of wheat to market in Chicago, and he and his family endured all the hardships and privations incident to pioneer life. He continued to reside upon his farm until his death, at which time he owned three hundred and twenty acres of land in Clyde township. Mrs. Beswick died about 1844, and March 24, 1849, Mr. Beswick was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Hannah E. (Knight) Humphrey, widow of Alvaro Humphrey, by whom she had two children, but one died in infancy, the other being George, now a resident of Clinton, Iowa. William A., our subject, is the oldest of the

five children born of the second marriage; Thomas L., deceased, married Sarah Millard, who with her eight children resides in Clyde township; Elizabeth is the wife of William Milnes, of Clyde township, and they have two children living; Sarah died at the age of four years; and Carrie is the wife of Thomas Milnes, and they now reside near Chariton, Iowa. The mother was born in Waldo county, Maine, March 16, 1821, a daughter of George and Lydia (Duncan) Knight. Her father was a fisherman in Maine, but after his removal to Licking county, Ohio, he followed farming. He resided there for a few years and then came to Whiteside county, Illinois, spending his last days in Fulton township, where his death occurred February 12, 1866. The father of our subject died July 7, 1884, the mother January 26, 1895. Both were sincere Christian people, the former a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, while the latter was a Presbyterian in religious belief. He cast his ballot with the Democratic party, and was honored with several local offices, having served as school director, road commissioner for a number of years, and supervisor for fourteen consecutive years.

Our subject attended the winter terms of school in Clyde township until twenty years of age and thus acquired a good practice education. After attaining his majority he rented a farm from his brother-in-law for four years, and then bought twenty acres of timberland. After his marriage he purchased the eighty-acre tract which he had previously rented, and also operated three hundred and twenty acres of his father's land. To his first purchase he has added from time to time until he now has three hundred and forty-two acres in one



body. He now has one of the finest country homes in the county, the improvements alone being worth ten thousand dollars, not including the value of the land. Although he is engaged in general farming, he gives the greater part of his time and attention to stock raising, making a specialty of Durham and short-horn cattle and Poland China hogs. For twelve years he has been quite extensively engaged in the dairy business, and for that purpose generally keeps about forty cows.

On the 1st of January, 1875, Mr. Beswick was united in marriage with Miss Mary M. Wood, who was born in this county, April 22, 1854, a daughter of Frederick and Sarah (Milnes) Wood. Her father was a native of Yorkshire, England, as was also his father, Joseph Wood, who on coming to the new world first settled in New York state but after a short time spent there came to Whiteside county, Illinois, at an early day. Frederick Wood emigrated to America previous to his father and also spent a short time in New York, after which he came to this county, and located in Clyde township. He and his wife are still living and now make their home in Morrison. Her father, Thomas Milnes, was also a native of England, and she was born shortly after the emigration of the family to America. He made his home in Lowell, Massachusetts, and died while returning east after a visit in this county. Mr. Wood is a supporter of the Republican party, and his wife holds membership in the Episcopal church. To them were born nine children, namely: Mary M., wife of our subject; Joseph, a farmer of Clyde township, who married Becky King and has two children; Thomas, who died in infancy; Thomas, of Clyde township, who married Margaret Mason and

has two children; Sarah, wife of Charles Kennedy, of Clyde township, by whom she has one child; George, who is engaged in the milling business in Montana; William H., a farmer of Montana, who married Clara —— and has one child; Susan, wife of Robert Cochran, of Morrison; and Edith, wife of Pierre Jackson, of Morrison.

Mr. and Mrs. Beswick have a family of seven children: Elmer, born November 24, 1876, is engaged in farming with his mother's brothers in Montana; Lorenzo, born February 14, 1878, assists his father in the operation of the home farm Sarah, born August 26, 1879, is the wife of Bert Burch, of Union Grove township; Richard F., born October 10, 1881, is at home; Hannah, born June 21, 1883, and Harold, born September 7, 1886, are both attending the Morrison high school; and Alvaro, born February 12, 1888, is attending the home school.

Mr. Beswick is a director of the Mount Pleasant Mutual Fire Insurance Company, and is a member of Henderson camp, No. 13, M. W. A., of Morrison, and the Knights of the Globe, while he and his wife belong to the Royal Neighbors and she holds membership in the Episcopal church. In his political views he is a staunch Democrat, and he has been honored with a number of offices, having served as collector and road commissioner three years each. He is now filling the office of supervisor for a third term, and is chairman of the miscellaneous committee and is on the committee on ferries and toll bridges. He has also been a member of two special bridge committees on two different occasions and was instrumental in building a number of iron bridges in the county. He is public-spirited and progressive and willingly gives his support to every

enterprise which he believes will prove of public benefit, and is therefore numbered among the valued citizens of his community.

**JAMES A. NOWLEN, M. D.**, is engaged in the practice of medicine and surgery in Morrison, Illinois, and is now the oldest physician of the place in point of practice. He has that love for and devotion to his profession which have brought to him success and won him a place among the ablest representatives of the medical fraternity in this locality.

The Doctor was born April 6, 1853, at Canaan Corners, Wayne county, Ohio, nine miles from Wooster, and is a son of Dr. Arthur and Asenith (Proctor) Nowlen, both natives of Ontario, Canada. The father was born near Prescott, August 13, 1818, and in early life took up the study of medicine. He was married in his native province and continued to reside there until after the birth of three of his children, while two others were born in Ohio. He attended lectures at Montreal, Canada, and for three years engaged in the practice of his profession at Canaan Corners, Ohio. In September, 1853, he came to Whiteside county, Illinois, and located at Unionville, which was one mile from the present city of Morrison, at that time non-existent. There he engaged in successful practice until 1860, when he removed to Morrison, which at that time was growing rapidly and was in a flourishing condition. During his early residence here his practice extended over a wide range of territory and for weeks at a time our subject did not see him, as he would leave before daylight and return after the children were asleep. He trav-

eled everywhere on horseback and often rode as far as Prophetstown and Mt. Carroll in answer to calls for professional service. He had the leading practice of this section for many years. He was a successful business man as well as a skilled physician and owned considerable farm lands in Whiteside county at an early day. He was one of the first members of the Rock River Medical Society and took an active interest in the same. He retired from practice in 1880, and moved to Des Moines, Iowa, where he died September 7, 1897. His wife died in 1888. Both held membership in the Methodist Episcopal church, and were highly respected by all who knew them.

Our subject acquired his education in the common and high schools of Morrison, and in 1871 and 1872 read medicine with his father. The following year he entered Rush Medical College, Chicago, from which he was graduated in 1875, and was then engaged in practice with his father at Morrison until the latter's retirement, since which time he has been alone. Besides his city practice he had an extensive country practice for six or eight years and traveled throughout this section of the state wherever his services were needed. He took a post-graduate course at the medical department of the University of New York City in the winter of 1882-3, and is now one of the most successful and prominent physicians of Morrison.

Dr. Nowlen first married Miss Eva R. Kidd, of Morrison, who died leaving no children, and on the 28th of April, 1885, he led to the marriage altar Miss Louisa J. Huncler, of the same place. By the second union five children have been born, namely: Bessie J., Proctor, Gladys, James C.

and Mary. The family have a pleasant home on East Grove street, and they attend and support the Presbyterian church. The Doctor is a prominent member of the Whiteside County Medical Society, and has been connected with Dunlap lodge, F. & A. M., since 1874. As a physician he stands high in professional circles, and as a citizen is honored and respected wherever known.

---

**THOMAS EAGAN.** It is said that biography yields to no other subject in point of interest and profit, and it is especially interesting to note the progress that has been made along various lines of business by those of foreign birth who have sought homes in America—the readiness with which they adapt themselves to the different methods and customs of America, recognize the advantages offered and utilize the opportunities which the new world affords. We find in Thomas Eagan, a well-known farmer, residing on section 31, Union Grove township, a worthy representative of this class.

A native of Ireland, he was born in Loughrea, County Galway, December 20, 1822, and is a son of Matthew and Hannah (Griffin) Eagon. He grew to manhood in his native land, receiving such an education as the public schools of the country afforded at that day, and at the age of twenty-six he came to America. After spending about four years in Connecticut, he came to Illinois in 1854, and took up his residence in Albany, Whiteside county. Later he lived in Garden Plain, and in the fall of 1861 purchased eighty acres of land on section 31, Union Grove township, where he still resides. He has extended the boundaries

of his farm from time to time as his financial resources have merited until he now has four hundred and twelve acres of valuable and highly productive land, which he has placed under a high state of cultivation. He has devoted his time and abilities to general farming and stock raising, feeding a large number of cattle and hogs each year.

On the 10th of October, 1854, Mr. Eagon was united in marriage, in New York City, with Miss Alice Ryan, also a native of Ireland, and a daughter of Thomas and Hannah (Eagon) Ryan. She came to the new world in October, 1851. To our subject and his wife have been born eight children: John F., at home; Mary, a resident of Clinton, Illinois; Alice, who died at the age of eleven years; Martin, who married Alice Smith, died in Union township, October 27, 1899; Edward, at home; Margaret, wife of Natalian Waltham, of Clinton; Elizabeth and James, both at home. The parents are both devout members of the Catholic church and merit and receive the respect and esteem of all who know them. In his political views, Mr. Eagan is a stalwart Democrat, but has never been an office seeker, preferring to devote his undivided attention to his business interest.

---

**SAMUEL L. MURPHY,** a well-known farmer and stock raiser residing on section 21, Ustick township, was born in Garden Plain township, this county, August 28, 1864, and is a worthy representative of one of its honored pioneer families. His grandfather, Jacob Murphy, a native of Ohio, came to Illinois at an early day and settled in Garden Plain township, Whiteside county, where he followed farming for some years.

There he died and was buried. His first wife passed away twenty or twenty-five years before, leaving five children, two sons and three daughters, of whom Robert R., the father of our subject, is the oldest. (2) Mary is the wife of David Mitchell, a grocer of Fulton, by whom she had four children, three still living, namely: Charles, a civil engineer of Chicago; and Minnie and William, both of Fulton. (3) Maria is the wife of Morgan McFarland, a farmer and stock raiser of Villa Grove, Colorado. (4) Rebecca is unmarried and lives with her sister, Mrs. McFarland, in Colorado. (5) Dyer, a resident of Garden Plain, married Dora Knowlton, who died leaving three children, Horace, Harvey and Lura, and for his second wife he married Mrs. Lavina Woods. The grandfather of our subject was twice married, and by the second wife had two children: Ethel Linda, who married Edgar Florence and died in 1875 or '76, and John, a merchant of Bagley, Iowa, who is married and has four children: Lawrence, Ray, John and Bessie.

Robert R. Murphy, father of our subject, was born near Portsmouth, Ohio, in 1834, and when a young man came to Whiteside county, Illinois, locating in Garden Plain township, where he conducts a farm and is also successfully operating the Garden Plain Creamery. His political support is always given the Republican party, and being one of the prominent and influential men of his township, he has been honored with numerous local offices, including that of supervisor, in which he served for two terms. He married Miss Eliza J. Armstrong, a native of Pennsylvania, who at an early day came with her parents to Albany, Whiteside county, Illinois, where her marriage was celebrated. By this union five children

were born, namely: Addie is the wife of E. A. Harrington, a telegraph operator of Peru, Illinois, by whom she has two children, Fay and Ruth; Edgar, who operates a creamery in Hartwick, Iowa, married Kate Baker and has three children: Vernon, Floyd and Hazel; Samuel L., our subject, is the next of the family; Bertha is the wife of George Dunshee, a farmer of York township, Carroll county, Illinois; and Frank assists his father in business and resides at the old home in Garden Plain township. The mother of these children died in 1878, and for his second wife the father married Lurinda Cosselman, a native of Ustick township.

The subject of this review received his education in the Garden Plain public school, and remained at home until twenty-two years of age, when he came to Ustick to take charge of the Spring Valley Creamery that was owned by his father. He had operated it several years before and at this time had charge of the plant for eight years, doing a successful and profitable business. At the end of that time he sold out. On the 3d of October, 1888, was celebrated his marriage with Miss Virginia Durward, by whom he has four children: Pearl, Lepha, Devenia and Robert R.

After his marriage Mr. Murphy located on the farm which he had previously purchased, and upon which he had erected a good modern residence and made other improvements. This place consisted of thirty-seven acres adjoining the creamery, but he has since sold half of it and now operates rented land belonging to his father-in-law. He carried on a general farming and stock raising with good success, making a speciality of Jersey cattle, and he also deals in horses, selling to the local trade. In con-

nection with his other business he ran a threshing machine for a short time. He is a prominent member of Ustick lodge, No. 9, Mystic Workers of the World, in which he has held office, and is identified with the Republican party, but has never aspired to political honors.

**F**RANK FITZGERALD, M. D. Among those who devote their time and energies to the practice of medicine and have gained a leading place in the ranks of the profession is Dr. Fitzgerald, a prominent physician and surgeon of Morrison. He was born in Cherry Valley, New York, April 5, 1857, a son of Alfred and Sarah (Wilkins) Fitzgerald. The father was a carriage maker of that place, where he made his home until his death, which occurred in 1885. The mother is still living in Cherry Valley. The paternal grandfather, Fitzwilliam Fitzgerald, a descendant of Edward Fitzgerald, of England, came from that country to America and engaged in wagon making at Cherry Valley, New York, where he built up a good business. The maternal grandfather, Daniel Wilkins, was a blacksmith and a fine mechanic of considerable inventive genius. One of his brothers was a prominent divine in England, and he was also being educated for a clergyman, but not liking the idea he ran away from home and came to the United States; he died at Cherry Valley when our subject was quite small.

During his boyhood Dr. Fitzgerald attended the common schools of his native place and also a select or parish school. At the age of fifteen he came alone to Morrison, Illinois, and found employment in the drug store of John S. Green, where he re-

mained for eleven years, having complete charge of the same from 1876, at the age of nineteen, until 1883. During that time a larger amount of business was transacted over its counter than at any time in recent years. On account of his health, Dr. Fitzgerald was at length forced to resign his position, and he then commenced the study of medicine with his father-in-law, Dr. Samuel Taylor, who came to Erie from Richland county, Ohio, and after staying there several years removed to Morrison, and was engaged in active practice up to the time of his death, which occurred January 30, 1890. After reading with him one year, our subject entered Rush Medical College, Chicago, from which he was graduated with the class of 1886. Returning to Morrison he engaged in practice with his preceptor until the latter's death, and has since been alone. He enjoys a large general practice which extends throughout the surrounding country twelve or fifteen miles in every direction, and he is also local surgeon for the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company. He has done considerable surgical work for the company besides a large amount in the city. He is a member of the old County Medical Society and of the International Association of Railway Surgeons, and has attended many of their meetings. He also belongs to Dunlap lodge, F. & A. M., and his wife attends the Presbyterian church.

On the 30th of October, 1879, Dr. Fitzgerald was united in marriage with Miss Evaline Martha Taylor, by whom he has had two children, but Stella, the elder, died at the age of eighteen months. The only one now living is Samuel Taylor Fitzgerald. The Doctor is a pleasant, genial gentleman, who makes many friends, and is quite popular socially.

**W**ESLEY Y. HENDRICKS. Among the leading and representative citizens of Ustick township there is none who stands a more prominent figure than the gentleman whose name introduces this sketch. He makes his home on section 14, where he owns a well-improved and highly cultivated farm, which under his able management is made to yield bountiful harvests in return for the labor bestowed upon it.

A native of Whiteside county, Mr. Hendricks was born in Sterling November 3, 1857, and belongs to a family of Holland origin that was founded in Pennsylvania several generations ago. Most of his ancestors have been farmers, though his paternal grandfather was a prominent business man of Philadelphia, conducting the leading market of that city during his time. Later in life he and his wife came west and located in Sterling, where both died. Of their children, Leonard, father of our subject, was the eldest; John is now engaged in the real estate business in Dodge City, Kansas; Ephraim is a retired farmer of Cawker City, Kansas, who has four children, Allin, Frank, John and Charles; Sabila married S. Gearhart, a watchmaker, now deceased, and she died in 1889, leaving two children, Lizzie and Samuel; Rebecca was the wife of David Meyers, of Sterling, and died in 1879, leaving several children; Samuel is a resident of Rockford, Illinois, and has nine children, one of whom, Harry, was with Roosevelt's Rough Riders in the war with Spain, and was wounded in an engagement, but recovered.

Leonard Hendricks, father of our subject, was born in Pennsylvania in 1822, and in Montgomery county, that state, he was married, to Miss Margaret Rebecca Young, also a native of the Keystone state,

where her parents spent their entire lives. Her father was a miller by trade. She was the eldest in a family of three children, the others being Mary, who wedded Samuel Krout and remained in the east, where she died in July, 1899, and her husband about 1879; and Benjamin, who lived and died in Indiana.

While a resident of Pennsylvania the father of our subject worked at the millwright's and carpenter's trade, and continued to follow those occupations for several years after his removal to Sterling, Illinois, but in 1868 he purchased a farm of eighty acres in Clyde township and turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, operating the same with the aid of his sons. He died in December, 1891, honored and respected by all who knew him, but his wife, who was born January 1, 1819, is still living and enjoys good health. She makes her home with our subject. Of the eight children born to this worthy couple, Sophia died at the age of five years, and Sarah died at the age of seventeen. The others reached years of maturity and are as follows: (1) Eliza, who died in 1886, was the wife of J. Eshlman, by whom she had four children and two are still living in and near Sterling. One son, Roy, a druggist, was a bugler of Company E, Sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, during our recent war with Spain, and was taken ill at Porto Rica and brought to Camp Alger, where he died in 1899. (2) Isaiah, living on the Teller place in Clyde township, is married and has six children: Annie, Bessie, Sarah, Ruth, Dorothy and Salem. (3) Mary is the wife of Levi Leatherman, who is engaged in farming to a limited extent on rented land in Lyndon township, and they have four children: Alta, Alma, Lulu and Ray. (4)

Jesse, who is engaged in general farming, and the fruit and nursery business in Carroll county, Iowa, is married and has three children: Earl, Hazel and Hart. (5) Wesley Y., our subject, is the next of the family. (6) Jacob, a farmer and well driller, of Scranton, Greene county, Iowa, is married and has two children, Hazel and Cleo.

The subject of this sketch was educated in the public schools of Jordan and Clyde townships, and remained on the home farm until the father sold the place in 1876. During the following year he worked by the month as a farm hand, and when his father purchased ten acres for a homestead, he turned his attention to its improvement and cultivation. Subsequently he worked by the month for five years, and then operated rented land for a year. In 1883 he purchased forty acres of partially improved land, for which he paid thirteen hundred and fifty dollars, and besides this property he owned five acres of timber land in Clyde township.

On the 29th of July, 1884, Mr. Hendricks wedded Miss Mary E. Durward, who was born March 24, 1860, a daughter of Peter T. and Janet Durward, whose sketch appears on another page of this volume. They now have two children: Edna B., born October 13, 1885; and Ralph Durward, born August 23, 1887.

After his marriage Mr. Hendricks lived upon his farm until 1888, when he sold the place and moved to Carroll county, Iowa, where he bought eighty acres and successfully operated the same for seven years. At the end of that time he sold out and returned to Whiteside county, Illinois. For one year he lived on a place north of his present farm, and in 1896 purchased one hundred and fifteen acres of the old home-

stead, where he has since engaged in general farming and stock raising with marked success. Politically he is an ardent supporter of the Republican party, and he has held township offices such as collector, constable and road overseer, the duties of which he has most capably and satisfactorily discharged. He contributes to the support of the Presbyterian church, to which his wife belongs, and his aid is never withheld from any enterprise calculated to prove of public benefit.

CHARLES F. REYNOLDS, one of the most progressive and enterprising young farmers of Mt. Pleasant township, where he and his brother operate two hundred and forty acres of land on section 2, was born in that township, July 28, 1872. His father, Heman A. Reynolds, was born in Rutland county, Vermont, January 14, 1836, a son of Raymond A. and Nancy (Brown) Reynolds, the former a native of the same place, the latter of eastern Canada. In early life the grandfather of our subject followed the blacksmith's trade. In 1855 he removed to Kane county, Illinois, and two years later came to Whiteside county, where he began his career as a farmer. At the time of his death, which occurred in 1885, he was living retired in Unionville. His wife died at the same place in 1887. The father of our subject was the second in order of birth in their family of four children, the others being Susan, who married A. W. Champlin and died in Union Grove township; Adelia E., widow of Clark Fisk, and a resident of Unionville; and one who died young. In the county of his nativity, Heman A. Reynolds received a good common-school education. He came to

Illinois with his parents and is still living on the old home farm, which his son now carries on. He first purchased seventy-five acres in 1877, but has added to it from time to time until he now has two hundred and forty acres, which he has placed under a high state of cultivation and improved with good buildings. In the past few years he has converted his place into a stock farm and now feeds all his grain to his cattle and hogs. Politically he is a Democrat and on the money question favors a gold standard.

In 1862, Heman A. Reynolds wedded Miss Mary E. Reynolds, who was born in Susquehanna county, Pennsylvania, January 21, 1846, a daughter of Philip and Nancy (Fisk) Reynolds, natives of New York and Vermont, respectively, who, in 1854, moved to Lyndon, Whiteside county, Illinois. Here her mother died, but her father died in De Kalb county, this state, while on a visit. They had but two children, the only son being James, a resident of Livingston county, Illinois. Our subject is one of a family of three children, but one son died in infancy. Martin W., the older of the two now living, resides on the home farm which he operates in connection with our subject. He married Emily C. Hammer and has one child, Edna M.

Charles F. Reynolds, whose name introduces this sketch, attended the common schools near his boyhood home and for two terms pursued an elective course at Fulton College during the winters of 1891 and 1893. When old enough to be of any assistance he commenced to aid in the work of the home farm, and there he has since carried on operations as a general farmer and stock raiser. In the management of the place he has displayed good business ability and sound judgment, and success has attended

his efforts. He is a Democrat in politics, but is not radical, and endeavors to support the best men for the office regardless of party ties.

On the 6th of March, 1895, Mr. Reynolds was united in marriage with Miss Lillie A. James, who was born December 20, 1874, a daughter of Amos A. and Ann (Norrish) James, a sketch of whom will be found on another page of this volume. They began their domestic life in a house on his father's farm, and there they have since resided. Two children have come to brighten their home, namely: Mabel A. and Pauline E.

**J**OHAN FROST. One of the active, prominent and enterprising citizens of Union Grove township, Whiteside county, is the gentleman whose name introduces this sketch, and who is successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits on section 17. He was born in Islham, Cheshire, England, August 12, 1828, a son of James and Mary (King) Frost, the former a native of the same place, the latter of Freckenham, England, where their marriage was celebrated. They spent their entire lives in England, the father working as a laborer in different places. He died at Baden, Mills at the age of eighty years, and the mother died at the same place at the age of seventy years; in their family were seven children, namely: John, James, Henry, Esther, Ellen, Mary Ann, William and Sarah, three of whom are now deceased. Besides our subject, William, who lives near Le Mars, Iowa, is the only resident of this country.

During his boyhood John Frost acquired the rudiments of an education in the public





JOHN FROST.



schools of his native land and remained in that country until after his marriage. On the 18th of July, 1852, he led to the marriage altar Miss Ann Fletcher, who was also born in Islam, September 16, 1829, a daughter of William and Sarah (Wells) Fletcher. She is one of a family of twelve children, of whom five are now living in the United States, namely: Mrs. Esther Stinton, of Morrison, Illinois; Mrs. Sophia Deman, of Union Grove township, Whiteside county; Mrs. Rebecca Weathers, of Nebraska; William Fletcher of Union Grove township; and Ann, wife of our subject, James, the only child born to Mr. and Mrs. Frost, died in infancy. They have two adopted children: Edith, now the wife of James Pearson, of Union Grove townsoip; and Herbert H., who aids his father in the operation of the home farm. He married Miss Jennie Pierault, and three children have been born to them, Edith and Eva, twins, who are living, and one son, deceased.

Two years after his marriage Mr. Frost emigrated to America and settled in Unionville, Illinois, where he made his home from 1855 to 1857, and then removed to the farm on section 17, Union Grove township, Whiteside county, which he now owns. At first he rented the place, but in 1868 purchased it. It comprises one hundred and twenty acres of rich and arable land, which he has placed under a high state of cultivation, and has made many improvements thereon which add greatly to its value and attractive appearance. He follows general farming and stock raising and success has attended his efforts toward securing a competence. He started out in life for himself empty-handed, and the prosperity that has come to him is due entirely to his own in-

dustry; perseverance and good management. On locating here much of the county was still in its primitive condition, and he has watched with interest the wonderful transformation that has since taken place, while he has been no unimportant factor in its advancement. He affiliations with the Republican party, and both he and his wife are consistent and faithful members of the Baptist church of Morrison.

**B**URRELL V. DANIELS, a leading farmer of Union Grove township, Whiteside county, whose home is on section 5, evidences by the manner in which he carries on his business that he thoroughly understands the vocation in which he is engaged, and that success is attending his efforts toward acquiring a competence. Neatness and order prevail upon his place, which is managed, with regard to its cultivation, in a manner which reflects great credit upon the owner.

Mr. Daniels was born in lower Canada, February 14, 1833, a son of Asa and Almira (Vance) Daniels, natives of Vermont. The maternal uncle, Burrell Vance, was a soldier of the war of 1812. Our subject's paternal grandparents died before his birth. The father worked at the stonemason's trade to some extent, but his principal occupation was that of farming. In early life he and his wife moved to Ascot, Churbruck county, Lower Canada, where he followed farming, and from there went to Massachusetts. A year or so later, in 1846, they came to Whiteside county, Illinois, and took up their residence in Lyndon township, where the father purchased land and engaged in farming for a short time. He next made his home in Ustick township, where he entered

forty acres, and later a like amount, and afterward bought another tract. Upon that farm he spent his remaining days. He was born July 4, 1798, and was accidentally killed by falling from a load of hay, April 15, 1874. His wife was born October 15, 1801, and died February 19, 1897. In their family were seven children, namely: David, a resident of Clinton, Iowa; Warner, who was killed by an engine on the Northwestern Railroad tracks in Ustick township; Amos, a resident of Rowley, Massachusetts; Asel, twin brother of Amos, deceased; Sylvia, deceased wife of William Campfield, also deceased; Burrell V., our subject; Martha, wife of Charles Shew, a resident of Clinton, Iowa; and one who died in infancy unnamed.

After his father's removal to Illinois Burrell V. Daniels remained in the east until sixteen years of age, at which time he also determined to come west. Selling his three-year-old colt for twenty-four dollars he came to this state by way of the great lakes to Racine, Wisconsin, and from there on foot to Whiteside county. On his arrival he worked for his father until twenty years of age, and then purchased an unbroken tract of forty acres in Union Grove township, to the cultivation and improvement of which he at once turned his attention. He has extended the boundaries of his farm from time to time as his financial resources permitted until he now has three hundred and twelve acres, which he has placed under a high state of cultivation and improved with good buildings. He follows mixed farming, and is meeting with well-deserved success. In his political affiliations he is a Republican.

On the 14th of February, 1855, Mr. Daniels was united in marriage with Miss

Mary Cass, who was born in Vermont June, 1836, a daughter of Josiah and Sallie Cass, also natives of that state. The father, who was a farmer by occupation, brought his family to Illinois in 1854, and settled in Union Grove township, Whiteside county, where both he and his wife died. To Mr. and Mrs. Daniels were born three children: (1) Wallace, a farmer of Union Grove, married Jessie Somers, and has three children, Royal, Amy and Fernie. (2) Adelbert, a farmer of Union Grove township, married Lucy Seaman, and has three children, Neva, Earl and Howard. (3) Wyman died at the age of a year and a half.

WILLIAM O. DUDLEY was one of the pioneers of Whiteside county, locating here in 1836, and here spending the remainder of his life, respected by all who knew him. He was a native of Massachusetts, born in Richmond, Berkshire county, December 24, 1803. He grew to manhood in his native state, and with a view of bettering his condition in life, determined to seek a home farther west. From Massachusetts he went to Ohio, where he remained a short time engaged in teaching. In 1836, in company with several other persons, he came to Whiteside county, Illinois, with a view of here making his permanent home. One year later he was married to Miss Louisa Dudley, their marriage being celebrated October 18, 1837. She was a native of New York, born in Clarendon, Orleans county, July 9, 1818, and who, in 1835, came to Whiteside county with her parents, William D. and Tryphena (Fitch) Dudley, who were natives of New England. They were numbered among the very earliest settlers of the county, coming here in 1835.

Of their children only two were living at the time they came to this county, Louisa and her brother, William Chester, who now lives in Lawrence, Kansas.

Timothy Dudley, the father of William O., also came to Whiteside county, emigrating here in 1837, with two of his children, Eliza and Henry. A year later, Jane Dudley Newhall came, and later on, Ann, wife of Marcus Sperry, settled here. All the family came prior to 1840, but none are now living in the county. William Wade Dudley, a nephew of William O. Dudley, and a son of John Dudley, was one of the heroes of the Civil war. He organized a company, with which he entered the service, but by his bravery and gallantry he was promoted colonel of the regiment.

After their marriage, William O. Dudley and wife located on the farm about one mile from the present homestead, and later moved to the farm now occupied by our subject, which was his home until his death, April 15, 1888. He was a member of the Congregational church, and was quite active in its work. His wife is also a member of that denomination. In politics he was a Republican, and in his township was regarded as one of its leading citizens. His widow now resides on the old family homestead of her father, and where she was united in marriage. To William O. and Louisa Dudley seven children were born. James H., the eldest child, enlisted in the service of his country in the beginning of the war, at which time he was in college. He served until the close of his term of service, and came home and died in 1861. Frances R. died June 16, 1850, when only nine years old. Jane married Frank E. Arnold, by whom she had four children—Roy D., Nellie R., Clyde, and Nettie Jane, deceased. They resided

in Sterling, where her death occurred in 1897. Eliza O. is the wife of James A. Meigham, and they have five children living—Anna F., George E., Charles A., Ruth and Nellie. They reside in Fenton township, where Mr. Meigham is engaged in farming. George T. married Kittie Hough, and they have four children—William H., Jennie, Frank and Theresa. They make their home in Sterling, where he is engaged in running a meat market. Anna L. makes her home with her mother. John is the subject of this sketch.

John Dudley, who was born July 15, 1858, was reared on the old home farm, and has spent his entire life in Whiteside county, with the exception of four months, in 1883, when he was in California. In the common schools of his native township he received his education, but in the school of experience the greater part of his knowledge has been obtained. He continued with his father until he was twenty-one years of age, when he was given charge of the farm, since which time he has had the entire management of it. Since the death of his father he has made many improvements of a substantial nature on the old place, and has now one of the best farms in the township.

On the 7th of January, 1888, Mr. Dudley was united in marriage with Miss Elsie A. Hazzard, who was born in Lyndon township, October 14, 1866, and daughter of Albert S. and Endora (Bartholomew) Hazzard, the former a native of Lyndon township, Whiteside county, Illinois, and the latter of Ohio. They now reside in Low Moor, Iowa. They were the parents of six children, of whom one died in infancy, and one daughter, Jennie, when twenty-six years of age. Of the living, Elsie

is the wife of our subject. Edward L. married Mary Brazell, and they have three children, Neal, Ruth and an infant. They now reside in Low Moor, Clinton county, Iowa. Olivia is the wife of Fred Montgomery, and they reside in St. Louis. Celia M. died October 12, 1889. To Mr. and Mrs. Dudley three children have been born: Fred A., January 13, 1890; Charles E., July 13, 1892; and Florence E., May 17, 1896.

After his marriage Mr. Dudley brought his wife to the old homestead, which he has since controlled. In his farming operations, which are of general a nature, he has met with a fair degree of success. Politically he is a Republican, but he has never made politics the ruling spirit of his life, preferring to give his entire time and attention to his farming interests. He has served as school trustee, because of his interest in the public schools. Fraternally he is a member of Myndon lodge, No. 41, Mystic Workers of the World.

**J**OHAN P. BICKERT, deceased, was for many years one of the important factors in the business circles of Morrison, and his life was an exemplification of the term "the dignity of labor." The possibilities that America offers to her citizens he utilized, and though he came to this country in limited circumstances he steadily and perseveringly worked his way upward, leaving the ranks of the many to stand among the successful few.

Mr. Bickert was born in Fulda, Germany, June 22, 1832, and was reared and educated in his native land. At the age of seventeen he emigrated to America, and in early life worked as a laborer in Virginia

and Pennsylvania. In the latter state he learned the shoemaker's trade which he followed for several years before coming west. It was in 1856 that he became a resident of Whiteside county, Illinois. He lived for a short time in Sterling, then removed to Fulton, and in the spring of 1858 took up his residence in Morrison. He worked at his trade for S. W. Johnston until April, 1860, when he bought out his employer and engaged in the boot and shoe business on his own account until 1874. During that year he purchased a farm in Union Grove township and turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, which he successfully carried on for some years, but finally sold the farm and returned to Morrison. In 1883, in partnership with his son-in-law, H. H. Peterson, he again embarked in the boot and shoe business, in which he continued until 1890, when he retired from business, having amassed a fortune in his trade.

In Morrison, April 22, 1862, Mr. Bickert was united in marriage with Miss Mary Ann Blose, who died February 11, 1864, leaving one daughter, Carrie, now the wife H. H. Peterson, of Morrison. They have four children, namely: John B., Mary J., Charles F. and Emerson B. Mr. Bickert was again married, October 10, 1879, his second union being with Mrs. Jennie Dufour, who was born in Tompkins county, New York, October 8, 1843, a daughter of George and Ruth Hopkins. Her father was born in Connecticut and was able to trace his ancestry back to one by the name of Hopkins who came to this country on the Mayflower. His father, George Hopkins, served through the war of 1812. Steven A. Hopkins, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, was a great-great-

uncle of Mrs. Bickert. In 1855 she came west with her aunt, Sarah Chandler, who died four days after their arrival in Lee county, Illinois, and she then lived with her uncle, Thomas Hopkins, for a number of years.

Besides his town property, Mr. Bickert owned about five hundred acres of land at the time of his death. On the 25th of September, 1891, while superintending the tearing down of a building upon his farm, he met with a serious accident, breaking the thigh of his right leg, and the ankle of the left foot, from the effects of which he never recovered. He died October 26, 1891, honored and respected by all who knew him. Socially, he was a member of the Masonic order; and politically was an ardent Democrat. He was a man of the highest respectability, and those who were most intimately associated with him speak in unqualified terms of his sterling integrity, his honor in business and his fidelity to all the duties of public and private life.

**W**ILLIAM FRASER has for almost half a century been identified with the interests of this section of the state, and is now living retired from active labor in Morrison at the age of eighty-four years. There is an old age that is a benediction to all that comes in contact with it, that gives out of its rich stores of learning and experience, and grows stronger intellectually and spiritually as the years pass. Such is the wife of Mr. Fraser, an encouragement to his associates and an example well worthy of emulation.

He was born in Kirk Hill, Inverness-shire, Scotland, January 12, 1810, a son of Alexander and Elizabeth (Fraser) Fraser,

who were not related prior to their marriage. In Scotland the father followed the stone cutter's trade and served as tax collector of Inverness for the greater portion of his life. When our subject was sixteen years of age the family emigrated to America and settled in Nova Scotia, where the mother died August 18, 1839; the father January 2, 1844. They had five children, of whom William, our subject, is the eldest; Donald married Margaret Stewart, now deceased, and resides in Nova Scotia; Thomas died at an early age; Catherine, deceased, was the wife of Henry Dunbar, of Nova Scotia, and Thomas married Margaret McQuarrie and lives in Nova Scotia.

Our subject received his education in the common schools of his native land, and after coming to America he engaged in teaching school in Picto, Nova Scotia, for three years, after which he followed farming in that country for sixteen years. In the meantime he was married to Miss Christina McLeod, of Picto, who was born October 18, 1816, a daughter of Alexander and Christina McLeod. She is also of Scotch descent. To Mr. and Mrs. Fraser were born eight children, all of whom are still living, namely: A. M., who is now Queen's magistrate in New Glasgow, Nova Scotia; Don R., an attorney-at-law and deputy county clerk at Mount Carroll, Illinois; Eliza, wife of P. R. Boyd, of Morrison; Christina, wife of R. T. Waller, of Rockford, Illinois; Thomas H., who is engaged in literary work at his home in Morrison; A. W. H., ex-member of the Idaho legislature, who is engaged in mining in that state and in British Columbia; Kate, an artist of San Francisco, California; and Ella Belle, wife of Dr. Weller, of San Francisco.

In 1851 Mr. and Mrs. Fraser came to

Illinois and located in Carroll county, where he engaged in teaching school during the winters of 1851, 1852, 1853 and 1854, while through the summer months his time was occupied by farm work. He purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 28, Salem township, that county, and there he made his home, engaged in agricultural pursuits for twenty years. In the spring of 1871 he came to Whiteside county and bought a farm of ninety acres on section 20, Mt. Pleasant township, to the cultivation and improvement of which he devoted his energies for eight years, but since 1879 has lived retired in Morrison, enjoying the rest which should always follow an honorable and well-spent life.

Mr. and Mrs. Fraser are both active and prominent members of the Presbyterian church of Morrison, and he has been an elder in the churches with which he has been connected for fifty-one years. He is a staunch advocate of temperance principles, and his wife is an active worker in the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. In the past he had affiliated with the Republican party, but of late years has taken no part in political affairs. While a resident of Carroll county, he most creditably filled the offices of school trustee, highway commissioner and supervisor of Salem township for two terms, and has been honored with local offices since coming to this county. He has always been found true to every trust reposed in him, whether public or private, and has the confidence and respect of his fellow citizens and of all who know him.

**L**EVERETT S. BURRITT, deceased, was one of the honored and highly respected citizens of Whiteside county, where

he made his home for over forty years. He was born in Hinesburg, Chittenden county, Vermont, July 29, 1833, a son of Nelson A. and Chloe (Gray) Burritt, also natives of that state. The father was a farmer and dairyman, engaged in the manufacture of butter and cheese. In 1856 he came to Illinois and purchased a farm of three hundred and twenty acres in Union Grove township, Whiteside county, after which he returned to Vermont. Shortly afterward he met with an accident, which resulted in his death in 1857. In his family were five children, Marquis D., Oscar C., Matilda, Leverett and Henry, all living with the exception of Leverett.

In the Green Mountain state our subject grew to manhood, and his early education, acquired in the district schools, was supplemented by a course at St. Albans, Vermont. He remained on the home farm with his father until he attained his majority, and then accompanied his sister and her husband, S. Needham, on their removal to La Salle county, Illinois, where they rented land and engaged in farming for a short time. They next came to Whiteside county and took up their residence on the half section of land which their father had purchased for them.

At Union Grove Mr. Burritt became acquainted with Miss Elizabeth A. Simonson, who was then teaching school in Prairie Center, Union Grove township, and on the 28th of February, 1859, they were united in marriage at Altay, Schuyler county, New York. She is a native of that state, born in Starkey, Yates county, May 25, 1833, and a daughter of Walter and Ann Maria (Clark) Simonson. The father was born in Owego, Tioga county, New York, May 2, 1801, and was a son of Christopher Simon-



son, a shoemaker by trade, who died when his son was only five years old. The mother died two years later, and Walter Simonson was then reared by his maternal relatives. In early life he learned the trade of cloth dressing, and was employed in the woolen mills for a number of years. He finally lost his sight through the dust of the mills. At Great Bend, Pennsylvania, he was married, March 7, 1830, to Miss Ann Maria Clark, who was born at that place, September 28, 1803, and they became the parents of seven children, of whom Mrs. Burritt is second in order of birth. Mrs. Simonson was one of a family of nine children, five sons and four daughters, whose parents were James and Mehitable (Booth) Clark. Her father was a native of Connecticut, an early settler of Susquehanna county, Pennsylvania, and a hatter by trade. Mr. Simonson died November 13, 1876, and his wife passed away March 15, 1881. To Mr. and Mrs. Burritt were born three children, namely: Maria E. married S. J. Emery, of Shelby county, Iowa, who died shortly after their marriage, and she died June 27, 1894. Emma Belle and Walter E. live with their mother in Morrison.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Burritt located on a farm in Fenton township, Whiteside county, where they made their home for twenty-two years, and then spent one year in Morrison, at the end of which time they removed to Lyndon township, where our subject purchased a farm of two hundred five acres of land, having sold his farm in Fenton township, which consisted of two hundred two and a half acres. For two years he lived retired from active labor in the village of Lyndon and then located on his farm, where he made his home for five years, during which time he devoted his

attention to stock raising, leaving his farm to be operated by others. In 1890 he returned to Morrison, where he lived retired until called from this life August 7, 1899, his remains being interred in Grove Hill cemetery, Morrison. In his political affiliations he was a Republican, and at different times filled the offices of school director, pathmaster and postmaster of Fenton. Fraternally he was connected with the Modern Woodmen of America, and religiously was a member of the Presbyterian church, to which his wife and family also belongs. He was a man of the highest respectability, and those who were most intimately associated with him speak in unqualified terms of his sterling integrity, his honor in business and his fidelity to all the duties of public and private life.

NOAH E. PAPE, a well-known enterprising farmer of section 1, Ustick township, Whiteside county, is a native of Illinois, his birth occurring in Carroll county, December 26, 1866. His parents, John and Melvina (Green) Pape, were natives of England and Ohio, respectively, and were married in Illinois. The father came to America when a young man, and later purchased a farm of eighty acres in Ustick township, upon which he was engaged in general farming at the time of his death, which occurred in 1876.

In politics he was a Republican, and he creditably filled the offices of township assessor and collector. His wife is still living and makes her home in Ustick. She is a daughter of Hazel and Susanna Green, and is the mother of six children, all living, namely: Mary, wife of Samuel J. Hawk, a laborer of Fulton, by whom she has five

children; Jane, wife of W. S. Mitchell, a merchant of Thomson, by whom she had four children, two now living; Noah E., our subject; George, who married Lizzie Peterkin and is engaged in farming in Ustick; Minnie, wife of Frank Milne, a farmer of Clyde township, by whom she has three children; and John, who is with his mother.

Noah E. Pape was educated in the district schools of Ustick township and remained at home with his parents until he attained his majority. On the fifth of January, 1888, he led to the marriage altar Miss Ann Dyson, who was born in Carroll county, February 14, 1868, a daughter of Charles and Catharine (Carter) Dyson, also natives of this state. She is one of a family of five children, three still living, namely: Frank, a farmer of Carroll county; Ann, wife of our subject; and Emma, wife of William Peterkin, also of Carroll county. Mr. and Mrs. Pape have five children: Floyd, Clay, Blanch, Lee and Lepha, the three eldest of whom are now attending school.

After his marriage Mr. Pape located on a farm in York township, Carroll county, which he rented for two years, and then in connection with his two brothers, he rented the two-hundred-acre farm on which he now resides. He is interested to some extent in stock raising but gives the greater part of his attention to general farming and is a most skillful and thorough agriculturist. He is quite a prominent member of a number of civic societies, belonging Ustick Camp, No. 3995, M. W. A., in which he has held several offices; Ustick lodge, No. 9, Mystic Workers of the World, of which he is now banker; and the Knights of Pythias lodge, No. 120, of Morrison. As a Republican, he takes quite an active inter-

est in political affairs, and has held the offices of road commissioner and school director for three years each. His wife holds membership in the Baptist church.

**R**ICHARD I. HARDY, a progressive and enterprising agriculturist of section 13, Ustick township, is a native of Whiteside county, his birth having occurred in Mount Pleasant township, February 22, 1856. His father, William Hardy, was born in Lincolnshire, England, in 1833, and came to America in 1850. After one year spent in New York he came to this county, where he at first worked as a farm hand. At length he was able to purchase eighty acres of land in Mount Pleasant township, and as time advanced he added to the original tract, at one time eighty acres, and in all one hundred and sixty acres, all in Mount Pleasant township. Throughout his active business life he gave his attention to general farming and stock raising and met with good success, owning at the time of his death one hundred and sixty acres in Mount Pleasant township, and one hundred and twenty acres in Ustick township, and a quarter section in La Moure county, North Dakota. He married Mrs. Keziah Richardson, also a native of Lincolnshire, England, who came to this country when young as the wife of his brother, Thomas Hardy. By her first husband she had one child, Susanna, now the wife of Joseph Jordon, of Gordon Plains, by whom she had three children. Seven children were born of the second marriage, but one died in infancy. They were Amos, who lives on a part of the old home farm in Mount Pleasant township and has four children; Richard, our subject; Winfield, who also lives on a part

of the home farm and has two children; Horace, who died when a young man; Olive, who died in infancy; Alice, who died young, and Ruby, who married David Stewart, of North Dakota, and died in 1893, leaving one child, Lee. The mother of these children died in 1870, and subsequently the father married her sister, Mrs. Elicia Kennen, widow of William Kennen, who died in Illinois, leaving one child, Elizabeth. During the last two years of his life the father lived in North Dakota, but died in 1890 while on a visit to his son in Union Grove township, this county.

Reared upon the home farm, Richard I. Hardy was educated in the district schools of Mount Pleasant township, and after leaving school he worked as a farm hand for two years. Subsequently he successfully operated rented land until he was able to purchase eighty acres of land on section 13, Ustick township, where he now lives. Besides this property he also operates another eighty-acre tract belonging to his sister.

On the 31st of July, 1878, Mr. Hardy was united in marriage with Miss Ella McMillen, who was born in Ohio October 20, 1854, and when young came to Illinois with her parents, William and Nancy (Butler) McMillen, who settled in Round Grove. The father was born in Ohio June 27, 1803, and died in 1880, while the mother was born in West Virginia February 25, 1807, and died in 1874. They had fourteen children, of whom three died in infancy, the others being as follows: Eliza J. is the wife of James Ewing, of Wilsonville, Alabama, and they have two children; L. Margaret married James Rhodes, of Berlin, Ohio, and died in 1866, leaving a family of children; William M. was a soldier of Company H, Second West Virginia Cavalry, during the Civil war,

and died soon after the close of that struggle, leaving five children; James H. was a member of the same company as his brother, and died about 1870; Sarah M., the twin sister of James H., married L. J. Thompson, and died in 1889, leaving five children; Amanda M. married R. M. Thompson, and died in Lyndon township, Whiteside county, in 1893; Andrew L., a soldier of the same company as his two brothers, is now living in Jackson, Ohio, and has a family of five children; A. Murray and Emerson, also members of Company H, Second West Virginia Cavalry: the former is now a resident of Marietta, Ohio, and has seven children, while the latter lives in New York City, and has five children; S. Marion was killed in battle while serving in the same company and regiment as his brothers; and Ella N. is the wife of our subject. Mr. and Mrs. Hardy have four children, namely: Myrtle L., Mabel A., Murray W. and Maude M., all at home with the exception of the oldest, who is now the wife of James McKee, of Ustick township, and has one child, Harold.

After his marriage Mr. Hardy engaged in farming in Mount Pleasant township for three years, and then worked for his father in Ustick township for four years, after which he returned to Mount Pleasant township for two years. At the end of that time he located upon his present farm on section 13, Ustick township, and for a number of years he operated a corn sheller and thresher in connection with his work as a general farmer and stock raiser, but sold out that business in 1899. He has made many improvements upon his place since it came into his possession, and has met with good success in his undertakings. He casts his ballot with the Republican party, and has been elected to minor offices, having served

as school director and road commissioner. While in the latter office he did much toward improving the roads and bridges in his township. Fraternally he is a member of Henderson camp, No. 13, M. W. A., of Morrison.

**M**ERIL MEAD, deceased, was for many years prominently identified with the business interests of Morrison and also bore an important part in public affairs. He was born in Clark county, Ohio, December 18, 1820, a son of Allen and Sally (Scarlett) Mead, natives of New York and Vermont, respectively. The father served as a soldier of the war of 1812, under General Winfield Scott, and during the last twenty-eight years of his life was a minister of the Free Will Baptist church. He also followed farming. In his family were ten children, of whom Merrill was the second in order of birth.

The early education of our subject was acquired in the public schools of his native county, after which he attended college at Springfield, Ohio. On the completion of his education he engaged in teaching school for some time in Harmony, Clark county. There he was married, September 30, 1847, to Miss Harriet Newlove, who was born in Harmony township, Clark county, Ohio, April 3, 1830, about two and a half miles from the Mead homestead in Springfield township, Clark county, Ohio. Her parents, Labourn and Elizabeth (Inman) Newlove, were both natives of England, the mother being from Yorkshire, and the latter was a daughter of Matthew and Ellen (Chapman) Inman, farming people of that country, in whose family were six children, five sons and one daughter. Mrs. Mead's paternal grand-

parents were Joseph and Ann (Brown) Newlove, natives of the north of England. There the grandfather was quite extensively and successfully engaged in farming until 1820, when he came to the United States, accompanied by his wife and family, and settled in Clark county, Ohio, where he purchased a large farm and where he continued to make his home throughout the remainder of his life. Matthew Inman, Mrs. Mead's maternal grandfather, also came to America and bought a farm in Clark county, Ohio, on which he made his home until death. Laybourn Newlove was the third in order of birth in a family of seven children. In early life he learned the blacksmith's trade, and upon his farm conducted a shop, while he also extensively engaged in agricultural pursuits. The town of Harmony was laid out upon his farm. There he died October 21, 1865, and his wife passed away May 10, 1859. They were consistent members of the Methodist Protestant church, and were held in high regard by all who knew them. In their family were four children, namely: John, who died at the age of two years; Harriet, now Mrs. Mead; Joseph, who married Sarah Lindell, has four children living, and makes his home near Columbus, Ohio, and Ellen widow of John Kier, by whom she had four children now living and makes her home in Unionville, Whiteside county, Illinois.

To Mr. and Mrs. Mead were born six children: Elizabeth died at the age of thirteen years. Rilla S. died at the age of twenty-eight years. Meril Inman, who is engaged in the coal, ice, wood and feed business in Clinton, Iowa, married Amelia Sherwin, and they have seven children, all living, namely: Edwin H., Meril S., Maude

E., Mary Eva, Jonathan E., Mildred and Rilla M. Prior to going to Clinton he was a farmer in Union Grove township, Whiteside county, Illinois. Ellen died at the age of twenty-one years. Harriet and Eliza, twins, live with their mother in Morrison, both being graduates of the Morrison high school.

After his marriage Mr. Mead continued his residence in Clark county, Ohio, while he taught school in Harmony, until 1855, when he came to Whiteside county, Illinois, and took up land in Ustick township on a land warrant which was given to his mother for services rendered by his father in the war of 1812. There our subject engaged in farming until 1865, when he removed to Morrison, purchasing a farm of eighty acres, sixteen acres of which were within the corporate limits of the city. After locating here he engaged in the real estate and insurance business in connection with farming, representing the Oriental, Northwestern, and quite a number of large and reliable insurance companies. In business he prospered, and besides the valuable property he owned in this county, he had farms in Iowa and other parts of Illinois.

Politically he was a Whig in early life and later a Republican. While a resident of Ustick township he served as justice of the peace for seven years, and held the office of assessor of Harmony township, Clark county, Ohio, for ten consecutive years. He was also deputy United States marshal in that county during President Taylor's administration, and for one term was coroner of Whiteside county, and justice of the peace in Morrison for nine years. He was always found true to every trust reposed in him, either in public or private

life, and his official duties were discharged in a most commendable manner. Socially he was a member of the Odd Fellows lodge, No. 257, of Morrison, and religiously belonged to the Methodist church. He died of heart trouble, August 16, 1891, honored and respected by all who knew him. Mrs. Mead is an estimable lady of many sterling qualities, who was formerly a member of the Methodist Protestant church, but at the present time there is no church of that denomination in Morrison.

**G**EORGE Y. UPTON is one of Whiteside county's native sons and a representative of one of her most prominent and honored families, whose identification with her history dates from an early period in the development of the county. He was born in Lyndon township January 16, 1846, and is a son of Eli and Elizabeth Ann (Newcomb) Upton, whose sketch appears on another page of this volume. He received a good district school education in Mount Pleasant township. The first school which he attended was known as the Carroff school, which was built of unplanned boards; the roof was also of boards and the cracks were battened, no plaster being used. Mr. Upton can relate many interesting incidents of pioneer days, and well remembers the first locomotive run over the railroad through the county, it being the same that was exhibited at the World's Fair in Chicago in 1893 as the pioneer engine of the northwest.

Soon after his eighteenth birthday Mr. Upton entered the service of his country, enlisting February 24, 1864, in Company B, Thirty-fourth Illinois Veteran Volunteers, commanded by Captain John Parrot

and Colonel Kirk. After being mustered in at Dixon the regiment proceeded at once to Rossville, Georgia, where they camped until the opening of the Atlanta campaign, on the 6th of May. They were with Sherman on the celebrated march to the sea, and participated in the battles of Rocky Face Ridge, Chattahoochee river, Kenesaw Mountain and many notable engagements. After the fall of Atlanta the regiment started north and marched to Savannah, Georgia, December 25, 1864, where they remained about a month. From there they went to Goldsboro, North Carolina, and just before arriving at that place learned of the surrender of General Lee. They marched on to Washington, D. C., passing through Richmond and the Wilderness, and participated in the grand review. From the capital city they went to Parkersburg, West Virginia, and then by boat to Louisville, Kentucky, where they were mustered out July 12, 1865, being discharged at Camp Douglas, Chicago.

On his return to civil life, Mr. Upton resumed farming on the old homestead. He was married, February 5, 1866, to Miss Rose Ehnira Carter, who was born in Pennsylvania, July 3, 1850, and is a daughter of Harry E. and Lavina (Seeley) Carter, natives of Pennsylvania and New York, respectively. The father, who was a farmer by occupation, came to Illinois in 1868, but later spent one year in Iowa, after which he located in Morrison. At the end of another year he moved to a farm in Lyndon township, where he made his home for a few years, but in 1876 returned to Morrison, where his death occurred in 1888. In his family were seven children. Mr. and Mrs. Upton had two children: Edith, who died at the age of twenty-four years, was the

wife of Thomas J. Scotchbrook, and had four children, Beulah M., Ivy, Mary and Edith. Harry Eli is now a type liner employed in Chicago.

Mr. Upton continued to rent land of his father and engage in agricultural pursuits until 1882, when he removed to Morrison, where he was interested in business with his father as dealers in horses until 1895. In 1890, however, he removed to Chicago, where he has since engaged in the live stock business at the stock yards, but since 1893 has made his home in La Grange. He still owns a fine farm of one hundred and twenty acres in Mount Pleasant township, Whiteside county, besides property in La Grange. He is an upright, reliable business man, and in his undertakings has met with well-deserved success. In politics he is independent and in his social relations is a member of Morrison camp, No. 13, M. W. A., and Alpheus Clark post, No. 118, G. A. R.

**G**EORGE E. GOODENOUGH. Prominent among the successful farmers and extensive stock growers of this county may be named the subject of this historical notice, whose home is on section 10, Union Grove township. He was born in Jefferson county, New York, April 11, 1843, a son of Willard A. and Nancy J. (Hull) Goodenough. The father was also born in that county, March 24, 1822, and is a son of John and Betsy (Cobleigh) Goodenough, natives of Vermont, and a grandson of Levi Goodenough, life-long residents of the Green Mountain state. In 1818, John Goodenough removed to Jefferson county, New York, where he had previously taken up fifty-five acres of timber land, and he became one of the most extensive and suc-

cessful dairymen of the county, his cheese being known throughout the east. Both he and the grandmother of our subject died there. Of their eleven children six reached years of maturity: Helan M., who is still living in Jefferson county, New York, at the age of eighty-two years; Willard A., father of our subject; Roswell P. and Lurisa A., both residents of Morrison, Illinois; Robert, of Jefferson county, New York; and Laura, of Chicago.

In his native county, Willard A. Goodenough grew to manhood, and on the 13th of January, 1841, he married Miss Nancy Jane Hull, who was born in Morristown, New York, August 22, 1820, a daughter of Nathaniel and Prudence (Fish) Hull natives of Massachusetts. Our subject is the oldest of the five children born to this union; Esther J. married James Wessel, who died leaving five children, and she is now the wife of Benjamin Benson, of Morrison; Lewis died in infancy; Emma and Ella L. were twins. The former married L. A. Pollard and died in Morrison, and their only child died in infancy. Ella L. is the wife of O. L. Kent, a miller of Saline county, Nebraska, and they have two sons. The mother of these children died in November, 1891, and for his second wife the father married Mrs. Mary (Fish) Ellsworth. In 1865 he brought his family to Whiteside county, Illinois, and took up his residence in Union Grove township, where he successfully engaged in farming until the spring of 1892, since which time he has lived retired in Morrison. After leaving his farm he rented it until 1898, when he sold it to our subject. He is a Republican in politics, has creditably filled a number of local offices of honor and trust, and is an active and prominent member of the Baptist church,

of which he has been a deacon and trustee for almost twenty years.

Reared in his native county George E. Goodenough acquired his early education in its public school, and later attended the Union Academy of Belleville, New York. He came with his parents to this state and continued to reside upon the old homestead in Union Grove township until forty-one years of age. In the meantime he was married October 24, 1867, to Miss Mary De Groodt, who was born in Rockford, Winnebago county, Illinois, February 15, 1849, a daughter of John and Mary (Danforth) De Groodt, natives of New York. At an early day the father came to Illinois, and in 1853 took up three hundred and twenty acres of land in Union Grove township, Whiteside county, where he made his home until 1864, when he sold the place and removed to Missouri. He died there in 1891. His wife is also deceased. Of their large family of children seven reached man and womanhood, Mrs. Goodenough being the youngest. To our subject and wife were born four children: (1) Minnie is the wife of John F. Reed, a farmer of Union Grove township, and they have four children: Vallie, Willis, Lola and Florence. (2) John William died at the age of five months. (3) Arthur L. married Hulda Bull, and they reside on his grandfather's old farm of two hundred and seventy-five acres, which now belongs to our subject. (4) Bert E. aids his father in the operation of the home place.

Mr. Goodenough's first purchase consisted of one hundred and twenty acres on section 10, Union Grove township, and he now owns six hundred and seventy-five acres, including the old homestead, where his son, Arthur, now resides. He is a systematic and progressive agriculturist, who

gives special attention to stock raising, and generally keeps about three hundred head of hogs and two hundred head of cattle, besides a good herd of grade Norman draft horses, being quite extensively engaged in feeding and shipping stock to the Chicago markets.

Mr. and Mrs. Goodenough are earnest and consistent members of the Baptist church of Morrison, and he and his son belong to Morrison tent, Knights of the Maccabees. Politically he is identified with the Republican party, and as one of the prominent and influential citizens of his community he has been called upon to fill public office. He has served as commissioner of highways for six years and supervisor for two terms, during which time he was a member of the committee on education and chairman of the committee on the county farm and its inmates.

**JOHN J. REIMERS**, a well-known veterinary surgeon of Morrison, where he has been in successful practice since 1881, was born in Wiemerstedt, Province of Holstein, Germany, August 13, 1852, and is a son of Hans and Antje (Boe) Reimers. His ancestors lived in Feddring from 1500 to 1864, but prior to that time had made their home in the birthplace of our subject and took an active part in the war for independence, one of them being a leader of the forces. The father was an independent farmer, a man of prominence in his community and held office similar to that of our supervisor. Both he and his wife were members of the Lutheran church and died in their native land, honored and respected by all who knew them.

Our subject was educated in the schools

near his boyhood home until fourteen years of age and then attended the gymnasium at Meldorf for six years. He then took up the study of veterinary surgeon at Berlin, Hanover, Stuttgart and Giessen, and was graduated from a veterinary college at Hanover, in 1876. Five years of preparation, including a post-graduate course of a year and a half, made him very proficient in his chosen calling. In 1877 he came to the United States and first located at Davenport, Iowa, where he remained for four years, and in 1881 came to Morrison, where he has since engaged in practice with excellent success, having the best practice of any veterinary surgeon in the town or surrounding country. He devotes his entire time and attention to his professional duties and has secured the patronage of the best class of people. In his political views he is a Democrat.

On the 30th of April, 1884, Mr. Reimers married Mrs. Mary E. Carter-Hall, a daughter of James E. Carter, a native of New York, who has made his home in Morrison for the past thirty years.

**JOHN C. PARNHAM**, a representative and prominent farmer of Ustick township, residing on section 34, is a man of more than ordinary business capacity, intelligent and well-informed, and at once upon becoming a resident here identified himself with the progress and best interests of the people.

Mr. Parnham was born on the 11th of November, 1836, in Lincolnshire, England, where his parents, John and Mary (Craven) Parnham, spent their entire lives as farming people. Of the six children born to them three died in infancy. Our subject is the oldest of the others; Elizabeth is the wife of



Anthony Treadgold, of Emmetsburg, Iowa, by whom she has two sons; and Sarah died at the age of twenty-one years.

In his native land Mr. Parnham was reared and educated, and he remained at home until he reached the age of twenty-one years, when he determined to try his fortune on this side of the Atlantic, believing that better opportunities were here afforded ambitious and enterprising young men than in the older countries of Europe. On his arrival he located in Whiteside county, Illinois, where he worked as a farm hand for four years, and then, having saved a little money, he commenced renting land. In 1868 he made his first purchase, consisting of two hundred acres, upon which he now resides, and which he has converted into one of the best improved and most desirable farms of Ustick township. A few years ago he erected thereon a good modern dwelling and has made many other improvements upon the place which add to its attractive and thrifty appearance. As a farmer and stock raiser he has met with more than ordinary success, and is to-day one of the well-to-do citizens of his community.

On the 28th of October, 1862, Mr. Parnham married Mrs. Jane (Ridley) Parnham, who was also born in Lincolnshire, England, June 25, 1833, a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Rush) Ridley. The father died in that country in 1891, but the mother is still living and makes her home there. For her first husband, Mrs. Parnham married Alfred Parnham, a native of England, where they made their home until after their marriage. He and one child were killed in a cyclone which passed through Comanche, Iowa, in 1860. By that union Mrs. Parnham had three children. One of these, William A.,

now living upon a part of our subject's farm, married Fannie Seldon, and has four children: Grace M., Ruth E., Edna C. and Gertrude H. Three daughters were born to our subject and his wife, but two died in infancy, the only one now living being Gertrude A., now the wife of Robert A. Norrish, whose sketch appears on another page of this work.

Mr. and Mrs. Parnham are active and faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he is serving as steward and teacher in the Sunday school, having a class of young ladies. He takes a commendable interest in everything calculated to advance the moral or intellectual welfare of his community and his support is never withheld from any enterprise for the public good. He cast his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln, and by his ballot always supports the man whom he believes best qualified to fill the office regardless of party lines. He has been honored with a number of township offices of trust and responsibility, the duties of which he has most capably discharged, having served as commissioner of highways nine years, treasurer of the board of commissioners, and school director and school trustee.

**T**HE FIRST NATIONAL BANK of Morrison, one of the solid financial institutions in this section of the state, was established in January, 1865, by Leander Smith, Lester H. Robinson, William M. Spears, Charles Spears, James Snyder, A. Nelson Young, Winfield S. Wilkinson, Aaron C. Jackson, Willis T. Johnson and Albert J. Jackson, who composed the first board of directors. None of these are now serving with the exception of Willis T. Johnson, of

Chicago. At their first meeting Leander Smith was elected president; Lester H. Robinson, vice-president; and Albert J. Jackson, cashier. On the death of the first president, Winfield S. Wilkinson was elected to that office, and he in turn was succeeded by E. A. Smith, a son of Leander Smith, deceased. The second vice-president was Henry B. Wilkinson, who is still serving in that capacity, while Albert J. Jackson has been the cashier since the organization of the bank. F. A. Van Osdal has been clerk in the bank for thirteen years, and H. T. Griffin for four years. On the 7th of March, 1898, the number of directors was changed from ten to eight, and is now composed of H. W. Smith, H. B. Wilkinson, O. Woods, D. S. Spafford, W. F. Johnson, E. A. Smith, Charles Shirk and M. H. Potter, all residents of Morrison with the exception of Mr. Johnson. The bank has a capital stock of one hundred thousand dollars, and under the managements of its present officials has steadily prospered.

**L**UCIUS E. RICE, one of the most progressive and public-spirited citizens of Lyndon, is a native of Massachusetts, born in Worcester county, September 7, 1830, and a son of Augustus Rice, who was born in the same county, August 20, 1800. When a young man the father was a sailor; he studied navigation and was master of a vessel engaged in the coasting trade, and also made several trips to Europe. In Massachusetts he married Miss Esther Brooks, who was born in that state August 16, 1802, and belonged to an old New England family. Her paternal grandmother was a native of England. She had one uncle who

was a soldier of the war of 1812, and in the same struggle her husband's father, John Rice, and his son Amos also participated. The Rice family was founded in America in 1680, by four brothers, natives of Wales, who settled in the New England states, and from one of them our subject is descended. To Augustus and Esther (Brooks) Rice were born six children, one of whom died young. John B., one of the best posted and most prominent lawyers of Illinois, died in Ottawa in 1894. Franklin A. died in this county in 1854. Lucius E., of this review, is the next of the family. Fitz Hiram, an attorney of California, who studied law in Boston, is married and has one daughter, Lucy, now a resident of Watertown, Massachusetts. Esther D. is the wife of Henry G. Putnam, a prosperous land agent of Dallas, Texas, and they have six children: John; Augustus; Gardner; Jay; Mrs. Ella Still and Birdie. After his marriage the father of our subject turned his attention to farming and continued to make his home in Massachusetts for five years, after which he lived in Cortland county, New York, for four years. While there he ran a boat on the Erie canal. At the end of four years he came west and took up a claim of four hundred acres in what is now Lyndon township, Whiteside county, Illinois, but at that time formed a part of Jo Daviess county. At that time the land had not been surveyed, but when it came into market he purchased it from the government. Soon after his arrival the settlers got together and drew up a code of laws and enforced them. Mr. Rice was one of the first commissioners that transacted any of the county business, and was instrumental in locating the county seat at Lyndon, but it was afterward removed to Sterling and still later to



L. E. RICE.



Morrison. His time was spent in farming, but he always took an active and commendable interest in everything pertaining to the best welfare of his township and county. He died in 1864, his wife in 1883, honored and respected by all who knew them.

Lucius E. Rice was only six years old when brought by his parents to this county, and here amid pioneer scenes he grew to manhood. On his arrival there were about six hundred Indians still in the county, but they were soon driven away and sought homes on the other side of the Mississippi. He was provided with excellent educational advantages, and after attending the Lyndon Academy was a student at Knox College for three years. His brother John graduated from the same college, being a classmate of Justice Craig, and also Judge Smith, of Rock Island. Before completing the course our subject was called home, in 1857, on account of the illness of his father, and he then took charge of the farm, which he operated for some time. Nearly all his life he has been interested in farming, and for a few years was quite extensively engaged in that occupation, but since his removal has only the village of Lyndon, in 1872, moved to operated a small farm of forty acres.

On the 9th of June, 1874, Mr. Rice was united in marriage with Miss Martha C. Coburn, who was born in Vermont July 6, 1838, a daughter of Anson and Salina (Osgood) Coburn, also natives of that state, where they spent their entire lives. In their family were four children, namely: (1) Adeline married Horace Warner, of Holyoke, Massachusetts, and died in a hospital in Boston. She had three children, two now living: Salina, wife of Charles Judd, of

Holyoke, and Minnie, also a resident of Holyoke and the widow of William Trascot, by whom she had one son, William. (2) Henry died at the age of twenty-three years. (3) Mary is the widow of John Morgan and a resident of Buckhead, Georgia. She has two children. (4) Martha C. is the wife of our subject. For sixteen years she successfully engaged in teaching school, first in Vermont and later in Wisconsin, while for the last four years of that time she taught in Lyndon, Illinois. She came to this county in 1868, and it was here that she became acquainted with Mr. Rice. Three children were born of their union: Perry F. graduated from the Missouri Medical College of St. Louis, in April, 1899, and is now a physician of Hillsdale, Illinois; John B. is now pursuing a classical course at Knox College, Galesburg; and Salina C. has received a high-school education and is at home with her parents.

Mr. Rice was a prime organizer of the Farmers' Co-operative Association, which had a capital of one hundred thousand dollars, and in which he was a large investor, but through a little mismanagement the enterprise never materialized. During the trying days of the Civil war he efficiently served as supervisor of Lyndon township, and was also a member of the central committee of the Republican party, but now affiliates with the Democracy. He is one of the most prominent and influential men of his community, one whose support is never withheld from any enterprise for the public good, and he has faithfully served his fellow-citizens in the capacity of assessor, supervisor and justice of the peace, having filled the last named office for the past fifteen years in a most creditable and acceptable manner.

WINFIELD J. HARDY, a practical and enterprising agriculturist of Mount Pleasant township, owns and operates one hundred and ten acres of land, constituting one of the valuable and highly improved farms of the locality. His possessions have all been acquired through his own efforts, and as the result of his consecutive endeavor he has won a place among the substantial citizens of his native county.

Mr. Hardy was born in Mount Pleasant township February 12, 1858, and is a son of William and Keziah (Richardson) Hardy. The father was born in Lincolnshire, England, January 27, 1832, and the mother was also a native of the same land, her birth having occurred in 1828. By occupation William Hardy was a farmer, and in 1852 he crossed the Atlantic to America, taking up his abode in New York, where he remained for some time. He then came to Illinois, and for several years carried on agricultural pursuits in Mount Pleasant township, Whiteside county, after which he purchased land in Ustick township, continuing its cultivation until 1877. He then removed to Morrison, but after two years located in Ustick township, and in 1888 went to North Dakota, where he purchased land and engaged in farming. After three years he returned to Illinois on a visit, and here his death occurred. His first wife had died in 1869, and he afterward married her sister, Mrs. Alicia Kennan, who was then a widow, and who died April 2, 1885. There were six children by the first marriage, three of whom are living—Richard L., Amos W. and Winfield J.

The last named obtained his education in the country schools of his native township, and remained at home with his parents until he had attained his majority, assisting

in the labors of the fields and meadows and thus gaining a good practical knowledge of the occupation which he has made his life work. After reaching man's estate he worked for two years as a farm hand and then rented land for a year. About that time he was married, Miss Elva Seaman becoming his wife on the 1st of January, 1882. She was born in Lyndon township, Whiteside county, October 2, 1856, and is a daughter of David and Amy (Sweet) Seaman, natives of New York, who came to Illinois about 1852. Her mother was of Scotch descent, and after the death of her first husband, in 1858, she became the wife of William Hicks, and is now living in Morrison. The children of her first marriage are Ephraim, who died in childhood, and Elva, now Mrs. Hardy.

After their marriage our subject and his wife located upon a rented farm, which was their home for twelve years, on the expiration of which period they took up their abode on a part of the old Hardy homestead. Their union has been blessed with two children: Ray W., born December 29, 1883, and Carlie A., born October 9, 1888, the elder now a student in the schools of Morrison.

Mr. Hardy is engaged in general farming and is one of the progressive agriculturists of the community. For a number of years, in partnership with Eli Harrison, he operated a thresher and corn sheller, and made considerable money through that industry, which he continued until 1894. When he located upon the farm which is now his home, it was entirely unimproved. He has erected a comfortable residence, built good barns and other outbuildings necessary for the care of stock and grain and has placed the land under a high state of culti-

vation, the well tilled fields yielding to him excellent returns. He raises some stock, making a specialty of hogs, and his industry, combined with his honorable business methods, has brought to him a comfortable competence. Mr. Hardy is a member of the Fraternal Tribune lodge, of Morrison. He has served as school director and in his political views he is independent, voting for the man whom he thinks best qualified for the office, regardless of party affiliations. Industry and enterprise are numbered among his chief characteristics and make him one of the leading and representative citizens of the community.

SAMUEL A. LANGDON, one of Morrison's most esteemed citizens, was for many years prominently identified with the agricultural interests of the county, but at present is not actively engaged in any business. He was born in Berkshire county, Massachusetts, June 17, 1833, a son of Amos and Naomi (Thompson) Langdon, also natives of that county. There the grandfather, Amos Langdon, Sr., spent his entire life as a farmer, his father, Noah Langdon, being one of the early settlers of the county, arriving there in 1755. During the Revolutionary war, Amos enlisted from Berkshire county, at the age of nineteen, with his two brothers, Martin and Seth, as soldiers of the Continental army. In his family were eight children, five sons and three daughters, of whom the father of our subject was third in order of birth. He became an extensive stock breeder of his native county, and served his fellow citizens as a member of the state legislature in 1840 and in 1852. He never came west, but died in Massachusetts, in January, 1862. His

wife afterward came to Whiteside county, and was living with her daughter in Hume township at the time of her death, which occurred January 19, 1876. Her father, Samuel Thompson, was of English descent, as well as the Langdon family. Our subject is now the only one living in a family of nine children, who in order of birth were as follows: Seth S.; Zaphna V., Reuben A., Almena R., Milo T., Albert C., Marilla A., Samuel A. and Amanda J.

Upon the home farm Samuel A. Langdon grew to manhood, and in the district schools of the neighborhood he acquired his early education, which was supplemented by a business course at Bacon's Commercial College, in Cincinnati, Ohio. At the age of twenty-two he went to Ross county, Ohio, and for several years was station agent for the Baltimore & Ohio Southwestern Railroad, at Lyndon, which town was named by him. He also served as its first postmaster and still has his postmaster's commission. While holding the position of agent he was engaged in the grain business, and when he retired from the railroad service he embarked in merchandising at that place, where he remained until elected treasurer of Ross county in 1865, when he removed to Chillicothe, the county seat. So acceptably did he fill the office, that he was re-elected in 1867 for another two-years' term.

Being in poor health, Mr. Langdon determined to come to Illinois, in 1871, and accordingly came to Whiteside county. After living in Morrison for one year, he purchased a farm of three hundred and forty-four acres, and to its cultivation and improvement he devoted his energies for twenty-two years, but since 1894 has lived retired in Morrison, surrounded by all the

comforts and many of the luxuries of life. While in the country he gave special attention to the breeding and raising of Holstein cattle, having the first herd of the kind in this locality, and he often kept as high as eighty head upon his place.

On the 25th of November, 1862, Mr. Langdon was united in marriage with Miss Lucelia Brewer, who was born in Portland township, this county, April 3, 1844, a daughter of Daniel P. and Emeline (Hollister) Brewer, pioneers of Whiteside county, who are mentioned more fully in the sketch of D. P. Brewer on another page of this volume. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Langdon, namely: Elsie L., wife of F. A. Belt, a florist of Sterling, by whom she has two children; Porter B., a resident of Portland, Oregon, who married Daisy Wharfield, and has three children; Buel A., who married Hattie Swarthout and is now editor and publisher of the Record of Morrison; Ross S., at home with his parents in Morrison; Clark E., who is a graduate of the Morrison high school and is also at home.

Mr. Langdon is a member of the Holstein Friesian Association, and is a Knight Templar Mason, belonging to the blue lodge, chapter and commandery of Chillicothe, Ohio. Politically he is a staunch supporter of the Democratic party, and during his residence in this county has served as supervisor three terms, school clerk fifteen years and school director for the same length of time. While in Ohio he also served as township treasurer for five years. His official duties have always been most promptly and faithfully discharged, and he has always been recognized as a useful and valued citizen of the communities in which his lot has been cast. His estimable wife is a member

of the Methodist Episcopal church, and both are held in high regard by all who know them.

**W**ILLIAM THOMSON, of Unionville, is now living a retired life in the enjoyment of a rest which he has truly earned and richly deserves by reason of his industrious efforts of former years. As one of the highly respected and honored citizens of his community he is well entitled to representation in the history of his adopted county.

Mr. Thomson was born in Ayrshire, Scotland, March, 1822, and is a son of Thomas and Margaret (Skeycoch) Thomson, also natives of Ayrshire, the former born in 1777, the latter in 1779. The father was a sailor and sawyer, who spent his entire life in his native place, and there died in 1847. His father, John Thomson, was a large land owner and extensive farmer of Ayrshire. His wife, Janet Blue, was born in Clark Manor, Scotland. They had four children, two sons and two daughters, all of whom lived and died at their birthplace. Of the eleven children born to the parents of our subject three died in infancy; Mary wedded James Kirkwood and died in Scotland at the age of eighty-three years; Janet married William Miller and died in the same country and about the age of seventy years; Jeannie died at the age of eighteen; John was killed in Scotland while in the employ of a railroad company at the age of sixty-seven years; William, our subject, is the next of the family; Margaret married Robert Dunlap and died when past sixty years of age; and Jeannie, the youngest of the family, is now deceased.

William Thomson was educated in the



parish schools of Scotland, and during his youth learned the weaver's trade. He also gained an excellent knowledge of carpentering and cabinet-making. He remained in his native land until twenty-seven years of age, and at the age of twenty-five he married Miss Jane Burns, who was born in Ayrshire in November, 1820. Two years later he came alone to the new world and first located in Maryland, where he was in the employ of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad as roadmaster of the division for three years.

At the end of that time he was joined by his wife, whom he had left in Scotland, and soon after her arrival they removed to West Virginia, where they made their home for ten years, leaving that state just at the close of the war. There he followed farming with good success. In 1866 he came to Whiteside county, Illinois, and for five years operated rented land near Round Grove, after which he purchased one hundred and sixty acres, which he immediately began to improve and cultivate. Two years later he added to his original purchase a one-hundred-and-twenty-acre tract, and subsequently bought eighty acres more, owning at the time he retired from active labor three hundred and sixty acres of fine farming land. He made all the improvements upon his property with the exception of those on the eighty-acre tract which had already been improved. In connection with general farming, he was successfully engaged in stock raising, his specialty being draft horses. In 1887 he laid aside business cares and moved to Unionville, where he had purchased two and a quarter acres of improved land, where he now has a pleasant home and outbuildings.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomson have had eight

children, namely: (1) William, a successful farmer of Ustick township, who purchased two hundred and eighty acres of land owned by his father, married Bertha Hoover, and had eleven children, all living with the exception of one son, George. (2) Archibald, who owns and operates a fine farm of eight hundred acres in Plymouth county, Iowa, married Margaret Crease, and has three children, Stephen, Jeannie and William B. (3) Robert B., who has one hundred and sixty acres in the same county, married Mary Stiles, by whom he has two children and an adopted daughter. (4) Hugh, who also owns a good farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Plymouth county, Iowa, married Fanny McKee, of Ustick, and has three children. (5) Mary J. is the wife of David Harrison, a retired farmer of Morrison, who still owns a farm in Union Grove township, and they have two children, Donald and Madge J. (6) Elizabeth W., who died in 1882, was the first wife of David G. Harrison, by whom she had three children: Otto, Jeannie and Euphemia. (7) Anna, who died in 1893, was the wife of Thomas Matthew, of Round Grove, and had four children, Archibald, Robert, Jeannie and Bessie, who are all married and have children—the great-grandchildren of our subject. Archibald Matthew has two children: Jeannie, wife of W. Heath, of Union Grove township, has one child, Bessie; Bessie, wife of James Steiner, of Round Grove has one daughter, and Robert married Gertrude Lewis and has one son.

In his political views Mr. Thomson is a Prohibitionist. During the first year of the Civil war, while a resident of West Virginia, he was one of the party that helped divide that state, and was one of the nine men that held the county of Tucker in the Union.

At that time he was serving as county surveyor and was quite prominent and influential. During his residence in Ustick township, this county, he served as school director, but never sought office, preferring to give his undivided attention to his business interests. His success in life is due to good management and hard work, and he well deserves the prosperity that has come to him. He is a worthy representative of that class of citizens who lead quiet, industrious, honest and useful lives, and constitute the best portion of a community. Religiously, both he and his wife are faithful members of the Presbyterian church of Morrison.

**E**LI UPTON, an honored pioneer of Whiteside county, who is now living retired in Morrison, was born in Peterboro, Hillsboro county, New Hampshire, September 28, 1811, a son of Eli and Abigail (Snow) Upton, also natives of that state, where the father was proprietor of a gristmill for a great many years. He finally came west and spent the last eight years with our subject in this county, where he died at the age of eighty-five years. As he was left an orphan at the age of two but little is known of his ancestry. The mother of our subject died many years ago at the age of thirty years. She had eight children, six sons and two daughters, of who Eli is the second in order of birth. He is the only one of the family now living with the exception of a half sister, by his father's second marriage, Mrs. Charles B. Sheldon, of Peterboro, New Hampshire.

In his native state our subject passed his boyhood and youth, but on attaining his majority he went to Massachusetts, to learn the machinist's trade, and remained there

three years. Later he obtained a position as a machinist in a woolen and cotton mill, where he was employed for two years, and at the end of that time went to Los Angeles, state of Sonora, Mexico, with Charles Peck, to set up and put in operation the machinery for a cotton mill to be built at that place. They left Boston, August 3, 1839, rounded the Horn, went up the Gulf of California, and crossed overland to Los Angeles, where they remained for nearly four years. On the 7th of February, 1844, they boarded a ship for San Blas, Mexico, from there crossed the continent to Tampico, Mexico, and by steamer proceeded to New Orleans, where they landed in March. They went up the Mississippi and Ohio rivers to Wheeling, West Virginia, and from that place proceeded by land to Peterboro, New Hampshire, where Mr. Upton was married in June, 1844, to Miss Elizabeth Ann Newcomb, a daughter of John Newcomb, of that state.

Soon after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Upton started for Illinois, traveling by way of the Great Lakes to Chicago, which at that time was little better than a "mud-hole." There he purchased a team of horses, a wagon and some household utensils, and then continued on his journey to Whiteside county. On section 6, Lyndon township, he bought one hundred and eighty-five acres of land from Ambrose Maxwell, and there he made his home for ten years, at the end of which time he removed to Mount Pleasant township. On coming to the county the greater part of the land was still in its primitive condition, and there was plenty of wild game, including deer, prairie chickens, turkeys and quails and the wolves were also numerous. The prairie chickens were often so thick that in rising from our

subject's cornfield the noise made by their wings sounded like thunder, and the heavens would be black with them. Mr. Upton continued to actively engage in farming until 1882, when he removed to Morrison, where he has since made his home. At one time he owned eight hundred acres of land in the county, and at the time of his removal to the city still owned four hundred and forty acres. In Morrison, he and his son George Y. dealt in Percheron horses for twelve years, but since giving up that business he has lived retired, enjoying the fruits of his former toil. In his political views he is independent. He is highly respected and esteemed by all who know him, and in the records of Whiteside county's honored pioneers his name should be among the foremost.

Mr. Upton has been called upon to mourn the loss of his estimable wife, who died June 9, 1890, at the age of sixty-eight years. Five children were born to them who reached years of maturity, one daughter, Susan, died at the age of fifteen months. George Y. is represented on another page of this volume. John Eli married Mary Galbraith, now of Redfield, South Dakota, and died at the age of twenty-nine years, leaving three children. Joseph Snow married Augusta Rockwell, and they have six children and he is now engaged in farming in Fargo, North Dakota, making a specialty of wheat. Franklin A. married Ellen Pudfoot, now of Windsor Park, Illinois, and died at the age of thirty-two years leaving four children.

**S**AMUEL N. JAMES resides on section 26, Clyde township, where he operates his father's farm of one hundred and thirty-

five acres. He is the owner of one hundred and fifty acres which he leases, and also owns forty acres which he operates, and is meeting with success as a general farmer and stock raiser. He was born in Clyde township, Whiteside county, July 25, 1860, and is a son of Amos James, who was also born in the same township. On the home farm he grew to manhood, and in the common schools of the township he received his education. The education received in the school room has, however, been supplemented by practical knowledge received in the school of experience. He remained at home with his parents, assisting in the cultivation of the home farm until he was twenty-two years of age, when he went to Dakota and pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres of land, and for six years roughed it in that new country.

After a residence of six years in Dakota, and having proved up his claim and securing the deed, he sold the same and returned to his old home, concluding that Whiteside county was good enough for him. On his return he rented the farm where he now resides, and for a year and a half continued to manage it as he did his Dakota farm, without the aid of a "better half." Realizing then that it "was not good for man to be alone," on the 2d of September, 1866, he was united in marriage with Miss Agnes E. Wells, who was born February 7, 1866, in Clyde township, Whiteside county, and daughter of John and Catherine (Ruekel) Wells, the former a native of England, born in 1834, and the latter a native of Ireland, born in 1832, but who came to this country when in their youth, and were here married. They became the parents of nine children, all of whom are yet living: Charles, in Mount Pleasant township; Lenwood, also in Mount

Pleasant township; Irena, wife of Wm. Detra, and living in Clyde township; Agnes E., wife of our subject; George, residing in Newton township; Fred, living in Clyde township; Ulysses, Frank and Edward, at home.

After their marriage, Mr. James took his young wife to the farm which has since been their home. Here four children have been born to them, two of whom, however, died in infancy. The living are Hazel M., born June 20, 1891, and Portus A., born January 26, 1897.

While residing in Dakota, Mr. James served his township as constable for a time, and since his return to Whiteside county he has served his district as school director, an office which he is now satisfactorily filling. In politics he is a stanch Republican. In his farming operations, in addition to the raising of grain, he makes a specialty of cattle and hogs which he feeds for the market. At times he also buys and ships to the market, and in all that he does, he gives his best efforts, and as a consequence success usually crowns them all. He is a good farmer, a kind and accommodating neighbor and enjoys the confidence and respect of all that know him.

**JONAS EDLUND.** Many of the most enterprising and prosperous farmers of Whiteside county have come from the land beyond the sea, and through their own unaided efforts have worked their way upward to a position of affluence. Among this number is Jonas Edlund, who now owns a valuable farm of three hundred and eighty acres on section 2, Ustick township. He was born in Northland, Sweden, January 3, 1833, and is a son of Mickleson and Bertha (Fanquat) Edlund, who spent their entire

lives at that place, where the father worked at the tailor's trade. He died at the age of seventy years; his wife at the age of seventy-five. To them were born ten children, all of whom reached years of maturity, but only the following are now living: Catherine, wife of John Johnson, of Sweden, by whom she has three children; Ann Eliza, widow of Jonas Immerson, by whom she had three children, and Jonas, our subject.

Jonas Edlund was educated in the schools of his native land and was in the military service of his country for a time. Soon after attaining his majority he emigrated to the new world and first located in Chicago, Illinois, where he worked as a laborer for two years. At the end of that time he came to Whiteside county, where he was employed in a lime kiln for two years, and then worked at the mason's trade for about twenty years. His first farm property consisted of one hundred and sixty acres of partially improved land, for which he paid thirty-seven and a half dollars per acre, and upon which he has since erected a good residence and substantial outbuildings. As an agriculturist he has met with excellent success and is now the owner of three hundred and eighty acres of land which he has placed under a high state of cultivation. He also has eight acres of timber land and is successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising.

In 1882 Mr. Edlund was united in marriage with Mrs. Martha I. (Peterson) Edlund, also a native of Sweden, and the widow of our subject's brother, Gulick Edlund, who died when his son was only three months old. He left three children, whom the mother kept together and supported until her marriage to our subject. They are Elizabeth, now the wife of An-

drew S. Durward, of Unionville; Bertha, wife of Henry Longnecker, of Ustick, and Nelson J., who now manages our subject's farm. He was born in 1869, and was married in 1896 to Minnie M. Patterson, who was born in Ustick township, in 1877, a daughter of W. J. and Mary E. (Casselman) Patterson, natives of Pennsylvania and New York respectively. Nelson J. Edlund and his wife have one son, Russell J.

Mr. Edlund has practically lived retired from active business since 1888. For eight years his farm was operated by Mr. A. F. Durward, his wife's son-in-law, and since 1896 Nelson J. Edlund has had charge of the same. Our subject is a staunch supporter of the Republican party and its principles, but has always declined office. He is an earnest, consistent Christian, a member of the Presbyterian church, in which he serves as elder. On coming to this country he was entirely ignorant of the English language and had no money with which to begin life here, but he has made the most of his opportunities, and being industrious, persevering and enterprising, has become one of the most substantial as well as one of the most reliable and highly respected citizens of his community.

**J**OHAN CLARK, deceased, was for many years one of the best known as well as most highly respected citizens of Whiteside county. He was born in Fredonia, Chautauqua county, New York, March 3, 1840, and was the son of Albert and Phoebe Clark, the former a native of England and the latter of New York. They were the parents of eight children, four sons and four daughters, the sons all being now deceased. The daughters are Sarah, wife of H. A. Boyd,

of Morrison, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this volume; Alice, wife of Ezra Poole, of Iowa; Maria, wife of William Green, also of Iowa; and Elizabeth, wife of Gabriel Green, living on the old home place in Fredonia, New York.

In his native state our subject remained until he was fifteen years old, in the meantime receiving a good common-school education, which was made practical use of in after years. In 1855 he left his old home and came to Whiteside county, where he began life in an humble way, working as a farm hand for Isaac Fletcher, of Clyde township, with whom he remained for several years, doing his duty faithfully and being rewarded with the confidence of his employer, who appreciated his services highly. Having saved a little money, he made a trip to Pike's Peak on a prospecting tour, and while there engaged in mining for a year, meeting with a fair degree of success and saving some money. Not being satisfied with the life of a miner in that new western country, he determined to return to Whiteside county, and from the time he returned the success which attended him in after life began.

On his return to Whiteside county, Mr. Clark located in Morrison, where he purchased two teams and trucks and engaged in business for himself, operating a dray line for a few years, and although the profit was necessarily small, he succeeded in laying by each year a portion of what he made, and later invested the same in real estate. He was fortunate in his investments and success seemed to follow him in whatever business venture he engaged in. It was while yet engaged in business as a drayman that he was, in September, 1862, united in marriage with Miss Jane Boyd,

who was born in Scotland February 22, 1840, and the daughter of William and Mary (Robertson) Boyd, who were natives of Scotland and the parents of six sons and four daughters, Jane being the ninth child in order of birth. (For a record of the Boyd family see sketches of P. R., John and H. A. Boyd, found elsewhere in this work.)

To Mr. and Mrs. Clark were born four children. Charles A. grew to manhood and married Lena Edwards, a native of Iowa, and they had two children, John and Edward. The former died at the age of five years, while the latter is yet living. The family now make their home in Sterling, where Mr. Clark is engaged in the gents' furnishing goods business, having a large and profitable trade. He is a good business man and has the confidence of the community in which he resides. George H. is deceased. Nettie M. is the wife of Harry Smouse and they reside in Morrison, where he is engaged with the Refrigerator company. Walter is deceased.

Soon after his marriage Mr. Clark disposed of his dray line and purchased a farm south of Morrison, where for some years he engaged in agricultural pursuits, in which line he was quite successful. In his farming operations he was ably assisted by his wife, who in his absence, and while engaged in other lines of business, took upon herself the management of the farm. For eighteen years they gave their personal attention to their farming interests, at the expiration of which time they returned to Morrison.

While still making his home on the farm, for the greater part of the time Mr. Clark was engaged in other lines of business. He was an auctioneer of more than ordinary ability, and was known all over

the northern part of the state as an auctioneer of thoroughbred horses and cattle, and for such sales his services were largely in demand. For a number of years he was also engaged in the livery business, selling out that line in 1885 to R. H. Donichy. For a time he was a stockholder and manager of the carriage works in Morrison, the firm being Furgeson & Clark. He was also in the grocery business for several years, managing the business alone without the aid of a partner. With others he engaged in the manufacture of brick and tile, in which line he was as usual successful. In most of his business undertakings he had a partner to look after that particular business while he gave his personal attention to other matters. He was a man of great executive ability, and was enabled to plan and direct, leaving the execution to others, to their mutual benefit.

After disposing of his farm, Mr. Clark invested the proceeds in property on Milwaukee avenue, Chicago, which has been disposed of since his death by his son Charles and the proceeds invested in land securities. In Morrison he invested a large amount in real estate and buildings, and at the time of his death he had large holdings.

In politics Mr. Clark was a Democrat, and while he would invariably decline all political honors, took a great interest in political affairs. Just before his death he was appointed by President Cleveland postmaster of Morrison, and the commission was received by him just before his death, which occurred on the 21st of November, 1895. Fraternally he was an Odd Fellow, holding membership in both the subordinate lodge and in the encampment. He was also a charter member of the Modern Woodmen of America in Morrison.

In the death of Mr. Clark, Whiteside county lost one of its most useful and highly respected citizens, one who was ready at all times to do whatever he could to advance its material interests. He was generous to a fault, liberal to the poor and needy, giving away in charitable and benevolent purposes many hundreds of dollars. His death was sincerely mourned not alone by the bereaved widow and sorrowing children, but by the entire community which knew him so well, and which was his home for nearly forty years. Coming to the county a poor, friendless boy, by his strict integrity of character and steadfastness of purpose he won a place in the affections of the people which will make his name revered for years to come, and his life work will be an incentive to others, while his virtues will be worthy of emulation.

Mrs. Clark, who is an earnest and consistent member of the Presbyterian church, yet makes her home in Morrison, where her friends are many, and where she enjoys the love and respect of all who know her.

**J**OHN GILBERT GREEN, a leading farmer and stock raiser of Ustick township, residing on section 35, was born in Woodbine, Jo Daviess county, Illinois, August 25, 1862, and is a son of John H. and Margaret (Lowry) Green, the former born in Yorkshire, England, June 29, 1831, the latter on the Isle of Man, September 17, 1844. Both were brought to America by their respective parents when quite small, and for many years have made their home in Whiteside county, now living retired in Morrison. More extended mention is made of them on another page of this volume. Of the six children born to them, one died

in infancy, while the others are as follows: John G., our subject; Sarah J., wife of A. N. Abbott; R. May, wife of B. F. Hoover; and Phoebe and Benjamin, both at home with their parents.

The early education of our subject was obtained in the district schools which he attended until eighteen years of age and then entered Fulton College, where he took an elective course. After completing his education he returned to the home farm in Ustick township, which his father had purchased in 1869. In 1889 he was united in marriage with Miss Lydia E. Steiner, who was born in Wayne county, Ohio, November 16, 1861. Her parents, Adam and Fianna (Longnecker) Steiner, were natives of the same county, the former born in October, 1827, the latter in February, 1843. In 1869 they came to this county and now make their home in Ustick township. They have nine children, namely: Elsie, wife of D. Deter, of Carroll county, Iowa; Lydia E., wife of our subject; William L., at home; Noah W., a druggist of Chicago; Anna, wife of William Jamison, of Ustick township; Jacob W., a farmer of Hopkins township; Daniel, Eva and Leander, all at home. The children born to our subject and wife are George Webster, Edna G., Arlie May, Elsie Pearl and Leola M.

After his marriage Mr. Green operated the home farm with his father for four years, and the following year was engaged in the butcher business in Morrison. At the end of that time he returned to the farm and his father removed to Morrison, where he is now living retired. In connection with general farming our subject is engaged in stock raising, making a specialty of Poland China hogs for the past five years. He keeps full-blooded and pedigreed stock, and

in 1899 had a drove of one hundred and twenty of the finest hogs to be found in the county. He has a goodly number for sale each season. Any one interested in the industry will be treated very courteously by Mr. Green and will be given a guarantee for every animal purchased. He always has some of his hogs on exhibition at the county fairs, and has been fortunate in securing a good share of the premiums given by the fair association for such exhibits. He is also interested in thoroughbred short-horn cattle, and has been awarded premiums on his calves. He has a highly cultivated and well-improved farm of one hundred and ten acres on section 35, Ustick township, and owns a house and lot in Morrison. Politically he is an ardent Republican, and he has been a member of the township committee and also of the Republican county committee. He has creditably filled the office of tax collector, overseer of highways for the past four years, and has also served as supervisor, having been appointed to fill an unexpired term. He is now a school director of his district and believes in having the best schools and teachers obtainable.

---

**M**RS. VIANA WYMAN, whose home is on section 20, Mount Pleasant township, has been a resident of Whiteside county for over fifty-five years, arriving here in pioneer days. The difference between the past and the present can scarcely be realized, even by those who have been active participants in the development of the county. The present generation can have no conception of what was required by the early settlers in transforming the wilderness into a well settled and highly cultivated county.

Mrs. Wyman was born in Erie county, New York, September 9, 1816, and is a daughter of Charles and Ruth Olds, also natives of New York, the former born near Whitehall, the latter in Oneida county. Her maternal grandparents were natives of England, and on their emigration to the United States located in New York. In 1834, in Erie county, our subject gave her hand in marriage to Henry Wyman, who was born in Connecticut in 1807, and died in 1861. As his father died when he was only five years old he was reared by friends of the family. After his marriage his mother lived with him for a number of years.

Mr. and Mrs. Wyman began their domestic life in New York, where they continued to make their home until 1844, which year witnessed their arrival in Whiteside county, Illinois. After living for one year in Lyndon township they removed to the farm on section 20, Mount Pleasant township, where our subject still resides. Throughout life Mr. Wyman engaged in agricultural pursuits, and met with fair success in his undertakings. He purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, but since his death his widow has since disposed of forty acres, leaving her one hundred and twenty acres of fine farming land, which has been successfully operated under her able management.

Of the six children born to Mr. and Mrs. Wyman one died in infancy. The others are as follows: Mary Elizabeth is the wife of Henry Garrison, who resides on the home farm, and they have six children. Ruth Maria married E. A. Garrison, and died in 1881, leaving five children. Henrietta died unmarried in 1869. Theodore is a retired farmer living in Vinton, Iowa, near which place he owns land, and he has a



family of five children. William Henry is superintendent of a mine in Colorado. Mrs. Wyman has one great-great-grandchild, making five generations of the family now living. Her family is noted for longevity, her grandfather, Daniel Thurston, having only lacked three months of being one hundred years of age at the time of his death, which occurred in Michigan. He enjoyed excellent health, never requiring the services of a physician. Mrs. Wyman also had an uncle who lived to be nearly one hundred years of age, and her father was seventy-seven at the time of his death, which occurred in New York state. Of his ten children one died young, while eight reached years of maturity, but Mrs. Wyman is the only one now living. She well remembers when this region was wild and unimproved, and has seen unbroken prairies transformed into fine farms. On locating here there was only one house between her home and Lyndon. Her farm is conveniently located near Morrison, and is now of the best in the community. A number of years ago her residence, with its contents, was destroyed by fire, but was soon replaced with the comfortable little home she now occupies. Religiously she is a member of the Universalist church, and she is highly respected and esteemed by all who have the pleasure of her acquaintance.

**B** FRANKLIN HOOVER is one of the most intelligent and progressive farmers of Ustick township, who is now successfully operating his father's farm of two hundred acres on section 21. He was born in that township, near where he now resides, November 4, 1868, and is a son of Henry and Mary A. (Brown) Hoover, who are now

making their home in Morrison, the father having retired from active labor. Both are natives of Pennsylvania, the former born near Aaronsburg, the latter in Philadelphia. Soon after their marriage, in March, 1857, they came to Whiteside county, Illinois, and have since been identified with its interests. Here the father was principally engaged in agricultural pursuits. (His sketch will be found on another page of this volume.)

The primary education of our subject was obtained in the district schools near his boyhood home, but at the age of fourteen he accompanied his parents on their removal to Sterling, where he attended the high school for three years. At the end of that period he commenced teaching in the district schools, and was thus employed for four years, after which he engaged in farming for his father for one year. The following year he was a student at the State Normal School at Normal, Illinois, where he pursued a teacher's course, and subsequently he taught school in Fenton for some time. Later he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in partnership with his father, but after operating it for six years he sold his interest to his father.

On the 22nd of June, 1897, Mr. Hoover was united in marriage with Miss R. May Green, who was born in Ustick township, November 29, 1873, and was also a successful teacher in the district schools for three years prior to her marriage. Her parents are John H. and Margaret Lawry Green, the former a native of England, the latter of the Isle of Man. However, both have been residents of this country from an early age, the father being only eight years old at the time of his arrival here, while the mother was just a year old. (See sketch on another page of this work.) To them were

born six children, one of whom died in infancy. Those living are John G., a resident of Ustick township; Sarah J., wife of A. N. Abbott, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work; R. May, wife of our subject; and Phœbe and Benjamin F., both at home.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Hoover located on his father's place, which he rents and successfully operates, being engaged in general farming and stock raising. Fraternally he is a member of Grove lodge, No. 257, I. O. O. F., of Morrison, and also belongs to the Mystic Workers, in which lodge he has held the office of vice-master, and has represented his lodge in the supreme lodge. The Republican party finds in him a supporter of its principles, and he has been honored with local office, having served as township clerk, school treasurer two years, and school director for a few years. He and his wife hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church at Cottonwood and occupy an enviable position in the best social circles of their community.

ISAAC AUSTIN, whose farm is conveniently located near Lyndon, owns and operates three hundred acres of rich land, lying in Lyndon and Mount Pleasant townships. This place is neat and thrifty in appearance and indicates the careful supervision of the owner. The substantial residence and outbuildings are surrounded by well-tilled fields, cultivated by the latest improved machinery, and the owner of this desirable place is accounted one of the most progressive agriculturists of the community.

Mr. Austin was born in Tioga county, Pennsylvania, September 4, 1833, and is a

son of Steward and Louisa (Reynolds) Austin, the former a native of Oneida county, New York, and the latter of Tioga county, Pennsylvania. Their marriage was celebrated in the Keystone state, and they became the parents of six children, two of whom died in infancy. Hiram married Laura Morse, and to them were born seven children,—Etta, Lyman, Cora, Lester, Clara, Phœbe and Ray. The mother died in Illinois and Hiram Austin afterward removed to Kansas, where he has since married again. He is now living in Cowley county, Kansas. William was one of the early settlers of the Sunflower state, and is now living in Dickinson county. Isaac is the next of the family. Lenore is the widow of Charles L. Conyne, of Lyndon, and has five children,—Ida, Martin, Stewart, John and Lola. In 1847 Steward Austin removed from Pennsylvania to Illinois, making an overland trip, and located on a farm owned by Lyman Reynolds, one of the early settlers of the county. He was a whole-souled man of kindly spirit and generous disposition, sheltering all who came to him in those pioneer days. After a time he purchased the farm on which he had settled, making his home there until his death. He was one of the leading farmers of the community and had many warm friends. His wife died before the removal to Illinois.

Isaac Austin attended school for a short time in Pennsylvania, but though his educational privileges were meager, reading, experience and observation have brought him a broad general knowledge. He remained with his father until eighteen years of age, and then purchased a half interest in the old homestead. His brother Hiram purchased the other half, and together they pre-empted eighty acres. At the age of

eighteen, Isaac Austin went to California on a prospecting tour, making the journey overland with six yoke of oxen, one wagon and five men, two being from Illinois and three from Comanche, Iowa. This was in the year 1852, and Mr. Austin remained on the Pacific slope until 1859, residing in Placer and Nevada counties. He made some money during his sojourn in the west and upon his return he resumed agricultural pursuits, adding to his property, at different times, tracts of seventy-five and one hundred and twenty acres of land. He therefore has at the present time a very valuable and desirable farm of three hundred acres, and in his farming operations he follows the most approved methods and has therefore met with creditable success.

In September 1859, he married Cornelia A. Smith, who was born in New York and during her early girlhood came with her parents to Illinois in 1840. Two children were born of this union, but one died in childhood. The other, Walter, is now a farmer of Lyndon township. He married Chloe Joyce, and they have four children,—Rex Harry, Mary and Clarence. Mrs. Austin died in 1865, and March 2, 1869 Mr. Austin was again married, his second union being with Lola Hanson, daughter of Jacob and Virginia (Benham) Hanson, who are now residents of Iowa. Mrs. Austin was born in Dutchess county, New York, in 1853, and by her marriage became the mother of seven children, but two died in infancy. Floyd was drowned in Rock river at the age of fourteen years. The others are Belle, wife of Warner Hurlbut, a butcher of Prophetstown, by whom she had two children, Winnie and Essie; Effie, wife of Fred Pratt, who operates a creamery in Bureau county, Illinois; Edna, a student in the Fulton schools;

and Winnie, who is attending school in Lyndon. Mr. Austin cast his first vote for General Scott while in California, and since the organization of the Republican party he has been one of its staunch supporters. Various offices have been offered him, but he has always refused to serve except as path master and school director, in which positions he has rendered effective and able service to his fellow townsmen. He is a Master Mason and he and his wife belong to the Order of the Eastern Star. Highly respected, they well deserve mention in this volume.

**F**REDERICK F. WILLIAMS, who now owns and operates a well improved farm on section 27, Clyde township, has been a citizen of Whiteside county for almost half a century. He was born on board a ship that was lying at anchor at a port in Australia, April 6, 1855, and is the son of Frederick J. and Elizabeth (Tooley) Williams, both of whom were of English birth. Frederick J. Williams was a ship carpenter and boatswain, which occupations he followed for about thirty years. Having concluded to abandon the sea, in 1859 he came to Whiteside county and purchased a farm of eighty acres in Ustick township and continued to engage in farming until his death in 1871. His wife preceded him to the unknown world some three years. They were the parents of five children, all of whom are yet living. Frederick F. is the subject of this sketch. Catherine is the wife of Charles Hole, a plasterer by trade, and with their four children they reside in Exeter, Nebraska. Alice is the wife of William Wallace, by whom she has five children. They reside in Exeter, Nebraska,

where he is engaged in the banking business. Walter, unmarried, resides in Omaha, Nebraska. Annie is the wife of Edward Rhy-nard, of Freeport, Illinois, where he is em-ployed as bookkeeper for the Standard Oil Company. They have four living children.

The subject of this sketch was about one year old when he was brought by his par-ents to this country. In the public schools of Ustick township he obtained a common-school education. He remained with his parents until he was thirteen years old, when he worked as a farm hand for various farmers until he accumulated enough money to start in business for himself.

In 1881 Mr. Williams was united in mar-riage with Miss Sarah J. Robertson, who was born in Ustick township, and daughter of Joseph K. and Mary Robertson, and to them have been born four children—Annie, George, Agnes and Ellen.

After his marriage Mr. Williams rented a farm for six years and met with good suc-cess as a general farmer and stock raiser. In 1888 he purchased the farm where he now lives, an unimproved place of one hun-dred and sixty acres. In the years that have passed he has devoted his undivided attention to its improvement, and the result is shown in a farm of which he has just reason to be proud. He has carried on general farming and stock raising, never having run off on any hobby. In addition to his farming operations he has for about twenty years engaged in well drilling, meet-ing with good success in that line of work, and thus adding to his general income.

While averse to office holding, Mr. Will-iams served six years as road commissioner. In politics he is a Republican, and believing heartily in the principles of his party in the various campaigns he gives much of his time

to the party's interest. Believing in the public school system of his adopted country he has served several years as school trustee. But it is as a farmer that he is best known and as he would be known, although for some years he was engaged in purchas-ing and shipping stock, during which time he extended the circle of his friends and acquaintances.

**J**OHAN F. HECKER is a prominent and successful business man of Morrison, where he has made his home since May, 1857. He started out in life for himself with nothing but his own indomitable en-ergy, and his accumulation of this world's goods is attributable to his good judgment in predicting the future development of the county and consequently the enhanced prices of real estate, combined with the active co-operation of his life.

Mr. Hecker was born in Orefield, near Allentown, Pennsylvania, July 9, 1830, a son of John and Elizabeth (Doutt) Hecker. The father was born in Lehigh county, the same state, June 21, 1806, and was a son of Yost Hecker, and grandson of Rev. John E. Hecker, a minister of the German Re-formed church, who came to this country from Nassau, Germany, in 1752 and settled in Lehigh county. He was quite prominent and was the first pastor of the church at Petersville, where on the one hundredth an-niversary of his preaching, twenty-seven years ago, erected a monument to his mem-ory. Yost Hecker, grandfather of our sub-ject, grew to manhood there and learned the trade of a tailor, which he continued to follow throughout life, working for the well-to-do farmers at their homes, a very common practice in that day, known as "whipping



J. F. HECKER.



the cat." He had a number of sons who learned the trade with him, including John, father of our subject, who was only twelve years old at the time of his father's death, so completed his apprenticeship with his brothers.

In his native county, John Hecker, Sr., married Miss Elizabeth Douth, who was born April 12, 1809. Her father, John Douth, was a prominent tanner living near Sunbury, Pennsylvania, where her mother died, after which he married again and moved to the Robbs community near Zelienople, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, where he conducted a successful business until his death. The parents of our subject continued their residence in Lehigh county until October, 1838, when with their family of four children, they started for Stark county, Ohio, a distance of four hundred miles over mountains. In a false end board of the wagon they had a box containing eight hundred dollars in silver. Although only eight years of age, our subject walked the entire distance with the exception of twenty miles. (On awakening one morning he found himself unable to walk, owing to the long tramp the day before, and was allowed to ride for a time.) The family settled at West Brookfield, two miles from Massilon, in a little village of two hundred inhabitants, which was located in the midst of the forest two miles from the Ohio & Erie canal. Here the farmers from fifty to seventy-five miles came to ship their grain, and our subject has counted as many as four hundred teams on one road in a day. The father became quite a prominent man of West Brookfield, and held the office of postmaster under President Taylor for four years from 1849, and also filled different township offices. He was a strong

Whig and later a Know Nothing, though he was still known as a Whig. On the dissolution of that party he joined the Democracy. In the spring of 1854 he left Ohio and came to Sterling, Whiteside county, Illinois. In Hopkins township he secured one hundred and sixty acres of land with a Mexican soldier's land warrant, paying for the same seventy-five cents per acre. After spending one year in Sterling, he removed to his farm, on which he had erected a residence and made other needed improvements. On account of his wife's failing health, he finally sold the place in 1864, for forty-five dollars per acre, and returned to Sterling, where he lived retired until called from this life in 1886, at the age of eighty years. His estimable wife died in January, 1883. They were members of the First Lutheran church of Sterling, and he was one of its trustees and always took an active part in church affairs.

John F. Hecker, whose name introduces this sketch, is the second in order of birth in a family of ten children. He received a good practical education in the common schools of West Brookfield, Ohio, and at the age of eleven years commenced learning the tailor's trade with his father. He continued to work with him until April 19, 1853, when he left home with the purpose of securing a better education. He started on foot for Delaware, Ohio, but the day was so bad that he became disgusted and was persuaded to stop at Mansfield and go to work at his trade. He remained there until the 4th of July, when he returned home for a visit.

In August, 1853, Mr. Hecker came to Dixon, Illinois, where he worked for a merchant tailor until the first of January, 1855, and then came to Sterling, where he

opened a shop and engaged in business on his own account. He located there the year the Northwestern Railroad was built through the place, and was the only tailor of the town at that time where he enjoyed quite a good trade until May, 1857, the date of his removal to Morrison, then a growing village. At that time it was his intention to stay only a year, but he remained and has since made his home here. He was engaged in business as a merchant tailor until June 17, 1872, and during that time invested his savings in real estate, and in this he displayed excellent judgment and good business ability. Since 1872 he has devoted his entire time and attention to the loan and real estate business with most gratifying success and is now the owner of valuable property in the city and surrounding country and is a capitalist as well.

On the 1st of February, 1882, Mr. Hecker married Mrs. Celia Holland, a native of Beechville, Canada, and a daughter of Morris L. Green, of Sterling. To them have been born two children, Ida Frances and Morris L. The family have a fine home at No. 401 West Grove street. They attend and support the Presbyterian church and are held in high regard by all who know them. While engaged in the clothing business, Mr. Hecker served as assistant postmaster for some time, and in all the relations of life has been found true to every trust reposed in him.

**F**RANCIS MARION THOMAS, who is now living a retired life in Morrison, was born in Mt. Pleasant township, Whiteside county, December 27, 1843, and is the son of G. W. and Mary Thomas, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this work.

On the old farm in his native township he spent his boyhood and youth, and in the district schools of the township and in the public schools of Morrison he received his education. He remained at home, assisting in farm work until in August, 1862, when the war for the union being in progress, and having reached the age required for enlistment, he became a member of Company F, Ninety-third Illinois Volunteer Infantry. With his regiment he went from Chicago to Memphis, Tennessee, in November of that year. At that place the regiment spent the winter of 1862-3, and in the spring it was sent down the river in the Vicksburg campaign. It was first sent to Yazoo Pass, and returned from there on the west side of the river below Vicksburg. Crossing the river, it had an engagement with the enemy at Jackson, Tennessee, with the loss of a few men. On the 16th of May, 1863, Mr. Thomas was taken prisoner, and after being held for three days was paroled and returned to the Union lines. He was then sent home where he remained about three months until he was duly exchanged, when he returned to his regiment, with which he remained until the close of the war.

Mr. Thomas returned to his regiment in time to be with it in the Chattanooga campaign. He was in the battle of Missionary Ridge, November 25, 1863, and later in the battle of Chickamauga. The next engagement in which he participated was at Altoona, Georgia, a hard fought battle, which was later made famous by the song based on the message of General Sherman, "Hold the fort, for I am coming." The Ninety-third Regiment was with Sherman in his march to the sea, and spent the winter at Savannah, Georgia, and was later at Col-



umbia, South Carolina, when that place was burned. It was also one of the number in the grand review at Washington at the close of the war. In the three years in which it was in service it traveled two thousand six hundred miles on foot, and about three thousand six hundred miles in boats and on cars, a total distance of some six thousand miles. Its record was a commendable one, and it was finally mustered out June 23, 1865, in Louisville, Kentucky.

On receiving his discharge, Mr. Thomas returned to his home and again took up his work as a farmer. On the 22d of March, 1866, he was united in marriage with Miss Maggie Hawk, a native of Pennsylvania, born July 13, 1846, and daughter of Daniel F. and Harriet (Martin) Hawk, both of whom were also born in Pennsylvania, the former November 24, 1798, and the latter October 14, 1817. They were married in their native state and were the parents of eleven children, as follows; Henry, who was born December 23, 1839, enlisted in the Ninety-third Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and in the same company with our subject. He was wounded in the battle of Missionary Ridge, and died ten days after, December 5, 1863. Mr. Thomas remained with him all night on the battle field, and went with him to the hospital, remaining with him until he died. He reported his death to the bereaved parents, and was thus made acquainted with his future wife. Robert, born March 11, 1842, was also a soldier in the Civil war, enlisting in the One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He died July 7, 1865, in Memphis, Tennessee, from fever contracted while in the service. Mary, born January 9, 1844, is now the wife of James Y. McCall, and they have two children, George and Hattie.

Mr. McCall is the present supervisor of Newton township. Maggie, the fourth in order of birth, is the wife of our subject. Hiram S., born April 28, 1850, married Clara McCall, and they have six children, Hugh, Lorena, Maud, John, Annie and Ross. They reside in Newton township. Arthur D., born September 11, 1852, married Belle Booth, and with their four children—Edward, Belle and Beulah, twins, and Arthur,—they now reside in Pamona, California, having moved to that state in 1899. John S., born October 26, 1857, married Lizzie Blean, and they have four children—Arthur, William, Pearl and Hettie. They reside in Newton township. Joseph C., born April 26, 1860, married Cora Turney, and their five children are: Maggie, Edna and Eva, twins; and John H. and Della J., twins. Their home is in Fenton township. Daniel F. Hawk came with his family to Rock Island county in 1857, and for one year rented a farm. He then purchased a farm of two hundred acres in Newton township, Whiteside county, which he continued to cultivate until his death, February 2, 1877. His wife survived him some years, dying July 3, 1892.

Soon after his marriage, Mr. Thomas purchased a farm of eighty acres in Mount Pleasant township, on which he resided for twelve years. On that farm their only child was born—Henry J., born October 14, 1867. He grew to manhood and married Ola McNutt, and they reside on the old homestead of his Grandfather Hawk which was purchased by his father in 1870, and on which he lived until his removal to Morrison in 1889. Three children have blessed the union of Henry J. and Ola Thomas—E. Wayne, George Lee and Marguerite.

While engaged in farming Mr. Thomas was quite successful, and only retired that he might give his son the opportunity of acquiring a good education. For two years the son attended college in Mount Vernon, Iowa, where his school life ended.

Mr. Thomas has had the confidence of his neighbors to an unlimited degree. His honesty, faithfulness and good judgment has been recognized by them in being selected to settle two very large estates and several minor ones. While residing in Newton township he served as school treasurer for seven years. In politics he is a Republican, the principles of which party he has always been a staunch advocate. For many years he has been an active member of the Methodist Episcopal church, as has also his wife and son, the latter now being superintendent of the Sunday-school in Newton township. While residing on the farm Mr. Thomas also took an active part in the work of the Sunday-school. For twenty-two years he was a trustee of the church, and for many years served as steward. He has had the interest of his Master's cause at heart and furnished the means to educate a young Japanese man for evangelistic work, it requiring eight years to properly instruct him in the work. Few men in Whiteside county have more earnest and steadfast friends than Mr. Thomas, and his life has been such as to merit the esteem of all.

**C**HRIStIAN C. ROBERTSON, whose home is on section 12, Ustick township, Whiteside county, Illinois, is one of the leading agriculturists of his community, being enterprising, energetic and reliable. Although he is still a young man, his popu-

larity is established on a firm basis—that of his own well-tested merit.

Mr. Robertson was born on his present farm May 22, 1867, a son of Joseph K. Robertson, a native of Indiana, who was born on a farm near New Albany, September 7, 1825. His parents, John and Rebecca (Riddle) Robertson, were early settlers of that state and also pioneers of Cass county, Illinois, where they located when Joseph K. was only three years old. Both have long been dead, the grandfather dying December 22, 1870, the grandmother in January, 1839.

Joseph K. Robertson grew to manhood in Cass county, where he followed farming for a time, and there he was united in marriage to Miss Mary Needham, who was born in West Milton, Yorkshire, England, May 11, 1834, and was ten years of age when brought to this country by her parents, John and Elizabeth (Poshley) Needham, also natives of England. In their family were only two children, the older being Thomas, who died in this country about 1879. In 1853 Mr. and Mrs. Robertson came to Whiteside county, where he took up land and began to make a home for himself and wife. As he succeeded in his undertakings, he added to his first purchase from time to time until at his death he owned four hundred and fifty acres of valuable land. He died September 26, 1897, honored and respected by all who knew him. Politically he was a Democrat, and on his party ticket was elected to several township offices, including those of collector and school trustee, the duties of which he discharged in a capable manner.

To Joseph K. and Mary (Needham) Robertson were born nine children, namely: (1) John H. is a farmer of Graham, Noda-

way county, Missouri. (2) Sarah is the wife of F. F. Williams, a farmer of Clyde township, Whiteside county, and they have four children: Annie E., George, Mary Agnes and Helen. (3) James B., a resident of Missouri, married Sarah Lisle, a native of this state, and they have three children: Annie, Joseph and Florence. (4) Joseph is a farmer of Union Grove township. (5) Isaac N. died when quite young. (6) Mary A. is at home. (7) Susan E. died young. (8) Margaret E. is at home. (9) Christian C., our subject, completes the family.

During his boyhood and youth Christian C. Robertson attended the district schools near his home, and later completed a business course at Fulton College, from which he was graduated in 1887. He has always lived on the home farm, and since his father's death has had charge of the same, while previously he assisted his father in its management. It consists of two hundred and forty-nine acres, on sections 13, 14, 23 and 24, and he has displayed excellent business ability and sound judgment in its operation. The father erected the buildings upon the place, consisting of a comfortable modern residence and substantial outbuildings, and our subject has made other improvements since it came into his control. In connection with general farming he carries on stock raising with marked success. He is a Democrat in politics but has never been an aspirant for official honors, though he has served as school director in his district. Socially, he is quite prominent, belonging to Dunlap lodge, No. 321, F. & A. M., of Morrison; the Mystic Workers, No. 9, of Ustick, of which he is master; and Ustick camp, No. 3995, M. W. A., of which he is now clerk.

**DENNIS AUSTIN.** For over forty-five years this gentleman has resided in Whiteside county and his name is inseparably connected with its agricultural and stock-raising interests. His thoroughly American spirit and great energy has enabled him to mount from a lowly position to one of affluence, and he is now living retired in Morrison.

Mr. Austin was born in Switzerland county, Indiana, December 30, 1825, a son of William and Margaret (Livings) Austin. The father was born in New York, November 9, 1795, and when only seven years old lost his parents, Isaac and Deborah (Reynolds) Austin, who were born in the New England states, and had six children, namely: Isaac, Joel, Stewart, Seymour, Sarah and William. The mother of our subject was born in New Jersey, April 2, 1799, and was a daughter of Daniel and Polly (Ellison) Livings. Her father was born September 2, 1776, and died October 7, 1863, while her mother was born in 1769, and died in 1852. William Austin, father of our subject, was a soldier in the war of 1812 at the age of eighteen years. From his native state he went to Ohio, where he made his home for two years on a farm, and spent the following two years in Indiana, where he owned large tracts of land. On selling his property there in 1854, he came to Whiteside county, Illinois, and in Mount Pleasant township purchased four hundred acres of land, on which he made his home until his death, October 22, 1850. He was one of the most successful farmers of the county and was highly respected by all who knew him. His wife survived him several years, dying on the 3d of October, 1877.

To this worthy couple were born the

following children: (1) Ezra died in infancy. (2) Maria, born in New York, January 27, 1820, married Joseph Myers and died October 3, 1877. Their children were Indiana, who died at the age of twelve years; Job, who died at the age of twenty-six; Florence, who died in 1892; John; Joseph, and Victoria, wife of Alexander McClennan. (3) Miranda, born in March, 1822, was married in 1840 to Silas Richmond, who died, leaving one child, Silas, who died in 1858. In 1847 she wedded Henry Murphy, who died leaving four children, Charles, Clark, Ahmeda and Julius, all residents of Kansas. Her third husband, Thomas Rock, she married in 1858, and by that union had twin sons, Clarence and Clinton. (4) Daniel L., born October 22, 1823, was married in 1846, to Myra A. Gary, and they had six children: Myra J., wife of John McGregor, of Winfield, Kansas; Celia A., wife of Noah Vest, of Storm Lake, Iowa; George W., who married Eveline Hurd and lives in Storm Lake; Charles W.; Augustus E., who was married in July, 1884, to Gertie Cobleigh, and John. After the death of his first wife Daniel L. married again and by the second union had one daughter, Sue. (5) Dennis, our subject, is the next of the family. (6) Jonathan, born in 1828, died at the age of two years. (7) Silas R., born December 6, 1830, is a retired farmer of Lyndon, Whiteside county. He was married in 1860, to Fanny McGee, and to them were born six children: Marion; Lettie; Carrie, deceased; Annie; Norma, and Ernie. (8) Martin V., born in 1833, was married, in 1857, to Hannah M. McGee, and had eight children: Olive M.; William G.; Nellie; Nettie; Bert; Harry; Edna; Vernie, and Silas, deceased. (9) Georgiana, born in

1837, is the wife of Homer Olmstead, of Ordway, Colorado, and they have five children: Alice, Minnie, Nellie, Charles and Marion. (10) William S., born in 1841, is a resident of Unionville and is employed as a stock buyer by Baker Brother, of Morrison. He was married, in 1867, to Eliza Harris, who died in 1898. He had six children: Charles B. S.; Edith M.; Mary L.; Homer, deceased; Glen H., and Marguerite E.

Dennis Austin was educated in the subscription schools of Indiana, which he was only able to attend through the winter months as his services were needed on the home farm in summer. He remained under the parental roof until he was married, September 17, 1848, to Miss Harriet Gary, who was born in Allegany county, New York, June 4, 1831, a daughter of Charles and Eunice (Spalding) Gary, natives of Connecticut and Vermont, respectively. Her paternal grandmother, Mrs. Esther (Buckingham) Gary, was a representative of one of the early pioneer families of Connecticut. From New York the Gary family removed to Indiana, where Mrs. Austin's parents both died.

Ten children were born to our subject and his wife. (1) Emory W., born May 19, 1848, was drowned in Rock creek at the age of twelve years. (2) Millard F., born October 27, 1850, is now a prosperous farmer of Kansas. He was married, September 4, 1873, to Alice Moss, and has six children: Ethel, now the wife of Marion Covey, of Miltonvale, Kansas; Ray; Lela; Josephine; Mabel; and Hazel. (3) Frank P., born March 20, 1853, is a retired farmer of Clark, South Dakota. He was married, February 17, 1874, and had six children: Emma; Emery, who died in 1889; Arthur;

Frank; Lillian; and Glen D. (4) Harrison C., born April 9, 1855, is a successful farmer living near Fillmore, Nebraska. He was married in 1878, to Emma R. Follansbee, and had one child, Jennie M., who was born in 1879, and died in 1896. (5) Esther W., born April 20, 1857, was married, December 27, 1876, to S. A. Maxwell, who is a teacher in Fulton College and lives near Morrison. They have four children: Edith L., who was born January 4, 1878, and was married in 1897, to L. H. Smith, by whom she has one child, Harold; Ralph, born in 1881; Vera J., born in 1883; and Harold A., born in 1889. (6) Olive B., born September 17, 1860, was married, September 17, 1880, to Frank Weimer, now of South Dakota, and they had six children: Roy; Austin, deceased; Eva; Grace; Ada; and Frank. (7) Lincoln A., born January 11, 1864, is unmarried and is a successful farmer of Clark county, South Dakota. (8) Hattie B., born December 22, 1869, was married, April 22, 1891, to Mason P. Brewer, who lives on his father's farm in Lyndon township, Whiteside county, and they have four children: Buell A., Carl, Harriet and Nellie. (9) Clara E., born March 21, 1870, is employed as a stenographer in Chicago. (10) Clark D., born April 17, 1873, is a gardener in Galt, Whiteside county, Illinois. He was married in November, 1894, to Alice Holcomb and has two children, Fay E. and Dewey.

After his marriage Dennis Austin, of this review, purchased fifty acres of his father's farm and erected thereon a log house and log stable with clapboard roof. He began to clear away the timber and break the land, and continued to reside there until 1854, when he sold his place and came to Whiteside county, Illinois. His first pur-

chase here consisted of one hundred and sixty acres of wild land, and he again went through the arduous task of converting an unimproved tract into a well cultivated farm. In his new home he met with excellent success and added to his farm a tract of sixty acres, which he converted into one of the best places of its size in Lyndon township. He gave considerable attention to stock raising, making a specialty of horses and cattle, and he bought young stock to fatten for the market. In 1889 he met with a heavy loss, his house and its contents, valued at three thousand dollars, being completely destroyed by fire. It was one of the finest homes in the township. Nothing daunted he immediately began the erection of another dwelling, though not so pretentious. In 1894 he left the farm and removed to Morrison, where he purchased a fine modern residence on East South street, and has since lived retired, having sold his farm. He well merits the success he has achieved in life as it has come to him through his own unaided efforts, industry and enterprise.

Politically Mr. Austin has always affiliated with the Republican party, but has taken no active part in politics, preferring to give his undivided attention to his farming. However, he most efficiently served as school director in his district for a number of years. Although not a member of any religious denomination he gives liberally toward the support of the Methodist Episcopal church of Morrison, of which his wife is an earnest member.

**J**OHNS HENRY COOK, now living in Unionville, Whiteside county, has had a varied experience in life. He was born

in Devonshire, England, July 9, 1851, and is the son of Harry and Sophia (Tousey) Cook, both of whom were also natives of England. The subject of this sketch was their only child. Harry Cook held a commission in the British army as captain. He was a man of good business ability, and a worthy soldier of his country. His death occurred in London, Canada, when our subject was but about two years old. Later his wife married Hugh Birney, a native of Ireland, and they became the parents of one son and one daughter. The son, William, is now residing in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, while the daughter, who married a Mr. Lee and is living in Jersey City, New Jersey. The mother made three trips across the Atlantic. In 1869 she made a visit to her son, the subject of this sketch, who was then living in Fulton, Illinois, and remained with him about eighteen months. She then returned to England, but later came back to the United States and died in New York in 1882.

The subject of this sketch was but two years of age when he was first brought by his mother to this country. He remained here until he was five years old, when he was sent back to his native country, where he remained but a very short time, and was then returned to the United States. When eight years old he was again sent back to England, and there remained until he was eleven years old, when he was again brought back to this country. Soon after their arrival his mother left him in charge of his step-father and returned to England. He did not remain with him very long, but came west to Fulton, Illinois. When he arrived he was bound out to John Skinner, but not being treated very well by his master he left him, and going to Carroll county he worked

one season for a farmer there, and then returned to the eastern part of Whiteside county and worked as a farm hand one year for twenty dollars per month. When seventeen years old he went into Ustick township, where he worked as a farm hand until he was of legal age, during which time he attended school during the winter months. After leaving school he still continued to work as a farm hand on the farm of Mr. Farwell until 1879, when he went to Boulder Valley, Montana, where he worked in a placer mine for one month, and from there went to Wicks, a new mining camp, where he worked for the Alta Mining Company, of Montana, a few days as a common laborer at three dollars and fifty cents per day. He was then given the position of foreman at four dollars per day. He remained with that company about two years, and in his mining operations was quite successful.

Returning to Whiteside county, on the 10th of October, 1882, he was united in marriage with Miss Maggie Durward, daughter of Peter T. Durward, whose sketch appears on another page of this work. She was born in Fulton, Illinois, April 9, 1855. By this union four children were born: Harry Artie, born August 23, 1885, in Ustick township; Lyle Fay, November 20, 1888, in Butte, Montana; Gracie May, October 28, 1892, in Unionville, Illinois, and Durward Peter, March 14, 1896, also in Unionville.

After his marriage, Mr. Cook went into the creamery business with his brother-in-law, William Durward, their plant being known as the Spring Valley Creamery. He remained in this business for two years and then disposed of his interest, and while his wife went to the home of her parents, he again went to the mines in Wicks, Montana, and resumed his old position with the min-

ing company, with whom he remained some eighteen months. Returning home, he remained about six months, and then removed with his family to Butte, Montana, where he secured employment in the office of a silver, pyrite and copper company, at a salary of one hundred dollars per month. For three years he remained with the company, but on account of the ill health of his wife he was compelled to resign. She preceded him home a few months, but in December, 1896, he also returned.

In 1872, Mr. Cook erected on the old home farm of his wife's father, a modern farm house at a cost of three thousand dollars, which has since been their home. The discovery of gold in the Klondike tempted Mr. Cook to once more try his fortune in a mining country, and on the 30th of March, 1898, in company with his brother-in-law, A. S. Durward, he started for that country. Arriving in Seattle, Washington, April 5, he remained there one day, then took the steamer Queen and landed at Skagway, Alaska, on the 10th, being four days on the water. At this place they purchased their outfit, consisting of about three and a half tons of provisions, which was carried for them on pack horses to the Summit, at a cost of five cents per pound. There it was seized for duty by the Canadian authorities, and they were required to pay sixty-nine dollars and fifty cents duty, their receipt for the same reading as follows: "Cook & Durward paid their duty." This was not signed, and whether "the powers that be" received any part of the sum paid, of course is not known by Mr. Cook. Sufficient to say that they were permitted to proceed on their journey.

From the Summit they were taken by sleds which carried three hundred pounds

each, to Lake Bennett. Here they constructed a boat, having to pay ten dollars logger's license to enable them to get the timber from the woods. The boat was twenty-six feet long and eight feet wide. After waiting until the ice was out they continued their journey through Lake Bennett, Mud Lake, and Thirty Mile river, and while on the latter stream they came near losing their boat. They then got into Marsh Lake, and from that into Forty Mile river, through two canons and White Horse rapids into Lake Leborgo and Five Finger rapids. It may be remarked here that all the rapids except White Horse rapids, are very dangerous, and several lives have been lost on them. From the Five Finger rapids they went into Stewart river, and there remained one day, going on to Sixty Mile creek, and thence to Dawson, where they landed. They prospected in all the streams on the route from Skagway to Dawson, finding gold in every stream and creek, but not in paying quantities.

On their arrival in Dawson they found carpenters in great demand, wages being one dollar and fifty cents per hour. Not having the tools with which to work, they did not remain in that city, but went to Forty Mile Creek. The mines not being opened there they went down the Yukon river to Circle City where they remained three days. They were there offered ten dollars per day to work in the placer mines, but as the mines were sixty miles from the place they did not accept the offer. From Circle City they went to Fort Yukon, a distance of seventy miles, where they remained six days. Fort Yukon is three miles inside the Arctic circle. From Fort Yukon they went to Rampart City, near which place are the Little Mnook and Big

Minon, etc., where the best gold fields are found.

From Rampart City they went back to Beaver Island, one hundred and seventy miles northeast, where they located, and on government land began chopping cord wood for the steamers plying on the river, receiving from ten to fifteen dollars per cord. They continued to be thus engaged during the time they remained there. Mr. Durward was taken sick with typhoid pneumonia, and when sufficiently recovered, on the 28th of September, 1898, left for his home in Whiteside county. After he left Mr. Cook built a cabin of logs, twelve by fourteen feet, making it as comfortable as possible. He continued working until some time in December, when he was taken sick with the scurvy, his illness continuing for nine weeks. During that time he received a letter from his wife which was written September 2, 1898, and received by him January 5, 1899. This was as good as medicine to him, but it was the only letter received by him during his entire absence. Numerous letters were written, but none received by him, while his partner received his letters regularly, the mail being brought by carriers, who passed his cabin twice a month. Many coming and going found a welcome at his cabin during his residence there.

After recovering from his illness, Mr. Cook resumed work, and continued to engage in it until June 1, 1899. On the 5th of June, he started to Rampart City, a distance of one hundred and seventy miles, where he thought surely he would find mail for him at the postoffice at that place. He made the trip in two days, but was greatly disappointed and discouraged in finding no letters awaiting him. Taking a steamer

back to his camp he sold all of his wood, and on the 20th of June started for home on a steamer going to St. Michael. He then took passage on board a whaler, a sailing vessel, for Seattle, where he landed September 2, 1899, being on the water forty-two days. He chose the sailing vessel because of the fact that the price of the steamer passage to Seattle was three hundred dollars, while he secured passage on the whaler for thirty dollars. The voyage was not a very pleasant one, the sea being very rough, and the vessel was dismantled.

Arriving at Seattle, Mr. Cook purchased a change of clothing, cleaned up, and after depositing his gold dust in the assay office, on Sunday at 10 o'clock, he left for home, where he arrived September 8, 1899. While in the gold region he experienced some cold weather, the thermometer registering as low as seventy-six and a half degrees, while the ground was frozen at all times. However, he never suffered from the cold, but still he is glad to be once more with his family and where he can enjoy the comforts of civilized life.

In politics, Mr. Cook is a Republican, and while he has been repeatedly offered official position he has invariably declined all such honors. Mrs. Cook is a member of the Presbyterian church, while he is a supporter of the same.

**PETER T. DURWARD.** To a student of biography there is nothing more interesting than to examine the life history of a self-made man and to detect the elements of character which have enabled him to pass on the highway of life many of the companions of his youth who at the outset of their careers were more ad-



vantageously equipped or endowed. The subject of this review has, through his own exertions, gained a comfortable competence and is now enabled to lay aside all business cares and spend his declining years in ease and comfort at his pleasant home in Morrison.

Mr. Durward was born in Buxburn, Scotland, January 18, 1827, a son of Andrew and Mary (Taylor) Durward. The father was also born in Buxburn, April 7, 1798, and was a son of Robert and Jane (Maltman) Durward, natives of Perthshire, Scotland, who were married in 1794. They were farming people and reared a family of four children, namely: Nellie, who married William Keith and remained in Scotland; Archibald and Robert, who also remained in that country and died while serving in the army; and Andrew, the father of our subject. He married Mary Talor, a native of Banfshire, Scotland, and in that country they spent their entire lives. To them were born six children, three sons and three daughters, of whom our subject is the oldest. Alexander was a member of the Scotch Guards in the Crimean war, and is now living in Aberdeenshire, Scotland. His wife died, leaving him one son, Alexander, Jr. Mary wedded Hugh McKay, and died in 1887, leaving a family. Anna died at the age of eighteen years. Martha died when about twelve years of age. William, now a resident of Gladstone Terrace, Scotland, is married and has six children, three sons and three daughters. He was also a soldier of the Crimean war, and was one of the Gordon Highlanders who was with Gordon when that gentleman was killed near the Nile, in Egypt.

Peter T. Durward was educated in the parish schools of his native land and re-

mained at home until seventeen years of age. He then served a five-years' apprenticeship to the blacksmith's trade, and at the end of that time opened a shop of his own, where he carried on trade for about a year. Subsequently he engaged in the manufacture of quarry tools, with good success, and continued in that business until his emigration to the United States.

Before leaving Scotland, Mr. Durward was married, in 1852, to Miss Jane Ritchie, who was also born in Buxburn, May 27, 1827, a daughter of George and Margaret Reed Ritchie, natives of the same place, where the father was engaged in quarrying stone for building purposes. To our subject and his wife eight children were born, of whom one died in infancy. The others are as follows: (1) Margery Murray was born in Scotland and was ten months old when brought by her parents to America. She is now the wife of Simon D. Long, of Ustick, and they have four children: George, Simon, Annie and Jane. (2) Margaret J. is the wife of John H. Cook, of Unionville, whose sketch appears on another page of this volume, and they have four children: Arlie, Lyle, Gracie and Durward. (3) Mary E. is the wife of W. Hendricks, who lives on her father's farm, and they have two children, Edna and Ralph. (4) Virginia is the wife of Samuel Murphy, a farmer of Ustick township, and they have four children: Pearl, Leafy, Lavena and Robert R. (5) William W. has never married, and is now engaged in the creamery business in Black Hawk, Wisconsin. (6) Andrew S., a resident of Unionville, married Elizabeth Edlund and has three children: Winnie, Clifford and Lloyd S. (7) George D. lives with his parents in Morrison.

In 1854, with his wife and child, Mr.

Durward sailed for the new world, landing in Quebec, Canada, whence he came direct to Whiteside county, Illinois. At that time the car line ended at Freeport and he made the remainder of the journey with an ox team. He located in Fulton, where he successfully engaged in the blacksmith business for about two and a half years. He then purchased a small farm near Thomson, Carroll county, but never having a deed to it, he lost the place. Returning to Whiteside county, he purchased property in Ustick township, on which he erected a small blacksmith shop, and conducted the same for a few years. He bought forty acres of land in Ustick township, to which he added from time to time as his financial resources increased, buying tracts of forty-six and seventy-six acres, a part of which was raw prairie land. On that farm he located in 1857, and for several years successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising, making a specialty of hogs, which at times he sold as high as eleven dollars per hundred pounds. On leaving the farm in 1886 he removed to Morrison, where he erected a comfortable, modern residence. Here he opened a hardware store and engaged in that trade with marked success for five years.

In political sentiment Mr. Durward is a staunch Republican and while a resident of Ustick township, he most acceptably filled the offices of township treasurer eleven years, road commissioner sixteen years, constable, collector and school director for a number of years. He has always taken an active and commendable interest in public affairs and does all in his power to advance the interests of his town and county. Socially, he is a Master Mason and religiously both he and his wife are active and prominent members of the Presbyterian church

of Ustick. He gave liberally toward the erection of the house of worship at that place and served as one of its trustees for some time. In 1891 both Mr. and Mrs. Durward returned to Scotland, where they spent six enjoyable months in visiting old friends, familiar scenes of their early life, and other points of interest. He possesses many of the admirable characteristics of the Scotch race, and is a genial, jovial gentleman who makes many friends.

**E**DWARD SCOTCHBROOK, a retired farmer of Unionville, Whiteside county, Illinois, has demonstrated the true meaning of the word success as the full accomplishment of an honorable purpose. Energy, close application, perseverance and good management—these are the elements that have entered into his business career and crowned his efforts with prosperity.

A native of England, Mr. Scotchbrook was born in Lincolnshire, December 8, 1827, and is a son of John and Charlotte (Taylor) Scotchbrook, also natives of that country where they continued to make their home until after the birth of all their children. The father was born April 4, 1793, the mother December 9, 1795. In 1853 they came to America, and took up their residence in Fenton township, Whiteside county, Illinois, purchasing a farm of a few acres, on which they made their home. The father died in July, 1872, and the mother passed away in May, 1882, in her eighty-sixth year, both being laid to rest in the Lyndon cemetery. They had three children: Mary Ann, who wedded William Forth, and died in Fenton township, in 1895, leaving one son, John; Edward, our subject; and Elizabeth, who died in England

at the age of eighteen years before the emigration of the family to America.

Our subject was reared in his native land, and as he commenced working at an early age, his education was obtained at night schools. He continued to make his home with his parents until twenty-four years of age, when he crossed the Atlantic and first located in Tompkins county, New York, where he worked as a farm hand for over a year. In 1852 he came to Lyndon, Whiteside county, Illinois, where he was similarly employed for the following four years. Having saved some money he was able to purchase a farm of one hundred acres of partly improved land, paying two thousand dollars for the same with the crop then growing. Subsequently he traded that place for eighty acres and six hundred dollars additional. After improving that farm, he sold it in 1864 for twenty-five hundred dollars, and purchased one hundred and twenty acres of partially improved land in Lyndon township, for which he paid thirty-six hundred dollars. He operated that farm for seven years and then sold it for seventy dollars per acre. His next purchase consisted of one hundred and twenty acres of land in Fenton township, which he sold about four years ago at a good profit. He afterward bought two hundred and ninety-three acres in Mount Pleasant township, at forty dollars per acre, which valuable farm he still owns. At one time he owned another one-hundred-and-twenty-acre tract, which he sold to his son, who is now living thereon. For many years he engaged in general farming and stock raising with marked success, but since 1860 has lived retired in Unionville, where he owns a pleasant home and is surrounded by all of the comforts of life.

On the 27th of March, 1854, Mr. Scotchbrook was united in marriage with Miss Mary A. Pope, also a native of Lincolnshire, England, born December 25, 1830. In 1853 she came to the new world with her parents, Abraham and Sarah (Crampton) Pope, who located first in Lyndon township Whiteside county, Illinois, but in 1874 removed to Vancouver's Island British Columbia, where both died. Their children were Mary A., Betsey, Thomas, Sarah, Louisa, Eliza, Emma and Aaron. Mrs. Scotchbrook died on the home farm in November, 1889. By that union our subject had five children namely: (1) Mary E. is a resident of Tampico, Illinois. (2) George P., a grain dealer of Wessington, South Dakota, married Nettie Borden and has two children, Carl E. and Frances W. (3) Willard A., editor of a newspaper at Stockton, Illinois, married Lillie Myers, of Morrison, and they have five children: Ruby, Ray, Bessie, Nettie and Cecil. (4) John T., who lives on his father's farm, married Edith Upton, who died leaving four children: Beulah, Ivy, Mary and Edith. (5) Sadie E. is the wife of Frank Davis, who is engaged in the implement business in Tampico, and is also a land owner, and they have three children:

Mr. Scotchbrook was again married, in 1891, his second union being with Miss Charlotte Westmoreland, who was born in Lincolnshire, England, January 2, 1805, and is a daughter of Moses and Maria Westmoreland, also natives of that country, where the father died April 16, 1881. The mother is still living and now makes her home in Hull, England. She has three children: Charlotte, wife of our subject; Samuel; and Jennie, wife of John Stock, of Hull, England, by whom she has two children, Samuel and Horace. By his second

marriage Mr. Scotchbrook has three children, namely: Jennie, born July 16, 1892; Charlotte, born September 11, 1894, and Samuel, born September 6, 1897.

Politically Mr. Scotchbrook is independent, and supports the men whom he deems best suited to fill the offices. He served as school director in his district for a number of years, and has always taken an active interest in any enterprise which he believed calculated to advance the moral, intellectual or material welfare of his adopted county. He merits and receives the respect and confidence of his fellow citizens and by all who know him he is held in high regard.

**W**ILLIAM MARTIN PATRICK, a retired newspaper man, of Lyndon, was born in Putnam county, Indiana, May 20, 1832, a son of Enoch and Polly (Martin) Patrick, who were married in Bethel, Kentucky, about 1820. The father was born in Bath county, that state, in 1792, the mother in Virginia, in 1802. He followed farming until 1840, when he sold his farm as ill health prevented him from continuing to follow the life of an agriculturist, and he then operated a hotel in Knoxville, Illinois, which he conducted until his death in December, 1864. His wife died in the same place in January, 1872. To them were born ten children, namely: (1) Aletha married Willis Nelson, of Indiana, and has eight children, one of whom is living, Enoch, who has made his home with our subject for some time. (2) Jeremiah, who was a soldier of the Civil war and was killed in the battle of Chickamauga, married Jane Cox and had five children, two now living: Enoch, of Minnesota, and Mrs. Lizzie Bixby, of Altoona, Illinois. (3)

Caroline married Hiram T. Morey, a prominent lawyer who studied with Stephen A. Douglas, and they had four children, three living: Anna, of Monmouth, Illinois; Carrie, wife of Jasper Baker; and Hiram, a dry goods merchant of Galesburg. (4) Nancy married James Olinstead, an inventor living at Knoxville, where she died. Only one of her three children is now living, Mrs. Hattie O. Aldrich. (5) Mary A. first married a Mr. Morey, by whom she had one child, Martha, now deceased; and for her second husband she married John Combs, by whom she had a son, Frank. She died in Maquon, Illinois. (6) Rachel married David Collins, a farmer of Stark county, Illinois, and they had three children, two now living, George and Jennie. (7) William M., our subject, is the next of the family. (8) Elizabeth is the wife of Fitch Evans, of California, and they have four children. (9) Dorcas, who for a time was a teacher in the Abingdon Seminary, a Methodist school, married Rev. Frank Chaffee, a prominent worker in the Methodist Episcopal church, living at Emporia, Kansas, and they have two sons, Frank and Herbert. She died in Redlands, California, November 12, 1890. (10) Rebecca, also a teacher in the Abingdon Seminary, married Stuart Wells, an engineer of Joliet. She died in McDonough county, leaving one daughter, Ella.

William M. Patrick was educated in the common schools of Knoxville and lived at home with his parents until of age, in the meantime having learned the printer's trade in the office of the Knoxville Journal, of which he finally became foreman, at the same time doing all the private work of an editor. For eight years he was connected with that paper, and then, in 1857, formed

a partnership with J. H. Howe, as proprietors of the Kewanee Dial. He soon sold out his interest in that paper, but continued in the printing business until he entered the army during the war of the Rebellion. On the 31th of July, 1861, he enlisted in Company B, Thirty-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which he served two years. He was then transferred to the Sixteenth Corps, D. Mrique, and served as adjutant one year. Upon the consolidation of this regiment with the Ninety-seventh Engineer Corps, he refused to be transferred as adjutant and was mustered out in November, 1864, and returned home. The following March, however, he re-enlisted in Company B, Fourth Regiment, United States Veteran Corps, with which he served for one year as first sergeant. He participated in several important battles and numerous skirmishes, including the engagements at Pea Ridge, Prairie Grove and Vicksburg.

After the war Mr. Patrick again embarked in the newspaper business, starting the Orford Leader at Montour, Tama county, Iowa, which he successfully conducted until after the Grant-Collax campaign of 1868. In 1870 he removed to Center Point, Iowa, where he conducted a paper for a short time, and then returned to Illinois, locating in Mendota, where he established a paper that he carried on for a year. After living in Mendota for twelve years he moved his presses and paper to Lyndon, in 1883, and published the Advocate at that place for two years. At the end of that time he moved his office to Erie, having purchased the Erie Independent, and consolidated the two papers. He continued his connection with the same until 1889, but two years previous gave his

daughter an interest in the business, and her husband has since had charge of the paper, while our subject practically lives retired in Lyndon. He has always been a staunch Republican in politics and a powerful advocate of good government.

On the 5th of September, 1870, Mr. Patrick married Miss Louise Maxwell, a daughter of Ambrose and Artimesia (Hulser) Maxwell, and a granddaughter of Christopher C. Maxwell, of Scottish descent, being the son of the founder of the family in America. Her ancestors lived in the lowlands of Scotland for many generations and among their number were many seafaring men, but more dominies and doctors. In late years some of the Hopes and Maxwells have formed matrimonial alliances with the descendants of Sir Walter Scott. At the age of twenty Miss Maxwell commenced teaching school. She taught in Whiteside district schools, principal of ward schools at Polo, Ogle county, and at Hanover, Jo Daviess county, afterward in Tama City, Iowa, four years as principal of schools. She taught in Mendota and vicinity eleven years, teaching from 1860 to 1885, twenty five years in all. She still maintains an active interest in educational affairs and literary pursuits, and for four years has been leader of the reading circle formed in Lyndon, in 1881, for the study of poets and history. It was organized by Miss L. H. Gould, Mrs. Kate Radford, Mrs. L. M. Patrick, and Miss Helen Daggett, now Mrs. Greenlee, and is now in a flourishing condition. Mrs. Patrick was also leader of the International Historical Society during its existence of one year. While in Tama City and Mendota, she taught drawing, music, etc., in connection with the regular school studies, her time being fully taken up from morning until night. Mr. and Mrs. Pat-

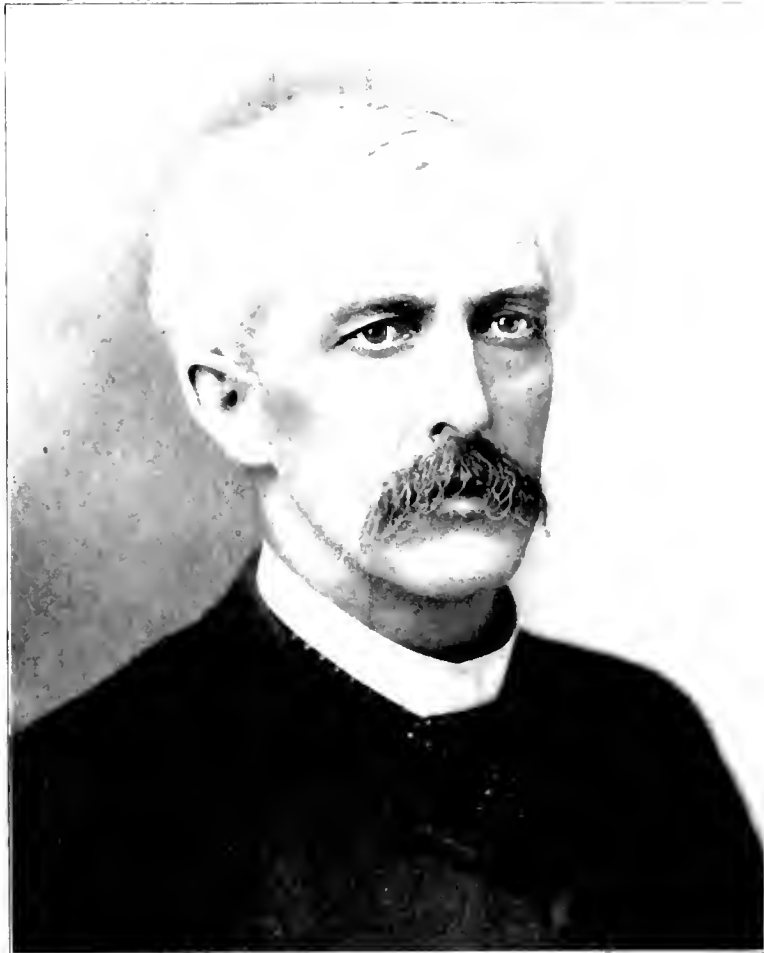
rick have an adopted daughter, Mary, wife of C. D. Hannon, editor and proprietor of the *Eric Independent*. At the early age of fifteen years she won a piano for the best selected story for the Valentine number of *Tit-Bits*, a humorous paper, out of two thousand, two hundred and forty contestants. She still has the instrument in her home at *Eric*. Mr. and Mrs. Hannon have two children, Robert and Enid.

CHARLES BENT, the subject of this sketch, was born in Chicago, Illinois, December 8, 1844, at the family residence, No. 185 Michigan avenue, upon which lot, with others, the Leland Hotel is now situated. At the time of his birth Chicago contained a population of less than nine thousand people, and during the year in which he was born the first public school building in the city was erected. In his childhood days the shore of Lake Michigan, which fronted his home, was not obstructed by railroads or breakwater, but its water laved the sandy beach as in the days of the early discoveries. Before the construction of water works, he remembers seeing large two-wheeled carts, surmounted by a large hog-head, backed into the lake to be filled, and then driven to residences, to fill the home barrel for a stipulated price. The city's boundaries were not so extensive then as now. Quite a resort until into the 'fifties was known as the "Bull's Head," which was the sign of a tavern located at what is now the intersection of Madison and Halstead streets. Adjoining this locality was the country where picnics and celebrations were held.

In his native city young Bent attended school until eleven years of age, when the

family moved to Morrison, Illinois. Here he first attended school in what was known as Jacob town for one winter, and then in the school house one mile east of the present city of Morrison. His school life ended with 1857, and in June, 1858, he entered the office of the *White-side Sentinel* and served a three years' apprenticeship, receiving for the first year thirty dollars, for the second year, fifty dollars, and for the third year one hundred dollars. The paper was not quite one year old when he entered the office, and with it he has virtually been connected ever since. After finishing his apprenticeship he worked in the office as a journeyman until in April, 1864, when he enlisted as a private in Company B, One Hundred and Fortieth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was appointed third sergeant of his company. The regiment went into the camp at Dixon, Illinois, from where it was sent to Camp Butler, near Springfield, where it was mustered into service. It enlisted under the call for one hundred days, and was sent to Lafayette, Tennessee, to hold the outposts while the veterans pushed ahead. It remained in that vicinity until about the time of the expiration of the term of service, when it was ordered to Chicago to be mustered out. While *en route*, General Price gave the citizens of St. Louis a scare, the people fearing an attack, and so the regiment was ordered there, where it remained a number of weeks doing guard duty until all danger of attack from Price was over. It was then sent to Chicago and duly mustered out.

Returning to his home in Morrison, Mr. Bent again entered the office of the *Sentinel*, in the capacity of foreman, and there remained until February 2, 1865, when he again enlisted in the army as a private in



CHARLES BENT.





Company B, One Hundred and Forty-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, under the call for one year. The regiment was mustered in at Camp Fry, Chicago, and was sent south, being attached to the First Brigade, Second Division, Army of the Cumberland. It was first stationed at Dalton, Georgia, and as General Sherman had cut loose and commenced his march to the sea, it had considerable guerrilla fighting to do. Mr. Bent, on the organization of the company, was appointed first sergeant and was later commissioned second lieutenant of the company. His brigade received the surrender of the rebel army of northern Georgia, and later his regiment was at Albany, Georgia, and a part of the brigade were among the first troops at Andersonville after the surrender.

Immediately after the surrender of the southern army, the cities of the south were so overrun with negroes that the troops had to be detached to keep them on plantations. Lieutenant Bent was detailed with a number of men to go to Newton, Georgia, as assistant provost marshal and agent of the Freedmen's Bureau, his duties being to protect citizens in their homes, and as agent of the Freedmen's Bureau to go through the country and make contracts between former slaves and their old masters, and to require them to work. After being there a short time he was appointed assistant provost marshal of his brigade and stationed at Americus. Going to Hawkinsville, Georgia, he was later detailed to go to the region where Jefferson Davis was captured, and his headquarters were in the saw mill where Davis spent his last night before capture. After that he went to Savannah, Georgia, and there received orders for the faithful execution of which mention is made in the

History of the One Hundred and Forty-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, published in the adjutant-general's state reports, as follows: "December 6, 1865, Lieutenant Charles Bent and twenty men of Company B were sent to Fort Pulaski, as a garrison, Lieutenant Bent being responsible for the government property, amounting to several million dollars, and which he satisfactorily turned over to his successor when relieved."

With his regiment, Lieutenant Bent was mustered out of service January 26, 1866, and was paid off at Camp Butler, Springfield, Illinois. He at once returned home, and once more resumed his position in the office of the Whiteside Sentinel, serving as foreman until in July, 1867, when, in company with his brother-in-law, Maurice Savage, he purchased the Sentinel office from its original proprietor, Alfred McFadden. The partnership between Bent & Savage continued until May, 1870, when Mr. Bent purchased his partner's interest and published the paper alone until February, 1877, when he sold the office, and at once commenced collecting the material for a history of Whiteside county, which is considered authority in matters pertaining to the county's history, and which enters into detail concerning the early development of the county, as well as its growth and progress. The history was published in 1878.

In March, 1870, Mr. Bent re-purchased the Sentinel office and has since been sole proprietor and editor of the paper, which is one of the oldest county papers in the state. A well equipped job office is connected with the paper, and is supplied with modern material and type. The paper is Republican in politics, and neither paper or editor has ever bolted the party ticket. In 1887, Mr. Bent erected the office build-

ing, which is used exclusively for the business, and which has all the modern improvements.

On the 15th of August, 1870, Mr. Bent was united in marriage with Miss Decima Manington, who was born in West Vienna township, Oneida county, New York, July 9, 1844, daughter of Alfred and Sophia Manington, natives of England. By this union are the following named children: Paul Alphonso, born May 28, 1871, who is foreman in his father's printing office, married June 25, 1895, at Morrison, Illinois, to Miss Luna Quackenbush; Elizabeth, born July 26, 1873, married October 15, 1896, Robert C. Sattley, and they now reside in Wheaton, Illinois; Charles, born August 2, 1875, married November 3, 1898, Miss Mabel Beuzeville, and they reside in Morrison, where he is local editor of his father's newspaper; Ruth, born October 29, 1877; Harry, born March 13, 1879, and served during the Spanish-American war in Company I, Sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with service in Porto Rico; George Manington, born June 6, 1890.

In civil life, Mr. Bent has been duly honored by his fellowmen. He was assistant assessor of internal revenue in the third collection district from December, 1870, until the office of revenue assessor was abolished in 1873. He was alderman in the city of Morrison in 1870-72, and again in 1875-77. He was a member of the board of education from 1877 to 1884, and from 1887 to 1896. In November, 1878, he was elected as a Republican to the state Senate from the eleventh district, comprising the counties of Whiteside and Carroll, for the term of four years. In April, 1883, he was appointed by Governor Hamilton a member of the state board of canal commissioners

for the term of two years, and was president of the board during that time. In February, 1889, he was appointed by Governor Fifer as a commissioner of the Illinois state penitentiary at Joliet, and held the position until January, 1893, when he resigned upon the election of a Democratic governor. He has also served as a member of the state Republican committee of his party for several years. In whatever position he held, he has always endeavored to be faithful to the trust reposed in him, and to conscientiously discharge every duty for the best interest of the people.

Fraternally Mr. Bent is a member of Dunlap lodge, No. 321, F. & A. M.; Fulton chapter, No. 168, R. A. M., and Sterling commandery, K. T. He is also a member of Grove lodge, No. 257, I. O. O. F., of which he is past grand, and past representative to the state grand lodge; of the Bethel Encampment, No. 150, of which he is past chief patriarch, and also past representative to the state encampment; of the Alpheus Clark post, No. 118, G. A. R., of which he is past commander, and on a number of occasions has represented it in the state encampment, and his state in the national encampment. He is also a member of the Illinois Commandery of Loyal Legion of Chicago, and of the Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. But it is as an editor that he is best known. He endeavors to conduct his paper on a high plane, and always gives aid and encouragement to whatever is of benefit to the city and county which has been his home for nearly half a century.

**G**ILES GREENE. At the time of his death, Giles Greene was one of the extensive landowners of Whiteside county,

and his possessions had been acquired largely through his own efforts. He had also won, by an honorable, upright life, an untarnished name, and the record which he left behind him is one well worthy of emulation. He was born March 13, 1822, in Cortland county, New York, a son of Benjamin T. Greene, who was born in Rhode Island and in early life removed to the Empire state, where he was married to Hettie Wilson, whose birth occurred in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1786. To them were born five children: Harriet, Burel and Wilson, all living in Cortland county, New York, one who died in infancy; and the subject of this review. The parents spent their last days on the old homestead in the Empire state, where for a long period the father devoted his energies to farming.

Giles Greene spent his boyhood days under the parental roof and remained in New York until 1854, when he came to Illinois and purchased land. He then returned to the Empire state and in 1855 was married to Laura Mann, daughter of Aristarchus and Sophia (Kneeland) Mann. She was born December 27, 1827, in Delaware county, New York, of which place her parents were also natives. They had a family of three daughters, but Lavantia died when about thirty years of age. Julia is the widow of Elliot Orton and now resides in Leavenworth, Kansas. She has five children: LaRue, Ralph, Miles, Grace, wife of Thomas Carney, and Robert. In 1864 Mr. and Mrs. Mann came to Illinois, and being then well advanced in years they took up their abode in a house belonging to Mr. Greene where they lived retired until called to the home beyond.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Green started for Illinois, and began their domestic

life upon the farm which he had previously purchased. It was then a wild tract of land, entirely destitute of improvements, but with characteristic energy he began its development and soon transformed the raw prairie into rich and fertile fields. He erected thereon substantial buildings, and with the passing years added all the accessories and conveniences of the model farm. As his financial resources increased, he made additional purchases, becoming the owner of one thousand acres of rich and valuable land, all in Lyndon township. He was very successful in his business affairs, and in addition to general farming he was extensively engaged in raising stock for shipment. Diligence was one of his chief characteristics, and added to this was practical common sense, an element which is often lacking, and without which one cannot hope to succeed. In 1868 he made a business trip to Sterling, and while there was taken ill, his death resulting a few days later, on the 31 of January.

Mr. and Mrs. Green were the parents of six children, of whom two are now deceased, George H. having died in infancy, while Hattie died in 1868 at the age of forty years. Ray, the eldest living son, took up the work where his father left it and has since carried on the business, dealing extensively in stock, which he raises and prepares for the market. He was born in 1860, received his education in the district schools, and afterward spent one year in Monmouth, Illinois, where he pursued an academic course. He also pursued an elective course in the Normal College of Valparaiso, Indiana, where he spent four winter seasons. Through the summer months he worked on the farm, and since his father's death he has had charge of the stock-raising interests. He makes a spec-

ality of the raising of hogs, cattle and sheep, which he fattens for the market, and his business ability has enabled him to win very gratifying financial results. His political support is given the Democracy, and fraternally he is connected with the Mystic Workers of the World, of Lyndon. He has spent his entire life in this county, and is both widely and favorably known. Mary S., the next member of the family, is the wife of E. H. Wooster. They have one son, living,— Miles Spencer. Benjamin T., who married Leila Cady, follows farming in Lyndon township; Stark K., a resident of Sterling, married Hattie Marcy and they have one son, Giles M.

In politics Mr. Green was a Democrat who wisely espoused the principles of his party, but he never sought or desired public office and though frequently solicited by his fellow townsmen to serve in positions of public trust, he always refused. In his business dealings he was ever prompt, reliable and entirely trustworthy, and although he gained a greater degree of success than came to many of his fellow townsmen, it was because he was very energetic, persevering and capable in managing his affairs. In his death the community lost one of its best citizens, his neighbors a faithful friend and his family a considerate husband and father.

**JOHN H. GREEN.** This gentleman, who spent his early life in active business, and mainly in agricultural pursuits, is now living retired on West Grove street, Morrison, Illinois. A man of great energy and more than ordinary business capacity, his success in life has been largely due to his own efforts and the sound judgment by which he has been enabled to make wise

investments and take good advantage of his investments.

Mr. Green was born in Yorkshire, England, June 29, 1831, a son of Jesse and Martha (Hanson) Green, also natives of Yorkshire, the former born in 1810, the latter in 1809. His paternal grandparents, Christopher and Sarah Green, made their home in that country until the former was fifty years of age and then emigrated to America, settling in Racine, Wisconsin, where they lived for a number of years. They next located in Elizabeth, Jo Daviess county, Illinois, where the grandfather died at the age of seventy-six years. Later his wife lived with her children until she, too, was called away at the age of seventy-nine years, dying in Christian Hollow, Stephenson county, Illinois. She was never ill a day in her life. In her family were thirteen children, of whom three died young, the others being as follows: John H. is the eldest; George H., a resident of Des Moines, Iowa, is a widower and has one child; Christopher, a musician in the Union army during the Civil war, is living in Spencer, Iowa, and has two daughters; Mary is the wife of William Reynolds, of Lena, Illinois, also a veteran of the Civil war, and they have three children; Sarah is the wife of William Mahamney, of Janesville, Wisconsin, and they have four children; Jane is the wife of Edward Body, of Iowa Falls, Iowa, and they have five children; James is a resident of Sheffield, Iowa, and has five children; Anna M. is the wife of Robert Body, of Iowa Falls, Iowa, and they have three children; Henry is unmarried and makes his home in Sheffield, Iowa; and Joseph is a resident of Sheffield and has one child. In 1842, the parents of our subject, with their family, came to the new world and settled

in Jo Daviess county, Illinois, near the Wisconsin line. Two years later they removed to Elizabeth and later to Stephenson county, where the grandmother died. After four years spent there, they returned to Woodbine, where the father engaged in farming for some years. He died in Council Hill, Jo Daviess county, in 1887, and his wife passed away in 1889.

Our subject never attended school, his education being of a practical kind, gained by contact with the world. During his minority he remained at home, working in the lead mines and teaming, and giving his wages to his parents until twenty-one years of age. He worked in the mines of this state for about two years and a half and then went to California, in March, 1854, by water, *via* New York. He engaged in gold mining for a year and a half, and then turned his attention to teaming, which occupation proved quite profitable. He made considerable money during the six years spent upon the Pacific coast. At the end of that time he returned to Jo Daviess county, Illinois, where he purchased a farm of two hundred and eight acres, and remained there until 1869, when he sold the place and came to Ustick, Whiteside county. Here he bought one hundred and ten acres of land, to the improvement and cultivation of which he devoted his energies until 1894, when he removed to Morrison and retired from active labor.

In December, 1861, Mr. Green married Miss Margaret Lowry, who was born on the Isle of Man, September 17, 1844, and during infancy was brought to America by her parents, Henry and Margaret (Quillim) Lowry, the former a native of Lands End, England, the latter of the Isle of Man. They located in Elizabeth township, Jo

Daviess county, Illinois, where the father died in 1887. The mother is still living. They are as follows: (1) Fanny married William Howarth, of Jo Daviess county, and died in 1887, leaving twelve children who are still living. (2) Henry was a member of the Ninety-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry during the last two years of the Civil war, since which time he has suffered with lung trouble and has traveled most of the time for the benefit of his health. (3) Margaret, wife of our subject, is the next of the family. (4) Joseph, a resident of St. Joseph, Missouri, is married and has two sons. (5) William, a resident of Morrison, Illinois, is married and has one son. (6) John died in infancy. (7) Maria. To Mr. and Mrs. Green were born six children: John G.; Sarah G., wife of A. N. Abbott, the Republican representative of this district; and May, wife of B. F. Hoover, a farmer of Ustick township, are all represented elsewhere in this volume. Phoebe and Benjamin are still at home.

The Republican party finds in Mr. Green a staunch supporter of its principles, and he has most creditably filled the offices of road commissioner and school director. Other official positions have been offered him but he declined them. He is well known and highly respected, and during his residence in this county has made many friends. His wife is an earnest member of the Presbyterian church.

J. T. REYNOLDS, a worthy representative of the agricultural interests of Whiteside county, Illinois, owns and successfully operates a good farm of one hundred and twenty acres on section 34, Mount Pleasant township. He is a native of Penn-

sylvania, his birth occurring in Tioga county, November 9, 1839, and is a son of Bennett and Margaret (Richmond) Reynolds, the former born in Vermont August 11, 1807, the latter in Pennsylvania January 16, 1816. After attaining his majority the father removed to Tioga county, Pennsylvania, where he continued to make his home until called from this life in 1860. He was a good mechanic, but followed farming as an occupation. His wife died in March, 1888. To them were born seven children, namely: Ezra, who died in Tioga county, Pennsylvania, at about the age of forty years; Orrin, who died at the age of twenty; J. T., our subject; Mary Jane, now the widow of William Bryant, and a resident of Tioga county; Draper, also a resident of that county; Sallie, who married a cousin, William Reynolds, and lives on the old homestead; and Daniel, also a resident of Tioga county, Pennsylvania.

In the county of his nativity J. T. Reynolds grew to manhood, acquiring his education in its common schools. During the Civil war he was in the quartermaster's department near Fredericksburg, Virginia, for two winters. In the spring of 1863 he came west and first located in Mount Carroll, Carroll county, Illinois, where he remained about a year, and then came to Mount Pleasant township, Whiteside county. After working by the month as a farm hand for one season he operated rented land for four or five years, and at the same time run a threshing machine in connection with William Hicks for a number of years.

On the 10th of August, 1871, Mr. Reynolds was united in marriage with Mrs. Margaret Parnham, widow of Robert Parnham, and daughter of Nathan and Rebecca (Jewell) Nash, both natives of Ohio. Her father

was a farmer of Licking county, that state, where he died when Mrs. Reynolds was but a small child, and she lost her mother when only six months old. In their family were four children: Benjamin, who died in Michigan in the spring of 1860, at the age of seventy years; Stephen, a retired farmer of Michigan; Mary, widow of George Hughes, and a resident of Iowa; and Margaret, wife of our subject. Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds have one child, Mary Jane, at home.

After his marriage our subject bought land on section 34, Mount Pleasant township, to which he has since added until he now has a fine farm of one hundred and twenty acres, which he has placed under excellent cultivation. He has purchased an acre and a fraction in Morrison, where he contemplates building a home to which he expects to retire shortly. He is principally engaged in stock raising, selling to the local shippers. In political sentiment he is a Republican. Socially he belongs to Lyndon camp, M. W. A., and religiously his wife is a member of the Methodist church, which church he also attends.

**HON. ALFRED N. ABBOTT**, one of the most influential, prominent and progressive citizens of Ustick township, was born on his present farm on section 32, November 2, 1862. His father, Asa M. Abbott, was born in Harland, Vermont, in 1820, and was a son of Benjamin and Dorcas (Noyes) Abbott, both natives of New Hampshire, the former born in Concord, of English ancestry, the latter of English extraction. The grandfather was the fifth in direct line in the Abbott family to bear the name of Benjamin. The first to come to the new world landed on our shores

in 1643 and settled at Andover, being the first settlers of the place. Our subject's great-grandfather, Benjamin Abbott, was a Revolutionary soldier and was wounded in the battle of Bunker Hill. Two of his brothers participated in the battle of Bennington, in which one of them was killed. In the family of the grandfather of our subject were the following children who reached years of maturity: Ephraim, a printer, who died in St. Louis, was the editor of the first agricultural paper of the Mississippi Valley; Enoch traveled around the world for his health and died in Concord, New Hampshire, which town was founded by the Abbott family; Asa is the father of our subject; Laura married Lansing Morton, of Mortons Corners, New York, and died at the age of twenty-six years, leaving one son, Charles A. Morton, of St. Paul, where he is superintendent of freight inspection; Susan married Jesse Fry and died leaving two children; Benjamin, a commercial traveler, of Denver, Colorado, and Laura, now the wife of Brigadier-General William Clendenning, of Moline.

During early life Asa M. Abbott worked at the gunsmith's trade. At the age of twenty-one he came west and first located in St. Louis, Missouri, but in 1847 came to Fulton, Whiteside county, Illinois. The following year he entered eighty acres of the old homestead now occupied by our subject, and to its improvement and cultivation he devoted his energies with marked success for many years. At the time of his death he had four hundred and eighty acres of land in Kansas, and four hundred and fifty acres in Illinois, one hundred and thirty acres of which was timber land. At the age of twenty-six, he was married in Oquawka, Henderson county, Illinois, to Miss Sarah Sperry, who was

born in Mecca, Ohio, in 1822, and in 1830 became a resident of Oquawka. Of the seven children born to them one daughter died in infancy. Charles E., the eldest son and the present county treasurer of Juab county, Utah, married Sarah Sperry and has six living children. (2) Morton, a farmer of Marshall county, Kansas, married Hannah Knight, and they have six children, two sons and four daughters. (3) Theodore S., a civil engineer of Saltillo, Mexico, who is considered one of the best in that country, married Lillie Nalle, a native of Virginia, and has two children, a son and daughter. (4) Edward L., a contractor and builder of New York City, married Lillie Hartwell and has one daughter. (5) William L., who has charge of the operating department of the Chicago Edison Company, married Carrie Entwistle, of Ustick, and has four children, two sons and two daughters. (6) Alfred N., our subject, completes the family. The father died April 8, 1880. The mother is still living.

During his boyhood Alfred N. Abbott attended the district schools near his home but completed his education at the State University, Champaign, which institution three of his brothers also attended. He has spent his entire life on the home farm, engaged in agricultural pursuits, and has added to it since his father's death a tract of one hundred and twenty acres, making four hundred acres in all. He has also improved the place by the erection of good and substantial buildings, which add greatly to its value and attractive appearance. He raises both grain and stock and each year fattens a number of head of cattle and hogs for the market.

On the 12th of October, 1880, Mr. Abbott was united in marriage with Miss

Sarah Green, who was born in Woodbine, Daviess county, Illinois, April 3, 1865, a daughter of John and Margaret Green, of Morrison, the former a native of England, the latter of the Isle of Man. Four children grace this union, namely: Bayard T., Frances D., Louis A. and Howard G.

In his political affiliations Mr. Abbott is an ardent Republican and he has ever taken an active and prominent part in the public affairs of the county. On attaining his majority he was elected justice of the peace, which office he filled for six years, and subsequently was supervisor for one term. He resigned the latter office in November, 1898, having been elected to the Legislature from the thirty-first congressional district, and is now filling that position in a most creditable and satisfactory manner. His ambition has been to acquit himself of life's duties honorably before all men, to improve his capabilities and opportunities and to become of use in the world; and it is to this spirit mainly that he owes his advancement. He has not only been honored with positions of public trust but has also been chosen to administer and settle several estates for his neighbors. Socially, he is a Master Mason, one of the directors and prominent members of the Mystic Workers, and also belongs to Ustick Camp, M. W. A., No. 3995.

**A**NDREW S. DURWARD, a well-known and prominent stock buyer of Unionville, is a native of this county, born in Ustick township September 30, 1863, a son of Peter T. Durward, whose sketch appears on another page of this volume. He received a fair district school education, pursuing his studies only through the winter

months, as his services were needed on the home farm during the summer season. He assisted his father in the cultivation of the land until he reached the age of twenty-one, and then went to Iowa, where he remained about a year. On his return to Illinois he obtained the position of watchman on the Mississippi river steamer Silver Wave, and remained upon the water three years, being mate the last two years, as he successfully passed the examination and secured a license.

On the 3d of February, 1887, Mr. Durward married Miss Elizabeth Edlund, a daughter of Gulick and Martha (Peterson) Edlund, natives of Sweden. The father died when she was quite young, but the mother is still living and is now the wife of Jonas Edlund, a brother of her first husband. His sketch also appears elsewhere in this work. Our subject and his wife have three children, two sons and one daughter, namely: Winnie E., Clifford and Lloyd.

After his marriage Mr. Durward engaged in farming upon rented land for ten years, but gave the greater part of his time and attention to the raising of cattle and hogs, to which he fed all of his grain. As a stock raiser and farmer he met with most excellent success. At the end of ten years he sold his implements and purchased a home in Unionville, and also seventy-seven acres of land where Ustick postoffice is now located, paying for the same sixty-three dollars per acre. This is one of the best farms of its size in the township.

After securing a home for his family, Mr. Durward thought to add to his wealth more quickly by going to the new gold fields in the Klondike region. He left home the last day of March, 1898, and traveled over



the Skaguay trail. He arrived at the pass April 10, and on striking the Yukon river built a skiff in which he floated down that stream for sixteen hundred miles, visiting all the mining camps along its banks. He stopped at Beaver creek, where he was taken ill with typhoid fever three months later, and on the 25th of September, the same year, he started for home on the steamer Pilgrim. Four days were spent on Behring sea and twelve on the Pacific coast before he once more set foot in the United States, and five days later he reached home—rich in experience if not in gold. After regaining his health, he formed a partnership with H. D. Burch, under the firm name of Burch & Durward, and has since successfully engaged in buying and shipping stock to the Chicago markets. He is a wide-awake, energetic business man, and generally carries forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes.

In his political views, Mr. Durward is a Republican, and prior to going to the Klondike he held the offices of road commissioner five years, and school director, while at present he is school director in Unionville. Fraternally he is a member of Anchor lodge, No. 120, K. P., of Morrison, Ustick lodge, No. 9, Mystic Workers, in which he is holding the office of banker, and while a resident of Ustick he belonged to Ustick camp, No. 3595, M. W. A., of which he was vice-consul. He has also been a trustee and treasurer of the Presbyterian church for two years although he is not a member.

CYRRIEL A. LUM, an enterprising agriculturist of Whiteside county, is the owner of a fine farm on section 16, Union Grove township, and his management of

the place is marked by the scientific knowledge and skill which characterize the modern farmer. He was born in Ellisburg, Jefferson county, New York, July 1, 1846, and is the only child of Calvin and Mary B. (Clark) Lum, also natives of Jefferson county, New York. The mother died when our subject was only ten months old, and the father departed this life August 26, 1875. His ancestors were originally from Massachusetts. By occupation he was a farmer, and he owned and successfully operated one hundred and seventy acres of land in his native county. For his second wife he married Eunice Potter of the same place, who died ten years after their marriage, and subsequently he wedded Harriet Beddinger, also of Jefferson county, by whom he had one son, Manford P., who is now clerking in a store in Michigan. He is married and has one son, Gerald.

Our subject remained with his father until twenty-one years of age, and was educated in the home schools. During the Civil war he enlisted in Company H, One Hundred and Eighty-fifth New York Volunteer Infantry, and was in the service nine months, being honorably discharged at the close of the war, in June, 1865. Returning home he continued to work on the farm until his marriage, which was celebrated December 25, 1867, Miss Inous A. Hoxie becoming his wife. She was also born in Ellisburg, and is a daughter of Isaac and Mary Hoxie, natives of New York. One child was born of this union, Bessie M., at home.

In February, 1867, Mr. Lum came to Whiteside county, Illinois, and after successfully operating rented land for two years in Union Grove township, he purchased one hundred and twenty acres of partially improved land. Later he sold that place and

bought eighty acres on section 21, Union Grove township, and twenty acres on section 28, but subsequently sold the latter tract, and in 1895 purchased eighty acres of farming land on section 9 and ten acres of timberland on section 18. In connection with general farming he is engaged in stock raising, making a specialty of hogs, and feeds most of his grain to his stock. Through his own well directed and energetic efforts, he has met with excellent success in business affairs, being a man of keen discrimination, sound judgment and good business ability. Politically, he is identified with the Republican party, and though he has never aspired to office, he has been called upon to serve his fellow citizens as tax collector for two years, and constable for eighteen years. Socially, he is a Master Mason, a member of Morrison camp, M. W. A., and the Grand Army post No. 118, while religiously his wife and daughter are members of the Baptist church.

**R**OBERT SNOW JAMES, who owns and operates a farm of seventy-two acres, on section 3, Mount Pleasant township, is a native of Clyde township, and was born February 2, 1865. He is a son of Amos A. and Ann (Norrish) James, the former a native of Mount Pleasant township, Whiteside county, Illinois, and the latter of England. She is a sister of Robert S. Norrish, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this work. Amos A. and Ann James were the parents of eight children, of whom Robert S. was the fourth in order of birth. (See sketch of Amos A. James on another page of this work.)

On the old home farm in Mount Pleasant township the subject of this sketch

spent his boyhood and youth, and as soon as old enough was assigned his share of farm labor. He attended the district schools of the township and received a good common-school education, which has been put to a practical test in his business career. He remained at home, assisting in the cultivation of the home farm until his marriage in 1890 to Miss Rosa Thomas, who was born in Mount Pleasant township, and the daughter of A. P. Thomas, who is also represented in this volume. By this union one child has been born, Vera.

Immediately after their marriage, our subject and wife took up their residence on the family homestead of his father, which he operated for several years, doing a successful business in general farming. In 1897 he purchased his present farm of seventy-two acres on section 3, Mount Pleasant township, which he cultivates in addition to one hundred and thirty acres which he rents. While under cultivation, the farm which he purchased is devoid of improvements.

In politics Mr. James is thoroughly independent, voting for the man rather than the party. While never a seeker for office, he has served his district as school director for ten years, doing all in his power to advance the interests of the public schools. Fraternally he and his wife are members of the Mystic Workers of the World. As a citizen he is always willing to do all in his power for the general good of his township and county.

**G**EORGE R. HAMILTON. In the pioneer epoch in the history of this section of Illinois George R. Hamilton came to the Prairie state, and has been an important factor in the substantial develop-

ment and permanent improvement of Whiteside county. He has seen its wild lands transformed into fine farms, while industrial and commercial interests have been introduced and thus towns have become thriving cities. In the work of progress he has borne his part and has been particularly active as a representative of the agricultural interests of the community. He is to-day the owner of four hundred acres of land in Lyndon township, constituting a valuable property, which returns to him a good income.

A native of Northampton, Massachusetts, Mr. Hamilton was born February 24, 1820, a son of Adam R. Hamilton, who was born in that place October 12, 1791, and was of Irish descent. The father was a printer by trade, but on account of failing health he turned his attention to farming. He was married in Massachusetts to Miss Nancy Miller, also a native of the Bay state and on leaving Massachusetts they removed to New York, where they were connected with agricultural interests until 1835, when they came with their family to Illinois, the father purchasing land from the government. The sections had not been surveyed, but the townships had been laid out, and he at one time owned two hundred and forty acres, upon which he made his home until his death. For many years the farm was operated under his supervision, but in his last year he rented the land. He died in 1865 and his wife passed away in 1860. During the war of 1812 he served as a private, and at all times was loyal to his duties of citizenship. In his family were six children: John M., of Lyndon township; Nancy, who married Theron Crook, and died in 1852; Lovisa, who married John Swarthout, who died in 1854, after which

she became Mrs. Olds, her death occurring in 1866; George R.; Mary G., who died in New York at the age of five years; Mary E., wife of John Gallick, of Nebraska, by whom she has six children; and John, who died in Nebraska, in 1860; and Harriet A., who is living with our subject.

George R. Hamilton, of this review, acquired his education in New York and after his arrival in Illinois he aided in the arduous task of developing a new farm from the wild prairie. When he had attained his majority he began working as a farm hand, being thus employed for two years. His industry and economy in that time enabled him to save a little money and he accordingly invested it in five acres of land,—the nucleus of his present extensive landed possessions. As the years passed he kept adding to the property, making judicious investments. When he had been gone from the home farm for two years he returned and assumed its management, renting the property until his father's death. From time to time he extended the boundaries of his own farm by additional purchase until he now has four hundred acres, much of which is under a high state of cultivation or devoted to pasturage. Near his home is a beautiful grove which has grown to stately trees during his residence here. Substantial building, the latest improved machinery and all the accessories of this model farm indicate the thrift and enterprise of the owner, who is accounted one of the leading agriculturists of the community.

On the 28th of May, 1868, Mr. Hamilton married Miss Hannah Belt, who was born in Ohio, June 9, 1835, and when twelve years of age came to Illinois with her parents, who were also natives of the Buckeye state. Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton be-

came the parents of two children: Willis G., who died in 1891, married Nellie Harrison, and they had one son, W. Vernon; Louie E., the daughter, is now managing the household affairs for her father, for the wife and mother was called to the home beyond February 6, 1887. Mr. Hamilton is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and in politics is a Prohibitionist. He is a most active and interested worker in the Old Settlers' Association, which has held its meetings on his farm for thirty-five years. He was a member of its committee on grounds nearly all that time. The meetings are very pleasant occasions, bringing together the pioneer settlers who laid the foundation for the present prosperity of the county, who came to the west when this was a frontier region, resided in primitive cabins, oftentimes built of logs, broke the wild lands, and endured many hardships in order to found homes for themselves and families in this great and growing section of the country. Through the sixty-four years of his residence here Mr. Hamilton has become widely known, and his many excellent traits of character have gained him the high regard of his many friends.

**JAMES WOODBURN**, a prominent nurseryman and florist of Sterling, was born in Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, October 12, 1836, and is the only son of George W. and Mary (Williams) Woodburn, also natives of Pennsylvania, and pioneers of Whiteside county, Illinois. The father came to this county in the fall of 1837 and bought a pre-emption claim before the land came into market, the present property of our subject being a part of this. In the spring of 1838 he returned to

Pennsylvania for his wife and child, and on again coming to Whiteside county, took up his residence upon his land, which he continued to cultivate and improve until 1849, when he made an overland trip to California. He remained upon the Pacific coast, engaged in mining, for about ten years, and then returned to his farm in this county, where he spent the remainder of his life, dying here in 1872. In politics he was first a Whig and later a Republican, and in religious belief he was a Presbyterian. His estimable wife was one of the charter members of the First Presbyterian church of Sterling.

James H. Woodburn was given a liberal education. At the age of ten years he entered the preparatory department of Linn Academy of Indianapolis, Indiana, and at sixteen became a student at the Big Springs Academy, where he completed his education. He then engaged in farm labor until after the opening of the Civil war. On the 2d of August, 1862, he enlisted in Company I, Seventy-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, as a private, but was soon promoted to the rank of corporal and later sergeant and lieutenant. He participated in the battles of Stone River, Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge and Ringgold Gap, was in the Atlanta campaign with Sherman, and remained in the service until the close of the war, being mustered out June 12, 1865. After the war he turned his attention to horticulture and floriculture, and now has a fine nursery covering twenty acres.

Mr. Woodburn was married, November 15, 1858, to Miss Susan Farrar, a native of Manchester, New Hampshire, and a daughter of Isaac and Hannah Farrar, and by this union two children were born: George W., who died in April, 1890, and Charles

II., an attorney of Sterling. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Sterling, in the work of which they take an active and prominent part, Mr. Woodburn having served as president of the board of trustees for twenty years. Politically he affiliates with the Republican party, and fraternally he belongs to the Ancient Order of United Workmen, the Independent Order of Mutual Aid, the Knights of Honor, the Knights of the Maccabees, and the Grand Army of the Republic.

CHARLES H. WOODBURN, the popular and efficient court stenographer of Whiteside county and a well-known attorney of Sterling, residing at No. 501 Fifth avenue, was born in that city November 5, 1862, and is the only child of James H. and Susan (Farrar) Woodburn, whose sketch is given on another page of this work. The early life of our subject was passed under the parental roof, and he attended the Sterling public schools, the Wallace high school and the Sterling Business College, where he gave special attention to stenography. He became quite proficient in that art, and was soon called upon to do court and legal reporting.

In 1888 Mr. Woodburn was made the first official reporter for the old Thirteenth judicial district, comprising seven counties, receiving the appointment under Judge John D. Crabtree. The large circuit and his numerous duties occupied his entire time until taking up his present profession. In his intimate and long connection with the court and legal affairs, he became familiar with the profession of law. He was admitted to the bar in November, 1897, but

on account of the duties connected with his official position he found it impossible to give his attention to practice until 1899, when he opened an office in the Kreider, Harpham & Williams building, on the corner of Third and Locust streets, where he has since engaged in general practice. He is one of the brightest professional men in Whiteside county, and starts out on his career with brilliant prospects.

On the 11th of February, 1885, Mr. Woodburn was united in marriage with Miss Mary Clatworthy, a native of England and a daughter of Rev. W. H. and Elizabeth (Croker) Clatworthy, who were also born in that country. In early life the father was a minister of the Wesleyan Methodist church, but in 1878 retired from that calling and turned his attention to farming in Lee county, Illinois, becoming an extensive land owner. Mr. and Mrs. Woodburn are active members of the Fourth Street Methodist Episcopal church of Sterling, and he also belongs to the Knights of the Globe and the Independent Order of Mutual Aid. In politics he is an ardent Republican, and takes an active and commendable interest in public affairs.

C. C. McMAHON, a prominent member of the Whiteside county bar, and an influential citizen of Fulton, Illinois, was born June 16, 1860, at Prince Edward Island, a son of Francis and Rosa (McAvoy) McMahon, both natives of northern Ireland. His parents were married in Prince Edward Island, where they continued to reside until 1867, when they came west, and from that time until the death of the father, in 1895, made their home in or near Fulton. The widowed mother is now living in Fulton.

C. C. McMahon spent the early years of his life at home, receiving his elementary instruction in the public schools of Lyons and Fulton. He subsequently completed the scientific course, and took portions of other courses, at the Northern Illinois College, which he attended four years before entering, in 1885, its law department, from which he was graduated in 1888. Not being yet ready to commence his professional career, Mr. McMahon, who had paid his college expenses by working between terms at boating and rafting, and had for seven years been mate on boats plying between Stillwater and Rock Island. In the winter of 1889 and 1890 he read law with J. D. Andrews, who then had offices at Morrison and Sterling, and has since become famous in the legal world as the author of various important works, including "Commentaries on American Law," "Andrews' Stephen's Pleading," and "Practice in the Supreme Court of Illinois," used as text books in the leading colleges of the country, and of other works of recognized merit and authority.

In the spring of 1890, in the Fulton Bank building, Mr. McMahon opened the office that he still occupies, and in the meantime has built up a lucrative practice in the various courts of the state. Self-educated and self-made in the highest sense implied by the term, securing a thorough knowledge of his profession during the intervals of the steamboating seasons, he may well be congratulated on the high position that he has already attained in the legal fraternity. His business transactions are varied and extended. He is one of the faculty of the law department of the Northern Illinois College.

In national politics Mr. McMahon sup-

ported the Republican party until 1896, but since then has been identified with the silver movement; in local matters he is independent, being pledged to neither of the old parties. He has warmly advocated the various beneficial enterprises inaugurated in the city, and has rendered faithful service in many capacities, among others having been township collector one year and city attorney continuously since 1892. He was largely instrumental in securing the location of the Mississippi Valley Stove Company, and is now one of its directors, and has been actively interested in other movements calculated to improve and benefit the town. Fraternally Mr. McMahon is a member, and past chancellor, of Sunlight lodge, No. 23, K. P.; a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and of the Mystic Workers of the World.

**E**ARL E. MARVEL, a well known contractor and builder of Prophetstown, is a native of Whiteside county, born in Portland township, August 3, 1856, and is a son of John Marvel and grandson of Rev. John Marvel. The father was born in New York, in 1834, and there grew to manhood, but when a young man he came west and settled in this county. He was a carpenter and joiner by trade and followed that occupation in early life, but on coming to Whiteside county, he located in Portland township and turned his attention to agricultural pursuits. He continued his residence there throughout his active business life, but spent his last days in retirement in Prophetstown. In this county he wedded Miss Mary Wright, also a native of New York, and a daughter of Jonathan Wright. He died July, 1895, and she passed away April 11, 1899. Our

subject was the oldest of their six children, the others being Daniel, who is married and engaged in mining in Breckenridge, Colorado; Ike, a resident of Spring Hill; Hattie, who resides with our subject; Ella, also a resident of Prophetstown; and Guy, who lives on the old homestead.

Earl E. Marvel was reared on the home farm and educated in the public schools of the neighborhood. In 1879 he went to Jewell county, Kansas, where he took up a claim and engaged in farming for about ten years and then sold his place. He also worked at the carpenter's and joiner's trade to some extent. Returning to Whiteside county, in 1891, he located in Prophetstown, where he worked at his trade in the employ of others for about a year, and then began contracting and building on his own account. In this undertaking he has met with well-merited success, and has erected a large number of the best residences in the town, among them being the fine residences of Mr. Field and H. N. Paddock, besides many other of the fine residences of Prophetstown, while some of the business houses also show his architectural skill and handiwork. He has also erected buildings in Erie and elsewhere in the county, and for the past three years has been the leading contractor and builder of Prophetstown. Here he bought property and building for himself a pleasant home, which ranks among the best of all the modern structures of the town.

While in Jewell county, Kansas, Mr. Marvel was married, in March, 1881, to Miss Anna R. Trump, a native of Maryland and a daughter of David Trump, of Kansas. Two children bless this union: Carl M. and Ella M. Politically, Mr. Marvel has been a life-long Democrat and cast his first presidential vote for Grover Cleveland. He

joined the Masonic order at Spring Hill, but is now dimitted. As a business man he stands deservedly high in the esteem of his fellows citizens, and is widely and favorably known.

**S**OLOMON HUBBARD, one of the venerable and highly respected citizens of Sterling, is a worthy son of a representative old family of Connecticut, of Scotch extraction. His father, Josiah Hubbard, Jr., and his grand-ataer, Josiah Hubbard, Sr., natives of the state mentioned, were farmers by occupation. The younger man removed to Vermont, and there owned and managed a good farm until his death. At three different times he made his son Solomon long visits, after the latter's settlement in Illinois, but he had no desire to reside in the west. He was a man of public spirit and patriotism, like his father, who served as a colonel in the war of 1812. The mother of Solomon Hubbard bore the maiden name of Cynthia Cummings. She was born in Massachusetts, and was of Scotch descent, her family lineage being traceable as far back as the fifteenth century.

To the union of Joseph Hubbard, Jr., and wife, twelve children were born, two of whom died in infancy, and one at the age of nine years. Cummings, now deceased, married and had three children, Loren and Diana and one deceased. Maria became the wife of Isaac Baldwin, and had three children, two of whom, Josephine and Louis E., survive. Mrs. Baldwin now is in her ninetieth year. Charles, who died in 1884 in Sterling, was the father of four children, two of whom survive, namely: Charles, of Rock Falls, and May. Lucia, widow of James Tewksbury, resides in Ver-

mont. Frances, widow of Lucien Chamberlain, lives in Vermont. Carlos, who has dwelt in Lowell, Massachusetts, for forty-seven years, has one child, Harriet. John, of Montmorenci township, Whiteside county, has four sons and four daughters: Free-love, a resident of Cedar Rapids, Hattie, William, Herbert, Frank, Dana, Sarah and Nellie.

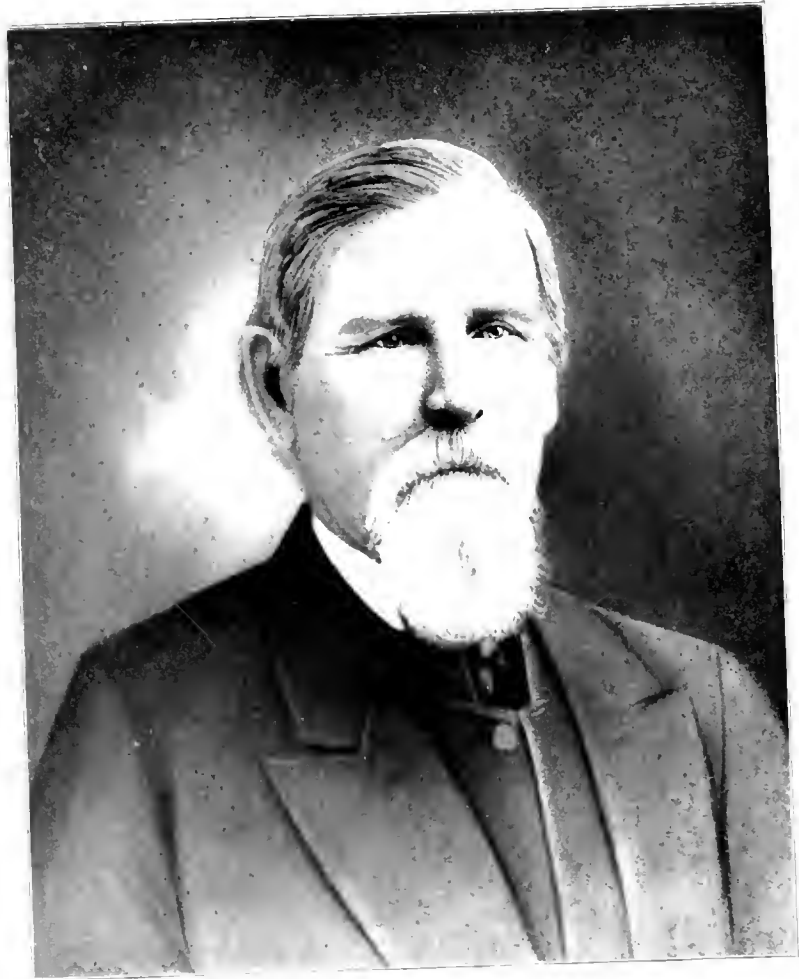
Solomon Hubbard was born in Thetford, Vermont, October 28, 1818. He continued to work on the home farm until he was eighteen years of age, when he obtained a position as a clerk and was thus employed until he was twenty-seven years old, in the meantime boarding at home. In 1848 he came to Illinois, and for some seventeen years was engaged in business at Dover. Altogether he was a citizen of that place for twenty-one years, at the end of which time he came to Sterling. Here he has been a continuous resident for thirty years, and has been classed among the representative business men. For several years he was engaged in merchandising, and for five years he conducted a lumber business, which he had purchased from Whelan Brown. In 1868 he bought eight hundred acres of land, situated on the Central Pacific Railroad in Kansas, and about a decade previously he had entered one thousand acres of land in Iowa. In addition to this, he bought and sold Illinois property for years, and became known far and near for his extensive dealings in real estate.

In his early manhood, Mr. Hubbard was an active worker in local politics, and while a resident of Bureau county he served as assessor for four years, and at one time was a commissioner of highways. He now uses his franchise in favor of the Republican party.

In 1845 Mr. Hubbard and Amanda N. Belcher were married in Randolph, Massachusetts. She was born in Roxbury, Vermont, January 6, 1820, and died in 1891. Their eldest child, Francis, died when six years of age; Helen Ada died when about eleven years of age; and Solon died in infancy; Harry F., unmarried, is engaged in the coal and wood business in Sterling; Frederick B., who is express agent at Sterling, married Louisa H. Brown, and their three children are: Ada L., Harry S. and Paul S. Emma A., who makes her home with her father, is the widow of Fred B. Shelton, who was a Chicago architect; Arthur G., unmarried and living at home, is a civil engineer employed on the canal.

COL. ROBERT L. WILSON, deceased, was one of the leading citizens of Whiteside county for many years, and was not only well known in the county, but throughout the state and nation. He was born in Washington county, Pennsylvania, September 11, 1805, and was of Scotch-Irish extraction, his ancestors moving from Scotland and settling near Belfast, Ireland, after the conquest of Ireland by Cromwell in the sixteenth century. Later they came to the new world, and in 1778 were located in York county, Pennsylvania, from which place the parents of our subject, with ten children, emigrated to what was then the "far west," Washington county, Pennsylvania, making the journey on pack horses over the mountains, there being no wagon roads. In 1810 the family moved still farther west, locating near Zanesville, Ohio, the journey again being made on pack horses. Robert L. was then five years old, and had the honor of riding a pony.





COL. ROBERT L. WILSON.



Twelve years after the arrival of the family in Ohio the father died, and our subject was thrown on his own resources. Up to this time he had attended the pioneer schools of his day but very little, but had advanced far enough to read the testament and to write very imperfectly. He now attended the winter terms of school and engaged in farm labor until he was nineteen years old, when having made very rapid progress he was qualified to teach. For the succeeding three years he engaged in teaching a part of each year and was himself a pupil in the schools the remainder of the time. He was not satisfied, however, with the knowledge thus obtained, and proposed to secure a higher education. Securing an outfit of books and such clothing as he felt it necessary to have, with twenty-seven dollars in his pocket, he set off on foot to New Athens, Ohio, that he might enter Franklin College. By dint of hard study during terms and teaching school through vacations, he finished the course and was graduated from the institution.

After graduating, Mr. Wilson went to Bath county, Kentucky, and for two years engaged in teaching in the academy at Sharpsburg. While there, on the 28th of March, 1833, he was united in marriage with Miss Eliza J. Kincaid, daughter of Andrew and Ann (Caldwell) Kincaid, both of whom were natives of Kentucky. In 1834 the family came to Illinois and located in Sangamon county about fourteen miles north of Springfield, where Mr. Kincaid engaged in farming. His object in removing to Illinois was to get land for his sons. After a long and useful life he was called to his reward. His wife survived him, dying in her ninety-second year. Their family consisted of eight children, as follows: John,

now deceased; Archibald, a farmer of Sangamon county; Eliza J., widow of our subject; William C., deceased; Mary, widow of Alonzo Whitney; Thomas, deceased; Emily, wife of Henry Gaines. Of the family Mrs. Wilson is the only one who ever removed from Sangamon county. Her father felt very badly about her removal, and they entered into a compact to visit each other each year of their lives, if possible. At that time it took three and a half days to make the trip from Sangamon to Whiteside county. The visits were continued by each until the parents became too old to make the journey, but Mrs. Wilson made her annual pilgrimage to the old home until her mother's death. Her father was a soldier in the war of 1812.

While teaching in Sharpsburg, Mr. Wilson read law, and each Saturday rode six miles to recite to Judge Robbins. After pursuing his studies for about two years, and having passed a successful examination, he was admitted to practice under the laws of Kentucky. In the fall of 1833, he emigrated to Illinois, with his young bride, and after landing at Beardstown, he proceeded to Sangamon county and located near Springfield, where he taught his last term of school.

By virtue of his talents, Mr. Wilson soon became one of the prominent and influential citizens of Sangamon county, and in 1836 was elected one of the seven members of the legislature from that county. There were two state senators elected at the same time, and the nine were always known and spoken of as the "Long Nine," each one of the number being over six feet in height. This delegation were all Whigs, the senators being Arthur G. Hamilton and Job Fletcher, and the representatives

were Abraham Lincoln, Ninian W. Edwards, John Dawson, Andrew McCormick, Dan Stone, William F. Elkins and Robert L. Wilson. The efforts of the "long nine" were mainly directed in securing the removal of the capital from Vandalia to Springfield, in which they were successful.

In 1840 Mr. Wilson came to Whiteside county, Illinois, and was followed by his family the next year. He located in Sterling, then called Chatham. Soon after his arrival he was appointed by Judge Brown, clerk of the circuit court, a position which had been tendered him by the judge, an old personal friend, prior to his removal, the judge giving him his choice of the clerkship in either Whiteside, Lee, Henry or Carroll counties. He wisely chose Whiteside, and had never reason to regret his choice. After the office became an elective one he was elected by an overwhelming majority, and served continuously until December 1, 1860, a period of nearly twenty-one years. No better official has ever filled the office, and none have ever given better satisfaction. During sixteen years of his incumbency of the office he served as recorder of deeds, and for eight years he was judge of probate.

In the spring of 1861 Mr. Wilson was in Washington, being there at the time Fort Sumter was fired on and the first call was made by the President for volunteers. He at once enlisted as a private in a company commanded by Cassius M. Clay, known as the Clay Guards. The organization was composed principally of non-residents and was armed with breech-loading carbines from the arsenal in that city. They were used principally as night police to guard the capitol to prevent its falling into the hands of the rebels. After the arrival of

the Seventh New York Regiment, fifteen hundred strong, with a six-gun battery, the Clay Guards were mustered out of service, and the discharges of the men were signed by President Lincoln and Secretary Cameron.

On receiving his discharge Mr. Wilson returned to Sterling and assisted in raising Company A, Thirty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was elected captain, but declined the honor in favor of Lieut. Edward N. Kirk, afterwards a brigadier-general. In July, 1861, he again went to Washington, and calling on President Lincoln, who was indeed a personal friend and one of the famous "long nine," he offered his services in any capacity in which he could be useful. Mr. Lincoln informed him that he had made a list of old friends whom he wished to appoint to office, and that his name was among the number. The President then said to him: "Now, what do you want?" Mr. Wilson replied: "O! quartermaster will do." Mr. Lincoln then said: "I will make you paymaster." The commission was made out, the appointment having been confirmed by the senate August 7, 1861, and he was assigned to duty in Washington and made payments to the army on the Potomac.

By his own request Col. Wilson was transferred to the western army, with headquarters at St. Louis. He continued in the service four years and four months, when he was honorably mustered out and discharged with the certificate of non-indebtedness required by the civil authorities and the second comptroller of the treasury. During his term of service he paid out about seventeen millions dollars to more than one hundred thousand men.

In 1846 Col. Wilson erected a family residence in Sterling, having much of the

timber used in its construction hauled by teams from Chicago. At that time there were but few residences in the place. This house has been continuously in use as the family residence to the present time, a period of about fifty-four years, and is one of but four houses built about the same time that is yet standing. Of the six children born to Colonel and Mrs. Wilson two survive. Silas, the first born, married Jane Sother, and made his home in Sterling, where his death occurred in 1871. He was the father of two children. His widow now makes her home in California. Anna W. married Marcus Wisewell, and after his decease she married Dr. Nixon, who for many years was head physician of the Central Pacific Railroad hospital at San Francisco, California. He is now deceased, and since his death Mrs. Nixon studied medicine, and is now engaged in practice in Los Angeles, California. She had two children by her first marriage: Frank, deceased, and Alice, who lives with her mother. Emma, widow of Hugh Edwards, makes her home in Los Angeles, California. She has four children, as follows: Lee, now a practicing physician in Lincoln, Nebraska, and who is employed as a physician for the inmates of the Nebraska state penitentiary; Anna, a teacher in the high school at Aledo, Illinois; Mary, a teacher at San Monica, California; and Robert, who resides with his mother at Los Angeles. Robert, who was fourth in order of birth, married Bessie Cox, by whom he had four children: Robert L., Mary, Bessie and Richard. He made his home in Moline, but died in Nashville, Tennessee, in 1892. The family now reside in Chicago. Lee died at the age of sixteen years.

In 1875, when past seventy years old, Colonel Wilson visited Great Britain, and in-

cluded in his tour nearly all the principal cities of Europe. The trip was a delightful one and afforded him much comfort in the last years of his life. He was always fond of travel, but did not get to gratify his taste in that direction as much as he desired. Having a fair competency he was permitted to spend his declining years in ease and retirement, gratifying his taste for literature and reflecting on the past. He took much delight in reviewing the exciting events of the years in which his life was spent. He had a remarkable memory and could easily recall such scenes the narration of which would interest those with whom he was associated. In the compilation of Bent's History of Whiteside County he furnished much of the material from his well stored mind. His death, which occurred March 7, 1880, was a public calamity, and he was sincerely mourned by all who knew him in this life. He was a good man, a patriotic citizen, a friend of the poor and needy, and his memory will always be held in grateful remembrance by the people of Whiteside county and the state of Illinois, where the best years of his life were spent.

DAVID G. HARRISON, whose home is on Portland avenue, Morrison, Illinois, has throughout almost his entire life been identified with interests of Whiteside county, and is numbered among its most progressive and successful agriculturists. He was born in Beardstown, this state, June 21, 1842, and is a son of Thomas and Nancy (Garlick) Harrison, natives of Derbyshire, England, the former born in Glossop, May 29, 1805, the later July 2, 1806. The paternal grandparents, William and Alice (Rhubottom) Harrison, spent their entire

lives in Derbyshire. In their family were six children, four sons and two daughters, namely: John, Frederick, Thomas, Alice and Mary. All lived and died in England with the exception of Thomas, the father of our subject. In his native land he was employed as overlooker in a cotton mill, all of the finished goods of the mill passing through his hands. In 1840 he and his wife took passage on a sailing vessel bound for America, and on landing at New Orleans, they proceeded up the Mississippi and Illinois rivers to Beardstown, Illinois, where they made their home for two years. At the end of that time they came to Whiteside county, and in Union Grove township, Mr. Harrison purchased a claim before the land came into market. At different times he subsequently added to its forty-acre tracts until he owned three hundred and sixty acres of valuable land, for which he paid the government price of one dollar and a quarter per acre. In his farming operations he met with most excellent success and was able to spend the last years of his life in ease and retirement from active labor. His wife died upon the farm, November 7, 1865, but his death occurred in Morrison, June 19, 1877.

Of the nine children born to this worthy couple two died in infancy, one in England the other in Illinois. David G., our subject, is the oldest now living. (2) Emma is the wife of Isaac Hildreth, of Longmont, Colorado. (3) John, a railroad carpenter, was killed by the cars in 1888, and his wife preceded him, leaving two daughters: Alice; and Nina, wife of Charles Elliott, of Morrison, by whom she has one daughter, Florence. (4) Mary wedded John Bowman and died in 1870, leaving one child, Minnie, now the wife of Norman Judd, of Iowa, by

whom she has two daughters. (5) Sarah married Daniel Berry and died February 20, 1898, leaving four children, three sons and one daughter, Charles, Harrison, Hartley and Anna. (6) Charlotte was the first wife of Isaac Hildreth, and by that union two children were born, Frank and Carl. (7) Eliza died unmarried in 1888.

David G. Harrison was only a year and a half old when brought by his parents to Whiteside county, where he has since made his home, and has never been away a whole year at a time during his entire life. He was principally educated in the district schools but also attended the military school at Fulton for six months. He remained under the parental roof, working for his father without wages until twenty-six years of age, and then operated the farm on the shares for several years, being successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising. Some time before the death of his father, he purchased the interest of the other heirs in the place and has since had entire control.

On the 6th of October, 1875, Mr. Harrison was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Thomson, daughter of William Thomson, whose sketch appears on another page of this volume. To them were born four children, of whom one died in infancy. Otto W. married Mamie Heath and lives on the old homestead, which he rents of his father. Jeanie B. and Euphemia are both at home. The wife and mother died April 6, 1886, and for his second wife, Mr. Harrison married her sister, Miss Mary J. Thomson, March 10, 1887. She was born December 22, 1860, and by her marriage has become the mother of four children, of whom one died in infancy, and one at the age of four years. Those living are Donald

F., born December 10, 1887; and Madge J., born June 21, 1897. William J. died at the age of four years. Albert died at the age of two weeks. Otto and Donald are the only male representatives of this family now living in America besides our subject.

In 1892 Mr. Harrison left the farm and removed to Morrison, where he purchased property and erected thereon a modern residence with all improvements. After living here for five years he again took possession of his farm, which he is now operating most successfully. At the polls he votes for the man best qualified in his judgment to fill the office regardless of party lines. He and two of his children are active and prominent members of the Baptist church of Morrison, in which he is serving as deacon and trustee, and they are quite prominent socially, having a large circle of friends and acquaintances in Morrison and surrounding country.

**FENNIMORE E. MARCELLUS**, a pioneer merchant, and one of the leading business men of Fulton, Illinois, is at present manager of the large and well-stocked store of Marcellus Bros., who carry a complete line of clothing, boots, shoes, and men's furnishing goods. He was born at Burlington Flats, Otsego county, New York, March 7, 1835, a son of Rev. Enoch Marcellus.

Enoch Marcellus was born and bred in the Mohawk Valley, New York, where he learned the shoemaker's trade in his youth, and afterward established himself as a minister of the Baptist denomination. In 1842, accompanied by his wife and children, he came to Whiteside county, traveling by canal to Buffalo, thence by the lakes to Chi-

cago, and from there to Fulton by horse team, being piloted by Mr. Coburn, who lived in Erie, this county, but had been in Chicago on business. He followed his trade in Fulton for a time, and also continued preaching, having been ordained after settling here. He subsequently removed to Port Byron, Illinois, where he was engaged in shoemaking, and at the same time had pastoral charge of a congregation. On retiring from active labors, he returned to Fulton, where he and his wife are now living, both well advanced in years, he being eighty-four, and she but two years younger. Nine children blessed their union, as follows: Fennimore, the special subject of this brief biographical sketch; Rachel, widow of James Babb, resides at Stevens Point, Wisconsin; Charles, a member of the Seventy-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, died in Nebraska; Tillison, a resident of Fulton; William died in Fulton; Franklin, who enlisted in Company I, Seventy-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, was wounded in the battle at Perrysville, Kentucky, and died within a week of his return to Fulton; John, a farmer in Boyd county, Nebraska; a daughter that died in infancy, while they were living in New York; and Kate, wife of Walter Gasp, of Fulton.

Fennimore E. Marcellus was but seven years of age when he came to Fulton with his parents. He was reared at home, and as soon as able was put to work on the farm during the long vacations between the terms of the district school in which he was educated. At the age of sixteen he engaged in butchering in Fulton, a trade that he followed five or six years. Going then to Iowa, he bought land intending to locate there permanently, but preferring Illinois as a place of residence returned to Fulton,

where he opened a restaurant, and in this business succeeded so well that in 1860 he bought the Union House, which he managed in connection with his restaurant for fourteen years. Then, remodeling the building, he put in a good line of men's clothing and furnishing goods, and embarked in the mercantile business, in which, with the exception of a short time he has since been engaged. In 1884 he disposed of the stock he had on hand and removed to Burt county, Nebraska, where he invested in a section of land, preparatory to engaging extensively in farming and stock raising, taking with him from Fulton six car loads of stock and goods. At the end of two years Mr. Marcellus asked his sons if they would not rather return to Fulton and sell men's overalls. Receiving an affirmative answer, he sold out there, and coming back to Fulton opened up business at the old stand under the firm name of F. E. Marcellus & Sons, the junior members being his two sons, Fennimore and Franklin. In 1895 he sold out his share of the business to his sons, and the firm name was changed to Marcellus Bros. For some time he remained free from active care, but recently has assumed management of the old store in Fulton, the attention of his sons being often needed at their branch store, located at the corner of Fourth street and Eighth avenue, Clinton, Iowa.

Mr. Marcellus takes an active interest in promoting the welfare of the town and county, encouraging and financially aiding all enterprises tending to benefit the public, and enjoys in a high degree the confidence and esteem of his fellow men. In politics he was a Republican in his early life, but for nearly three decades has supported the Democratic ticket. He has oc-

cupied places of prominence in the management of public affairs, having been mayor of the city two terms, a trustee of Fulton county, tax collector, and in the spring of 1899 was elected alderman from the second ward.

On November 25, 1853, when but nineteen years old, Mr. Marcellus married Miss Anna Shuman, who was born November 25, 1833, in Keihl, near Haxtonburg, Germany, where she lived until early womanhood. Of the eight children born of their union, three died in childhood, Frederick and Ida when four years old, and Mary J. at the age of two years. Those living are as follows: Fennimore; Ella; Franklin; Restoria, wife of Daniel Skinner, of Clinton, Iowa; and Burt, who is a clerk in the store at Fulton.

**J**OHN W. HULETT, one of the leading business men of Morrison, Illinois, has shown in his successful career that he has the ability to plan wisely and execute with energy, a combination which, when possessed by men in any walk of life, never fail to effect notable results.

Mr. Hulett is a native of this county, born March 30, 1855, and is a son of Amos A. and Sarah W. (White) Hulett. His father was born in Windsor county, Vermont, April 7, 1812, a son of Benjamin G. and Lydia Hulett, both of whom are now deceased. Mrs. Hulett was born September 6, 1818, and was a daughter of Robert and Mary White. In the Hulett family were five children, namely: Ansel, who died in infancy; James H., who married Anna Olds and resides in Hall county, Nebraska; William, a resident of Story county, Iowa; Robert G., who wedded Mary J. Haslam,



now deceased, and resides in Morrison; and John W., our subject.

Under the parental roof John W. Hulett remained until twenty-two years of age. In early life he followed general farming and stock raising with marked success, his specialty being cattle and hogs, and he still owns a fine farm of two hundred and thirty-five acres of land on section 32, Union Grove township. In the winter of 1889 he moved to Morrison, where he has since carried on business as a stock dealer, and is now also interested in the real estate business.

On the 11th of December, 1877, Mr. Hulett was united in marriage with Miss Belle Twombly, who was born June 13, 1857, a daughter of Titus J. and Rosina (Cass) Twombly, who were married March 29, 1854. Her father was born December 11, 1822, and is a son of Daniel and Sarah Twombly. In his family are two children: Horace, who married Phoebe Harmon and resides in Union Grove township; and Belle; wife of our subject. Mr. and Mrs. Hulett have five children: Pluma B., Ethel M., Rosina E., Raymond W. and Earl D. Socially Mr. Hulett is a member of the Knights of Pythias and politically is a strong Republican. He is now filling the office of constable in Morrison and as a citizen faithfully discharges every duty that devolves upon him.

**C**HARLES DELP, now living retired in Sterling, has been identified with the interests of Whiteside county for almost half a century, and is well entitled to a place in its history. He was born in Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, July 20, 1835, his parents being Michael and Julia

A. (Grimm) Delp. The father was a native of Union county, Pennsylvania, born January 5, 1809, and the mother was born in Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, July 20, 1810. After their marriage they settled upon a small farm, which father carried on, spending a portion of his time in working at his trade. In 1850, he removed to this county with his family, and settling upon a farm in Jordan township, ultimately became the owner of two hundred and ninety acres, though at first he had only sufficient funds to purchase part of this property. He was ably and cheerfully assisted in his labors by his sons, and together they managed to lay aside a large competence. In 1868 he retired from business, and thenceforth made his home in Sterling. He lived and died in the faith of the Mennonite church, his death taking place in March, 1890.

Charles Delp is one of ten children, five of whom died when young. Mahlon G., who died in Sterling, married Caroline Hunter, who survives, as do four of their children. Caroline, deceased, was the wife of Joseph Snyder, now a resident of Oregon, and three of their sons survive. Mary A., Mrs. John S. Weaver, resides in Sterling, and they have five living children. Julia, unmarried, lives with our subject and their mother, in Sterling.

The education of Charles Delp was chiefly obtained in his native county, though he attended school some after his arrival in this county. After his father retired from the arduous cares of an agricultural life, the young man, who is a practical farmer, operated the home place for a number of years. In 1880 the farm was leased to a responsible tenant, and Michael Delp purchased a lot in Sterling, and erected thereon a modern house, which has since

sheltered the family. For two years longer, he continued to supervise the farm, but, having ample means, he is practically retired at the present time. Fraternally, he is associated with Sterling lodge, No. 174, I. O. O. F., and politically, he is an active worker in the interests of the Republican party.

**J**OHAN J. GREENE, of Prophetstown, is now living a retired life in the enjoyment of a rest which he has truly earned and richly deserves by reason of his industrious efforts of former years. Accomplishment and progress ever imply labor, energy and diligence, and it was those qualities that enabled our subject to rise from the ranks of the many and stand among the successful few. He is now one of the highly-respected citizens of Prophetstown and his long residence in Whiteside county and the active part he has taken in its development well entitles him to representation in its history.

Mr. Greene was born in Chautauqua county, New York, May 30, 1835, a son of William Greene, whose birth occurred in Rhode Island, in 1802. The paternal grandfather, Henry Greene, was also a native of Rhode Island, from which state he removed to Cortland county, New York, where he opened up a farm and reared his family. When a young man William Greene went to Chautauqua county, where he married Orrilla Eddy, a native of that state and a daughter of Job Eddy, one of the early settlers of Chautauqua county. There Mr. Greene followed farming for some years, but in July, 1853, came to Whiteside county, Illinois, locating in Prophetstown township, where he followed

farming until called from this life in 1874, at the age of seventy-six years. His wife long survived him, dying in February, 1899, at the advanced age of eighty-five years. To them were born eight children, four sons and four daughters, of whom seven reached years of maturity, and three sons and two daughters are now living, namely: Albert, a resident of Tallapoosa, Georgia; John J., our subject; Horatio and Mrs. R. M. Besse, both of Prophetstown; and Eliza, wife of E. D. Griswold, of Springfield, Illinois.

Our subject was eighteen years of age on the arrival of the family in this county, and he assisted his father in opening up and carrying on the home farm. Later he engaged in farming in Henry county, Illinois, where he owned one hundred and sixty acres, and then came to Prophetstown, where they built an elevator and to deal in grain. For four years after the railroad was built through the town he was engaged in business with H. C. Hull and at the end of that time retired from the grain business. He then formed a partnership with P. H. Smith and for ten years was interested in general merchandising. On selling out he turned his attention to the hardware trade for the following decade and then turned the business over to his son and has since lived retired.

In Prophetstown, Mr. Greene was married, December 10, 1861, to Miss Sarah E. Kimball, a native of Cumberland county, Maine, who came to Illinois with her parents, P. H. and Susan (Stanley) Kimball, in January, 1854. They located on a farm in Prophetstown township, where they spent the remainder of their lives. The mother, who was born in Beverly, Massachusetts, died June 15, 1866, and the father,

who was born in Ipswich, the same state, died February 13, 1891. They had five children who reached man and womanhood, namely: Benjamin, who died in California when a young man; Caleb, who has been cashier of the First National Bank of South Bend, Indiana, for about thirty-two years; John, a retired farmer of Tampico, Illinois; Susan E., wife of Dr. David Choate, a leading physician of Salem, Massachusetts; and Sarah E., wife of our subject. Mrs. Greene's paternal grandfather, Caleb Kimball, and her maternal great-grandfather, Wells Stanley, were both soldiers of the Revolutionary war, and she and her daughter, Mrs. Stone, are now members of the Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Our subject and his wife have two children: Allen S., a prominent business man of Prophetstown, who married Agnes Warner, a daughter of Jackson Warner, and has two children, Marjorie and Warner; and Minnie A., wife of H. J. Stone, also a leading business man of Prophetstown, by whom she has one child, Velma.

While not members of any religious denomination, Mr. and Mrs. Greene attend and give to the support of the Congregational church of Prophetstown, and are among the most highly respected citizens of the town. Since the organization of the Republican party he has been one of its staunch supporters, voting for Fremont in 1856, and he has served as a delegate to county and state conventions. As a public-spirited and enterprising citizen, he has ever taken an active interest in public affairs, and has been prominently identified with the upbuilding of his town and county. He most creditably served as president of the town board for a number of years, and

for eighteen years was a member of the school board, during which time the present school house was built. While a resident of Henry county he served as supervisor of his township for two years, and served as justice of the peace for four years.

**M**ARSHALL TURNER LEE. For half a century Marshall Turner Lee has been numbered among the progressive, energetic citizens of Whiteside county, and at present he is living practically retired at his pleasant home in Sterling. Following in the footsteps of his patriotic father, who won honors for his gallant service in the war of 1812, he fought for more than three years during the war of the Rebellion, participating in some of the most arduous campaigns of that terrible conflict. In years of peace, no less than in those of war, he has bravely performed his duty, and is justly entitled to a place in the nation's roll of honor.

Alexander S. Lee, father of our subject, was born in Herkimer county, New York, in 1793. The latter's mother, whose maiden name was Angeline Scoville, was born in Tonawanda, New York, in 1804, and resided there at the time of her marriage. During the war of 1812, the young husband enlisted in the American army, and fought at Plattsburg, the last battle of the war. Alexander and Angeline Lee were the parents of nine children. Susan first married D. Masten, and their daughter, Mrs. Salome Sumner, had four children. The second marriage of Susan was with Alexander Atherton, who also has passed away, and his widow now makes her home with our subject. Hiram, who was a life-long farmer and resident of Pennsylvania, died while

making a visit in Ohio, and was buried near his old home. Of his twelve children, four survive. Lafayette, deceased, formerly of Erie county, Pennsylvania, had three children. Mary, widow of Charles Small-edge, and mother of Charles, Jerome, Dell, and Salome, resides in Steuben county, New York. Myra died at the age of nineteen years. Pauline, deceased, was the wife of James K. Hankey, and their son, Frank, now lives in Chicago. Mercy A., deceased, was the wife of James Gunder, and of their twelve children eight are living. Abner, deceased, made his home on the parental farm until his death, and his widow still resides there. Their six children are: Allie, Anna, Myron, James, Ida and Effie.

In 1849, Alexander S. Lee emigrated to Whiteside county, and settled upon a farm of one hundred acres, in Genesee township. He worked at his trade as carpenter until advancing years compelled him to retire. Thenceforth he made his home with his son, Abner, until he was summoned to his reward in 1883. His wife departed this life in 1881, at the home of our subject. They were highly esteemed by everyone, and to their children they left the heritage of unblemished names.

Marshall T. Lee was born in Erie county, Pennsylvania, June 7, 1837, and there he lived until he was twelve years of age. He early mastered the various details of agriculture and remained under the parental roof until reaching his majority. As an initial step in independent life, he chose Elizabeth Wetzell as a wife, their marriage being celebrated December 18, 1859. She is a daughter of Daniel and Mary (Bidler) Wetzell, and was born in Canton, Ohio, in 1842. With her parents, who likewise were natives of Ohio, she came to Illinois when a

young girl. Mr. and Mrs. Lee have seven sons, namely: Francis M., Marshall T., Charles J., Abram L., John H., Fay and Daniel W. Francis M., of Springville, Iowa, married Nettie Wilbur, and their two children are Zella and Wilbur. Marshall T., of Rock Falls, is a salesman for the Lee Harness Attachment Company, of Chicago, and is the inventor and patentee of the article manufactured. He married Nancy Brett, and has three children—Harry, Lawrence and Lottie. Charles J., who is an enterprising farmer of Hume township, married Erma Van DeMark, and their four children comprise: Wayne, Leland, Mildred and an infant. Abram L., who has been employed for ten years by the Rock Falls Manufacturing Company, of Sterling, married Mamie Boos, and has two children, Nellie and Fern. John H., a leading attorney of Chicago, is a graduate of the Sterling schools, and of the civil engineering and electrical department of the State University of Wisconsin. He received the degree of Doctor of Laws in Kent College of Law, in Chicago, where he was graduated with high honors, and since then has been engaged in practice, his office being in the Monadnock building, Chicago. He is an able business man, and was one of the organizers of the Lee Harness Attachment Company. His wife formerly was Miss Lillie McLain. Fay, a resident of Rock Falls, married Belle Wilson, and their only child is named William. Daniel is a member of the class of 1900 of Kent College of Law, and also is employed as a stenographer in his brother's office in Chicago.

Subsequent to the marriage of our subject and wife they settled upon a fifty-acre farm in Genesee township, and were living there, busily occupied in the varied duties

of agriculture, when the Civil war broke out. In October, 1861, Mr. Lee enlisted in Company H, Fifty-fifth Illinois Volunteers. For some time he was in the hospital, and as soon as able to do so he joined his comrades and participated in many of the important battles of the war. Among others, he was active in the battles of Look-out Mountain, Mission Ridge, Kenesaw Mountain, Ezra Chapel and Sherman's march to the sea. At Ezra Chapel the rebels charged the Union army five times during the day, and when night came on the small division in which Mr. Lee was stationed buried about six hundred soldiers in gray who had fallen in front of their lines. After the almost continuous skirmishing of the long, weary march to the sea he went to Washington, where he took part in the grand review, and received his honorable discharge in August 25, 1865.

After his return home he commenced the cultivation of a farm of one hundred and twenty acres, which was situated in Hume township, and which he had purchased in 1864, when he was at home on a furlough. From time to time he added more land to his original purchase, until when he was ready to retire from active labors his possessions amounted to six hundred and twenty-four acres, all being under high cultivation. He also raised, bought and shipped live stock extensively, and since 1888, when he leased his farm, he has been engaged in buying and shipping cattle to the city markets. He has been practically retired for the past decade, but in the meantime has taken much pleasure in building homes for each of his sons who live in Sterling. Besides furnishing the plans for them he has almost entirely built these dwellings, and at present he is occupied in the erection of a

modern house for himself. When completed it will have cost about four thousand dollars, to say nothing of the work and time he has devoted to it.

While a resident of Hume township Mr. Lee was honored by his friends and neighbors, who elected him to the offices of collector and road commissioner. The cause of education has ever found in him a friend, and for several years he served as a school director. Politically he cast his first vote for Lincoln, and has ever since championed the Republican party. Fraternally he is identified with William Robinson post, No. 274, G. A. R.

**M**ARCUS R. LYON. The subject of this personal narrative is one of the most successful and progressive farmers within the borders of Tampico township, his home being on section 6. He has made his special field of industry an eminent success, and is highly esteemed and respected by those who know him best.

Mr. Lyon was born in Medina county, Ohio, February 27, 1845, and belongs to an old Vermont family, which was founded in that state by his great-grandfather and two brothers, natives of Scotland, who came to the new world during the Revolutionary war. The great-grandfather opened up a farm in Orleans county. The grandfather, Nehemiah Lyon, and the father of our subject, Baxter Lyon, were both born upon that farm, which is still in possession of the Lyon family. The latter was born July 13, 1820, and remained in his native state until twenty years of age, when he went to Medina county, Ohio, where he cleared, improved and cultivated a farm and also worked at his trade of blacksmith, which he continued

to follow for some years after coming to Whiteside county, Illinois. In Medina county he married Miss Sarah A. Vaughn, a native of New York and a daughter of George Vaughn. In December, 1849, they came to this county, making the journey with teams, and they located near the present city of Morrison, where the father bought one hundred and sixty acres of land with state script. Upon his place he built a frame house, 24 x 26 feet, and a story and a half in height, doing most of the carpenter work himself. The first winter it was only sided up and was not lathed and plastered, and the family suffered very much from the cold. In fact, during the first two winters they experienced many hardships and privations, incident to life on the frontier. Upon his farm the father also built a shop and did blacksmithing for his neighbors. As his financial resources increased, he bought more land, until he owned nearly seven hundred acres; and he was one of the most active, enterprising and prominent farmers of the county. Selling his property near Morrison, he moved to Tampico township, where he resided for a few years, and on disposing of his farm there he bought another in Lyndon township. A few years later he moved to Harvey county, Kansas, where he opened up a new farm and became the owner of six hundred acres. There he died on his seventy-third birthday. The wife and mother departed this life in October, 1895, in Whiteside county, Illinois.

Marcus R. Lyon was about four years old when brought by his parents to this county, and he was educated in the common schools of Morrison, which he attended only during the winter months, the summer season being occupied with work on the home farm. After reaching manhood he

had charge of the place until twenty-five years of age. When nineteen years old he began running a threshing machine, and later bought and operated a horse-power machine for several years. Still later he owned a steam thresher and also a corn-sheller, and now for over thirty-four years he has engaged in threshing, first around Morrison and later near his present home in Tampico township.

In Jones county, Iowa, February 28, 1870, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Lyon and Miss Minerva Miller, a native of Warren county, Indiana, and a daughter of John T. and Charlotte (Morris) Miller. Her father was born in Ohio, but was reared and married in Indiana, and from the latter state moved to Jones county, Iowa, where he opened up a farm and reared his family. His wife died there November 1, 1895, and he only survived her about a week, dying November 8, 1895. To Mr. and Mrs. Lyon ten children have been born, namely: Lottie B., now the wife of Frank E. West, of Tampico; Lewis L., who is married and engaged in farming on one of his father's farms; Gracie, who died at the age of twelve years; Hubart, who assists his father in the operation of the home farm; Kate, at home; Rhoda A., who is attending the home school; Martha, who died at the age of a year and a half; Mina and Minerva, twins, at home; and Marcus R., Jr., at home.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Lyon located on a farm near Morrison, he having purchased one hundred and twenty acres of the old home farm, and there they resided for five years. He then sold the place and before night of the same day had purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 6, Tampico township, where he now

resides. To its further improvement and cultivation he has since devoted his energies, and has extended the boundaries of the farm until they now enclose two hundred and forty acres of rich and arable land which he has placed under a high state of cultivation. Near it he also owns another valuable and well-improved farm of two hundred and forty acres, and upon both places is a good set of farm buildings. Progressive, energetic and industrious, the success that he has achieved in life is due entirely to his own well-directed efforts. He is a skillful farmer and a man of good business ability. The Republican party always finds him a staunch supporter of its principles, and he cast his first presidential ballot for Gen. U. S. Grant, in 1868. He has been a member of the school board for years, and clerk of the district, and always takes a commendable interest in everything which he believes calculated to advance the intellectual, moral or material welfare of his township and county. For half a century he has been a resident of the county and has watched with interest almost its entire growth and development, and has ever borne his part in its advancement.

**H**ENRY HOOVER is one of Morrison's highly respected citizens, whose useful and well-spent life has not only gained for him the confidence of his fellow men but have also secured for him a comfortable competence which enables him to lay aside all business cares and spend his declining days in ease and retirement. He was born near Aaronsburg, Center county, Pennsylvania, March 24, 1834, a son of Andrew and Sarah (Creider) Hoover, both of whom were of German descent and of Revolutionary stock. The father was a life-long

resident of Centre county, where he owned property and where his death occurred in 1842. The mother was born and reared there and was a daughter of John Creider. After her husband's death she removed to Philadelphia, where one of her older sons was living.

Our subject was the youngest of a family of seven children. He received a good practical education in the common schools of Philadelphia, but began work at an early age in order to help support his mother. For three years he clerked in a grocery store, and for two years was with Dr. Jaynes in his large drug store on Chestnut street. He was married in 1856, to Miss Mary A. Brown, of Philadelphia, a daughter of Andrew Brown, of Jersey Shore, Pennsylvania, and in March of the following year, accompanied by his wife and mother, he came to Fulton, Whiteside county, Illinois; it required eight days at that time to make the trip on the cars. On landing here his capital consisted of but two dollars and a half in gold. Being a young man from the city, the prospect at Fulton did not seem very bright to him, and the first year spent here proved a very hard one. His mother was taken ill and died the fall after locating here, and his wife was also ill all summer. Mr. Hoover worked hard, but the value of the money then in circulation was very uncertain. He operated a rented farm in partnership with a man from New York who tried to cheat him out of all that they made, but when the war broke out times began to be better.

During the four years of that conflict Mr. Hoover was postmaster and station agent at Clifton, in the work of which position he was ably assisted by his wife, while he devoted a part of his time to the carpenter-

ter's trade. In this way he secured a start and was able to purchase a team and also bought five cows, for which he gave his own note unendorsed by others. He operated a farm of eighty acres near Clifton that year and made enough to pay for his cows. For four years he rented land, during which time he devoted considerable attention to stock raising, and although he lost many hogs of cholera, he prospered in the undertaking and at one sale took in thirteen hundred dollars. He then purchased an eighty-acre tract of land in Ustick township, which at that time was covered with brush and trees, but acre after acre was soon cleared, grubbed and placed under cultivation, though it was an arduous task to transform the wild land into well-tilled fields. He built a fine house upon his place and engaged in general farming and stock raising, meeting with such good success that in 1891 he was able to purchase one hundred and sixty acres on the opposite side of the road. This is now all paid for, is improved with good buildings and is one of the finest farms of its size in Ustick township.

Mr. and Mrs. Hoover have seven children: Bertha, now the wife of William Thompson, of Ustick; George, who married Neva Baber and lives in Fulton; Fred, a manufacturer of Kansas City; Nellie, wife of John H. Fox, of Sterling; William, who died at the age of twenty-four years and six months; Frank, who lives on the home farm; May, wife of Dr. Clending, of Fulton. The parents are both earnest and consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and while a member of the congregation at Cottonwood, Mr. Hoover served as class leader, steward and superintendent of the Sunday-school for a number of years. His political

support is always given the Republican party, and for twenty-seven years he was clerk of Ustick township, his service being interrupted only by the four years spent in Sterling while educating his sons. He built a good residence in that city, but afterward sold the place. In the spring of 1898 he removed to Morrison and erected his present fine home on West Grove street, where he expects to spend his remaining years in ease and quiet. The success that he has achieved in life is well deserved, his prosperity being due entirely to his own unaided efforts, good management and industry.

**J**OHNS SCHWAB, a member of the firm of Schwab Brothers, general merchants at Fulton, Illinois, and foreman for the Joyce Lumber Company, is one of the substantial and prominent business men of the city, and an important factor in promoting its advancement and prosperity. He was born December 25, 1857, at Williamsburg, New York, a son of Gottlieb Schwab.

Gottlieb Schwab was born June 22, 1822, in Wartemberg, Germany, where he worked as a wine manufacturer during his early manhood. He there married Henrietta Munz, and the following year sailed for America, arriving at Williamsburg, New York, about two months prior to the birth of their eldest child. Two years later he moved to Illinois, and settled in Fulton, where he was afterwards known by the name of John, his own name being hard to speak. Securing work on the Northwestern railway, he continued thus occupied until retiring from active labor, a few years before his death, which occurred at his home July 9, 1898. His widow survives



him. They reared nine children, as follows: John, the special subject of this sketch; Frederick, belonging to the firm of Schwab Brothers, and also head filer in the large saw mill; Frank, employed in the shingle manufacturing department of the saw mill; Christina, wife of James Carrier, of Fulton; George, formerly road master for the Northwestern Railway Company, is now a brakeman on their road; Henry, in business in Fulton; Emma, wife of Albert L. Draper, who is engaged in the literary and publishing business in Fulton; David, gang-saw filer in the saw mill; and Louis, one of the partners in the store and manager of the business.

John Schwab received his early education in the district schools of Fulton, where he grew to man's estate, attending as he had opportunity. At the age of eight years he began to partly earn his own living by working in the clay pipe factory, an industry that he pursued five years. Then after farming awhile, doing boy's work for a neighbor, he was employed in the Fulton pottery a few years. Giving up his position there he secured employment as a regular hand in the saw mill and was later made an assistant in the filing department. There he proved himself so skillful a mechanic that he was promoted at the end of two years to gang-saw filer, and subsequently was raised to the position of foreman of the filing room. Here his genius and mechanical ability gave him such prestige that he was asked, in 1887, to become foreman of the mill, a position of responsibility that he still holds. This mill is the most important industrial plant of the town, when running on full time giving employment to one hundred and forty men, and producing twenty million feet of lumber per annum.

The store in which he has an interest was founded in 1892 by Simon Feet and Frederick Schwab, the latter being the junior partner. The following year John Schwab became a partner in the concern, and in 1895 John McCrea was admitted to the firm, and the name was changed to McCrea, Schwab & Co., under which business was continued two years, when Louis Schwab purchased Mr. McCrea's interest and became manager of the business, which has since been conducted under its present firm name.

In politics Mr. Schwab was actively identified with the Democrats until the silver issue, when he joined the Republican forces. He has been influential in public affairs, having represented his ward as alderman twelve years in succession, and having served as mayor two years, from 1897 until 1899. He is now a trustee and the vice-president of the Fulton Cemetery Association.

On June 22, 1880, Mr. Schwab married, at Princeton, Iowa, Miss Lillie P. Stichter, who was born in Troy, New York, a daughter of John Stichter, who removed to Iowa with his family when Mrs. Schwab was a child. Mr. and Mrs. Schwab have one child, a daughter, Grosse Schwab.

**E**DWARD WYATT, engineer for the Joyce Lumber Company, at Fulton, Illinois, is well qualified for the responsible position he holds by reason of knowledge and experience. He was born February 26, 1832, in Leamington, Warwick county, England, a son of William and Elizabeth (Sweet) Wyatt.

At the age of fourteen years Mr. Wyatt began the battle of life on his own account

by entering the factory and machine shops of George Nelson, of Warwick, as an apprentice. After serving six years and one month in that capacity, he secured a position in a much larger foundry and factory, where for two years he was one of the five hundred employees. Returning then to his former employer he remained with him until the summer of 1855, when he embarked for America, whither he arrived July 17, and was first greeted with the news of the fall of Sebastopol. Going directly to Detroit, Michigan, Mr. Wyatt began work in Pitt's sawmill, in the machinery department. The following September he came to Lyons, Iowa, and until February, 1856, was employed in the sawmill of John Pickering, whom he left to enter the machine shops of Graham & Company, where, the next August, he was unfortunate enough to meet with such a serious injury as to cause the loss of his right hand in the planer. The ensuing six years Mr. Wyatt had charge of the engine in the sash factory of M. A. Desbrow, of Lyons. On April 6, 1865, he assumed the duties of his present position as engineer in the sawmill at Fulton, and during the thirty-five years that have intervened has been faithful to his employers, ever as mindful of their interests as of his own. In 1892 he took a trip to California, and in the fall of that year was sick for three months, but with these exceptions he has seldom been absent from his post.

Mr. Wyatt has been prominently identified with many of the foremost industries of this part of the county, and has usually been fortunate in his ventures, although he lost \$5,000 through one investment. He is a director and stockholder of the Lyons Sash & Door Factory; he is also one of the committee of the Lyons Cemetery Association;

and was one of the promoters, and a director, of the Fulton Electric Light and Power Company, of which he is still a stock-owner.

Fraternally Mr. Wyatt has been an Odd Fellow for nearly forty years, and is past noble grand of the Manchester lodge, of England; he is likewise a member of Lyons encampment of which he has been C. P. and H. P.; formerly he was a Knight of Maccabees; and he was one of the first members of Forrest camp, No. 2, M. W. A., in which he filled all offices. Though not connected with any religious organization by membership, he inclines towards the Church of England, but attends and contributes towards the support of churches of all denominations.

Mr. Wyatt is a man of spotless integrity, and those who best know him respect him for his business qualities and faithfulness, and honor him for his manliness and strength of character.

**C**HARLES C. KNIGHT, a retired farmer living on section 36, Fulton township, is numbered among the pioneers of 1840, who made Whiteside county their home, and have here labored to build up a substantial and thriving county. He was born near Belfast, Maine, at the mouth of the Penobscot river, and is the son of George W. and Lydia Abigail (Duncan) Knight, both of whom were also natives of Maine, and where the latter died during the early childhood of our subject. The father was a seafaring man, engaged in the coasting trade and in fishing. He also owned a small farm which he cultivated with the aid of his sons. The family is of English origin, the grandfather of our subject being one of



C. C. KNIGHT.



four brothers who came from England during the eighteenth century. George W. Knight was reared by General Ulmer, of Revolutionary fame. He was a man of retiring disposition, never aspiring to public position, or endeavoring to attract public attention. In 1833 he removed from his old home in Maine to Licking county, Ohio, about twenty-seven miles east of Columbus, and three years later settled in Schuyler county, Illinois, being a pioneer in that locality, where his last days were spent. He was married three times, his first wife dying in Maine, his second one in Ohio, and the third in Schuyler county, Illinois.

The subject of this sketch came west with his father, and was with him in Ohio and Schuyler county, Illinois. While living in the latter county he was apprenticed by his father to learn the saddlery trade, but his master being a very dissolute man he did not long remain in his employ. He is one of twelve children, three of whom are yet living. William, who went to California in 1850, is a retired farmer, now residing in the city of Clinton, Iowa. He ran the first steam ferry between Fulton and Lyons, Iowa, and was well known on both sides of the river. Charles C. is the subject of this sketch. John, who also went to California in 1850 and there remained some years, now makes his home in Clinton, Iowa.

While still in the employ of the saddler at Rushville, Illinois, our subject acted as substitute carrier of the mail between Springfield and Rushville, making two trips, each trip occupying three days. He was then but twelve years old and the journey of fifty miles was to him a long one. Riding a pony, he carried the mail in what was called saddle-bags. Leaving the employ of

the saddler, he went into the country and made his home with a cousin for a short time and then secured employment with John Ewing, a farmer of Schuyler county, at six dollars per month. His employer being well pleased with his services tried to persuade him to remain with him until he was twenty-one years old. About this time, however, his brother William, who, in 1838, had settled in Whiteside county, came through on his way home from the south and prevailed on him to accompany him to Whiteside county. This was in 1840, and he was now fourteen years old but well developed physically and capable of enduring a good deal of hard work. Soon after his arrival, his brother William secured four yoke of oxen and the two went into Mt. Pleasant township and broke a half section of land belonging to John Steaks, and which now comprises the eastern part of the city of Morrison. While usually employed on farms, for the next few years our subject worked at odd jobs, and as he was given opportunity attended school, securing a common-school education. The first school he attended in Whiteside county was one held in the home of Amos Short, who employed Armenia Ingham, who was but sixteen years old, to teach his children, some five or six in number. Miss Ingham's younger sister, Nancy, and our subject, together with the children of Mr. Short, comprised the entire school, which was held upstairs in a log house. Nancy later became the wife of Joshua Hollingshead, while Miss Armenia married Reuben Patrick. She now resides in Chicago.

In 1846 Mr. Knight pre-empted his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres and commenced its improvement. He broke

fifteen acres of land the first season and sowed it to wheat which in due time he harvested, and with two yoke of oxen hauled one load of the grain to Chicago, the round trip requiring eleven days and during the trip he slept under the wagon. The wheat brought sixty-six cents per bushel. Other improvements were made on the land during the same season, and several more acres were broken. A home without a wife was not to be thought of, and on the 10th of November, 1847, Mr. Knight was united in marriage with Miss Julia Hollingshead, a native of Canada, and daughter of John and Elizabeth (Rush) Hollingshead, who came from Canada in 1839, and located in what is now Clyde township, but later moved to Ustick township, where two of the brothers of Mrs. Knight, Daniel and Joshua Hollingshead, yet reside.

The first home of Mr. and Mrs. Knight was a small frame building, 14x18 feet, which he bought from a young man who was going to abandon his claim. The house was moved on sleds a distance of two miles, the neighbors turning out with several yoke of oxen to assist in moving it. The three winters succeeding his marriage, Mr. Knight spent in the northern pineries, his wife remaining at home and managing the farm. The fall prior to his marriage he spent on the lower Mississippi and Ohio rivers as fireman and deck hand, during which time he gained experience in river craft. In the spring of 1850 he had quite an experience in rafting on the Wisconsin and Mississippi rivers. He had gone up early in August, 1849, and having been away from home, wife and baby for about eight months was anxious to get back. A raft of hewed logs and shaved shingles had been constructed on the Lemonwell, a tributary of the Wisconsin

river, which emptied into it about ten miles above the dells, and when completed, in company with some others engaged in like business with him started on the journey. While on the Wisconsin river they could only run the raft in daylight, but when the the Mississippi river was reached the raft was left to drift in the channel. On the last day's run they passed Savanna in daylight. Soon afterwards the wind began to blow and they were required to lie up for a time. About sundown they started out again, and darkness coming on, Mr. Knight took his position on the bow to guide the raft and prevent its running into an island. They were in much fear that in rounding the point at the head of Cat Tail slough, which they reached about two o'clock in the morning, the current would send them across to the other side of the river. But by swinging abruptly and using every energy the danger was passed and they landed at the dock of the present lumber yard. Mr. Knight could only tell his location, however, by the hill reflected against the sky. After landing he started for the home of Joshua Hollingshead where his wife and child were staying. The low ground of Cat Tail was covered with water for some eighty rods and the companion of Mr. Knight was in some doubt about venturing through it. Knowing well every foot of the ground, and knowing that in no place could it be more than breast deep, Mr. Knight told his companion to keep his eye on him and to follow. They soon passed over the dangerous ground and reached the home of Mr. Hollingshead about daylight.

In 1852 the land around Fulton was surveyed, and Mr. Knight found that only the north half of his quarter-section was government land, while the south half was

county land. The former he secured by the payment of one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre, and for the latter he paid between three and four dollars. The walnut trees which are now on his place he planted in 1848, some fifty-one years ago. This was before the Fulton and Morrison road was located and there was great difficulty in getting around and across Cat Tail slough. A contract was let to different parties for digging ditches on either side of the road, the ditches to be six feet wide and two and a half feet deep. The soil was very sticky, and the parties who took the contract gave it up soon after commencing the work. Mr. Knight was anxious to have the road constructed and took the entire contract, not another man being willing to engage in it. He commenced the work in the fall of 1846 and spent the entire summer on the work, receiving one dollar per rod. He dug some three hundred rods of ditch through the worst kind of swampy, waxy land. When he completed his contract he found there was no money in the county treasury with which to pay him, and the only way in which he could secure it was by taking warrants with which his neighbors could pay their tax the next year, paying him the gold for them. This incident illustrates the shifts necessary to do business in pioneer times.

Mr. Knight tells of the first ferry at Fulton, as it was related to him by Mr. Fellows before the latter's death. The active persons in the construction of the boat were Mr. Jenks, Mr. Jenkins, Henry Fellows and another man. The oak for the gunwale was from the hill near Fulton, and the two-inch plank for the bottom of the boat was sawed in a little up-and-down saw mill on Rock creek, northeast of Mor-

risson, some twenty-five or thirty miles distant. The boat as built was about twenty-five feet long and ten feet wide, the planks being nailed on the bottom. This left the boat upside down, but it was turned over and launched. Filling it with rock, it was pushed out into the channel of the river, a rope having been attached to each end. In pushing it out the rock moved to one side and the boat overturned. After righting it the boat was completed and made ready for use. It was propelled by oars by two men, with one man to steer. They would row up near the shore for half a mile, then start diagonally across, taking advantage of the current. The boat was owned and operated for some years by Augustus Phelps, who, with Mr. Cheeney, was the proprietor of the only store in Fulton for some years.

This boat was purchased by William Knight in 1849, and operated by him until 1850, when he rented it and went to California. On his return, two years later, he again engaged in ferrying, using horse power. In about 1854 he went down to the Ohio river and purchased a steam ferry boat, the first one used in this locality. This he operated for some time. It was named the Sarah, for his wife.

When Mr. Knight located on his present farm a portion of it was swamp land and covered with muskrat houses. It was a good place for water fowl and their eggs were plentiful. On one occasion, while he was working near the house, he saw a flock of geese directly over his head. Stepping into the house, he took his gun and from the door fired into the flock, bringing down his goose, which fell inside the doorway, he being compelled to step aside to keep from being hit. Deer was also very plentiful, and an old hunter, Wooster Y. Ives, with

whom Mr. Knight was intimate, estimated that he had killed eight hundred deer in Whiteside and Carroll counties.

Mr. Knight has ever been of a retiring disposition, refusing all political honors, preferring to give his time to his own private affairs. In early life he was a Whig, while he was, in sentiment, always an abolitionist. From the time of the organization of the Republican party up to within a few years he gave allegiance to that party. Being a strong temperance man, for the last ten years he has given his ballot and influence to the Prohibition party. He is not a member of any church, but is a believer in the Christian religion as promulgated by its founder.

To Charles C. and Elizabeth Knight five children were born, two of whom died in infancy. John Henry, born February 2, 1851, died March 25, 1853. Mary Adelia, born June 24, 1857, died March 2, 1863. Elizabeth, born January 9, 1849, married Gabriel Heckerman, who, dying, she later married Charles Flanders, and they now reside in Clinton, Iowa. John E. is now the owner of the old homestead, and is engaged in farming and stock raising. Miriam Amanda is now the wife of Rev. James Willis, a farmer of York county, Nebraska. The mother of these children, who was born May 15, 1829, in Canada, died September 26, 1883.

For his second wife Mr. Knight in 1888 married Mrs. Nancy Walkup, *née* Randall, widow of John Walkup, and a native of Ohio. By her first husband, she was the mother of three sons and one daughter, who yet make their home in Union Grove township, which was the home of their parents. By her union with Mr. Knight one son was born, Charles C., Jr., who was

born September 22, 1889, and who died September 12, 1897.

Almost forty-nine years after Mr. Knight left his native state, and when he had become a prosperous man and owed no man a cent, he concluded to return to the scenes of his childhood, visiting relatives and friends. Putting one hundred dollars in his pocket, he started back on the proposed visit, and it is needless to say that he had a good time. For the past ten years he has lived a retired life, having sold his farm to his son, John E., but retaining a life lease in the home. He is one of the oldest and most respected of the citizens of Whiteside county, which has now been his home since April 8, 1840, almost sixty years. An almost unbroken wilderness on his arrival here, he has lived to see the county become one of the best in all the state, with a happy and prosperous people. He has contributed his full share to the development of the country and the building up of a Christian civilization. The old house in which he moved with his young bride is still standing, but changed with time. Time has also left its impress on his features, but his heart is yet young, and he takes the greatest interest in the affairs of the day.

**M**RS. SUSANNA R. DAVIS, widow of Gabriel Davis, is one of the honored pioneers of Sterling, and none of our citizens are better entitled to a place in the annals of Whiteside county. Both she and her husband have been noted for their public spirit and for the genuine interest which they ever have displayed in everything pertaining to the progress and improvement of Sterling and vicinity.

Gabriel Davis was born in 1803, in



Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, his parents being Archibald and Julia A. (Anderson) Davis, who were of Welsh descent. The early years of Gabriel Davis were quietly passed in the Keystone state, and for a score of years subsequent to his marriage he was actively engaged in merchandising in New Holland, Pennsylvania. Integrity and upright methods were pursued by him at all times, and prosperity crowned his efforts to obtain a competence. In 1856, he removed to Sterling, with his family, and continued to dwell here until called to his heavenly mansion. Soon after his arrival here, he purchased four hundred acres of fine farm land, which he leased to responsible parties, and derived a good income from this source alone. In order to afford his children good educational advantages he located in the town, with whose interests he was actively identified until he was laid low with a stroke of paralysis. Few citizens of Sterling were better known or more genuinely esteemed, and when, in 1880, he was summoned to his reward, the public deeply deplored his loss, realizing that not soon would his place in the community be adequately filled.

Though he was sincere and faithful in all of his relations in life, it was in the domestic circle that his virtues shown forth undimmed brightness. Sixty-four years ago, on the 3rd of November, 1835, a marriage ceremony, performed by Bishop White, of the Episcopal church, in Philadelphia, united the destinies of Gabriel Davis and Susanna Diller. She is a daughter of Jonathan and Ann (Weaver) Diller, natives of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, and had been several generations of their respective families. Mrs. Davis, who was born in Lancaster county, in July, 1815, was the

second in order of birth of her parents' six children. Her elder brother, Weaver, and next younger brother, Isaac R., have passed to the silent land, as also has her sister Maria, who was the wife of R. F. Ruth. Roland W. is a pioneer in the drug business at Springfield, Illinois, and Anna E., the youngest of the family, is the wife of the well known banker, Augustus Ayres, of Jacksonville, Illinois. After the death of Jonathan Diller his widow became the wife of Morgan L. Reese, and the mother of two daughters, Sarah and Fanny, both of whom survive.

To the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Davis seven children were born, William W., of Sterling, is married and has two children, John and Susanna. He is a writer of considerable ability, and is employed as a correspondent by several newspapers and journals of note. Julia B., widow of Levi A. Diller, has three children, Horace E., Susan D. and Anna E. Susan D. married George H. Durling and has four sons: Harold, Charles, Paul and George H., Jr. Anna E. Diller resides with Mrs. Davis. Gabriel Hervey Davis is unmarried and lives with his venerable mother, cheering her declining years. Isaac N., the next son, died when twenty years old, just at the time when a most promising future lay before him. E. Diller, a dry-goods merchant of Sterling, is married and has three daughters, Maude, Helen and Grace. Henry L., unmarried, is still living at the old homestead with his mother. Charles A., a hardware merchant of this city, married Mrs. Rebecca Mack, and like his elder brothers, is ranked among the enterprising, progressive citizens of the place.

In youth, Gabriel Davis and wife were confirmed in the Episcopal church by Bishop

Potter, and during their early years were actively associated with the work of that denomination. Their lives have been noble, and patterned after that of the Master whom they have followed. Quiet and unassuming, they have delighted in aiding those in need, and have given liberally to suffering humanity and worthy causes.

CYRUS H. WAITE is one of Prophetstown's most esteemed citizens, who was for many years prominently identified with the business interests of this locality, but is now living a retired life. A native of Grand Isle county, Vermont, he was born in the shadows of the Green mountains, July 28, 1830, and is a son of Downer and Almira (Hillyard) Waite, who were born in the same house on a farm in Grand Isle county. There the birth of a daughter also occurred. The father was born July 8, 1804, and was a son of Gardner Waite, a native of Providence, Rhode Island, and a grandson of Luther Waite, a native of Wales. The last named had fourteen sons, twelve of whom were soldiers of the Revolutionary war, and two were wounded and crippled for life in the battle of Bunker Hill. Our subject's maternal grandfather, Miner Hillyard, was one of the defenders of the country during the war of 1812. From Rhode Island, Gardner Waite, the paternal grandfather, removed to Highgate, Vermont, where he followed the occupation of farming and reared his family. The parents of our subject continued to reside in Vermont until after the birth of three of their children, and then removed to St. Lawrence county, New York, where the father became the owner of a valuable farm of six hundred acres. There he died March 10, 1885, at

the age of eighty-one years, and his wife passed away in 1873, at the age of sixty-five years.

Our subject is the oldest of the ten children, five sons and five daughters, born to this worthy couple, all of whom reached years of maturity, and three sons and three daughters are still living. William is a resident of Erie, Illinois; Byron lives near Kansas City, Missouri; Cynthia is now deceased; Melvina is the wife of Silas Duvall, who lives on the St. Lawrence river in St. Lawrence county, New York; Sally married John Carney and both are now deceased; Almon and Forest are also deceased; Hannah is the wife of Follet Johnson, a farmer of St. Lawrence county, New York; and Samantha is the wife of John Hickcock, of the same county.

Cyrus H. Waite grew to manhood in St. Lawrence county, New York, and as he received but limited school advantages, he is almost wholly self-educated. He assisted his father in the operation of the home farm until twenty-four years of age, and then came west, arriving in Morrison, Illinois, September 24, 1854, on the first passenger train running from Sterling to that place. The following day he came to Prophetstown, where he joined a few Vermont friends, and here he worked at the carpenter's trade for twenty-two years, many of the residences and barns throughout this part of the county showing his architectural skill and handiwork. His first purchase of land consisted of two hundred and forty acres in Portland township, which he bought in partnership with his brother William, and in 1863 he located thereon. Two years later, however, he sold that place and purchased other land, owning at different times four farms, which he oper-

ated in connection with work at his trade for forty-four years. He is still the owner of a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres, which is now carried on by his son-in-law, Clayton Seely, while he lives retired in Prophetstown, enjoying that rest which should always follow a useful and honorable career.

In this county, Mr. Waite was married, April 13, 1855, to Miss Catherine Noble, a native of St. Lawrence county, New York, who was reared and educated in the same neighborhood as our subject. She died on the home farm December 11, 1891, and was laid to rest in the Prophetstown cemetery. To Mr. and Mrs. Waite were born eleven children, eight sons and three daughters, namely: Myra, wife of F. W. Reynolds, of Prophetstown; Celia, wife of Charles Turner, of the same place; Douglas, who holds a business position in Prophetstown; Downer, a carpenter of that place; D. Clinton, a lawyer and farmer of Whiteside county; Fred, also a farmer of this county; Almon, who holds a business position in Chicago; H. H., a lawyer of Prophetstown; Zelia, wife of Clayton Seeley, of Portland township; William, who holds a business position in Chicago; and Luther, who is now attending school in Valparaiso, Indiana. Mr. Waite also has six grandchildren: Kate and Gordon Reynolds; Richard and Almira Turner; and Pearl and Henry Waite, children of D. Clinton.

Originally Mr. Waite was a Jeffersonian Democrat in politics, and in 1860 supported Stephen A. Douglas, the "Little Giant," for the presidency, but in 1864 voted for Abraham Lincoln, and has since been an ardent Republican. He has never sought office, but was elected and served for one term as supervisor of his township, and as

a staunch friend of our public schools, he most efficiently served as a member of the school board for several years, being clerk and president of the district a part of the time. He was initiated in Spring Hill lodge, F. & A. M., in January, 1864, and joined the Prophetstown chapter, R. A. M., about 1878. For many years he has been an active and consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and for about thirty years had served on the official board and as superintendent of the Sunday school. His honorable, upright life has gained for him the confidence and high regard of all with whom he has come in contact either in public or private life, and he has a host of warm personal friends throughout his adopted county.

**G**EORGE W. OLMSTED. The natural advantages of this section attracted at an early day a superior class of settlers, thrifty, industrious, progressive and law-abiding, whose influence gave permanent direction to the development of the locality. Among the worthy pioneers of Whiteside county the Olmsted family hold a prominent place, and the results of the labor and self-denial of those past generations is manifest in the comfortable homes and fertile, well-arranged farms which we now find here.

George W. Olmsted is a native of this county, born in Prophetstown township, September 9, 1838, and is a son of Oliver Olmsted, who was born and reared in New York, but in 1835, when a young man, he came to Illinois and took up a claim of one hundred and twenty acres in Prophetstown township, Whiteside county. Later he entered the land and transformed it into

a fine farm. He prospered in his new home and became the owner of five hundred acres of valuable and well improved land. His last days were spent in retirement from active life in Prophetstown, where he also owned property. In this county he married Electa Hunt, a native of New York, and a representative of one of our pioneer families. He died in Prophetstown in 1884, and she passed away at the home of her son in Council Bluffs, Iowa, about 1892.

Our subject is the oldest of their eight children, seven sons and one daughter, the others beings as follows: Oscar, now a farmer of Sumner county, Kansas; John W., a resident of Furnace county, Nebraska; Alonzo, who was a member of the Ninth Illinois Cavalry during the Civil war and died of camp fever near Atlanta; Rosaltha, a stenographer of St. Louis; David R., a gardener and fruit grower of Council Bluffs, Iowa; William E., a resident of Seattle, Washington, who has recently returned from the Klondike after having met with good success in the gold fields; and one son who died in infancy.

Mr. Olmstead, of this review, was reared in this county and educated in common and select schools. Prompted by a spirit of patriotism, he enlisted in October, 1861, in Company L, Ninth Illinois Cavalry, which was assigned to the Army of the Tennessee, and he participated in a number of important engagements under the command of General A. J. Smith. He was first under fire during a skirmish in Arkansas, and later took part in the battles of Guntown; Jackson, Mississippi; Black river bridge, which structure he helped to burn; and Holly Springs; Tupelo; Corinth and Iuka. In the command of A. J. Smith he was all through

the Mississippi campaign, and in a raid at Hurricane creek he was wounded August 11, 1864, losing the two middle fingers of his right hand by a gunshot. Thus permanently disabled he was sent to a hospital in Memphis, and from there returned home. He was mustered out and honorably discharged at Springfield, in the fall of 1864.

The following winter Mr. Olmstead engaged in teaching, and for eleven years he successfully followed that profession through the winter months, while during the summer season he engaged in farming. In 1866 he removed to Kossuth county, Iowa, where he purchased a tract of raw land and engaged in farming for three or four years. He then returned to Whiteside county, Illinois, and in 1874 bought an interest in an elevator in Prophetstown, where he was engaged in the grain and stock business for twenty years as one of its most active, enterprising and progressive business men. After selling out his business he bought a well-improved farm of one hundred and sixty acres one mile from Prophetstown, and he still owns a fine farm of four hundred acres in Kossuth county, Iowa, besides a small place within the corporate limits of Prophetstown. He devotes a part of his time to gardening and looking after his farm, but is now practically living retired.

Mr. Olmstead was first married in Prophetstown, in the spring of 1866, to Miss Fanny Greene, a sister of John J. Greene, and a native of New York, who came to this county during childhood. She died in 1886, leaving three children, namely: Jessie, wife of C. J. Warner, a banker of Prophetstown; R. W., at home; and Stewart E., a member of the Thirty-second United States Infantry. In Plano, Illinois, in 1888, Mr. Olmstead was again married,

his second union being with Miss Mary Rice, a well-educated lady and successful music teacher, who was born and reared in Massachusetts. To them have been born four children: Vincent, Hubert, Irene and Burnett.

Since casting his first presidential ballot for Abraham Lincoln, in 1860, Mr. Olmsted has been an ardent supporter of the Republican party, but has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking. He has been a member of the school board here, and while a resident of Iowa served on the board of supervisors for one term. He and his wife are active members of the Methodist Episcopal church, with which he has been officially connected for a quarter of a century, and he has also served as superintendent of the Sunday school, while his wife has been a teacher in the same. Fraternally he holds membership in the Grand Army Post of Prophetstown. Although he started out in life for himself in limited circumstances, he has by his well-directed and energetic efforts and good business ability become the possessor of a handsome competence and his honorable, straightforward course has gained for him many friends who appreciate his sterling worth and many excellencies of character.

**JAMES H. BAIRD**, a well-known resident of Prophetstown, is the possessor of a handsome property which now enables him to spend his years in the pleasurable enjoyment of his accumulations. The record of his life, previous to 1868, is that of an active, enterprising, methodical and sagacious business man, who bent his energies to the honorable acquirements of a

comfortable competence for himself and family.

Mr. Baird was born in Perry county, Ohio, January 7, 1834, and is a son of James Baird, whose birth occurred in Washington county, Pennsylvania, in 1793. The paternal grandfather, who bore the name of Hugh, was born in Ireland of Scotch-Irish ancestry, and was one of the first settlers of Washington county, Pennsylvania, where his death occurred. Later, about 1810, his widow, with her family, removed to Perry county, Ohio. There the father of our subject wedded Miss Mary Wilson, who was also born in Washington county, Pennsylvania, in 1794, and was of Scotch-Irish descent. Her father, John Wilson, came to the new world in 1778, and about 1810 removed to Perry county, Ohio. She was a sister of Colonel R. L. Wilson, a prominent citizen of Sterling, Illinois, who was a paymaster in the army during the Civil war. The father of our subject became the owner of a good farm in Perry county, Ohio, where he died in 1839, at about the age of forty-six years. His wife survived him some years and reared their family. There were eight children, three sons and five daughters, all of whom reached man and womanhood, but one three are now living: James H., our subject; Samuel J., a fruit grower of San Diego, California; and Mrs. Jane Upson, a widow, who now lives with our subject.

Mr. Baird, of this review, passed his boyhood and youth in his native county, where he attended the common schools, and for one term he engaged in teaching. At the age of nineteen he took charge of the home farm and business of the estate, and successfully carried on the place for twelve years. In the meantime he came to White-

side county, Illinois, where he was married, May 24, 1864, to Miss Martha Brown, who was born, reared and educated in Perry county, Ohio, of which county her father, Isaac Brown, was a pioneer.

The next year after his marriage, Mr. Baird removed to this county, where he had previously purchased three hundred and eighty acres of partially improved land, on which a good house had been built and an orchard set out. To the further improvement and cultivation of his place he at once devoted his energies, and later extended the boundaries of his farm, now owning four hundred and fifty acres of valuable and highly productive land all in one body. He remodeled the residence, built one of the best barns in the county and converted the place into a most desirable farm supplied with all the latest improvements. He successfully carried on general farming and stock raising until 1898, when he rented his farm and moved to Prophetstown, where he purchased one of the best residences in the place, it being a model of neatness and comfort.

Mr. and Mrs. Baird are the parents of five children, namely: Ida, wife of Prof. J. G. Skinner, a teacher in the Chicago schools, by whom she has one child, Donald Baird; Zella, Mary E., Jessie and Emma, who are well-educated young ladies—graduates of the Prophetstown high school—residing at home.

Politically Mr. Baird has been a life-long Democrat and supporter of Jeffersonian principles. He cast his first presidential vote for James Buchanan in 1856, and has ever taken an active interest in political affairs. For almost twenty years he served as township trustee; was school director several years, and also president and secre-

tary of the board. He was one of the originators of and helped to organize the old drainage board, was elected one of the commissioners and made secretary of the board, which capacity he has since most creditably served. This board has been the means of opening up and developing a large tract of land in this county, and has made about forty miles of ditches, the main ditch being twenty miles in length and extending from the Rock to the Green river. Religiously Mr. Baird, his wife and daughters are members of the Congregational church of Prophetstown, and as a family they are highly respected and esteemed by all who know them. His life accords an example to the young in that he commenced life without capital, but having a determination to succeed he industriously applied himself until he is now the possessor of a handsome property. After a useful and honorable career he can well afford to lay aside all business cares and spend his last years in ease and retirement.

**EDMUND BOWMAN.** One of the pioneer business men of Sterling is Edmund Bowman, now retired from commercial activities and quietly enjoying the income which he accumulated in former years. He has many interesting reminiscences of early days in this county, and well remembers Chicago as a small city of fifty thousand souls, as a larger town than Sterling, and Rock Falls when there was but one house in the place.

He is a native of Strasburg, Pennsylvania, born October 14, 1823. His father was Joseph Bowman, a life-long resident of the Keystone state, and his mother bore the name of Ann Brewer in her girlhood. They

reared eight children to maturity, and lost five little ones. The father attained the extreme age of ninety three years, while the mother lived to be eighty four years old. He was a clock manufacturer, making the celebrated old time-pieces now known as the "grandfather's clocks." Only one of this kind is owned at present in Sterling, Mr. Le Fevre being the fortunate possessor of the antiquity.

Edmund Bowman received a common-school education in his native place, and early learned his father's business. His first regular employment was with a jeweler at Kent Square, Chester county, and for a few years he worked as a journeyman in different towns in the Keystone state. In 1853, he came to Sterling, passing through Chicago, which still bore little promise of its great future. After spending several years here in the employ of local jewelers, he opened a small shop on his own account, and conducted a gradually growing business until 1893, when he sold out his large and well equipped store, building and stock. He then invested a portion of the proceeds in a desirable piece of residence property on east Third street, and has devoted considerable attention to beautifying his home. He is one of the few remaining pioneers of the early '50s, and is justly entitled to the high place which he occupies in the esteem of his fellow citizens, for he has sought, in every possible manner, to promote the welfare of Sterling, and has been very instrumental in making it a beautiful, progressive modern city.

In 1856, Mr. Bowman married Maria P. Adams, whose birth had occurred in this county twenty years previously. Her parents, Van J. and Mary Ritchie Adams, natives of Ohio, were among the very ear-

liest settlers in this region, as they located on a farm near the Lee county border, in 1834. There they spent the remainder of their busy, useful lives, being respected and loved by all who knew them. Of their five children, two are living to-day: Mrs. Bowman and her brother, Robert Adams, of Michigan. Six children blessed the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Bowman: One died in infancy; Frank, who is married and has two children, is employed in the law office of Mr. Green; Grant J., unmarried, is engaged in real estate and mining operations at Spokane Falls, Washington; Edward J. is a teller in the bank at Dillon, Montana, and is married; Jennie, who has unusual musical ability, resides at home; and Louise, who pursued a two-years course of study at Lake Forest Seminary, also is at home. Mrs. Bowman is a member of the Congregational church, and is active in various religious and benevolent enterprises. Mr. Bowman was prominent in public affairs, but of late years has led a more quiet life. Nevertheless, he does his entire duty as a citizen, and politically, he is affiliated with the Republican party.

**WILLIAM BLACKMER**, residing on section 5, Tampico township, is one of its most enterprising farmers and stock raisers, and has been a resident of the county since 1867, since which time he has opened up a fine farm and done much for the general welfare of his township and county. He was born in Jefferson county, New York, February 16, 1847, and is the son of Hazard and Polly (Pratt) Blackmer. His mother dying when he was but a child, he was taken by Martin W. Wright and wife, of Jefferson county, New York, with whom he found a home for ten years. For

that worthy couple he has always had a warm spot in his heart for the kindly interest they took in a poor orphan boy. It was with great pleasure in 1896 that in company with his wife he made a visit to the aged couple and spent a delightful time, recalling his early experience in life.

Mr. Blackmer was reared to farm life, and has been actively engaged in agricultural pursuits, with the exception of a short time spent in Prophetstown, from early childhood to the present time. His education was limited to the common schools, and the knowledge now possessed has mostly been acquired since arriving at man's estate. In his youth the war for the Union was in progress, and his blood was stirred with patriotic ardor. On the 10th of September, 1864, when but seventeen years old, he enlisted in Company H, One Hundred and Eighty-sixth New York Volunteer Infantry, and with his regiment joined the Army of the Potomac, his first engagement being at Hatchie's Run. Later he was in the battle of Petersburg, where he was wounded in the left side by a fragment of shell, and for two weeks following was in the field hospital. Rejoining his regiment he continued with it in active service until the close of the war, being honorably discharged June 14, 1865.

Returning to his home in Jefferson county, New York, Mr. Blackmer remained there two years, engaged in farm labor, and then came to Whiteside county, Illinois, where he has since made his home. On his arrival he commenced work at odd jobs by the day, and the winter following he spent in chopping cord wood in the Dutch bottoms, clearing off a small tract of land which he had purchased the previous year. The next season he was employed by the

month, after which he rented land which he cultivated until his marriage.

On the 31st July, 1870, Mr. Blackmer was united in marriage with Miss Louisa France, a native of Ohio, and daughter of Solomon and Margaret (Willtrout) France, who were also natives of Ohio, where their marriage occurred. From Ohio they came to Whiteside county in 1854, settling first in Erie township, from which township they moved to Fenton township, and still later to Tampico township, becoming one of the pioneers of the latter township. To Mr. and Mrs. Blackmer eight children have been born, as follows: Lillie V., now the wife of Abner Bryson, a farmer of Tampico township; William, married and engaged in farming in Tampico township; Myrtle, wife of William Clark, of Prophetstown township; Nellie, wife of Charles Meltzer, of Walnut, Illinois; Charles, Clifford, Jennie and Roy, at home.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Blackmer settled on the farm where they now reside, Mr. Blackmer having purchased one hundred and eighty-six acres of raw swamp land, which he commenced to improve. He first built a small, rough board house in which the family lived while he was making further improvements on the place. Ditches had to be dug, the land tilled and drained, and other changes made, all of which required time and means. The means for doing the work had to come off the place, but in due time the old board house gave place to a more substantial dwelling, barns and out-buildings were erected and comfort reigned. On that farm the children were born, and there he lived until 1893, when he moved with his family to Prophetstown, in order to give his children the advantages of the schools of the place. From the Prophets-



town schools two of his daughters graduated with honors. In 1897 he returned to the farm and resumed the life with which he had become familiar through long years of toil.

Politically Mr. Blackmer is a staunch and life-long Republican, having cast his first presidential vote in 1868 for U. S. Grant, since which time he has never failed to vote for the nominee of the party for that high and exalted office. While taking an active interest in politics he never cared for official life, but by reason of the interest he has always had in the public schools he served for about twenty-five years on the school board, the greater part of the time serving as clerk of the board. Fraternally he is a member of Prophetstown post, G. A. R.

For thirty-two years Mr. Blackmer has been a resident of Whiteside county. On his arrival the southeastern part of the county was but little improved, being much of it swamp land. These lands have since been well drained, and are now among the most productive in the county. He commenced life here with but very little means, but having the determination to succeed he went to work, and working early and late, and with the assistance of his wife, and later by his children, as they grew to mature years, he has a valuable property, and is in a position to enjoy life. His acquaintances are many in the county, and by all he is held in high esteem.

**M**A RTIN V. CARD, one of Morrison's most esteemed citizens, was for several years prominently identified with the agricultural interests of Whiteside county, but is now living retired, enjoying the fruits

of former toil at his beautiful home on Grove street. He was born in New Ashford, Berkshire county, Massachusetts, August 12, 1841, a son of James and Sylvania (Scovell) Card and grandson of James Card, Sr., a Revolutionary soldier. The father was born in Rhode Island, and when a young man removed to Massachusetts, having inherited a farm in New Ashford. There he was married, and later he removed to North Adams, the same state, where he followed the blacksmith's trade on his own account. He died at that place in 1860, his wife several years later. Ten children were born to them, but one died at the age of eight months. The father attended and supported the Baptist church, of which his wife was a faithful member.

After completing his education, Martin V. Card entered the Arnold Cotton Mills, at North Adams, as bobbin boy, and steadily worked his way upward until he had charge of the mill as superintendent, having about one hundred and forty hands working under him. In the meantime the Civil war broke out, and he enlisted June 21, 1861, in Company I, Tenth Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, which was one of the first three-years regiments to enter the service. They were first sent to Washington, D. C., where they were employed in building fortifications during the winter, and were then ordered to Fortress Monroe. They took part in the Peninsular campaign of 1862, their first engagement being the battle of Williamsburg, after which they proceeded within four miles of Richmond. In the battle of Fair Oaks they lost their colonel, all of the line officers and fifty per cent. of the men, but fortunately, Mr. Card, who was serving as corporal, escaped un wounded. In his next battle, that of Malvern Hill, he was injured,

and first sent to the hospital at Fortress Monroe and later to Alexandria. He rejoined his regiment the day before the battle of Antietam, in which engagement he took part, and then, with his command, followed Lee to Warrington, Virginia, where they camped during the winter of 1862-3. The latter part of the winter the army was at Falmouth, and during the campaign of the following year took part in the battle of Fredericksburg. Mr. Card was granted a furlough on account of distinguished service at Malvern Hill, and prior to the battle of the Wilderness was made sergeant. In the latter engagement he was seriously wounded. After lying in the field hospital near Fredericksburg for eight days he was sent to Judiciary Square hospital, Washington, D. C., where he arrived May 20, 1864, and through the influence of Senator Dawes, then representative from North Adams, he was given a furlough. He was finally mustered out at a hospital in Boston, October 2, 1864, but was obliged to go on crutches for over a year.

As soon as able Mr. Card re-entered the mill as second hand, and was later made overseer in charge of the same, which position he satisfactorily filled until March 15, 1871. He was married May 1, 1866, to Miss Frances Ives, daughter of David Ives, one of the early settlers of North Adams, who assisted in building the first Methodist Episcopal church of that place. Three children were born of this union: Thomas, who has been engaged in the drug business in Chicago for ten years; Effie, wife of Fred Adams, of North Adams, Massachusetts; and Fannie, who is with her father. While visiting in North Adams, the wife and mother died in 1886, in the same room where she was born and married.

With his wife and two children, Mr. Card came to Whiteside county, Illinois, in 1871, and turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, owning and operating a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres, upon which he made many improvements. In connection with general farming he also imported Holstein cattle, giving special attention to stock raising. He met with excellent success in his farming operations, but now rents his farm and lives retired from active labor. In March, 1894, he removed to Morrison, where he built an elegant home on West Grove street, which is beautifully located in grounds covering an acre and a half.

On the 14th of September, 1887, Mr. Card was united in marriage with Miss Carrie S. Teller, a native of Granger, Allegany county, New York, who came with her family to Morrison in 1862. She is a sister of Senator Henry M. Teller, of Colorado. Mr. and Mrs. Card are active and prominent members of the Methodist Episcopal church, of which he is trustee and treasurer and has been superintendent of the Sunday school. Politically he is a Republican, and socially is a member of Alpheus Clarke post, G. A. R., of which he is past commander and which he has represented a number of times in the state lodge and also in the national encampment held at Indianapolis in 1894. He is well-known and highly respected, and justly merits the regard in which he is held.

**J**RA WILLSEY, the well-known and efficient superintendent of the Whiteside county poor farm in Mount Pleasant township, was born in Schoharie county, New York, January 27, 1841, and is a son of David and Margaret (Vrooman) Willsey, also

natives of that state. The maternal grandfather was Jacob Vrooman, who was of Holland origin and a farmer by occupation. He died in New York before the birth of our subject. The paternal grandfather, Abram Willsey, was also a native of New York, but of English extraction, and was a soldier of the war of 1812. He was born in Albany county and died in Schoharie county, at the advanced age of ninety-two years, while his wife died at the age of eighty-four. All of their nine children were living at the time of their deaths. They were David, Henry, Ander, Elias, John, William, Johnjost, Phoebe and Eliza Jane. Henry and Andrew are still living at the age of ninety-two and ninety years respectively, and also the four youngest of their family. Their family owned property in New York state and followed farming quite extensively. In early life David Willsey, father of our subject, learned the blacksmith's trade, at which he worked for about twenty-five years, and then engaged in farming in Schoharie county until his death, which occurred in 1871. His wife died in 1890, at the age of eighty-five years. To them were born eleven children, all of whom reached man and womanhood, namely: Mary, now deceased, was the wife of Peter Severson, still a resident of New York; William H. is a banker and merchant of Owatonna, Steele county, Minnesota; George died at the age of twenty-two years; John went to California in early days, since which time nothing has been heard of him; Harriet married a Mr. Wilber, now deceased, and she died at the age of thirty years; Andrew is a contractor and builder of bridges residing in Otsego county, New York; Ira, our subject, is next in order of birth; James is a farmer of Otsego county,

New York; Frances is the wife of Thomas Hayes, of New York state; Ella is the wife of Joseph Bradley, of Fairfield, Iowa; and David is a farmer and blacksmith of Herkimer county, New York.

In the county of his nativity our subject grew to manhood, and was provided with a common-school education. After leaving school he worked for awhile at the carpenter's trade, at farming and other occupations until he attained his majority, and then went to Cheshire, Berkshire county, Massachusetts, where he was foreman of a lumber yard for about three years and also buyer a part of the time.

While there Mr. Willsey was married, July 29, 1864, to Miss Orinda Brown, a native of Massachusetts, as were also her parents, John M. and Zilpha Brown. Her father was a mason, carpenter and wheelwright, one of the best mechanics of the east in his day. He is still living in Cheshire—a hale and hearty old man of ninety years. The wife and mother died in 1871. Mr. and Mrs. Willsey have three children: Frank B., who married Winifred Dickison, is a graduate of the Iowa University at Iowa City, and is now engaged in the practice of medicine at West Branch, that state; Eugene E. is a graduate of the Chicago Northwestern Dental College, and is engaged in the practice of his profession in Argos, Indiana; and Margaret is the wife of Dr. Frank Allen, of Shelby, Iowa.

Mr. Willsey remained in Massachusetts about four years after his marriage, and then returned to Schoharie county, New York, where he continued to make his home for two years. Subsequently he spent some time in Minnesota and Wisconsin, and in 1871 came to Illinois, locating first in Wysox township, Carroll county, where he engaged

in farming for ten years. At the end of that time he came to Hopkins township, Whiteside county, where he followed the same pursuit until appointed to his present responsible position, that of superintendent of the poor farm, in March, 1899. He is performing his duties in a most commendable and satisfactory manner. He was also a member of the school board for a number of years, and has always taken a great interest in educational matters. In politics he is thoroughly independent, preferring to vote for the man whom he considers best qualified to fill the office, regardless of party ties. Socially, he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America at Sterling, and, religiously, belongs to the Baptist church of that place.

**NATHAN THOMPSON.** Prominent among the energetic, far-seeing and successful business men of Whiteside county is the subject of this sketch who is now living retired in Prophetstown. His life history most happily illustrates what may be attained by faithful and continued effort in carrying out an honest purpose. Integrity, activity and energy have been the crowning points of his success, and his connection with various business enterprises and industries have been of decided advantage to his section of the county, promoting its material welfare in no uncertain manner.

Mr. Thompson was born in Galway, Saratoga county, New York, March 9, 1822, and is a son of Dr. Nathan Thompson, who was born in the same county, in March, 1778. The grandfather, Judge John Thompson, was born in Litchfield, Massachusetts, March 20, 1740, and was one of the first

settlers of Saratoga county, New York. The family is of Scotch-Irish origin, and its founder in America located in Londonderry, New Hampshire. The father of our subject, who was a prominent physician of his native county, was married there to Miss Lucy Plumb, who was born in Connecticut and removed to Oneida county, New York, at an early day. To them were born six children, three sons and three daughters, namely: Emma, Mary, Charles, Martha, Nathan and Ralph, of whom our subject and his sister Martha are now the only survivors. For a number of years she has spent the winter in Florida, while through the summer she makes her home with her brother and since his wife's death has had charge of his home.

Nathan Thompson was reared on a farm in his native county and received a good common-school education. In 1843 he came to Illinois in company with two cousins, Robert and Isaac Seers, traveling by way of the Great Lakes to Milwaukee, and from there proceeding overland to Elgin. In 1845 he came to Whiteside county, Illinois, and for two years operated a farm on the shares, which belonged to his cousin and is now within the corporate limits of Prophetstown. The following year he clerked in a store, where he received a practical business training, and for one winter he operated a horse-power sawmill in Portland Grove. He was next employed in the plow works of Tuller, Dodge & Pitts, at Peru, and in 1852 started a store in Prophetstown under the firm name of N. Thompson & Company, carrying a general stock of merchandise. For his own use he erected a large store building, which is now used as an implement house, and for fifteen years he carried on operations as a merchant. In the meantime he invested



NATHAN THOMPSON.



his capital in land and improved farms, and since disposing of his store has devoted his time to looking after his landed interests and stimulating industries by the loaning of money. He was one of the organizers of the First National Bank of Prophetstown, of which he has since been a stockholder, and was the first president of that financial institution. He has been identified with various enterprises that have tended to advance the interests of his town and county, and gave his support toward building the different railroads through the county. He has also been connected with the ditching enterprise, which has opened up some valuable farming land near Prophetstown.

In 1867, Mr. Thompson was united in marriage with Mrs. Sarah J. Parrott, who was born, reared and educated in Vermont. She died in 1882, and was laid to rest in Prophetstown cemetery, where a beautiful monument has been erected to her memory. In political sentiment Mr. Thompson is a Jeffersonian Democrat, and cast his first presidential vote for James K. Polk. He has never had time nor inclination for public office, but has always faithfully discharged his duties of citizenship and has been untiring in his efforts to promote the public welfare. He came to this county without capital, and through his own resources and by his own energy and ability has worked his way upward until he is now the owner of a valuable estate, having over five hundred acres of well-improved farming land near Prophetstown besides his city property. As a citizen, he stands high in the esteem of his fellow men on account of his sterling worth and the active and prominent part he has taken in advancing the interests of his community.

OLIVER E. FINCH, a prominent citizen of Fulton and the present assessor of that place, is a man whose success in life is due entirely to his own unaided efforts. His life has been one of industry and perseverance, and the systematic and honorable business methods which he has followed have won him the support and confidence of many.

Mr. Finch was born in Niagara county, New York, January 14, 1835, a son of John and Anna (Adams) Finch, the former a native of Orange county, New York, the latter of Salisbury, Connecticut. The paternal grandfather, Jacob Finch, was also a native of the Empire state, and was a soldier of the Revolutionary war. He lived to be almost one hundred years of age. The maternal grandfather, Samuel Adams, also fought for American independence as a soldier of the Revolution. He was first cousin of President John Adams.

The father of our subject was reared and educated in his native county and there continued to make his home until after his marriage, his time being devoted to school teaching. In 1825, at the age of twenty-two years, he removed to Niagara county, New York, where he continued to follow the profession of teaching for a few years, and then worked at the carpenter's and millwright's trades. From New York, he moved to Jackson county, Michigan, where he died in 1852. He was quite prominent in public life; was a freesoil Democrat; and in 1851 was elected to the Michigan legislature. He died while serving in that capacity. He was also an active and prominent member of the Methodist Episcopal church. His wife survived him twenty years, and died in Jackson, Michigan. To them were born seven children, namely: John T. died in

his native county—Niagara county, New York—in 1897. As a youth he enlisted in the Mexican war and remained in the service until hostilities ceased. Jacob, a soldier of the Civil war, went to California, in 1852, was successful in his mining operations, and died in Alameda county, that state. Mary is the wife of Nicholas Harden, of Jackson county, Michigan. Our subject is the next in order of birth. Isaac C. is also a veteran of the Civil war and is now a retired farmer of Jones county, Iowa. William H., deceased, was also one of the boys in blue, and was one of the victims of the Sultana explosion on the Mississippi river while returning home after having survived the dangers of battle field and two years in rebel prisons. Antoinette is the wife of John Pulver, of Alameda county, California. All of the sons endeavored to enlist in the Union service, but the eldest was rejected on account of disability.

Our subject was a lad of fourteen years when the family removed to the wilds of Michigan, and was less than sixteen years of age when left fatherless. Going to Adrian, Michigan, he served a four years' apprenticeship to the baker's trade, and then, on the 10th of April, 1854, at the age of nineteen years, started for California, by way of Chicago, St. Louis and up the Missouri river to Lexington, Missouri, where he joined a party bound for the Pacific coast, none of whom he was then acquainted with. After four months of travel he reached the Sacramento valley, and from there went to Alameda county, where his brother, Jacob S., had located two years previously. There he was engaged in farming with his brother until 1860, when he returned to Adrian, Michigan, and formed a partnership with J. W. Helme, his former employer, under

the name of Helme & Company. This connection existed a year and a half, but after the Civil war broke out he gave up his business prospects to enter the service of his country. In March, 1862, he enlisted in Company D, Fourth Michigan Volunteer Infantry, and was in the commissary department of the western division until mustered out at San Antonio, Texas, March 21, 1865.

After the war, Mr. Finch purchased land in Lenawee county, Michigan, where he engaged in farming for three years. He was married October 10, 1860, in Lyons, Iowa, to Miss Anna Langford, who was born in Clinton county, that state, when it was still a territory, and is a daughter of C. E. and Hannah (Shaddock) Langford. Her father was the founder of the Langford & Hall Lumber Company, of Fulton, which still bears his name. To Mr. and Mrs. Finch were born five children: Darius, a lumber dealer of Woonsocket, South Dakota; May, wife of D. F. Thomas, a noted artist of Chicago; Lizzie, who lives at home and has successfully engaged in teaching in the public schools for some years; Bert H., who is engaged in the bicycle business in Clinton, Iowa; and Helen, who is a teacher in the kindergarten department of the Northern Illinois College at Fulton.

In September, 1868, Mr. Finch came to Fulton, Illinois, and accepted a clerical position in the office of the Langford & Hall Lumber Company, which he held only a short time, however. He then turned his attention to carpentering, and in 1874 established a brick yard in Fulton, which he successfully carried on until 1890, when he retired from the business. During his entire residence here he has been interested in the real estate business, buying property, on



which he has built houses, and then selling them. In this way he has erected about twenty residences in the city, the first of these being built in 1871. In 1890, out of the last brick he manufactured, he built what is known as the Woodmen Block, on the corner of Base and Wall streets, which is a fine brick building, 48 x 90 feet, with two store rooms below and offices above. There is also a large fire-proof vault in the back of the building. It was occupied by the Modern Woodmen of America until the removal of the headquarters of the order from Fulton, and now the Mystic Workers of the World occupy a part of the offices. For one year after leaving the lumber office, Mr. Finch was engaged in the grocery and bakery business, but at the end of that time his store was destroyed by fire.

On national issues, Mr. Finch votes with the Democratic party, but in local affairs is independent in politics. He has taken quite an important part in public matters, and has held all the municipal offices from street commissioner to mayor. He is now alderman from the first ward, which position he has filled for several years, and in 1887 was mayor of the city, it being under his administration that the present efficient system of water-works were adopted. There was a big fight on the adoption of the works, and an injunction was served which caused a delay of two years. He has also been a member of the board of education for three years. Mr. Finch is a progressive man, pre-eminently public-spirited, and all that pertains to the public welfare receives his hearty endorsement and support. Fraternally, he is a Master Mason, a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and also belongs to Robert Hale Post, G. A. R., in which he has filled all the offices.

JOHN RILEY, M. D., who is spending the closing years of his long and useful life free from business cares at his pleasant home in Spring Hill, was for nearly half a century one of the leading physicians of this section of Illinois, practicing for twenty-seven years of that time in Whiteside county. He was born September 30, 1818, in New York City, a son of George and Elizabeth (Rhodes) Riley. His father, a native of New York, served as a soldier in the war of 1812, and afterwards located in New York City, where he remained until his death, in 1824.

John Riley grew to man's estate on a farm in Montgomery county, New York, whither he was taken soon after the death of his father. His educational advantages were necessarily limited, but being studious and ambitious he acquired a substantial foundation for his future knowledge by his own efforts. While yet a young man he taught school several terms, and subsequently took up the study of medicine in Fulton county, New York, from whence he went to Castleton, Vermont, where he entered the Medical College, from which he was graduated in 1843 with the degree of M. D. At once commencing his professional career in Saratoga county, New York, he remained there until 1846, when he removed to Knox county, Illinois. Three years later he settled in Henry county, not far from Andover, and during the few years that he was there met with excellent success in his profession. In 1853 Dr. Riley came to Spring Hill, Whiteside county, as a pioneer settler and physician, and by his skill and thorough knowledge of medicine soon won the confidence and esteem of the people. In the course of a few years he built up an extensive and lucrative practice,

his ride extending to all the adjoining counties, for notwithstanding the difficulties of traveling in the early days he always responded cheerfully and promptly to the calls of his numerous patients. A man of prudent foresight and good business capacity, the Doctor purchased land soon after locating at Spring Hill, and has since improved a fine homestead. He was also engaged in mercantile business here for eight or more years, meeting with excellent success in this as in his other industries.

On December 26, 1844, Dr. Riley married Abigail Burnett, who was born in Montgomery county, New York, a daughter of Isaac and Azubah (Slocum) Burnett. Mr. Burnett, who was born and reared on Long Island, New York, died in manhood's prime, when his daughter Abigail was but six years old. Mrs. Burnett, born in 1800, survived him many years, passing away in 1860. Seven sons have blessed the union of Dr. and Mrs. Riley, as follows: Charles, a soldier of the late Civil war, was subsequently connected with the schools of Geneseo, Illinois, a long time, having taught in the high school fifteen years, besides serving as superintendent of schools seven years, an office which he afterwards filled in Aurora, Illinois, for a time, and is now a well known lawyer of Albion, Nebraska; John, who was graduated from the medical department of the Iowa State University, is a successful physician of Exira, Audubon county, Iowa; William, formerly a lawyer in Reinbeck, Grundy county, Iowa, died in March, 1887; George W., a lawyer in Wayne, Wayne county, Nebraska; Bruce, now living in Goldfield, Iowa, received his degree of M. D. at the University of Iowa, having been graduated from the medical department; Henry Clay resides on

the home farm; and Lincoln, an active practitioner of Wisner, Cuming county, Nebraska, is at present serving as coroner at that place.

Politically the Doctor was in early years an old-line Whig, and as such voted for W. H. Harrison; he was connected with the Republican party for twenty years after its formation, but more recently has been actively identified with the Prohibition party. He has always taken a deep interest in local affairs, and has served as chairman of the central committee besides being a delegate to county conventions. In 1872 he was elected county coroner, an office which he filled most satisfactorily. Fraternally Doctor Riley is a Master Mason, and the only surviving charter member of Spring Hill lodge, No. 412, which he served a number of years as secretary. Mrs. Riley, a woman of true christian worth, united with the Methodist Episcopal church when young, and has since been one of its faithful members. During their long residence in this county the Doctor and his good wife have witnessed marvellous transformations in the face of the country, and as generous, liberal-minded and progressive citizens have aided in the development of the town and county in which they reside.

MRS. NAOMI J. MANGAN, the widow of Richard L. Mangan, formerly one of the prominent and patriotic citizens of Sterling, deserves special mention in this work, as she has made her home in this place for about two-score years. Her birth occurred in Bucks county, Pennsylvania, July 31, 1822. Her parents, Samuel and Priscilla (Rapp) Thoman, were natives of the Keystone state. The grandfather of

Priscilla Thoman was born in Germany, and his only male representative now living, William Rapp, is in his eighty-eighth year, and a resident of Backs county. Of the six sons and six daughters born to Samuel and Priscilla Thoman, six have passed away, and of those living: Jacob is a resident of Germantown, Pennsylvania; Louisa is the widow of Hurley Logan, of Philadelphia; Isaiah lives in Roxboro, Pennsylvania; William is a citizen of Goshen, Ohio; and Hester is the wife of Charles Barnes, of Rock Falls, Illinois; Samuel Thoman was a shoemaker by trade, but during his last years he turned his attention to agriculture. After the death of his first wife he married Ann Markley, and had one son, Morris.

Until she arrived at maturity, Mrs. Naomi J. Mangan continued to reside in her native state, her education being such as was afforded by the common schools. On the 16th of September, 1843, she became the wife of R. L. Mangan, whose birth had occurred in Philadelphia, July 23, 1821. In youth he had learned the trade of a stone mason, and this pursuit he followed until 1859, when he turned his attention to farming for a period. He was of English descent, his parents having been born in the Queen's dominion—and of their numerous children only one now survives.

Mrs. Caroline Stewart, whose home is near Salem, New Jersey.

Richard L. Mangan manifested his devotion to his country by offering himself to the Union cause, and in August, 1862, was enlisted in Company D, Seventy-fifth Regiment of Illinois Infantry. With his company he participated in many of the stirring events and battles of the war, was promoted to the rank of corporal, July 29, 1862; was

made first sergeant April 8, 1863, and on the 17th of the same month was made second lieutenant. At the battle of Kenesaw Mountain, in June, 1864, he was detailed to cut some brush for the purpose of screening some of their maneuvers from the enemy, but, unfortunately, he was singled out by a sharp shooter, and was severely wounded in the foot. This necessitated the amputation of his leg just below the knee, and in September he returned home. For almost a year he wore a rudely constructed wooden leg, which was very painful to the injured member, and, at last, going to Philadelphia, he obtained one of a more scientific pattern. Needless to say, that he never ceased to be seriously inconvenienced, and as long as he lived paid daily tribute of suffering for his country.

From boyhood, Mr. Mangan had a great love for plants and flowers, and when he had sufficiently recovered from his war-time service, he began doing business in Sterling in a small way, as a florist. In time, he became prosperous, gradually increasing the dimensions of his greenhouses in order to accommodate the great numbers of plants which he carried in stock. As he was the only person in his line of business in this city, and as every one desired to specially honor the hero of the war, he was kept constantly busy in attending to the demands of the public, and early pressed his sons into the same service.

For a number of years, Mr. Mangan held the office of justice of the peace, being elected at the close of his army service. For eight years he served the people here faithfully in the capacity of city treasurer, and had just completed his term a few weeks prior to his death. Politically, he was a Republican of no uncertain stamp.

About 1845, he joined the Independent Order of Odd Fellows; also a member of the G. A. R. He was an active member of the Broadway Methodist Episcopal church, and died, as he had lived, an earnest Christian. His death took place on the 10th of May, 1887.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Mangan was blessed with five daughters and six sons. Mary L., wife of Erwin King, of Chicago, has one daughter, Amy E. Samuel S. is represented elsewhere in this work. William F. married Flora White, and has five children, namely: Mabel, Edna, Lloyd, Hazel and Fern. William F. is a harness-maker by trade, and his home is near that of his widowed mother, in Sterling. Emily F. is the wife of C. E. Hoyt, a traveling salesman of this place. They are the parents of three children, Harry, Winnifred and Carl. George wedded Florence Drew, and both are deceased. Their three daughters were named: Blanche, Annie and Bessie. Caroline F. is the wife of C. E. Stevens, who is engaged in the ice business in Sterling. Of their children two died in infancy and those living are: Maud, Dollie, Ernest, Thomas and Alex. Richard L., who is employed at the Sterling water-works, chose Laura Bowman for his wife, and they have three sons, Clarence, Arthur and Richard. Clara is the wife of T. Shaw, of Rock Falls, Illinois, and her only child is named Alta. Cyrus, who married Nellie Healy, has two sons, Claud and Walter. He is engaged in the manufacturing of harness, in this city. Erwin J., who married Ida Hendricks, has five children, Pearl, Ethel, Margery, Maurice and Dorothy. He has been interested in the florist's business, and has charge of the green-houses which formerly were owned by his father. Adella is the wife

of Ed Coe, a farmer of Hopkins township, and their three children are Mortimer, Albert and Carrol.

Very few ladies in the United States can boast of a longer membership with any fraternal organization than can Mrs. Mangan, whose connection with the Daughters of Rebecca dates back forty-six years. She also has been an active member of the Woman's Relief Corps, and during the war performed her full share as a patriot and staunch defender of the Union. Besides, she is an honorary member of the Royal Neighbors—a local organization. Religiously she upholds the same doctrines as did her esteemed husband, and is accounted one of the sterling members of the Broadway Methodist Episcopal church.

**S**AMUEL T. MANGAN, of Sterling, is a hero of the war of the Rebellion, and is well deserving of special mention in the annals of his county, state and country, for the prominent part he played as a patriotic citizen. He is a native of Bucks county, Pennsylvania, born February 11, 1847, and is a son of Richard L. and Naomi J. Mangan, whose history is printed elsewhere in this work.

When he was eight years of age, S. T. Mangan came to Sterling with his parents, and here he received his education. In 1863, his youthful ardor to enlist in the defense of the Union could no longer be restrained, and he became a member of Company D, Thirty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. The first engagement in which he participated was that of Buzzards' Roost, after which he was actively engaged in the battle of Resaca, and Rome, Georgia. With Sherman, he fought his way through Georgia

to the sea, being engaged in almost continuous skirmishes. For about six months, he served on detached duty at headquarters, as provost orderly, and with his regiment took part in the Grand Review at Washington, being honorably discharged from the service July 12, 1865, then only eighteen years of age.

Returning home, Mr. Mangan found employment with farmers in this county until 1869, when he was elected to the office of constable, a position he acceptably filled for sixteen years. In 1883, he also acted as city marshal of Sterling, and for the past thirty years he has been connected with the police department. During the past four years he has been a member of Lincoln Hose Company No. 2. From 1868 to 1871 he was a deputy sheriff, but though he was offered a permanent position as such, he refused the proffered office. In 1869, he joined the Sterling City Guards, which organization was subsequently disbanded. Later, he became a member of the Sixth Illinois National Guards, serving from 1887 until 1897, and when the Third Regiment of Illinois National Guards was established became identified with that body. The boys who wore the blue during the Civil war have always had a warm place in his affections, and for years he has been a member of the W. Robinson post, No. 74, G. A. R. Politically, he is affiliated with the Republican party.

On the 25th of January, 1875, Mr. Mangan married Sophia S. Bassett, who was born in the town now known as Polo, in Ogle county, Illinois, January 21, 1847. Her parents, James A. and Anna M. (Wolcott) Bassett, natives of Delaware county, New York, came to Illinois in 1843, and resides in Ogle county until 1872. From

that year until death they dwelt in Sterling, the mother dying in March, 1878, and the father January 5, 1898. Of their five children, Charles O., a stone mason, living in Boone county, Iowa, is the father of five children; George O., a teamster and farmer of Rock Falls; Sophia, wife of our subject; Emma E., deceased, and formerly wife of Henry Ellingsworth, of Red Oak, Iowa, had three children; and Marcus P., a stone mason of Sterling, Illinois, has three children. After the death of his first wife, James A. Bassett married Mrs. Helen Sumner, who had two children by her first union, and to them a daughter, Lucy, was born.

To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Mangan four children were born, namely: Roy J., whose birth took place February 22, 1870, and whose death occurred when he was nearly thirteen years of age; Edith, August 26, 1877; Jessie A., November 29, 1878; and Grace M., September 27, 1884.

**H**UGH A. BOYD, a public-spirited and enterprising citizen of Morrison, and one of the most prominent factors in her business circles, is a man whose worth and ability have gained him success, honor and public confidence. He enjoys the well-earned distinction of being what is known as a "self-made man," and an analysis of his character reveals the fact that enterprise, well-directed effort and honorable dealing have been the essential features in his prosperity.

Mr. Boyd was born in Stevenson, Ayreshire, Scotland, June 1, 1838, and is a son of William and Mary (Robertson) Boyd, representatives of good old Ayreshire families. The father was a prominent citizen of Stevenson, and in his native land en-

gaged in business as a contractor for railroads and transportation companies. In 1856, with a part of his family, he came to the United States and took up his residence in Whiteside county, Illinois, where he owned a small farm but practically lived retired from active labor. To them were born ten children, namely: John, who came to America prior to his father, sailing on the steamer Edinboro when she made her first trip; Mary, wife of Robert Robertson; William, who came to this country with his brother John and who is now a resident of Grand Island, Nebraska; Hugh A., our subject; Jane, widow of John Clark; and Peter R., a resident of Morrison. The above children came to America, but Jeanette, the oldest, remained in Scotland, and Thomas died in that country, as did also Peter. Margaret died in St. Louis. The parents were consistent members of the Presbyterian church and most estimable people.

Hugh A. Boyd received a good practical education by attending evening school, having to work like most boys in his native land during the day. He was employed principally upon public works and in brick yards. At the age of eighteen he came with his parents to the new world, reaching Morrison in the spring of 1856. The railroad had just been completed the previous fall, and in the midst of a thicket of brush and crab apple trees the town was springing into existence.

Our subject first worked on a farm for a short time while learning the ways of the country, and then went to Cairo, where he spent the first winter. For some time he spent the summer months at home engaged in farming work and the winters in the south at New Orleans, Mobile and other parts of

Louisiana and Alabama, and also in Florida, being for about two years and a half overseer for a railroad contract, building bridges, culvert, etc. He helped open up the line from Utah to Selma, Alabama, doing all the bridge and timber work, trestles, etc. His employer, Mr. Nelson, had taken a contract to build one hundred and sixteen miles of road from Selma to Brown, Florida, on the Alabama & Southwest Railroad. A gang of men were driving spikes at the navy yard in Florida on the morning the first gun was fired on Fort Sumter, but he finished his work and returned to Selma with from four hundred and seventy-five to five hundred men. Mr. Boyd did not wish to stay in the south after hostilities commenced but could not get away as his agreement was to stay until the new foundations were put in for the river pier on the Alabama & Tennessee River Railroad. As soon as these were above low water mark he secured his pass and started for home, traveling by railroad and stage by way of Rome, Georgia, and Chattanooga, Tennessee. He reached Morrison in October, 1861, being almost a month in making the trip.

For some time Mr. Boyd was variously employed. He went south for his brother, William, who was very ill in the army. Later he did general contracting. He did part of the excavating, furnished all material, employed a number of men, kept several teams of his own, and did a large and successful business. After a number of years spent in that manner, he commenced buying stock for Whitcomb & Woods, stock shippers. While thus employed he became thoroughly familiar with the business of handling stock and on leaving their employ he embarked in the butcher and meat market business on his own account, opening a shop

in Morrison, in 1871. This he has since successfully conducted. For the first year he carried on business in partnership with his brother-in-law, John Clark, and later Whitcomb & Wood owned a half interest in the business for fifteen months. With these exceptions he has always been alone in business. He occupies a fine brick block on Main street erected by him in 1892. It is supplied with all modern conveniences needed by the trade, having a cold storage in the center. The main building is 70 x 22 feet, while in the rear it is 24 x 22 feet. The upper floor is divided in office rooms. It is an elegant building, one of the best in the city. Besides this property Mr. Boyd owns a farm of one hundred acres one mile from Morrison, and has a fine residence on the south side surrounded by two and a half acres of ground, which he transformed from a wild tract into a most beautiful place. He practically controls the meat business of the city, having by fair and honorable dealing built up an excellent trade. He is also president of the Traders Life Insurance Company, of which he was one of the founders and prominent promoters. Although only three years old it is now in a flourishing condition, due to his able management and good business ability.

Mr. Boyd was married in Morrison, in 1862, to Miss Sarah Clark, of Fredonia, New York, and they have four children: Herbert M., who is manager for Swift & Company at Cheyenne, Wyoming, married Allie Snyder, daughter of J. H. Snyder and has one daughter, Kathryn; Gertrude is the wife of S. C. Ely, of Morrison, and has one daughter, Margery; John Thomas is traveling for the firm of Swift & Company; and Mary is at home. Mr. and Mrs. Boyd are both members of the Baptist church, of

which he has been a trustee for twenty-five years. Socially, he belongs to Grove lodge and encampment, I. O. O. F., and is a charter member of the Knights of the Maccabees at Morrison. He is independent in politics, but usually supports the Republican party, and cast his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln in Alabama in 1860, when it took some courage to support that candidate in the south. He served three terms as alderman of Morrison, and was instrumental in securing the present system of water works and sewers. In 1895 he was elected mayor and re-elected two years later, but refused to accept a third term as the duties of the office required too much time needed in his business. The reins of city government were never in more capable hands, as he is public spirited, enterprising and progressive, and he left office as he had entered it with the entire respect and confidence of his fellow citizens.

**E**ZRA B. HILL, an honored pioneer of Whiteside county, who is now living a retired life in Prophetstown, was born in the village of Castleton, Rutland county, Vermont, July 30, 1822, and is a son of William and Susan (Holt) Hill, the latter born October 14, 1786, natives of Vermont and Massachusetts, respectively. The paternal grandfather, William Hill, Sr., was also a native of the Green Mountain state. In early life the father followed the wheelwright's and carpenter's trades in the east. In 1835, with two teams of five horses, he started for Illinois, his destination being Peoria, which point he had visited the year previous. After a long and tedious journey he reached Chicago, where he met James Pratt, who the year before had been to

Whiteside county and recommended this section of the state to Mr. Hill. He then changed his course and came to this county. He purchased Mr. Gordon's claim of one hundred and sixty acres on Washington street, on which had previously been erected a log house of one room, and in it his and another family lived during the winter spent in this state. The following year he built an addition to his dwelling, fenced and opened up his farm. Later he purchased more land and soon had a fine farm of two hundred acres, upon which he spent the last years of his life, dying there in 1842, at the age of fifty years. His wife survived him a number of years. They were the parents of six children, five sons and one daughter, namely: Sullivan, who married and is now deceased; John, who died unmarried; William, a resident of Sterling; Ezra B., our subject; F. M., a resident of Prophetstown; a wealthy citizen of this county; and Almira, deceased wife of I. C. Southern.

Amid pioneer scenes, Ezra B. Hill grew to manhood in this county, and as his school privileges were limited he is almost wholly self-educated. He assisted in opening up and improving the home farm and helped make the rails fence to the first forty-acre field, these being made in a grove six miles from home. The first year they raised a good crop, and he continued to aid his father in the labors of the field until the latter's death, after which he and his brothers successfully carried on the farm together for several years.

In this county, Mr. Hill was married, in 1848, to Miss Permelia Jane Underhill, a native of New York and daughter of Hiram Underhill, one of the early settlers of Whiteside county. They began their domestic

life upon a farm of eighty acres adjoining the old homestead, which he had previously purchased, and on which he had erected a good frame house. He also owned a part of the home farm. After operating this place for twelve or fifteen years, he sold and bought an improved farm of one hundred and seventy acres, to the further development and cultivation of which he devoted his energies until 1885, when he rented the place and moved to Prophetstown. Here he bought a residence which he has since remodeled and converted into a neat and comfortable home, where he expects to spend the remainder of his life in ease and quiet, having laid aside all business cares.

Mr. Hill has been called upon to mourn the loss of his estimable wife, who died September 12, 1895. To them were born eight children, who are still living, namely: Charles, who is married and engaged in farming near Hastings, Hamilton county, Nebraska; Ella M., wife of David Bailes, a business man of Hastings, Nebraska; Eva, wife of William Lancaster, of Prophetstown; Sumner and Charles G., who are both married and follow farming in this county; Pleasant, who is married and engaged in farming near Holdrege, Nebraska; and Lillie Ann, who now acts as her father's housekeeper.

Previous to 1860, Mr. Hill was an old-line Whig, but since then has been a staunch supporter of the Republican party. Although he has served as highway commissioner and a member of the school board, he has never cared for political honors, preferring to devote his entire time and attention to his business interests. Religiously he is a faithful member of the Methodist Episcopal church of Prophetstown. For sixty-four long years he has been a resident



of Whiteside county, and has watched with interest the wonderful changes that have taken place in this section during that time. On his arrival here the country was almost an unbroken wilderness, much of the county was swamp land, which then seemed almost useless, but by the means of ditches and tiling, has been converted into productive and fertile fields. Indians were still seen in great numbers; deer, wolves and wild game of all kinds were plentiful, but all have disappeared before the advancing civilization, and the county is now well populated with an industrious, intelligent and contented people, who have good homes and fine farms. In the work of development and progress Mr. Hill has borne an active and prominent part, and on the pages of his county's history he is certainly deserving of honorable mention.

**C**HARLES P. STURTEVANT. The world instinctively pays deference to the man whose success in life has been worthily achieved, and who has reached a high position in the business world. This is a progressive age, and he who does not advance is soon left far behind. Mr. Sturtevant, by the improvement of opportunities by which all are surrounded, has steadily and honorably worked his way upward, and is to day one of the leading stock-dealers of Whiteside county. He now makes his home in Prophetstown.

A native of this county, Mr. Sturtevant was born on a farm near Rock Falls December 31, 1854, and is descended from a family of Dutch origin, which was founded in Massachusetts in colonial days. His grandfather, Peres Sturtevant, was a native of New Hampshire, from which state he re-

moved to Vermont, where he opened up a farm and reared his family. The father of our subject, Josiah C. Sturtevant, was born in New Hampshire June 16, 1805, and grew to manhood in Vermont, where he married Miss Mary Robbins, a native of that state and a daughter of Jonas Robbins, one of its pioneers. There they continued to make their home until after the birth of six of their children, when in 1843 they came to Illinois and first located at Como, Whiteside county, where the father engaged in farming. He purchased a tract of wild land and opened up a farm near Rock Falls, to the cultivation and improvement of which he devoted his energies for many years, but he spent his last days in Rock Falls, where he died in 1896, at the advanced age of ninety-one years. His wife passed away in 1881.

Reared on the old homestead, Charles P. Sturtevant early acquired an excellent knowledge of the duties which fall to the lot of the agriculturist, and in the common schools of the neighborhood he obtained his literary education. After arriving at man's estate he went to northwestern Iowa, where he engaged in stock-dealing and the real estate business for one year. He then returned to this county and turned his attention to general farming and the feeding of stock, becoming one of the most extensive stock-dealers of the county, annually shipping to the city markets from two hundred and fifty to five hundred head of cattle and about ten car-loads of fat hogs. He is the owner of three valuable and well-improved farms, one in Lyndon township and two in Fenton township, aggregating fifteen hundred acres.

In Lyndon township, April 4, 1885, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Sturtevant

and Miss Esther M. Brooks, who was born and reared in Whiteside county, Illinois, and was educated there and in Saginaw, Michigan. Her father, Pardon A. Brooks, was a pioneer of this county, coming thither from Boston, Massachusetts, in 1837, and he became one of the substantial farmers of Lyndon township. To our subject and his wife have been born four children: Edna M., Imogen, Hazel I. and Paul Allen. They began their domestic life on a farm in Fenton township, and later lived on the old Brooks homestead in Lyndon township, now owned by Mr. Sturtevant. In 1898 they removed to Prophetstown, where on the banks of the beautiful Rock river, he is now erecting one of the largest and most tasteful modern residences in town.

On national issues Mr. Sturtevant has always affiliated with the Democratic party, casting his first presidential vote for General Hancock, but at local elections he is independent in politics, voting for whom he believes to be the best men, regardless of party lines. While a resident of Lyndon township, he served as supervisor for one term, and in the spring of 1899 was elected to represent Prophetstown on the honorable county board of supervisors, where he is now serving as a member of the board and of the finance committee. He has been a delegate to the county conventions of his party many times, and has ever taken quite an active and prominent part in public affairs. His wife is a member of the Congregational church, of Prophetstown, and in the best social circles of the village they occupy an enviable position, being highly respected and esteemed by all who know them. They are members of the Eastern Star lodge, of which Mrs. Sturtevant is now worthy matron, and our subject also belongs

to Lyndon blue lodge and chapter of the Masonic fraternity. As a business man he ranks among the best in his community, and his success is due to his keen discrimination, sound judgment and able management.

---

**I**SAM S. PARRISH, a well-known laundryman and prominent citizen of Sterling, is a native of this county, born in Genesee township, January 11, 1851. The Parrish family has lived in Lincolnshire, England, from the time when William the Conqueror invaded that country, in 1066. The founder of the family on this side of the Atlantic came to America with William Penn, and two of his sons afterward went to Virginia. Major Parrish, the grandfather of our subject, was an officer in the war of 1812, and died in a military hospital twelve miles below Richmond, Virginia. In the fall of 1815, his widow, with her family, went to Kentucky, and after residing there about two years removed to Dyersburg, Dyer county, Tennessee.

Watson Parrish, the youngest son of Major Parrish and the father of our subject, was born near Richmond, Virginia, August 31, 1805, and accompanied the family on their removal to Kentucky and later to Tennessee. He was first married in the latter state, December 12, 1829, to Louisa Dement, a native of Dyersburg, and in June, 1839, with their six children, they came to Whiteside county, Illinois, and settled in Genesee Grove, on land which had not yet been surveyed. At one time he owned about a section of land; most of which he gave to his children, but still owned one hundred and sixty acres at the time of his death, which occurred July 14, 1884. When

a young man he engaged in boat building to some extent, but throughout the greater part of his life followed farming. In 1856 he was interested in the lumber business, his sons, Elias and William, superintending the cutting of the logs in the pine woods of Wisconsin, and one of his rafts was nearly all lost in the tornado which destroyed the village of Albany. In 1844 he circulated a petition for the organization of public schools in Genesee township, and by most persistent effort he secured the legal number of signatures and accomplished the desired object.

By his first marriage Watson Parrish had eight children, of whom six were born in Dyersburg, Tennessee, and the others in Genesee Grove, this county. They were as follows: (1) William C., born February 1, 1831, was educated at Knox College, Galesburg, Illinois, and was married, but his wife died leaving no children. During the Civil war he enlisted in Company G, Thirty-ninth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and died from disease contracted in the service, at Williamsport, Maryland, November 29, 1861. (2) Elias, born January 12, 1832, was also educated at Knox College, and is now a farmer of Vesta, Johnson county, Nebraska. He married Ann Kite and has a large family of children. (3) Augustine, born September 8, 1833, married Martha Bunnell, and is interested in gold mining, stock raising and fruit growing in Chico, Butte county, California. His brothers, William and Sampson, went with him to that state in the early days of surface mining, crossing the plains with an ox team, and they worked on the Feather river, where Augustine still owns a ranch on the west branch of that stream. His brothers returned home by way of Cape Horn. (4)

Sampson, born April 25, 1835, attended Knox College, and is now a lumber merchant and farmer of Milford, Iowa. He was married October 14, 1858, to Sarah Courtright, and they have seven children. (5) Watson, born March 9, 1837, also attended Knox College, and after the war took up the study of law and graduated from the law department of the State University, at Ann Arbor, Michigan. He was a member of Company G, Thirty-ninth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was in the service until the close of the war, although he was once wounded. He engaged in the practice of law and in banking in Nebraska, was a member of the state legislature, and was one of the first five directors appointed by the government for the Union Pacific Railroad, which position he held for four years. He is now a prominent attorney of San Diego, California. He married Lucy Roberts, of Genesee township, and they have one son, Frederick. (6) Sarah Ann, born April 27, 1839, was married November 16, 1859, to Isaac Newton Thorp, who was born May 20, 1836. He was a private in Company E, Forty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, during the Civil war, and was drowned in the Mississippi river, while landing from transports near Vicksburg, January 3, 1865. He left two children: (a) Katie A., born December 19, 1860, was educated at Mount Vernon College, Iowa, and is now the wife of W. C. Holbrook, whose sketch appears on another page of this volume. (b) Harry Elmer, born September 16, 1862, was educated at Dixon College, and was married September 30, 1886, to Huldah E. Stanley. He is now a farmer of Marshalltown, Iowa. The mother of these children was again married September 23, 1870, her second

union being with John Cummings, who died in January, 1896, leaving two children, Myrtie and Watson, both residents of Sterling. (7) Henry Harrison, born August 15, 1842, was also a member of Company G, Thirty-ninth Illinois Infantry, during the Civil war, and is now a merchant of Archer Grove, Iowa. He was married December 10, 1865, to Martha E. Evans, and to them were born four children: Effie, wife of A. K. Wick, of Round Grove; Wesley R.; Mabel, and Donald. (8) Amanda, born April 7, 1845, was married in January, 1870, to Bela T. St. John, and they have four children: Thomas, Clara, Burton and Idella. Mrs. Louisa Parrish, the mother of these children, was born March 8, 1810, and died May 14, 1847.

Watson Parrish was again married, March 16, 1848, his second union being with Miss Nancy Broadwell, who was born near Buffalo, New York, and died October 9, 1855. By this union three children were born, namely: (9) John Broadwell, born January 15, 1849, is a farmer living near Laverne, Minnesota. He was married September 8, 1870, to Delilah A. Court-right, who died May 12, 1887. Of their four children, three are still living. By his second marriage he also had three children. (10) Isam Shelton, our subject, is the next of the family. (11) Frances M., born in April, 1854, was married September 2, 1874, to Kendrick E. Bills, who is engaged in the agricultural implement business in Milledgeville, Carroll county, Illinois, and they have one child, Henry.

On the 27th of May, 1856, Watson Parrish married Mrs. Louisa (Broadwell) Howland, a sister of his second wife. She was first married, February 10, 1853, to Wesley Howland, who died September 30, 1855.

By that union she had two children: Lewis, who died September 2, 1854, at the age of three months; and Wesley, now a farmer of Genesee township, this county, who was married January 15, 1879, to Mary T. Stanley. By his third marriage, Watson Parrish had two children: (12) Harriet G., was married, January 10, 1877, to S. Wesley Johnson, a banker of Ripley, Iowa, and died in 1894. They had one daughter, Nellie. (13) Emma M. was married, January 15, 1879, to Andrew D. Stanley, a farmer of Genesee township, this county, and they have one child, Nellie. The mother of these children died July 26, 1881.

Isam S. Parrish, whose name introduces this sketch, acquired a good common-school education in district No. 3, and was reared upon the home farm, of which he took charge after reaching man's estate, and successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising. He still owns the original homestead of one hundred and thirty-five acres on sections 19, 20, 29 and 30, Genesee township, on which the old log house, first erected by his father, is still standing, and also two cottonwood trees, which were set out by him and are now about the largest in the county. In 1887, Mr. Parrish rented his farm and removed to Sterling. For four years he bought grain at Rock Island Junction, where he had an elevator, and at times bought stock for shipment and also dealt in coal. Later he was out of business for one year, and then erected an elevator at Amboy, where he engaged in the grain business for one year as a member of the firm of Parrish & Kratz. The following year he was successfully engaged in business at Rock Falls, and then again lived retired for one year. On the expiration of that time, in 1897, he purchased a laundry in Sterling,

one of the largest in the city, and has already built up an excellent trade. In most of his undertakings he has been eminently successful, and is to-day one of the leading business men of Sterling.

On the 13th of February, 1879, Mr. Parrish was united in marriage with Miss Florence E. Broadwell, who was born in Winona, Minnesota, a daughter of Ara and Irene (Hubbard) Broadwell, the father a native of New York. Her parents are now deceased. They had only two children, the older being Frances, deceased wife of Edward Gray, who with their three children is living in Meadow Grove, Nebraska. Mr. and Mrs. Parrish have two children: Lawrence E., born November 11, 1891; and Frank, born December 17, 1894.

Six years after their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Parrish went to California, where they spent one year on his brother's ranch, and while there he engaged in mining with excellent success. When quite young he once made a trip to Kansas with a brother, and there purchased cattle which they drove back to Illinois and sold. Politically Mr. Parrish is identified with the Republican party, and socially is a member of the Blue Lodge, No. 612, F. & A. M.; the chapter, No. 57, R. A. M.; the Modern Woodmen of America, No. 12; the Knights of the Globe, No. 85; and the Mystic Workers of the World, No. 2. As a business man and citizen, he stands high, and being one of the public-spirited and progressive men of the community, he gives his support to all measures for the public good.

**J**AMES SNYDER, a citizen of Morrison, who is now living retired from active business, was born in Canajoharie, Mont-

gomery county, New York, December 27, 1808, a son of Eli and Catherine (Carr) Snyder. He was reared on his father's farm at that place and educated in the common schools of the neighborhood. On account of failing health he was obliged to give up farm work at the age of twenty-two, and then became interested in a country store, being engaged in general merchandising for twenty-three years with most excellent success.

During that time Mr. Snyder married Miss Nancy Runkle, by whom he had four children, namely: Mary, now Mrs. L. H. Robinson, of Chicago; Harriet N., widow of George Guffin and also a resident of Chicago; John H., a prominent druggist of Morrison; and James A., a resident of Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

In 1856 Mr. Snyder left the east and came to Whiteside county, Illinois, purchasing a farm two miles from Morrison, to the improvement and cultivation of which he devoted his energies for twelve years. Subsequently he rented the place and finally sold it. After the death of his wife, which occurred December 23, 1863, he removed to Morrison, where he has since lived retired.

In 1873, Mr. Snyder married Mrs. Mary B. Spears, *ne* Purdy, who was born in New York and was first married in Ohio, to William Spears, who later became a member of the firm of Spears Brothers, prominent dry-goods merchants of Morrison. Both Mr. and Mrs. Snyder are prominent and active members of the Presbyterian church, of which he was an elder for many years both in New York and during his residence here, being the oldest elder in this section of the country. He is a strong temperance man and for several years past has been a

supporter of the Prohibition party, while his wife is an active member of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. They receive and merit the respect and esteem of all who know them.

**G**EORGE E. ELY, an honored and highly esteemed citizen of Sterling, who is now living retired, has been a resident of this county since the fall of 1857. He was born in Westernville, Oneida county, New York, November 18, 1839, a son of David G. and Elvira (Wallace) Ely. The father was born in Massachusetts in 1811, and during his boyhood removed to Westernville with his father, who was of Revolutionary stock. The grandfather of our subject was an early settler of Westernville, where he owned several farms, was a successful farmer and extensive stock dealer and drover. He was accidentally killed while on horseback some time later than 1860. The father of our subject grew to manhood in Westernville, and followed farming, dairying and stock raising there until his removal to Oshkosh, Wisconsin, in the spring of 1855. While in that city he was prospecting for a location, and the following year bought his first home in Hume township, Whiteside county, Illinois, which at that time was all wild prairie land. He erected a residence thereon and converted the land into well-tiled fields, being engaged in farming and stock raising there for some time. For a number of years he made his home west of Rock Falls, in Coloma township, but he owns two farms in Hume township, and upon one of these he has resided for over a quarter of a century. During his active business life he owned a great deal of land and was ex-

tensively engaged in farming and dealing in stock. He is one of the influential and most highly respected men of his community, but has never been an aspirant for office. He was one of the first members of the Methodist Episcopal church in Hume township, and materially assisted in the erection of the house of worship. His wife, who was also a consistent member of that church and class-leader for some time, died in 1875. Of the six children born to them, three are still living, namely: Beulah, now the wife of E. J. Jones, of Oshkosh, Wisconsin; George E., our subject; and Nancy, wife of Charles L. Rawson, of Rock Falls.

Our subject began his education in the school of Westernville, New York, and later attended the public schools of Oshkosh, Wisconsin, and the seminary of Prophetstown, Illinois, receiving better instruction than most boys of his day. He aided his father in the work of the home farm until twenty-three years of age. In August, 1861, he married Miss Eliza Rawson, of Geneseo, Illinois, a daughter of William S. Rawson, who came from New York and was one of the pioneer settlers of Geneseo. Of the two children born of this union, Lula Lurance, principal of the shorthand department of the Sterling Business College; Frank D. attended the Sterling schools and in 1894 graduated from West Point Military Academy. For a time he was stationed on Governors Island as an officer in the Thirtieth United States Regiment, and during our recent war with Spain participated in the battle of Santiago. For meritorious service he was promoted and is now a first lieutenant in the Second Infantry, stationed in Cuba. He has been in the recruiting service and on detailed duty during most of the time he has been a member of the regu-



GEORGE E. ELY.





lar army. On account of his health he was given a three months leave of absence, during which time he visited Germany. He married Miss Marion Brooks, of Plainfield, New Jersey.

For a few years after his marriage, Mr. Ely rented a farm in Hume township, and was at length able to purchase one hundred and sixty acres there, on which he erected a good residence and made many other improvements, converting it into one of the finest farms of that part of the county. In connection with general farming, he engaged in stock raising, giving special attention to horses, and for some time bought and shipped horses quite extensively. On selling his first place he bought a farm in Hopkins township north of the river and continued to successfully operate it for some years.

Since casting his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln, Mr. Ely has been a staunch supporter of the Republican party, and has been a delegate to county and congressional conventions. He was also continuously in office from the time he was twenty-three years of age until the 1st of April, 1899, serving as township clerk, assessor, supervisor, etc. He has also been township treasurer and treasurer of the Union draining district, comprising three townships, the duties of which office were quite arduous. He was a member of the board of supervisors during its most progressive epoch. In December, 1888, he was appointed superintendent of the Whiteside county farm and infirmary, and filled that responsible position most creditably and satisfactorily from April 1, 1889, for ten years. The inmates in the poor house numbered seventy-six and in the insane department as high as twenty-six, all of which

he had charge of, in connection with the farm of two hundred acres. During his administration all of the draining and sewerage was put in, and he made it a paying institution for the county. Previous superintendents had used all the meat, butter, eggs, potatoes, etc., raised upon the farm, for the inmates, but during the last year of his stay there his sale of the produce above what was needed on the farm amounted to over eleven hundred dollars. He takes a just pride in what he accomplished there for the county and the people. After ten years of arduous labor and honest endeavor on the part of himself and wife, Mr. Ely resigned his position on the 1st of April, 1899, and is now living retired, enjoying a well-earned rest. He removed to Sterling, where he had owned property for a number of years, and bought a beautiful home at No. 208 West Third street, and deserves the high regard in which he is uniformly held.

**A**DAM SMITH, deceased, was one of the foremost citizens of Whiteside county from his early manhood until his death, and no one who has been called from our midst in late years has been more seriously mourned by the general community. His home was in Sterling for many years, and all local improvements were championed by him, his influence carrying great weight, as his judgments were proverbially wise and far seeing.

A native of Bavaria, Germany, Adam Smith was born December 9, 1834. He was one of six children, five sons and a daughter, of whom the only survivor to-day is John W., of Youngstown, Ohio. His father, Michael Smith, died when the lad

was young, and in 1846 he accompanied his mother, Eva, to the United States. They remained in New York about seven years, at the end of which period, Adam Smith came to Rockford, Illinois, where he found employment at his trade as a painter and grainer, and worked at the court-house, among other places. In 1859 he came to Whiteside county, and continued to work at his regular line of business, and in 1859 he located permanently in Sterling. Here he soon acquired an enviable reputation as a painter and business man, and by good management and economy laid aside a considerable amount of money. In 1875 he purchased a farm of thirteen hundred acres, which, though all in one body, lay in the two counties of Lee and Whiteside. This farm he superintended successfully, raising great quantities of grain and much live stock. In 1876 he embarked in the furniture business at Sterling, but sold out at the end of two years. During his later years he was interested in the real estate business, and at his death left a comfortable fortune to his family.

In his political attitude Mr. Smith was a Republican. His fellow citizens, believing in his wisdom and general ability, often urged him to accept public office, but he usually declined. He served as a justice of the peace for a period, at one time was city marshal and a school director. He was a director and stockholder in the Sterling National Bank, and was active in the establishment of various enterprises. All industries or measures which were calculated to benefit the community were furthered by him, and for this reason, as well as for many others, he is kindly remembered.

On the 13th of October, 1863, Mr. Smith married Caroline Fisher, who was

born in Trumbull county, Ohio, September 20, 1843. Her parents, Frederick and Martha (Wahl) Fisher, had eight other children. The eldest, Catherine, became the wife of John W., brother of Adam Smith. John lives in Youngstown, Ohio. William died in Youngstown, Ohio, in 1893. Henry is a painter residing at Elgin. Mary is the wife of Cyrus Folsom, of Youngstown, Ohio, and Lucy is the wife of Joseph Maubry, of Cleveland, Ohio. Emanuel resides in Youngstown, Ohio. Sarah is the wife of Wendel Gaulrapp, a farmer of Hume township, Whiteside county. She is the twin of Emanuel. The parents died at their old home in the Buckeye state.

The union of Mr. and Mrs. Smith was blessed with five children. Jennie A. married John N. Harpham, who is engaged in the real estate business at Sterling, and also owns a market here. Anna B. died unmarried, and Nettie L., also unmarried, resides at home. Emma A. became the wife of Harry H. Over, a candy manufacturer, and they have one son, Howard Smith. Carl A., the youngest child of our subject and wife, is at home. For about ten years the family resided on Broadway street, but after the death of Mr. Smith, his widow bought a lot on First avenue, and built her pleasant modern dwelling. Both she and her husband have been Lutherans in religious faith, and have been liberal contributors to the work of that denomination. Ever ready to aid the afflicted and needy, the love and gratitude of many whose burdens they have lightened have been bestowed upon them. To their children they will leave the priceless heritage of an unblemished name and life-records well worthy of emulation. Mr. Smith died November 7, 1893.

GEORGE E. PADDOCK, a well-known banker of Prophetstown, was born in the town of Turin, Lewis county, New York, March 28, 1849, and on the paternal side is of English descent. The family was founded in America by Robert Paddock, one of the Pilgrims that settled at Plymouth colony in 1634. Our subject's great-grandfather, Daniel Paddock, was a native of New York and was one of the heroes of the Revolutionary war. The grandfather, John Paddock, was also a native of the Empire state, and the father, Chauncey Paddock, was born and reared in Westernville, Oneida county, New York. There he was united in marriage with Miss Lucy M. Hotchkiss, a native of Mexico, Oswego county, New York, and in 1851 he brought his family west, locating on the Rock river, near Prophetstown, Whiteside county, Illinois. Here he engaged in agricultural pursuits with marked success and was numbered among the enterprising farmers of the county. He died November 16, 1894, and was buried in the Prophetstown cemetery, where a neat and substantial monument marks his last resting place. His wife still survives him, at the age of seventy-nine years, and makes her home in Prophetstown.

The early education of George E. Paddock was acquired in the public schools of Prophetstown, and was supplemented by a course at the Northern Illinois College, in Fulton. In 1870 he went to California with the family and spent one season on the Pacific slope. On his return to this county he engaged in farming until 1880, when he removed to Prophetstown and accepted the position of cashier in the Mattson bank, in which capacity he served until the death of Mr. Mattson, when he succeeded to the business. He carried on business at the old

stand for some years, but in 1892 he erected a good two-story brick building on the corner of the main business street of the town, into which he moved in January, 1893. He does a large private banking business, and is accounted one of the successful business men of the county.

On the 6th of May, 1873, in Prophetstown, Mr. Paddock was united in marriage with Miss Ella M. Quigley, a native of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, who in early life came with her family to this county and completed her education in the schools of Prophetstown. Her father, George B. Quigley, became one of the substantial farmers of this county, but now makes his home near Evansville, Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Paddock have four children: Hugh, who now holds the position of cashier in his father's bank, and was married November 21, 1899, to Miss Cass C. Baldwin, of Prophetstown, Illinois; Jessie L., who completed a six years' course at the Northwestern University of Evanston, and was graduated with the class of 1899, and was married in October, 1899, to Oliver P. Petty, of Sterling, Illinois; Louis M., who is attending the Morgan Park Academy, and Gladys, a student in the home school.

For some years Mr. Paddock was identified with the Democratic party, and three times cast his presidential ballot for Grover Cleveland, but in 1896 voted for William McKinley and the gold standard, and is now independent in politics, at local elections always voting for the men whom he believes best qualified to fill the offices regardless of party lines. He has been school treasurer of Prophetstown for twenty-two years, a member of the town board six or seven years, and is now president of the same. Fraternally he is a Royal Arch Mason, a

member of the Blue lodge and chapter of Prophetstown, and Illinois Society Sons of the American Revolution. His wife is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

**E**DMUND JACKSON, supreme secretary of the benevolent order of Mystic Workers of the World, Fulton, Illinois, in which capacity he has shown his ability as an organizer and executive officer, was born May 3, 1853, in Greenbush, Rensselaer county, New York, and is the son of Edmund and Ann (Adams) Jackson, the former a native of Staffordshire, England, born August 26, 1820, and the latter of Herefordshire, England, born August 28, 1823. They were married in England, August 22, 1841, and there five of their children were born, and while that country had to them many attractions, they felt that across the broad Atlantic in this free country of ours, the opportunity was far greater for advancement than in their old home. Believing that it was their duty to give their children the best opportunities available, they determined on emigrating, and accordingly, in March, 1851, the husband and father came first, and selecting a temporary home in Greenbush, New York, sent for the family which arrived in August of the same year.

After residing in New York state for some two years, and learning of the great prairies of Illinois, where land could then be purchased for a nominal sum, in October, 1853, the family came to Illinois, and located in Kankakee county, where the father and mother are yet living. On his arrival, Edmund Jackson, Sr., secured a tract of land near Manteno, Kankakee

county, where he engaged in farming and stock raising until 1890, since which time he has lived a retired life in the village of Manteno. In his farming operations he met with the success that usually follows the industrious and enterprising man, and is now enabled to live in ease and comfort upon the proceeds of his former life of toil. In politics he is a Republican, and in religion is identified with the Episcopal church. In his family were nine children, four having been born in America. The following is the record: Joseph, a farmer residing near Wolcott, Indiana; Thomas, who is engaged in the grain and stock business in Wolcott, Indiana; Stephen, deceased; David, a traveling salesman making his home in Oakland, California; Lucy M., residing with her parents in Manteno, Illinois; Edmund, our subject; William W., residing on the old homestead in Kankakee county, Illinois; Andrew, deceased; and George, a merchant of Manteno, Illinois.

The subject of this sketch was but a few months old when he was brought by his parents to this state. On the home farm in Kankakee county his boyhood and youth were spent. In the public schools of Manteno, he secured a good common-school education, and at the age of eighteen years engaged in teaching, a profession that he successfully followed for five years in Illinois, Indiana and Kansas. His first business venture was in Searsboro, Iowa, where he engaged in the mercantile trade for two and a half years. He then moved his stock to What Cheer, Iowa, and continued in the same line of business until the fall of 1881, when he sold out, and for the next nine years was in the real estate and insurance business at What Cheer. He was then elected president of the First Na-

tional Bank at that place, occupying that position for three and a half years. Disposing of his stock in the bank, in March, 1894, he came to Fulton, Illinois, where he again engaged in the real estate and insurance business. In the spring of 1895 he became interested with Dr. Clendennen in the organization of the Mystic Workers of the World, since which time he has given much of his time to that organization, a full account of which is found in this work.

Since attaining his majority, Mr. Jackson has always taken an active interest in politics, and has always given his support to the men and measures of the Republican party. By his party associates he has been honored with various local offices, the duties of which he has discharged in a satisfactory manner. He has served as justice of the peace in the different places in which he has resided, and in that position he has always acted in such an impartial manner as to win the praise even of contesting parties. While residing in What Cheer, Iowa, he served as a member of the school board and mayor of the city in all about twelve years. In 1896 he was elected police magistrate of Fulton, a position he yet fills to the entire satisfaction of the people of the city. For many years he has been a member of the Masonic order, and while residing in Iowa served as grand treasurer of the grand lodge of the order. He now holds membership with Fulton lodge, No. 1, M. W. W.; Forest camp, No. 2, M. W. A.; Fulton City lodge, No. 189, A. F. & A. M.; Fulton chapter, No. 108, R. A. M.; Holy Cross commandery, No. 10, K. T., Iowa; also a member of Kaaba Temple, Nobles Mystic Shrine; Abou Ben Adhem lodge, No. 148, I. O. O. F., of which he is past grand; Knights of the Globe, M. B. A.;

W. P. Merton chapter, No. 356, O. E. S.; Sylvia lodge, No. 112, K. P., of Iowa; and is past grand treasurer, grand lodge of Iowa, A. F. & A. M., and is supreme secretary of the Mystic Workers of the World. In each of these organizations he has taken an active part, and is one of the best known fraternity men of the state. While other orders have required much of his attention, it is to the Mystic Workers of the World that he has given the greatest attention, and to the interest taken by him, with the executive ability shown, the great success of the order is due.

On the 21st of March, 1877, Mr. Jackson was united in marriage with Miss Emma G. Bennett, of Eureka, Kansas, who was born near Xenia, Ohio, the daughter of Ralph and Rebecca (Hamilton) Bennett. They have one daughter, Una G., who is still living with her parents.

While a resident of Whiteside county a comparatively short time, Mr. Jackson has become thoroughly identified with its interests, and is well known as an enterprising and reliable business man, one who always keeps abreast with the times. All who know him hold him in the highest esteem.

**T**HE MYSTIC WORKERS OF THE WORLD. This fraternal benefit order was originally formed in 1891 and the preliminary steps taken for its incorporation under the laws of Iowa by citizens of that state, but after the first papers had been executed and filed, the temporary organization was abandoned and the formation of the order in Illinois was undertaken. Fulton lodge, No. 1, was organized at Fulton, Whiteside county, Illinois, during the year 1892, being the first lodge of the order.

Very little progress was made from this time until 1895, no more being done than to preserve the organization of the first lodge and attempts to organize some others which either failed or seceded to other orders.

Early in 1895 Edmund Jackson was appointed supreme secretary, who at once began to make a thorough investigation into the affairs of the order, which had become deeply involved, having an indebtedness of many times its available assets. During the year its affairs were adjusted so far as possible and arrangements made to open up work in earnest for the lodge season following. During November, the supreme secretary employed deputies to work up the membership, paying them wages himself and started them out. The first one engaged was supreme vice-master, R. S. Cowan, who, on November 4th, went to Morrison and among the first he solicited and the first one he secured, was Geo. W. Howe, county clerk and since elected supreme master. With the able assistance of Mr. Howe, a lodge was soon organized and all connected with the order were much encouraged. Mr. Cowan then went to Sterling, where he organized a second lodge and from these he and the others employed, soon secured numbers of members until application was made to the state insurance department for a charter which was granted and the order legally incorporated on February 24, 1896. The real date of the founding of the order being in November 1895, at which time and in February, 1896, the whole plans of the original order were so changed that nothing of value was left of it but its name.

The work thereafter progressed with rapidity, the order closing the year 1896 with 1,210 benefit members and thirty-eight

lodes. At the close of 1897 there were 2,545 benefit members and eighty-one lodges. At the close of 1898 there were 5,260 benefit members in one hundred and thirty-seven lodges, and at the close of September, 1899, almost ten thousand members in over two hundred lodges. As another indication of its rapid growth, the account for postage and express for the month of March, 1896, the first month after the charter was granted, was but four dollars, while for 1899 the monthly average was over fifty dollars for the same purposes.

The order issues benefit certificates for the amounts of \$500, \$1,000, \$2,000 and \$3,000, payable at death to the beneficiaries of the insured, being the families and dependent relatives. Certificates are issued to applicants between the ages of eighteen and fifty-one, either male or female, each having the same privileges.

In addition to life protection for the benefit of the heirs of the insured, the order pays benefits during life to those of its members who meet with misfortunes. Benefits are paid in proportion to the amount of the certificate carried and for disabilities as follows:

Amount of certificate payable at death, \$500, \$1,000, \$2,000, \$3,000; cash if arm or leg be broken, \$50, \$100, \$200, \$300; cash for loss of hand or foot, \$125, \$250, \$500, \$750; cash for loss of both hands, both feet or both eyes, \$250, \$500, \$1,000, \$1,500; cash each six months for total disability until the certificate is paid in full, \$25, \$50, \$100, \$150. Any balance of the face value of the certificate not paid during life is paid to the beneficiaries at death. It has paid in death and disability benefits to October 1, 1899, \$65,853.13, of which \$55,503.13 was for forty-seven death benefits

and \$5,350 was for thirty-five accidents and disability claims, thus bringing comfort and protection to forty-seven homes and relief to thirty-five disabled members in its short existence up to date.

The order is limited in its jurisdiction. States lying wholly south of the thirty-eighth parallel of north latitude being excluded, as are also all cities of over 200,000 inhabitants, although no restriction as to travel or residence is placed on members. It is thus confined to the healthiest parts of the country. Persons who are engaged in hazardous occupations are excluded, which also tends to protect the order and reduce its death rate to the minimum, which has been kept down to a very low one, the greatest for any year being 3.25 per thousand lives at risk.

The rates of benefit assessments are graded according to the age of the member at the time of joining and the amount of protection taken and remains the same through life. They are based on the American table of expectancy, and are at the following rates per thousand, the greater or lesser amounts of certificates being at proportionate rates:

Over 18 years of age and under 20 years...	35
" 20 " " " 24 "	40
" 24 " " " 28 "	45
" 28 " " " 32 "	55
" 32 " " " 36 "	65
" 36 " " " 40 "	75
" 40 " " " 42 "	80
" 42 " " " 44 "	85
" 44 " " " 46 "	90
" 46 " " " 48 "	95
" 48 " " " 54 "	100

None but those of good moral character and who can pass a rigid physical examination are admitted, special inducements being offered to the young and middle-aged.

The expenses of the order are provided for by quarterly dues of fifty cents per quar-

ter, paid by each member for that purpose, and also from the profits on supplies sold to lodges which are sold at a small advance over the cost. Local lodges receive the initiation fees of new members for their support, and also provide such quarterly dues as are needed.

The order has lodges in the following places in Whiteside county: Fulton, Ustick, Morrison, Sterling, Tampico, Prophetstown, Lyndon, Rock Falls, Round Grove, Emerson, Erie, Gardenplain, Fenton, Coleta, Penrose, Malvern, Montmorency, Hume, Deer Grove and Albany, being in every town in the county.

It is a fundamental rule of the order that the insurance department of some state in which it is working shall be invited annually to examine the books of the supreme secretary and supreme banker. The departments of Illinois, Wisconsin and Missouri have each made these examinations, and have each reported the affairs of the order to be in excellent condition. This fact is further proven to be true, for although it has been doing business for over forty-four months it has called but twenty assessments, which is a less number called than by a similar order before in the same time in its history.

The supreme offices are located at Fulton, where all the business of the order is transacted.

There are employed in the office of the supreme secretary, in addition to that officer, Miss Lena V. Snyder, daughter of Dr. W. C. Snyder, one of the oldest residents of the county, and Miss Sarah E. Worthington, daughter of Herman Worthington, also an old resident of the county, both of these ladies having been born in the county.

The principal emblems of the order are the square, plane, balances and globes, the use of which as emblems of the order are fully explained in the ceremonies of initiation given in the ritual.

The supreme master, George W. Howe, by virtue of his office, has general supervision over the whole order; R. S. Cowan, supreme vice-master, conducts field work, while Edmund Jackson, the supreme secretary, has charge of all clerical work of the order, and superintends the employment of deputies.

The officers of the order are as follows: George W. Howe, supreme master, Morrison, Illinois; R. S. Cowan, supreme vice-master, Fulton, Illinois; Edmund Jackson, supreme secretary, Fulton, Illinois; Al. F. Schoch, supreme banker, Ottawa, Illinois; Dr. G. W. Clendenen, supreme medical examiner, Fulton, Illinois; B. F. Lichtenberger, supreme attorney, Savanna, Illinois; Mrs. Clara C. Babcock, supreme conductress, Thomson, Illinois; Mrs. Sarah M. Smith, supreme sentinel, Erie, Illinois; F. Wm. Kuebker, supreme picket, Ivanhoe, Illinois. Board of Directors: A. N. Abbott, Union Grove, Illinois; H. C. Blanchard, Mendota, Illinois; E. E. Fitch, Galva, Illinois; W. A. Cunningham, Anamosa, Iowa; H. H. Harris, Macomb, Illinois; Fred Zick, Polo, Illinois. Seven of the supreme officers being located in the county, it will be seen that it is essentially a Whiteside county product of which the county may well be proud.

WATSON C. HOLBROOK needs no special introduction to the readers of this volume, but the work would be incomplete without the record of his life. No

man in the county has been more prominent identified with its growth and development in the last quarter of a century, and for twenty-one years he has most capably and satisfactorily served as county surveyor. He now makes his home at No. 1102 Eighth avenue, Sterling.

Mr. Holbrook is a native of the county, born in Genesee township, February 20, 1848, and traces his ancestry back to Thomas Holbrook, who was in the cattle business near Weymouth and Plymouth, Massachusetts, in 1640. In his family were four sons and from them all of the Holbrooks in Massachusetts were descended. In the early part of the seventeenth century there was one of the family who was a professor of mathematics in Harvard College. The genealogy of this family can be traced back in England through eleven centuries.

The founder of the family in Whiteside county was Henry Holbrook, the grandfather of our subject, who was a soldier of the war of 1812. He came to the county in 1838 and located a land warrant in Genesee township, where he died in 1842. Only two of his children came to this county: Henry H., and Elzina, wife of Ivory Colcord, the first school teacher of Genesee township.

Henry H. Holbrook, the father of our subject, was born in Cornish, New Hampshire, May 24, 1815, and came to this county with his father in 1838. Although he learned the shoemaker's trade and worked at the same at times, he followed farming throughout the greater part of his life. During his entire residence in Whiteside county he lived upon the land which he purchased from the government. In Stenben county, New York, he was married, April 11, 1833, to Miss Caroline Ross, who



was born in Florida, Orange county, New York, March 5, 1815, and was one of a family of four children. She belonged to the old Whitney family, of New York, which can be traced back to the time when Queen Anne made an attempt to settle the new world. Mr. and Mrs. Holbrook made the journey to this county overland in 1838, arriving here in November of that year. Upon their farm in Genesee township they made their home until called to their final rest, the father dying January 28, 1896, the mother August 13, 1890.

To this worthy couple were born ten children, the three eldest born in Cameron, Steuben county, New York, the others in Genesee township, this county. They were as follows: (1) Jane, born January 5, 1834, is the wife of S. A. Heath, a farmer living near Audubon, Iowa, and they have two adopted children. (2) Abigail, born November 7, 1835, married Martin Thayer, by whom she had ten children, five now living, David, Esther J., Minnie, Milton and Ransom, all residents of Wisconsin. After the death of her first husband she married Oliver Brown, a pensioner of the Civil war and a resident of Richland county, Wisconsin. (3) John H., born May 28, 1837, was a member of an Iowa regiment all through the Civil war and is now living on a farm near Catlin, Washington. He married Elizabeth Joseph, and of their eleven children, eight are living, Eli, Frank H., Henry H., John H., James, Jesse and Elias. (4) Silas, born Etta, April 25, 1839, is said to be the second white child born in Genesee township. He was married, July 1, 1863, to Mary E. Harris, by whom he had two children, one now living, Jennie M., wife of George E. Jones, of Waverly, Iowa. Silas joined a Wisconsin regiment during the Rebellion

and after serving for a time was discharged for disability, but he never recovered and died August 30, 1866. His wife is also deceased. (5) Sarah M., born April 26, 1841, married John McWilliams, of Vernon county, Wisconsin, and died there January 26, 1880, leaving one child, Henry S., now a stationary engineer and farmer of that county. (6) Watson C., our subject, is the next in order of birth. (7) Eliza, born January 3, 1850, is the wife of Joseph Erwin, a farmer of Garwin, Iowa, and of their ten children, eight are living, Augustus W., a medical student; Harry; Mattie; George; Chester; James; Eva and Duffy. (8) Mary E., born August 28, 1853, is the wife of William E. Brown, of Genesee township, and they have three children: Addie, wife of Kasper Smith, of Sterling; Jesse and Harry. (9) Isaac H., born March 31, 1855, lives in Coleta, and is highway commissioner for Genesee township. He married Almira Lenhart and has six children, Burt, Charles, Bertha, and an infant and two deceased. (10) Addie, born December 20, 1859, is the wife of Henry Yakely, a farmer of Viola, Richland county, Wisconsin.

Watson Curtis Holbrook, of this review, is a graduate of the Rock Island High School, and also of the Wisconsin University, where he pursued both a scientific and civil engineering course. On the completion of his education he returned to Whiteside county, and successfully engaged in teaching school for a few years in this state. In 1878, one year before retiring from the teacher's profession, he was elected county surveyor, and has since most acceptably filled that office. Since he gave up teaching he has devoted almost his entire time and attention to civil engineering. While serving as county surveyor he has spent much time in

the west, surveying for railroads and locating town site in Dakota, along the different railroads of the northwest. He was in Huron when it was a very small village, and in Aberdeen when it contained but one shanty, and has seen large herds of buffalo east of the Missouri river. He has done surveying in fifteen counties of Illinois, and has been called upon to settle boundary lines and prevent litigation of the matter if possible. He has made designs and surveyed for several steel and iron bridges over the Rock river, and for city sewers and farm drainage. In all his undertakings he has been very successful, and his labors have given the utmost satisfaction. At one time he wrote an ordinance on sanitary regulations for cities and villages, which he then considered correct, and the same has been adopted verbatim by over thirty cities and villages. When disputes arise over boundaries his services are always in demand, and through him they are nearly always settled amicably.

On the 16th of March, 1886, Mr. Holbrook married Miss Katie A. Thorp, who was born December 19, 1860, a daughter of Newton and Sarah (Parrish) Thorp, and granddaughter of Watson Parrish. She is the younger in a family of two children, her brother being Henry E., of Marshalltown, Iowa. Our subject and his wife have four children, whose names and dates of birth are as follows: Ida Belle, October 7, 1887; Glenn Thorp, May 11, 1891; Caroline Blanche, August 22, 1893; and Jennie Louisa, August 25, 1897.

Mr. Holbrook owns fifty-one acres of land in Genesee township, but makes his home in Sterling. Politically he is a Republican, and religiously is an active and prominent member of the Methodist Episco-

pal church, of Sterling, of which he is a trustee. Over two hundred years ago some of his ancestors heard the noted Dr. Whitfield preach, who was one of the founders of that denomination. While engaged in school teaching Mr. Holbrook devoted considerable time to studying and investigating the mounds found around this county, and he wrote many able articles on prehistoric man and other scientific subjects. He has in his possession a good collection of fossils, minerals and prehistoric implements, which he himself discovered. He also has letters from Darwin and other scientists thanking him for favors and specimens which they received at his hands. Of late years his increasing business has required all of his attention, and he has been compelled to give up his investigations along that line. For the past fifteen years he has compiled many private records of the oldest families of Genesee township, and his researches have extended far back, tracing the genealogy of these families through several generations in the old country. He is widely known throughout the northern part of the state, and is highly respected by all with whom he comes in contact.

**D**AVID W. WARD, M. D., a leading physician of Fulton, who is not only engaged in the practice of medicine in Fulton, Illinois, but is also prominently identified with the business interests of the place, was born in the Dominion of Canada, December 5, 1856, and is a son of Thomas Ward and Mary (Mark) Ward, natives of England, the former born at Lythe, near Witbany, Yorkshire, January 29, 1820, the latter in Cumberland Caterlin, near Penrith, in October, 1888. They were married in

Canada. The father is also a physician and is engaged in practice in Richelieu, Quebec, where he has served as mayor and as alderman several years. In his family were eleven children, eight of whom reached years of maturity. Our subject has a brother in Montreal, Joseph Ward, who is a prominent business man in that city, of the firm of Joseph Ward & Company.

Dr. Ward, of this review, was reared in Canada, and pursued a classical course at St. John's Academy. At the age of eighteen, he went to St. Albans, Vermont, where he was time-keeper for carpenters for the Vermont Central Railroad for two years. Returning home for a short time he entered the medical department of Magill University, where he was a student for one year, and then matriculated at Hahnemann Medical College, Chicago, from which he graduated with the degree of M. D., February 16, 1888. After one year spent in practice in that city, he came to Fulton, in February, 1889, and as the only representative of the Homeopathic school in the place, he has built up an excellent practice. He has given particular attention to the study of diseases of women and children, and makes that his specialty. He holds certificates for practice in both Iowa and Illinois, and has many patients in the former state, besides those in and around Fulton. He is medical examiner for the Iowa Life Insurance Company, for the accident insurance department of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Fraternal Union of America, and the Federal Life Association of Davenport, Iowa.

Dr. Ward is thoroughly identified in thought and feeling with the interests of Fulton, and has aided in her upbuilding and advancement. He purchased a block

between Cherry and Broadway street, which he subdivided and sold half, and erected thereon four good residences. Since 1899 he has been a director of the Fulton Electric Light & Power Company, and since 1898 has been vice-president of the same. He is a member of the Rock River Homeopathic Society; was for some time medical examiner for the Modern Woodmen of America, and is now medical examiner for the Mystic Workers of the World, of which he is a member. He also belongs to Abou Ben Adhem lodge, No. 148, I. O. O. F., and is an active and prominent member of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he is now serving as a member of the board of trustees. He is rather independent in politics, but usually supports the Republican party. He is actively interested in educational matters, and in 1892 was elected a member of the board of trustees of the Northern Illinois College, of which he has been secretary of the board since 1893.

On the 5th of December, 1877, in Carroll county, Illinois, Dr. Ward was united in marriage with Miss Dora Bashaw, a native of that county and a daughter of William Bashaw and Euphrasia (Thomas) Bashaw. The father, who was a prominent and successful farmer of that county, died in April, 1883. The Doctor and his wife have three children: Netta M., Ada M. and Joseph J., all at home except Netta, who is attending Hahnemann Medical College and Hospital, Chicago, Illinois.

FRANK B. THOMAS is a contractor and builder of Tampico, of whose skill many notable examples are to be seen in the town and surrounding country. Thoroughly reliable in all things, the quality of

his work is a convincing test of his own personal worth and the same admirable trait is shown in his conscientious discharge of the duties of different positions of trust and responsibility to which he has been chosen.

A native of Whiteside county, Mr. Thomas was born in Sterling, May 20, 1857, and is a son of Henry and Hannah (Norton) Thomas, both natives of Massachusetts, where they were married. The father was born in 1812, and in early life followed the carpenter's and joiner's trade in Massachusetts and New York. Coming west in 1844, he settled in Sterling, Whiteside county, Illinois, but spent the following winter at his trade in St. Louis. He then returned to Sterling and sent for his family, who joined him at that place. There he successfully engaged in contracting and building for many years, but now, after a long and beneficial career, is living retired with our subject in Tampico. His wife died in May, 1891.

Reared in Sterling, Frank B. Thomas was educated in the schools of that city. After finishing the high school course, he learned the carpenter's trade with his father, and worked with him in Sterling for about three years. On the 29th of May, 1879, in Tampico, he was united in marriage with Miss Ida M. Bullock, a native of Winnebago county, Illinois, and a daughter of R. M. Bullock, now a retired resident of Tampico. Mrs. Thomas was reared and educated in Sterling and was graduated from the high school of that place. By her marriage to our subject she has become the mother of three children: Mabel A., and Asael, all of whom who are attending school, and Alfred is also clerking in a grocery store.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas located on a farm near Tampico, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits for about eighteen years, at the same time working at his trade. For the last eight years he has been engaged in contracting and building on his own account, and has erected numerous houses and barns in this part of the county. Renting his farm in 1899, he removed to Tampico, where he bought a lot and built a residence for his own use. Although at the beginning of his business career, he received no financial aid, he has steadily prospered, owing to his industry, perseverance and good executive ability, and is now the owner of a good farm of eighty acres in Tampico township besides his property in the village.

Mr. Thomas cast his first presidential vote for Rutherford B. Hayes, and has never faltered in his allegiance to the Republican party. He has taken quite an active and prominent part in local politics; has been a member of the school board and clerk of the district for some years; and in 1898 was elected supervisor of Tampico township. As a member of the honorable county board, he is now serving on the judiciary committee and committee of miscellaneous claims. Fraternally he is a prominent member of the Modern Woodmen Camp of Tampico, where he is serving as venerable consul; and is also supreme judge of the Knights of the Globe at that place. He and his wife hold membership in the Baptist Church of Tampico, and he has filled the office of deacon for about ten years.

---

THOMAS L. EASTIN, foreman of the nickel and polishing department of the Mississippi Valley Stove Works, at Fulton,

Illinois, is at the head of one of the most important divisions of the place in which he is employed. The polishing and plating, and burnishings of platings for the high grade base burners, ranges and stoves manufactured by this company is a very particular work, each article going through different baths, first the potash dip, after which the scouring with pomace stone; then an acid bath, and a rinsing in clear water; then after the electroplating bath in a hot water bath; then in the buffing room the fine luster that is a distinguishing feature is given; and after these processes are finished comes a washing in a specially prepared compound, then the drying in sawdust. The castings are prepared for grinding by a bath in hydro-fluoric acid, and are then heated with lime to neutralize the acid. All of this labor is performed under the supervision of Mr. Eastin, who thoroughly understands every detail of the work, having had much experience therein.

He was born September 11, 1862, at Louisville, Kentucky, a son of Thomas N. Eastin, and a grandson of Zachariah Eastin, a soldier of the war of 1812. His great-grandfather Eastin was a man of note in his day, and had the distinction of being the first Unitarian minister to cross the mountains into Kentucky.

Thomas N. Eastin was born and bred in Paris, Bourbon county, Kentucky, his birth occurring in 1815. He spent his early life in his native place, and he and his brothers laid out many of the principal roads and pikes of the state. Later they engaged in milling at Spottsylvania, Kentucky, on the Green river. The father spent his last years as a real estate dealer and claim agent, carrying on a large and successful business. He was a staunch Democrat in politics, a

Master Mason, and a faithful member of the Unitarian church. He was twice married, his first wife having been Penelope Churchill, a daughter of Judge O. Churchill, of Elizabeth, Kentucky. She died in early womanhood, leaving one child, the Rev. Churchill Eastin, pastor of the Episcopal church, at Washington, D. C. On November 27, 1866, he married Annie E. Pilcher, daughter of W. S. and Dolly Fisher Pilcher. Her father was for some time associated in business with General Humphrey, at one time mayor of the city of Louisville, and was very prominent in public life, having stumped the state three different times, and once received the nomination for lieutenant-governor. By this marriage six children were born, namely: Henry S., engaged in the brass foundry at Louisville; Thomas L., the special subject of this sketch; Robert N., a resident of Fulton, is engaged with his brother in the stove works; and three children that died in childhood.

Thomas L. Eastin completed his early education in the high school of Louisville, Kentucky, and at the age of fifteen years entered upon an apprenticeship with J. B. Williamson & Company, of that city, founders and finishers of fine brass work, the senior member of the firm being the first person to introduce fine etching in brass works. At the end of three years he accepted a position with Bridgeford & Company, with whom he remained eleven years, nine years of the time being foreman of the polishing and plating department. Going thence to Evansville, Indiana, he managed the business of the W. F. Schaffer estate for a year, doing plating and finishing in gold, silver, nickel, brass, bronze, etc. He subsequently spent a few months in St. Louis, Missouri, with the Central Union

Brass Works, and was afterwards employed in the same city for five years in the factory of Bridge, Beach & Company, the largest stove works west of the Mississippi river, and from there went to the Belle Hickey Manufacturing Company to take charge of their polishing and plating department, the firm manufacturing chandeliers. After he had been there seven months he was offered the fine position he now holds, and on April 3, 1896, came to Fulton to assume its responsibilities. His fitness for the place is amply recognized by the satisfactory work he has accomplished.

Mr. Eastin was married, May 5, 1888, at Jeffersonville, Indiana, to Lucy F. Watson, daughter of John and Sarah (Story) Watson, of Louisville, Kentucky. Mr. Watson was twice married, and by his first union had eight children, of whom six are now living, namely: Lucy F., now Mrs. Eastin; Ida M., wife of J. H. Morton, of Chicago; Julia, wife of Alfred Cornell, of Louisville, Kentucky; Annie L.; William H.; and Ambrose. By his second marriage, Mr. Watson has one son, Estes. In politics Mr. Eastin supports the principles promulgated by the Republican party. His mother has made her home with him and his wife since the death of her husband, March 16, 1884.

**THOMAS NOON.** Among the well-to-do and successful farmers of Whiteside county, who have accumulated a competency through their own exertions and economy, and who carry on their chosen calling in a most commendable manner, is the subject of this biographical notice, who resides on section 30, Tampico township. He came to that county in 1874, and since then

he has through his own unaided efforts achieved success, becoming the owner of a fine farm of two hundred and eighty acres in Tampico and Prophetstown township.

Mr. Noon was born in Warwickshire, England, January 2, 1853, a son of Charles Noon, Sr., whose sketch appears on another page of this volume. In his native land our subject grew to manhood, but as he commenced work at the early age of seven years, his educational advantages were necessarily limited. In 1874, with his father and the other members of the family, he boarded a steamer at Liverpool and sailed for the new world. After thirteen days spent upon the broad Atlantic they landed in Quebec, Canada, whence they proceeded at once to Whiteside county, Illinois. Here our subject worked as a farm hand by the month for five years.

On the 19th of December, 1882, in this county, Mr. Noon was united in marriage with Miss Ora L. Coats, who was born, reared and educated in Ohio. Her father, Jeremiah Coats, was a leading lawyer of Gallia county, that state, and her brother, Professor C. T. Coats, is a prominent educator of Ohio, now at the head of Carlton College. Mr. and Mrs. Noon have four children: Lilliam May, John S., Earl T. and Benjamin F.

For one year after his marriage, Mr. Noon operated rented land, and then purchased eighty acres of his present farm, to which he added five years later another eighty-acre tract, and still later one hundred and twenty acres. He has made many valuable and useful improvements upon the place, has placed the land under excellent cultivation, and now has one of the best farms in the neighborhood.

In his political affiliations Mr. Noon was

formerly a Democrat, but in 1896 supported William McKinley for the presidency. He takes quite an active interest in educational affairs and for five years has served as school director in his district. With his wife and two older children, he holds membership in the Christian church of Yorktown, and is now one of the trustees of the church, while socially he is a Master Mason and a member of the Modern Woodmen camp of Tampico. His honorable, upright life commends him to the confidence of all with whom he comes in contact either in business and social affairs, and his circle of friends seems only limited by his circle of acquaintances.

**J**ACOB D. WILBUR, an honored citizen of Sterling, has been numbered among our representative business men for close onto two score years, during all of this time having been active in the promotion of all local enterprises. His course in life has been characterized by integrity and uprightness, and such material prosperity as he enjoys has come to him by honest labor.

Henry Wilbur, the paternal grandfather of our subject, was of English descent. He was one of the first settlers in Wayne county, New York, going to that locality from Massachusetts. His uncle, Isaac Wilbur, enlisted as a soldier in the war of 1812, and received wounds in one of the engagements in which he participated. George Wilbur, father of our subject, was born in Macedon, Wayne county, New York, in 1804, and his elder brother, Jeremiah, was the first white child born in the township where the family resided. He died at the age of twenty-one years. Amy P., the only sister, became the wife of L.

P. Hoag, and died at her home in Michigan. George Wilbur, who was a successful farmer, died on the 28th of June, 1863, and was survived a few years by his wife (formerly Elizabeth Pattison), whose death occurred in June, 1870.

The birth of J. D. Wilbur occurred in Macedon, New York, April 22, 1833. In his youth he learned the millwright's trade, and having purchased a farm with the proceeds of his toil, he continued to attend to its cultivation for several years. This property did not leave his possession until a few years ago, when he sold it. On the 16th of December, 1863, he arrived in Whiteside county, since which date he has made his home in Sterling. For two years he was engaged in the grocery business, and then turned his attention to carpentering, following that pursuit, and executing work on contracts, for many years. At different times he owned town property and Michigan land, being quite successful in his real estate ventures.

In 1853, Mr. Wilbur was united in marriage to Mary A. Green, in Victor, New York. She was born twenty years before, near Mount Clemens, Michigan, a daughter of Rice and Phoebe Green, who were natives of Otsego county, New York. In 1864 they removed to Ogle county, Illinois; where the father carried on a farm for some years, later retiring and making his home in Rochelle, Illinois, until his death. His widow, after a few years, came to live with her daughter, Mrs. Wilbur, and here she died in 1871.

The eldest child of our subject and wife, George R., married May Coons, and resides in Winchester, Illinois. He has two sons, Percy and George Devore. Jeremiah J. was the second of our subject's children.

Mary Ida, wife of W. S. Pattison, of Kalamazoo, Michigan, has one daughter, May. Julia is the wife of H. L. Norwood, a Chicago printer, and their three children are, Cecil, Wilbur and Elizabeth. William E., whose home is at Clinton, Iowa, married Celesta Ellerston, and their children are named William E. and Celesta.

In his early manhood, Mr. Wilbur took quite a prominent part in the local affairs and politics of his own community, but since coming to the west he has contented himself with voting for the candidates and measures of the Democratic party. Mrs. Wilbur, who is a lady of good education and social attainments, is a member of the Congregational church.

**G**EORGE W. CLENDENEN, M. D., supreme medical examiner for the Mystic Workers of the World, an insurance order which he has the honor of organizing, is the seventh son of Robert A. and Amanda (Hinchman) Clendenen, and was born in Boone county, Virginia, now West Virginia, December 4, 1844. He is distantly related to ex-Postmaster-General Wilson, General Lew Wallace and ex-Comptroller of the Treasury Eckles. The family moved from Virginia to Cass county, Michigan, in March, 1847, at which time the country was comparatively new and covered with heavy forests which required a great deal of labor in removing before the soil was ready for tilling. Purchasing a farm, the father commenced the work of clearing and improving it, but sickness overtook him in about two years after making the purchase, and he died of flux, leaving a large family of children with a widowed mother. During his sickness, three of his daughters also

died of the same disease, the older one, Mary Ann, being about nineteen years old, while the other two were two and four years old, respectively. The death of the four all occurred within four weeks' time. George was now but six years old.

Through the energy, perseverance and determination of the mother, the family were all kept together, and by the assistance of the older boys, the younger ones were cared for until they were able to care for themselves. During this period the facilities for an education were very meager in that wild and new country, but the subject of this narrative attended the common district school summer and winter until he was large enough to work on the farm in the summer months, after which time he attended school in the winter. With a steadfast determination to succeed he pursued his studies until he secured such an education as enabled him to teach in the common schools of the county. By teaching winters, he procured money enough to attend the graded schools at Niles, Michigan, during the summer. After leaving the graded schools, in the winter of 1861 he taught a district school in Berrien county, Michigan, at the low rate of twenty dollars per month. The following winter he was urged to teach a larger and more advanced school in an adjoining district at a salary of fifty-five dollars per month, and accepted the situation. After this he taught in various schools in Berrien and Cass counties for several years, giving good satisfaction to his patrons.

In the fall of 1868 our subject went to Tuscumbia, Alabama, where he engaged in the mercantile business for one year, after which he accepted a position as principal of the Decatur, Alabama, schools for one year. He followed the profession of teaching in





G. W. CLENDENEN, M. D.



winters, and working on farms in summers, for some years, and then secured a position as traveling salesman for a firm in Niles, Michigan. While traveling, his spare moments were spent in reading medicine, having decided to take up the medical profession as his life work. He traveled for five years, at the expiration of which time he attended lectures in the Bennett Medical College, Chicago, from which institution, after taking a thorough course, he graduated in 1884, having an average of one hundred in all branches of study.

Soon after his arrival in Tuscumbia, Alabama, Dr. Clendenen was united in marriage with Miss Ellen A. Ferris, who had settled in that city with her parents some two months previous to his arrival. They were married January 15, 1869, by Rev. Joseph H. Shackelford, pastor of the Baptist church, Tuscumbia. They remained in that city until in September, 1869, when they moved to Decatur, Alabama, that he might take charge of the school there, as already mentioned. After leaving Decatur, they moved to Dowagiac, Michigan.

Ellen A. (Ferris) Clendenen was the daughter of Edwin W. and Jane D. (Lee) Ferris, whose family history traces back to the Lawsons and Fitzgeralds. After more than twenty-five years of wedded life, she was stricken with an internal cancer, and on May 18, 1895, died from the effects of that terrible disease, and her remains were interred in the cemetery at Fulton. She was the mother of four children, two of whom died in infancy. Eddy, the only son, died of typhoid fever in Fulton, Illinois, in 1885. Katherine G., the only child living, resides with her father.

For his second wife Dr. Clendenen married Miss Mae Eno Hoover, who was born

in Ustick township, Whiteside county, Illinois, and the youngest daughter of H. H. and Mary A. Hoover, who were natives of Pennsylvania.

In 1873 Dr. Clendenen located in Fulton and in 1877 began the practice of his profession, and it was but a short time before his skill as a physician was well attested and his practice began to grow. He has now been a resident of the city for twenty-six years, and his practice is a large and satisfactory one. Since coming to the place he has held the position of head physician of the Modern Woodmen of America, and during Cleveland's administration he was examining surgeon for soldiers' pensions, serving in both positions with distinction and honor until his term expired.

Soon after graduating in medicine, Dr. Clendenen became convinced that the treatment of cancer was not what it ought to be in this day and age, and being convinced that cancer was a local disease he sought to find a remedy that would virtually do away with the use of the knife on all such cases. Knowing the plaster to be far superior to the knife, he sought to improve upon the plaster by procuring a medicine that he could use with a hypodermic needle. After thorough investigation and trial of his new preparation, it proved to be far better than he at first anticipated, as the new remedy proved successful in several cases where the knife and the plaster had both failed. It can be truthfully said that Dr. Clendenen was the first person to successfully use the hypodermic needle in the cure of this loathsome disease. Other physicians that have used his treatment utterly refuse to use any other method, as it is by far the best remedy and treatment that has been brought before the medical fraternity.

Dr. Clendenen is now the supreme medical examiner of the Mystic Workers of the World, of which organization he is the founder. At the present time the headquarters of the order are at Fulton, Illinois, and the order is one of the best of its kind in existence. It was founded in 1891, the Doctor writing the ritual and laws suitable for lodge work. At present the membership of the order is about twelve thousand, and it is growing rapidly.

The Doctor has always been somewhat active in politics, and a firm believer in the Jeffersonian doctrine, he is a staunch Democrat. He is bitterly opposed to tariffs and trusts, believing all such to be inimical to the best interests of the people. In religion he is liberal.

On his mother's side the Doctor is related to Commodore Perry of Lake Erie fame, his grandmother being a Perry. His brothers and sisters were Oscar F., Mary Ann, William L., Martin Van Buren, John F., David K., Andrew Irving, Martha Ann and Sarah Jane. Of those now living William L. resides on a farm near Dowagiac, Michigan; John Floyd is in the practice of medicine at LaSalle, Illinois; while Andrew Irving is also in the practice of medicine, his home being in Maywood, Illinois.

Fraternally, Dr. Clendenen has been a Master Mason for many years, and has filled nearly all the chairs in the blue lodge. He is a charter member of Sunlight lodge, No. 137, K. P.; a charter member of Forest camp, No. 2, M. W. A.; a member of the Knights of the Maccabees; the American Benefit Society; the Woodmen of the World; and Fraternal Brotherhood. These are in addition to the Mystic Workers of the World, of which mention has been made. He is editor of the "Mystic Worker," the

official organ of the order. The Doctor is now medical health officer of Fulton. As a physician the Doctor has been quite successful, and his ability is recognized by all. As a citizen he is ever ready to do his part in everything that will tend to the advancement of his city and county, and therefore he has many friends who esteem him for his worth as a man and physician.

**G**EORGE P. RICHMOND. The subject of this biography, one of the honored sons of Massachusetts, and a most distinguished farmer and stock dealer residing on section 35, Prophetstown township, is pre-eminently a self-made man. He began life with a definite purpose in view, has worked faithfully, honestly, and with a will for its accomplishment, and is now one of the wealthiest, as well as one of the most highly respected citizens of his community.

Mr. Richmond was born in Berkshire county, Massachusetts, October 24, 1827, and there grew to manhood, his education being acquired in the district schools near his early home. Thinking to better his financial condition in the west, he came to Illinois in 1849, traveling by railroad to Buffalo, by the Great Lakes to Chicago, and overland to Whiteside county, where he arrived in April, of that year. He spent some time in prospecting in this state and Wisconsin, but finally returned to his county in August and entered one hundred and sixty acres of land in Prophetstown township, upon which not a furrow had been turned nor an improvement made. During his entire residence here he has devoted considerable attention to stock raising, his first purchase consisting of sixty head of cat-

tle. He soon bought another farm adjoining the first, upon which a log house had been erected, and into it he moved. The first season spent here, he, himself mowed with a scythe enough hay to feed sixty head of cattle during the winter. He also split the rails to fence his stock yard. His first home here later gave place to a good frame residence, which was completed in 1860.

For the first few years of his residence here Mr. Richmond boarded with a family who lived in his house, but on the 22d of February, 1860, he was united in marriage with Miss Cevilla Gage, a daughter of Edward S. Gage, one of the pioneers of the county, who located here in 1835. Mrs. Richmond was born and reared in Whiteside county, and died in June, 1879, her remains being interred in Prophetstown cemetery, where a monument now marks her last resting place. Three children were born of that union, namely: Mary, wife of Charles Passmore, a business man of Fulton, Illinois; John, who, with his wife and two children, resides on the home farm, and Harry, who is married and engaged in farming in this county.

A thorough and skillful farmer and an excellent business man, Mr. Richmond's efforts have been crowned with success, and he is now the owner of about eighteen hundred acres of valuable and well improved land, divided into three farms, one of which consists of four hundred and eighty acres lying south of the railroad in Prophetstown township. Of late years he has fattened for the market as high as three hundred head of cattle per year. In 1877 he began breeding and dealing in standard bred horses in a small way, having previous to this time raised roadsters and draft horses,

and he is now one of the largest breeders and dealers of high class stock in this section of the state, keeping on hand about one hundred head of horses, and selling each year from twenty to forty head. He has raised some very valuable horses, having sold some of his young stock as high as five and six hundred dollars. To his own well-directed efforts may be attributed his success in life, for on coming to the county his capital was limited, but he has made the most of his advantages and has been uniformly successful in his business ventures. Politically he is a stanch Republican, and, as every true American citizen should, he takes a deep and commendable interest in public affairs, supporting all measures which he believes will prove of public benefit. For some years he was an efficient member of the school board. He has never cared for political honors, preferring to give his undivided attention to his extensive business interests.

JOHN H. SNYDER was born in Argusville, Schoharie county, New York, August 16, 1840, and is a son of James Snyder, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. His early education was acquired in the schools of his native state, and at the age of fifteen years he accompanied his parents on their removal to Illinois, locating on a farm two miles south of Morrison. He then attended school at Unionville, and later was a student at Galesburg Academy, being at the latter place when the railroad was built through the county. Coming to Morrison in 1857 he entered the store of Spears Brothers as clerk and there obtained his first knowledge of business. At that time a bank report had to be ex-

amined every time a bill was taken in and most of them discounted and sent to Chicago every night. There was no small change in the country and when needed by the merchants, shoestrings and other articles were used. Later they used stamps until the government stopped them and issued script that passed in this section.

Mr. Snyder continued clerking for four years and then became a partner in the business, with which he was connected as a member of the firm of Spears Brothers & Company for the same length of time. On severing his connection with that firm he formed a partnership with his brother, James A. Snyder, and engaged in the dry goods business at Clarence, Iowa, then a new town, forty miles west of Clinton. After eight years of successful business at that place our subject returned to Morrison and opened a dry goods and also a grocery store on Main street, being still in partnership with his brother, who remained in charge of the store at Clarence. The enterprise proved successful and Mr. Snyder conducted both stores at Morrison until 1888 when he closed out the business after having been connected with the dry goods trade for twenty-nine years and ten months. He then removed to Kansas City, where in connection with Judge Ramsay and a Mr. Parker, he engaged in loaning money for a year, but at the end of that time returned to Morrison and about a year later became interested in the drug business, buying a stock of drugs with A. R. Lewis as the practical druggist. Business is now carried on under the firm name of J. H. Snyder & Company and they have the leading drug store in the city. They erected their own building, which is especially adapted to the drug trade, is ninety feet deep on Main street, and the second floor is arranged for

offices. Besides a well selected stock of drugs, patent medicines, etc., they carry paints, books, papers, etc., and enjoy a large and flourishing trade.

In July, 1867, Mr. Snyder was united in marriage with Miss Mary Furlong, a daughter of John Furlong, who was connected with the construction of the Northwestern railroad and came to Morrison on one of the first trains run into the city. He was from Cattaraugus county, New York. Mr. and Mrs. Snyder have two children: Jessie, now the wife of J. A. Anguish, of Morrison; and Alleyne, wife of H. A. Boyd, of Morrison, by whom she has one daughter, Kathryn. Mrs. Snyder is a member of the Presbyterian church, which her husband also attends and supports. He is a staunch Republican in politics but has never been an aspirant for office, and is a member of Dunlap lodge, No. 321, F. & A. M.

**L**EWIS C. ARNETT, an active, enterprising agriculturist of Portland township, owns and occupies a well-improved farm of two hundred acres, on section 27, Spring Hill. A life-long resident of this township, he was born December 18, 1842, a son of the late Jacob Arnett. His paternal grandfather, Louis Arnett, spent the earlier part of his life in his native country, France, where he served under Napoleon, but died in Henry county, Illinois, whither he emigrated with his family in 1827.

Jacob Arnett, born in France in 1815, came with his parents to America, and until 1836 lived in Pennsylvania. Coming then to Whiteside county as a pioneer, he preempted one hundred and sixty acres of land in Portland township, on which he settled. A man of industry and thrift, he prospered

in his undertakings, and ere he gave up active work was the owner of at least eight hundred acres of good land. He subsequently removed to Geneseo, Illinois, where he lived retired until his death, in May, 1899, at the venerable age of eighty-four years. In the winter of 1841, after living in Portland township nearly five years, he returned to Pennsylvania for his bride, and there married Charlotte Sommers, who was born in Germany. She preceded him to the better land, passing away in August, 1881. Of their children seven grew to mature life, Lewis C. being the eldest.

Lewis C. Arnett grew to manhood on the parental homestead, which adjoins his own, and in its management ably assisted his father. In the days of his youth he obtained a good common-school education, and a practical knowledge of the various branches of agriculture. On attaining his majority he began farming on his own account, taking charge of his uncle's estate. In 1866 he purchased one hundred and twenty acres of his present property, and has since bought eighty acres of adjoining land. In the care and improvement of this he has shown excellent judgment, and made the best of every opportunity for advancement in his chosen calling. He has made improvements of a substantial character, including the building of a convenient house and fine barn, and is carrying on farming after the most approved modern methods. He also pays much attention to stock raising and dealing, making a specialty of hogs, having some valuable pure-blood Poland-Chinas. During the year he feeds and fattens for market one car-load of cattle and two car-loads of hogs, an industry that has proved quite profitable.

On September 6, 1868, Mr. Arnett mar-

ried Miss Sarah Roos, who was born and educated in Henry county, a daughter of Martin Roos, for many years a prominent member of the farming community of that part of the state, but who is now living, at the advanced age of eighty-three years, retired from active life, in Geneseo. Of their union eight children have been born, as follows: Clara, wife of Augustus Weberg; Stacey, who assists in the care of the home farm, and belongs to the Masonic order and is tyler at the present time; Leroy, a farmer, is married, resides in this county, and in politics follows his father; Ida; Agnes; Minnie; Maud, and Harlan. Politically Mr. Arnett is a steadfast Republican, and since casting his first presidential ballot, in 1864, for Abraham Lincoln, has voted once in four years for the nominee of the Republican party. He is an active participant in all local elections, and though he has never sought office, was elected, and served for one year, as constable. He is earnestly interested in the public schools, and has served a number of terms on the school board. At the present time he is one of the township trustees, an office which he is filling most acceptably to all concerned. Fraternally he is a Master Mason, and a member of the Spring Hill blue lodge, of which he was for seven consecutive years the treasurer. Mrs. Arnett is a member of the Evangelical church, in which she is a faithful worker.

**ERWIN J. MANGAN.** Prominent among the business men of Sterling, Whiteside county, is numbered E. J. Mangan, whose name heads this sketch. No one is better known in this vicinity, for his entire life has been spent here, and all his interests

from boyhood have been closely associated with those in this locality. In his special line of business he has made a great success, and by the energy and zeal which he has manifested he has won the confidence and esteem of the public.

Born December 30, 1862, E. J. Mangan is a son of Richard L. and Naomi J. (Thoman) Mangan, whose history may be found in that of their son Samuel T., which appears elsewhere in this volume. In his youth, our subject attended the public schools of this city and managed to obtain a liberal education. He was apprenticed to a harness maker when young and thoroughly learned the trade, at which he worked for a number of years. He also learned the trade of a wagon-maker, which calling he followed a few years, in the meantime residing at home with his parents.

These vocations, however, were not entirely suited to the tastes of Mr. Mangan, and as his father was a successful florist, the young man decided to take up that line of business. He was associated with his father until the latter's death, after which, in partnership with his brother, he continued to carry on business for about two years. Considering its humble beginning, it has grown to remarkable proportions for, whereas only a small conservatory, indeed a wing of his father's house, was originally used for this purpose, large greenhouses are now necessary to accommodate the beautiful varieties of plants and flowers. At expiration of this time the business was purchased by F. A. Belt, who has retained him as an assistant, and the results demonstrate the wisdom of his choice.

The same interest and enterprise which our subject maintains in his financial undertakings are to be seen in his attitude on

public questions. In his political affiliation he is a Republican of no uncertain stamp, believing as he does that to that party can be attributed much of the prosperity which this country enjoys in the closing days of the nineteenth century. Fraternally, he is a member of camp Number 12, Modern Woodmen of America.

On the 30th of November, 1885, the marriage of E. J. Mangan and Miss May Hendricks was solemnized in this city. She is the daughter of Samuel B. Hendricks, and was born November 30, 1863, in this place. Five children blessed the home of our subject and wife, their names being respectively: Pearl, Maurice, Ethel, Marjorie and Dorothy. The family reside in an attractive home where they take great pleasure in entertaining their many friends.

**EDWARD LANCASTER.** Whiteside county has many well-to-do and successful farmers who have accumulated what they have of this world's goods through individual effort. Among this class the name of the subject of this sketch is entitled to a place. He resides on section 22, Prophets-town township, where he is industriously engaged in the prosecution of his noble calling, and is meeting with good success in his labors.

Mr. Lancaster was born in Lincolnshire, England, June 22, 1831, a son of Charles Lancaster, also a native of Lincolnshire. Our subject was reared upon a farm and provided with fair school advantages. In his native county he was married in April, 1856, to Miss Mary Francis, who was also born in Lincolnshire, a daughter of John Francis. Three days later they started for the new world, taking passage on a sailing



vessel at Liverpool and landing in Philadelphia June 1, after a stormy voyage of seven weeks. They proceeded at once to Whiteside county, Illinois, where they joined an English friend, Edward Scotchbrook, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume.

For three months after his arrival Mr. Lancaster worked by the month as a farm hand, and then located on the Rock river near his present home. He operated rented land for about eight years, a part of this time being spent on one of Mr. Richmond's farms. Industrious and economical, he at length saved enough to purchase eighty acres of partially improved land, upon which he has made his home since 1864. As time has passed and his financial resources have increased, he has added to his farm until his landed possessions now aggregate two hundred and thirty acres, which he has converted into one of the best farms of its size in his section of the county. It is pleasantly located on the Rock river, three miles from Prophetstown, and is improved with a neat and commodious residence, a large barn and substantial outbuildings, which stand as monuments to his thrift and enterprise.

Eleven children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Lancaster, namely: Jane, now the wife of Lorenzo French, of Lyndon; Edwin, a farmer of Prophetstown; Eliza, wife of Nathan Gage, of Portland township; Hannah, at home; Herbert, a farmer of this county; Hettie, wife of Edwin Thompson, also a farmer of this county; John, a farmer of the same place; Agnes, wife of Chester Hill, a farmer of this county; and Lewis and Gilbert, who are still on the home farm. Hettie, who died in 1866 at the age of two years, is the only one of the family now deceased.

At national elections Mr. Lancaster supports the men and measures of the Democratic party, but in local affairs, where no issue is involved, he votes for the best men, regardless of party affiliations. He and his wife are earnest and consistent members of the Congregational church, and are held in high regard by all who have the pleasure of their acquaintance.

**R**ALPH N. SMITH, LL. B., city attorney of Morrison, is one of the younger members of the Whiteside county bar, but his prominence is by no means measured by his years; on the contrary, he has won a reputation which many an older practitioner might well envy. He was born in Greenwich, Ohio, June 9, 1870, a son of Otis and Mary J. (Welch) Smith. The paternal grandfather was Charles Smith, a native of Connecticut and a representative of an old New England family. For several years he engaged in farming in Saratoga county, New York, and from there removed to Greenwich, Ohio, becoming one of its pioneers. He settled in the woods and there cleared and improved a farm on which he spent his remaining days.

Otis Smith, father of our subject, was born in Saratoga county, New York, and was about seventeen years of age when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Greenwich, Ohio, where he still resides upon the old homestead, engaged in agricultural pursuits. He is the owner of four hundred acres of valuable land, all of which he devoted to sheep raising until the election of President Cleveland, in 1884, when the business became unprofitable owing to the removal of the tariff on wool. He was very extensively engaged in the busi-

ness, and usually kept from ten to fifteen hundred sheep through the winter. He is a director of the First National Bank of Plymouth, Ohio, and is a strong Republican, but not an aspirant for office. His wife was born in Huron county, Ohio, and is a daughter of Nicholas and Susan (Stiles) Welch, early settlers in the vicinity of Greenwich. Both Mr. and Mrs. Smith are faithful members of the Congregational church.

Our subject is the youngest son in a family of six children. His early education was acquired in the common and high schools of Greenwich, and after teaching school for three years, he entered the Ohio Normal University, from which he graduated in the scientific department. During the following two years he again engaged in teaching and for a short time was variously employed until he went to Valparaiso, Indiana, and pursued a three years' course at the Northern Indiana Law School, from which he was graduated with the degree of LL. B., in 1895.

On the 15th of July, 1895, Mr. Smith was united in marriage with Miss Olive A. McBride, a daughter of W. W. McBride, of Millersburg, Indiana, and they now have a little son, Russell W., born September 7, 1898.

Soon after his marriage, Mr. Smith came to Morrison and opened a law office. He met with success from the start and has built up a good practice. Although his father is wealthy, he received no aid from him and has been dependent entirely upon his own resources for advancement. He has been connected with many of the most important cases tried in the county, including the well-known Carlton case and the *Dourchy versus Hawes*, in which he ap-

peared for the plaintiff. It involved the right of the Salvation Army to induce a child to join them against the wishes of the parents, in which Mr. Smith got a verdict. Mr. Smith was also employed as counsel on three important cases in Mount Carroll, and also in other counties, which speaks well for his ability in his chosen calling. He has lately formed a partnership with E. R. Daniels, and the firm is doing a good business. Mr. Smith is an active member of the Republican party, has been a delegate to different conventions, and was elected city attorney of Morrison, which position he is now most creditably filling. Socially he is a member of Grove lodge, I. O. O. F., and Anchor lodge, K. P., of which he is now chancellor commander.

**B**ENJAMIN F. BROOKS, whose well-kept farm lies in section 29, Portland township, in Spring Hill, is a man of good business capacity, and great intelligence. On the old homestead about two miles from his present home he was born August 17, 1837, in the log cabin reared by his father, the late Alphonso Brooks, and it is historically interesting to know that he is said to be the oldest white child born in this county that is still a resident. The cabin in which he first opened his eyes to the light was rudely constructed of unhewn logs, and as there was but a dirt floor he actually took his first steps on his native soil.

Alphonso Brooks, a native of New York state, lived there until 1833, when he joined the procession marching westward in search of cheaper and better homes. Taking up a claim in Du Page county, Illinois, he spent one season there, but in 1834 re-

turned to New York where he soon married Miss Eliza Teats, who was born and reared in that state. In 1835, accompanied by his young wife, he again came to Illinois, and crossing the state located in Whiteside county. From one of the original settlers of Portland township he purchased a claim of one hundred and twenty acres, on which he reared the log house before mentioned. After placing a portion of his land in a good state of cultivation, he disposed of that property and took a claim at Spring Hill, where he erected the first building used as a house of public entertainment in this locality, and there for many years kept a hotel, and engaged in farming.

Benjamin F. Brooks attended the district school in his youthful days, and as an able assistant in the general work of the home farm obtained a thorough knowledge of agriculture, which he has made his life occupation. On settling in life he bought the parental homestead, but later traded that for his present estate, in the improvement of which he has labored with unremitting industry, and has met with richly deserved success. He has spent his entire life in this vicinity, and during the three score and more of years has witnessed wonderful changes, with many of which he has been actively identified. In his boyhood days there were neither large school-houses, magnificent churches, costly residences, nor substantial barns; neither railways, telegraph or telephone lines crossed these broad acres, and the evidences of civilization were but few. Now flourishing towns and cities abound, and broad, well cultivated farms yield abundantly of the products of the soil; in this grand transformation Mr. Brooks has performed his share of labor, spending many of the best years of the busy life

in redeeming from its primitive condition a portion of this beautiful country.

On April 19, 1859, Mr. Brooks married Miss Mary Lamphere, who was born in New York state, but who grew to womanhood in Illinois. She passed to the life beyond April 5, 1886, leaving six children, as follows: Frederic, a farmer, is married and resides in Henry county; Emmett, also a farmer, is married and lives in Henry county; Cora; Bert, engaged in farming in Poetland township, is married; Alice, who died at the age of twenty-eight years, and Roy, who assists in the care of the home farm. On August 28, 1889, Mr. Brooks married Miss Electra L. Brown, who was born and reared in Rock Island county, Illinois. One son has been born of this union, Marion, now a pupil in the public schools.

Mr. Brooks cast his first ballot in 1860, voting for Abraham Lincoln for president, and has ever since been conspicuously identified with the Republican party. Taking an active interest in local affairs, he has served honorably and well in various official positions, wherever placed striving to do his best. He was deputy sheriff four years; a member of the school board many terms; has served as township collector; is present chairman of the township committee; has been assessor the past eight or ten years, and has attended county conventions as a delegate almost continuously since 1860. He has served one term as supervisor and road commissioner. He is prominent in Masonic circles, being past master of Spring Hill lodge, No. 412. Mr. and Mrs. Brooks are both members of the Sharon Methodist Episcopal church, he being one of the charter members of the organization, and at the present time one of the church trustees.

FRED R. BASTIAN, of Fulton, is one of the active members of the Democratic party in this section, his large acquaintance and popularity giving him an influential following, while his judgment of men and affairs make his counsel of value. He was born in Rochester, New York, September 23, 1856, and in 1861 came to Illinois with his parents, Van S. and Ann E. Bastian, who settled on a farm near Prophetstown, Whiteside county, where after remaining one year, removed to Bureau county, where he grew to manhood. His education was desultory and was procured through his own efforts. Nature endowed him with an active mind and he made the most of his advantages. He received a high grade certificate and successfully engaged in teaching school for three years, after which he followed various occupations for some time.

In October, 1879, Mr. Bastian accepted a position as reporter on the Sterling Gazette and was connected with that paper until April, 1881, when he purchased the Journal office at Fulton, Illinois, and changed the character of the paper from a Republican to independent Democratic. Without severing his connection with the Journal, he went to Grand Forks, South Dakota, in July, 1882, as reporter on the Grand Forks Daily and Weekly News, but the following November returned to Fulton and resumed work on the Journal. He was interested in that paper until the fall of 1898, when he sold out to his brother, A. W. Bastian, the present editor and proprietor, and is now employed in the Fulton bank.

On the 21st of August, 1884, at Mendota, Illinois, Mr. Bastian was united in marriage with Miss Nellie J. Barton, a native of La Salle county, this state, and a daughter

of William and Maria L. (Hastings) Barton. He is quite active in fraternal affairs, is a member of Abou Ben Adhem lodge, No. 148, I. O. O. F.; and was the organizer of Sunlight lodge, No. 235, K. P., circulating the petition and securing the charter for the same. Later he served as its first chancellor commander and first representative to the grand lodge. He was also a charter member of Forest camp, No. 2, M. W. A., in which he filled all of the chairs, and which he represented in the grand lodge. In political affairs, however, he is perhaps best known, and he is one of the active workers for his party interests in Whiteside county. In 1895 he received the Democratic nomination for congressman from the tenth congressional district, and in 1898 his name was again placed on the party ticket for representative to the state Legislature from the thirty-first senatorial district, but he labors to a disadvantage as his party is in the minority in this county. However, he is a man of firm conviction and is utterly fearless and uncompromising; is bold and aggressive; and thoroughly enjoys a political contest. In 1896 he was appointed postmaster of Fulton, by President Cleveland, although an advocate of the free coinage of silver. He went to Washington, presented his case to the president and received the appointment. After serving in that position for twenty-two months, which was several weeks after President McKinley's election, he was removed on account of his active partisanship.

---

CHARLES NOON, Sr., an industrious and thrifty farmer residing on section 32, Tampico township, Whiteside county, Illinois, was born in Warwickshire, Eng-

land, December 30, 1828, and there was reared upon a farm. On the 16th of November, 1848, at the age of twenty years, he was united in marriage with Miss Martha Hughes, who was born in Northamptonshire, England, October 8, 1830, and in their native land they continued to make their home until after the birth of all their children. There our subject worked at farming, mowing, ditching, or anything which he could find to do.

With the hope of benefiting his financial condition in the new world, Mr. Noon left England, in 1874, and with his family sailed from Liverpool to Quebec, whence they came at once to Whiteside county, Illinois, joining Mrs. Noon's brother, James Hughes, who had located here in 1849. The family arrived at their destination July 19, and the following November Mr. Noon purchased a farm of eighty acres, on which was a little house, and a few other improvements. After leaving there for two years, he bought one hundred and sixty acres, where he now resides. Upon that place he also built a little house, but he has since erected thereon two good residences, two large barns, a milk house and other outbuildings, and has made many other improvements which add to the value and attractive appearance of the place. He has since purchased forty acres elsewhere, and has a farm of one hundred and twenty acres one mile south of Tampic, making in all four hundred acres of very valuable and productive land.

To Mr. and Mrs. Noon were born fourteen children, namely: Anna, who married George Low in England, and died there, leaving two children; Thomas, now a substantial farmer of this county; Benjamin and Charles, Jr., who aid in the operation of

the home farm; Martha, wife of George Boldison; Jane, wife of Adam Miller; Rachel, wife of Webb Scott, of DeKalb county, Illinois; Sarah, wife of James Harris, of Princeton, Illinois; James, a farmer of Iowa; Job, a resident of the west; Caleb, a resident of Greenfield, Tennessee; William, a farmer of Iowa; Mary, wife of John Curley, of Tampico township, residing on one of Mr. Noon's farms; and Hannah, wife of John Wenkler, who operates one of her father's farms. Mr. and Mrs. Noon were reared in the Episcopalian faith and their children were all baptized in that church. They have twenty-eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Mr. Noon has made the most of his opportunities in life, and by his straightforward, honorable course has gained the respect and confidence of the entire community. He has accumulated a handsome property, and his life illustrates what can be accomplished through industry, perseverance, good management and a determination to succeed.

**B**ENJAMIN GURTISEN, one of the honored pioneers and representative citizens of Sterling, where he has made his home since 1854, was born in Strasburg, Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, January 3, 1835, a son of Maximillian F. and Margaret (Rheam) Gurtisen, natives of Germany, who in childhood came to the United States and were married in Lancaster county, where the father engaged in the butcher business and conducted a meat market of his own. He was killed on the Pennsylvania Railroad at Lemon when our subject was only two years old, leaving his wife with three small children: Jacob, now a resident of Iowa; Benjamin; and John, of

Lancaster county, Pennsylvania. After her children grew up the mother moved to Germantown, Indiana, where she died in the faith of the Lutheran church.

Our subject received a good practical education in the schools of Strasburg, and served an apprenticeship to the shoemaker's trade at that place. He then came to Sterling, Illinois, which at that time was a small village containing only one or two stores. After working at his trade for two years his health gave out and he accepted a position with a railroad surveying party. Later he formed a partnership with W. F. Caughey, and under the firm name of Caughey & Gurtisen conducted the first successful meat market at Sterling. They did their own slaughtering and as they had no ice were compelled to sell their meat the day the animals were killed. They would buy cattle and slaughter them anywhere, and sheep for killing were allowed to run over the present site of the city. During the construction of the railroad there was such a demand for meat that the people would stand in line to be waited on and fight for their meat, getting hold of a piece while it was being cut and holding on for fear some one else would get it. The firm did a good business for a number of years, and their first market on Fifth avenue was afterward replaced by a good brick block on the same street near the high school.

Loyal to his country, Mr. Gurtisen gave up a good business and excellent prospects in order to enlist in Company A, Thirty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, which was assigned to the western army under General Rosecrans. At Green river he was taken ill and after a year and a half was discharged from the field hospital with the rank of second sergeant. The following

year he re-enlisted as second lieutenant in Company A, One Hundred and Fortieth Illinois Volunteer Infantry—a hundred-day regiment—which was first ordered to Cairo and later to Memphis, Coldwater and Pigeon. They were engaged in fighting guerrillas until time to be mustered out, when they were ordered to Chicago for that purpose, but as Price was then making a raid through Missouri they were sent to St. Louis and remained in Missouri until he left, being finally mustered out in Chicago.

Before his re-enlistment, Mr. Gurtisen and his partner sold out their business and both entered the same company. After his return our subject clerked in the grocery store of S. Ross Morgan for a number of years, and after he sold out to a Mr. Brewer Mr. Gurtisen had charge of the store—then one of the largest in the city—for one year. At the end of that time he purchased a half interest in the business, and in partnership with James P. Overhoser enjoyed a good and profitable trade. In the meantime he invested in Nebraska lands and city lots and became a stockholder in different manufacturing concerns of Sterling. After disposing of his grocery store he was employed as shipping clerk in the Novelty Works for two years, and later clerked for J. R. Bell & Company for a number of years, after which he was administrator for estates. He built a good residence on Fifth avenue where the high school now stands, and on selling it to the township for school purposes, in 1897, he erected his present beautiful home at 505 Seventh avenue, where he is now living.

In 1857, Mr. Gurtisen married Miss Emma Aument, a native of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, who came to Sterling with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob

Aument, her father being a wagon manufacturer here in early days. The one child born of this union died young. Mr. Gurtisen were both reared in the Lutheran church. He is identified with the Republican party, and takes a very prominent and active part in city affairs. He has been a member of the common council for quite a number of years, during which the water works were put in operation; has also been chairman of the electric light committee for eight or ten years, and it is due to his untiring efforts that the lights of the city were put up. He is also chairman of the license and judiciary committees, and as a public-spirited and progressive citizen does all in his power to advance the interests of the city. He is a prominent and influential member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, having joined Sterling Lodge, January 8, 1858. On the 1st of July, 1859, he was elected vice-grand; noble grand, January 2, 1860; and past grand July 2, 1860. He was made a member of the grand lodge in 1872; grand junior warden of the Grand Encampment of Illinois in 1880; grand senior warden in 1881 grand high priest in 1882; and grand patriarch in 1883 and 1884. He attended all the meetings of the grand lodge and grand encampment until 1898, and is now deputy and also official examiner and instructor of the grand lodge of the state. He also belongs to William Robinson yost, No. 274 G. A. R., and is quite popular both in social and political circles.

---

**S**AMUEL McKEAN McCALMONT, LL. B., of Morrison, is one of the ablest lawyers practicing at the Whiteside county bar. A man of sound judgment, he manages his cases with masterly skill and tact,

is a logical reasoner and has a ready command of English. A native of Whiteside county, he was born in Ustick township, December 30, 1807, and is the only child of John J. and Sarah E. (McKean) McCalmont. The father was a native of Centre county, Pennsylvania, and of Scotch descent, being the son of William Scott and Margaret (Laird) McCalmont. There he grew to manhood, but after his marriage, which was celebrated in Centre county, January 17, 1867, he came to Whiteside county, Illinois, and purchased a tract of wild land in Ustick township, to the improvement and cultivation of which he devoted his energies until called from this life September 27, 1869, at the early age of twenty-nine years. William S. McCalmont, grandfather of our subject, died in Centre county, Pennsylvania, December 17, 1863, and his father, John McCalmont, died about 1782. The wife of the latter was Jane Allison. John McCalmont was a son of Thomas McCalmont, who came to America from the north of Ireland. The family have all been strong members of the Presbyterian church. Our subject's maternal grandfather was Samuel McKean, a tanner and farmer of Center county, Pennsylvania, who was born September 21, 1809, and died September 7, 1867. He was married, November 28, 1837, to Elizabeth M. Lowry, who was born November 26, 1814, and is still living. Her father, James M. Lowry, was born June 19, 1792, and was married February 24, 1814, to Sarah Laird, who was born April 1, 1790. After the death of her first husband, the mother of our subject returned to Pennsylvania, and in Northumberland county, that state, she was again married, September 3, 1873, her second union being with J. S. Miller, of Ustick township, Whiteside county, Illinois.

now of Fulton. They have one child, Anna R. In religious faith the mother is also a Presbyterian.

The primary education of Samuel M. McCalmont was obtained in the district schools of Ustick township, and he later attended school at Morrison, coming a distance of five miles each morning. On the removal of the family to Fulton, in December, 1886, he entered the high school at that place, from which he was graduated in 1888. The following year was spent at the Northern Illinois College, at Fulton, and in the fall of 1889 he entered the literary department of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, but a year later became a student of the law department of the same institution, from which he was graduated with the degree of L.L. B., in 1892. In the fall of that year he opened an office in Fulton and engaged in practice there until March 1, 1895, when he came to Morrison and formed a partnership with F. D. Ramsay. On the election of that gentleman to the office of circuit judge, Mr. McCalmont succeeded to their large practice and is now one of the leading lawyers of the city. He is engaged in general practice and was one of the representatives of the people of Fulton in the Modern Woodmen case that was recently tried in this county. His powers as an advocate have been demonstrated by his success on many occasions. Thoroughness characterizes all his efforts, and he conducts all business with a strict regard to a high standard of professional ethics. November 1, 1899, he formed a partnership with Luther R. Ramsay, son of Judge Ramsay, and the business is conducted under the firm name of McCalmont & Ramsay. Religiously Mr. McCalmont is a Presbyterian.

On the 16th of November, 1898, Mr.

McCalmont married Miss Mary Alice Taylor, of Morrison, a daughter of Dr. Samuel Taylor, deceased.

ADAM B. YOUNG, a retired agriculturist of Spring Hill, resided on section 30, Portland township, is an honored representative of the early pioneers of this county, and a true type of the energetic, hardy men who have actively assisted in developing and improving this beautiful and fertile agricultural country. When he came here, in 1853, wild beasts roamed the forest, and the dusky savage still habited the wilderness hereabout, but these have all long since fled, their haunts being replaced by populous villages or waving fields of grain. He was born March 3, 1823, in Blair county, Pennsylvania, a son of Balzar Young.

Balzar Young was born in Germany, but when seven years old started with his parents from the Fatherland for America. His father died on the voyage over, and was buried at sea. His widowed mother proceeded to Pennsylvania with her three children, two daughters and one son, but not being able to support them alone bound them out. Balzar Young learned the trade of stone mason, and until his death was engaged in mechanical labor. He married Catherine Burket, daughter of Adam Burket, who was born and reared in Germany, but subsequently settled in Bedford county, Pennsylvania, where he brought up his family. Of this union sixteen children were born, six of them being sons, and of this large family of children four sons and six daughters are now, in November, 1899, living.

Adam B. Young grew to manhood in his



native county, and being the eldest son of the parental household had but little time to devote to school, his help being needed to support the large family. In his earlier days he worked on a farm, but afterwards followed the occupation of a post and rail fence builder for fourteen years, a business which he found profitable. In 1853, following the tide of emigration westward, he came to Whiteside county with his family, and having entered one hundred and twenty acres of land in Portland township at once commenced clearing it. He built a log cabin in which he lived seven years before erecting a frame house. As he accumulated money he invested in adjoining land until he had a farm of two hundred and seventy-seven acres, with excellent farm buildings, and this estate is still in his possession. In 1879 Mr. Young bought the property on which he now resides, and during the twenty years that have since elapsed he has made noted improvements, having entirely remodeled the house, barn and outbuildings, built new fences, and planted an orchard of fine fruit trees. He devotes his energies to general farming, including stock raising and dealing, and for thirty-two years manufactured cider each fall, making barrels upon barrels every season, and selling it at different markets throughout the country. By untiring industry and sound business judgment has won merited success in all of his undertakings, and is in all respects worthy of the high regard in which he is held by his fellow men.

On the 18th of September, 1844, Mr. Young married Elizabeth Ebersole, who was born in Blair county, Pennsylvania, a daughter of Jacob Ebersole. She passed to the higher life in 1892, leaving seven children as follows: Jacob, a farmer, liv-

ing on the old homestead; John, who is engaged as a general farmer in Portland township; Isaac, also a farmer in this place; Daniel, of Portland township, a well-known farmer; George, a resident of Greenfield, Adair county, Iowa; Mary, wife of John F. Martin, of Crawford county, Missouri; and Adam Young, Jr., a farmer, living near Erie, this county. Politically Mr. Young has been a staunch supporter of the principles of the Democratic party since casting his first presidential ballot, in 1844, for James K. Polk, and though taking no very active part in public affairs was for a number of years one of the school directors. While living in his Pennsylvania home he was connected with the Lutheran church, but since coming to Portland he has united with the Sharon Presbyterian church, in which he is an earnest worker.

**O**RRIN PADDOCK owns and operates a fine farm of one hundred acres on section 27, Prophetstown township, who is pleasantly located on the Rock river only two miles from the village of Prophetstown. It is conspicuous for the manner in which it has been improved and cultivated, and shows conclusively that it belongs to one of the most enterprising and energetic agriculturists of the county.

Mr. Paddock was born in Lewis county, New York, July 31, 1837, and is a son of James C. Paddock, who was born in Oneida county, that state, in 1810. The paternal grandfather was John Paddock. The father grew to manhood in his native county, and there married Miss Roxie Hall, also a native of New York, and a daughter of Caleb Hall. From Oneida county they removed to Lewis county, New York, and in Novem-

ber, 1851, came to Whiteside county, Illinois, where they joined two of Mr. Paddock's brothers. They made the journey across the country with teams, in company with another brother and his family. Here the father of our subject purchased between eight and nine hundred acres of land, which he at once began to improve and cultivate, but was not long permitted to enjoy his new home, dying of cholera September 2, 1854. His wife had died of the same dread disease three days before—August 31, and two sons, George, aged eight, and Clark, aged two and a half years, died the day following the father's death. All were laid to rest in the Prophetstown cemetery. There were six children of the family who reached years of maturity, namely: John, now a merchant of Prophetstown; Caleb, a resident of South Dakota; Orrin, of this review; Jay, a resident of Rock Island county; Mary, wife of Daniel H. Paddock, of Prophetstown, and James, now deceased.

Orrin Paddock was a lad of fourteen years when he came with the family to this county, and he assisted in the development and cultivation of the home farm, transforming the virgin soil into highly cultivated fields. After the death of their parents, he and his brothers carried on the place together for the first year, but during the following two years he worked by the month as a farm hand, and he then succeeded to eighty acres of the old homestead. He had received a good common-school education which well fitted him for the practical duties of life.

In Prophetstown township Mr. Paddock was married in October, 1857, to Miss Jane Hotchkiss, a native of New York, who was sixteen years of age when she came to this county with her uncle, Rufus Hotch-

kiss, one of the early settlers of Oswego county, New York. By this union two children were born: Lillie May, who died at the age of seventeen years, and Emily Lavina, wife of Earl Reynolds, of Sterling.

Mr. and Mrs. Paddock began housekeeping on the old Paddock homestead, where he successfully operated for fifteen years, and then sold, buying the place where he now lives. To its further improvement and cultivation he has since devoted his time and attention in connection with stock raising, and now has a valuable farm. He keeps a good grade of horses, cattle and hogs, and is justly regarded as one of the best farmers of the county. Mr. Paddock cast his first presidential ballot for Abraham Lincoln in 1860, but is now a stalwart Democrat. He is widely and favorably known, and as an honored pioneer and representative man of the community is well worthy of the high regard in which he is uniformly held.

**J**OHAN BOYD, a well-to-do agriculturist and leading stock-dealer of Mount Pleasant township, is a typical self-made man, and in the following record of his career there is much to arouse respect and esteem. He has placed his reliance upon industry and perseverance rather than "luck," and by making the most of circumstances, however discouraging, has made his way to substantial success, his fine farm on section 19 being a tangible evidence of prosperity.

A native of Scotland, Mr. Boyd was born in Ayreshire September 1, 1826, and is a son of William and Mary Robinson Boyd. He received his education in his native land, and followed farming with his father until 1823, when at the age of twenty-three



JOHN BOYD.



years he came along to America and took up his residence in Whiteside county, Illinois. After working by the month for five years he was able in 1853 to purchase one hundred and twenty acres of raw prairie land, to the cultivation and improvement of which he devoted his energies for many years. To the original purchase he added from time to time until he now has about four hundred acres of rich and arable land. His son, William, now manages the farm while he gives his attention to the stock business. Dairying occupies a considerable portion of his time, as he keeps from twenty-five to thirty milch cows for that business. He also buys and ships cattle, principally milch cows, throughout the surrounding counties. For the past fifteen years he has done little general farming, his entire time being given to the cattle business.

On the 24th of February, 1857, Mr. Boyd was united in marriage with Miss Isabella Archibald, also a native of Scotland, of which country her parents, Daniel and Mary (Easdale) Archibald, were life-long residents. Her father followed the occupation of farming. Both he and his wife are now deceased, and Mrs. Boyd is now the only one of the family living, her brothers, Robert, James and Daniel, having also passed away. Three children were born to our subject and his wife. James, the eldest, now cashier of the Farmers' National Bank of Kearney, Nebraska, married May Robertson, and has one child living, James W.; William manages the home farm for his father, and Mary died at the age of seventeen years.

In his political affiliations Mr. Boyd is a Democrat, and for a number of years he most acceptably filled the office of road commissioner. His wife holds membership in

the Presbyterian church of Morrison, and although he is not a member he gives liberally to its support, and gave five hundred dollars toward the erection of the house of worship. What he has accomplished in life is the result of his own individual effort, for his capital on landing in the new world consisted of only nineteen dollars. He paid five dollars for a man to take him from Chicago to Dixon on coming to this county, and during the first three years he worked here he received only three dollars in money, as currency was very scarce at that time. Enterprising, industrious and energetic he has met with well-merited success in his labors, and is now one of the prosperous and substantial citizens of his community.

**W**ILLIAM E. ALLEN, who is identified with the Northwestern Railway Company at Fulton, Illinois, as both ticket and freight agent, is well qualified by knowledge and training for the important position he holds, and in which he is giving good satisfaction to all concerned. He was born in Fulton township December 19, 1857, a son of Orin T. and Hannah (Randall) Allen, both of whom were born, reared and married in Ohio. They removed from Hillsborough, that state, about 1845, to Illinois, and settled on government land in Fulton township, where the father was prosperously engaged in farming until his death, in July, 1895. He was a staunch Democrat in politics, and was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church. His widow survives him, and makes her home with her son William. They were the parents of five children, as follows: Amanda, wife of L. A. Lewis, of Ustick township; Isaac B., of Fulton, who is in the employ of the North-

western Railway Company; William E., the special subject of this sketch; Effie, wife of Elisha Lockhart, of Garden Plain township; and Minnie, wife of W. H. Dabler, a conductor on the C., B. & Q. Railway, and a resident of Fulton.

William E. Allen was brought up on the home farm, and attended the district schools of the township and the Fulton high school. When seventeen years old he entered the joint office of the Milwaukee & Northwestern Railway as a telegraph operator, and when he had become an adept at telegraphing he was given a position at Meriden, Minnesota, on the Winona & St. Peter division of the road, and for three years thereafter was stationed at different places in Minnesota and Dakota. In 1880 he returned to Fulton to become night operator in the Northwestern office, and was subsequently in Iowa ten years, being stationed in different offices. Coming again to Fulton, he was employed as clerk in the freight department of the Northwestern office for two years, and the ensuing six years had control of the joint office at Fulton Junction. In 1893 he was installed in his present position, which he has since filled most acceptably.

In politics Mr. Allen affiliates with the Republican party, and takes a cordial interest in all matters relating to town, county or state. For four years he was alderman from the third ward, and in 1899 was elected to the board of education, on which he is one of the committee for securing teachers. While living in Iowa, he served as town clerk at West Side, and was a member of the town council. Fraternally he is past chancellor in the order of the Knights of Pythias, belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, and is a member of the Mystic Workers of the World.

At Amiret, Minnesota, on September 21, 1881, Mr. Allen was united in marriage with Miss Nona Grover, daughter of Lafayette and Olive (Northrup) Grover, the former of whom was born at Blue Earth City, Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Allen have two children, Fay O. and Edwin Rodney.

JACOB J. WINCHEL is successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits on section 36, Prophetstown township, where he owns a farm comprising two hundred and twenty acres of well-improved and valuable land. He is numbered among the self-made men of the county, his accumulations being the result of his own industry, careful management and well-directed labors, and the exercise of a naturally good judgment both in regard to agricultural pursuits and business matters. In 1856 he located in Henry county, and since that time this section of the state has been the field of his operations and the center of his interests and hopes.

Mr. Winchell was born in Ulster county, New York, January 21, 1835, and belongs to a family of English origin that was early founded in that county. His grandfather, Peter Winchell, was a native of New York, and his father, Joseph Winchell, was born in Ulster county, and there married Lany Elmendorph, a native of the same county. Her father, Captain Elmendorph, was a soldier of the Revolutionary war, and in recognition of his services received a land warrant, with which he secured a tract of land in Michigan. After farming in his native county for a number of years, Joseph Winchell came west in 1857 and died here about 1873. His wife, who survived him a number of years, departed this life in 1892, at the age of seventy-seven years.

In the county of his nativity, Jacob J. Winchell grew to manhood, acquiring an excellent knowledge of farming, but rather a meager literary education. In 1856 he came to Illinois and joined some friends in Henry county. He worked by the month for four years in that and Bureau counties. On the 19th of December, 1859, in Henry county, he led to the marriage altar Miss Sarah A. Lane, who was born in Niles, Michigan, and in 1855 removed from that state to Henry county, Illinois, with her father, Benjamin Lane. The young couple began their domestic life on a rented farm in Henry county, and there they made their home until the spring of 1864, when Mr. Winchell purchased eighty acres of land in Prophetstown township, Whiteside county, and they located thereon. After operating it for several years he traded the land for a part of his present farm, and it has now been their home since 1873. At that time only half of the one hundred and sixty acres had been placed under the plow, and an old house was about the only improvement upon the place, but to-day there is a large and pleasant residence surrounded by well-tilled fields, and everything about the farm testifies to the careful supervision of an owner who thoroughly understands his chosen calling. He has added to the farm until he has two hundred and twenty acres of rich and arable land, and he also bought and gave to his son a tract of eighty acres.

Mr. and Mrs. Winchell are the parents of five children, four sons and one daughter, namely: Flora, now the wife of Marvin Griffin, a farmer of Tampico township; William, an engineer on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, and a resident of Galesburg, Illinois; Lewis B., a farmer of Tampico township; and Nathan and Foster,

who assist their father in the operation of the home farm. They also have an adopted daughter, Jennie May, who has found a home with them since two weeks old.

Politically Mr. Winchell has been identified with the Republican party since casting his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln in 1860, but he has never cared for the honors or emoluments of public office, preferring to give his undivided attention to his business interests. However, he takes an active interest in educational affairs, and has served as a member of the school board for twenty years. He was a charter member of Yorktown lodge, F. & A. M., and served as its secretary for some years. He and his wife are members of the Christian church of Yorktown, and are highly respected and esteemed by all who know them.

**E**DWARD L. CROSIER, agent for the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railway Company, having charge of the offices at Lyons and Fulton, and likewise the Fulton agent of the Adams Express Company, is an active, wide-awake business man and a valued citizen of Fulton, Illinois. He was born November 15, 1862, in Mercer county, Illinois, near the village of Sunbeam, a son of William Crosier.

William Crosier removed from Pennsylvania, the state of his birth, to Mercer county at a comparatively day, and for many years was the leading contractor and builder of that part of the state. From 1868 until 1871 he resided in Clinton, Missouri, where he filled the office of deputy sheriff for three years. Returning from there to Mercer county, he remained until

1888, when he removed with his family to Kewanee, Henry county, and is there actively engaged at the present time as a contractor. He married Miss Maggie Smith, a daughter of George Smith, who was an early pioneer of Mercer county, having emigrated from Ohio to that section of the country when it was but thinly populated, and bears, deer, wolves and other wild beasts were plentiful. Of their union three children have been born, namely: George A., special police in the Fisher building, in Chicago; Edward L., the subject of this brief biographical notice; and Nellie, who lives with her parents.

Edward L. Crosier received a substantial common-school education, and until eighteen years of age assisted his father at the carpenter's bench. Going then into the office of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railway, he learned telegraphy under the instruction of Fred Clark, now assistant general auditor of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Company, remaining with him fifteen months. He was then placed in charge of the night telegraph offices at Stanton and Villisca, both in Montgomery county, Iowa, where he remained until September, 1883. Going then to Dakota, he took up a claim on which he resided until May, 1885, when he returned to Mercer county to accept the position of clerk in a hotel at Aledo. Mr. Crosier soon afterwards resumed work for the railroad company by taking a night office at Montgomery, Illinois, and has since been in their employ. For three years he was station agent at Ladd, Illinois, from whence, on June 1, 1892, he came to Fulton to assume the duties of his present office, which is quite important as it includes the picking up and setting out of all cars between Den-

rock and Fulton. That he has risen to his high position in the service of the railroad company is due to the strict attention he has paid to every little detail of business, his fidelity and general urbanity of manner making him a favorite with the officers of the road, and with all travelers on it.

Mr. Crosier has always been an active worker in the Republican ranks, and in 1897 was elected alderman from the second ward, an office he now holds. Fraternally he is a Royal Arch Mason, belonging to Fulton City lodge, No. 189, A. F. & A. M., and is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

On April 29, 1866, Mr. Crosier married, at Burlington, Iowa, Miss Mary Starkey, who was born in Kewanee, Illinois, but then resided in Aledo, Illinois, with her parents, Irvine W. and Jeannette (Winn) Starkey. Mr. and Mrs. Crosier have three children, namely: Nellie M., Edna M., and William Irvine, who was named for his two grandfathers.

CARL S. ELLITHORPE, whose home is conveniently located on section 6, Prophetstown township, a mile and a quarter from the village of Prophetstown, was for many years one of the most active and progressive agriculturists of the county, as well as one of its most reliable and honorable citizens, and now in his declining years he is enjoying a well-earned rest, free from the cares and responsibilities of business life. Throughout the county he is widely and favorably known.

A native of New York, Mr. Ellithorpe was born in the town of Edinburg, Saratoga county, November 21, 1833, and is a son of Sampson Ellithorpe, who was born



in the same county, in 1806. The paternal grandfather, Wyley Ellithorpe, was also a native of New York, his father having removed to that state from Vermont and settled in Saratoga county at an early day. The family is of English origin, and its representatives were among the pioneers of Vermont. In his native county the father of our subject married Eliza Wight, who was born in Vermont, but who was reared in Saratoga county, New York. Her father, Squire Wight, spent his entire life in the Green Mountain state, where he died during her childhood. In 1839 Sampson Ellithorpe came west by way of the Erie canal to Buffalo and the Great Lakes to Chicago, and from there he came by teams to Prophetstown in company with his uncle, Solomon Ellithorpe. Near Sterling they made a claim of nearly one thousand acres of land, on which each built a hewed log house. He then returned east in the spring of 1840, and brought his family here, arriving in July, but was not long permitted to enjoy his new home, however, as he died September 5, 1840. With the Crocker family, Mrs. Ellithorpe resided in the home on Coon creek until the fall of 1841, when she removed to the neighborhood where our subject now lives. In the spring of 1842 she married Marvin Frary. She was then living in Prophetstown, but they later moved to a farm in Portland township, but in the spring of 1845 returned to Prophetstown township. After residing upon a farm there for ten years, they removed to another farm in the same neighborhood. Mrs. Frary died in Lyndon township August 4, 1866. By her first marriage she had four children, two sons and two daughters, namely: Bethiah, deceased wife of Dr. H. C. Donaldson; Earl S., our subject; Alpheus, who died

July 11, 1854, when a young man; and Lucelia, who died in childhood. There was one child by the second marriage—Cordelia, wife of E. N. Brewer, at whose home in Lyndon township the mother died.

Our subject was not quite seven years old when he came to Whiteside county. He remained with his mother until he attained his majority, and received a rather limited education in the schools of this section, which at that time were much inferior to those of the present day. On the 27th of March, 1856, he married Miss Mary J. Averill, a native of Vermont, and a daughter of Mark R. and Ada (Durin) Averill, also natives of that state, whence they came to Illinois in 1852, locating in 1854 on the farm in Prophetstown township, Whiteside county, where our subject now resides. Upon that place Mr. and Mrs. Ellithorpe began their married life. After renting the farm for seven years, they removed to Hume township, in 1863, and there he purchased three hundred and twenty acres of land, which he improved and operated for two years. Selling to a good advance, he returned to the Averill homestead, which he rented from his father-in-law for three years, and in 1867 moved to Wheatland, Iowa, where he built an elevator and engaged in the grain and lumber business for about a year. He then purchased his present farm, and now owns four hundred and fifty acres of land which he has placed under a high state of cultivation and improved with good buildings, including a neat and commodious residence, four barns and other outbuildings, so that he has a valuable and attractive farm. He successfully carried on general farming and stock raising, making a specialty of sheep, of which he usually had from six hundred to one thou-

sand upon his place, but since 1885 he has rented his farm and lived retired, enjoying the fruits of former toil.

To Mr. and Mrs. Ellithorpe was born one daughter, Luanna, who died August 10, 1895, and was laid to rest in the Prophets-town cemetery. In 1885 the family spent six months on the Pacific coast, and again in 1897, Mr. and Mrs. Ellithorpe visited California, where they remained four months, stopping at various places. He cast his first presidential vote for John C. Fremont, in 1856, and has since been unswerving in his allegiance to the Republican party and its principles. He attends church with his wife, who is a member of the Congregational church, and he gives to its support, although he is not a member of any religious denomination. For almost sixty years he has made his home in this county, and his name is inseparably connected with its agricultural interests, for he has labored earnestly in the development of a good farm and has been an important factor in the wonderful transformation that has taken place here during that period. Upright and honorable in all the relations of life, he well merits the high regard in which he is held by all who know him.

**I**RA F. AND ORIAN ABIJAH HOAK constitute the firm of Hoak Brothers and are prominent young business men Sterling. They are engaged in the manufacture of carriages, do first-class carriage painting, and all kinds of fine and difficult blacksmithing, general repairing, and sharpen and adjust lawn mowers. In December 1898, they patented and put on the market a new type of tire bolt cutter which met with immediate success wherever shown to carriage builders. Another bolt cutter for use

on any surface has just been perfected by them and will shortly be placed on the market. The tools are simple, effective and cheap and will no doubt prove to be a source of large revenue to their owners to come. Their shop, a large frame structure on East Third street near Sixth avenue, belongs to them and has been enlarged from time to time as an increase in business demanded additional room. Though the business has been established but four years it has grown to a proportion far beyond their most sanguine hopes. This rapid growth may be attributed to the fact that the work done is strictly reliable and every article produced is given an unqualified guarantee for worth.

Ira F. Hoak was born near Brookville, Ogle county, Illinois, June 20, 1869, O. A. in Whiteside county, in 1875. They were educated in the common schools of this county and were graduated from the Sterling high school. After laying aside his text books the older brother learned the carpenter's trade, and later inside wood work and carriage making, while the younger took up the blacksmith's trade. They continued to work for others until 1895, when they formed a partnership, and under the name of Hoak Brothers have since engaged in their present business, and are meeting with most gratifying success. They are members of the German Baptist church, and are held in high regard by all with whom they come in contact either in business or social life. O. A. Hoak married Miss Clara Journey, of Sterling, and has one child, Lloyd.

Henry S. Hoak, father of our subjects, was born ten miles from Lancaster, Pennsylvania, January 19, 1835, and is a son of Henry and Elizabeth (Hersh) Hoak, natives

of the same place, the former born in 1787, the latter in 1788. The grandfather was educated at Lancaster and became one of the first teachers under the free school system in that section of the country. He first taught in his own home, and finally in public school houses, and continued to follow that profession in connection with farming for some years. He was a man of prominence and influence in his community, his advice was often sought, and he was many times called upon to serve as administrator and executor of estates and also as conveyancer. He died before the birth of the father of our subjects, who was the youngest in a family of nine children, and his wife died six years later. Both were of German descent. The family was founded in America by Conrad Hoak, a native of Leipsic, Germany, who crossed the Atlantic at an early day and took up his residence in Pennsylvania, his last years being passed in Lancaster. His son Andrew was the great-grandfather of our subjects. He was only two years old when brought by his father to the new world, and he became a well-to-do and prominent farmer of Pennsylvania. He held office in the German Reformed church, of which he was a strong supporter, and all of the family have been zealous in religious work.

Henry S. Hoak attended first the public schools of his native state and later was a student at the State Normal School in Millersville, Lancaster county, for three years, but in the meantime he taught school at intervals in order to pay for his own education. In 1854 he entered upon that profession in Conestoga township, Lancaster county, where he taught for six months out of the year, receiving twenty-five dollars per month and his board. He taught one school in

Pequa township, the same county, for six years, and his wages there amounted to forty dollars. Later he taught in Strasburg township, the high school at Hempfield, and in other places in that section of Pennsylvania, where he was thus employed for sixteen years.

On the 30th of June, 1868, Mr. Hoak married Miss Letitia N. Hull, of Strasburg, a daughter of George Hull, a carpenter, who was also of German descent, and was one of the old residents of Strasburg. They have four children living, namely: Ira F.; Iva Jennie, who has been for three years a teacher in the Lincoln school, and for five years prior to that had been a teacher; Orian Abijah and Harry Leroy.

The same year of his marriage, Mr. Hoak came to Illinois, and first settled near Burr Oak Grove, in Ogle county, but in 1870 came to Whiteside county and took charge of a school in Galt. The following year he removed to Sterling, where he has since made his home with the exception of five years when teaching in Jordan township. For seventeen years he has successfully taught school in different parts of this county around Sterling, and has followed the profession for thirty-three years, being the oldest teacher in point of service in the county. He has been an active and prominent member of the German Baptist Brethren church for ten years. In their dress and non-resistant principles they are similar to the Reformed church, with which he was connected when a boy. He and his son were the first baptized into the church after his organization here, and there were but two members prior to that time. He raised about half the money for the erection of their house of worship, and takes a very active part in all church work.

**B**ARNEY McGRADY. Among the influential members of the farming community of Tampico township and one of its prosperous citizens, is the gentleman whose name introduces this sketch. He is entirely a self-made man in the true sense of the word, having been the architect of his own fortunes, and his success in life is attributable to his untiring industry, indomitable energy and laudable ambition.

Mr. McGrady was born in Cattaraugus county, New York, November 27, 1845, a son of James and Mary McGrady, farming people of that county. In 1860 the father came to Whiteside county, Illinois, and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Prophetstown township, where he successfully engaged in farming for a time, but finally sold his place and moved to Nebraska, spending his last years near Loup City.

The early educational advantages of our subject were somewhat meager as he began life for himself by working as a farm hand at the age of eleven years. He was fifteen when, in the fall of 1860, he removed with the family from New York to this county, and here continued to work for others at farm labor until after the Civil war broke out. In the fall of 1862, at the age of seventeen years, he enlisted in Company D, Seventy-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, which was assigned to the Army of the Tennessee, and the first battle in which he took part was the engagement at Perryville, Kentucky. With his command he followed Hood to Nashville; later was in the battles of Murfreesboro and Chattanooga; was in the Atlanta campaign; went with Sherman to Savannah, Georgia; and participated in the battle of Bentonville, North Carolina,—the last engagement of the war. The regiment then marched through Richmond to

Washington, D. C., and from there to Parkersburg, West Virginia, and from that city proceeded by boat to Louisville, Kentucky, whence they went by railroad to Chicago, where they were honorably discharged in July, 1865. While Mr. McGrady participated in many battles and skirmishes and had his clothes pierced by bullets, he fortunately was never wounded, though he was ill for six months in the hospital at Nashville. He returned home with a war record of which he may be justly proud, and resumed his farm work.

In Prophetstown, September 11, 1867, Mr. McGrady was united in marriage with Miss Ocelia Tabor, who was born and reared on a farm in Portland township, and is a daughter of William P. Tabor, one of the prominent farmers of the county, who is represented on another page of this work. Mr. and Mrs. McGrady have become the parents of five children, namely: William, Ralph, Burt, Pearl and Florence. Ralph is married but still continues on the home farm, and the others are all under the parental roof.

After his marriage, Mr. McGrady purchased forty acres of raw land where he now resides, and after erecting a small house thereon, he commenced to improve and cultivate his farm. To his original purchase he has added from time to time as his financial resources have permitted, at one time buying one hundred and twenty acres of the Dow estate, and now has a valuable farm of two hundred and forty acres under a high state of cultivation and improved with good buildings, surrounded by fruit and shade trees. In connection with general farming, he is interested in stock raising, feeding each year quite a number of hogs and several head of cattle for market.

While home on a furlough during the war, Mr. McGrady cast his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln, in 1864, and has since been an earnest advocate and supporter of the Republican party and its principles. For nine consecutive years he filled the office of highway commissioner, and has been a member of the school board twenty years, serving as its president at the present time. Socially he is a Royal Arch Mason, a member of the lodge in Prophetstown, and belongs to the Grand Army post of Tampico. His residence in this county covers a period of forty years, and he has ever manifested the same loyalty in days of peace as in times of war, when he fought so valiantly for the old flag and the cause it represented.

**A**NDREW K. HABERER. Much of the civilization of the world has come from the Teutonic race. Continually moving westward they have taken with them the enterprise and advancement of their eastern homes and have become valued and useful citizens of various localities. In this country especially they have demonstrated their power to adapt themselves to new circumstances, retaining at the same time their progressiveness and energy, and have become true and devoted citizens. A worthy representative of this class is Andrew K. Haberer, the present popular sheriff of Whiteside county.

He was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, April 28, 1840, a son of Jacob and Salome (Kergis) Haberer, both natives of Baden, which was their ancestral home. The father was born in 1805, and in early life followed the carpenter's trade. After his marriage he moved to Wurtemberg, where he bought

a farm and made his home there until his death, which occurred in 1853. He was one of the most highly respected citizens of Peterzell, Obendorpl, held different positions of honor and trust in his community, and was a member of the Lutheran church. He left a family of seven children, of whom our subject is the oldest son and second child. Our subject came alone to the new world, but in 1865 sent for the remainder of the family and made for them a home in Illinois. With the exception of himself all removed to Iowa and there the mother died in 1887. Christine is still a resident of that state; Mary makes her home in Council Bluffs; George died in 1867; Jacob died in Iowa, in 1874; John is a well-to-do farmer of that state; and Kate is living in Indianola, Iowa.

Andrew K. Haberer graduated from the common schools of his native land, and was then in charge of his father's farm until seventeen years of age, when he was sent by his uncle to this country to avoid military service that he might care for his mother and younger children. On landing in America he was unable to speak a word of English and was entirely dependent upon his own resources for a livelihood. He arrived in New York in the fall of 1857, which was a very poor time to look for work on account of the panic brought on by the circulation of wild cat money. He proceeded at once to Sterling, Whiteside county, Illinois, where he worked on a farm until the breaking out of the Civil war.

On the 20th of April, 1861, on the first call for seventy-five thousand men, Mr. Haberer enlisted in Company B, Thirteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, which was organized at Dixon, under command of Col. J. B. Wyman, and sworn into the United

States service, May 24, for three years. From Dixon they went to East St. Louis in June, and the following month to St. Louis. They participated in the battles at Wilson's Creek and Pea Ridge, and numerous skirmishes until they finally reached Vicksburg, where they took part in their first big battle, December 27, 28 and 29, 1862. They were in the battles of Arkansas Post, Champion Hills, Jackson, Mississippi, and the whole of the siege of Vicksburg, the regiment being in the front during the entire time. Mr. Haberer was offered but declined promotion, and after the fall of Vicksburg was given a furlough for meritorious conduct in line of battle, but gave it to a comrade. At this time his command was made the First Regiment of the First Brigade, First Division, Fifteenth Army Corps, under Gen. Logan, and started up the Mississippi to Memphis. From there they went by railroad to Corinth, and then took part in a three days battle at Tuscumbia, Alabama, and then marched to Chattanooga, taking part in the battle at that place and also at Lookout Mountain, and Missionary Ridge. A few days later in the engagement at Ringgold, Georgia, the regiment lost heavily, all the field officers were either wounded or killed, and they were withdrawn from battle by Capt. George P. Brown. They next marched to Woodville, Alabama, where Mr. Haberer was stricken with scurvy and sent to Hospital No. 19, Nashville, Tennessee, where he remained two months. On the 1st of March, 1864, he was transferred to the Veteran Reserve Corps and sent to Cincinnati, Ohio, where he did provost guard duty three weeks, and later to Sandusky. About the 15th of May, he went to Washington, D. C., where he was encamped until May 24, 1864, when he re-enlisted, be-

coming a member of Company I, Seventh Regiment, Hancock's Veteran Reserve Corps. After the re-organization, he reported that his three years of enlistment had expired and was sent to Gen. Grant, who had his records examined. He was paid off and discharged on the General's orders, who said "this is the first man to be discharged in all of this war by reason of the expiration of three years term of service."

Mr. Haberer returned to Sterling, and took a position as salesman in a mercantile establishment, where he was a trusted and efficient employe for twenty years. In 1867 he married Miss Caroline Planthaber, who is also of German birth, but who came to this country very young with her parents. They had one son, John A., who was born November 1, 1868, and died January 15, 1891. He was well educated and successfully engaged in teaching school for a time. Mr. Haberer attends and supports the Congregational church, of which his wife is an earnest member.

In 1869 and 1870 he was elected tax collector of Sterling township, Whiteside county, and in 1884 he was elected constable and gave his entire time and attention to the duties of that position until 1895, when he was appointed deputy sheriff under Sheriff Fuller and held that position for four years, having charge of the east end—the heavy end—of the county. Proving a most efficient man for the place, he was nominated and elected sheriff in 1898 and assumed the duties of the office on the 5th of December, that year. He has taken an active part in the political affairs of the county for years and has been a delegate to numerous conventions of the Republican party. He is a prominent member of Robinson post, No. 274, G. A. R., of Sterling,

of which he has been commander; was also a member of the Department of Illinois for two years, and when a delegate to the state department helped to elect John C. Black. He was one of the first past grands of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in Sterling and is also an honored member of Rock River lodge, No. 612, F. & A. M., of Sterling; royal arch captain of Sterling chapter, No. 57, R. A. M., and a member of Sterling commandery, No. 57, K. T. He is very prominent both in social and political circles and is held in high regard by all who know him.

**J**OSEPH H. BOYNTON. Eighty years of life, filled with useful effort and crowned with the respect and esteem of his fellow citizens, have left this venerable resident of Sterling still hale and hearty with every prospect of continued health for years to come. He is now the oldest citizen of the town and for over half a century has been prominently identified with its business interests.

A native of New Hampshire, Mr. Boynton was born in Warren, Grafton county, May 15, 1819, and is a son of Joseph and Sally (Knight) Boynton. The Boynton family was founded in America during the early days of New England. The grandfather, Asa Boynton, was a native of England, and on his emigration to the new world located in New Hampshire on the farm where our subject's birth occurred, there spending the remainder of his life. He was a soldier of the Revolutionary war. The father of our subject was also born on the old homestead farm, and the mother's birth occurred near that place. Her father, Samuel Knight, and his brother also aided the colonies in

achieving their independence as soldiers of the Revolutionary war. Mrs. Boynton died in New Hampshire, in 1824, when our subject was not quite five years old, leaving three children, namely: Orlando, Joseph H., and Mrs. Lantha E. Towl, of California, all now deceased with the exception of our subject. For his second wife the father wedded Miss Marian Morse, whose father was also a soldier of the Revolutionary war. While in the east the father of our subject carried on business for himself as a farmer, tanner and currier. In 1834, he removed with his family to St. Clair, Michigan, near which place he purchased a farm, but after operating it for a few years located in the village, where he lived retired until his death. He was one of the pioneer members of the Methodist Episcopal church of that place, and while in New Hampshire took a prominent part in all church work. He not only served as choir master and class leader, but his house was always a stopping place for the ministers.

The education of our subject was acquired in the schools of his native state. He was fifteen years of age when he accompanied the family on their removal to Michigan, traveling by way of the canal to Buffalo and by steamer to Detroit, which accommodations were considered very fine at that time. After two years spent in that state his father gave him and his brother a farm of two hundred acres on the Canadian side of the St. Clair river, where they took up their residence, but soon became interested in the Patriotic Rebellion in 1837, and were forced to leave the country. The father then leased the land for ninety-nine years and our subject went upon the lakes as cabin boy on the Great Western, which was burned in the Detroit river, in 1839.

The following year he was employed in a hotel in Burlington, Iowa, and from there went to Plattville, Grant county, Wisconsin, where he was in business for four years as a dealer in general hardware, stoves, etc. He was also a traveling salesman and was thus employed until he had an attack of smallpox in the winter of 1843, being one of three who lived through a confluent case. After that he was in business alone, and in 1847 came down the Rock river and opened a store in Sterling. However, he still continued to sell goods on the road for fourteen years, traveling as far north as the Wisconsin river, and doing a flourishing business. Among his customers were Long & Fox, whom he knew well and who were described by Bonney in his *Bandits of the Prairie*. Mr. Boynton is still engaged in business upon the lot where he opened his store in 1847, and in the fifty-two years that have since passed has enjoyed a good trade. The hall over his store was occupied by the Odd Fellows Society for sixteen years and the Masons for eighteen. In 1863 he erected a good three-story hotel on the corner of East Third street and Fourth avenue, and after renting it for one year, has conducted it himself, doing the largest business ever done in the town before or since, having on special days taken in five hundred dollars for meals alone. This hotel is now one of the old landmarks of the country. Mr. Boynton has also erected other buildings in Sterling, and until recently owned one hundred and thirty-five feet on Third street, where he is located, and extending back to Fourth street.

Mr. Boynton first married Miss Mary Ann Fitch, who died in 1856, leaving no children. In the fall of 1861, he was united in marriage with Miss Gratia Red-

field, by whom he has one child, Grace, now the wife of Charles H. Ham, of New York. The wife and daughter are members of the Congregational church, to the support of which our subject is a contributor. Since the days of Abraham Lincoln, he has been a staunch supporter of the Republican party, although previously he was a Democrat, and he has filled the office of alderman during his residence in Sterling. He arrived here five years before the railroad was built, and in 1852 traveled on the first passenger train on the old Chicago & Galena Railroad, running between Rockford and Chicago, when going to New York to buy goods. For fifty-two years he has been a merchant of Sterling, and during that time has always paid one hundred cents on the dollar. In 1857 he was twenty thousand dollars in debt, but managed in time to meet all his obligations while all of the old firms with whom he dealt failed. His success is due entirely to his own unaided efforts, and he is now a well-to-do man and highly respected by all who know him.

**J**OHAN H. WARNER. Sound judgment, combined with fine ability in mechanical lines, has enabled the subject of this biography, a well-known resident of Prophetstown, Illinois, to attain a substantial success in life, and his history is of especial interest.

Mr. Warner was born in Jefferson county, Missouri, November 11, 1812, and is a son of Jabez Warner, a native of New England, who, when fifteen years of age, went to Missouri with a brother and located in St. Louis. With his brother he learned the cooper's trade, and later he carried on quite an extensive cooperage business in St.



Louis, though he made his home in Jefferson county. There he married Miss Elizabeth Conner, who was reared in Missouri, and to them was born ten children, of whom our subject is the oldest, the others being as follows: Mary E., who married Job Dodge, a merchant of Prophetstown, and both are now deceased; Elias B. and Andrew J., deceased, both of whom married and reared families; Edward B., who was county treasurer of this county for some years and is now deceased; Sarah C., widow of Silas Sears, a farmer of this county; Eliza, widow of Andrew Fuller and a resident of Sterling; Ellen M., who married Henry Bacon and died in southern California; M. P., a resident of Morrison; and Jabez F., a business man of Prophetstown, who died in 1899. In 1837 the father came to Whiteside county, Illinois, and bought a claim near Prophetstown, upon which he located the following year. He also opened up an adjoining farm, which is now within the corporate limits of Prophetstown. Here he spent his last days, dying in 1847. His wife long survived him and passed away when nearly ninety-nine years of age.

The subject of this review was reared in St. Louis and obtained a good education in the city schools. He learned the cooper's trade with his father and remained under the parental roof until twenty-one years of age. In Jefferson county, Missouri, he was married, March 12, 1835, to Miss Clarissa E. Bryant, who was born in that county May 28, 1818, a daughter of Colonel David Bryant, a distinguished officer of the war of 1812. He was born in Canada and was reared by French people, as his mother died when he was a child. Later he moved to Jefferson county, Missouri, where he owned and operated a large farm, also a

tanyard and gristmill, being one of the most active and prominent business men of that locality.

After his marriage Mr. Warner resided in St. Louis for a few years and then purchased a farm in Jefferson county and turned his attention to agricultural pursuits. In 1840 he came to Whiteside county, Illinois, where he spent one year at this time. He took up government land, erected thereon a claim shanty, and while here he cut and made hoop poles and worked at the cooper's trade in Prophetstown, manufacturing barrels. In 1841 he returned to his farm in Jefferson county, Missouri, and operated the same until 1850, when he sold the place and moved to Peru, Illinois, where he built a house and cooper shop and carried on business for two years. Disposing of his property there he again came to Prophetstown in 1852, and purchased a residence which has now been his home for forty-seven years. In partnership he engaged in the cooperage business and in pork packing on quite an extensive scale for several years, and their efforts were crowned with success. Our subject bought two hundred acres of raw land three miles from Prophetstown, which he has improved and cultivated until it is now one of the most desirable farms of its size in the locality.

Of the eight children born to Mr. and Mrs. Warner, four are still living, namely: James, a civil engineer of Oregon; Orpha, wife of George Shaw, of Prophetstown; William, who is married, has two children and resides in Prophetstown, and Frank, who is also married and living in that place. Those deceased are Mary Josephine, who died at the age of one year; Thomas Edward, who died in childhood; Adaline, deceased wife of N. J. Thomas, of Aurora,

and Emma, deceased wife of Edward Loomis.

In his political affiliations Mr. Warner was originally an old-line Whig, but since supporting Abraham Lincoln for the presidency in 1860, he has been a staunch Republican. Although he has never sought political preferment, he was elected to the first city council of Prophetstown, and most capably filled that position for several years. He has been prominently identified with the growth and upbuilding of the place, and is one of the most honored and highly respected citizens.

**J**OHAN M. KOHL, a leading groceryman of the east end of Sterling, was born in Cologne, Germany, July 26, 1863, a son of Hermann and Sophia (Frenkus) Kohl. The father came alone to the new world in 1869, and was thirty-three days in crossing the Atlantic. He located in Sterling and six months later was joined by his wife, who brought with her their five children, which made it a hard journey for her. Shortly after his arrival here the father learned the cooper's trade, and for about eighteen years was employed in making flour barrels, and for a few years butter tubs. He bought and fitted up a home in the west end of town, where he still continues to live. He and his wife are active members and liberal supporters of the German Catholic church, and he also belongs to the German Maennerchor, having always taken quite an interest in music, especially vocal music. By a former marriage he had two sons, Joseph and Frank, now residents of Chicago. Our subject is the oldest of the eight children born of the second union, five of whom were born in this country. They are John

M.; Gertrude, now the wife of D. P. Crook, of Kansas; Adam and Matthew, residents of Chicago; Peter, of Sterling; Isabella, wife of Frank Boehn, of Sterling; Rosa, at home with her parents; and Henry, of Sterling.

John M. Kohl received only a limited common-school education, not being able to attend school more than six months in all, as his mother needed his services at home. Later he worked on a farm for a few years, and while visiting friends in Chicago, who were in the grocery business, he was persuaded to stay and enter their employ. During the five years he remained with them, he thoroughly learned the business in all its departments. At the end of that time his family insisted on his return home as he was ever a favorite with them, and he found employment with the firm of Beien & Detweiler, grocers of Sterling, for whom he clerked for eight years. He made a valuable assistant, as during his Chicago experience he had learned to skillfully arrange the show windows and could wait on two customers while the other clerks were waiting on one. He also did much of the buying in certain lines for his employers. In partnership with J. K. Eshelman, who recognized his ability, he purchased the store of his employers, but after one year in business down town, Mr. Kohl sold his interest and purchased a small store where he is now located, believing it to be a good opening and his predictions have been true. He carries a well-selected stock of staple and fancy groceries, and by his courteous treatment to customers has built up one of the best and most paying trades in his line in the city. He is also a wholesale and retail dealer in flour and feed. Besides his business property he owns a good home and a tenement house, which are fitted up with

the latest improvements. His success in life is due entirely to his own well-directed efforts, for he started out in life for himself with no capital and until he attained his majority gave his wages to his parents. Religiously he is a member of the German Catholic church.

On the 24th of November, 1885, Mr. Kohl married Miss Mamie Ramsdell, a daughter of D. H. Ramsdell, of Sterling. They have one child living, Ethel, and an adopted son, Clar, a child of Mrs. Kohl's sister Clara, who is now deceased. They also lost one child, Paul, who died at the age of four years.

**H**ENRY WETZELL, who lives on section 35, Hume township, Whiteside county, Illinois, owns and operates a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres, whose neat and thrifty appearance well indicates his careful supervision. Substantial improvements are surrounded by well tilled fields, and many of the accessories and conveniences of a model farm are there found.

Mr. Wetzell was born in Tuscarawas county, Ohio, November 11, 1843, a son of Jacob and Susanna (Biedler) Wetzell, also natives of the Buckeye state. The paternal grandparents, John and Margaret (Reese) Wetzell, were born, reared and married in Pennsylvania, and the latter lived to the advanced age of over ninety-six years. The father of our subject followed farming in Tuscarawas county, Ohio, until 1855, when he came to Whiteside county, Illinois, and bought one hundred and sixty acres in Genesee township, which he converted into a good farm. Subsequently he purchased more land and now resides on the second farm at the age of

eighty-five years—an honored and highly-respected old man.

The subject of this sketch was a lad of twelve years when he came with the family to this county, and he assisted in opening up and improving the home farm. When his services were not needed at home, he attended the common schools of the neighborhood, and the knowledge thereby acquired has been greatly supplemented by subsequent reading and observation. On the 11th of May, 1864, he enlisted in Company A, One Hundred and Fortieth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, for one hundred days' service, and was with the Army of the Tennessee. He participated in some skirmishes, but was mainly engaged in guarding railroads in Tennessee and Mississippi. For six weeks he lay ill in the field hospital, and was then honorably discharged in November, 1864.

Returning to his home, Mr. Wetzell was married in Genesee township, January 19, 1865, to Miss Catherine Overholser, a native of Holmes county, Ohio, and a daughter of Martin Overholser, who came to this county in 1853. Mr. and Mrs. Wetzell have a family of ten living children, namely: James Frank, who is married and engaged in farming in Hume township; Cerena, at home; John L. and William, who own a farm and also rent land, so that they now operate two hundred and forty acres; Christopher, a successful teacher, who died at the age of twenty-four years; Jennie, wife of Frank Milligan, of Tampico township; Rebecca, Lloyd, Oscar P., Lillian and Harry L., all at home; and Lola V., who died at the age of seventeen months.

After his marriage Mr. Wetzell continued his residence in Genesee township until 1872, when he removed to his present

farm on section 35, Hume township, though at that time he only owned eighty acres. He built a good residence, which he has since enlarged, and also erected a barn and other outbuildings, and later purchased an adjoining eighty-acre tract, so that he now has one hundred and sixty acres of well-improved land.

At national elections Mr. Wetzell has affiliated with the Republican party since casting his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln in 1864, but in local politics he is independent, always supporting the men whom he believes best qualified to fill the offices regardless of party lines. He has been honored with a number of offices, having served as highway commissioner two or three years, assessor two years, and supervisor for nine consecutive years. While a member of the county board he served on a number of important committees, including those on equalization, claims and the poor farm. He has also been an efficient member of the school board twenty-one years, and is now president of the district. Socially he belongs to the Grand Army post of Sterling and the Knights of the Globe, and religiously his wife is a member of the United Brethren church, and most of his children belong to the Methodist Episcopal church. He is widely and favorably known, and is one of the most popular and influential men of his community.

---

**A**L. VAN OSDEL. In past ages the history of a country was the record of wars and conquests; to-day it is the record of commercial activity, and those whose names are foremost in its annals are the leaders in business circles. The conquests so made are those of mind over mat-

ter, not of man over man, and the victor is he who can successfully establish, control and operate extensive commercial interests. Mr. Van Osdel is unquestionably one of the most influential business men whose lives have become an essential part of the history of Whiteside county. He is not only prominent in business circles, but has become a leader in public affairs, and is now most creditably serving as mayor of Fulton.

Mr. Van Osdel was born in Kendall county, Illinois, December 25, 1860, a son of James M. and Margaret C. (Bates) Van-Osdel. The father was born in 1816 in New York state, where he was married and continued to make his home until after the birth of four of his children. In November, 1854, he moved to Millington, Kendall county, Illinois, where he followed the business of blacksmithing and wagon-making up to within a year of his death, which occurred in 1889. He had a family of ten children, of whom three died in infancy, those living to maturity being as follows: Mary, now the wife of E. H. Young, of Fulton; George C., an attorney of Aurora, Illinois; O. W., a Baptist minister of Spokane Falls, Washington; Emma, wife of Edward Budd, of Millbrook; Elizabeth, wife of C. Rickert, of Kendall county; Walter S., who is engaged in the sawmill and lumber business in the state of Mississippi; and A. L., who is the youngest of the family.

Reared under the parental roof, our subject was educated in the schools of Millington and worked with his father in the shop. He also found time, by private study, to procure a knowledge of civil engineering, which profession he took up at the age of twenty-four, and to which he devoted the following six years of his life, being in the employ of different railroad companies on



MR. AND MRS. A. L. VAN OSDEL.



survey and construction work in various states and territories.

In May, 1894, Mr. Van Osdel came to Fulton to erect a building for the C. H. Rose Company of Chicago, and in March of the following year bought stock in the Mississippi Valley Stove Company and become its manager, which position he has capably filled ever since. He has also served as treasurer of the company since August, 1897. The Mississippi Valley Stove Company was founded in Fulton in 1893 by the Ohio Stove Company of Tiffin, Ohio, and in 1895 was formed into a stock company, being purchased by local stockholders, and became the Mississippi Valley Stove Company. It is now one of the most important industries in this part of the state, and under its present management the business has increased to ten times its former capacity, now amounting to over one hundred thousand dollars per year. The officers are J. W. Broadhead, president; J. B. Kearns, vice-president; and A. L. Van Osdel, manager, secretary and treasurer; and the works are conveniently located in the southeast part of the city, just outside the corporate limits, on the Northwestern and the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroads. They manufacture over four hundred different styles and sizes of heating and cooking stoves and ranges. Among the most popular of these are the Royal Solar, Regal Solar, Rival Solar, and Art Solar stoves and ranges, which have gained their place in the trade by their acknowledged superior merit. Added to their other merits, one nice feature of these ranges and cooking stoves is an oven thermometer with an indicator on the outside of the oven door, showing at a glance the exact temperature. This enables the operator to regulate the heat to a nicety

and does away with the occasional "bad luck" incidental to guess work.

On the 25th of June, 1895, at Fulton, Mr. Van Osdel married Miss Grace E. Mercereau, a daughter of Charles B. and Julia (Keeler) Mercereau, of that place. Religiously, our subject is a member of the Baptist church, while his wife belongs to the Presbyterian church, and fraternally he is a Royal Arch Mason. In political sentiment he is an ardent Republican. Although comparatively a recent arrival in Fulton, he has become thoroughly identified with its interests and has become an important factor in public affairs. Broad-minded, liberal and public-spirited, he is recognized as a valuable addition to the community, and he has been honored with the highest office within the gift of his fellow townsmen—that of mayor of the city—to which position he was elected in May, 1899. Without the aid of influence or wealth, he has risen to a position of prominence in the business world and in public affairs, and his native genius and acquired ability are the stepping-stones on which he has mounted.

**E**DWARD S. GAGE, deceased. There are few men more worthy of representation in a work of this kind than the subject of this biography, who was for over sixty-three years identified with Whiteside county, and in his last years lived a retired life on his farm on section 35, Prophets-town township, three miles east of the village of that name. He had a long and busy career, rich with experience, and in which he established himself in the esteem and confidence of all who knew him.

Mr. Gage was born in Ferrysburg, Addison county, Vermont, May 5, 1815, and

on the paternal side was of Scotch-Irish extraction. His grandfather, George Gage, was one of the first settlers of Vermont, of which state Captain Oakman Gage, our subject's father, was a native. On reaching manhood the latter married Miss Elizabeth Tupper, the first white child born in Ferrysburg, and a daughter of Alpha Tupper, who moved there from Massachusetts. The father of our subject was a farmer by occupation and held a captain's commission in the war of 1812. He died in Vermont, in 1825, at about the age of forty years, but his wife long survived him and died at the age of eighty-two years. Of the family, one brother of our subject, Nathan W., married and died at about thirty years of age. John W. came to Illinois, in 1839, and settled in Prophetstown, Whiteside county, where he married and where both he and his wife died. Moses died at the age of twenty years.

In his native state Edward S. Gage was reared; but he received only limited educational advantages as his father died when he was a lad of eleven years, and he was then thrown upon his own resources. He commenced learning the wheelwright's trade, at which he worked for eight months, and the knowledge then acquired has proved of great benefit to him all through life. In 1834 he went to Cleveland, Ohio, and stopped with an uncle at Newberg, that state, where he worked at farming for one year, later was employed in a sawmill, and the following year helped build a mill, which he afterward operated. In October, 1836, he came to Whiteside county, Illinois, where his old friend, Johnson Walker, was living. He first bought a claim of eighty acres near Morrison, and then entered one hundred and sixty acres where his last days were

spent. Before locating here, however, he run a ferry at Prophetstown for four years. At the end of that time he turned his attention to the improvement and cultivation of his place, and erected thereon a good hewed-log house, sixteen by eighteen feet, with a floor and good flue.

At Jamison's place, in Prophetstown, Mr. Gage was married May 27, 1840, to Miss Orpha B. Reynolds, who was born in Black Rock, New York, in May, 1822, a daughter of Judge N. G. and Phœbe (Brace) Reynolds. Her father was born in Massachusetts, and was married in Buffalo, New York. In the latter state he resided until the fall of 1835, when he came to Whiteside county, Illinois, and was one of the first to settle in Prophetstown, which place he named in honor of the old Indian prophet who resided here. He was a soldier in the war of 1812, and for his services was given a land warrant. For many years he served as county judge of this county, and held other positions of honor and trust. He died here in 1865, aged seventy-two years, and his wife departed this life in 1875, aged seventy-seven. Of the six children born to our subject and his wife, two sons died in infancy. The others were Sevilla, who married George P. Richmond and died in 1879; Sophia, wife of Gus Edburg, who has operated the Gage farm for a number of years; Frances, wife of Emmett Underhill, a farmer of Prophetstown township; and Phœbe C., who died at the age of sixteen years. Besides their own children they reared a number of others, and there are now living four grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Mr. and Mrs. Gage began their married life in Prophetstown township, and in October, 1844, removed to the farm on section



35, which was ever afterwards their home. Here he owned three hundred and twenty acres of very valuable land, and at one time he had in his possession eight hundred acres. While actively engaged in agricultural pursuits, he devoted considerable time to raising and feeding a good grade of cattle and hogs. He commenced life for himself without means, but being industrious, ambitious and energetic, he met with decided success in his undertakings, and was one of the most prosperous farmers of his community. His success enabled him to lay aside all business cares and responsibilities, and spend his declining years in ease and quiet. He and his wife made several trips east to New York and Vermont, and have spent the winter there, visiting old friends and scenes familiar to their childhood.

Originally Mr. Gage was a Jeffersonian Democrat in politics, voting for Buchanan in 1856; but in 1860 he cast his ballot for Abraham Lincoln, and from that time on was a staunch Republican. While not a member of any religious denomination, he attended the Methodist Episcopal church with his wife, who is a member of that church. On the 21st of October, 1899, Mr. Gage passed quietly away, and his remains were laid to rest. He was well known and universally esteemed. His wife yet remains, and is also greatly esteemed.

**H**ON. GEORGE THADDEUS ELLIOTT, ex-mayor of Sterling and a prominent grain dealer of that place, was born in Ames, Canajoharie township, Montgomery county, New York, October 18, 1827, and comes of distinguished ancestry. The name was originally spelled Eliot, and

it is believed that the family is of English Puritan stock. Elijah Elliot, father of our subject, was born in Connecticut, November 10, 1790, and died July 9, 1873. When a young man he removed from his native state to Montgomery county, New York, where he engaged in milling, and later took up his residence in Otsego county, New York, where his death occurred. He was married, June 2, 1820, to Miss Ann Smith, who died February 12, 1828, during the infancy of our subject. Her father, Major James Smith, served with distinction as an officer in the Revolutionary war. He was born in Connecticut of English ancestry and died in 1848, at the age of ninety-four years. Our subject's paternal grandparents were Rev. George and Percy (Kimball) Eliot, the former of whom was born in 1756, and died March 22, 1817, and the latter was born in 1761, and died March 6, 1845. The grandfather was a Baptist minister who organized churches of that denomination at Burlington Flats, Ames, where he preached for twenty years, Exeter, Starkville and Danube, Herkimer county, all in New York. He was from Pomfret, Connecticut. He left his church work to serve as a private in the Revolutionary war and took an active part in that struggle.

As his mother died during his infancy Mr. Elliott, of this review, was adopted into the family of Elisha Elliott, a cousin of his father, and with them removed to Richfield Springs, Otsego county, New York, when eleven years of age. While his education was completed he entered the mill of his father at Springfield and learned the trade, remaining there until 1851. In the meantime he was married, October 21, 1849, to Miss Sarah Jane Phelps, of Oneida, New York, a daughter of Heman H.

Phelps, who built the Syracuse & Utica Railroad, now a part of the New York Central Railroad.

At the time of his marriage Mr. Elliott was living at Springfield, New York, at the head of Otsego Lake, where he was engaged in milling, until 1851, and during the following two years he was general superintendent of the flouring mill of Colonel H. P. Adams & Company, at Syracuse. In 1853 he went to Chicago with Colonel Adams, who had contracted to build the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad from Dixon to Fulton, Illinois, arriving in western metropolis in September of that year. He spent the winter in Muscatine, Iowa, supervising and watching over the railroad interests of his employer. Colonel Adams having failed, Mr. Elliott returned to Chicago, and in 1854 opened the first wholesale flour house in that city, at No. 54 Randolph street. While there he made occasional visits to Belvidere, Illinois, where he controlled the products of a mill. He built up a large flour trade in Chicago and also conducted the old hydraulic mill at the foot of Lake street during the last year and a half of its existence. In 1856 he sold his interests in Chicago and removed to Davenport, Iowa, where he engaged in the flour business until the breaking out of the Civil war, when he returned to Chicago. He was interested in the flour commission business there from May, 1861, to May, 1871, being a member of the board of trade, with which he had previously been connected from 1854 to 1856. There are few men now living who were with him on the board at that time. During the last ten years a building was erected on the corner of South Water and Wells streets for their use, and that was occupied by them until their removal to the

Chamber of Commerce. In connection with the flour business, Mr. Elliott dealt in grain quite extensively. Coming to Sterling in 1871, he operated the old Commercial Mill, until the Wire Company bought the water power for twenty-five years. It was the first and largest mill built in Sterling, having a capacity of about one thousand barrels per week, and was operated exclusively in the manufacture of flour. On the sale of this mill, Mr. Elliott purchased his present elevator and moved it to the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad tracks. It has a capacity of twenty-five thousand bushels, but is intended to pass the grain from the farmers' wagons to the cars. He has since devoted his attention to buying and shipping grain, selling several hundred car loads a year in Chicago. His record is that of a man who has worked his way upward to a position of prominence by his own unaided efforts. His life has been one of industry and perseverance, and the systematic and honorable business methods which he has followed have won him the support and confidence of many.

Since the organization of the Republican party Mr. Elliott has been one of its staunch supporters, but never an aspirant for office, though he has served as mayor of the city—the only public position he has been prevailed upon to accept. During his administration the era of improvement was commenced, a good street system of sewers was almost completed, and city hall was nearly finished. He signed the first bonds for the city hall, amounting to fifteen thousand dollars. He was progressive and pre-eminently public-spirited and ever has the best interests of the place at heart.

Mr. Elliott's first wife died in 1873, leaving four children, three sons and one

daughter, namely: Clifford, now a resident of Kansas City, Kansas; Lillian, widow of J. C. Salmon; George W., a resident of Chicago, who is with the Chicago Housing Company, and Charles, a fruit broker of the same city. Our subject was again married, August 31, 1879, his second union being with Miss Ellen M. Mallett, of this county, by whom he has two daughters, Georgiana and Madeline E. The family have one of the loveliest homes of the city, it being the Farwell homestead. They attend the Episcopal church, of which Mrs. Elliott is a member, and occupy a prominent position in social circles.

Mrs. Elliott is descended from the old French aristocracy. The founder of the Mallett family in America was Peter Mallett, a native of Rochelle, France, who was born in 1712 and from his native land fled to England. Being a man of considerable wealth he purchased a vessel and brought the French refugees to America, founding the city of New Rochelle, New York. He took an active part in the Revolutionary war, holding a prominent position in the Continental army. He married Mary Booth.

Their son Peter was born in 1744 and in 1765 married Sarah Mumford. He settled in Wilmington, North Carolina, and was one of the principal founders of Fayetteville, that state. His son, Edward Jones Mallett, was born in 1797, and married Sarah Fenner. He was a member of a noted class which graduated from Chapel Hill University, one of his classmates being President Polk. He became quite wealthy, was at one time consul-general to Florence, Italy, and later made his home in New York. His son, Charles Pierre Mallett, was born in Providence, Rhode Island, December 20, 1824, and was educated at

Jamaica Plains, Boston. In 1846 he came as a pioneer to Whiteside county, Illinois, and took up his residence in Como, becoming one of the extensive land owners and prominent builders of that place, where he made his home for many years. There he married Miss Georgiana Sampson, who was born in Duxbury, Massachusetts, February 1, 1829. Her father, Henry Briggs Sampson, opened the first public house in Como in 1839. He was also a native of Duxbury, Massachusetts, and came of Mayflower stock. The progenitor of the family in America was Henry Sampson, who came to this country with the Filley family on the Mayflower in 1620, and settled in Duxbury, where he died December 20, 1684. His son Caleb married Mercy Standish, a granddaughter of Miles Standish, and a daughter of Alexander and Sarah (Alden) Standish, the latter a daughter of John and Priscilla Alden. David Sampson, a son of Caleb, was born in Duxbury, in 1685, and was married June 5, 1712, to Mary Chapin, a native of Boston, who lived to the extreme old age of one hundred and three years. Their son Chapin married Bettie Clift, of Marshfield, Massachusetts, and among their children was Captain Job Sampson, who was born in Duxbury, September 19, 1766, and married Betsy Windsor, whose ancestors were pioneers of Duxbury. Their son, Captain Henry Briggs Sampson, was born July 15, 1787, and died in 1865, at Como, Illinois, where he located in 1837. He married Nancy Turner, daughter of Colonel William Turner, who was one of General Washington's aids during the Revolutionary war. The Sampsons were principally vessel owners and sea captains. The Turner family is descended from Humphry Turner, of Essex, England, who on coming to this

country located in the colony of New Plymouth.

Mrs. Elliott is a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, being entitled to membership along several different lines, and she was appointed regent of the same, but has never organized a chapter at Sterling.

---

**EMERY D. COVELL**, a representative farmer and highly esteemed citizen of Tampico township, whose home is on section 6, was born in Wyoming county, New York, December 24, 1835, and is a son of George R. D. and Laura (Carpenter) Covell, also natives of the Empire state. During his childhood he removed with the family to Genesee county, New York, where the father bought a farm and spent his remaining days. There both parents died.

Our subject passed his boyhood and youth in much the usual manner of farmer boys of his day, aiding his father in improving and carrying on home farm and attending school as the opportunity presented itself. In Genesee county, he was married, November 15, 1859, the lady of his choice being Miss Julia E. Erwin, who was born in Monroe county, New York, but was reared in Genesee county. They have one son, Clarence, who married Stella Needham and has eight children. He helps his father carry on the home farm.

After his marriage, Mr. Covell rented land in Genesee county, New York, and engaged in farming there until the spring of 1862, when he came west to Whiteside county, Illinois, joining his brother-in-law, Burt Erwin. During the first year spent here, he worked by the month as a farm hand, and the following year operated rented

land. His first purchase consisted of eighty acres of raw prairie, which he fenced, broke, and converted into a highly productive farm. After farming upon that place for several years, he sold it at a good profit, and bought one hundred and twenty acres where he now resides. The same season he purchased another forty-acre tract adjoining the first, and has since devoted his time and attention to the improvement and cultivation of this farm, with the exception of three years spent in Kansas. Renting his land in 1895, he moved to Logan, Phillips county, Kansas, where he bought an elevator and engaged in the grain and stock business for three years, but in September, 1898, he sold his interests there and returned to his farm in Whiteside county, Illinois.

In politics Mr. Covell is an ardent Republican, and has never wavered in his allegiance to that party since casting his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln in 1860. He has never cared for official honors, but at different times has served as school director in his district. He is largely interested in any movement that is for the improvement of his township and county, or that will elevate or benefit the people among whom he lives. He is honored and respected wherever known, and by his neighbors and friends is held in the highest regard.

---

**LAUREN E. TUTTLE**, the well known and popular circuit clerk and recorder of Whiteside county, was born in Sterling, February 22, 1849, a son of Henry and Lavinia (Penrose) Tuttle. The progenitor of the Tuttle family in America was William Tuttle, who came to this country on the Planter in 1635 and located in Boston. The

father of our subject was born in Greene county, New York, January 29, 1818, a son of William and Lucalle (Steele) Tuttle, farming people of that state. The grandfather was born at Wallingford, Connecticut, August 29, 1779, and was a son of John and Lois (Austin) Tuttle. John Tuttle was also a native of the Nutmeg state and was a son of Lieutenant Jehiel Tuttle, who was a soldier in the French war of 1754 and 1763. John recovered the horn and gun of his father and used them afterward in the Revolution. He joined the Colonial army at the age of thirteen years and was at Lake George a part of the time. For many years he served as commissioner of the poor in Greene county, New York, whither he removed in 1788, having previously erected a cabin there which was torn down by the Indians while he returned east for his family. He spent his last days in that county. He had nine children, one of whom was William Tuttle, grandfather of our subject, who was nine years of age when the family removed to Greene county, New York. He was a farmer and merchant by occupation and served with distinction in the general assembly of that state. In 1841 he came west, traveling one thousand miles overland in a buggy, but soon after his arrival in Whiteside county he was stricken with typhoid fever and died.

In his native state Henry Tuttle grew to manhood, and after receiving a common-school education followed farming there until 1837, when he came by way of the lakes to Chicago and from there to Whiteside county. He made the journey in company with A. B. and John B. Steele and Timothy Butler, and he purchased two hundred acres of land in Sterling township, of the four hundred acres which David Steele had

previously taken up. At that time the county was very sparsely settled. He built the first frame house within its borders, and his neighbors thought him insane, believing it would be blown down in the first storm, but it is still standing in a good state of preservation, and is still in use. He became the owner of considerable land in Sterling township, which he finally sold in 1867, and purchased three hundred acres in Hopkins township, upon which he made his home until his death, which occurred January 12, 1879. He was extremely charitable and generous, and it is safe to say that no man stood higher in the esteem of his fellow-citizens than Henry Tuttle. His widow is still living, and now makes her home in Sterling. She belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church, of which he was also a member. Politically he was a staunch Republican, and was honored with a number of local offices. In their family were five children, of whom Lauren E., our subject, is the eldest; Charles E. died at the age of twenty-two years; Clarence H., who is connected with the Sterling National Bank, married Emma Bills, and had one child that died in infancy; Ida M. and Mary L. live with their mother in Sterling.

Our subject's maternal grandfather, Edwin Penrose, a son of Robert and Rachel Penrose, was born in Canada June 13, 1807, and was married in Belmont county, Ohio, March 5, 1828, to Miss Mary Spencer, who was born in that state February 18, 1805, a daughter of Nathan and Ann Spencer. Soon after their marriage they moved to Knox county, Ohio, and from there came to Whiteside county, Illinois, in 1845, locating on a farm about two miles north of Sterling, where they resided until after the Civil war, when they moved to Iowa. Both died in

that state, Mr. Penrose October 29, 1879; his wife April 4, 1872. They were members of the Society of Friends, and humble followers of the Savior. Their lives were in perfect harmony with their professions, and they were always ready to render their neighbors any favor within their power. At times Mr. Penrose held offices of public trust in the community where he resided. In his family were seven children, namely: Mrs. Lavinia Tuttle, born December 5, 1828, is the mother of our subject; Mrs. Eliza Hulse, born April 25, 1831, is a resident of Keota, Iowa; Mrs. Annie Hodge, born June 19, 1833, makes her home in Odebolt, Iowa; Mrs. Rachel Coe, born August 22, 1835, is living in Rock Falls, Illinois; Nathan L. Penrose, born January 1, 1837, lives in Sterling; and Jesse A. Penrose, born September 24, 1844, makes his home in Sac City, Iowa.

Lauren E. Tuttle was educated in the common schools and the Davenport Business College. After leaving school he spent one year at home and then accepted the position of secretary with the Keystone Burial Case Company, and remained with them after the firm re-organized as the Rock Falls Manufacturing Company for a few months. In 1878 he was appointed deputy recorder by Addison Darrington, then recorder of Whiteside county, and acceptably filled that position for four years. The following two years he was employed as bookkeeper in the First National Bank of Morrison, and at the end of that time was elected circuit clerk and recorder, which offices he has since most creditably and satisfactorily filled for the long period of fifteen years.

On the 4th of November, 1875, Mr. Tuttle was united in marriage with Miss Emily A. Ustick, who was born in White-

side county, July 6, 1852, a daughter of Henry and Susan (McMullen) Ustick, now honored residents of Morrison. The father was born in Morrow county, Ohio, April 30, 1826, the mother in Toronto, Canada, July 30, of the same year. They have eight children: Sarah E., Emily A., Edward P., John William, Lilly D., Charles B., Annabel and Mitchell C. Mrs. Tuttle's paternal grandfather, Henry Ustick, Sr., was one of the earliest settlers of this county, and Ustick township was named in his honor. Our subject and his wife have two children: Ivy M., born October 2, 1878, is a graduate of the Morrison high school; and Mary L., born November 19, 1884, is still attending that school. The parents both hold membership in the Presbyterian church, and Mr. Tuttle is identified with the Republican party. He was a member of the board of education for eleven years, and his official duties have always been most faithfully and efficiently performed.

**C**HARLES WILLIS CABOT. Whiteside county has no more successful farmer and stock raiser than the gentleman whose name heads this sketch. He now owns and operates a valuable and well-improved farm of two hundred acres on section 3, Prophetstown township, pleasantly located one mile east of the village of Prophetstown, and that he thoroughly understands the occupation that he has chosen as a life work is manifest in the thrifty appearance of his place.

Mr. Cabot is a native of the county, born on the old homestead, where he still resides, March 9, 1857. As a young man his father, Hubbard S. Cabot, became one of the pioneer settlers of this region, and entered the

land from the government where his son now resides. He opened up the farm and was numbered among the most active and progressive agriculturists of the community. On locating here he hauled the lumber to build his house and barn from Chicago, and all his farm produce he sold in that city, returning home with provisions and supplies. In this county he married Catherine Sears, a native of Massachusetts and one of the pioneer teachers of the county. Her father, Rev. Reuben Sears, was one of the first ministers of the county, and he died here at an early day. Mr. Cabot was accidentally killed by a falling tree, in March, 1862, leaving his wife with four children, whom she reared and educated in a most commendable manner. All reached years of maturity, but only two are now living. Sarah, the oldest, was well educated and became a teacher in the city schools of Sterling, but died when a young lady. Norman died in Grinnell, Iowa, at the age of nineteen years, while attending college there. Mary, also a teacher in early life, is now the wife of Thomas Diller, of Sterling. Charles Willis completes the family.

Our subject grew to manhood on the home farm, and his early education, acquired in the public schools of Prophetstown, was supplemented by one year's attendance at the State Normal at Bloomington and a course at the normal in Valparaiso, Indiana. At the early age of fifteen years he took charge of the farm, and has since made many substantial and permanent improvements on it, remodeling the house, buildings, barns, outbuildings, fences, etc. As a stock breeder he ranks among the best. He raises a good grade of cattle, but his specialty is hogs and draft horses and roadsters. At the state fair he took first pre-

mium, in 1897, for having the largest yield of corn to the acre in the state, and in 1898 took second premium. He was again a contestant in 1899 and took the first premium.

In August, 1885, at Davenport, Iowa, Mr. Cabot was united in marriage with Miss Ethel B. Warner, a native of this county, who was educated in Morrison and was a successful teacher for some years prior to her marriage. She is a daughter of Pleasant Warner, of Morrison. Our subject and his wife have three children: Norman, Katie and Fannie Fern.

Politically, Mr. Cabot is a true blue Republican, and has never failed to support every presidential candidate of that party since attaining his majority. Fraternally he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, the Royal Neighbors and the Mystic Workers of the World, while his wife is a member of the Eastern Star of the Masonic order, the Royal Neighbors and Mystic Workers of the World. Their pleasant home is the abode of hospitality, and in the best social circles of the community they occupy an enviable position.

---

**E**LIAS H. KILMER, a well-known agriculturist residing on section 36, Prophetstown township, is not only one of the valued citizens of Whiteside county, but was also one of the brave defenders of the Union during the dark days of the Civil war, devoting over four years of early manhood to the service of his country.

Mr. Kilmer was born in Oswego county, New York, December 1, 1839, a son of Elias T. and Bertha (Smith) Kilmer, also natives of the Empire state. The father was a farmer of Oswego county, and con-

tinued his residence there until after the birth of several of his children. He came west in 1847 by way of the Great Lakes to Chicago, and from there proceeded to Kendall county, Illinois, where he followed farming. The last years of his life were spent in Newark, where he died in March, 1893, at the advanced age of ninety-two years. The mother of our subject passed away in 1854, and he later married again.

Elias H. Kilmer was a lad of seven years when he came with the family to this state, and in Kendall county he grew to manhood. As his school privileges were limited, he was almost wholly self-educated. His mother died when he was a lad of fourteen years, and for several years thereafter his life was one of hardships and toil upon the farm. On the 24th of April, 1861, at the first call for three-years troops, he enlisted in Company K, Twentieth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, which was assigned to the Army of the Tennessee. His first engagement was at Fredericksburg, Missouri, and was followed by the battles of Fort Henry, Fort Donelson, Shiloh, Britton's Lane, Port Gibson, Raymond and Champion Hill. For forty-seven days he was in battle around Vicksburg, and helped to capture that stronghold. He was ill in the hospital at St. Louis for a short time during the spring of 1862, but remained in the service until the expiration of his term of enlistment, being honorably discharged July 14, 1864. On the 4th of the following September, he re-enlisted, joining the One Hundred and Forty-sixth Illinois Infantry, with which he served until the close of the war. He was mustered out July 8, 1865, with the rank of sergeant and after being discharged returned to his home in Kendall county.

Mr. Kilmer first came to Whiteside

county in the spring of 1866 and rented a farm in Tampico township. On the 16th of September, of that year, he was married, in Tampico, to Miss Emerett Robinson, who was born in Berrien county, Michigan, and came to Henry county, Illinois, when a child of ten years with her mother and step-father, Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Lane. Her father was Joel Robinson, a native of New York, who was an early settler of Michigan and died in that state during her childhood. In the fall of 1866, Mr. and Mrs. Kilmer went to Iowa, where they spent one year, and then returned to this state. He then engaged in farming upon rented land in Whiteside county, but lived just across the line in Henry county for several years. In 1880 he purchased eighty acres of partially improved land on section 36, Prophetstown township, where he has since made his home. Here he has erected a pleasant residence and just completed a large, substantial barn, one of the best in the neighborhood. He carries on general farming and stock raising, making a specialty of hogs, and is accounted one of the most successful farmers and stock men in the community. On starting out in life together he and his wife were in limited circumstances, but by their combined efforts, untiring industry and good management they have become quite well-to-do.

To Mr. and Mrs. Kilmer was born one child, Eugene, who died at the age of sixteen months. Out of the kindness of their hearts they have given homes to two others, Alanson Bishop, a nephew, who lived with them from the age of twelve years until his death in 1888, when twenty-seven years of age; and Grace Wildman, who has found a pleasant home with them since a child of



ten years. Mrs. Kilmer is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal church and a most estimable lady. Since casting his first presidential ballot for General U. S. Grant, in 1868, Mr. Kilmer has been a staunch supporter of the Republican party and its principles, and he is an honored member of the Grand Army Post of Prophetstown. A loyal and patriotic citizen, he is found as true to his duties of citizenship in times of peace as when he followed the old flag to victory on southern battle fields.

PETER THOMSEN, who is successfully engaged in business in Fulton, Illinois, was born in Winnert, Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, September 11, 1859, and is a son of John and Catherine (Clausen) Thomsen, also of German birth. The father was a contractor and builder in the service of the government, constructing roads and bridges. He died in Germany, in 1897, but the mother survives and still resides in the Fatherland. Our subject is the third in order of birth in a family of nine children, and the only one living in this country.

Mr. Thomsen received a collegiate education at Humsum, Germany, and during his youth assisted his father in business. He also served for two years as a soldier in the German army. He then came to America, landing in New York City, April 12, 1884, and during the first three months spent in this country, he worked on a fruit farm near Dover, Delaware. In July, 1884, he went to Lyons, Iowa, where he was employed in the sawmill of a Mr. Joyce for two seasons. He then accepted the agency for the Rock Island Brewing Company, and was engaged with them at Lyons for two years and a half. There he was

married April 5, 1887, to Miss Anna Roeh, a daughter of John and Margaret (Hertzner) Roeh. Her father is one of the pioneer merchants of Lyons, where he was engaged in the grocery business for over thirty years, but is now living retired. Mr. and Mrs. Thomsen have three children, namely: John W., Alfred W. and Marvin.

In 1889 Mr. Thomsen came to Fulton, and has since engaged in his present business at the corner of Cherry and River street with good success. In 1893 he purchased the building, which is a good three-story structure, the upper floor of which is occupied by the Masonic lodge. Fraternally Mr. Thomsen is a prominent member of Sunlight lodge, No. 239, K. P., of which he is past chancellor commander, and politically he is a staunch Republican, but not a politician in the sense of office seeking. He is one of the most progressive and enterprising citizens of Fulton, is well-read and keeps thoroughly posted on topics of general interest as well as the questions and issues of the day.

HON. HENRY C. WARD. In the last half of the present century the lawyer has been a pre-eminent factor in all affairs of private concern and national importance. He has been depended upon to conserve the best and permanent interests of the whole people and is a recognized power in all the avenues of life. He stands as the protector of the rights and liberties of his fellowmen and is the representative of a profession whose followers, if they would gain honor, fame and success, must be men of merit and ability. Such a one is Judge Ward, who occupies the bench of Whiteside county, winning high commendation by his fair and impartial administration of justice.

The Judge was born in Hendrysburgh, Belmont county, Ohio, November 16, 1850, a son of John V. and Mary A. (Mumma) Ward. The father was born in Chester county, Pennsylvania, January 1, 1810. The paternal grandfather, Philip Ward, was a native of Cecil county, Maryland, and a lineal descendant of General Thomas Ward, who came to this country from England with Lord Howe during the Revolutionary war. From Maryland Philip Ward removed to Chester county, Pennsylvania, and when the father of our subject was quite small became a pioneer settler of Belmont county, Ohio, where he followed farming until called from this life in 1869. He was not a member of any church but his wife was connected with the Society of Friends.

Leaving home at the age of eighteen years, John V. Ward, father of the Judge, began his business career as a clerk in a store, where he remained until buying two stores of his own, one in Morristown, the other in Hendrysburgh, Ohio. He afterward united the two, concentrating his business at Hendrysburgh, and in connection with merchandising bought pork, wool and tobacco in season. He acquired quite a fortune for his time. Most of his produce was hauled to market at Baltimore, Maryland. Politically he was a staunch supporter of first the Whig and later of the Republican parties, but would accept no office except that of assessor. In 1874 he came to Whiteside county, Illinois, and lived retired in Sterling until his death, August 5, 1899. On the 8th of February, 1835, he was united in marriage with Miss Mary A. Mumma, who was born in Belmont county, Ohio, February 29, 1812, a daughter of John Mumma, who was of German birth and an early settler of Belmont county. He was killed by

a falling tree at the age of forty-two years. Mr. and Mrs. Ward are active and prominent members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Sterling and are held in high regard by all who know them. In their family are five children who reached years of maturity, of whom the Judge is the youngest. E. Brooks, the oldest, came to Sterling as an attorney, and during the Civil war entered the Union army as captain of Company A, Thirty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, of which regiment his law partner, E. N. Kirk, was commissioned colonel and later promoted to the rank of general. Captain Ward resigned December 5, 1862, and returned to Sterling, resumed the practice, but never recovered and died in June, 1863. W. Scott is a resident of Sterling. Chattie is the widow of John G. Manahan, a prominent attorney of Sterling, whose sketch is given on another page of this volume; and Rowena, deceased, was the wife of John F. Barrett.

Judge Ward's early education, acquired in the common schools, was supplemented by a four years' course at McNeeley Normal College, Harrison county, Ohio. After teaching school for one term in that state he came to Sterling, Illinois, in October, 1872, and entered the law office of Kilgore & Manahan, with whom he studied for five years before applying for admission to the bar, though he gained much practical information by drawing up legal papers, taking testimony, etc. He was examined at Springfield, in January, 1877, and licensed to practice. In July of the same year he formed a partnership with Mr. Manahan, under the name of Manahan & Ward, and together they engaged in the general practice of law and patent litigation until January 1, 1890, when the

partnership was dissolved and the business divided, Mr. Manahan taking the patent business exclusively, and our subject the general practice. During the existence of the firm, after the "Q" entered Sterling, they were employed as attorneys for that railroad, until the dissolution above mentioned, and had a large general practice which our subject still enjoys. He was active in forming the Sterling Water Company, of which he was secretary and a stockholder for sometime after its organization.

On the 16th of May, 1877, Judge Ward was united in marriage with Miss Mary C. Anthony, daughter of Dr. J. P. Anthony, who is represented elsewhere in this work, and they have become the parents of six children, namely: Martha, Alice M., John A., Frank, Philip H. and Mary Helen. The family have a beautiful home at No. 807 Avenue B, opposite Pennington Park, which was erected by the Judge in 1896. He and his wife hold membership in the Presbyterian church of Sterling and occupy an enviable position in the best social circles of the city. He is prominently identified with the Republican party, has stumped the county in its interests, and has been an important factor in securing its success. Under the old charter he was city attorney for two terms, being appointed to that position in 1878 and again in 1880, and he was elected to the same office in 1891 and again in 1893. When elected county judge in 1894, he resigned the former position, and so acceptably did he fill the office of judge that he was re-elected in 1898, and is the present incumbent. He has had no appeals taken to the higher courts in probate and none reversed in the revenue cases that have been appealed. He has ever taken an active and prominent part in public affairs, has been a

director of the public library for many years, and a member of the board of education of the Wallace school for about fifteen years. He is a prominent Mason, master of Rock River lodge, No. 612, F. & A. M., which he has represented in the grand lodge, and also belongs to Sterling chapter, No. 57, R. A. M., and Sterling commandery, No. 57, K. T., of which he is junior warden at the present time. He is very popular with all classes, and prominent and influential in professional, social and political circles.

---

OLIVER D. OLSON, whose fine farm of two hundred and eighty acres is located on section 9, Tampico township, within two miles of the village of that name, has been a resident of Whiteside county since 1854. He is a native of Sweden, born May 21, 1850, and came to the United States with his father, John Olson, in 1853. His father first located in Lee county, near the city of Dixon, and there remained until the following year, when he came to Whiteside county, where he opened up a farm in Tampico township, there reared his family, and spent his last days, dying in February, 1888.

The subject of this sketch was but four years old when he came with his father to this county. Here the remainder of his life has since been spent. Educated in the common schools of the neighborhood, he attended school at such time as his labor was not needed on the farm. He remained at home, assisting in the labors of the farm, until after he had attained his majority. He was married in Moline, Illinois, January 1, 1870, to Miss Chastine Munson, also a native of Sweden, where she grew to wo-

manhood, after which she came to the United States. By this union six children were born: Matilda Josephine married Burt Morris, but died in July, 1896. Frank Herman is engaged in railroad work, in the employ of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad. Joseph Merton is carrying on the home farm. Edward Theodore is now living in Minnesota. He is a well-educated young man and is engaged in teaching. Agnes Caroline is a student in the Normal College at Valparaiso, Indiana. Minnie Dora is the wife of Arthur Aldrich, of Tampico township.

After marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Olson located on the farm where they now reside, but which then consisted of only eighty acres, but which was purchased by him in 1869. The land was raw prairie and without improvements of any kind, and Mr. Olson at once went to work to redeem it from its virgin estate. He later bought one hundred and twenty acres additional, and still later another eighty, giving him his present fine farm. For a time he also owned a farm of one hundred and forty acres in Hahnaman township, but he has since sold the same. On his home place he has built various outbuildings, barns, and his present comfortable residence. The fruit and ornamental trees were all put out by his own hands, and in fact all the improvements now seen is due to him. In addition to the raising of grain, he has given much of his time to stock raising, in which line he has been quite successful. Each year he feeds and fattens several car loads of stock for the markets.

In the public schools Mr. Olson has always shown a commendable interest, and to further the best interests of the schools he has served for some years as a member of

the school board. He has given each of his children good educational advantages, and they have shown themselves worthy of it. For several years he served as road commissioner and gave much of his time to the roads in his district. In politics he has always been a Republican, and from Grant in 1872 to McKinley in 1896, he has voted the party ticket.

In religion Mr. and Mrs. Olson are members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Tampico, and take an active interest in the work of the church and the spread of the gospel. Fraternally he is a Master Mason, holding membership with the lodge in Tampico. He and his wife are also members of the Order of the Eastern Star. He is likewise a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and of the Knights of the Globe. As a farmer he has been a success, and while he had a little assistance from his father in beginning the struggle of life, the greater part of his possessions has been acquired by his own industry, assisted by his good wife. For forty-five years he has been a resident of the county, and in that time what vast changes have been made? When he came, there was not a mile of railroad in the county, the country was nearly all in its primitive state, and to his industry, and to the noble band of pioneers, the present condition of the county is largely due.

**F**RANK ANTHONY, M. D. One of the most exacting of all the higher lines of occupation to which a man may lend his energies is that of the physician. A most scrupulous preliminary training is demanded, a nicety of judgment but little understood by the laity. Our subject is well

fitted for the profession which he has chosen as a life work, and his skill and ability have won for him a lucrative practice.

Dr. Anthony has spent his entire life in Sterling, where he was born, March 9, 1858, a son of Julius P. and Martha J. (Parke) Anthony. The father was a native of Skaneateles, Onondaga county, New York, where he was reared upon a farm. His early education acquired in the common schools of Skaneateles, was supplemented by a course in the academy at Homer, New York. He paid his own way through school and when his education was completed, he engaged in teaching for a time. Subsequently he commenced the study of medicine with Dr. Parke, of Danville, Pennsylvania, and later attended lectures at the Berkshire Medical College, of Pittsfield, Massachusetts, from which institution he was graduated in the class of 1847. He married the daughter of his preceptor, Dr. Parke, and in 1847 they came west by way of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, locating first at Comanche, Iowa. In the spring of 1850 they came to Sterling, which at that time was a very small place as the railroad had not yet been built. He was one of the best educated and most successful physicians of the place, and during early days his practice extended as far as Savannah and Geneseo, Illinois. While making professional visits throughout the country he traveled on horseback or in a sulky. During the Civil war he was surgeon of the Sixty-first Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was with the regiment in the field all through the service. He received a wound and made light of it at the time, but it eventually killed him. During his early residence here, Dr. J. P. Anthony invested largely in both city and farm property, built a good

many houses and some business blocks, and became quite prosperous. After his return from the war he resumed private practice and up to the time of his death was one of the leading physicians of the county. He was also surgeon for the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad and was the originator and main supporter of the free bridge over the river at Sterling, which now stands as a monument to his memory. He was one of the originators and president of the County Medical Society, now non-existent, and also belonged to the State Medical Society, Sterling lodge, I. O. O. F., and Will Robinson post, G. A. R., of which he was one of the most prominent members and surgeon for many years. It was largely through his instrumentality that the free library was established at Sterling, and he took an active part in promoting any enterprise for the public good. Politically he was identified with the Republican party. He passed away June 8, 1891, and in his death the community realized that it had lost one of its most valued and useful citizens. His wife died in February, 1888. They attended and supported the Presbyterian church. Their children were Pamela, Darwin H., Martha L., Mary C. and Frank.

Dr. Frank Anthony, whose name introduces this sketch, pursued his studies in the common schools and an academy, and then attended Beloit College, Beloit, Wisconsin. He read medicine with his father and took a three years course at Rush Medical College, Chicago, from which he was graduated in 1881. Returning to Sterling he engaged in practice with his father until the latter's death. From the start he has been remarkably successful and is to-day one of the leading medical practitioners of the county. He has been surgeon for the Chicago &

Northwestern Railroad for fifteen years and for that company has done considerable work. In 1891 he was made surgeon of the Sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was with his regiment in the Cuban and Porto Rico campaigns during our recent war with Spain. He was on the second boat that landed and was in the first skirmish on the island. At the end of six months he returned to the United States September 9, 1898, and was mustered out of the United States service November 25. He has since given his time and attention to his private practice.

On the 4th of October, 1882, Dr. Anthony married Miss Nellie Persels, of Beloit, Wisconsin, and to them have been born two children: Nellie and Hazel. The family reside at No. 202 West Fourth street and attend the Presbyterian church. Fraternally, the Doctor is a member of the Rock River Valley Medical Society, the State Medical Society, the National Medical Association, and the Railway Surgeons Association. He still belongs to National Guards, and is a member of the A. O. U. W., the Knights of the Globe, and the blue lodge, chapter and commandery of the Masonic order, all of Sterling. His political support is always given the men and measures of the Republican party. Like his father he is public spirited and progressive, and gives his influence to every enterprise for the public good.

**JAMES R. BELL.** The prosperity of any community depends upon its business activity, and the enterprise manifest in commercial circles is the foundation upon which is builded the material welfare of town, state and nation. The most important factors in public life at the present day

are therefore men who are in control of successful business interests and such a one is Mr. Bell, president of the Sterling National Bank, of Sterling, Illinois, and the oldest business man of the city.

Mr. Bell was born in Goffstown, New Hampshire, June 8, 1825, a son of Jonathan and Lydia (Dow) Bell. The father, who was an agriculturist, was born on the same farm in Goffstown, the land having been entered from the government by the grandfather, Jonathan Bell, Sr., after his return from the Revolutionary war as a member of a Massachusetts regiment. He was born in New Hampshire, though his father came from the north of Ireland and was of Scotch ancestry, while his wife, Deborah, was of English descent. He served all through the Revolution. He was a pioneer of Goffstown, where from a heavily timbered tract of land he developed a good farm. From his place the English cut masts, and the stump of one tree cut for that purpose was large enough for him to turn his ox-team around on top of stump. He owned two farms and it was upon the second that he died at the advanced age of ninety years. In religious faith he was a strong Congregationalist. The father of our subject grew to manhood upon the first farm, which he purchased after his marriage, and there he made his home throughout life. He held different township offices of honor and trust and owned a pew in the old Congregational church at Goffstown, having a deed to the same. His wife was a daughter of Job Dow, who was also a representative of one of the pioneer families of that place. She died at the age of fifty-six years, the father at the age of seventy-four. Of the ten children born to them, six reached years of maturity, namely: Fred-



JAMES R. BELL.





erick, who died on the old homestead, which is still in the possession of the family; Mrs. Elmira Connor, who died in Goffstown; Mrs. Mary Austin, who is still living; Mrs. Margaret Holt, who died in Goffstown; James R., our subject; Ira L., a resident of Goffstown. The others died young.

During his boyhood and youth James R. Bell attended the common schools to a limited extent, having to walk two miles through the woods where no roads have been laid out. Being one of the oldest sons of the family his services were needed at home during the summer months, but for twelve or sixteen weeks he was a student at the winter schools until about sixteen years of age. Later he attended a select school for a time and then worked with his father upon the farm until nineteen years of age, when he was given his time. As an apprentice he learned the shoemaker's trade at Goffstown and then worked at the same for a manufacturing company near Manchester for three years. At the end of that time he went to Rushford, Allegany county, New York, where he worked for an uncle who was in the shoe and tanning business, and two years later he was offered an interest in the business or the privilege of taking the shop and running it, and he chose the latter. While at that place he was married, July 19, 1852, to Miss Salome Gordon, a daughter of William Gordon, who was born in Vermont of Scotch parentage, and became a pioneer business man of Allegany county, New York. Mrs. Bell was born in Rushford, and her oldest brother was the first white male child born in Allegany county. Our subject and his wife have two children: (1) William J., who is a partner of his father in business, married Mary E. Cochran and has

three children: Russell, who is also a member of the firm; Verna; and Herbert E. (2) Samuel G., who resides on a farm of our subject in Whiteside county, married Ella Erb and has two daughters, Winnie May and Bertha.

Mr. Bell rented and operated his uncle's shop in Rushford, New York, for five or six years, during which time he secured a good start. Hearing of the valuable land in Whiteside county, Illinois, which could be bought cheap, he and his wife's brother came to this section, traveling by railroad as far as Geneseo, and from there on foot to Prophetstown. They found that the land which they had intended to buy had been practically sold, but they purchased a large and well improved farm in Erie township, which they divided in the spring of 1854. A few years later, when the railroad was being surveyed through the county, Mr. Bell was offered double the amount which he paid for the farm and accordingly sold his portion. On the 1st of April, 1864, he hitched up a young team to a lumber wagon, and with his wife and two small children left Rushford, New York, bound for Whiteside county, Illinois. They drove to Buffalo, a distance of fifty miles, and then boarded a vessel to cross the lake. They encountered a terrible gale, during which even the officers expected the ship to sink, but they finally reached Monroe, Michigan, in safety, and from there proceeded to Chicago by rail. They brought a hired man with them, as well as their team and wagon, and from Chicago drove to the farm which Mr. Bell had previously purchased in Whiteside county. In early days he hauled all his produce to market in Dixon. In the fall of 1856, when the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad was built, he removed to Sterling,

purchased property there, built a store and embarked in the shoe business. There was practically no town here at that time, but the survey had been made and town named, and a few houses been built, with two stores. The same fall he went to New York and purchased a good stock of ladies' shoes, and also did custom work, employing from eight to ten hands. His first business location was a half mile east of his present store, but when the town changed he removed to the latter place and built what is now known as the Bell block, which at that time was considered the best store in the town. It is still a good, substantial structure, the lower floor of which he occupies.

For some years he engaged in the shoe business exclusively, but has since added clothing and gents' furnishing goods, his son, William J., being associated with him as a partner in this business. He has now been longer in business than any other man in the county, and is one of its most thorough, reliable and successful merchants and bankers. He was one of the incorporators and a member of the first board of directors of the Sterling National Bank, and in the second year of its existence was elected president. The capital stock was soon increased from fifty to seventy-five thousand dollars. Under his able and judicious management the bank has prospered from the start and now has twenty-five thousand dollars of undivided profits, besides paying four per cent semi-annual dividends and the deposits now amount to about two hundred thousand dollars. Every year Mr. Bell has been re-elected president, and the success of the bank is certainly due in a large measure to him. He owns two buildings at the corner of Third and Locust streets—the principal corner in the city—having six

store rooms below and offices above. He also has residence property in Sterling and a fine large farm in Mount Morency township, just across from Rock Falls, which he purchased because he liked good farms, but with no intention of living thereon. His own home is beautifully located at the corner of B avenue and Eighth street, where he owns a large tract of land. His son, William J., has a place adjoining his on the north.

Since the organization of the Republican party in 1856, Mr. Bell has been one of its staunch supporters. He was elected county supervisor and filled that office for six years, resigning that position when he went to California on account of his health. He was well pleased with the work of the board and their business methods and enjoyed the position. It was during his term that the question of building a bridge across the Rock river at Sterling was decided. For seven years he was a member of the city council and had entire charge of purchasing the ground and building the city hall. His aims have always been to attain to the best, and he has carried forward to successful completion whatever he has undertaken. He has made an untarnished record and an unspotted reputation as a business man. He and his wife are earnest and faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal church, of which he is one of the trustees, and they are highly honored by those who know them.

---

**W**ILLIAM FORWARD is a representative farmer of Prophetstown township, owning and successfully operating a good farm of eighty acres on section 35. He is a native of New York, born in Cayuga

county, September 5, 1834, and is a son of George and Sarah (Kager) Forward, who were born, reared and married in England, where they continued to make their home until after the birth of two of their children. About 1830 they emigrated to America and took up their residence in Cayuga county, New York, where they resided for some years. Subsequently they made their home in Henry county, Illinois, for a few years, but spent their last days in Michigan. In their family were seven sons and three daughters, of whom one son is now deceased. Of those living, George resides in Tampico, Whiteside county, Illinois; Frank and Delbert live near Lansing, Michigan; Lewis and Charles reside near Wichita, Kansas; and Edward near Wichita.

William Forward passed his boyhood and youth in his native county, but the greater part of his education has been acquired by reading and observation since arriving at mature years. In 1855 he left home and went to Berrien county, Michigan, where he accepted a position in a saw-mill, and was there employed as engineer for nine years. It was in the spring of 1867 that he became a resident of this county, having the fall previously been here and purchased a farm. A part of the land had been broken and an old house stood thereon. To the further improvement and development of his place he at once turned his attention. He fenced the land, set out trees, erected neat and substantial buildings and placed the land under a high state of cultivation.

In Berrien county, Michigan, Mr. Forward was married March 29, 1863, to Miss Arabel Burnham, a native of Allegany county, New York, and a daughter of Guy C. Burnham. Being well educated, she

successfully engaged in teaching school in Michigan prior to her marriage, and also taught one or two terms after coming to this county. She was an earnest and consistent member of the Free Methodist church, and died in that faith June 9, 1894, being laid to rest in Leon cemetery. To our subject and his wife were born six children: Edith, now the wife of Samuel Teach, of Lyndon, Ruby, a resident of Sterling, and formerly a teacher; Louisa, who also engaged in teaching and married H. L. Drain, but is now deceased; Joseph, who is now a young man; Walter, who assisted his father in carrying on the home farm; and May, who is now her father's housekeeper.

Mr. Forward cast his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln in 1860, and continued to support the Republican party for some years, but of late years has been independent in politics, voting for the best men regardless of party lines. He has always been a staunch supporter of our public school system, and for many years was an efficient member of the school board. For the success that he has achieved in life he deserves great credit, for it is due entire to his own well directed efforts, perseverance and enterprise. His well-spent and honorable life commends him to the confidence of all with whom he comes in contact and he has a host of warm friends in Whiteside county. His children are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

**R**ALPH SMEDLEY, for many years one of the leading farmers of Portland township, is now living retired from active work at his pleasant home in Spring Hill, about a mile south of his valuable farm

of two hundred and forty acres that he still owns. He was born in Oneida county, New York, October 8, 1845, a son of Moses Smedley, who was of English birth.

Moses Smedley came to America, when a small boy, and grew to man's estate in Oneida county, New York, where for a number of years he followed the trade of a stone mason and plasterer. In 1846 he migrated to this part of Illinois, bringing with him his family and household effects, and settled on a claim in Portland township. Here in opening up the land upon which he located he had his first experience as a tiller of the soil. He met with fair success in his labors, and in addition to general farming worked at his trade for many years, continuing a resident of the place until his death. While living in Oneida county he married Mary Ann, daughter of Peter Casler, one of the first settlers of the Mohawk valley, and of the children born of their union three survive, as follows: Sarah E., wife of Mr. Wing, of Marshall county, Minnesota; Mary, wife of Franklin Warren, of the same county; and Ralph, the special subject of this brief sketch.

Ralph Smedley, who took kindly to agricultural pursuits, remained beneath the parental roof-tree throughout the days of his boyhood and youth, and assisted in the management of the farm until May 8, 1864, when he enlisted as a private in Company B, One Hundred and Fortieth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, which was attached to the Army of the Tennessee. He participated in several small engagements and skirmishes, and when the hundred days for which he had volunteered had expired he re-enlisted, and subsequently assisted in driving old "Pap Price" out of Missouri. Returning to Illinois he received his honor-

able discharge at Chicago, with a fine record of active service, having lost scarce a day from sickness or other reasons.

Resuming his work on the old homestead, he remained with his parents until his marriage, when he assumed charge of the Blasdell farm which he carried on for six years. In 1874 he purchased eighty acres of the land now included in his large farm, and on this he labored with unceasing toil until he had it well under cultivation. As time moved on he bought more land, increasing the size of his estate until it now contains two hundred and forty acres of choice land, finely located, and substantially improved. He has erected two sets of farm buildings, including dwelling houses and barns, and these with their attractive surroundings invariably receive the attention of the passer-by, and give visible evidence of the thrift and superior management of the owner. In 1892 Mr. Smedley rented his farming property, and having built a good, comfortable house at Spring Hill moved into it with his family. Although living in town he is never idle, as he still devotes his time to looking after his farm interests, making repairs, and keeping the place in order, allowing nothing to deteriorate from his high standard. As a skillful farmer he held a high position throughout the community in which he so long lived and was for years recognized as one of the most successful agriculturists and stock raisers of the county.

On March 15, 1868, Mr. Smedley married Anulett Blasdell, who was born in Portland township, a daughter of Mason W. Blasdell, an early pioneer of Whiteside county. Mr. Blasdell was born in Virgil, Cortland county, New York, in 1820, and came to this county when a young man.

Here he married Alzina Row, who was born in Cameron, Steuben county, New York, in 1823, a daughter of James Row, who settled in this section of Illinois in 1836. Mr. and Mrs. Smedley have one child, Lera, who married Henry Sohrbeck, a farmer in this township, and has four children, namely: Ella Melba, Hazel, Perry and Raymond. On all national issues Mr. Smedley supports the Democratic platform, but in local politics he casts his ballot for the best men and measures regardless of party lines. He is liberal minded, deeply interested in the welfare of town and county, and has rendered excellent service to the public as constable for three years, as commissioner, as township treasurer nine years, and as township trustee six consecutive years. During the past half century Mr. Smedley has seen woodland and swamp transformed into broad and cultivated fields, the log cabins of the pioneers replaced by frame houses, and the hamlets develop into thriving villages and towns. Although not one of the original settlers of the place, he has done much towards this wonderful change in the landscape, and has ever given his hearty support to all plans conducive to the advancement of the community in which he resides.

---

**J**UDGE AARON A. WOLFERSPERGER, M. S., LL. D., of Sterling, Illinois, has attained distinction as one of the ablest members of the Whiteside county bar. In this profession probably more than any other success depends upon individual merit, upon a thorough understanding of the principles of jurisprudence, a power of keen analysis, and the ability to present clearly, concisely and forcibly the strong

points in his cause. Possessing these necessary qualifications, Judge Wolfersperger is accorded a foremost place in the ranks of the profession in Whiteside county, and stands to-day as one of the most esteemed members of its bar.

A native of Whiteside county, he was born in Jordan township, five miles north of Sterling, March 22, 1856, and is a son of John and Lydia (Capp) Wolfersperger. His paternal great-great-grandfather came to this country from Switzerland and located in Lebanon county, Pennsylvania, where he spent the remainder of his life as an agriculturist. The grandfather, John Wolfersperger, was an extensive farmer of Pennsylvania and spent his active business life in that state, but his declining years were passed at the home of his only child, the father of our subject, in this county. Prior to coming to Illinois, John Wolfersperger, Jr., had married Miss Lydia Capp, also a native of Pennsylvania and a daughter of Jacob Capp, who was of English and German descent. On his arrival here Mr. Wolfersperger entered a tract of government land in Jordan township, and was extensively engaged in general farming and stock raising there, owning over a section of land and operating two sections. He was one of the most substantial farmers of his time in this county and was one of the first stockholders of the Sterling National Bank. In 1883, he retired from farming and moved to Sterling, where he died in November, 1897. His wife passed away in August, 1895. They were consistent members of the Lutheran church, and in politics he was a Democrat.

During his boyhood and youth Judge Wolfersperger acquired physical strength by hard labor upon the home farm and obtained

a good literary education in the public schools and Carthage College, where he was granted the degree of B. S. He then attended the Union College of Law, Chicago (now a part of the Northwestern University), from which he was graduated in 1879, with the degree of LL. B., and took his Master's degree in the course. On his admission to the bar he began practice alone in Sterling as a young attorney, but from the first he met with unusually good success. He was able to speak German and as at that time one-half the population of the town used that language, he naturally received their patronage. In 1884 he was elected city attorney, was re-elected and held that position continuously until the fall of 1890, when he was elected county judge and resigned the former office. Although he was the Democratic nominee for judge in a county where the Republican party usually had a majority of sixteen or eighteen hundred, he was elected by over fifteen hundred majority, thus showing his popularity and the confidence and trust reposed in him by his fellow citizens. He most creditably filled the office for four years, and has since devoted his time to a large private practice. He is a director of the Sterling National Bank and attorney of the same since its organization. He is also attorney for the Sterling Water Company, and local attorney for the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad. He has met with success financially as well as professionally, and now owns considerable real estate, both city and farm property.

On the 4th of November, 1880, Judge Wolfersperger was united in marriage with Miss Anna Hendricks, of Sterling, a daughter of Jacob Hendricks, and to them have been born two children: Lelia S. and John W. The family have a pleasant home at

No. 602 First avenue, and they attend and support the Presbyterian church, of which Mrs. Wolfersperger is a member. Socially the Judge is a Knight Templar Mason, a member of the blue lodge, chapter and commandrey of Sterling, and also belongs to the Odd Fellows lodge, No. 174. While a Democrat in politics he is in favor of sound money. Genial and affable, possessed of a logical mind and of rare persuasive powers, he is enabled to appear well before a jury and to exert over it a wonderful influence. As a citizen he has at all times the good of the community at heart and all his abilities are exerted to make the city and county of his adoption rank among the best of their size in this great commonwealth.

---

**R**ICHARD SMITH. Wherever there is pioneer work to be done, men of energy and ability are required, and success or failure depends upon the degree of those qualities that is possessed. In wresting the land of Whiteside county from its native wilderness; in fitting it for the habitation of men; in developing the natural resources of the community in which they live, few if any have contributed more than Richard Smith, and it is meet and proper that for the arduous and important labor he has performed he should receive due reward. He has made his home in the county since 1838, and now owns and operates a good farm on section 10, Tampico township, just north of the corporate limits of Tampico.

Mr. Smith was born in the town of Corinth, Orange county, Vermont, December 27, 1834, a son of Robert and Christiana (Lee) Smith, also natives of that state. In 1837 the father came to Whiteside county, Illinois, and was one of the first to locate

on Coon creek, near Prophetstown, taking up a claim at Jefferson Corners. In 1838 he was joined by his family, but the following winter he met death by freezing while returning to his home from Dixon, having been there to mill. He named Washington street below Prophetstown. Later his widow married Samuel Johnson, who located on the Smith claim. The neighbors had erected for her a good log house upon the place (her husband having hauled the logs previous to his death), and she had commenced to improve and cultivate the land. Of her three children, Rinaldo died in the winter of 1838, but the others are still living. Lucy is the wife of Herbert Houston, a machinist of Pennsylvania. Richard completes the family.

Our subject grew to manhood in Prophetstown township, where he attended school, and later was a student at Lee Center for nearly a year. He remained with his mother until reaching manhood. In September, 1861, he joined the boys in blue of Company B, Thirty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and with the Army of the Cumberland participated in the battles of Pittsburg Landing, Shiloh, Perryville, Stone River, Chattanooga, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge and Lookout Mountain. He was in the raid on Knoxville, the charge on Buzard Roost, the battles of Resaca and Kenesaw Mountain, and with his regiment was in the front ranks during the engagements of the Atlanta campaign. In the charge on Kenesaw Mountain, he was wounded in the hand. On the expiration of his three years' term of enlistment, he was honorably discharged at Atlanta, in September, 1864, and returned to his home to resume the more quiet pursuits of farm life.

At Sterling, in December, 1865, Mr.

Smith was united in marriage with Miss Lizzie Horrie, who was born in New York, but came to this county when a child. To them have been born four children, namely: Clara, wife of Thomas Wicken, a farmer of Tampico township; Alfreter, at home; Rose, wife of Burton Brown, a farmer of Tampico township; and Mary, wife of Shular Stedman, who operates a farm adjoining our subject's place. They also have an adopted son, Frank Smith, whom they have reared from childhood.

After his marriage, Mr. Smith operated a rented farm for one season, and then engaged in teaming for a short time in Peru and La Salle. Subsequently he located on the land which his step-father had secured from the government for him, it being an eighty-acre tract on section 9, Tampico township, to which he has since added forty acres, and he has transformed the place into a well-improved and highly cultivated farm. In 1882 he rented it and moved to South Dakota, where he took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, built a good house thereon, and carried on farming there through three seasons. Renting that place in 1885, he returned to his old home in Whiteside county, and engaged in farming there for about ten years. In 1894 he bought his present farm, to which he removed the following spring, having sold the old homestead. He has made many substantial improvements upon his place, including the erection of a large barn, and has met with excellent success in its operation.

On attaining his majority, Mr. Smith became identified with the Whig party and voted for Filmore, in 1856, but since then he has affiliated with the Republican party. While in South Dakota he served as highway commissioner, and has filled the office

of school director, but has never cared for political preferment. He and his wife and daughter are members of the Tampico Baptist church, and he belongs to the Grand Army post and his wife to the Relief Corps. For sixty-five years he has made his home in this country and has witnessed its wonderful development; he has seen the deer and other wild game disappear, and the swamps and wild prairie land transformed into fine farms; and in the work of progress and upbuilding he has borne an important part. As a veteran of the Civil war, and an honored pioneer, and a representative man of his community, he is worthy the high regard in which he is held and deserves prominent mention in his county's history.

**G**ARRETT NANIGA, of Fulton, White-side county, is carrying on an extensive business in the sale of agricultural implements, wagons, carriages and vehicles of all kinds, and is also successfully managing the hardware business of the C. N. Wheeler estate. A young man of superior executive ability and of sound judgment, he already occupies a good position in the mercantile world, and has a fine prospect of reaching the topmost round of the ladder of prosperity. He was born in Fulton township February 18, 1862, a son of George and Dora (Feldt) Naniga, both of whom were born and reared in Holland, but were married after coming to America.

In company with a number of others they came to America on the same ship, and first took up their abode in Holland, Michigan, where they were married, and from whence four years later they came to White-side county, Illinois. He purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, lying two

and one-half miles from Fulton, and was there engaged in tilling the soil until his death, April 4, 1875. He was an industrious, intelligent man, interested in the welfare of his adopted town and county, and proved himself a most worthy citizen. He was a decided Republican in politics, and served on the board of education for a number of terms. In religion he was a member of the Reformed church. His widow still lives in Fulton, an active woman of seventy-two years. They reared four children, namely: Garrett, the special subject of this sketch; John, in the employ of J. W. Broadhead; Elizabeth, wife of John C. Jones, of Clinton, Iowa, and Dennis, a farmer at Garden Plain, this county.

Garrett Naniga was educated in the public schools, and remained on the parental homestead until nineteen years of age, when he started in the world for himself. Going to Nebraska he bought eighty acres of land in Holland, a small town about twenty miles from Lincoln, but after a two years' residence there returned home satisfied with his experience there. The next year he was employed by the 'bus line of D. C. Goble, in Fulton, and was afterward a clerk and salesman with George De Bey & Co., general merchants, for four years. In 1886, deciding to again try the pursuit of agriculture, he took charge of the home place, but in 1887 accepted a position as clerk and salesman in the hardware establishment of the late C. N. Wheeler, and on the death of his employer in July, 1898, assumed the entire control of the business, managing it for the estate. In 1899 he established a new line of business, in which he is dealing in agricultural implements of all descriptions, wagons and vehicles of every kind, and a full stock of farmers' sup-



plies, including seeds, etc. In all of his undertakings he has prospered thus far, his excellent success being but the logical result of his careful and correct business methods. Mr. Naniga has been active in the improvement and upbuilding of his town, having bought and remodeled three residences, and erected three new, handsome houses.

Politically he has ever been an earnest Republican, and has rendered good service to his townsmen in official capacities, having been township collector since 1897, and is now alderman from the third ward, having been elected in the spring of 1899. Fraternally he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, of the Mystic Workers of the World, and of the Abou Ben Adhem lodge, No. 148, I. O. O. F., of Fulton. He is likewise connected with the Woodmen Accident Insurance Company.

On October 15, 1884, at Ustick township, Mr. Naniga was married to Miss Helen Sikkeman, daughter of Jacob and Anna (Volk) Sikkeman, respected members of the farming community of Ustick. Their union has been blessed by the birth of three children, namely: Dora M., Jacob G. and Florence G.

**WILLIAM LANE.** The fine farm belonging to this gentleman on section 26, Prophetstown township, invariably attracts the eye of the passing traveler as being under the supervision of a thorough and skillful agriculturist, and a man otherwise of good business qualifications. Besides this place, comprising one hundred and sixty acres, he owns another good farm of one hundred and forty acres.

Mr. Lane was born near Niles, in Berrien county, Michigan, June 18, 1837, a

son of Benjamin and Charity (Roper) Lane, natives of Cayuga county, New York, and pioneers of Berrien county, Michigan, where the father took up a tract of government land and cleared and improved a farm. There his first wife died, and he later married a Mrs. Robinson. In 1855 he came to Illinois and settled in Henry county. He again turned his attention to developing wild land into a well-cultivated and productive farm, his place being on the boundary line between Henry and Bureau counties, near Whiteside county. Here he spent the last years of his life, but died at the home of our subject, in October, 1889, at the age of eighty-two. His last wife had died about eight years before. Our subject is the second in order of birth in a family of five children, three sons and two daughters, of whom George now lives in California, and Mrs. Sarah A. Winchell lives in Prophetstown township. These are the only survivors.

William Lane was about nineteen years of age when he came with his father to this state, and he assisted in opening up and improving the home farm. He received a good common-school education in his native state. During the dark days of the Rebellion, he manifested his patriotism by enlisting, May 21, 1862, for three years, in Company K, Fifty-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was in the service until hostilities ceased, being honorably discharged May 20, 1865. He participated in numerous important engagements and skirmishes, including the battles of Corinth, Town Creek and Resaca, Georgia. He took in the Atlanta campaign, was with Sherman on his famous march to the sea, and his last engagement was at Bentonville, North Carolina. At Corinth he received a gunshot

wound, but was not disabled, and never lost any time on account of sickness and never missed stacking guns with his regiment. On his return home from the war Mr. Lane resumed farming. His first purchase consisted of eighty acres of wild land obtained from his father, and to it he has added from time to time, as his financial resources permitted, until he now has three hundred acres of as good farming land as is to be found in the county. In connection with general farming he is interested in raising and feeding stock, his specialty being cattle and hogs, and in both branches of his business he has been eminently successful.

In the village of Prophetstown Mr. Lane was married, October 18, 1868, to Miss Elizabeth Wroe, who was born in Virginia, but was reared in Illinois. Her father, Benjamin Wroe, was one of the early settlers of Bureau county, but later removed to Missouri, where his death occurred. To Mr. and Mrs. Lane have been born six children, two sons and four daughters, all of whom have been well educated and reside at home. Ida E., William Clark and Charles Francis all attended the Geneseo high school, and the two older hold first-class certificates for teaching, while Charles F. and William C. assists in the operation of the farm. Mary A. also holds a teacher's certificate, and Grace and Nellie are students in the home school. Mrs. Lane and children are attendants of the Methodist Episcopal church, and the younger members of the family are active workers in the Sunday school. Fraternally, Mr. Lane is a member of the Grand Army post of Tampico, and, politically, he is a staunch Republican, having affiliated with that party since casting his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln, in 1860. He is widely and favorably known

and, being a man of many sterling qualities, the community is fortunate that numbers him among its citizens.

CLARENCE E. WHITE, a well-known wagon and carriage manufacturer, of Sterling, Illinois, is entitled to distinction as one of the most progressive, enterprising and public-spirited citizens of the place. Upon the commercial activity of a community depends its prosperity, and the men who are now recognized as leading citizens are those that are at the head of important business enterprises. He is a man of broad capabilities, who generally carries forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes.

Mr. White was born in Winchendon, Worcester county, Massachusetts, October 3, 1853, a son of Daniel and Maria (Poland) White, natives of Vermont. The founder of the White family in America came to this country on the Mayflower. The paternal grandfather was a soldier of the war of 1812, and the father received a part of the pension due him from the government. The latter attended the common schools of his native state, and in early life was bound out to a carriage and vehicle builder, learning the trade thoroughly. After his marriage he moved to Winchendon, Massachusetts, where he followed his trade for many years, running a large establishment. While there he was a member of the Massachusetts State Guards, and also served as selectman of Winchendon. In 1866, with his wife and two children, he came to Illinois and took up his residence in Sterling, where he established a wagon and carriage manufactory, but after conducting it for two years, he bought a section of land in

Lee county, Illinois, and followed farming for two years. He then returned to Sterling and resumed work at his trade, being engaged in business here up to the time of his death, which occurred June 3, 1876. His wife died in May, 1892. Both were consistent members of the Methodist church, and he was a Republican in politics.

In the family of this worthy couple were four children: Elsie E. is now the wife of George P. Ross, a leading farmer of Harmon township, Lee county, and they have two children living. Hiram L. married Esther O. Barber, and died in Summerville, Massachusetts, January 15, 1899, at the age of fifty-six years, leaving two children. Clarence E. is the next in order of birth. Flora is the wife of W. F. Mangan, of Sterling, and they have five children.

Clarence E. White began his education in the public schools of his native state, and after coming to Sterling attended both the public and select schools of this place. At the age of eighteen years he entered his father's shop, where he soon mastered the trade, and remained with his father until the latter's death, being a partner from the age of twenty-one. At his father's death he assumed full control of the business, which he has since successfully carried on, employing wood workers, painters and blacksmiths. He now gives considerable attention to the real estate business, and owns eight dwelling houses, a meat market and grocery store in the city, besides two well cultivated farms of one hundred and sixty acres each in Comanche county, Kansas.

On the 4th of May, 1876, Mr. White was united in marriage with Miss Anna S. Abendroth, a native of Berlin, Germany,

who when a small child came to this country with her father, John Abendroth, locating in Green county, Wisconsin, where he purchased land and engaged in farming for a couple of years. Since then he has been successfully engaged in the boot and shoe business in Janesville, that state, and also has money out on interest. Prior to coming to America he served for several years in the German army. In his family were four children, of whom Mary died at the age of six years. Those living are Edward, August and Mrs. White. Edward is now chief of police of Monroe, Wisconsin; and August is in charge of a division for the Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad. To Mr. and Mrs. White were born three children, namely: Datus E., who died of typhoid fever at the age of eleven years; Lottie S., who will graduate from the Sterling high school in 1900, and Elsie M., who is attending the grammar school of Sterling.

Fraternally, Mr. White is a charter member of Sterling garrison, No. 83, Knights of the Globe, and his wife was one of the first members of the Methodist church of that city, and a charter member of the Betsey Ross garrison, Eminent Ladies Knights of the Globe. In his political affiliations he is a staunch Republican, and in 1890 he was elected alderman from the first ward, in which capacity he served for six years. He was instrumental in getting a great many important measures passed, among the most important being the paving of the streets and the laying of the Broadway sewer. He was chairman of the printing, bridges, electric light, fire and water committees, and was a member of the street and alley committee during the entire time he held the office. At four different times when the mayor was out of the city, he

served as mayor *pro tem.* He is pre-eminently public-spirited and progressive and is always willing to give his support to every enterprise which he believes will prove of public good. During the time he was serving as mayor *pro tem.* all arc lights in the city were put in through his own personal efforts and the free bridge lighted by incandescents.

**PROF. J. E. BITTINGER.** In this age of intellectual activity, when success in the business world depends not upon mere physical prowess but upon mental activity, upon an ability to master the principles and details of any enterprise and guide its course away from the rocks of disaster to the safe harbor of success, the work of the educator has become of even greater importance than ever before, and one of his most important functions is in connection with the department in which the young are trained for the practical duties of the commercial and industrial world. Long occupying a prominent rank among the educators of Illinois is Professor J. E. Bittinger, the well known president of the Northern Illinois College, at Fulton, and under his leadership this school has taken rank with the best of its kind in the Mississippi valley. With a correct appreciation of the responsibility that devolves upon the teacher he has ably prepared himself for his profession and is making continual advancement along lines of educational progress, each year witnessing an improvement in his methods of instruction.

Professor Bittinger was born in Hagerstown, Maryland, August 1, 1857, a son of George and Elizabeth (Melchoir) Bittinger, who were natives of Pennsylvania. The

family is of German lineage, Jacob Bittinger a native of the Fatherland, having been the first of the name to seek a home in the New World. Throughout his active business career the father of our subject followed farming. He carried on agricultural pursuits in Washington county, Maryland, for six years, and then emigrated to Illinois. After residing in Ogle county, this state, for eight years he went to Poweshiek county, Iowa, and is now a resident of Nassau. Professor Bittinger is third in the family of seven children born to George and Elizabeth Bittinger. The others are Emma, wife of Jeremiah Raymond, of Dixon, Illinois; George W., of Polo; William G., of Nassau, Iowa; Elizabeth, wife of Lincoln Eyer, of Nassau, Iowa; Mary, wife of Harry Roland, of Davenport, Nebraska; and Frank E., of Mystic, Iowa.

Professor Bittinger, of this review, was only seven years of age when he came with his parents to Illinois. He spent the days of his childhood and youth upon his father's farm, and assisted in the labors of field and meadow until seventeen years of age, when desiring to gain a better education than had hitherto been provided him, he became a student in the high school of Lewis, Iowa, where he remained two years. At the age of nineteen he secured a position as teacher in a graded school in Ogle county, Illinois, and in 1880 he entered the Northern Illinois College at Fulton, graduating from the philosophical department at the end of four years. For the following six years he was employed by his *alma mater* as a teacher of natural sciences, on the expiration of which period he became principal of the schools of Port Byron, Illinois, where he remained three years. He then came to Fulton where for five years he acted as

principle of the public schools, after which he was made president of the Northern Illinois College, in which capacity he has now acceptably served for three years. Under his direction the school is making rapid and satisfactory progress, substantial improvement is noticed in all departments of the work, and the Fulton Business College, which is conducted in connection with the Northern Illinois College, is unsurpassed in its methods and efficiency by any school of the kind in the country. In it are taught all the branches of learning of use in the commercial world and general actual business practice fits the student for the practical duties of the business world. The Inter-Communication practice is used, whereby the students transact business with other students in twenty-five colleges throughout the Union, doing an actual business, save for the interchange of goods. The Northern Illinois College is a credit to Fulton, and ranks high in educational circles throughout the state.

Professor Bittinger has ever been an advocate of progress and reform and is thus identified with many movements whose purpose is to do away with old methods and substitute new and better ones. His interest in the welfare of his fellow men has led him to give his political support to the Prohibition party, and on that ticket he was candidate for county clerk in 1888, but has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking. Fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America and the Court of Honor. He holds membership in the Baptist church of Fulton, is a member and clerk of its board of trustees, and does all in his power to promote the work and interests of the church. His home relations are very pleasant. In November, 1887, he

married Carrie A. Mason, a daughter of Alonzo P. and Carrie (Northrup) Mason, a native of New York, in which state her parents were also born. Professor and Mrs. Bittinger now have two children, Lytle M. and Leigh N., both yet in school. The parents enjoy the hospitality of the best homes of the city and their friends are numbered among the representative people of Fulton. Throughout his life Professor Bittinger has been actuated by noble, yet practical, principles, and the spirit of helpfulness which pervades in the school of which he is president is undoubtedly one of the secrets of its success.

**N**ORTHERN ILLINOIS COLLEGE. This is one of the leading features of Fulton. It was first established by Colonel De Estyngue Cavert, in 1861, as a military school, and was called the Western Union College and Military Academy. Colonel Cavert proposed to open this institution if the citizens would take hold and aid him, which they did, forming a company and issuing bonds. He secured the Dement House, which had been vacant for some years, refitted the building and extended the grounds so as to have ample room for drill. The war had commenced and military enthusiasm ran high. He received from the United States government arms and accoutrements for the use of a cadet corps. It was carried on in this way for about four years, receiving large numbers of students and sending out many well-drilled cadets to the field. Colonel Cavert desired then to retire from the college, and have the company take it off of his hands and rent it as a college. Accordingly they took it from him and organized a college under the general laws of

the state, securing a special charter. Donations were asked for and received from all parts of the state and quite a large fund was raised. One of the objects was to take the disabled soldiers from Illinois regiments and educate them to fill civil stations. The same advantages were extended to the children of soldiers. The trustees managed the institution with a faculty of whom Leander H. Potter was president. The expenses were defrayed from the donation fund. The institution received from the state during this period about \$20,000. Mr. Potter's administration closing about this time, the trustees then secured Mr. W. D. F. Lummis, who, with other professors, took charge of the institution. About this period the trustees ceased soliciting aid from the state, and then the question of changing the name of the college was discussed, when it was fully agreed by the stockholders and trustees to adopt a new name, calling the institution the Northern Illinois College. To Mr. Lummis the trustees gave the interest of the endowment fund, which was then about \$30,000, charging him nothing for the use of the building. Mr. Lummis did not succeed in satisfying the expectations and desires of the trustees, and on accepting his resignation they leased the college to Rev. J. W. Hubbard, whose administration, although not extraordinary, was encouraging. Subsequently Professor A. A. Griffith took charge of the institution and endeavored to establish a school of oratory, but not meeting with the success desired he concluded to change the character of the school, and in consequence of which he called Professors A. M. Hansen and W. F. Hansen, who began to put forth strong efforts to establish a normal, scientific, and classical school. They were very popular

and pleased the board. Finally Mr. Griffith resigned and Professor A. M. Hansen was elected its president. He began to re-organize the institution, making many changes in the character of the work and general improvements. President Hansen had erected on the grounds north of the college a large, brick, three-story building to be known as the Ladies' Seminary. This was for the accommodation of his family and the female students, and a dining hall.

After eleven years of successful management of the college, during which time over 2,000 students were enrolled, President Hansen decided to change his line of work, and began the manufacture of sheet-steel siding. Prof. W. A. Pratt was next elected to the presidency of the institution, but, after two years of experience, he decided to change and take up public school work again, when he was succeeded by Mr. A. A. Riopel, who was not successful in bringing the school up to a high standard, and he was consequently succeeded by J. H. Breese, who, after two years of connection, resigned and Mr. R. A. Morley was chosen in his place. The institution now seemed to take on new life, but a fire destroyed the main building and under the discouraging circumstances Mr. Morley resigned and Mr. J. E. Bittinger succeeded him, January 1, 1897. The trustees then took hold of the work of reconstructing the main building, and, after securing the amount of insurance allowed, the building was remodeled throughout, making a very handy and satisfactory arrangement for school purposes.

The school has had a steady growth since the election of President Bittinger, and about six hundred dollars worth of books, philosophical and chemical apparatus have

been added. A strong faculty has been added, and excellent work is being done in every department. The faculty is as follows: J. E. Bittinger, A. M., president; Dyson Kishell, LL. D., law; S. A. Maxwell, Litt. B., normal work; Miss Amorett Alford, ancient languages; O. W. Winter, normal work; A. T. Scovill, commercial work; Miss Anna Miller, assistant commercial work; H. W. Voss, German; Miss Clara Wheeler, music; Adolf Wiese, violin and mandolin music; C. C. McMahon, law. The board of trustees: A. M. Hansen, president; W. D. Ward, secretary; W. F. Hansen, treasurer; W. A. Pratt, H. Pease, D. B. Snyder, Mrs. A. M. Hansen, Geo. DeBey, J. E. Bittinger, L. Barber, Geo. Storey, M. L. Perry.

The trustees keep up the expenses of the institution, such as repairs, insurance, etc., and give the use of the building. This is done from the interest on the donation fund. President Hansen has become quite popular, and he has largely increased the patronage. A business education can be had at this institution that cannot be secured at a graded school or any other college. The student can get his business education and go out, or can go through with a regular classical course. This is one of the best educational institutions in the state, and probably nowhere in the state can a thorough education be procured at so little expense. For health and beauty of location it is unexcelled. The faculty take every pains with their pupils, and the president looks after them with the care of a parent. The parents who send their children here can rest assured that they will be under the best of influences. The college buildings are heated with steam, and the rooms are large and well ventilated. The apartments appropri-

ated to the young ladies are really elegant. The college has all the instruments, chemicals and chemical apparatus, geological cabinets and charts necessary for the use of the student. One of the attractive features of this institution is that it is free from sectarian influences, though its government is upon a true Christian basis.

**JAY CLEAVELAND.** Prominent among the successful and enterprising farmers of Hume township is the subject of this biographical notice, whose home is situated on section 29, and who is considered one of the most industrious and worthy citizens of that part of the county. He was born in Lewis county, New York, March 25, 1844, a son of David Cleaveland, also a native of New York. The grandfather, Josiah Cleaveland, was also born in Connecticut, and was a soldier of the Revolutionary war under General Washington, remaining in the service seven years, nine months and twelve days. The pocket knife which he then carried is now in possession of our subject, while his bullet pouch and flint box belongs to our subject's brother. For his service he received a lane warrant, with which the father of our subject secured a tract of land in Whiteside county, now belonging to Nelson Cleaveland. In Oneida county, New York, David Cleaveland married Miss Ama Hawkins, and later moved to Lewis county, that state. In 1849 he came to this county, and the following year brought his two sons, who commenced to break and improve the land which he had entered. In 1852 the family located upon the place, and here the father continued to make his home throughout life. He was well known and highly respected, and by his friends he was

familiarly known as Uncle Dave. He died in the winter of 1879, and his wife passed away the following summer, both being laid to rest in Prophetstown cemetery.

The subject of this sketch was only seven years old when he came to this county, and upon the home farm in Hume township he grew to manhood, aiding his father in the cultivation of the farm and attended the public schools of the locality during the winter months. In Morrison, March 24, 1865, he was united in marriage with Miss Fanny Dennison, who was born in Massachusetts and when a child came to this county with her father, who died a few days after their arrival here. Mr. and Mrs. Cleaveland have one child, Earl J., who now holds a position in Baldwin's store of Prophetstown.

For four years after his marriage, Mr. Cleaveland continued to reside on the old Cleaveland homestead and carried on a part of the place. He then bought one hundred and sixty acres of raw land where he now resides, which, by draining and placing under a high state of cultivation, he has converted into one of the most desirable farms of its size in the township. In 1893 he built a good barn, the following year erected substantial outbuildings, and in 1898 built a large and pleasant residence in modern style of architecture. Besides his home farm, he also owns and operates eighty acres of land elsewhere in Hume township.

On attaining his majority, Mr. Cleaveland became identified with the Democratic party, but in 1878 he supported General Grant for the presidency and has since affiliated with the Republican party. He served as road and ditch commissioner for five years, but has never been an aspirant for political honors, preferring to devote his

entire time and attention to his business interests. His wife is a member of the Congregational church of Prophetstown, and although he is not a member, he attends services with her and contributes to the support of the church. He was made a Master Mason in Prophetstown lodge, and is also a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is a public-spirited and enterprising citizen who takes a deep interest in everything pertaining to public development.

---

**A** M. HANSEN, A. M., Ph. D., LL. D. The pioneers of a country, the founders of a business, the originators of any undertaking that will promote the material welfare or advance the educational, social and moral influence of a community, deserve the gratitude of humanity. In our subject, who is now president and treasurer of the Steel Brick Siding Company, of Fulton, Illinois, we find a prominent representative of the industrial interests of the state. He is not only at the head of this gigantic enterprise but is also the originator and patentee of the steel brick siding, now so widely known and generally used throughout the entire country.

Dr. Hansen was born in Gibisonville, Ohio, March 17, 1850, a son of Samuel C. and Elizabeth (Kinser) Hansen, the former a native of England, the latter of Ohio. The primary education of our subject was received in the common schools of his native state, and later he attended the Ohio Wesleyan University, at Delaware, Ohio. Subsequently he took a regular course in the National Normal University at Lebanon, that state, graduating with the class of 1875.







A. M. HANSEN.



MRS. HANSEN.



He at once engaged in educational work as a teacher in Hocking county, Ohio, where he taught school for one year, and the following year he pursued his profession in Linn county, Missouri. Later he filled the position of president of the Taylorville Business College and superintendent of the city schools of Taylorville, Illinois, for one year, and was then chosen president of the Rock River University at Dixon, which position he filled until the spring of 1879, when he resigned to accept the chair of natural sciences and director of study in the Northern Illinois College, at Fulton. The president being absent most of the time the care of conducting the college devolved upon him from the start. In June of the succeeding year, 1880, he was elected president of the college for a term of eight years. In contemplation of extensive building improvements and in recognition of his able management, the board of trustees, in 1884, re-elected him for a term of ten years, in addition to his unexpired term, thus securing his services during the time improvements were being made. In 1890, however, he resigned his position in the college to engage in his present business.

Since that time Professor Hansen has given his entire time and attention to the Steel Brick Siding Company. As before stated he is the original patentee of the steel brick siding, but as usually follows the advent of a meritorious discovery or invention, he has had imitators who have sought to divide the credit and profit with him. He has extended the business and enlarged his plant to meet the growing demands of his trade until he now has one of the most important industries in this section. Located on three different railroads and the Mississippi river which affords him excellent facilities for

shipping both the material and finished article, and the products of his plant are now sold from New York to California. These are so well known and generally used as to need no description. The siding is made from the best bessemer steel, pressed in imitation of brick; its beauty, durability, cheapness and fire-proof qualities, have brought this new building material into great favor.

In Blue Mound, Macon county, Illinois, November 11, 1877, Professor Hansen was united in marriage with Miss Laura Wilcox, a native of Morgan county, this state, and a daughter of James and Mary (Sims) Wilcox. To them have been born five children, namely: Charles Roy, who is now a student in the Northern Illinois College; Lena M., also a student in the Northern Illinois College; Arthur, who died at the age of two years; Carl W.; and Auber M.

There is probably no man in Fulton that has done more for its development and prosperity in the last decade than Professor Hansen, who has taken a very active and prominent part in promoting its interests. He was one of the organizers of the Fulton Development Company, served as its first secretary and later as its president. He was instrumental in securing the location here of the Mississippi Valley Stove Company, for which a bonus of thirty thousand dollars was raised. He is one of the most influential and prominent Republicans in the town, and is now a member of the county central committee and chairman of the township committee. Fraternally he is a Master Mason, a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, the Mystic Workers of the World and a number of other beneficiary orders. For the past seven years he has been president of the board of trustees of the Northern Illinois College at Fulton.

SYLVESTER M. COX, a prominent stock breeder residing on section 26, Prophetstown township, Whiteside county, Illinois, was born upon his present farm October 5, 1858, and is a representative of an old New York family of English origin. His grandfather, William Cox, was a native of that state and a soldier of the war of 1812.

Luther Cox, father of our subject, was born in Cattaraugus county, New York, in 1818, and was reared there, but when a young man went to Berrien county, Michigan, where he married Miss Sarah Lane, an aunt of William Lane, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. In 1856 Luther Cox came to Whiteside county, Illinois, and purchased a farm of eighty acres in Prophetstown township, where our subject now resides. Throughout the greater part of his life he followed the blacksmith's trade in connection with farming, and upon his place he erected a shop, doing the blacksmithing for the neighborhood. He died upon his farm in 1888, his wife in 1882, honored and respected by all who knew them. To this worthy couple were born eight children, two dying in infancy: Amelia married Benjamin Doyle and removed to Minnesota, where she was massacred by the Indians about 1863; Cornelius was a soldier of the Civil war and died at the battle of Murfreesboro, Tennessee; William E. is married and engaged in business in Hastings, Nebraska; Emma Jane resides with our subject; Josephine married George Gage but is now deceased, and Sylvester M. completes the family.

In much the usual manner of farmer boys of his day, our subject was reared and educated, assisting his father in the labors of the field and attending the district

schools when his services were not needed at home. For some years prior to his father's death he took charge of the farm and business pertaining to it, and when his father died he succeeded to the place. He has made many improvements thereon, including the erection of a good residence, and has recently completed a large barn, which is one of the best in the neighborhood. In 1896 he began breeding pure-blood Poland China hogs, and in this undertaking has met with marked success. He now has a fine drove of one hundred pure-blooded animals, besides having sold some very valuable stock, and as a breeder has already gained an enviable reputation.

In Prophetstown, February 17, 1879, Mr. Cox was united in marriage with Miss Eva Howland, who was born, reared and educated in Kendall county, Illinois, but latter came with her father, Myron Howland, to Whiteside county. Mr. Cox has been called upon to mourn the loss of his estimable wife, who died April 17, 1889. By that union three children were born, namely: Floyd M., Dollie M. and Priscilla. The son now assists his father in carrying on the farm and stock business.

In his political views, Mr. Cox has been a life-long Republican, and cast his first presidential ballot for U. S. Grant in 1872. He takes an active interest in public affairs, as every true American citizen should, and is a friend of education and the public school system. He ever gives his hearty support to all educational matters, and was president of the school board for some years. He is a prominent member of the Odd Fellows lodge of Prophetstown, in which he has held office, and wherever known he is held in high regard.

**A** C. WILLIAMSON, a young business man of Fulton, is one of the leading druggists of the city. He was born March 16, 1872, in Swedonia, Mercer county, Illinois, a son of James W. Williamson.

His father was born and educated in Allegheny county, Pennsylvania, but came to Illinois while yet a young man, hoping in the broad prairies of the west to find unlimited opportunities for improving his financial condition. When ready to establish a home he located at Orion, Henry county, where he carried on general farming until his removal to Creston, Iowa, where he is now living. In 1869 he married Mary B. Cook, who was born in Scotland, but at the age of sixteen years came to America with her parents, who settled in Orion, Illinois. Two children were born into their household, namely: A. C., the special subject of this brief biographical notice; and Blanche, who lives with her parents.

A. C. Williamson was twelve years of age when he went with his parents to Creston, in whose public schools he completed his early studies. At the age of sixteen, he took the first steps leading to a mercantile career by entering the drug store of Schifferle & Co., at Creston, remaining there a year. Having decided, however, to prepare himself for the occupation in which he was now employed he entered the Illinois College of Pharmacy, at the North Western University, from which he was graduated in 1893. Coming then to Fulton, Mr. Williamson accepted a position with George B. Robinson, in the store where he is now established. In 1895 Mr. Williamson purchased the business of Mr. Robinson, and he has built up a thriving trade, his ability, practical judgment, and system-

atic business methods bringing him assured success in his dealings, and his future is bright with promises.

In politics Mr. Williamson is a staunch Republican. Fraternally he is prominent in Masonic circles, being a member of Fulton City lodge, No. 189, A. F. & A. M.; of Fulton chapter, No. 108, R. A. M.; and of Sterling commandery, No. 57, K. T. Religiously he is a member of the First Presbyterian church, of Fulton.

---

**A** ARON POPE, an energetic and progressive farmer, residing on section 15, Tampico township, owns and operates three good farms in Whiteside county, aggregating four hundred and seventy-five acres of land, and in their improvement and cultivation he is meeting with most excellent results. He is honored and respected by the entire community, who look upon him as one of their most wide-awake farmers and valued citizens.

The early home of our subject was on the other side of the Atlantic, for he was born in Lincolnshire, England, February 23, 1845, a son of Abraham and Sarah (Crampton) Pope, also natives of Lincolnshire. In 1853 the family emigrated to America and located at once in Lyndon township, Whiteside county, Illinois. Later the father purchased land in Tampico township and engaged in farming there for a number of years, but about 1874 removed to Vancouver's island, where he spent the remainder of his life.

On the home farm in this county Aaron Pope grew to manhood, and he attended the district schools of the neighborhood. On leaving home, at the age of twenty-two,

he went to Missouri, where he spent four months, and on his return to Illinois, at the end of that time, he purchased the old homestead, comprising one hundred and sixty acres, to which he has added until it now consists of two hundred and forty acres. He bought another farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Huine township, and resided there until 1893, when he removed to his present place. Here he has seventy-five acres within the corporate limits of Tampico, and in connection with its operation also carries on the other farms, which he still owns. He has made a decided success of life, becoming one of the most prosperous agriculturists of his community, as well as one of its leading citizens.

In this county, February 22, 1874, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Pope and Miss Mary A. Wetsel, who was born in Ohio, but was reared and educated here. Her father, Daniel Wetsel, now of Rock Falls, was one of the early settlers of the county. Mr. and Mrs. Pope have three children: John Thomas, the oldest, now lives on one of his father's farms. He was married, September 21, 1898, to Miss Minnie Parents, a daughter of William Parents, of Tampico, where she was reared and educated. Sadie, Eliza and Willard A. are still attending the home school.

Politically, Mr. Pope is a staunch Republican, having supported that party since casting his first presidential vote for General U. S. Grant, in 1868. He has filled the office of highway commissioner, was a member of the drainage commission nine years, and has ever given his influence and support to those measures which tend to advance the moral, educational or material welfare of his township and county. Socially, he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of

America, and religiously his estimable wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

**R**OBERT SNOW NORRISH, a well-known and honored citizen of Morrison, who is now practically living retired, was born in Devonshire, England, October 1, 1826, a son of Samuel and Frances (Partridge) Norrish, who made their home in that county throughout life. The father was a farmer, malster and miller by occupation and became quite prosperous. In the family were nine children, of whom our subject is the seventh in order of birth. Those still living are Elizabeth, a resident of England; Frances, of Union township, Whiteside county, Illinois; Edward S., a farmer of Dunn county, Wisconsin; Robert S., our subject; and Ann, wife of Amos James, who is living retired in Morrison.

In his native land our subject grew to manhood, and after his education was completed served a three years' apprenticeship to the baker's trade, which he continued to follow there until the spring of 1850, when he emigrated to America. He first located in Lorrain county, Ohio, where he worked as a farm hand by the month, for a short time, and then rented a mill, which he operated for a year. During his residence in Lorrain county, he married Miss Tamzin Squire, also a native of Devonshire, England, and a daughter of Thomas and Susanna Squire, who settled in that county on coming to America. By that union Mr. Norrish had two children, but the older, Samuel, died in infancy. Margaret is now the wife of Homer Baird, a farmer of Union Grove township, this county, and they have five children, Robert, Florence, Roy,



Frank and Ruth. Mrs. Norrish died in Mt. Pleasant township, Whiteside county, in October, 1863.

For a year after his marriage, Mr. Norrish operated a rented farm in Lorrain county, Ohio, and in 1853 came to Whiteside county, Illinois. He purchased eighty acres of land on section 8, Mt. Pleasant township, which was covered with timber, the only improvement upon the place being a log cabin. He at once turned his attention to clearing and cultivating his land. The same year he bought from the state eighty acres of prairie land on section 2, upon which not a furrow had been turned. As time advanced and his financial resources increased he added to his landed possessions until he now has nine hundred and thirty acres of valuable land in Whiteside county, besides three hundred and twenty acres in Sioux county, Iowa; eighty acres in Clay county, Nebraska; one hundred and sixty acres in Webster county, the same state, and town property in Morrison. He continued to actively engage in agricultural pursuits until the 2nd of July, 1890, when he removed to Morrison, where he erected a handsome residence, and is now living retired. While living upon his farm he gave the greater part of his time and attention to stock raising, and usually shipped three or four car loads of cattle and hogs to market each year. He also raised sheep on quite an extensive scale.

Mr. Norrish was again married, March 2, 1865, in Cuyahoga county, Ohio, his second union being with Miss Ann Adams, who was born in Yorkshire, England, February 17, 1827, a daughter of George and Martha (Hargate) Adams, also natives of Yorkshire, where the father operated a gristmill until his emigration to America in 1846. With

his wife and four children he crossed the broad Atlantic and took up his residence in Strongsville, Cuyahoga county, Ohio, where he purchased a gristmill and sawmill and engaged in the same business up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1890, when he was sixty years of age. His wife departed this life in 1868. Their children were James, who died in Ohio, in 1864; Ann, wife of our subject; William, who died in Huron county, Ohio, in 1870; and Mary, wife of John Dyke, a retired resident of Elyria, Lorrain county, Ohio. By his second marriage Mr. Norrish had three children: Robert A., born December 18, 1866, resides on section 2, Mt. Pleasant township; he married Gertrude Parnham, of Ustick township, and they have two children, Frank and Edith M. Mary died in infancy. John W., born November 4, 1870, married Edna Smith, of Merville, Iowa, where he is engaged in business as a dealer in furniture and agricultural implements and where he also owns four hundred and eighty acres of farm land. Mr. and Mrs. Norrish are both members of the Episcopal church, and are held in high regard by all who know them. In politics he was a Republican until after the Blaine campaign of 1884, but now votes for the man whom he believes best qualified to fill the office, regardless of party ties. He has always made the most of his opportunities, has accumulated a handsome property, and his life illustrates what can be accomplished through industry, perseverance, good management and a determination to succeed.

**O**KE HOLMQUEST is a man whose successful struggle with adverse circumstances shows what can be accomplished

by industry and economy, especially if a sensible wife second his efforts to secure a home and competence. Coming to the new world without means, he has labored earnestly and his well-directed efforts have been crowned with success for he is now the owner of an excellent farm of two hundred acres on section 14, Prophetstown township.

Mr. Holmquest was born in Sweden, December 20, 1834, and as his parents died during his childhood, he has been dependent upon his own resources for a livelihood from an early age. In his native land he worked on a farm, in a factory, or at anything which he could find to do, and as his time was wholly taken up in this way, his educational advantages were necessarily limited. His knowledge of the English language has all been obtained through his own unaided efforts since coming to this country.

In 1868, with the hope of benefiting his financial condition, Mr. Holmquest came to America, taking passage on a vessel from Denmark to Liverpool, England, whence he crossed the Atlantic to Boston. He proceeded at once to New York, and on west to Princeton, Bureau county, Illinois, where he found employment at ditching and followed that employment for about two years, making fair wages. He then rented land near Yorktown and engaged in farming in Bureau county for three years. Coming to Whiteside county, in 1874, he bought two hundred acres of raw land, which he broke, fenced, ditched and improved, transforming it into one of the best farms of the locality. He paid eight hundred dollars toward the county ditch which runs through his farm. Upon his place he has erected a good set of farm buildings which stand as monuments to his thrift and enterprise.

In Princeton, Bureau county, Mr. Holmquest was married, in 1875, to Miss Ida Olson, also a native of Sweden, and to them have been born three sons, namely: Albert and Oscar, who have started out in life for themselves; and Anton, who is still at home. In making his farm what we today see it, Mr. Holmquest has been ably assisted by his family. He and his wife attend the Lutheran church of Prophetstown, and he affiliates with the Democratic party, particularly at national elections.

**S**OLOMON FARWELL, who resides on section 12, Union Grove township, came to Whiteside county in 1853. He was born in Denmark, Lewis county, New York, January 11, 1827, and is the son of Solomon and Sabina (Burlingame) Farwell, both of whom were natives of Vermont, but who moved to Lewis county, New York, and there spent the remainder of their lives. They were the parents of eleven children, two of whom died in infancy. Of the remaining children, Submit married Parley Brown, by whom she had eight children. Both are now deceased. Eunice married John Adams, but both are now deceased. They had six children. Leonard is deceased. Sabina married Moses Brown, and was the mother of nine children. Both are deceased. Selah, now deceased, married and left a family of seven children. Eliza married Rollo Fox, but died leaving five children. Selah has one daughter living in Morrison, Mrs. A. J. Phileo. Phila E. married Ebenezer Adsit, by whom she had seven children. She is deceased. Hannah married Allen Pitkin, but is now deceased. She had one child. Solomon is the subject of our sketch. Both parents died on the

old homestead in New York, at the age of seventy-five years.

The subject of this sketch was reared in his native state, and in its common schools received his education. At the age of thirteen years he commenced life for himself, and after working as a farm hand for a time, he was apprenticed to learn the carpenter's trade, an occupation which he followed the greater portion of his life. He was married February 4, 1848, to Margaret Plank, also a native of Lewis county, New York, born September 21, 1828, and daughter of John and Eleanor (Ostrander) Plank, both of whom were natives of Troy, New York. By occupation, her father was a dairy farmer, and was quite successful in life. Her grandfather, Henry Plank, was a soldier in the war of 1812. John Plank and wife were the parents of four children, of whom Margaret, the wife of our subject, is the only one now living. Hannah married M. L. Bedell, but both are now deceased. They were residents of Ustick township, Whiteside county, where their death occurred. They had two children, of whom one son, William, is yet living in the township. Nancy married John Canfield, by whom she had ten children. She died at their home in Nebraska. Henry married and had two children. He made his home in Colorado, where his death occurred. The parents of these children both died at the age of forty-one years, in their old home in New York.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Farwell located in the village of Denmark, New York, where he worked at his trade for five years. They then came to Whiteside county and located in Ustick township, where Mr. Farwell purchased a farm of sixty acres, which he operated for some years in connection with his trade. In 1863 he pur-

chased a farm of seventy-eight acres in Union Grove township, to which he removed with his family, and there remained two years. He then traded farms and moved back to Ustick township, where he remained fifteen years, at the expiration of which time he moved to Unionville, and there resided ten years. For the next five years the family lived in Morrison, and then he purchased the place where he now resides in 1898. The house he built for another person in 1867.

To Mr. and Mrs. Farwell nine children have been born, one dying in infancy. Celia H., born November 17, 1848, married William Leckey, and they have two daughters and three sons: Edward, Lulu, Harry, Roy and Anita. They reside in Hampton, Iowa, where Mr. Leckey is engaged in the mercantile business. Emma, born September 3, 1850, is now the wife of William Latham, and they have two children, Helen and Talbott. Their home is in DeWitt, Iowa. Carrie, born April 10, 1852, is the wife of George Rider, by whom she has two children: Kate and George. Their home is also in DeWitt, Iowa, where Mr. Rider is living a retired life. J. D., born June 24, 1856, has been twice married, his first union being with Louisa Hill, by whom he had eight children: Fred, Bessie, John, Luella, Minnie, Mable, Ora and Orville. His second union was with Mary Jones, by whom he had five children: Volney, Leona, Robert, Edna and McKinley. His home is in Lyndon township, where he is engaged in farming. Nellie, born September 3, 1850, is the wife of George W. Burt, living in Ustick township, of whom a sketch is found elsewhere in this volume. Minnie, born December 23, 1861, married William Cutler, and they had one child, Laura. For her

second husband she married Warren G. Bent, and they now live in Milledgeville, Carroll county, Illinois. Fred, born January 15, 1864, married Lizzie Traubler, and they have two sons: Roy and Harry. Their home is in Frederika, Iowa. Lulu, born May 30, 1866, is the wife of Frank Howard, by whom she had two children, one living, Mae. They make their home with our subject.

While residing in Union Grove township Mr. Farwell served six years as justice of the peace, and while in Ustick township served as assessor and town clerk for a time. In politics he is a Republican, with which party he has been identified since its organization. Religiously he is a Universalist, he and his wife holding membership with the church of that name in Morrison. Until 1883 he worked at his trade, and many of the dwellings and barns in Ustick and adjoining township were erected by him. He also erected the church in Round Grove. He is now practically living a retired life.

CAROLINE B. COLE, widow of the late Daniel Cole, came to Whiteside county sixty-two years ago, when Portland township was in its infancy, and has resided here most of the time since. Wild turkey, deer, and other game were abundant, helping oftentimes to supply the family larder, and the wily red man inhabited the woods, frequently making life a terror to the white settlers. Town, county and state have made wonderful progress in all directions within her remembrance, and the center of the population of the United States has steadily pushed westward until it is now near the Mississippi, with the possibility of touching the Pacific coast in the future.

Within the limits of Illinois busy cities have grown, more especially Chicago, which had less than a score of houses when she passed through it on her way to her new home, in 1837, and is now the second city of the Union.

Mrs. Cole was born in Virgil, Cortland county, New York, June 22, 1817, a daughter of Daniel Blasdell. Her father was born and brought up in Vermont, where he lived until after his marriage with Clara C. Gardner, also of the Green Mountain state. Mr. Bladell was a man of versatile talent, expert in the use of tools, and possessed of good business ability. Soon after his marriage he settled in Cortland county, New York, where he worked as carpenter and joiner, besides doing some coopering and shoemaking, and afterward engaged for a time in mercantile business. In 1827 he removed with his family to Broome county, where, in the town of Lisle, he opened a general store, purchased a half interest in a grist mill, which he operated for a while, and in addition engaged in agricultural pursuits on the farm that he bought. In 1835 he came to Illinois, bringing with him his son, and having selected a desirable location in Portland township commenced the improvement of a homestead. In 1837 he sent for his wife and their daughter Caroline, Mrs. Cole, who arrived here October 19. From Ithaca, New York, they journeyed by canal to Buffalo, thence around the lakes to Chicago, which then had neither streets nor sidewalks, consisting of about a dozen houses, one boarding house, and one store, that of Kinsey & Hunter. There they hired teams to bring them to this county, and a long dreary ride, over almost impassable roads, they had. Mr. and Mrs. Blasdell spent the remainder of their lives

on the homestead which they redeemed from its pristine wildness.

Caroline C. Blasdell remained with her parents until her marriage, December 18, 1839, to Daniel Cole, who was born and reared in New York state, and came to this locality at the same time that she did, in 1837. He saw her while *en route*, in Chicago, but had no opportunity to form an acquaintance until the following winter, when he met her at Rock River. He was a brother of Horace B. Cole, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Cole settled on what they deemed the most desirable land of the township. He soon cleared a space, and on it built the typical log house of the pioneer, which they occupied for thirteen years, while opening up and developing the farm, which comprised two hundred acres of prairie and twenty acres of timber. In 1852 he built a substantial residence, and put up one of the finest barns in this vicinity. He was a man of indomitable resolution and perseverance, and made good success in his untiring efforts, improving an excellent farm, whereon he resided until his death, January 19, 1884. Mr. Cole was recognized as one of the representative men of Portland township, which he served in various official capacities, having been supervisor a number of terms, and for the twenty-six years preceding his death was justice of the peace. Fraternally he was a member of the Masonic order, and prominently connected with the Odd Fellows, the lodge to which he belonged having taken charge of burial services.

Mr. and Mrs. Cole reared two children, as follows: Almon B., for several years a lawyer in Macomb, Illinois, moved from there to Dallas, Texas, where he engaged in the

practice of his profession until his death, October 31, 1882; and Antoinette, who died in early womanhood, on November 20, 1868. Almon B. Cole left three children, namely: Frank B., a machinist, at Morrison; Nettie is the wife of W. S. Rugh, and Elizabeth lives in Kansas City, Missouri, with her mother. Mrs. Cole resided on the farm for nearly two years after her husband's death, then went to Paola, Kansas, where she lived with her daughter-in-law from February, 1885, until July 14, 1898, when she returned to her Illinois home.

-----

WILLIAM BUTMAN, now living retired two miles and a half east of Fulton, this county, was for many years of his active life identified with the railway service of our country. He was born in Rutland, Vermont, February 10, 1821, a son of James W. and Esther (Moulthrop) Butman, the former of whom was a native of Salem, Massachusetts, and a sea captain.

William Butman spent a part of his early life in Elmira, New York, from whence he went to Dundee, New York, to assume the publication of the "Dundee Record" in which he had purchased a half interest. After two years in that position, he became connected with the Rochester & Buffalo Railway, which was one of the seven roads running between Buffalo and Albany that have since been consolidated into the New York Central railroad. He was employed as baggageman for a time, then made conductor of a passenger train running from Rochester to Buffalo, a position that he held twenty years, when he was forced to give it up on account of failing health. Going next into the New York

Custom House as custom house examiner and verifier, he remained there three years, when he was offered what he considered a more desirable position, that of conductor on the Detroit, Lansing & Northern Railway, at that time just completed. He accepted, and served as conductor of the first train that went over the road, running from Detroit to Howard City. This was in 1872, and he continued with the company fourteen years. He was held in high favor by the officials of the road, and was very popular with the traveling public, as testified by a recommendation from James F. Joy, part owner, and the best known president of that road, that he has still in his possession, commending his qualities as an efficient conductor, and otherwise complimenting him.

While in the Custom House, Mr. Butman had bought, as an investment, three hundred acres of land on section 26, Fulton township, Whiteside county, and on this he has resided since retiring from the road, but has never engaged in agricultural pursuits, having leased his land.

In 1841, Mr. Butman married Clarissa Booth, daughter of Elisha Booth, a Baptist minister, of New York state. She died in 1871, leaving three children, as follows: Theodore F., who at the time of his death, in 1877, was secretary and treasurer of the Detroit, Lansing & Northern Railway Company; William, who died December 1, 1898; and Emily E., wife of J. W. Boyer, who for many years has held a responsible position with the American Express Company, at Detroit. On September 17, 1873, Mr. Butman was again married, Abbie Goodrich becoming his wife. She was born in Hubbard, Trumbull county, Ohio, a daughter of Leonard and Juliet (Standish) Goodrich,

and a direct descendant of Captain Miles Standish, the Mayflower Pilgrim made famous by our beloved poet, Henry W. Longfellow. Of this union seven children have been born, three of whom are living, namely: Frank, agent for the American Express Company, running on the North-Western Railway, from Janesville, Wisconsin, to Harvard; Clifton and Nellie; two died in infancy, James and Etta M. Mr. Butman is a Knight Templar, having been made a Mason at Rochester, New York, after which he joined the chapter and commandery at Buffalo, New York. Mrs. Butman, a woman of culture and refinement, has been a member of the Baptist church.

**H**IRAM BOGART, a well-known farmer residing on section 25, Prophetstown township, Whiteside county, Illinois, was born on the west side of the Hudson river, in Ulster county, New York, September 24, 1831, and is a son of Henry Bogart, who was born in the same county, in 1801, and there married Elizabeth Winchell, an aunt of J. J. Winchell, whose sketch appears on another page of this volume. The parents spent their entire lives in Ulster county, as farming people, the father dying there February 18, 1883, at the age of eighty-two years; the mother June 15, 1894, at the age of ninety-two. They had a family of five children, namely: Mrs. Sarah Coons, of Ulster county, New York; Mrs. Catherine Elmendorf, of Morrison, Illinois; Charlotta, wife of Cornelius Elmendorf, of Kingston, New York; Hiram, our subject; and Alva, of Ulster county, New York.

In the county of his nativity, Hiram Bogart passed his boyhood and youth and was provided with a good common-school

education. There he was married, June 4, 1851, to Miss Elizabeth Keator, a daughter of Stephen Keator, of Marbletown, Ulster county. They began their domestic life on a farm in the town of Olive, that county, but later moved to Tioga, Tioga county, New York, where Mr. Bogart purchased a farm of seventy acres, which he operated two years and then sold at an advance and returned to his native county. There he continued to follow farming until 1858, when he came to Illinois and joined some friends in Whiteside county, including his uncle, Joseph Winchell, and other Ulster county people. After renting land for one year he bought one hundred and twenty acres of wild land where he now lives, and located thereon in 1860. Here the family began life in true pioneer style and were forced to undergo all the hardships and privations incident to such a life. The land was wet and little could be raised until it was drained. The first year Mr. Bogart was ill with malaria and in the fall the children took the whooping-cough. He and his wife often became very discouraged in those early days, but at length times became better and their labors were crowned with success. To his original purchase Mr. Bogart added a tract of eighty acres, and for some years operated the entire two hundred acres, but after his son Henry's marriage he gave him the latter place. While carrying on the work of improving his own farm, he also operated rented land for two years. Upon his place he set out forest, fruit and ornamental trees, shrubs, etc., and built a large and substantial house, barn and other out-buildings, converting it into a well-improved and valuable farm. During the first year spent here he had to haul his grain and produce to Sterling, which was then the nearest

market place, and much of this region was still in its primitive condition.

To Mr. and Mrs. Bogart were born six children: Henry, a resident of Rock Falls; Sarah Ellen, who married Henry Smead, and died, leaving one child, Bessie; Eva Lila, who died at the age of six years; Ida E., at home; Lottie, wife of Willis Robinson, of Chicago; and Eva May, wife of Frank Irvine, of Whiteside county. The parents were both reared in the Baptist church and still adhere to that faith. In political sentiment Mr. Bogart is a stalwart Democrat, though he cast his first presidential vote for the Whig candidate, General Scott. He takes an active interest in educational affairs, and was an efficient member of the school board for sixteen years. He never withholds his support from any enterprise which he believes will prove of public benefit or advance the welfare of his township or county.

**D**J. POLLOCK, D. D. S., a popular and successful dentist of Sterling, is a native of Illinois, born in Freeport, Stephenson county, June 22, 1850, and is a son of John and Sarah (Morton) Pollock, natives of Ohio and Maine, respectively. The father was twenty-two years of age when he came to Illinois and located with his brother Thomas near Freeport, where they purchased a tract of land from the government. There he successfully engaged in farming for many years, becoming a large land owner and one of the most prosperous citizens of the community. He died there in April, 1893, but his wife is still living and now makes her home with a daughter in Dakota, Illinois. One of their eight children died in infancy, but the others reached man and

womanhood, namely: Quincy, Sarah J., Ann, David J., Mary, John and Jennie. All are still living with the exception of Quincy, who was orderly sergeant of Company A, Forty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, during the Civil war, and was killed in the battle of Pittsburg Landing, in 1861.

Dr. Pollock, of this review, received his early education in the schools near his boyhood home, and later attended Mount Morris College and Beloit College, where he pursued a literary course. Although a mere boy he entered the service of his country during the dark days of the Rebellion, enlisting in February, 1863, in Company A, Forty-sixth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and was mustered into the United States service at Camp Randall, Madison, Wisconsin, where the regiment was assigned to the Western Army, Fourth Army Corps, under General Thomas. With his command he went first to Nashville, Tennessee, but the train was stopped at Bowling Green, Kentucky, that the regiment might participate in a skirmish there. From Nashville, they went to Huntsville, and later to Decatur, Alabama, and then followed Hood back to Nashville. They took part in the battle at that place, and in the second engagement at Franklin, Tennessee. After that they went into camp at Athens, Alabama, and spent the remainder of their service in doing guard duty, being mustered out in September, 1865, and discharged at Madison, Wisconsin.

It was after his return from the war that Dr. Pollock attended college. He began preparations for the dental profession at the New Orleans Dental College, and on completing the prescribed course, he engaged in practice in Havana and Santiago, Cuba, for one year each. On his return to

the United States, he engaged in practice in St. Louis for a time and attended the Western College of Dental Surgery. After graduating from that institution, he came to Sterling, Illinois, in 1875, and opened an office. For a few years he was alone in practice, then for six years was in partnership with Dr. Beckwith, but since that time he has remained alone. He is one of the leading dentists of the city and enjoys an excellent patronage.

On the 1st of January, 1870, Dr. Pollock was united in marriage with Miss Ella Garber, a native of Iowa, who died in August, 1887, leaving two children—Lena, at home; and Ernest, who died at the age of twenty-five years. The Doctor was again married, October 25, 1888, his second union being with Miss Emma Horlacher, a native of Illinois, and a daughter of Godfred Horlacher, deceased, who was a farmer of Whiteside county. Socially Dr. Pollock is a member of Corinthian lodge, No. 63, K. P., and politically is a staunch supporter of the Democratic party. As a citizen he faithfully performs every duty that devolves upon him, so that his loyalty is above question, being manifest in days of peace as well as when he followed the old flag to victory on southern battle fields. He is one of the representative men of the community and is worthy the high regard in which he is uniformly held.

**NATHAN MEEK.** Prominent among the citizens of Whiteside county who have witnessed the marvelous development of this section of the state in the past sixty years, and who have, by honest toil and industry, succeeded in acquiring a competence, and are now able to spend the sunset of life



in quiet and retirement, is the gentleman whose name introduces this sketch, and who resides on section 35, Tampico township.

Mr. Meek was born in Delaware county, Ohio, February 23, 1839. His father, Richard Meek, was born in the same state, in 1816, and there married Miss Hannah Holt, whose birth occurred in Maryland, in 1812. For some years he followed farming in Delaware, Hardin and Union counties, Ohio, but in 1840 came to Illinois and took up his residence in Bureau county. He engaged in farming and blacksmithing there and in Lee county, and spent his last years in Walnut, Bureau county, Illinois, where he died in 1885. His wife survived him a few years, dying in 1898. They were the parents of seven children, of whom two died young. The living are Mary, wife of Christopher Renner, of Nebraska; Nathan, our subject; William, a farmer near Walnut, Bureau county; Nancy, wife of Eli Harris, of Iowa; Betsy, wife of Reason Renner, of Walnut; Samuel, a resident of Nebraska; and Melissa, wife of John Wymer, of Nebraska.

Nathan Meek spent his early life in Bureau county, and being given a good practical education, he successfully engaged in teaching for two terms. He continued to make his home with his parents until grown, and aided in the work of the farm. On the 13th of August, 1862, he responded to his country's call for aid in crushing out the Rebellion, enlisting in Company I, Ninety-third Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He took part in the battles of Jackson, Mississippi, Champion Hills and Black River Bridge; was in the siege of Vicksburg, and later participated in the battles of Missionary Ridge and Altoona Pass; was on the march through Georgia and the Atlanta

campaign and at Washington, and participated in the Grand Review at Washington. He was wounded in the charge on Missionary Ridge by a gunshot through the left arm and was in the hospital for a few days. He remained in the service until the close of the war, when he was honorably discharged, July 5, 1865, and returned home.

On the 21st of January, 1866, Mr. Meek was united in marriage with Miss Catherine B. Adams, a daughter of William Adams. She was born in Indiana, but when a child was brought to this state and reared in Bureau county. They began housekeeping on his farm of eighty acres west of Walnut, and to its further improvement and cultivation he devoted his energies for seven years. He then sold the place and bought another of one hundred and thirty-eight acres on the north line of Bureau county, which he operated until his removal to his present farm on section 35, Tampico township, Whiteside county, in 1884. He still owns both places, containing two hundred and ninety-eight acres of fine farming land, but leaves their cultivation to others while he devotes his time to raising and handling stock. Mr. Meek has been called upon to mourn the loss of his estimable wife, who died May 23, 1899, and was laid to rest in Greenville cemetery, Bureau county. To them were born four sons, as follows: William F., who is a well-educated young man and a successful teacher; Samuel, who is engaged in farming on the home place; Richard, who carries on his father's farm in Bureau county; and John, at home. All have been provided with good school privileges and have engaged in teaching with the exception of Richard.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Meek is a stalwart Democrat, and cast his first presi-

dential vote for Stephen A. Douglas. He has never lost his interest in educational affairs, but has most efficiently served as a member of the school board for twenty years, and as president of the district for some years. He has also held the office of township trustee, and he has ever faithfully discharged every duty that has devolved upon him, whether public or private. In many respects his life is well worthy of emulation.

**M**RS. MARY R. LOCKHEART, widow of Elisha Lockheart and a well-known resident of Fulton, is a woman of excellent business ability and marked intelligence, who has distinguished herself by her straightforward, womanly course, no less than by the tact and energy she has displayed in the management of her business affairs. She is a native of Nantucket, Massachusetts, and a daughter of Captain David and Priscilla Macy (Coffin) Cottle, also natives of Nantucket, the former born in 1819, the latter in 1829. At the age of sixteen the father went to sea and spent about twenty years in the whaling business, mostly on the Pacific, and became master of a vessel. He was often away on a cruise four years at a time, and Mrs. Lockheart was four years old before she ever saw him. He made five voyages around the globe. In 1856 he retired from a sea-faring life and came west to Whiteside county, Illinois, locating in Garden Plain township, where he engaged in farming for some years but is now living retired with his daughter, Mrs. Lockheart, in Fulton. Mrs. Cottle died January 9, 1899. In their family were four children, one son and three daughters, of whom Mrs. Lockheart is the eldest, the others being

Eunice M., wife of William H. Story, who owns a large dairy farm near Monee, Illinois; Elizabeth; and David, a farmer of Fulton township, this county.

Mrs. Lockheart received a good, practical education in the schools of Garden Plain and Albany, and for eight years successfully engaged in teaching in the district schools of this county. Later she engaged in the dressmaking and millinery business in Cedar Falls, Iowa, for some time. On the 10th of July, 1888, she gave her hand in marriage to Elisha Lockheart, and to them were born three children, namely: Elisha C., Macy H. and Priscilla D.

Mr. Lockheart was born in the town of Greene, Adams county, Ohio, May 21, 1821, and at the age of twelve years was made assistant manager of a woodyard on Brush Creek Island, in the Ohio river, for the purpose of supplying steamboats with wood. He continued in that business until the fall of 1845, when he came to Whiteside county, Illinois, and entered two hundred and thirty-one acres of land, two hundred acres of which was on section 11, Garden Plain township, and the remainder was timberland on section 8. The money with which he paid for this land he had saved from his earnings while working in the wood yard. Returning to his old home in Adams county, Ohio, he was married, November 16, 1852, to Miss Rebecca Rinard, who died February 20, 1885, leaving no children, and was buried in Cottonwood cemetery. After his marriage, Mr. Lockheart remained in Ohio until 1856, when he again came to Garden Plain township, Whiteside county, Illinois, and located on section 27, where he improved and cultivated a farm, successfully operating it for some years. Soon after the death of his

first wife he moved to Clinton, where he made his home until 1890, and then came to Fulton. Economical, persevering and industrious, he amassed a snug fortune, and while a resident of Fulton was connected with several of the leading enterprises of the city, being at one time a stockholder in the Hellerstedt Carriage Company and president of the same; a stockholder in the Mississippi Valley Stove Company; and one of the principal stockholders of the Fulton Electric Light & Power Company. At the time of his death he also owned eighteen hundred acres of valuable land in Whiteside county. Public-spirited and progressive, he cheerfully gave his support to those enterprises that tend to public development, and, with hardly an exception, he was connected with every interest that promoted the general welfare. He was a faithful member of the Presbyterian church, and his name was a synonym for honorable business dealing. For many years he affiliated with the Democratic party, but during the last fifteen or twenty years of his life, he was an active and zealous member of the Prohibition party. He always took an active interest in educational matters and most efficiently served as school director and school commissioner for many years. He died April 2, 1896, honored and respected by all who knew him.

In the management of his business affairs since her husband's death, Mrs. Lockheart has displayed remarkable business ability. She has personal charge of the estate, and has been president of the Fulton Electric Light & Power Company since 1895. She still retains her interest in schools and educational work, and from 1894 until 1897 was an influential member of the school board of Fulton, but on the expiration of her three years' term refused

to fill the office longer. She, too, is an earnest member of the Presbyterian church, and is also a member of Merton chapter, No. 356, O. E. S., of which she is past worthy matron. Her father is one of the oldest Masons in the state, having united with the order in Union lodge, Nantucket, Massachusetts, in 1848.

**F**RANK P. TIMMERMAN, a well-known and prosperous general merchant of Spring Hill, is a business man of ability and enterprise. He was born May 3, 1853, in Cattaraugus county, New York, a son of John and Rachel M. (Fuller) Timmerman, the latter a daughter of Levi and Betsey Fuller, natives of New York.

John Timmerman was born in Johnstown, New York, and in his native state spent his earlier days. In 1861, being ambitious to improve his fortunes by a change of location, he came with his family to Whiteside county, and having rented land on Spring Hill was there engaged in the pursuit of agriculture until his death, in 1898, at the venerable age of eighty-eight years. He took great interest in public matters, and while a resident of New York served as captain of the Thirty-fourth Company of militia. His wife who preceded him to the better land, bore him nine children, as follows: Frank P., the special subject of this brief biographical sketch; Cordelia R., wife of Hiram Gilmore, of California; Mrs. Mary Ann McCollister, of Arkansas; J. Delos, a soldier in the late Civil war, died at Benton Barracks, Missouri; Wesley, who is engaged in business at Erie, this county; L. E., also a business man of Erie; Alice, wife of Arthur Welding, of Spring Hill; Anna, wife of C. I. Merrill,

of Prophetstown; and George, of Spring Hill.

Frank P. Timmerman received a common-school education, and until seventeen years old assisted his father in the labors incidental to farm life. The following three years he was employed as a builder of railway bridges in Missouri and Iowa, after which he returned to the parental homestead, which he assisted in carrying on for two years. In 1877, soon after his marriage, he went to California, locating in Mendocino county, where he found employment in a paper manufactory. Having left his wife at home, he returned to Portland township the next year, and here in company with his brother, L. E. Timmerman, established himself in the meat business, which he continued two years. Purchasing then seventy acres of land near Spring Hill, Mr. Timmerman carried on general farming ten years. Desirous at that time of changing his occupation he bought the Spring Hill House, which he managed for two years; then renting that hotel he moved to Erie, where for a year and a half he had charge of the St. Nicholas Hotel and restaurant. Selling out his interests there in 1893, at public sale, he returned to Spring Hill, and at once embarked in the mercantile business. Commencing on a modest scale, he bought at first a small stock of goods, and from time to time, as the trade demanded and his means allowed, he replenished his stock, and added new lines of goods, until now he has one of the largest and most complete assortments of general merchandise to be found in the county, including staple and fancy groceries, dry goods, hardware, wagons, buggies, farming implements, machinery, etc.

On July 19, 1877, Mr. Timmerman

married Miss Mary Talcott, who was born, bred and educated in Henry county, where previous to her marriage, and during the time that Mr. Timmerman was in California, she was a successful teacher in the public schools. Their union has been blessed by the birth of two children, namely: Craig, a clerk in his father's store; and Bernice, at home. In politics Mr. Timmerman is an earnest supporter of the principles promulgated by the Democratic party, and with the exception of the year that he cast his presidential ballot for Peter Cooper, has voted for the Democratic nominee. He takes a genuine interest in town and county affairs, and for two years served as township clerk, and five years on the board of education. Fraternaly, he is a member of Prophetstown lodge, No. 508, I. O. O. F., and of Brooks camp, M. W. A., of Spring Hill, in which he has been clerk ten years. Both he and Mrs. Timmerman are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

**H**ON. TYLER McWHORTER. There are in every community men of great force of character and exceptional ability, who by reason of their capacity for leadership become recognized as foremost citizens and bear a most important part in the development and progress of the locality with which they are connected. Such a man was Mr. McWhorter, who was a prominent farmer of Montmorency township.

He was born in Metamora, Franklin county, Indiana, June 11, 1825, and was a son of John and Mary (Lynn) McWhorter, the former a native of Pennsylvania, the latter of West Virginia. He was a descendant of Thomas McWhorter, who emigrated to this country prior to the French and Indian war



HON. TYLER McWHORTER.



and settled in New Jersey. He has three children, Gilbert, Hugh and Mary. Hugh McWhorter married Keziah Tyler, and to them were born six children, of whom Tyler was the grandfather of our subject. After his marriage he removed to Indiana, where he spent his last days. The father of our subject was a successful agriculturist who owned and operated a farm on the outskirts of Metamora, Franklin county, Indiana. In his family were nine children, of whom three died in childhood, the others being Tyler, Rebecca, Lynn, Keziah, John and Henry. The last named was a soldier of the Civil war and died in New Orleans.

During his boyhood Tyler McWhorter, of this sketch, pursued his studies in a log school house of his native county, and his father being a teacher, assisted him in acquiring a good practical education which well fitted him for life's responsible duties. He remained at home until his marriage, which was celebrated November 28, 1849, Miss Rhoda A. Ward becoming his wife. She was born near Cincinnati, Ohio, and is a daughter of Elias and Rhoda (Miller) Ward, natives of New Jersey. Her maternal grandfather was Major Luke Miller, who served with distinction as an officer in the Revolutionary war. He spent his entire life in Madison, New Jersey, dying in the house where he was born. By occupation he was a farmer and blacksmith. In his family were eight children, two sons and six daughters. Mrs. McWhorter's paternal grandfather was Israel Ward, also a native of New Jersey and a farmer by occupation. In 1811, accompanied by his family, he removed to Hamilton county, Ohio, where he bought land for himself and sons. He, too, had a family of eight children, six sons and two daughters.

Elias Ward, the father of Mrs. McWhorter, was a soldier of the war of 1812, and for his services he received a land warrant. For a number of years he followed the carriage trimmer's trade in Cincinnati, but finally selling his farm in Ohio, he moved to Franklin county, Indiana, where he lived until a few years before his death, when he came to Whiteside county, Illinois, to make his home with Mr. and Mrs. McWhorter and some of his other children. Here he died September 6, 1870. He was an active worker in the Methodist church, and secured the first circuit preacher in Franklin county, Indiana, at the same time opening his house for services. His estimable wife died October 10, 1868. To them were born twelve children, all of whom reached man and womanhood with the exception of one son, Elias, who died in infancy. The others were George, Hettie, Robert, Ellis, Luke, Mary, Israel, James, Rhoda, John and Lewis B. Of this family only two are now living, Mrs. McWhorter and Lewis B. Ward, a farmer of Harmon township, Lee county, Illinois.

After his marriage, Mr. McWhorter concluded to come west, but it was not until 1865 that he started for this county. He made the journey by team, bringing his household goods with him, and then returned for his wife and three little children. This time they traveled by railroad to Dixon and from there by team to Sterling. They located in Montmorency township, where Mr. McWhorter first bought two hundred acres of land, and by subsequent purchase he increased his landed possessions until at the time of his death he had three hundred and sixty acres of land in Whiteside county and a quarter section of land just across the road from his home, in Lee county. He

gave his attention principally to stock raising.

To Mr. and Mrs. McWhorter were born seven children, namely: Mary M. is now the wife of John Jamison, of Kossuth county, Iowa, and they have three children; Ellis, a farmer of Iowa, married Emma Seely, and they have four children; Anna is the wife of Edgar Woods, of Montmorency township, Whiteside county, and they have seven children; John E., a resident of Kossuth county, Iowa, married Carrie Golder, and they have four children; William L., of Montmorency township, married Belle Beal, and they have one child; Charlotte L. is the wife of Fred Buell, of Prophetstown, and they have two children; and Leroy S., a farmer of Kossuth county, Iowa, married Ethel Barrett, and they have one child.

On the 5th of May, 1889, Mr. McWhorter departed this life, after a lingering illness of about a year, and was laid to rest in a cemetery in Montmorency township. He was a prominent and active member of the Methodist Episcopal church in that township, and aided in the erection of the house of worship there. He was a recognized leader in the ranks of the local Republican organization, and was elected to numerous township offices of honor and trust, serving as supervisor nine years and school director fifteen years. He was instrumental in securing one of the first schools in Montmorency township. In 1874 he was elected to the state legislature by a large majority and became a prominent member of the twenty-ninth general Assembly, where he ably represented his district. Throughout his career of continued and far-reaching usefulness his duties were performed with the greatest care, and during a long life his

personal honor and integrity were without blemish. Since 1890 Mrs. McWhorter has been a resident of Sterling. She, too, is a faithful and consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and is highly respected by all who know her.

**L**LOYD H. DILLON, deceased, was for many years one of the leading business men of Sterling, Illinois, a member of the Dillon Milling Company, which still bears his name. He won success by his well-directed, energetic efforts, and the prosperity that came to him was certainly well deserved.

Mr. Dillon was born in Zanesville, Ohio, December 10, 1839, a son of Lloyd and Margaret (Culbertson) Dillon, also natives of Zanesville. His paternal grandparents, John and Edith Dillon, removed to that state from Maryland at an early day and took up their residence in Zanesville, where the grandfather became quite a successful manufacturer and prominent citizen. There both he and his wife died. Lloyd Dillon, Sr., was in business with his father in Zanesville for many years and he, too, became very prosperous and influential. His entire life was passed in Ohio. (Further mention is made of the family in the sketch of Moses Dillon on another page of the volume.)

The subject of this sketch was only seven years old when his father died, after which he made his home with an aunt in Ohio for a few years, while he attended the common schools of Zanesville. At the age of fourteen he came west to make his home with his cousin, Charles Dillon, in Iowa City, Iowa, and after living with him for a short time commenced work for his cousin's father-in-law, a Mr. Foster. Here he be-



came familiar with agricultural pursuits, and was thus employed until the breaking out of the Civil war.

Hardly had the echoes from Fort Sumter's guns died away before Mr. Dillon offered his services to the government, enlisting April 18, 1861, in the First Iowa Infantry, which was mustered into the United States service at Keokuk, May 14, 1861. He had previously made up his mind to enter the service, if war was declared, hoping in that way to abolish some of the slave laws which then existed. Once, while plowing in the field, he was interrupted by three men who were hunting a negro fugitive, and they tried to make him tell where the man was. This he could not or would not do, but was compelled to assist in the hunt, as they told him he was liable to arrest if he knew anything of the negro's whereabouts. He afterward looked up the law on the subject and, finding it to be correct, he determined to be one to help to abolish it. Accordingly, he was one of the first to enlist from Iowa at the outbreak of the war. He was wounded in the leg at Wilson's Creek, Missouri, August 10, 1861, and was discharged from the service on the 25th of that month. He re-enlisted at Iowa City, January 10, 1862, in the Fourth Iowa Cavalry, and was made sergeant of his company, September 15, 1862; second lieutenant, February 1, 1863, and captain of Company I, May 15, 1865. He was quite severely wounded in the left breast at Guntown, Mississippi, June 10, 1864. The war being over and his services no longer needed, he was finally mustered out at Atlanta, Georgia, August 8, 1865. On his return to civil life he resumed farming in Iowa.

On the 28th of September, 1865, in Peoria, Illinois, Mr. Dillon was united in

marriage with Miss Ruth E. Rees, a native of Berkley county, Virginia, and a daughter of Jacob and Thamasin (Lupton) Rees. To Mr. and Mrs. Dillon were born eight children, four of whom are now living.

After his marriage Mr. Dillon engaged in farming on rented land in Iowa until 1872, when he came to Sterling, Illinois, and immediately embarked in milling with Samuel Kingery, who later sold his interest, and M. C. Bowers became a member of the firm. Subsequently J. T. Strock was a member of the company, but finally withdrew, and in 1861 Mr. Dillon had the business incorporated as the Dillon Milling Company, which name it now bears. He was a large stockholder and treasurer of the company at the time of his death, which occurred June 18, 1898. He was buried with military honors by William Robinson post, G. A. R., and laid to rest in Riverside cemetery, Sterling. He was also a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and other fraternal orders, and was a supporter of the Republican party. He was a quiet, unassuming man, whose word was considered as good as his bond, and was a devoted Christian and faithful member of the Presbyterian church. As a citizen he was always true to every trust reposed in him, and it is safe to say that no man in the community was more respected or honored.

ISAAC FRANCIS, deceased, was an enterprising farmer and stock raiser of Prophetstown township, who located there in 1869, at which time he was possessed of but little means, but having a determination to succeed, did succeed, becoming the owner of a well-stocked farm of two hun-

dred and forty acres, and surrounded by such evidences of thrift as makes the heart glad. He was born in Lincolnshire, England, December 22, 1847, and a son of John Francis, also a native of the same shire.

The first seventeen years of the life of our subject were spent in his native land, where he received a common-school education. With the earnest desire to better himself in life, and hearing of the opportunities afforded the enterprising person in the United States, he resolved to make this his home. Accordingly, in 1864, he crossed the Atlantic, and for five years was engaged in farm labor in Moorestown, New Jersey. He was there married March 11, 1869, to Miss Anna Thompson, who was born in Mount Laurel, New Jersey, and a daughter of Pemberton Thompson, also a native of that state, who there married Margaret Dobins. He was a mason by trade, an occupation that he followed during life. He never came west, but lived and died in his native state.

Soon after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Francis came to Whiteside county, where the latter had then two sisters living—Mrs. Edward Lancaster and Mrs. Henry Clark—both of whom had settled here a few years previously. On their arrival Mr. Francis rented a farm and engaged in farming. He continued to rent for seven years, in the meantime laying by each year a little money. He then purchased the farm where the family now resides, a tract of two hundred and forty acres, fairly well improved. On taking possession, he at once commenced its further improvement, and as the years went by he erected new buildings, including a large barn and various outbuildings, which have added greatly to the appearance of the place as well as to its value.

In addition to general farming, Mr. Francis gave much attention to stock raising, especially in the later years. Short horn cattle was his specialty, and he always endeavored to procure stock of a high grade, blooded animals, and at the time of his death had a herd of about fifty head, Cruikshank, a full blooded animal, being at the head of the herd. His success in this branch of his business was such as to bring him into prominence as a stock raiser, and his judgment of the value and grade of stock was second to none. As a general farmer, he was also a success, his place always being kept under a high state of cultivation.

Mr. Francis had a love for his calling and gave it his undivided attention. He neither sought or desired office, and was only prevailed on to accept one official position, that of road commissioner, an office which he held for several years. In politics he was originally a Republican, but of late years he affiliated with the Democratic party. Fraternally he was a Master Mason, holding his membership with the Blue lodge in Prophetstown.

To Mr. and Mrs. Francis seven children were born, of whom Laura is now the wife of Frank Lancaster, a farmer of Prophets-town township; Jennie, a young lady, resides at home; George is married and is residing in the city of Prophetstown; William, a young man, is at home, and is assisting in carrying on the home farm; John, Edward and Bertha are also at home.

Mr. Francis was always an active, as well as an enterprising man, and continued to be actively engaged until his last sickness, which terminated in his death, March 18, 1889. He was buried in the cemetery at Prophetstown with Masonic honors. A

resident of the county for thirty years, he had formed an extensive acquaintance, and wherever known he was greatly esteemed. A man of exemplary habits and sterling worth, it is not to be wondered that his friends were many in Whiteside and adjoining counties. Since his death, Mrs. Francis, with the aid of her children, has carried on the home farm. She is a woman of good business ability, and to her aid and wise counsel much of the success attending her husband in life is due.

**W**ILLIAM G. RIORDAN, a well-known and highly esteemed citizen of Fulton, has attained a high position in the literary world as the publisher of *Legal Topics*, a journal devoted to legal matters and current events of the day, it being a popular review of events and topics. It was founded by Dyson Rishell, LL. D., who continued its publication until June, 1898. One month later Mr. Riordan assumed the charge of it, and has given great satisfaction to the number of subscribers in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, and other states of the Union. It is a bright, well-edited paper, handling in an able manner all current topics of interest to the general public, and to the legal profession in particular.

Mr. Riordan was born in 1874, in Newton township, Whiteside county, Illinois, a son of D. A. and Ellen (Kain) Riordan. His father was a Vermont man by birth, and a resident of that state until 1855, when he emigrated to Whiteside county, Illinois, where he has since been actively engaged in tilling the soil. He is influential in township affairs, and has served in many public offices in Newton. He has reared nine children, all of whom reside in Whiteside

county with the exception of George, who is living in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

William G. Riordan was reared on the home farm, receiving his preliminary education in the common schools of Newton, and afterwards attending the Northern Illinois Normal School, at Dixon, for two years. At the age of eighteen years, he began teaching, and four years taught in the district schools of this county. For a brief time he read law with Hon. J. G. Monohan, of Sterling, Illinois, but changing his plans never took up the profession. He began his literary career by work on the *Dixon Daily Star*, with which he was connected three months. In August, 1893, he took charge of the *Fulton Journal* as editor and general manager, continuing in that position until September, 1898, managing both that and *Legal Topics* two months. In his political affiliations he has always been an active Democrat, high in local councils, and since 1898 has served as secretary of the Democratic central committee. In the spring of 1899 he was elected city clerk, an office he is at present filling. Fraternally he is a member, and past chancellor, of Sunlight lodge, No. 239, K. of P.; and is a member of Forest camp, No. 2, M. W. of A. At the time of the contest over the removal of the headquarters of the Woodmen, Mr. Riordan acted the part of Paul Revere, of Revolutionary fame. When the first posse arrived from Rock Island to take forcible possession of the property and papers, he was returning from a party, about ten o'clock, and met them. Recognizing the leaders, and realizing their purpose, he went from house to house, awakened the citizens, rung the fire bell, and aroused the fire company, who brought out their hose and

sprinkled them. One of the claims made by the Rock Island people for the removal was the insecurity of the records, as Fulton had not an efficient fire department. The fire company demonstrated its efficiency that night in a manner that even Rock Island could not dispute. By this act Mr. Riordan received the sobriquet of "Paul Revere."

On October 27, 1898, Mr. Riordan married Miss Belle Harrison, of Fulton.

**E**DGAR G. BAUM is a well-known capitalist, loan, real estate and insurance agent of Morrison Illinois. Greater fortunes have been accumulated, but few lives furnish so striking an example of the wise application of sound principles and safe conservatism as does his. The story of his success is short and simple, containing no exciting chapters, but in it lies one of the most valuable secrets of the prosperity which it records, and his business and private life are pregnant with interest and incentive, no matter how lacking in dramatic action.

Mr. Baum was born in Le Ray township, Jefferson county, New York, April 29, 1840, a son of Absalom and Anna (Keller) Baum. The father was a native of Herkimer county, New York, and a son of Jacob and Betsey Baum. Our subject's great-grandfather was a native of Germany and an early settler of the Mohawk Valley, New York. The grandfather served as a soldier in the war of 1812 and in early life followed farming in the Mohawk Valley, but later, with his six sons, he removed to Jefferson county, New York, becoming one of the pioneer settlers of Pamela Four Corners where he purchased a large tract of wild land and there made his home until his

death. He was quite a prominent and influential man of his community and was honored with different local offices. He died at the age of eighty-four years, his wife at the age of eighty-three.

Absalom Baum, father of our subject, was reared and educated in Jefferson county, where he married Anna Keller, a daughter of Jacob Keller, who was also of German ancestry, and who had also served his country in the war of 1812.

After his marriage Absalom Baum purchased a farm in LeRay township, Jefferson county, on which he made his home throughout the remainder of his life. He was prominently identified with military affairs, and was captain of a company in the state militia until it was disbanded on account of a change in laws, being always known as Captain Baum. He served as assessor of his township for a number of years; was first a Whig in politics and later a Republican; and was a Universalist in religious belief, while his estimable wife was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He died in 1879, at the age of sixty-nine, and she passed away in 1878 at the age of fifty-eight years.

Edgar G. Baum, their oldest son, attended the common schools at his home and later attended the high school at Theresa Falls. After finishing the course of studies here he engaged in teaching school during the winter months, in Watertown and in the district schools for twelve years, worked on his father's farm during the summer. He first came west in 1864 and taught school in Henry county, Illinois, returning to New York the next year.

In 1867 he again came west, taking up his residence at Sterling, this county, having secured the agency for the American

Fire Insurance Company, of Chicago. Reaching Sterling on Friday, he went to a hotel to remain until the beginning of the week, and after paying his bill on Monday morning he started on his first canvassing tour among the farmers with twenty-five cents as his sole assets.

During the next year he walked all over Whiteside and much of Henry counties, soliciting insurance from the farmers with great success. He continued canvassing afoot until he was able to buy and pay for a horse and buggy in cash, and for twenty years he represented the same company, doing business in five counties, meeting with excellent success, advancing not only the company's interest but his own.

On severing his connection with the company in 1887 he embarked in the insurance, loan, and real estate business in Sterling, and met with most excellent success in his new undertaking. He became a stockholder in the Sterling National Bank and still holds that position.

In 1889 he came to Morrison and is engaged in the same business here. He is also a stockholder in the First National Bank here and owns a number of fine farms in Whiteside county, besides valuable city property and land in Kansas and Iowa.

Mr. Baum was married in Chicago September 22, 1880, to Mrs. Mary Boydston Jennings, whose early life was spent in Warsaw, Indiana. She is a daughter of the late William Boydston, a retired farmer and merchant of that place. By her first marriage she had two children, Henry B. Jennings, a physician of Council Bluffs, Iowa, and Maude Luella, who upon her mother's marriage to Mr. Baum became his adopted daughter.

Mrs. Baum is a member of the Presbyterian church and a most estimable lady.

Politically Mr. Baum supports the Republican party, but he has never been an aspirant for office. He was made a Mason at Geneseo, Henry county, Illinois, and still holds membership in Stewart lodge, No. 92, A. F. & A. M., at that place. The success that he has achieved in life is due entirely to his own well-directed and energetic efforts and his career has been such as to command the respect and confidence of all with whom he has been brought in contact.

**JAMES WICKENS**, whose home is on section 24, Tampico township, two miles and a half southeast of the village of Tampico, was formerly one of the most active and enterprising agriculturists of Whiteside county and enjoyed more than ordinary success, but he is now living retired from active labor in the enjoyment of all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life.

Mr. Wickens was born in Sussexshire, England, August 13, 1829, a son of Samuel and Elizabeth (Turner) Wickens, who spent their entire lives in Sussexshire, the father being engaged in farming. In their family were three children, namely: William, still a resident of England; Anna, who married James Adams and came to La Salle county, Illinois, but later moved to Australia; and James, our subject.

Mr. Wickens acquired rather a limited education in the schools of his native land. He learned the wheelwright's trade and worked at the same in his native land for six years. It was in 1850 that he emigrated to the United States, taking passage on a sailing vessel, the Columbus, which was six

weeks in crossing from London to New York. He spent one season working at the carpenter's and joiner's trade, in Ohio, and in the fall of 1850 went to Chicago, which at that time was a small village and very muddy, there seeming to be no bottom to the streets. Mr. Wickens located in Kendall county, Illinois, where he spent ten years, working at the carpenter's trade or anything which he could find to do. Coming to Whiteside county, in 1861, he purchased eighty acres of land in partnership with his brother-in-law, and located thereon, but in connection with its operation he continued to work at the carpenter's trade for three years. He then sold out and in 1864 bought eighty acres where he now resides, a part of which was broken at that time. He built a comfortable home, and to the further improvement and cultivation of this place he devoted his time and attention for many years. He added to his land from time to time until he had three hundred and forty acres in the home place and eighty acres near Sterling. He has set out fruit and shade trees, and has erected three sets of good farm buildings, all of which he keeps in first-class order, and now has one of the best improved farms in Tampico township.

In Kendall county, Mr. Wickens was married, in 1854, to Miss Elizabeth Cork, also a native of Sussexshire, England, and a daughter of James Cork, one of the early settlers of Kendall county, where he entered government land. Mrs. Wickens was reared and educated in that county. The children born to our subject and his wife are as follows: Nelson, now a farmer of Sheridan county, Nebraska; Walter, who is married and engaged in farming in this county; George, a ranchman of South Dakota; Sam-

uel, who is married and engaged in business in Sterling; Thomas, who is married and follows farming on part of the home farm; Owen, who is married and follows farming at Harmon, Illinois; Oscar, a resident of Iowa; Jesse, at home; and Laura and Rose, who both died when young ladies.

Mr. Wickens was formerly a Republican in politics and cast his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln, in 1864, but now votes independent of party lines. He served one term as commissioner of highways, was a member of the school board sixteen years, and president of the district. In 1888 he returned to England and spent six weeks in Sussexshire and London, and had a very enjoyable visit, though he found few of his old friends and acquaintances left. He has never regreted his emigration to America, for here he has prospered, becoming the possessor of a comfortable competence, which enables him in his declining years to lay aside all business cares and live in ease and retirement, surrounded by a host of warm friends who appreciate his sterling worth and many excellencies of character.

---

**D**YSON RISHELL, LL. D. It is not an easy task to describe adequately a man who has led an eminently active and busy life and who has attained to a position of high relative distinction in the more important and exacting fields of human endeavor. But biography finds its most perfect justification, nevertheless, in the tracing and recording of such a life history. It is, then, with a full appreciation of all that is demanded, and of the painstaking scrutiny that must be accorded each statement, and yet with a feeling of significant satisfaction,

that the writer essays the task of touching briefly upon the details of such a record as has been the voice of the character of the honored subject whose life now comes under review.

Professor Dyson Rishell, who occupies the chair of law in the Northern Illinois College, and is also a lecturer of high repute, was born in Hughesville, Lycoming county, Pennsylvania, November 11, 1858, and is a son of Peter R. and Matilda (Robbins) Rishell, both of whom were natives of the Keystone state. The father was an agriculturist of Lycoming county and died in 1883, while his wife departed this life in 1867. The paternal grandfather, Jacob Rishell, was likewise a native of Pennsylvania and followed farming there, while his father; Captain George Rishell, was one of the valiant soldiers of the Revolution, commanding a company in the struggle which brought liberty to the colonies.

Upon his father's farm Professor Rishell spent his early boyhood days, acquiring his preliminary education in the common schools. Subsequently he attended and was graduated in the Central State Normal School, in Lockhaven, Pennsylvania, after which he devoted two years to the study of the classics under the direction of Dr. Vrooman, of Pennsylvania. On the expiration of that period he entered the law office of Hall & McCauley, of Ridgway, Pennsylvania, one of the most prominent law firms of the state, the senior member being the Hon. J. G. Hall. For three years he continued his studies there, gaining a wide and accurate knowledge of the principles of jurisprudence, and after his admission to the bar he opened an office in Ridgway, where he formed a partnership with N. T. Arnold. This connection continued for six years, after

which Professor Rishall turned his attention to literary and journalistic work. He is a man of decided literary taste, of scholarly attainments, and strong mentality, and in his new field of labor met with success. He purchased the Ridgway Advocate, which he published for several years, and during that time he was a candidate on the Republican ticket for district attorney. His personal popularity and the confidence reposed in him was indicated by the fact that he reduced the usual Democratic majority from six hundred to two hundred. In 1888 he sold the Advocate and on account of impaired health was not actively connected with business interests for several years thereafter.

In 1893 Professor Rishell came to Whiteside county, and accepted the position of principal of the public schools of Erie, where he remained for two years. In 1896 he accepted the chair of law in the Northern Illinois College, and has since occupied that place. He is very clear and concise in his instruction, and imparts readily to others the knowledge he has acquired, and which is of superior order. In June, 1898, he was largely instrumental in establishing the Legal Topics, a popular review of events, of which he was editor for more than a year. For ten years past he has been connected with the lecture platform and his addresses are at once instructive and entertaining. The substrata of thought is adorned by the graces of rhetoric, and added to this is a pleasing delivery which makes him a popular orator. Among his most popular lectures are "How to Say Things," and "The Cross and the Crescent."

On the 22d of June, 1898, Professor Rishell was married in Morrison, Illinois, to Addie G. Marshall, daughter of M. M. and

Emeline (Owen) Marshall, and a native of the city in which the wedding was celebrated. They now have one son, Edwin. In politics Professor Rishell is a Republican, and fraternally is a Master Mason. He belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church of Fulton, and takes a deep interest in everything calculated to advanced the welfare of humanity. The cause of education finds in him a warm friend and he has done effective service in behalf of the public schools of Whiteside county, one of his labors being the preparation of the notes of reference on the improved and systematic literary work for the graded schools of the county. At this point it would be almost tautological to enter into any series of statements as showing our subject to be a man of broad intelligence and genuine public spirit for these have been shadowed forth between the lines of the review. Strong in his individuality, he never lacks the courage of his convictions, but there are as dominating elements in this individuality a lively human sympathy and an abiding charity, which, as taken in connection with the sterling integrity and honor of his character, have naturally gained to him the respect and confidence of men.

---

**T**HOMAS A. DRAIN is a worthy representative of the agricultural interests of Prophetstown township, his home being on section 33. Coming to this state in 1832, he has watched the development of its resources with the interest which every intelligent man feels in regard to the section of the country where he has spent the best years of his life and should feel a satisfaction in the thought that he has been no unimportant factor in bringing it to its present

condition. He experienced all the trials and difficulties of frontier life, but is now enjoying the reward of his labors and struggles in the possession of a fine homestead of one hundred and twenty-one acres.

Mr. Drain was born in Washington county, Kentucky, November 20, 1830, and is a grandson of one of the pioneers of that county, William Drain, a native of England. There his father, Joseph Drain, was born and remained, and there married Julia Walker, a native of Virginia and a daughter of George Walker, one of the first settlers of Washington county, Kentucky, from the Old Dominion. In 1832, with his family, Joseph Drain removed to McDonough county, Illinois, which at that time was very sparsely settled, there being but thirty-five votes polled in the county that year. He took a claim and opened up a farm, but in 1847 came to Whiteside county, locating on land adjoining our subject's present farm. Here he remained until called from this life in the fall of 1892, at the age of eighty-one years. His wife died the following year at the age of eighty-five.

Thomas A. Drain was a lad of seventeen years when he came with his parents to this county, and he assisted in the arduous task of converting the wild land into well-tilled fields, remaining under the parental roof until reaching manhood. As soon as old enough he pre-empted forty acres of land adjoining his father's farm, and later entered it. Subsequently he purchased two forty-acre tracts adjoining his land, and with one acre obtained from his father's farm, he now has a place of one hundred and twenty-one acres, which he has placed under a high state of cultivation and improved with good buildings, fences, ditches, and fruit and forest trees. In early



days the family did their trading in Peru, but as time has advanced all of the comforts to their door, and their nearest market is now only a few miles distant.

Mr. Drain was married in Iowa in 1859, to Miss Anna A. Leavenworth, who was born and reared in Vermont and came west in 1857. In the spring of 1859 she went to Winneshiek county, Iowa, where their marriage was celebrated. After a happy married life of almost forty years, she died July 17, 1898, and was laid to rest in Leon cemetery. To Mr. and Mrs. Drain were born six children, namely: Herbert L., of Prophetstown, is married and has two children, Raymond and Alfred M.; Julia is the wife of William Eldridge and they have two children, Neva and Harold; Carrie is the wife of Alfred Matthews, a farmer of Prophetstown township; Matie is the wife of George Wolf, a farmer of Henry county, Illinois, and they have two children, Emory, deceased, and Willard, living; Gracie and Sadie are at home with their father.

In early life Mr. Drain became identified with the Democratic party, but at the last election voted the Prohibition ticket. He has never sought or cared for official honors, but as a friend of our public schools he has done effective work as a member of the school board for some years. He is one of the original members of the Leon Methodist Episcopal church, to which his children also belong, and he contributed liberally toward the erection of the house of worship. For thirty-five years he has been a member of Prophetstown lodge, F. & A. M. He is widely known and highly respected, and the fact that those who know him best are numbered among his warmest friends, testifies to the honorable, upright life he has led.

DAVID M. CRAWFORD, deceased, was for many years prominently identified with the business interests of Sterling. In business affairs, he was energetic, prompt and notably reliable, and his career proves that the only true success in life is that which is accomplished by personal effort and consecutive industry.

Mr. Crawford was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, April 5, 1830, a son of Thomas and Letitia (Buyers) Crawford, also natives of Pennsylvania. His great-grandfather, James Crawford, served with distinction as colonel of a Pennsylvania regiment during the Revolutionary war. His maternal great-grandfather, David Buyers was captain of a company in the same regiment. Thomas Crawford, the father of our subject, engaged in the hotel business in Georgetown, District of Columbia, for a number of years, and later removed to Pennsylvania, but his last days were spent in retirement in Sterling, Illinois, where his death occurred. His wife had died in Pennsylvania prior to his coming west. They were the parents of seven children who reached years of maturity, namely: James L., Thomas M., John B., Anna M., Robert A., David M., and Sarah E. Of these three are still living: Thomas M., a resident of York county, Pennsylvania; John B., of Lohrville, Calhoun county, Iowa; and Sarah E., wife of Rev. Calvin E. Stewart, of New York City.

During his boyhood and youth the subject of this sketch attended first the public schools and later Lititz Academy of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania. After completing his education he went to Philadelphia, where for three years he was employed by the firm of Fithian, Jones & Company, wholesale dry-goods merchants. At the

end of that time, in the spring of 1850, he came to Sterling, Illinois, and entered the retail dry-goods store of Galt & Crawford as clerk, remaining with them for a number of years, first as a clerk and afterwards as a partner. Later he and T. A. Galt embarked in the hardware business, but at the end of three years our subject sold his interest and again turned his attention to the dry-goods trade with his brother James as a partner. They engaged in business under the firm name of D. M. Crawford & Company, and this partnership continued up to the time of the brother's death, after which our subject was alone in business for a number of years. Subsequently at different times he was connected with James A. Galt, Diller Davis and Henry Weber, and successfully carried on a large general store, with whom he continued his connection until he, too, was called to his final rest.

On the 22nd of September, 1858, Mr. Crawford was united in marriage with Miss Maria L. Galt, who was also born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, November 23, 1838. Her parents, John and Sarah M. (Buyers) Galt, were natives of the same state, the former born May 3, 1801, the latter August 14, 1805. Her paternal grandfather, James Galt, of Lancaster county, was of Scotch-Irish extraction and was descended from Thomas and Isabella Galt, who came to this country in the early part of the seventeenth century. James Galt wedded Mary Martin, who had two maternal uncles who took an active part in the early Indian wars. One of these, Matthew Henry, was captured and tortured for two days before death came to his relief. Mrs. Crawford's paternal grandfather, James Galt, was the owner of large tracts of farming land in Pennsylvania and also owned a

mill and general store. In that state her father, John Galt, also followed the occupations of milling, farming and general merchandising until 1844, when he came west and took up his residence in Sterling, Illinois, where he immediately opened a general store, which he conducted alone for a time but later took in James Crawford as a partner and then turned his attention to his farming interests. On coming to the county he had taken up considerable land in Hopkins township, where he spent his remaining days engaged in agricultural pursuits. He founded the town of Galt upon his land. He died in 1866, at the age of sixty-five years, and his wife passed away October 25, 1898, at the advanced age of ninety-three. To this worthy couple were born thirteen children, namely: James wedded Mary Culver, but both are now deceased. (More extended mention is made of them in connection with the sketch of Edgar H. Galt on another page of this volume.) Mary married James A. Galt and both are also deceased. Robert A. died unmarried. Thomas, who was a physician of Rock Island, married Rebecca Patterson and is now deceased, but his widow is still living in Sterling. Elizabeth and John B. are also residents of Sterling. Alexander is deceased. Maria L. is the widow of our subject. Josephine, unmarried, makes her home in Sterling. Frances A. is the wife of John Buyers, of Sterling. Henry M. died in infancy. William died at the age of ten years. Joseph died at the age of twenty-three years while studying medicine in a college in New York City.

Seven children were born to our subject and his wife, namely: (1) Mary is the wife of Adair Pleasants, a prominent lawyer of Rock Island, and they have two children,

Dorothy and Matt. (2) Elmer, the present manager and secretary of the electric light company of Sterling, married Jennie Burdick and they have four children, Irene L., Jeanette G., Cora M. and Letitia. (3) Josephine is the wife of Archie A. Brock, who is engaged in the real estate business in Chicago, and they had four children, Archibald S.; Fred C.; Lyman D.; and Grace Virginia, who died of diphtheria in June, 1899. (4) Florence died at the age of sixteen months. (5) Robert G. is traveling for the Standard Oil Company and makes his home with his mother in Sterling. (6) Thomas, superintendent of the electric light plant of Sterling, married Helen T. Brookfield. (7) Dallas L. is at home.

Mr. Crawford died May 13, 1883, and was laid to rest in Riverside cemetery, Sterling. Fraternally he affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America, and politically was identified with the Republican party. He was a prominent and active member of the Presbyterian church of Sterling, of which he was one of the trustees for a number of years and a teacher in the Sunday school. He was a man of the times, broad-minded, public-spirited and progressive and his influence was great and always for good. Mrs. Crawford also takes an active part in church work, is a member of the same congregation, and belongs to the home and foreign missionary societies.

**G**EORGE T. NEEDHAM. Among the brave men who devoted the opening years of their manhood to the defense of our country from the internal foe who sought her dismemberment, was George T. Needham, a prominent resident of Prophets-

town, who is now living a retired life after many years devoted to agricultural pursuits. He was born in Mercer county, Pennsylvania, July 1, 1836, a son of George W. and Anna (Shaner) Needham, natives of Beaver county, that state, the former born in 1799, the latter in 1805. Our subject's paternal grandfather, George Needham, was a native of Scotland, while the maternal grandfather, Henry Shaner, was born in Germany, and both were early settlers of Beaver county, Pennsylvania. After his marriage, George W. Needham removed to Mercer county, where he cleared and improved a farm, making his home there until after the birth of all of his children. In 1852, he came to Kendall county, Illinois, locating at Long Grove, near Yorkville, where he purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land and again devoted his energies to transforming wild land into a well-cultivated farm. There he died in 1857, but his wife survived him for forty years, living to the remarkably old age of ninety-three. Our subject is the youngest of their seven sons and one of a family of eleven children, only four of whom are now living: David S., a resident of Kenesaw, Nebraska; Fanny wife of Winslow Stewart, of Plano, Illinois; and Caroline, wife of William Heckman, of Aurora.

George T. Needham, of this review, was a lad of fifteen years when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Kendall county, and he aided in opening up the home farm. He was provided with meager school privileges and is therefore almost wholly self-educated. After his father's death he took charge of the home farm and carried it on for some years. On the 15th of August, 1862, he enlisted in Company K, One Hundred and Twenty-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and remained in the

service until hostilities ceased, being honorably discharged in June, 1865. He participated in the battles of Chickasaw Bayou, Arkansas Post, Port Gibson, Jackson, Champion Hill, Black River Bridge, the siege and capture of Vicksburg, the battle of Chattanooga, and the engagements around that place, including Lookout Mountain. With his command he then started on the Atlanta campaign, and took part in the battles of Resaca and Kingston and numerous engagements around Atlanta. After the capture of that city, he went with Sherman on his celebrated march to the sea, and later took part in the battle of Bentonville, North Carolina, the last engagement of the war. He received two gunshot wounds, and was ill in the hospital at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri, during the winter of 1863. He made for himself an honorable record as a brave soldier and a valiant defender of the old flag and the cause it represented.

After being discharged Mr. Needham returned to Kendall county and resumed farming on the old homestead. He was married in that county November 7, 1865, to Miss Mary Throckmorton, who was born in Chicago, but was reared and educated in Kendall county. Her father, Matthew Throckmorton, was a native of Kentucky, and as a young man came to this state. Her mother, who bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Boyd, was also a native of Kentucky. Our subject and his wife began their married life on the Needham farm, but in the spring of 1868 he sold that place and came to Whiteside county, purchasing a farm of one hundred and twenty acres in Prophetstown township, to the further improvement and cultivation of which he at once turned his attention. He tilled and ditched the

land, and erected thereon a comfortable home, a good barn and other outbuildings, and continued to successfully engage in general farming and stock raising until the spring of 1895, when he sold his farm and moved to Prophetstown. Here he purchased residence property and has since lived retired, enjoying a well-earned rest.

Mr. and Mrs. Needham had four children, namely: George W., who is married and lives in New Mexico; Anna, who married Harry Seeley, of Dwight, Illinois, and died May 11, 1899; Grace, wife of Lewis Lyons, a farmer of Whiteside county, and Maude, wife of Charles Stephenson, also of this county. There are also five grandchildren.

The Republican party finds in Mr. Needham a staunch supporter of its principles, and he cast his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln in 1860. His father was an old-line Whig. Our subject has been prominently connected with educational interests, served for some years as member of the school board, and was president of the district for a time. He is a member of Prophetstown lodge, F. & A. M., and of Tampico post, No. 491, G. A. R., in which he has filled all the offices, and is now past commander. His loyalty as a citizen and his devotion to his country's interests are among his marked characteristics, and the community is fortunate that numbers him among its citizens.

**E**MMETT E. UNDERHILL. Many of the leading citizens of Whiteside county served their country as soldiers during the dark days of the Rebellion, making a record honorable and glorious. Among these brave boys in blue was Mr. Underhill, who is now a successful farmer and stock-raiser, owning

and operating a well-improved farm on section 2, Prophetstown township, three miles east of the village of Prophetstown.

He was born in that township December 11, 1847, a son of Lodowic and Cynthia (Goodell) Underhill, both of whom were natives of New York, but were married in this county. When a young man the father came to this state, and in 1838 took up his residence in Portland township, Whiteside county. There his wife died in 1849, and after her death our subject made his home with his cousin, William Spencer, until fifteen years of age, when he started out in life for himself. He was only sixteen years of age when he entered the army, enlisting January 28, 1864, in Company K, Thirty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, which was assigned to the Army of the Tennessee. He participated in the Atlanta campaign and the numerous battles around that city, was with Sherman on the memorable march to the sea, and took part in the battle of Bentonville, which was the last battle of the war and one of the hottest engagements in which he participated. When hostilities ceased and his services were no longer needed, he was honorably discharged, in July, 1865, and returned home. He then worked by the month for a few years.

On the 15th of September, 1868, Mr. Underhill was united in marriage with Miss Frances G. Gage, daughter of E. S. Gage, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work. She was born and reared in Prophetstown township. Our subject and his wife have one son, Eugene, now a business man of Prophetstown. He married Cora Hotchkiss, a native of this county and a daughter of David Hotchkiss, and to them have been born two children, Orpha and Leah Fern.

For three years after his marriage Mr.

Underhill operated rented land, and in 1872 purchased the farm where he now resides. At that time it was only slightly improved, but through his untiring efforts it has been converted into one of the most desirable farms of its size in the township. He has erected good buildings thereon, set out fruit and shade trees, and made many other improvements which add greatly to the value and attractive appearance of the place. He has met with well-deserved success in his labors and is accounted one of the most skillful agriculturists in the community. Since casting his first presidential ballot for General Grant, in 1868, he has been an uncompromising Republican. His fellow citizens, recognizing his worth and ability, have honored him with several local offices. In 1893 he was elected commissioner of highways, which office he has now creditably filled for six years, and has served as treasurer of the board for five years. He has also been a member of the school board several terms. He is an honored member of Prophetstown post, G. A. R., in which he has filled several offices, and is highly esteemed and respected wherever known, and most of all where he is best known.

**J**OEL W. FARLEY, constable and ex-sheriff of Whiteside county, with residence and office at Fulton, was born August 7, 1841, at Erie county, Pennsylvania, a son of Joel and Mary (Finch) Farley, the former of whom was born in New Jersey, and the latter in Canada. His parents spent the early part of their married life in Pennsylvania, from whence they removed to Indiana. A short time after, the father joined a company of forty-niners starting for the gold fields, with whom he crossed

the plains in an ox team, being eleven months on the way. Three years later, having met with better success than the majority of miners, he returned *via* the Isthmus, bringing with him several gold nuggets. Locating at Mishawaka, Indiana, four miles from South Bend, he there engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1862, when he came with his family to Whiteside county, Illinois. Purchasing a farm about five miles east of Fulton he continued his chosen occupation until his death, in 1866. He was a Democrat in politics, and though never an office seeker was an active worker for his party. His wife survived him, dying in July, 1898. Of their nine children three died in childhood, one daughter and two sons. Six grew to years of maturity, namely: John, a farmer in Oklahoma; Ozias A., a farmer in Burt county, Nebraska; Joel W., the special subject of this sketch; James Kendall, deceased; George, deceased; and Charles, deceased.

Joel W. Farley was a sturdy youth of twenty-one years when he came with his parents to this county. He assisted in the improvement of the new farm, and for a number of years after his father's death was sole manager of the estate. In 1871, or thereabouts, he left the homestead, coming to Fulton to assume the duties of constable. In 1891 he was elected sheriff of the county, an important position which he filled acceptably four years, after which he served as deputy sheriff under C. C. Fuller. Since April, 1897, he has been constable again, and has his office in the De Bey building, where he is also carrying on a lucrative business in real estate and loans, and negotiates sales, buying and selling estates. He is likewise interested to a considerable extent in both town and country property,

dealing largely in both. He has been in public life almost continuously since coming to Fulton, and for three terms has rendered excellent service to the city as an alderman, having represented the third ward two terms, and the second ward one term. While living on the farm he was an office holder several years, having been road commissioner and school director.

On September 7, 1880, Mr. Farley married Miss Sarah Collins, daughter of William and Jane (Buckner) Collins, of Putnam, Ontario, and they have one son, Perry C. Farley, born May 30, 1888. Politically Mr. Farley is a strong supporter of the principles of the Democratic party, and has the distinction of being the only sheriff ever elected in Whiteside county on that ticket, having then received a rousing majority of 660 votes. Fraternally he is a member of Fulton City lodge, No. 189, A. F. & A. M.; and of Abou Ben Adhem lodge, No. 148, I. O. O. F., of which he is past grand, and has attended grand lodge conventions. Mrs. Farley is a member of the Fulton Presbyterian church, of which Mr. Farley is an attendant, and a generous contributor towards its support.

**COLONEL JOSEPH A. LUBLINER.**  
 C The history of this esteemed citizen of Sterling is of unusual interest, and his numerous friends, here and elsewhere, will peruse the outline, as given below, with keen relish. Few of our foreign-born citizens are more loyal in their devotion to this, the land of their adoption, than he has been for the period of his residence here, about half a century.

Colonel Lubliner is a native of Kalitza, Poland, his birth having occurred March 17, 1824. He is one of the seven children of



COL. J. A. LUBLINER.





Michael and Mary (Pincof) Lubliner. The father was the owner of a large estate there, and never left his native land. In his youth our subject attended the high school, and later was a student at the University of Cracow, which city now belongs to Austria. The young man spent two years at college, giving his undivided attention to the mastery of law, for he wished to become an advocate.

In 1848, as is well remembered by the student of history, occurred the attempt of Austria to absorb Hungary, and in company with about two hundred other students our subject went to the aid of Kossuth, who bravely endeavored to free his country from the yoke of oppression, and was given a position as aide on the staff of that noted general, with the rank of colonel. The knowledge of military tactics, which he had already gained at college, rendered the young student of great assistance to the renowned leader, but at the end of some ten months of hard fighting he was taken prisoner by the Russians, and was sentenced to twenty-five years of service in the Russian army. For some time he was stationed at Moscow, and later was one of the imperial guard at the palace of the czar, Nicholas. The young man, however, had no intention of spending the best years of his life in the service of a tyrant whom he so thoroughly despised, and he patiently awaited an opportunity to escape such slavery. While on regular duty he chanced to pass the locality in which his early home, Kalitza, was located, and making a bold dash for freedom he left the ranks of the army, and disguising himself in some clothes which his friends had awaiting him he took the passport also provided him by their forethought, and went to Brussels, thence to Liepsic and Ham-

burg. From the last-mentioned city he proceeded to England, and at Liverpool found his superior, General Kossuth, and came with him to America, and with that hero shared an enthusiastic welcome from the Americans. Later he was entertained at the home of Commodore Vanderbilt, and with his general was honored with various public receptions. During his residence of about a year in New York state and in New Jersey the colonel obtained a fair knowledge of the English language.

In 1852, he went to the Pacific coast, by the way of the Isthmus of Panama, and for five months he worked in the gold mines. Finding his health somewhat impaired, he returned to San Francisco, and entered the employ of William T. Coleman, one of the wealthiest mine-owners and merchants of the United States. For two years he served as a member of the Pioneer Guards of San Francisco, and for a like period was the captain of the Vigilance Committee which restored law and order to the city, after a period of terror and lawlessness. After spending three years in the west, he returned to New York, and thence came to Sterling. During the ensuing nineteen years, he travelled for large cloth houses, selling all kinds of dress goods. He then decided to lead a more quiet life, and for a few years carried on a farm in Palmyra township, Lee county, Illinois, making a specialty of raising live stock, and, as in all other ventures which he had undertaken, made a success of the enterprise.

On Christmas day, 1859, the Colonel married Julia A. Harrison, a native of New York state, and daughter of Norman and Deliverance (Standish) Harrison. The former, who is a cousin of William H. Harrison, was the first settler of the now popu-

lous Boone county, New York, and his wife was a daughter of Israel Standish, the grand-nephew of Miles Standish, of Plymouth colony fame. Norman Harrison and wife had seven children, namely: Sophronia, Charles, deceased; Maria, deceased; Louis, Julia, Nancy and David, deceased. Charles Harrison once owned all of the land where Clinton, Iowa, now stands, this property having been taken by him from the government. Norman Harrison was one of the earliest settlers in the vicinity of Clinton.

Politically, the Colonel is a Democrat, but has never sought nor desired public office. His devoted wife, whose death occurred on the 4th of June, 1897, was a member of the Presbyterian church. Though he has never identified himself with any denomination, our subject attends the Presbyterian church and contributes to its support. Both he and his estimable wife have had the love and esteem of a large circle of friends.

**W**ILFORD L. DARLING, a leading and representative farmer of Tampico township, residing on section 24, was born in Worcester, Massachusetts, October 25, 1854, and belongs to an old and highly respected family of that state. His father, Palmer Darling, was born on the old homestead near Sutton, which is still in the possession of the family, and was there reared to manhood. He married Miss Martha Holmes, a native of Southbridge, Massachusetts. Both grandfathers of our subject were soldiers of the Revolutionary war. After his marriage, the father located in Worcester, where he worked at his trade of carpentering, and where he continued to make his home throughout life. He died

in 1868, at the age of forty-six years, his wife, in 1864, at the age of thirty-nine years.

Our subject spent his youth in his native city and was educated in its public schools. At an early age he commenced work for a mechanic, doing chores, and at intervals attended school when possible. Later he worked in a woolen factory at Cherry Valley, Massachusetts, for one winter, and then clerked in a store at Grafton, Massachusetts. In 1874, at the age of twenty years, he came to Illinois and joined an uncle in Winnebago county, where he worked as a farm hand by the months for five years, being with two men two years each and with another one year. He then purchased a team, harness and wagon and drove across the country to Fillmore county, Nebraska, where he followed farming on his own account.

After living alone for two years, Mr. Darling was married in Fairmont, Fillmore county, March 14, 1882, to Miss Nancy Beautebaugh, who was born in Tiskilwa, Illinois. Her father, Jacob Beautebaugh, was a native of Pennsylvania and an early settler of Illinois, who lived first in Bureau county and later in Whiteside county. For about three years after his marriage, Mr. Darling continued to engage in farming in Nebraska, and then returned to Illinois, again driving across the state of Iowa. He located on Beautebaugh farm near Hillsdale, which, after operating for fifteen years, he bought from the heirs, but in 1897 he traded that farm for his present place on section 24, Tampico township. Here he has a well improved farm of one hundred and twenty-three acres, on which is a large, new house, a good barn and everything in first-class order. He also rents a tract and

now operates two hundred and forty acres with good success.

Mr. and Mrs. Darling have six children, three sons and three daughters, namely: Robert Lincoln, Mabel Estella, Fred Monroe, Charles Harrison, Emma Ethel and Bertha Agnes. Politically Mr. Darling is a staunch Republican, having affiliated with that party since casting his first presidential vote for Rutherford B. Hayes. For some years he served as a member of the school board and his support is given every enterprise which he believes will advance the moral, intellectual and material welfare of his community. He and his wife are active and prominent members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Tampico, and he is a great Sunday school worker, having served as superintendent for seven years, and as teacher of a class of boys at Kensterville. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, while both himself and wife are members of the Royal Neighbors.

**HON. DWIGHT S. SPAFFORD.** Few men are more prominent or more widely known in the enterprising city of Morrison than this gentleman. He has been an important factor in business circles and in public affairs, and his popularity is well deserved, as in him are embraced the characteristics of an unbending integrity, unabated energy and industry that never flags. He is public-spirited and thoroughly interested in whatever tends to promote the moral, intellectual and material welfare of his town and county.

Mr. Spafford was born in Bergen, Genesee county, New York, December 22, 1834, and is a representative of an old New England family, his ancestors having come from

the old Spafford castle in England to the United States at an early day and settled near Worcester, Massachusetts. His father, Sumner Spafford, was born at Worcester about 1800, and when ten years old removed to Genesee county, New York, with his parents, Jacob and ——— Spafford. At that time Rochester contained only the cabin of Mr. Rochester and one or two others. The Spafford family located in the woods near Bergen, and the grandfather of our subject took up new land in the Holland purchase. Upon his place he erected a cabin, and the first year cleared a small piece of ground, which he planted in corn. The following spring he made more extensive improvements upon his place, and soon had two hundred acres cleared and placed under cultivation. Upon that farm he continued to make his home until his death. He was probably at Buffalo during the war of 1812, in which conflict his sons were engaged. With his wife he returned to Worcester, Massachusetts, a number of times before the Erie canal was built, making the trip with a horse and buggy. They were members of the Presbyterian church and most estimable people.

Sumner Spafford, father of our subject, was reared and educated at Bergen, New York, and spent his entire life on the old homestead, of which he had charge after his father's death. He was an extensive wheat grower and became quite well-to-do. He served as lieutenant-colonel in the state militia, was a Whig in politics, and a faithful member of the Presbyterian church. He died in 1857, and his wife in her maidenhood was Miss Delia Barber, of Bergen, New York. To them were born four children, who reached years of maturity, but our subject is the only one living in Illinois.

Dwight S. Spafford acquired his early education in the public schools of Bergen, and later pursued a course of study at the Collegiate Institute in Brockport, and the normal school at Albany, New York, from which he was graduated in 1855. The following year he was principal of the schools at Greene, Chenango county, New York, and in 1856 came to Equality, Illinois, where he held a similar position for three years. It was in 1859 that he came to Morrison, which at that time was a small place about three years old, and he has since been engaged in the grocery trade, opening a store three doors west of his present location. He carried on business there until 1864, when he purchased his present property and erected the block, which he has now occupied continuously for thirty-five years. There is only one man now in business in the county who has been continuously so occupied longer than our subject, and he is a resident of Sterling. In addition to groceries Mr. Spafford carries a well-selected stock of crockery, glassware, cutlery and plated ware, and he enjoys an excellent trade. For many years he has also been a director of the First National Bank of Morrison, and has been connected with other corporate companies which have built up the industrial interests of the town.

Mr. Spafford first married Miss Ann E. Robertson, of Morrison, a daughter of John A. Robertson, one of the pioneers of the town. She died in 1886, leaving four children: Frank S., now a resident of Great Falls, Montana, who married Lillian Goodell, and has two children; John Earle, a resident of Kearney, Nebraska; Roy Robertson, who aids his father in business, and Fred, who is still attending school. In 1890 Mr. Spafford was again married, his

second union being with Miss Alice Smith, daughter of Leander Smith, a prominent and well-known banker of Morrison. The children born to them are Leander S., Alice and Allen. The family have a beautiful home on East Grove street, and they attend and support the Presbyterian church.

Mr. Spafford is a prominent Mason but has always avoided office. He joined the fraternity at Equality, but dimitted to Dunlap lodge, F. & A. M., and now belongs to the chapter at Sterling and commandery at Dixon, the consistory at Freeport, and Medina Temple, Mystic Shrine, at Chicago. He is a recognized leader of the Republican party in his community, has taken a very active part in campaign work, and has been a delegate to different state conventions and alternate to the national convention that nominate James G. Blaine for president in 1884. The first office he was called upon to fill was that of city alderman and it was during his incumbency that the water was first brought to Main street from the artesian well which had previously been drilled but nothing done with it. Under the direction of the city council, of which he was a member, the pipe on Main street was laid and a tank erected on the hill and the water brought to the heart of the city, thus starting the first practical water system. For five or six years he was a member of the board of county supervisors, and during that period the old stone cells were torn out of the jail and steel cages and cells were put in. The county office building was also erected—a beautiful structure with fireproof vaults for the county and circuit clerks, the vaults being so commodious that all writing is done in them and no books ever taken out. It was built under an appropriation at a cost of ten thousand dollars, and is

complete in all its appointments. This elegant building reflects great credit upon Mr. Spafford who was chairman of the building committee. He was a member of the board of education for a number of years and president of the same two years, during which time four new rooms were added to the high school building, while the third floor was abandoned as being little better than a fire trap. He has always taken a deep interest in educational matters and all needed reforms. In 1884 he was elected to the state legislature, and was one of the memorable one hundred and three who after four months of balloting finally triumphantly elected John A. Logan to the United States Senate. It was the greatest struggle of the kind in history up to that time. Mr. Spafford was a personal friend of General Logan. He was a member of the committees on appropriations, education and banking, and was quite a prominent and influential member of the house. He was one of the founders and since its inception has been a trustee of the Morrison Scientific & Literary Association, which has given to the city a fine public library.

**CAPTAIN JACOB H. HOOFSITTLER,** of Sterling, Illinois, who has attained distinctive preferment in military circles and as a Prohibition lecturer, was born in Salunga, Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, January 9, 1846, and is a son of John H. and Mary Ann (Hostetter) Hoofstutler, also natives of Pennsylvania, the former born in September, 1820, the latter in June of the same year. Herr Jacob Von Hostetter, the American progenitor of the mother's family, came to this country in 1030 and settled in what is now Lancaster county, Pennsylva-

nia. He was of noble birth, but on account of his religious belief he was banished from Germany to Holland and later went to Switzerland and from there came to America. On the paternal side our subject is of Swiss descent, and the founder of the family in this country settled in Philadelphia in 1037. Some of his ancestors were soldiers of the Revolutionary war, and the paternal grandfather served in the war of 1812, the Mexican war, and at the age of seventy-five years enlisted in the war of the Rebellion, though he had to dye his hair before he could pass muster. He followed the Federal army until the close of the war. He died at Clifton Heights, Pennsylvania, at the extreme old age of ninety-eight years. His son, John H. Hoofstutler, the father of our subject, was engaged in mercantile business in Pennsylvania for thirty years, but spent his last days in retirement. After his children were grown they came to Illinois to make homes for themselves, and though the parents made several visits to their homes, they continued to live in their native state throughout life. In 1871 they moved to Millersville, Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, but died in 1897, within four months of each other. They were highly respected and esteemed by all who knew them. Both were strong abolitionists, and were persecuted for their early advocacy for the overthrow of the institution of slavery.

Of their eight children, five are now living, and of these our subject of the eldest. Sallie A. is the wife of S. S. Creider, who, with Isaac Korn, has been interested in the manufacture of a patent corn husker and shredder of corn, for a number of years and has been quite a success. Lizzie is the wife of A. B. Levenite, of Pennsylvania. Susan is the wife of Amos K. Martin, of

Philadelphia. William is a resident of Sterling, Illinois, and is considered one of the best clothing salesmen in the state.

The boyhood of our subject was passed at home, and at the age of ten years he entered the academy at Lititz, Pennsylvania, where he pursued his studies for three years. In 1861, at the breaking out of the Civil war, he ran away and entered the service. Though young in years his manly bearing was in his favor, and he enlisted in the Pennsylvania Reserves. After some time spent in camp at Philadelphia, they proceeded to Washington. In 1864, he was mustered out, but in July, of the same year, he re-enlisted in Company K, One Hundred and Ninety-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, as a one-hundred-day man, and was mustered into service as second lieutenant at Harrisburg, when they proceeded to Relay House, Maryland, Monocacy Junction and Martinsburg, doing patrol duty along the line of the railroad to Wheeling, West Virginia. The regiment was a part of the Second Brigade, Third Division and Eighth Army Corps. After re-enlisting, our subject went to Washington, D. C., where his command did patrol duty until the close of the war.

During his military service, Captain Hoofstittler devoted considerable time to reading law, and while home on a leave of absence was admitted to the bar at Lancaster, Pennsylvania, in 1865. At the close of the war he returned home, but later came to Sterling, Illinois, where he remained some time. He was then appointed government scout and went to the plains of the west, being stationed at Fort Omaha, where he was engaged in military operations against the border desperadoes that infested that section of the country, finally extin-

guishing them. Subsequently he was stationed at Yankton, Dakota, and operated against the Mittleton band of robbers and horse thieves, being associated with Kit Carson, Buffalo Bill, Wild Bill and old Captain Jack Crawford, the poet scout, in their operations against the thieves and marauders of the west. While on the plains he allowed his hair to grow until it was about twenty-four inches long, and as it was black, he became known as Black Beaver. In later years while on lecture tours he often met those whom he had known on the plains and the acquaintanceship thus renewed proved very pleasant to both parties.

At length Captain Hoofstittler removed from Denver, Colorado, to Julesburg, and was appointed by Judge Bartlett as clerk of the United States district court, in which capacity he served one year. Being of a fearless nature he was not cowed by any of the threats hurled at him and proved a very important factor in several important robbery trials. During this period the surrounding country was infested with every species of robbers, thieves and cut-throats. Every previous mayor or judge who had undertaken to hold a court of justice, or to maintain order, had been killed. The first session of the court to which he had been appointed clerk was held in June, 1867, at which time occurred the trial of "One-Eyed Jack" and "Shorty," the characteristic names of two of the most desperate and daring of the notorious crooks and bandits whose punishment the court was instituted to determine. Ranged around the wigwam (court room) were about two hundred desperado friends of the prisoners, armed to the teeth with bowie-knives and revolvers. The judge inquired of the arraigned prisoners if they had secured coun-

sel for their defense. They replied "they didn't reckon any would be needed." The judge (Edmund Bartlett) astonished his auditors by the emphatic declaration: "By God, gentlemen, if the testimony is sufficient to convict, I'll pronounce the sentence." The judge appointed an attorney to defend the prisoners and allowed them the right of trial by jury. The testimony adduced was positive proof of the guilt of the accused. The jury was duly instructed by the judge as to their duty as indicated in the evidence. Retiring for consultation, they returned within fifteen minutes, but the foreman was afraid to announce the verdict. The judge now instructed the clerk to poll the jury. The answer of the foreman was "guilty," whereupon four hundred revolvers were drawn by the two hundred desperado allies of the guilty devils upon whom the sentence of the law was about to be passed. The judge, with a coolness which ever commands respect, said: "I have heard your threats; I know your intentions; I give you fair warning. There is room enough in the sand hills of Julesburg to bury every d—d desperado that infests the plains." He pronounced sentence: Six months imprisonment and a fine of two hundred and fifty dollars, and to stand committed until the fine and costs were paid. "Sheriff," said the judge, "take these men to jail." The sheriff refusing to obey the order, the judge drew his revolvers and placing one at the head of each of the prisoners, said: "These men go to jail or fall dead, if I turn my toes up the next minute. Clerk, cover the mob." The clerk obeyed the order of the court by drawing his revolvers and keeping the desperadoes at bay, while the judge conducted the prisoners to the jail. This court was

in session for thirteen weeks, during which there were so many convictions as to compel the erection of additional jail facilities for the confinement of the criminals.

When the term of "Shorty" and "One-Eyed Jack" had expired, they inquired for the office of Judge Bartlett, of which the judge received notice, thinking perhaps they were seeking his life, but remarked: "Tell them to come on." Knocking at the door of his office, they were invited to enter. To the query of the judge, "What is it you want, gentlemen," they replied, "We want to shake hands with you and congratulate you as being the *only* judge that ever had any saud in his craw." Captain Hoofstutler then returned to Sterling and was variously employed until February, 1875, when he began a crusade in the cause of temperance as a lecturer. He has delivered lectures in every state and territory in the Union and is much sought after on account of his thrilling manner of delivery which has made him a peer among the best speakers of the cause. In his tours he has had to deal with mobs and by his undaunted courage has averted serious consequences. He has the power of holding his audiences spellbound by picturing the results of the liquor traffic, and has always taken a decided step in the furtherance of his doctrines. Since 1876 he has been a delegate at large to all state and national conventions of the Prohibition party. In 1890 he was called to speak in Nebraska City, and was the only lecturer on prohibition that was not insulted or driven out that year. At the first lecture he had an audience of fifteen hundred people, which kept increasing until at the fourth lecture it numbered about six thousand people. In 1890, having some difficulty with the management of

his lecture courses, he did not go out, and as the new issues of the day were to his liking, he took a stand for W. J. Bryan and the Chicago platform. During that campaign he delivered fifty-five speeches in sixty days. He is very decided in character and his military bearing carries conviction to his hearers. He is a strong anti-expansionist, anti-imperialist and anti-militarist. He believes the Philipinos and the Cubans are entitled to their independence. As a speaker and lecturer he has made a decided success financially, and by his ability he commands and receives a good price for his services. In 1892 he ran for congressman on the Prohibition ticket, receiving fifteen hundred more votes than any other Prohibition candidate ever received in the district. He is a member of G. H. Thomas post, No. 84, G. A. R., of Lancaster City, Pennsylvania; and of Corinthian lodge, No. 63, K. P., of Sterling. He has been president of the State Christian Temperance Union of Illinois; and was second vice-president of the International Temperance Alliance of the World; and financial secretary of the National Christian Temperance Union of the United States.

On the 19th of May, 1870, Captain Hoofstiter was united in marriage with Miss Mary E. Kauffman, of Sterling, who was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, October 27, 1849, but came to this county when only six years old with her parents, also natives of the Keystone state. By this union ten children were born, and six are still living, namely: Jacob H., born December 20, 1872, married Winnie Briggs and has one child, Marie. He is a well-known grocer of Sterling, a member of the firm of Hoofstiter & Seidel, on West Third street. Francis M., born February 3, 1875, is su-

perintendent of a stock farm of sixteen hundred acres in Hume township, belonging to a relative. Mary E., born April 14, 1878, is the wife of George Kline, of Sterling. Bessie, born in 1884, is a popular elocutionist, having inherited from her father the gift of delivery. Pearl, born in 1885, and William H., born in 1890, complete the family. The wife and mother died in 1890, since which time the once happy home of this family has been broken up, as the Captain's business keeps him away about eight months out of the year.

**AUGUST ZSCHIESCHE.** This well-known resident of Spring Hill is one of the leading German born citizens of Whiteside county, and in his successful business career he has shown the characteristic thrift and enterprise of his race. Beginning with no capital except that acquired by his own industry, he built up a large trade as a blacksmith and wagon manufacturer, and is now able to lay aside all business cares and live retired, having already acquired a comfortable competence.

Mr. Zschiesche was born in the kingdom of Prussia, Germany, March 31, 1824, and was given a good common-school education in his native land, where he also learned the wheelwright, millwright and miller's trades. In 1860 he emigrated to the United States, sailing from Hamburg on the Uttemberg, which was fifty-eight days in crossing the Atlantic, being almost shipwrecked. The vessel sprung a leak and crew and passengers kept the pumps going for four weeks, day and night, until they finally arrived in New York in safety, but on the next voyage the vessel was lost with all on board except the second mate. Mr.



Zschiesche landed in New York, October 19, 1860, and proceeded at once to Spring Hill, Whiteside county, Illinois. That fall he worked on a farm gathering corn, but as he was unfamiliar with farm work and his hands were very tender, it proved a hard undertaking. Nearly every ear he husked was marked with blood. The following year he worked at the carpenter's and joiner's trade, and then opened a shop in Spring Hill, where he engaged in the manufacture of wagons and buggies and also worked at blacksmithing and did general repair work.

In the fall of 1864 he laid aside all personal interests and enlisted in Company K, One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He was in active service in Kentucky, Tennessee and North Carolina, taking part in a number of skirmishes and raids, the first of these being in Tennessee. He was then detailed with some of the regiment to take prisoners to Eastport, Mississippi, and there took a boat back to Alexandria. After rejoining the regiment, they boarded the large steamer, Atlanta, on which were about thirty-three hundred soldiers and two hundred sailors, and went to Fort Fisher, and later up the coast to Cape Fear. They participated in the fight in front of Fort Henderson and Wilmington, bombarding and finally taking those cities. Mr. Zschiesche was ill in the hospital at Wilmington for a time, later was in the field hospital, and from there was sent to New York, where he was honorably discharged in July, 1865. Returning home he resumed his former business in Spring Hill, where he successfully carried on operations as a blacksmith and wagon manufacturer until the fall of 1898, when he gave up his shop and has since lived retired, enjoying

a well-earned rest. He owns a pleasant home in Spring Hill.

In that village, Mr. Zschiesche was married, August 3, 1862, to Miss Mary Riger, also a native of Germany, who came to America in the spring of 1860 and located in this state. To them were born eight children, namely: August, now a business man of Davenport, Iowa; Louis and Charles, both farmers of Whiteside county; Carrie, wife of Herman Tabor, a substantial farmer of this county; William, a business man of St. Paul, Minnesota; Mary, a teacher of this county and the wife of Ralph McReady, of Tampico township; Minnie, also a teacher of this county; and Rosila, who died at the age of two years and three months.

Since casting his first presidential vote for General Grant in 1868, Mr. Zschiesche has affiliated with the Republican party, but has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking, preferring to devote his undivided attention to his business interests. He and his wife are members of the Evangelical church and are well-known and highly respected.

CHRISTIAN P. PETERSON is one of the substantial citizens of Prophetstown township who are of alien birth, and who have, by their own unaided exertions, become quite well-to-do. He is now the owner of a fine farm of one hundred and twenty-two and a half acres on section 29, and is successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising.

Mr. Peterson was born in Denmark, June 24, 1842, was reared upon a farm in his native land and received a good common-school education, but his knowledge of

the English language has all been acquired through his own efforts since coming to this country. Bidding good-bye to home and friends, he sailed from Copenhagen in 1869 bound for New York. On reaching that city he came at once to Illinois and located first in Geneseo, where he worked one month in a brickyard. He then found work as a farm hand in the neighborhood of his present home and was thus employed for two years.

On the 6th of October, 1871, Mr. Peterson married Miss Ellen Burroughs, who was born in New York, but was reared in this county, her father, Siller Burroughs, being one of its early settlers. For three years after his marriage, he operated rented land in Prophetstown township, and then, in 1874, moved to Crawford county, Kansas, where he subsequently bought and sold several farms, and where he still owns a valuable place of two hundred and forty acres, four miles from Girard. There his wife died March 30, 1891, and he soon afterward rented his farm to his son and returned to Whiteside county, Illinois. By that union he had four children: Celia, who is married and operates his father's farm in Kansas; Alice; Emma, and William.

On his return to this state, Mr. Peterson opened a restaurant in Geneseo, and also bought and conducted a mercantile store at that place, remaining there about seven months. He then purchased a farm in Prophetstown township, which he subsequently sold, and then bought his present farm in the same township, locating thereon in the spring of 1895. He has since made many improvements upon the place, remodeling the residence, building barns, corn cribs, etc., and erecting a wind pump. He now devotes his time and energies to

general farming and stockraising and in his undertakings is meeting with marked success.

Mr. Peterson was again married, July 21, 1892, his second union being with Miss Mary Day, a daughter of William Day, of Crawford county, Kansas. She was born in Kentucky, but when a child of twelve years moved with the family to Kansas, where she grew to womanhood. Two children bless their marriage, Pearl and Ruby.

In his political views Mr. Peterson is an ardent Republican and cast his first presidential vote for Benjamin Harrison. While in Kansas he was elected and served as justice of the peace of Crawford township, and resigned that office on his return to Illinois. He was also a member of the school board in that state for ten years, and for four years in Whiteside county.. He and his wife are earnest and consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and he is now one of its trustees. He is a man of exemplary habits and sterling worth, and no man in the community is held in higher regard.

---

**J**OHAN M. HUNTER, an honored and highly respected citizen of Tampico, who is now living a retired life, was born in Cayuga county, New York, September 23, 1842, a native of John and Ann (Maynard) Hunter, who were born, reared and married in England, and on their emigration to the United States settled in Cayuga county, New York, where they made their home for several years. There the father died in 1847, and in 1856 the mother came west to Bureau county, Illinois, where she spent the remainder of her life, dying there in 1865.

Our subject was a lad of fourteen years when he came with the family to this state, and in Bureau county he grew to manhood, receiving rather a limited education. In early life he worked by the month and helped care for his mother in her declining years. He not only worked as a farm hand but also was employed at ditching or anything which he could find to do, and later engaged in farming on rented land. In Bureau county, Mr. Hunter was married, in September, 1870, to Miss Mary Jane Woodworth, who was born and reared in New York, and was the daughter of Hiland and Cordilla (Winters) Woodworth, who were natives of New York. They began their domestic life in that county, where he had purchased a small farm of forty acres. Later he traded that place for eighty acres in the same county, which had been cultivated but no buildings erected thereon. In 1869 he removed to Tampico township, Whiteside county, where he had previously owned forty acres, and at that time bought an adjoining eighty-acre tract. Upon the place he erected a good house and barn, set out fruit and ornamental trees, and to its cultivation and further improvement he devoted his energies until the fall of 1899, when he removed to Tampico and retired from active business. Besides his own land he also operated rented farms. He still owns his farm, which is pleasantly located within three miles of Tampico.

Mrs. Hunter's first wife died in 1877 leaving three children: Alta May, who is now the father's housekeeper; William, who carries on the home farm; and Grace, who is keeping house for her brother. For his second wife, Mr. Hunter married Mrs. Mary Macomber, who was born in New York, but was principally reared in Boston,

Massachusetts, until fourteen years of age, when she came to this state with her uncle as her parents had died. She was the mother of four children by her first marriage: Waldo, Elizabeth, Frederick and Gertrude, and they reside in Chicago, Illinois. She died October 31, 1897, leaving one son, Guy, who is attending the Tampico schools.

Since voting for Abraham Lincoln, in 1864, Mr. Hunter has been a staunch supporter of the Republican party and its principles, but has never cared for official honors, though he most creditably served as school director in his district for some years. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church of Tampico, and is held in high regard by all who know him. For the success that he has achieved in life he deserves great credit, for it is due entirely to his industry, perseverance and good management as he started out in life for himself in limited circumstances.

**R**EBUBEN M. THOMPSON, a retired farmer and honored citizen of Morrison, Illinois, was born in Salem township, Meigs county, Ohio, December 27, 1825, a son of Reuben and Phelinda (Kent) Thompson. The paternal grandfather also bore the name of Reuben Thompson. He was a private in a Vermont regiment in the Revolutionary war and by trade was a shoemaker, which occupation he followed in connection with farming. He removed from Vermont to Steuben county, New York, during the boyhood of our subject's father, and there made his home for many years. Later he spent four years with his son in Ohio, after which he returned to New York, where his death occurred.

Reuben Thompson, father of our sub-

## THE BIOGRAPHICAL RECORD

ject, was born in the Green Mountain state. After completing his education, he worked at farming until the war of 1812, when he entered the army. After the war he removed to Meigs county, Ohio, and there he made his home for many years. He became quite well-to-do, owning about four hundred acres of land in that county. In 1839 he came to Illinois, accompanied by his sons, Reuben M. and Elisha K., traveling overland with a four-horse team to Whiteside county, and stopping at Jacobstown, Mount Pleasant township, a small place, where his brother, Harvey Thompson, operated a sawmill and gristmill owned by Jonathan Haines. Leaving his sons here, he and his brother went to Iowa and located near what is now Mechanicsville. During the following winter they joined him and took up a claim there. In 1841 they returned to this county, where our subject operated the Charles Clark farm on the shares for one season, receiving one-fourth of the produce. On the father's return to Whiteside county from Iowa, he bought a claim of William L. Clark and then went back to Ohio, where the remainder of his family were still living. Bringing them to this state, he lived upon his first claim for a few years, and then removed to another in Fenton township, a half mile from the first, upon which he made his home until his death in the spring of 1850. At that time he had between four and five hundred acres of land in this county. His first wife died in 1827. Of the five children born to them, four reached manhood, namely: Elisha K., Samuel A., Reuben M. and James L. For his second wife he married Mrs. Hettie (McMillen) Robinson, widow of Fain Robinson, who died leaving three children. By the second union there were nine

children, three sons and six daughters. The mother of these died at the home of her youngest daughter, Mrs. Helen Pace, at Lorhville, Iowa, July 2, 1883.

Our subject grew to manhood in this county, receiving but a limited education. He attended school for three months in Erie, his teacher being Horace B. Cole, but the greater part of his knowledge has been acquired by reading and observation. He remained with his father until twenty-one years of age, and then worked for Eli Upton for two years, at one hundred and fifty dollars per year. At the time of his marriage, in 1849, he owned fifteen acres of land to which he gradually added as his financial resources permitted until he had over two thousand acres of improved and highly cultivated land in Fenton township, and though he has since given some of this to his sons, he still owns seventeen hundred acres in one body. He gave the greater part of his attention to stock raising and feeding, and usually shipped from six to eight car loads a year to the city markets. He was also interested in dairying, and for that purpose kept about forty cows, and the butter manufactured by him he sold in St. Louis at the highest market price. In 1888 he retired from active business and moved to Lyndon, this county, where he lived for five years, and then returned to the old homestead, residing with his son-in-law and daughter until the spring of 1899, since which time he has made his home in Morrison.

On the 25th of December, 1849, Mr. Thompson was united in marriage with Miss Matilda S. Dodge, a native of Illinois, and a daughter of John and Lydia (Smith) Dodge, farming people of Mt. Pleasant township, Whiteside county. By this union ten children were born, namely: Esther Phelinda,

wife of Lewis Ewing, of Lyndon, Illinois; John L., who is represented elsewhere in this volume, James Amassa, who died at the age of seven years, Albert L., whose sketch also appears in this volume; Clara, who first married Ed. Hubbard, and after his death wedded M. F. Fadden, now of Mt. Pleasant township; Frank E., who died at the age of five years, Nora, wife of Frank Hodge, who resides on the old homestead in Fenton township; Leona, wife of John Potter, city marshal of Morris on, Matt Ray, who married Mattie Duncan and lives in Mt. Pleasant township; and H. Clay, who married Amelia Webster, and is now attending lectures at Hahnemann Medical College, Chicago. The mother of these children died April 20, 1878, and on August 30, 1882. Mr. Thompson was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Amanda White, also a native of Meigs county, Ohio, widow of H. P. White, and daughter of William and Nancy (Butler) McMillen. She died July 27, 1893.

In his political views, Mr. Thompson is a free silver Democrat, and in early life he took quite an active and prominent part in local political affairs. He served as collector of his township the first two years after its organization, and has also filled the offices of assessor and supervisor. He held the latter position during the trying days of the Civil war and secured all the men needed from the township for military service.

**BENJAMIN REED**, who after a long and well spent life, is now living retired in Sterling, Illinois, was born in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, September 11, 1822, a son of Michael and May (Keyser)

Reed, descendants of that state. The father, who was quite a prosperous and successful farmer, never came west, but died in Pennsylvania, in 1850. His wife had passed away a few days previous, both dying of cholera during the epidemic of that year. Of the thirteen children born to them, two died in infancy, the others being Isaac, Hannah, John, Rebecca, William, Susan, Michael, Keaton, Benjamin, Elizabeth and Franklin. Those still living are Michael, a resident of Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, Elizabeth, widow of Dr. Jacob Benedict and also a resident of Chambersburg; and Benjamin, our subject.

Benjamin Reed is indebted to the public schools of his native county for his educational privileges. In early life he learned the cabinet maker's trade with John Bush, and worked at the same for thirteen years. Before leaving Pennsylvania, he was married, February 23, 1842, to Miss Harriet Clark, who was born in Franklin county, December 6, 1822, a daughter of Samuel and Margaret (Grub) Clark, life-long residents of Pennsylvania, where the father followed the occupation of farming. In their family were ten children: Margaret, William, Maria, Catherine, Isabella, Harriet, Angelina, Athinda, Samuel, and Adam. Four of the number are still living, namely: Mrs. Angelina Valentine, of Carroll county, Maryland, Mrs. Athinda Minters, of Waynesboro, Pennsylvania, Adam, a resident of Maryland, and Mrs. Reed. The father of these children died in 1849, the mother in 1847.

For twelve years after his marriage, Mr. Reed continued to reside in Pennsylvania, working at his trade, but in the spring of 1854 started for Illinois. He traveled by railroad to Freeport, this state, and from

there by stage to Sterling. On his arrival he purchased one hundred and twenty acres of wild prairie land in Hopkins township, and commenced immediately to erect buildings thereon and to otherwise improve his place. At that time there were few settlers between Freeport and Sterling and most of the land was still in its primitive condition. Later Mr. Reed purchased fourteen acres of timber land. He continued to successfully engage in general farming and stock raising until 1884, when he removed to Emerson and four years later to Sterling, where he now lives retired from active labor, enjoying a well-earned rest.

To Mr. and Mrs. Reed were born ten children, as follows: (1) Ellen, born October 27, 1843, is the wife of James McDowell, who is now operating our subject's farm in Hopkins township, and they have five children, Mabel, Edna, Nellie, Mary and Josephine. (2) Emma, born June 1, 1845, is the wife of Joseph Bedner, a grocer of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and they have five children, Eva, Gertrude, Catherine, Alice and Anna. (3) Frank, born May 7, 1847, died at the age of six years and six months. (4) George, born January 25, 1849, died at the age of nine years and six months. (5) Kate, born April 13, 1853, is the wife of Joseph Lockhart, who is extensively engaged in the cattle business in Kansas and there owns seven thousand acres of land in one body, besides a number of good farms elsewhere. (6) John, born May 21, 1855, is engaged in farming in Jordan township, this county. He married Emma Carolus and they have three children, Alice, Ada and Clara. (7) Reuben, born August 23, 1858, is a carpenter of Sterling. He married Barbara Kerr, and they have five children, Ethel, Laura, Harriet, Ralph and Glenn. (8) Frank, born

January 20, 1861, is living with his parents in Sterling. (9) Clara, twin sister of Frank, married Frank Taylor, a tinner and cornice maker of Sterling, and they have two children, Benjamin and Helen. (10) Edna, born September 18, 1864, is at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Reed are members of St. John's Lutheran church, of Sterling, and are highly respected and esteemed by all who know them. Since casting his first presidential vote for James K. Polk he has been a staunch supporter of the Democratic party, and while living on his farm he filled the office of school director for nine years in a most efficient and satisfactory manner.

--- ---

**J**OEL M. BALDWIN, a well-known resident of Tampico who is now living a retired life, is a veteran of the Civil war and bears an honorable record for brave service in the cause of freedom and union, and in the paths of peace he has also won an enviable reputation through the sterling qualities which go to the making of a good citizen.

Mr. Baldwin was born in the town of Middlesex, Washington county, Vermont, May 5, 1834, and is a son of Jacob and Elivira C. (Estabrook) Baldwin, also natives of the Green Mountain state, where the mother died in 1841. The father afterward married again. In 1858 he removed to Bureau county, Illinois, where he purchased a farm and engaged in agricultural pursuits in connection with work at his trade of carpentering. Throughout his active business life he continued to follow the latter occupation, but is now living retired in Plano, Illinois, a hale and hearty old man of ninety-three years.

On leaving his native state, at the age of

fifteen years, Joel M. Baldwin went to Massachusetts where he worked in woolen and cotton factories until 1858, when he joined his father in Bureau county, Illinois, and turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, it being his first experience in farming. He continued to follow that occupation until after the outbreak of the Civil war. In the fall of 1861 he joined Company B, Sixty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was a member of the First Battalion, known as Yates Sharp Shooters. He was made musician of the regiment, and with the Army of the Cumberland took part in the battles of New Madrid, Missouri; Island No. 10; Fort Pillow; Shiloh; Farmington; the engagements around Corinth, and the battle of Iuka. In the last named engagement Mr. Baldwin was seriously injured by a shell striking his hips and back, causing paralysis of the limbs and body, from which he has never recovered. He lay in the hospital until honorably discharged in the fall of 1862, when he was honorably discharged and returned to his home in Bureau county. He was brave and fearless in time of battle, was always found in the front rank, and up to the battle of Iuka lost no time from sickness or other causes.

For two years after his discharge, Mr. Baldwin remained in Bureau county, and then went to Jefferson county, New York, where he made his home for twenty-seven years, while holding the responsible position of superintendent in a woolen factory. In the fall of 1885 he returned to Illinois and this time located in Whiteside county, where he bought a farm for his son. After living upon that place for seven years he purchased residence property in the village of Tampico, where he has since made his home. He now receives a pension of sev-

enty-two dollars per month from the government.

During his residence in Massachusetts, Mr. Baldwin was married, in the fall of 1853, to Miss Orpha Jane Bigelow, who was born, reared and educated in that state, a daughter of Foster Bigelow. She died in Tampico, in February, 1895. Four children were born to them, namely: Mary Jane, at home; William J., a business man of Watertown, New York; Frank H., who owns a farm in this county, but now resides in California, where he is engaged in fruit growing; and Lizzie, wife of Jesse Fairington, of Tampico, by whom she has a little son, Arthur Wayne, now two years old. Mr. Baldwin was again married, in Princeton, Bureau county, Illinois, in November, 1896, his second union being with Miss Ellen Jones, who was born in Kentucky but was reared in Illinois. Her father, Simeon Jones, spent his last days in Kentucky.

Mr. Baldwin cast his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln, in 1860, and has since been a staunch supporter of the Republican party. He served as assessor in Bureau county prior to the Civil war, but has never cared for the honors or emoluments of public office. Fraternally he is a member of Tampico post, G. A. R. He uses neither liquor or tobacco, and in many respects his life is well worthy of emulation, and he has the esteem and respect of all who know him.

**J**OHNS COONEY, residing on section 20, Hahnaman township, is one of the most prosperous and successful farmers of Whiteside county. Looking back through the vista of the past, we see a friendless boy who came to the new world in search of

home and fortune; at present we see his ambitious dreams realized, and would the veil of the future be lifted we would doubtless see an honored old age crowned with the respect and veneration which is accorded a well-spent life.

Mr. Cooney is a native of Ireland, and when a young man of eighteen years he came to the United States, landing in New York, April 1, 1860. He went first to Massachusetts, where he worked by the month on a farm for two summers, and then engaged in steamboating on Long Island Sound for several years, being in one employ the entire time. Coming west in 1868, he settled in Whiteside county, Illinois, and in Hahnman township bought between three and four hundred acres of wild prairie land. After erecting a shanty there, he commenced to break, fence, ditch and otherwise improve his place. Later he sold that farm, and since then has bought and sold several different farms. About 1884 he purchased the place of two hundred and sixty-two acres where he now resides. At that time it was but slightly improved, but through his untiring efforts it has been converted into one of the best farms of the township. Besides his place he owns another fine farm of one hundred and twenty acres, and in the fall of 1899 he purchased two hundred acres elsewhere, a part of which is in Whiteside county and the remainder in Lee county. All are well-improved and valuable farms. In connection with general farming, Mr. Cooney is also engaged in stock raising, and in both occupations he has met with marked success.

He has now been a resident of this county for over thirty years and he has witnessed much of its growth and development. His life affords an example to the young in

that he commenced life in the new world without money, but having a determination to succeed he industriously applied himself until he has acquired a fine property and comfortable competence. He is well known in his community and is highly respected.

**WILLIAM A. VAN OSDOL.** When after years of long and earnest labor in some honorable field of business, a man puts aside all cares to spend his remaining years in the enjoyment of the fruits of former toil, it is certainly a well deserved reward of his former industry.

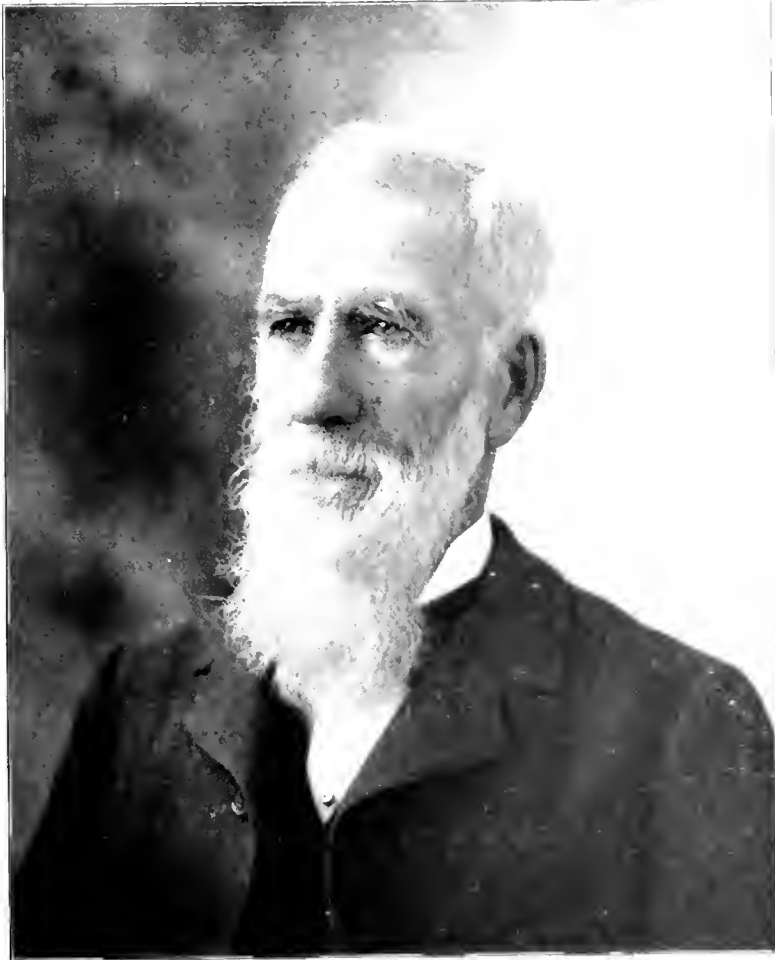
“How blest is he who crowns in shades  
like these

A youth of labor with an age of ease.”

wrote the poet, and the world everywhere recognizes the justice of a season of rest following an active period of business life. Mr. Van Osdol is now living retired in Morrison, and his history is one that shows the accomplishment of well-directed labor.

He was born in Ohio county, Indiana, August 17, 1827, a son of John and Nancy (Gibson) Van Osdol, the former a native of Fayette county, Pennsylvania, the latter of West Virginia. The maternal grandfather, James Gibson, was a planter of West Virginia, and from that state removed to Dearborn county, Indiana, in 1813, sailing down the Ohio river on a flatboat. He was one of the pioneers of that county, and upon the land which he took up from the government he spent his remaining days. One of his grandsons now occupies the old homestead. His nephew, William Gibson, son of Robert Gibson, was a soldier of the war of 1812, and participated in the battle of New





WILLIAM A. VAN OSDOL.



Orleans. Of his eleven children, Mrs. Van Osdol, mother of our subject, was the fourth in order of birth. Our subject's paternal grandparents were Benjamin and Rebecca (Reece) Van Osdol, natives of Pennsylvania, where the family was founded at an early date in the history of this country. Benjamin Van Osdol and family removed to Indiana in 1820. The grandfather followed carpentering as a life work and died at the age of seventy-five years. In his family were four children who reached years of maturity, namely: John, Nathan, Jane and Polly, all now deceased.

John Van Osdol, father of our subject, was also a carpenter by trade and an excellent farmer. After his marriage he purchased eighty acres of land of his father-in-law, James Gibson; moved on the home farm in 1830. Later he added to it a forty acre tract, making a farm of one hundred and twenty acres of timberland, which he cleared and improved. Upon that place he died in 1870, at the age of sixty-five years, but his wife is still living on the old homestead in Cass township, Ohio county, Indiana, and although ninety-two years of age she enjoys good health and is in full possession of her mental faculties. Eleven children were born to them, namely: William, Sarah, Harriet, James, Nathan, Margaret, Catherine, Rachel, Rebecca Jane, Clarissa and Nancy. Of these Sarah, Harriet, Margaret and Catherine are now deceased.

Our subject was educated in the schools of Ohio county, Indiana, paying seventy-five cents a quarter for his tuition, and he well remembers how he hated to attend school when a little lad. When his school days were over he became interested in huckstering, and in that business traveled over a

circuit of forty miles. In 1841 he purchased a general store in Aberdeen, Ohio county, which he conducted until coming west in October, 1854. He traveled by way of Chicago and Rockford, and from the latter place walked to Sterling, looking over the land in search of a suitable location. He bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in Hopkins township, Whiteside county, for which he paid three dollars per acre, and then returned to Indiana. He sold his store in 1855 and in February, 1859, again came to this county in company with his cousin, James Kittle, making the journey with a sled and farm horses. On arriving here he unloaded his movable goods and returned for his family, which then consisted of his wife and one child. His first home was a rude shanty, 12 x 10 feet, in which they lived for a number of months, and it was then replaced by a more commodious and substantial residence. In early days the neighbors were so scarce and the country so unsettled that when he was handling the first load of lumber, with which to build a shanty, he unloaded it about forty rods from his own tract.

On the 10th of November, 1850, Mr. Van Osdol married Miss Rebecca Turner, a native of Pennsylvania, and a daughter of Robert Turner, a farmer of Dearborn county, Indiana. She was the sixth in order of birth in a family of eight children, of whom only one is now living. She died February 5, 1885, and was laid to rest in the Morrison cemetery. Six children were born of that union, namely: John died at the age of fifteen years; Sarah died at the age of five months; Sylvanus, who is now employed in the post-office at Helena, Montana, married Margaret Cole and they have four children, Ida M. is the wife of C. M. Fleming, a farmer of Dickinson county, Iowa, and

they have four children; Robert R., also a farmer and stock raiser of Dickinson county, Iowa, married Tillie Hannawalt; and Frank is paying teller in the First National Bank of Morrison.

Mr. Van Osdol was again married November 15, 1886, his second union being with Mrs. Isabella (McArthur) Morrison, widow of John Morrison, of Scotland. She was born in Argleshire, Scotland, February 18, 1850, a daughter of John and Catherine (Campbell) McArthur, both natives of the highlands of Scotland. The father followed the sea for over forty years, was captain of a vessel and was one of the best navigators sailing from Clyde. He is now living retired with his wife in Glasgow, Scotland. During the World's Fair, in 1893, they came to America, sailing from the river Clyde, and lived for three years with our subject and wife, and then returned to his native land, as he could not become accustomed to this country. Of his eight children four are still living: Mrs. Catherine Hayes, of Glasgow, Scotland; Mrs. Joan Holeman, of Eagle Grove, Iowa; Isabella, wife of our subject, and Mrs. Mary Neil, of New South Wales, Australia. After her first marriage Mrs. Van Osdol came with her husband to America and located in Chicago before the great fire in October, 1871, had ceased burning. Mr. Morrison was a confectioner and baker by trade, and followed those occupations both in Scotland and in this country. By her first marriage Mrs. Van Osdol had four children who are still living: Catherine is the wife of Dr. Arthur McGugan, who is a member of the medical staff of the asylum at Kalamazoo, Michigan, and has charge of the female department; John married Lydia Kennedy, and is engaged in the butcher business in

Morrison, Illinois; Mary is the wife of W. R. Marsh, a merchant of Manson, Iowa, and Isabella is the wife of Edward McFadden, a miner of Bisbee, Arizona. By his second marriage Mr. Van Osdol has had two children: Arthur Stuart, who is now attending school in Morrison; and Marguerite, who died at the age of five years, five months and twenty-six days, and was buried in the Morrison cemetery.

While residing on his farm Mr. Van Osdol gave particular attention to stock raising and brought the first Poland-China hogs into Whiteside county. He kept from fifty to two hundred sheep upon his place, and also fed cattle and hogs for market, shipping annually two or three carloads of cattle and about the same amount of hogs. For twenty years he was a breeder of short horn cattle, and had the finest herd of the same in his locality. He exhibited his stock at the first fair held in Whiteside county, and up to within a few years ago some of his stock was on exhibition at the fairs in Sterling and Morrison for forty consecutive years. To his original farm of one hundred and sixty acres he added until he has three hundred and eighty-five acres in Hopkins township under a high state of cultivation and well improved. He also has one hundred and sixty acres of land in South Dakota. In 1861 Mr. Van Osdol sold a carload of corn in Chicago for twenty cents per bushel, costing him, however, ten cents per bushel to market it, but kept the remainder of his crop until 1864, when he was able to sell it in the city of Sterling for one dollar and twenty cents per bushel. He still has the receipts of this sale. In November, 1892, he removed to Morrison, and has since lived retired from active labor, enjoying a well-earned rest.

Politically Mr. Van Osdol has been a life-long Democrat, and was the first to vote that ticket in Hopkins township. One night, in 1860, while going along the road, he saw a light in the school house, and on entering found two Republican speakers with no audience but himself, and he was a staunch Democrat. Fraternally he is a member of Dunlap lodge, No. 324, F. & A. M., of Morrison, while his estimable wife holds membership in the Presbyterian church. In November, 1886, they sailed for Scotland, and remained abroad until the following March, visiting Mrs. Van Osdol's parents, and many points of interest in both Scotland and England. They are well known and highly respected and have a host of warm friends in Whiteside county who esteem them highly for their sterling worth and many excellencies of character.

**ANTHONY AMOS JAMES.** This honored citizen of Morrison, Whiteside county, has been retired from actual business life only a few years and has a record of unusual success. Owing to well directed energy he has been successful in all his financial ventures, and in the evening time of life is in possession of a competency. He enjoys the respect and genuine esteem of all who know him, owing to the fact that in all his dealings he has been upright and just.

Born in Mount Pleasant township, Whiteside county, August 29, 1837, A. A. James is a son of George O. and Margaret M. (Thomas) James, who were pioneers of this county. The father was a native of Ashe county, North Carolina, his birth having occurred April 14, 1809, while it is believed that the mother was from South Car-

olina, and a daughter of Anthony M. Thomas, who settled in Morgan county, Illinois, at an early day and later came to Whiteside county. George O. James was a son of George and Elizabeth James, of German and English descent respectively. The former emigrated from the fatherland to North Carolina and later went to Kentucky when George O. James was young. The latter at the age of eighteen years removed with the family to Morgan county, Illinois, where they were among the earliest settlers. He received very limited educational advantages, probably attending school not more than sixty days in his life. Upon arriving in this county he took up a tract of government land, to which he added from time to time until his property comprised two hundred acres. He was a successful farmer and was actively engaged in his chosen vocation until shortly before his death, which event occurred May 16, 1892, when he was in his eighty-seventh year.

The first wife of George O. James bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Featherkile, and their marriage took place November 1, 1830. Their only child, William Silas, is a successful farmer of Fenton, Whiteside county. After the death of his first wife, Mr. James married Margaret M. Thomas, as previously mentioned, and to them were born four children, of whom Anthony A. is the eldest. Elizabeth is the widow of H. D. Smith, of Story county, Iowa. Adam E. died in February, 1892, in Greenwich, New York, at the age of fifty years. Anna Louisa is the wife of John Little, a farmer and stock raiser of Huron, South Dakota. The mother of these children was summoned to her reward January 23, 1868, when in her sixty-second year. Mr. James is survived by his third wife, Mrs. Jane (McCune)

James, who died in September, 1899. Their marriage was solemnized on the 6th of January, 1870.

Anthony A. James was reared on a farm and attended a school which was kept in a dwelling house owned by Samuel Finch. This school was conducted on the subscription plan, the teacher being a daughter of Mr. Finch. The first public school which our subject attended was the one known as the Jackson school, the first built in this neighborhood. Before reaching his majority Mr. James had become thoroughly familiar with farming and had been employed, to some extent, by neighbors here, and in Dunn county, Wisconsin. In the fall of 1857, he purchased eighty acres of land on section 34, Clyde township, Whiteside county, about half of this land having been broken, but no other improvement made upon the place. In the spring of 1858 Mr. James erected a small frame house in which his family resided for a number of years. At various times he made additions to the house and in 1882 built what is considered one of the finest country homes in the township. As opportunity offered he added to his original farm until it now comprises five hundred and twenty-five acres, all of which is in Clyde township, with the exception of twenty acres of timber land located in Mount Pleasant township. This property, which is divided into three farms, is now under the management of the three sons of the owner. For years he had been engaged extensively in feeding and shipping live stock, and besides disposing of large numbers of hogs, he ships two car loads of cattle to the city market each year, and in this line alone has made a good income.

In 1857 the marriage of Mr. James and Miss Ann Norrish was celebrated in Dunn

county, Wisconsin. Eight children blessed their union, one dying in infancy, and the others being as follows: Elizabeth A., wife of Seth W. Hurlburt, of Sterling; Samuel N., who married Agnes Wells, and has four children, two of them deceased; Porteus, who died at the age of thirty-three years; Robert S., of Clyde township, whose wife was formerly Rose Thomas, and who has one child; George O., who married Emma Hicks, and has two children; Adam C.; and Lillie A., wife of C. F. Reynolds, a farmer of Mount Pleasant township, and mother of two children. Samuel N., who managed one of his father's farms in Clyde township, also owns a tract of land, and George O. and Adam C. carry on the other farms previously mentioned as being the property of our subject.

In former years Mr. James was an ardent supporter of the Democratic party, but in 1896, owing to the issues of the hour, he had the courage to vote in harmony with his convictions, his ballot being deposited for William McKinley. A true friend of education, he served as a school director for some twenty years. He also officiated as a road commissioner for a period of four years, and in various ways has shown the interest which he has always felt in local improvements. For a number of years he has been a devoted adherent to the Presbyterian church and has contributed liberally to religious and benevolent enterprises.

**J**OHAN PECK, who is successfully engaged in business in Sterling as a dealer in lumber, coal, salt, lime and cement, and also owns and operates a planing mill, has the distinction of having won the proud American title of a self-made man. His

energy, determination and good business ability have enabled him to overcome all the difficulties and obstacles in his path and work his way upward to prosperity. He is known among his fellow townsmen for his reliability in all trade transactions and justly merits their confidence and regard.

Mr. Peck was born in Fayette county, Pennsylvania, January 12, 1845, a son of John and May (Kirkpatrick) Peck, the former a native of Pennsylvania, the latter of Scotland. Our subject was educated in the schools of his native county, and engaged in farming with his father until after the Civil war broke out. Although only sixteen years of age, he enlisted, May 12, 1862, in the Fifth Ohio Cavalry, which was mustered in at Columbus, Ohio. With this regiment he was stationed in the mountains of West Virginia most of the time, doing guard and provost duty until mustered out in the winter of 1863-4. Later he re-enlisted in the Thirteenth Ohio Cavalry, and was mustered into the United States service at Columbus, December 25, 1863. They joined the Army of the Potomac just before the battle of the Wilderness, was all through that campaign, and participated in the battles of Spottsylvania, Cold Harbor, Old Church, Favern, and the assault on Petersburg. Crossing the James river, they took part in the siege of Petersburg and also the engagement around that stronghold, were in the Weldon Railroad raid, and the campaigns from the Rappahan to the James and from the James to the Appomattox, where Lee finally surrendered. Mr. Peck was wounded, or rather crushed in the rebel mine at Petersburg, being in the explosion of the fort, July 30, 1864. He was on detached duty at Petersburg, at the time of the grand review in Washington, D. C., and so was unable to participate in

that military pageant. He was mustered out at Amelia Court House, Virginia, July 4, 1865, and finally discharged on the 28th of the same month.

Returning to civil life, Mr. Peck worked as a farm hand by the month in Muskingum county, Ohio, for a time. On the 1st of November, 1866, he was united in marriage with Miss Susan Quigley, a native of Ohio, and a daughter of Timothy Quigley. To them were born five children, as follows: Ollie, who resides at home and has successfully engaged in teaching in the primary and high school of Franklin Grove, Illinois; Charles O., who died at the age of two years and a half; Laura, who is now teaching school in New Harmony, Indiana; Roy, who is bookkeeper for his father; and Lillian, a teacher in the second ward school of Sterling.

On the 1st day of March, 1867, Mr. Peck arrived in Sterling, Illinois, and upon rented land he engaged in farming in Genesee township for seven years. He then removed to Sterling and entered the employ of Golden & Dillon, dealers in lumber and coal, with whom he remained for twelve years. On the 1st of April, 1880, he embarked in his present business on a small scale, but has gradually increased his business to meet the growing demands of his trade. In 1893 he purchased a mill, which he now operates in connection with his other business. He is a wide-awake, energetic business man, and in his undertakings is now meeting with well-deserved success. In politics he is independent, voting for whom he considers the best man, regardless of party ties. Socially he is an honored member of William Robinson post, No. 274, G. A. R., and religiously he is a member of the Congregational church.

**ELHANAN C. WINTERS.** In time to come this volume will acquire added value as a repository of records whose historical significance will then be fully appreciated, but readers will doubtless peruse with special interest the stories of gallant service in that great struggle which settled once for all that this nation is, in truth, "one and indivisible." It has often been said that the letters sent home during the war by the soldiers of all grades would make, if published, a better history of the war than has yet been given, and the suggestive views of the conflict in the individual experiences contained in this book certainly give new color to many a historic scene.

Among the gallant defenders of the Union from this state was Mr. Winters, now a well-known real-estate dealer of Rock Falls. He was born in Bedford, Indiana, September 18, 1843, and comes of a very patriotic and loyal family, five generations of which have been represented in the wars of this country. His great-grandfather was killed at the battle of Bunker Hill during the Revolution; his grandfather was a soldier in the war of 1812; his father of the Mexican war; himself of the Civil war; and his son of our recent war with Spain.

On the 7th of August, 1861, Mr. Winters enlisted in Company A, Thirty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, at Sterling, and was mustered into the United States service at Camp Butler, Springfield, September 7, 1861. They joined Sherman's army at Camp Nevans, near Elizabethtown, Kentucky, October 15, 1861, and after remaining there one month moved to Munfordsville, where they went into winter quarters. In February, 1862, they were ordered to join Grant at Fort Donelson, but not reach-

ing there in time to participate in the battle, proceeded to Nashville, being among the first troops to arrive there. Later they joined Grant's army at Pittsburg Landing, and in the battle at that place the regiment lost one hundred and twenty-nine men in killed and wounded. The command participated in the siege of Corinth during the following May and June until its evacuation, and then went to Tusculumbia, Iuka, Huntsville and Battle Creek, resting at the last named place a month. In the memorable campaign and battles that followed, Mr. Winters acquitted himself with honor, as the history of the regiment shows and furnishes a detailed account of the same. He was promoted from corporal to sergeant. He took part in the battles of Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge, Resaca, Rome, Peach Tree Creek, Atlanta, Jonesboro, and the engagements in Georgia and the Carolinas, and when the war ended participated in the grand review at Washington, D. C., May 24, 1865. He was mustered out at Louisville, Kentucky, July 12, 1865, and finally discharged at Chicago, July 17, 1865, as first sergeant, after having served three years and eleven months.

Returning to his home in Carroll county, Illinois, Mr. Winters engaged in farming there until 1876. On the 20th of December, 1866, he was united in marriage with Miss Paulina Scoville, a daughter of James and Elizabeth (Hills) Scoville, whose sketch is given on another page of this work. To our subject and his wife were born four children, of whom Wayne C., the eldest, died at the age of five years. James C., a resident of Sterling, is business manager for the Sterling Standard. He married Ethel Follette, who died in 1894, and for his second wife he married Eva Montague, by



whom he had one child, now deceased. Alice M. is the wife of Robert B. McNeil, who served as a non-commissioned officer in Company E, Sixth Illinois Volunteers, in the war with Spain. He is now reporter for the Sterling Standard and a resident of Rock Falls. They have three children--Wayne, Althea and Dorothea. Carl, a compositor in the office of the Sterling Herald, was a member of Company E, Sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, during the war with Spain, and was one of the first to land at Porto Rico.

For two years after leaving the farm, in 1876, Mr. Winters was city salesman for the firm of Galt & Emmett, dealers in farm machinery in Sterling. He was then engaged in the agricultural implement business on his own account at Coleta until October, 1880. Having sustained painful and serious injuries by a fall from a wind-mill tower, he was unable to engage in any business for a year. He then sold his business in Coleta and went on the road as traveling salesman for the Northwestern Barb Wire Company, of Sterling, for three years, the Barnes Manufacturing Company, of Freeport, two years, and for Sickles & Preston, a wholesale hardware firm of Davenport, Iowa, for two years. In 1899 he located in Rock Falls, and has since engaged in the real estate, loan and insurance business, with good success. He has also been very successful as a United States pension claim agent.

In politics Mr. Winters is a Republican, and is at present secretary of the county central committee. He has served as justice of the peace for nine years, and city clerk of Rock Falls for the past seven years, being the present incumbent of both offices. He is an earnest member of the Methodist

Episcopal church, and is held in high regard by all who know him. He is also an honored member of Will Enderton post, No. 726, G. A. R., was its first adjutant, served as commander one term, and is serving his third term as chaplain.

CHARLES LE ROY CASE, who is now successfully engaged in business in Erie, Illinois, was born in Erie, Whiteside county, Illinois August 5, 1850, and is a son of Charles W. and Margaret (Nicholas) Case, natives of New York state. Charles W. Case came to Illinois when a young man and settled in Fenton township, Whiteside county, where he followed farming for many years. In 1848 he was united in marriage with Miss Margaret Nicholas, and to them were born four children, of whom our subject is the eldest; Mary Elizabeth is now the wife of Judson Passmore, of Rock Island; Stewart E. is a resident of Iowa; and Ira L. is a farmer of Iowa. The father enlisted in the Seventy-fifth Illinois Regiment in the Civil war and was wounded October 8, 1862, at Perryville, Kentucky, and died from the effects November 12, 1892, and was buried at Louisville, Kentucky. The mother is still living, and makes her home in Erie.

The subject of this sketch was reared and educated in much the usual manner of farmers boys of his day, and on the 10th of October, 1871, he was united in marriage with Miss Anna Meek, a daughter of William Meek, a farmer of Fenton township. They have become the parents of three children, namely: Addie, now the wife of Fred Burfield, James, deceased, and Maggie, at home.

After his marriage, Mr. Case located in Fenton township, where he engaged in

farming, and later followed the same pursuit, first in Portland and subsequently in Erie townships. In 1895, he removed to the village of Erie and opened a business, which he has since successfully conducted. Politically he is identified with the Democratic party, but has never been an office seeker. Socially he affiliates with the Knights of Pythias and the Masonic order.

**G**EORGE STILPHEN TRACY. The world is full of heroes, men of ability and renown, men who have left the impress of their mind and character upon the times. Every nation, state, county and city have their leading men, those to whom they look for example and counsel. Some men exert an influence because of their eloquence in the pulpit or on the platform, some because of their strong will, others because of extraordinary business ability, and some from the fact that every action of their lives are such as to show their love for their fellow men, and their desire to do them good. Because of the two latter attributes the subject of this sketch has left his impress upon the community which was so long his home, where the people always delighted to do him honor, and where his memory will ever be cherished by those who knew him in life, and who will take delight in teaching his virtues to coming generations.

George S. Tracy comes of good old Massachusetts stock. He was born in Norwich, Hampshire county, that state, June 28, 1829, and was the son of John and Betsy (Dimock) Tracy. From his father George learned the trade of carpenter and builder, at which he worked until he was sixteen years old, in the meantime securing a good common-school education. He then left his

mountain home and located in Newark, New Jersey, where he engaged in the nursery business, in which he continued for two years. At that time there was great excitement throughout the country in consequence of the discovery of gold in California, a territory which had then but lately been acquired from Mexico. Like thousands of others he felt the desire to make his fortune in that new Eldorado. Taking passage on a vessel, by way of Cape Horn, he made the trip, and for one year and a half after his arrival he was engaged in mining, but with indifferent success. Somewhat disappointed at his failure to secure the coveted fortune with the aid of shovel and pick, he determined to leave the country and try to better himself in South America. For five years he remained in Chili and Peru, engaged in the construction of a railroad, after which he returned to California and resumed his mining operations for a year and a half, when he again threw the unsatisfactory work aside, and took his way back to his old Massachusetts home.

Massachusetts, on his return, was not as it had seemed to him in his youth, and he was not satisfied there to remain. Accordingly, in 1857, Mr. Tracy came to Whiteside county and located in Sterling, where he engaged in business with Cook & Co. in the manufacture of sash, doors and blinds, and continued in that relation until 1863, when he formed a partnership with Thomas A. Galt, and under the firm name of Galt & Tracy, a general manufacturing business was established. The business of the firm increased with remarkable rapidity. In 1867, however, it met with a severe loss by fire, the entire plant being destroyed, entailing a loss of thirty thousand dollars. The firm was not discouraged by its great

loss, but with the energy that characterized their every movement they went to work and soon had erected buildings far better than those lost by the fire. There is an old saying "that nothing succeeds like success." The fact of the firm rebuilding in so short a time gained for it the increased confidence of the trade and the people generally, and orders poured in on them in such numbers that even the increased capacity of the new buildings was entirely too small, necessitating the enlargement of the plant. A more spacious location was demanded, and the firm secured the necessary ground on the south side of the river, and erected their buildings in what is now the city of Rock Falls.

On the removal of the business to the south side of the river, the firm secured articles of incorporation under the firm name of the Keystone Manufacturing Company, since which time the business has been carried on under that name. Mr. Galt was elected president and Mr. Tracy vice-president and general manager of the constructive department of the company. He gave the company his best efforts, and, with remarkable executive ability, he soon had an enterprise under way of great multitude and second to none in the west. While the Keystone Manufacturing Company required the greater part of his time, he was yet interested in other manufacturing enterprises in Sterling and vicinity, and was instrumental in securing the location and the building up of some of the most important manufactories in his adopted city. He was also a member of the banking firm of Galt & Tracy, and in connection with Mr. Galt erected the Academy of Music in Sterling.

On the 7th of September, 1863, Mr. Tracy was united in marriage with Miss

Helen M. Hosmer, daughter of Nathaniel and Eliza Hosmer, of Camden, Maine. Three children came to bless this union: Susan, now the wife of E. G. Church; Frank and Edith.

On the 6th of May, 1891, Mr. Tracy passed to his reward, and it is safe to say that the death of no man in Sterling ever was more deeply felt, or the community more greatly shocked. He was a man that old and young, rich and poor, greatly esteemed and loved. His life was a benediction to all, and his enemies were unknown, or few indeed. During his funeral, the business houses of both Sterling and Rock Falls were generally closed, mills and manufactories were shut down that the employes might tender the last token of respect to the memory of one who was ever a friend to them. Both cities claimed him as its own. The Rock Falls News said: "While Mr. Tracy's home was in Sterling, his desk was in the Keystone office in Rock Falls, and every citizen of our place had confidence in him and loved and respected him. Sterling, Rock Falls, and all Whiteside county feel that his death is their loss."

The funeral of Mr. Tracy was largely attended, many coming from other cities to pay tribute to his memory. It was attended by the employes of the various factories in which Mr. Galt and he were interested, the men following the remains to the cemetery in a body. Among those represented were the Keystone Manufacturing Company, the Eureka Manufacturing Company, the Sterling Manufacturing Company, the Novelty Manufacturing Company, and others.

In pursuance to call many of the citizens of Rock Falls met at the city hall, where the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

"WHEREAS, George S. Tracy, vice-president and superintendent of the Keystone Manufacturing Company, departed this life on Wednesday, May 6th, and has long been identified with the growth and business of our city, the citizens of Rock Falls, in meeting assembled, adopted the following as expressive of the estimation in which he was held while in life:

"*Resolved*, That as a man George S. Tracy was the soul of honor, correct in every principle, courteous and kind to all with whom he came in contact, firm in the discharge of every duty, and generous in his dealings with all men. His charities were such that many a beneficiary knew not to whom he was indebted, but the poor and needy were never out of his thoughts. He took no thought of cost where distress was to be relieved. As a manufacturer he never forgot that he owed a duty to every employe, to the day laborer, the skilled mechanic and the office man.

"*Resolved*, That in his death every citizen of Rock Falls, without exception feel that he has suffered a personal loss which he will always feel cannot be replaced.

"*Resolved*, That we tender to his partners and companions in business our sense of the loss of companionship they will never fail to realize when they view his vacant desk; but our deepest sympathy goes to those of the broken family circle, but even they have a comfort of knowing that a good man has left them with neither spot nor blemish on his character.

"*Resolved*, That a copy of these resolutions be furnished the Keystone Manufacturing Company and his bereaved wife for preservation, as showing the esteem with which George S. Tracy was held by every citizen of our place."

Not content with simply adopting similar resolutions a meeting of the citizens of Sterling was held, and a committee previously appointed, consisting of John G. Mahan, J. F. Platt, W. A. Sanborn, C. L. Sheldon and J. E. McPherran, presented the accompanying report:

"To the citizens of Sterling assembled for action in reference to the lamented death of the late George Stephen Tracy:

"Your committee, appointed at a previous meeting, and directed to report a series of suitable resolutions to be presented and here adopted as the expression of the of this meeting on this occasion, would respectfully submit for your consideration the following:

"The long residence of Mr. Tracy in this city; his activity in business affairs; the high esteem in which he was justly held; the number of those who enjoyed and valued his friendship; the irreparable loss consequent upon his death; each and all render it appropriate that a people with whom he daily mingled, and among whom he constantly labored, should gather from their ordinary avocations and in a public manner mutually give expression to their conception of his character, and jointly commemorate his virtues.

"When a long and appreciated acquaintance has been suddenly and sadly terminated; when a life so conspicuously gentle and so beneficently active has suddenly ceased; when the genial face of a beloved fellow citizen has become rigid in death when the hand, responsive alike to the necessities of the poor and the salutations of friends, no longer reflects the promptings of a generous heart; when a familiar and always welcome form is soon to be borne by friendly hands to its last resting place; when our

common mother earth is about to receive to her bosom one more of her faithful and true sons, what more appropriate than that we, who knew him intimately these many years in life, and now deplore his death, should thus publicly and collectively make a mutual retrospect of that life so lately radiant among us, but, now alas, simply enshrined among our cherished memories. It was no minor privilege to be included within the circle of his acquaintance; much more the distinction, to be enrolled among his friends. That acquaintance and friendship, by an extraneous and resistless agency, has been withdrawn, and we who feel the poignancy of the deprivation, may well pause to pour into our depleted hearts the balm of grateful recollection, and to rear upon the grave of our fallen friend the pillars of our remembrance of his worth. Impotent in the presence of death this much we can do—more we cannot—less we would not.

“Fortunate is this assemblage in the fact that the reminiscences, vivified by the occasion and circumstances of this meeting, are of the most pleasant character--that there cannot be one discordant or unpleasant element connected with the review of our personal acquaintance with the deceased, and that no encomiums here pronounced, however accentuated or exalted, can exceed the truth. Mr. Tracy's residence here has been so long and continuous, and his life so active and observable, that no one present can be lacking in the necessary information to have formed an estimate of his character, or to give or recognize a truthful presentation of his reputation.

“In view of the permanent local development to which he contributed, and of the various lines of active industries with which he was identified up to the period of his

decease, it necessarily results that his death is a marked and important, as well as a lamentable event. Therefore, be it

“*Resolved*, By this assemblage of his acquaintances and friends, that we recognize and appreciate the loss to this community entailed by his death; that we unitedly bear witness to the many pleasant and valued mental and moral endowments which constituted him a pleasant companion, a wise counsellor, a good citizen, a firm and steadfast friend, and which made him a most active and potent factor in all of our material interests; that the evidences of his identification with the progress and development of this and our neighboring city are such as to remain imperishable monuments to his enterprise, public spirit and patriotic endeavor to benefit the community within which the greater part of his life was spent; but, that the urbanity of his disposition, his equable, uniform demeanor, his absolute reliability and his social qualities were such as to insure the perpetuity of his memory, regardless of these visible manifestations of his actual work.

“*Resolved*, Also, that we desire to, and do hereby offer to his stricken family and relatives our sincere sympathy in this their peculiar and personal bereavement.

“*Resolved*, Further, that the secretaries of this meeting be requested to furnish to the family of the deceased, and to the local newspapers, copies of these resolutions, and of the action of this meeting thereon.”

The Hon. J. E. McPherran presented the report and made some personal remarks, after giving a short biographical sketch of the deceased. In part he said:

“Descended from a hardy race, not ashamed to work, Mr. Tracy naturally sought a vocation wherein chance was not

the chief element of success. Patient labor and application are as necessary for success in business as they are in the pursuit of science. The old Greek maxim was: 'To become an able man in any profession three things are necessary,—nature, study and practice.' Lord Melbourne said, 'Making a small provision for young men is of all things the most prejudicial to themselves. The young should hear this language: It depends upon your own exertions whether you starve or not.' No 'provision' embarrassed Mr. Tracy's youth, and whatever success he achieved in business pursuits, he won by his own diligent, patient, and intelligent devotion to business. He early recognized the law that he who would achieve success must 'learn to labor and to wait.'

"His early experience in life made him sympathize with those in his employment, and enabled him rightly to discriminate between merit and dismerit amongst them. Hence he grew in favor with them as the years passed by.

"Deliberate in speech, self-possessed under stress of difficulties, keenly intelligent in the lines of business pursued by him, he rarely erred in judgment of men or things. He was not given to unfriendly criticism of his business competitors or his neighbors. Without personal or business jealousy, his speech was judicious commendation, or it was withheld. He was conservative in politics; in religion, by inheritance and conviction, in accord with the best religious thought of the day. His acts of kindness, and they were many, to persons less fortunate than he, were never published; but his grant, in conjunction with Mr. Galt, of ten years, free rent to the Sterling Public Library, is a part of the records of the city. Truthful, manly, and capable, and

withal public spirited, he filled so large a space in business and social interests that his loss will be keenly felt by the entire community for a long time.

"He left to mourn his loss, outside of a large circle of friends, a devoted wife (*née* Hosmer) and three children. He was buried on the 8th day of May, 1891, at Sterling, Illinois. The foreman of the Keystone Company served as pall bearers. His remains were escorted to the grave through streets draped in mourning, by a great concourse of citizens. He was laid to rest with impressive religious services, in which the fragility of human life was contrasted with the immutability of Him in whose sight a thousand years are but as a watch in the night."

The Hon. Thomas A. Galt, who for twenty-eight years was associated with Mr. Tracy in business, said that he wanted to be present at the preceding meeting, but so crushed was he at the death, equal almost to that of a brother, that he was unable to attend. "I have always held Mr. Tracy" said he, "as dear as an own brother, and knowing him so intimately, almost as well as his own family, through the association of twenty-eight years as a partner, his death to me personally is a great blow. Our interests were at all times most harmonious, an equal and mutual understanding existing. We began together in 1863, and during all the succeeding years not a jar has made unpleasant our associations. Few husbands and wives can compare their own union with as happy a result as this our union. In the death of Mr. Tracy I lose one near and dear and I scarce know how to proceed in my efforts without his ever cheering, masterly assistance. He was a man of excellent spirit, never angry, never profane, always

pleasant, never an ill word to the most humble of his employes, conservative, always showing the bright side to the sorrowing.

"He gave many evidences of his kindness and his friendship was one to be highly prized. Mr. Tracy was scrupulously just, and not afraid to error, which he invariably did. He will not only be missed by me personally, but equally missed by the business community. Such men are rare, but God in his providence has seen fit to remove him, and a sweet remembrance will always remain. His honesty was unquestionable; and willingly at any time would I have left in his hands my money or other valuables, with perfect confidence. I am happy to pay this tribute to his memory, I feel as though I have a right to. I will enjoy his memory as long as I live."

Mr. McPherran and Mr. Galt but echoed the sentiment of all who know Mr. Tracy, and this permanent of him in this volume will be prized by all, and his life work will certainly be worthy of emulation by those who come after him.

C. F. ROYER is a son of Christian and Mary (Whitmer) Royer, who were born and are still living in Franklin county, Pennsylvania. The father's birth occurred May 28, 1823, and the mother was born March 13, 1824. Their children comprised the following-named: Jacob W., George A., Christian and David (twins), Cyrus E., C. F., Washington, Catherine E., Mary E., Alice Grace, Uriah, Ezra and Nathan (twins), and Ida Frances, who died at the age of four years. The parents have been engaged in agricultural pursuits and are highly respected citizens in their commu-

ity. They are great workers in the local Baptist church, and Mr. Royer is a Republican, politically.

C. F. Royer was born on the old Franklin county homestead June 24, 1856, and remained with his parents until he attained his majority. He then came to the west, and for three or four years worked for farmers in Whiteside county. In company with a brother, he embarked in the stock business, in Kansas, and at the end of a year went to Iowa, where he was similarly engaged. Returning then to Illinois, he turned his attention once more to farming, and since his marriage has cultivated a fine farm of two hundred acres, located on section 7. In addition to this he owns two hundred and forty acres of land in Humboldt county, Iowa. As a stock-raiser, Mr. Royer has been especially successful, though in each branch of agriculture he has met with gratifying financial returns for his labors.

On the 5th of January, 1882, Mr. Royer married Clara McCauley, a native of this county. She is one of the eight children of James S. and Hester (Hanawalt) McCauley, natives of Virginia, and early settlers of Hopkins township, their arrival here dating back to 1853. Their other children are named as follows: Marcellus, Nancy C., John W., Alice A., Ida R., Willie, and one who died in infancy.

Seven children came to bless the home of our subject and wife: Bertha May, born January 22, 1883; James C., April 20, 1885; Marietta, March 22, 1887; an infant, who died at birth, in 1889; Charles Franklin, April 14, 1891; Arthur Raymond, June 15, 1894, and Ida Ruth, August 23, 1896. James C. died when in his tenth year, October 23, 1894. The surviving children are

with their parents, the elder ones attending the neighborhood school.

Mr. Royer takes a patriotic interest in the public schools, and for several years has been a member of the local board of directors. During a period of fifteen years he has been a director of the Whiteside County Agricultural Society, and upon various occasions has superintended different departments of the county fair. In his political affiliations he is a Republican. Religiously, he is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and has served as a trustee, and as superintendent and teacher in the Sunday-school.

**H** G. CHAMBERLAIN, a leading citizen of Newton township, and a worthy representative of the agricultural interests of that section of the county, was born in New York, April 3, 1824, and is a son of B. F. Chamberlain, a native of Connecticut. In 1849 our subject came to Illinois and first located in Rock Island county, where he lived for two years. At the end of that time he came to this county and took up his residence in Newton township.

After his marriage, in 1852, he purchased a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 24, that township, and to its improvement and cultivation he has since devoted his time and attention with most gratifying results. Being a thorough and skillful farmer and a man of good business ability, prosperity has attended his efforts and he is now quite well-to-do. At one time he owned an additional eighty-acre tract, but gave this to his son and now owns only the original farm. Like most of the farming population of the county, he has given considerable attention to stock raising.

On the 14th of October, 1852, Mr. Chamberlain was united in marriage with Miss Susan Walker, who was born in Ohio, November 18, 1827, a daughter of David and Susan Walker. By this union seven children have been born, namely: Eugene H., born March 21, 1855; Arthur B., born August 27, 1857; Irena, who was born April 20, 1860, and died when quite young; Alice M., who was born July 16, 1861, and is now the wife of Milton E. Bull; one who died in infancy; Lena M., born February 22, 1867; and Susanna E., who was born January 22, 1872, and is now the wife of Jacob Odenwald.

By his ballot Mr. Chamberlain supports the men and measures of the Republican party, but has never aspired to official honors though he takes great interest in the national elections. He is a consistent member of the Baptist church, and his well-spent and honorable life has gained for him the confidence and high regard of all with whom he has come in contact either in business or social life.

**J**AMES SCOVILLE, deceased, was one of the prominent pioneers and representative citizens of Whiteside county, whose last days were spent in retirement in Sterling. He was born in Washington county, New York, February 21, 1810, a son of Edward and Susan (Case) Scoville, also natives of that state. The father followed the occupation of farming in New York until 1841, when he came to Whiteside county, Illinois, and took up a tract of one hundred and twenty acres of government land in Genesee township, upon which he made his home until his death. He died, however, in Pike county, Illinois, in 1859, being tak-



en ill while visiting there and never recovering. His wife had died a few years previously. They were the parents of nine children, Paulina, Sanford, James, Stephen, Alexander, Sprague, Angeline, Susan and Mary Jane, all of whom lived to maturity, married and reared families with the exception of Sprague, who died at about the age of eighteen years.

The subject of this sketch attended the common schools of his native state, and as soon as old enough to be of any assistance he commenced to aid in the work of the farm. On the 11th of November, 1832, he was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Hills, who was born in Oneida county, New York, January 24, 1813, a daughter of Ira Sarah Jane (Hurlburt) Hills, both natives of Connecticut. In early life her father followed the cooper's trade, but on his arrival to New York turned his attention to farming. He became a resident of that state a few years prior to her birth, and when she was four years old he moved to Pennsylvania, purchasing land in Erie county, where his death occurred. He was a prosperous and successful man and was highly respected by all who knew him. He was an officer (captain) in the war of 1812 and his services received a land warrant, with which he secured land in Ohio, but never located thereon. His wife survived him about twenty years and died at the home of a son in Galesburg, Illinois. In their family were eleven children, of whom seven reached man and womanhood, namely: Nelson, Riley, Lester, Cynthia, Elizabeth, Sarah and Mary Ann. Mrs. Scoville is now the only one of this family living.

After his marriage Mr. Scoville and his wife located in Erie county, Pennsylvania, where he purchased land from the govern-

ment and engaged in farming until 1836, when he started overland in a prairie schooner for Illinois. After twenty-one days spent upon the road he arrived in Galesburg, where he remained two months and then came to Whiteside county, locating in Genesee township on the line between Whiteside and Carroll counties. Here he took up two hundred acres of wild land and from the unbroken prairie he developed a fine farm, which he placed under a high state of cultivation. His first home here was a rude log cabin of two rooms, which were utilized as sitting room, parlor, kitchen and bed room for two years, when a more commodious and better residence was erected. This was the home of Mr. Scoville and his wife until they left the farm and moved to a place near Coleta, where he had purchased two hundred acres. He finally retired from farming in 1881, and took up his residence in Sterling, where he died January 29, 1884, honored and respected by all who knew him. His widow now makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. Olmsted, in Milledgeville, Illinois.

To them were born ten children, as follows: Ira, a resident of Grundy county, Iowa, married Mary J. Bushnell and has six children; Mittie, a resident of Sterling, is the widow of Edward Millard and has four children; Amelia married Benton Harris, who died leaving four children, and she is now the wife of Peter Dull, of Milledgeville; Mary is the wife of John P. Bull, of Genesee township, and they have four children; Sarah is the wife of H. T. Healy, of Carroll county, and they have twelve children; Paulina is the wife of Elhanan C. Winters, of Rock Falls, whose sketch is given elsewhere in this work. James died at the age of four years; Etta is the wife of

Charles Olmsted, of Milledgeville, and they have two children; Emma married William Calkins, of Milledgeville, and died at the age of thirty-one years, leaving two children; and Ella is the wife of Colonel Bushman, of Genesee township, and they have nine children.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Scoville was a strong Republican, and he served as school trustee in his district for many years. He was a prominent and influential member of the Methodist Episcopal church, took an active part in all church work, and served as steward and class leader the greater part of the time. He was very charitable and benevolent, always willing to lend a helping hand to the poor and needy, and gave to the support of any religious body.

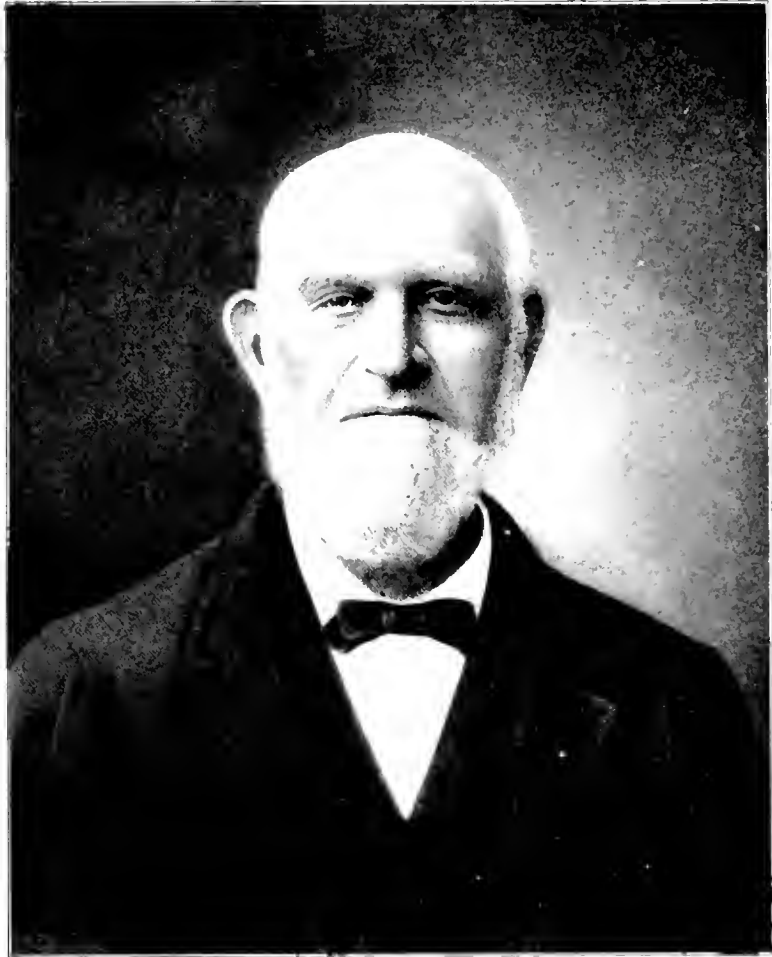
CAPTAIN STEPHEN B. HANKS. Probably one of the best known citizens of Whiteside county is Captain Stephen B. Hanks, now living retired in Albany. For half a century or more, his connection with the river interests have made him a familiar figure, not only in this county, but as far south as St. Louis and thence north to the head waters of navigation on the "father waters."

In tracing the Captain's history it is found that he is a native of Kentucky, his birth having occurred near Hopkinsville, October 9, 1826. He is a son of Thomas and Catherine (Beck) Hanks, the former of English descent, and own brother to Nancy Hanks, the mother of President Lincoln. Mr. Hanks was the owner of a large plantation and numerous slaves in the Blue Grass state, and was highly respected by every one. He died when the subject of the sketch was only ten years of age and of his children four now

survive, namely: Ann, wife of Aaron Colbert, of Montana; Captain David C., of Albany, and Samuel S., of Princeton, Iowa.

After his father's death, Captain Stephen B. Hanks accompanied his mother and the rest of the family to Illinois, settling in White county. Later, he came to Whiteside county with his sister Ann and the family of a cousin, Alfred Slocum, with whom he continued to reside until he was eighteen years of age. At that time his life on the river commenced, and for two years he worked as a laborer, then taking charge of a raft during the summer season, while in the winter he was employed in the pineries. This raft, owned by the Old St. Croix Lumber Company, was frozen in the river at Albany late in the fall of 1844, and the Captain was obliged to retire into winter quarters. The firm by which he was employed went into bankruptcy that winter, and he then became connected with the Stillwater Lumber Company, and operated seventy-five miles from Stillwater, where he cut logs.

Having become familiar with the river, Captain Hanks took a position as steamboat pilot in 1856, with the Minnesota Packet Company, remaining with them until they sold out in 1863. A portion of this time he was in command of the vessel, and in 1868 became captain and pilot on the Diamond Joe line, running between Fulton and St. Paul. In 1874 he took a similar position on the good steamship, Brother Jonathan. Subsequently for two years he was in charge of the Hartford, owned by C. Lamb & Sons, of Clinton, Iowa, and also afterward piloted the Lafayette Lamb and the Artemus Lamb for ten years. This completed a service as pilot and captain of more than fifty years duration.



S. B. HANKS.



Of fine physique and splendid constitution, the Captain bears the weight of his more than three score and ten years with ease, largely owing, perhaps, to his active outdoor life. He is extremely popular at all points along the river, and his friends cannot be numbered. At one time he owned an interest in a store at Stillwater, and also in one located at Albany. Besides this, he has been interested in real estate ventures in Whiteside county, and as early as 1842 entered a tract of land here. He has bought and sold considerable property, and at the present time owns six distinct pieces of real estate. He has erected two residences in Albany, and has been associated with the upbuilding and improvement of the town. In politics, he is a staunch Republican, though he has never been an aspirant to public office. Fraternally, he is a member of Albany lodge, No. 566, F. & A. M.

On the 16th of December, 1856, the Captain married Emily D. Bennett, daughter of Lyman and Susan Bennett. The young couple commenced keeping house on a farm which they owned in Albany township. This place was disposed of in 1863, and for about five years they resided in Dubuque, since which time the family home has been in Albany. Mrs. Hanks, who was born May 8, 1834, at Buffalo, New York, died June 15, 1882. Her elder son, Franklin B., born September 28, 1857, died January 30, 1858. Martin W., the younger, born October 3, 1859, is the present secretary and treasurer of McClure's Logging Co. He was a graduate of the Dubuque Commercial College, and at one time attended Bryant & Stratton's Business College in Chicago. For a wife he chose Ida Underwood, and their two children are named respectively, Grace and Stephen Underwood.

Jessie J., the only daughter of our subject, and a resident of Albany, was born August 29, 1893, and became the wife of C. C. Ewing, November 24, 1885. She had two children, Florence and Frank. The Captain and his family have always attended the Methodist Episcopal church, and in many ways have been material factors in the advancement of religious and benevolent enterprises.

**L**OUIS DAUEN. The United States can boast of no better, more patriotic citizens than her German-Americans. Once having sworn allegiance to the stars and stripes, they earnestly uphold the laws and institutions of their adopted land, and are noted for the same industrious, worthy characteristics here as govern them in the Fatherland.

Louis Dauen, whose comfortable home is situated on section 17, Hopkins township, Whiteside county, is a native of Oldenberg, Germany, January 24, 1849. His paternal grandparents, Edward R. and Johanna (Elders) Dauen, also were born in that province, and his parents, Henry F. and Eva (Johnson) Dauen, were residents of Oldenberg until after their marriage, which event occurred in 1846. The father was born June 20, 1818, and the mother in 1820. She was a daughter of Dirke and Marnie Johnson, of Oldenberg, and had a brother and sister, namely: Herman and Viola. Herman, who was a cabinet-maker by trade, passed his entire life in Oldenberg. Viola became the wife of Ulfer Ulfers, who held a position as treasurer in the province of Oldenberg, under the government. Henry F. Dauen and family emigrated to the United States in 1869, and, settling upon a

farm in Hopkins township, Whiteside county, he owned and operated the same until his death, which event occurred January 17, 1893. His wife departed this life December 25, 1886, and from that time forward he made his home with his children. He enjoyed the respect of all who knew him, for he was industrious and thrifty, and made a competence for his loved ones, even when laboring under the disadvantages of being a stranger in a strange land. His elder son, Edward, was born September 24, 1847, married Fredericka Cassens, in 1882, and now carries on a farm in Jordan township. Hannah, the only daughter, born December 11, 1855, in Oldenberg, became the wife of Henry Fullis, and has three children, two sons and a daughter. The home of the family is in Genesee township.

Louis Dauen passed seventeen years of his life in his native land, and, after coming to this country, he continued to make his home with his parents until his marriage. Since that time he has cultivated his present homestead. As he could do so, he added fine improvements, and now his country home is considered one of the best and most desirable in the township. It comprises two hundred acres, suitable for the raising of a large variety of crops.

The marriage of Mr. Dauen and Johanna Staassen took place March 11, 1874. She is a daughter of John F. and Marnie (Anke) Staassen, and has two brothers and a sister. Frederick, who died in Texas, left a widow, now the wife of L. D. Hubbard, of Idaho. George married Minnie Andelman, and Margaret, the only sister of Mrs. Dauen, married J. H. Bly, since deceased, and makes her home in this township. Eight children have been born to our subject and wife: Henry F., born March 30, 1875; Anna C., July 26,

1876; Clara W., February 7, 1877; Lizzie F., February 7, 1880; Maggie J., September 6, 1883; Emma, November 11, 1886; Mary, September 12, 1888; and Leander L., October 1, 1894. The children all reside at home, the eldest son being of much assistance to his father in the care of the farm.

Louis Dauen received a liberal education in his native land, and after coming to this country, attended the district school in Hopkins township, in order to familiarize himself with the English language. His interest in education has never flagged, and for fifteen years he served as a school director. As a road commissioner he was active and zealous during the three years of his office. Politically, he is affiliated with the Republican party. In religion, he and all of his family are adherents of the German Lutheran church. They are greatly esteemed by the entire community, for in all respects they are sterling citizens and worthy of honor.

**J**OHAN THOMAS KIRKLAND, the well-known and popular agent for the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad at Erie, Illinois, was born in England March 22, 1860, and is a son of Thomas and Margaret (Gilbert) Kirkland. The father was a native of Nottinghamshire, England, and in 1866 emigrated to this country and took up his residence in Greene county, Illinois, where he worked at the carpenter's trade as a contractor and builder. In his family were seven children, five of whom are still living, namely: John Thomas, our subject; William, a farmer of Maconpin county, Illinois; Margaret, wife of G. C. Robinson, of Hettick, Illinois; Luella, wife of Alonzo

Hard, a farmer of Kemper, Illinois; Frank E., a telegraph operator of Kemper.

John T. Kirkland, of this review, remained at home with his parents until about twenty-five years of age, and then learned telegraphy and accepted a position as operator with the railroad company. In 1888 he came to Erie as agent for the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, and has since filled that position with credit to himself and to the entire satisfaction of the company and general public. He is a courteous, obliging gentleman, and has made a host of warm friends during his residence in Erie. Fraternally, he is a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America.

In 1884 was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Kirkland and Miss Alice Coultas, a daughter of John and Dean Coultas, and to them have been born three children, namely: Alma, Clarence and Hazel.

**J**OHAN F. LE FEVRE, who is one of the enterprising and progressive farmers of Whiteside county, has through his well-directed efforts won a handsome competence and is to-day accounted one of the leading, substantial agriculturists of the community. He was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, January 1, 1828, and is a son of John W. and Mary (Espensheade) Le Fevre. The father was also a native of Lancaster county, born January 5, 1797, and was a farmer by occupation. His wife was born in September, 1796, and they became the parents of six children, one of whom died in early life. The others were Eliza, widow of Joseph Miller. She was born in 1810, and is living in Sterling at the advanced age of eighty years. She has two sons,

Joseph and Amos. The second child of John W. Le Fevre was Amos, who is now deceased. Elias, a resident of Sterling, died in 1807, leaving two children, Belle and Hattie. John F. is the next of the family. Mary A. died leaving two children, Edward and Anna. With his family the father left the Keystone state, and on the 15th of May, 1847, arrived in Whiteside county, where he purchased one hundred and forty-five acres of land, upon a part of which the town of Sterling now stands. His wife died in 1859, and he passed his last days in Sterling, where his death occurred in 1872.

John F. Le Fevre acquired his education in the common schools, pursuing his studies for about three months during each year. At the age of eighteen, he came with his parents to Whiteside county and assisted his father in the cultivation of the home farm for several years. In 1885 he married Anna Good, who was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, and for a year they resided on the old homestead with the father, who at the end of that time took up his abode in the town. In 1867 Mr. Le Fevre purchased the old homestead and for a number of years engaged in the cultivation of the fields, meeting with good success in his undertakings. After eleven years spent upon the farm he removed to Sterling, where, on the 5th of August, 1886, his wife died. In 1888 he was again married, his second union being with Margaret V. Lytle, who was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, and with whom he lived happily for five years. She was then called to the home beyond in 1893, after which his daughter, Katie, the only child of his first marriage, became his housekeeper. She was the wife of Frank

Eisele, by whom she had two children, one of whom died at the age of three years. Her surviving son is John Eisele. After the death of her father's second wife she and her family removed to the old homestead in order to keep house for him, but her health failed her, and she, too, passed away in 1894. Since that time, Mr. Le Fevre has lived alone on the old home farm.

In 1868 he sold forty acres of the place for three hundred dollars per acre, and the town of Sterling was built upon it. For some years he speculated in land, and his judicious investments in realty were attended with gratifying success. In his earlier years he engaged in the operation of ninety acres of land and since returning to the farm has cultivated the eighteen acres which he still owns. Honorably in all his business dealings, industrious and energetic, he has met with prosperity which is well deserved. Mr. Le Fevre is a member of the Lutheran church, and in politics he has been a staunch supporter of the Republican party since its organization in 1854. At the time of his arrival in Whiteside county there were only thirty-six votes cast in the township, a fact which indicates the unsettled condition of the country at that period. For thirty-five years he has been a member of the Odd Fellows Society. He has witnessed remarkable changes in Whiteside county, and has not only seen its wonderful development, but has been an active factor in promoting its progress along material and moral lines.

**JAMES LEAHY.** A brilliant example of a self-made American citizen and a grand exemplification of the progress that

an ambitious foreigner can make in this country of unbounded opportunities, is shown in the case of James Leahy, whose home is on section 28, Hahnaman township, Whiteside county, Illinois. His singular success is due to his own energy and the high ideal which his lofty and laudable ambition placed before him. Success in any walk of life is an indication of earnest endeavor and persevering effort,—characteristics which he possesses in an eminent degree.

Mr. Leahy is a native of Ireland, and when a young man of twenty-two years crossed the broad Atlantic, landing in New York May 20, 1857. After working in a lumberyard of the city for over a year, he came to Whiteside county, Illinois, in 1859, and here was employed as a farm hand by the month for three or four years. He manifested his love for his adopted country by enlisting in August, 1862, in Company C, Seventy-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, which was assigned to the Army of the Cumberland, and from private he was promoted to the rank of corporal and later sergeant. He participated in numerous battles and skirmishes, including those at Perrysville, Kentucky, Stone River, and Nashville, and in the Atlanta campaign he was almost constantly under fire for nearly six months. Later he took part in the battles of Franklin and Nashville. He was twice wounded, receiving a slight gunshot wound during the battle of Perryville, and still carries those honorable scars received while defending the old flag and the cause it represented. At the close of the war he was honorably discharged and mustered out at Harker, Tennessee, June 12, 1865.

Mr. Leahy returned to Prophetstown, Whiteside county, and the following year



bought one hundred and twenty acres of land where he now resides. This he has since converted into a fertile and productive farm, supplied with all the conveniences and accessories found upon a model farm of the nineteenth century. He has added to his home farm until now within its boundaries are two hundred and fifty acres, and he also has two other farms, one of two hundred and eighty acres, the other of one hundred and twenty, making in all six hundred and fifty acres of valuable and highly cultivated land. It is needless to say that he thoroughly understands the occupation he has chosen as a life work as his wonderful success testifies to that fact, and he is a business man of far more than ordinary ability.

On the 12th of June, 1860, in Sterling, Mr. Leahy was united in marriage with Miss Julia Shanahan, also a native of Ireland, who came to the new world when a young lady and died in 1884, leaving nine children, two sons and seven daughters, all still living. For his second wife, Mr. Leahy married Miss Johanna Courtney, a native of Whiteside county, by whom he has six children.

Politically Mr. Leahy is an uncompromising Republican, and has served as a committeeman of his township and as a delegate to county conventions of his party. He has ever taken quite an active and prominent part in local politics and has most creditably filled the office of township trustee, school director and commissioner of highways for eighteen years. For forty years he has been identified with the interests of this county, and is among the most valued and useful citizens of his community, giving his support to every enterprise which he believes will prove of public benefit.

O. A. WILSON, a leading and representative farmer of Newton township, whose home is on section 11, was born in that township, December 31, 1859, a son of G. W. and Phoebe (Layman) Wilson. The father is a native of New York and a farmer by occupation. About 1855 he came to Illinois, and took up his residence in Newton township, Whiteside county, where he at first operated rented land, but about 1860 he purchased one hundred and sixty acres on section 11. As the years have passed and he has prospered in his labors, he has added to his landed possessions until he now owns about five hundred acres of very valuable and productive land. He continued to actively engage in farming until 1868, when he removed to Clinton, Iowa, and has since lived retired, enjoying a well-earned rest.

During his boyhood and youth O. A. Wilson attended the district schools and aided his father in the labors of the farm, remaining at home until his marriage. On the 22d of June, 1879, he wedded Miss Anna Hanson, who was born October 20, 1857, a daughter of Charles and Mary Hanson, and by this union five children have been born whose names and dates of birth are as follows: Seth A., June 2, 1880; Arthur D., October 8, 1881; Clara V., August 2, 1883; Charles Albert, December 27, 1892; and Lucile A., February 22, 1897.

Throughout his active business life, Mr. Wilson has followed farming and stock raising with marked success, and now owns a good farm of eighty acres on section 11, Newton township. He also rents other tracts and now operates about three hundred acres, from which he obtains a good income. In his political affiliations Mr. Wilson is a Republican, but aside from voting takes on active part in political affairs.

ALBERT L. THOMPSON, a prominent and representative farmer residing on section 15, Fenton township, where he owns and operates a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres, was born in that township July 13, 1857, and is a son of R. M. Thompson, an honored citizen of Morrison, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. Our subject grew to manhood on the home farm, acquiring a good practical knowledge of agricultural pursuits, and on reaching the age of twenty-one he started out in life for himself as a farmer. He purchased three hundred and eighty acres of land from his father and at once turned his attention to its improvement and cultivation. For a number of years he has made a specialty of dairy farming, and for that purpose generally keeps from thirty to forty milch cows. He secured one of the first hand cream separators in Whiteside county, and in this branch of his business he has met with most excellent success. He also deals in stock quite extensively, buying and shipping to the city markets, and as a breeder he is interested in Poland-China hogs, Durham and short-horn cattle.

On the 11th of December, 1878, Mr. Thompson married Miss Myra Plummer, a daughter of William and Rachel Plummer, in whose family were four children, namely: Jane, wife of William Davis, of Erie; Theodore, a resident of Grundy county, Iowa; Myra, wife of our subject; and Josiah, also a resident of Grundy county, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson have three children: Emmet, born August 1, 1880, assists his father in the labors of the farm; Bertha, born June 28, 1882, and Emery, born May 11, 1884, are attending the Port Byron Academy.

Mr. Thompson was reared a Republican,

but he is now independent in politics and supports by his ballot the men whom he believes best qualified to fill the offices, regardless of party lines. He has held the offices of school trustee and director for a number of terms, and as an enterprising and public-spirited citizen he is always willing to give his support to any object which he believes will advance the intellectual, moral or material welfare of his township or county. He is a charter member of Ewing camp, No. 175, M. W. A., both he and his wife are charter members of Fenton lodge, No. 45, Mystic Workers of the World, in both of which orders he has served in an official capacity. He and his wife are members of the Christian church of Erie, and they are highly and favorably known.

WILLIAM P. TABER, of Spring Hill, residing on section 26, Portland township, is a fine representative of the practical and progressive farmers and stock dealers of Whiteside county, and holds a high position among its most respected citizens. He was born September 17, 1822, in Erie county, New York, a son of Captain William Taber, and comes of good old Scotch-Irish ancestry, on the paternal side. His grandfather, John Taber, was an early settler of Virginia, but afterwards removed to Washington county, New York, where he reared his family.

Captain William Taber spent his earlier years in Washington county, where he married Isabella Pratt, who was born in Massachusetts, a daughter of Thomas Pratt, and the great-granddaughter of one of the early settlers of the old Bay state, who left England during the time of Oliver Cromwell's dictatorship on account of political troubles.

Captain Taber was a soldier in the war of 1812, and afterwards served for five years in the regular army, being on the staff of both General Wolf and General Scott, in both capacities ranking as captain. On leaving the army he settled on a farm in Erie county, New York, from whence, in the winter of 1829 and 1830, he came to Knox county, Illinois. The present city of Knoxville had then but two houses; the rude log cabin, 16 x 18 feet, which he at once erected, was the third. A few years later he removed with his family to Henry county, becoming one of the original settlers of that county, and in course of time one of its most active citizens. He served in various official capacities, including that of justice of the peace. In 1849, accompanied by four friends, he started overland for California, but unfortunately died at Salt Lake City, while two others of the little band died before reaching their destination.

William P. Taber, a lad of seven years when he came with his parents to Knox county, Illinois, lived there until 1837, when he went with them to Henry county. The pioneer schools of his times affording but meager educational advantages, he was obliged to depend upon his own resources for obtaining knowledge, so that he may be truly styled a self-educated, as well as a self-made man. On reaching man's estate he began farming in Henry county, where he remained until 1850. In that year he made an overland trip to California, and for two or more years was there engaged in mining and trading, the latter occupation proving the more remunerative of the two. Returning in 1853 to Illinois, Mr. Taber purchased from his father-in-law, Smith Hurd, the old "Hurd Farm" of two hundred and forty acres, on which he has since

resided. He has continued the improvements already inaugurated, and made many radical changes for the better, including the erection of two commodious barns, the first in 1859, and a large, well arranged dwelling house. He has also added by purchase to the original acreage of the place so that his homestead now comprises four hundred acres of valuable land, the greater part of which is used for tillage or grazing. In addition to general farming he has been interested in stock raising and feeding since 1854, much of the time carrying on an extensive business, and at the present time is feeding and shipping three car loads of cattle and five car loads of hogs annually.

Mr. Taber married Esther C. Hurd, September 14, 1844, in Sharon, Illinois, daughter of the late Smith Hurd, who was born and brought up in New England. She was born in Vermont, and there lived until 1842, when, a girl of fourteen years, she came with her parents to Whiteside county, Illinois. Two years later she became a bride, and though very young proved herself a most efficient helpmeet and housewife. Mr. and Mrs. Taber have reared four children, as follows: Rothilda, widow of the late R. B. Kelley; Ocellia, wife of Barney McGrady; Heman, a farmer and stock dealer; and Jane E. The latter, who married John Hill, died in 1880, May 28, leaving one son and a daughter, William Hill and Grace F. Hill.

In politics Mr. Taber was formerly a Whig, and as one of the ardent supporters of William Henry Harrison in 1840 shouted with his comrades "Tippecanoe, and Tyler, too," as loudly as anyone. On the formation of the Republican party he became one of its staunch adherents, and cast his vote for J. C. Fremont. Although interested in

local politics he has never aspired to office, preferring to devote his time and attention to business affairs. Fraternally he is a Mason and an Odd Fellow.

For three score and ten years Mr. Taber has been a resident of Illinois, and for forty-six years has owned and occupied his present homestead. He is a pioneer in the fullest sense of the term, and in the rapid development of town and county he has taken an active part. When he came to this section of the country Indians roamed about, and deer, wolves and other wild animals were plentiful. Swamps then nearly impassable have been drained, and waving fields of grain give not a hint of their former presence. The many railroads of the state have brought the markets of the east, west, north and south within easy reach. In watching these developments and improvements he has taken great pleasure, and often lent substantial aid.

**JAMES S. McCAULEY**, deceased, was for many years prominently identified with the agricultural interests of this county. He was born in West Virginia, November 11, 1821, and was a son of Cornelius and Mary (Butler) McCauley, the former a native of Scotland, the latter of English parentage. When a young man the father came to America and first located in West Virginia, but during the infancy of our subject moved to Ross county, Ohio, and later to Pickaway county, that state. In his family were eleven children.

Our subject was educated in the common schools of Ohio. He lost his father at the age of sixteen years, and after that he worked as a farm hand for seven years. In 1850 he rented a farm in Fayette coun-

ty, Ohio, where he lived for three years, and in 1853 came to Whiteside county, Illinois. Prior to his marriage he spent about three years traveling over the south and west, and visited New Orleans. On locating in this county he purchased eighty acres of land on section 8, Hopkins township, to which he subsequently added until he had four hundred acres, in two farms, and eight acres of timber land, which is very valuable and productive land, and which he placed under a high state of cultivation. He and his young wife began life here in a car roof shanty in true pioneer style. During his active business life he was successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising, giving considerable attention to the breeding of thoroughbred short horn cattle.

On the 7th of January, 1847, Mr. McCauley was united in marriage with Miss Hester A. Hanawalt, a native of Ross county, Ohio, and a daughter of Henry and Mary (Caughbey) Hanawalt, who were born, reared and married in Pennsylvania, but a few years after their marriage removed to Ross county, Ohio, where they spent their remaining days. By occupation the father was a farmer. He was drowned when Mrs. McCauley was but nine years of age. In his family were six children, Christopher, Samuel, Jane, George, John and Hester A., all of whom are now deceased with the exception of Mrs. McCauley. Her paternal grandfather, Christian Hanawalt, was a native of Germany and an early settler of Pennsylvania.

To our subject and his wife were born eight children, but only two are now living. Mary C. makes her home with her mother in Sterling. Clara is the wife of C. F. Royer, of Hopkins township, and they have six children: Bertha; Etta; Charles F.; Arthur R.; Ida

R.; and James C., who died at the age of nine years.

It was the intention of Mr. McCauley to retire from active life in the fall of 1898 and remove to Sterling, where he purchased a residence on West Fourth street, but death claimed him April 20, 1898, and he was laid to rest in Riverside cemetery. He was a supporter of the Republican party, and served as a road commissioner and in other local offices. He deserves classification among those purely self made men of the county who have distinguished themselves for their ability to master the opposing forces of life and wrest from fate a large measure of success and an honorable name. At the time of his marriage he had but forty dollars and through his own well-directed and energetic efforts he acquired a handsome competence and was able to leave his family in comfortable circumstances. His wife and daughter are members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Sterling, and during their short residence in the city have made many friends.

**T**HEODORE FRANK is one of Whiteside county's native sons and prosperous farmers, who owns and successfully operates a fine farm of two hundred and seventy acres on section 21, Montmorency township. He was born in Sterling township, February 23, 1858. His father, James Frank, a native of Pennsylvania, came to this county when it was but sparsely settled and took up land, which he immediately began to improve. He added to his possessions and at one time was one of the largest landholders in the eastern part of the county. Before attaining his majority his father taught him the weaver's trade, but as the

occupation was distasteful to him, he turned his attention to farming on reaching the age of twenty-one years, and in that undertaking has met with most excellent success. In 1890 he retired to private life in Rock Falls, but still owns seven hundred and twenty acres of land in Lee and Whiteside counties, all under a high state of cultivation. From time to time he has added to his wealth by purchasing real estate in Rock Falls, some of which has valuable improvements thereon.

In 1850, James Frank married Miss Fanny Lingerfield, also a native of Pennsylvania, and to them were born three children: Theodore, our subject; Jacob, who is engaged in the implement business in Rock Falls as a member of the firm of Frank Brothers; and Mary, who died in infancy. The wife and mother departed this life at the early age of twenty-four years. On the 8th of November, 1866, the father married Miss Anna M. Shuler, a native of Germany, and to them were born four children: Anna, at home; James, who is interested in the implement business with his brother; Samuel, also in the implement business in Rock Falls; and Elizabeth, wife of C. Sheiler, a resident of Rock Falls, and junior member of the firm of Janssen & Sheiler, of Sterling. The parents are now living in Rock Falls. The father is a very popular and influential man in local political circles, is an ardent supporter of the Democratic party, and has filled all the township offices with exception of supervisor. He is a consistent member of the Lutheran church and is widely and favorably known throughout the county.

Theodore Frank, of this review, received a good common-school education, attending the Sterling high school, now the second

ward school. He continued to work for his father until he was married, in February, 1881, to Miss Lora Armstrong, a native of Brookville, Indiana, who died November 4, 1892, leaving five children, namely: Pearl, Fanny, May, Gertrude and Ray H. Shortly after his marriage, in 1883, Mr. Frank purchased the property on which he now lives, and to its cultivation and improvement he has since devoted his energies with marked success. He built a new barn, and later a modern and pleasant residence, which is now the home of the family. In connection with general farming he has successfully engaged in stock feeding for several years, and in all his undertakings has prospered, becoming one of the substantial citizens of the community.

On the 21st of January, 1895, Mr. Frank was united in marriage with Mrs. Eliza A. Christie, who was born in Ohio, December 28, 1850, a daughter of Charles P. and Sarah (Merrick) Ripley, natives of New York and Virginia, respectively. They came to this county in 1852, and took up their residence in Jordan township, where the father became a large land owner and successfully operated three hundred and twenty acres of land. He was a graduate of the Owego University, of New York, and, being a well-educated man, he was called upon to fill several local offices, serving as assessor, collector and justice of the peace for a number of years each. He died in 1864, but his wife still survives him. Of their seven children three are also deceased, while those living are Eliza, wife of our subject; John E., a successful merchant of Dixon, Illinois, a member of the firm of Ripley & Long; Henry C., a resident of Owego, New York; and Charles P., a resident of Montmorency township, this county. Mrs. Frank was

first married, in 1873, to Orson Christie, a successful farmer of this county, who died in 1885, leaving four children, namely: Guy, a resident of Hume township; Frances, wife of Robert Pollock, by whom she has one son, Robert; Mabel E., a teacher; and Myrtle M., at home. By his second marriage our subject has one daughter, Theodosia E.

In his political affiliations Mr. Frank has always been a Democrat, and he has been called upon to serve his fellow citizens in the capacity of collector, commissioner of highways some years, and school director at the present time. His official duties have been most capably and satisfactorily discharged, and on account of his sterling worth and many excellencies of character he is held in high regard by all who know him. His wife holds membership in the Baptist church, and he gives his support to church work.

**C**HARLES E. ACKERMAN. Possessing the sturdy, industrious characteristics of a long line of German ancestors, C. E. Ackerman, a well known merchant of Coleta, Whiteside county, has won success and an influential position in society. He was born September 19, 1851, in Baltimore, Maryland, a son of Paul and Lizzie (Buck) Ackerman, who were natives of Germany and were married in that country. The father, who had been a coachman, brought his wife to America in the spring of 1851, and after spending a year or so in Maryland, he located on a farm in Somerset county, Pennsylvania, and remained there for four and a half years. In the spring of 1855 he removed to Lee county, Illinois, and there farmed rented land until the fall of 1860.

At that time, he had accumulated enough capital to buy a tract of eighty acres, the land being an unimproved piece of property in Genesee township, Whiteside county. He did not settle there before 1862, and to his original purchase he added until he owned two hundred and twenty acres, all in one body. Stockraising claimed a large share of his attention, as he found it very profitable. In the autumn of 1877, he retired from active cares, moved to Sterling, where he lived five years, and thenceforward made his home in Coleta, his death occurring here in 1890, while his widow died about two years subsequently. They had four children, of whom Christian is a carpenter in Milledgeville, Illinois; Randolph, a farmer of South Dakota, and Barbara is the wife of C. P. Garwick, who is a partner of our subject. Paul Ackerman had married in his early manhood, in Germany, and of their four children two survive, namely; Martha, wife of Victor Wayman, of Madison, Wisconsin; and Anna, wife of Ernest Bussemeyer, of Nebraska.

After completing his education in the common schools C. E. Ackerman worked for his father on the farm for several years, and for a few months ran a meat wagon. He then went to Eldora, Iowa, where he found employment with Dr. Myron Underwood for a year, and then returned to this county. He continued to manage the home farm to some extent, and in February, 1883, he went to Clark county, South Dakota, where he entered three hundred and twenty acres, and it was not until November, 1884, that he was at liberty to leave his new purchase.

On the 24th of January, 1885, Mr. Ackerman and Scott Crouch purchased the general store of Cobb, Howe & Crouch, at Co-

leta, and continued in business together until the fall of 1893. At that time Mr. Ackerman bought his partner's share, and in January, 1895, C. P. Garwick buying a half-interest in the business, the firm name became Ackerman & Garwick. They transact a large and profitable business, and have the respect of all with whom they have dealings.

The marriage of Mr. Ackerman and Dora Smaltz was solemnized December 27, 1877. She was born in Ohio, September 17, 1854, and by her marriage became the mother of three children. Elizabeth, who is a graduate of the Milledgeville high school, and is now a student at the Madison (Wisconsin) University (a member of the class of 1903), possesses marked musical talent. Anna died at the age of two years. Clara is now attending the young ladies' seminary at Mount Carroll (a branch of the Northwestern University). She is taking a literary course, and expects to devote special attention to music. Mrs. Ackerman departed this life March 12, 1896, and was placed to rest in the Morrison cemetery. Her parents, Jacob and Anna Smaltz, natives of Germany, were Ohio farmers for many years, later carried on a farm in Whiteside county, and passed their last years in Clinton county, Iowa. They were the parents of four sons and four daughters, Mrs. Ackerman being the third in order of birth.

As a citizen, Mr. Ackerman has performed his full share toward the betterment of his home town and state. He is a staunch Republican, and for six years was a member of the county committee. For a period of ten years, he served efficiently as school treasurer, and, fraternally, he is connected with Milledgeville lodge, No. 345, F. & A. M., and with the Sterling chapter and com-

mandery, besides being identified with Coleta camp, No. 76, M. W. of A.; Coleta garrison, No. 160, Knights of the Globe, in which he holds the office of chief justice. Religiously he is a member and trustee of the Methodist Episcopal church of this place.

**G**EORGE F. SHULER. No foreign element has become a more important part of our American citizenship than that furnished by Germany. The emigrants from that land have brought with them to the new world the stability, enterprise and perseverance characteristic of their people and have fused these qualities with the progressiveness and indomitable spirit of the west. Mr. Shuler is a representative of this class. He came to America a poor young man, hoping to benefit his financial condition, and his dreams of the future have been more than realized for he is today one of the most prosperous farmers of Sterling township, Whiteside county, Illinois, his home being on section 9.

He was born in Lekengericht, Baden, Germany, April 26, 1835, a son of John George and Christina (Brustol) Shuler, who spent their entire lives in that country. The father was quite a successful man who followed the occupation of farming during the summer and weaving during the winter months. George F., our subject, is the oldest of the four children born of his first marriage; John, deceased, was a successful farmer, whose widow is still living in Coloma township, this county; Maria is the wife of James Frank, a retired farmer of Rock Falls, and Mathias is a farmer of Union Grove township. The mother died in 1854, and the father married again. The only child born of the second union was

Johannus, farming the old homestead in Germany. The father died in Baden, Germany, at the age of seventy-seven years.

Our subject received a good education in the public schools of his native land, and later worked with his father at farming and weaving until coming to the United States, with the exception of two summers, when he was employed as a harvest hand. Before leaving the fatherland he visited other parts of Germany and France. On the 15th of October, 1853, he took passage on the Northumberland, a sailing vessel which left London, England, on the 27th of that month and arrived in New York December 1. On landing, Mr. Shuler proceeded at once to Hamilton, Butler county, Ohio, where he obtained work at corn-husking at thirty-five cents per day. He was with friends, none of whom could speak English, and they were afraid to ask more than that amount per day. He next obtained a position, where he cut wood and did all kinds of work for six dollars per month during the winter, and the following summer received nine dollars and a half per month until after harvest.

About the last of August, 1854, Mr. Shuler came to Sterling, Illinois, at which time he had but thirty-five dollars. He traveled by railroad to Mendota, Illinois, from there by stage to Dixon, and was taken down the south side of the river by John Erie. On his way he stopped at that place which he now owns to make inquiries for a man whom he had known in the old world and who had settled in Sterling township. That same year eight people died during the cholera epidemic upon his present farm. By this time Mr. Shuler had acquired some knowledge of the English language. He first worked at threshing for Peter Bressler



at one dollar per day for a short time, and then was with C. C. Alexander during the fall and winter, receiving one dollar per day for threshing, seventy-five cents per day for picking corn, and ten dollars per month for splitting rails and making fences. The following spring he entered the employ of George Delp, with whom he remained until after harvest, and then worked for Emanuel L. Landis during the fall and winter at eighteen dollars per month.

On the 14th of February, 1856, Mr. Shuler married Miss Elizabeth D. Rosenberry, a native of Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, and a daughter of Jacob Rosenberry, who spent his entire life in that state engaged in farming. By this union five children were born, namely: Anna E., wife of Ferris Landis, a farmer residing on section 15, Sterling township, by whom she has seven children; John T., who died at the age of two years and nine months; Emma R., wife of Christ Miller, of section 9, Sterling township, by whom she has two children; Mary R., who is now her father's housekeeper; and a daughter, who died in infancy.

Mr. and Mrs. Shuler began married life on a farm of forty acres on section 9, Sterling township, only one-half of which was under cultivation, while the only improvements upon the place was an old log cabin, sixteen by eighteen feet, and a straw stable. They remained there until 1859, when he bought another forty-acre farm from L. S. Pennington, making eighty acres in one body. He paid down two hundred and thirty dollars for the second tract, but owing to the hard times and failure of the bank in which he had enough money to finish paying for the land, he lost that forty acres. However, a year later he was able to repur-

chase it. In 1863 he sold from his forty acres nine hundred dollars worth of corn, getting one dollar and two cents per bushel for a part of it, and later one dollar and twenty-five cents per bushel. In 1864 he purchased forty acres more of Hiram Platt, making in all one hundred and twenty acres that he then owned. He resided upon his first purchase until 1870, when he bought eighty acres additional and removed to that tract, just across the road from his old home. Here he occupied a frame house, which at the time he came to the county was the best in the locality. He now uses it for a coal and wood house. In July, 1874, Mr. Shuler bought one hundred and forty-five acres from John B. Crawford, and in 1879 one hundred and twenty-two acres, but later he sold twenty acres of his land, which left him four hundred and fifty-seven acres. In 1881 he purchased eighty acres more, in 1889 bought eighty acres from Emanuel Landis; later four acres from David Wolfe, and one hundred and twenty acres from Abraham N. Landis, making seven hundred and thirty acres in all, which he has owned since 1893. This is divided into five farms, on one of which he lives, while he rents the other four. His land is all under a high state of cultivation and well improved. He has given considerable attention to stock raising and feeding for the market, his specialty being first Poland China and now Chester white hogs. For the past eleven years he has not actively engaged in farming, and is now practically living retired, enjoying a well-earned rest. In 1886 he became a stockholder of the First National Bank of Sterling, and in January, 1887, was elected a director of the same, in which capacity he is still serving. That his fellow-citizens place the utmost confidence in him

and fully appreciate his excellent business ability, has been manifested in the past ten years by his being called upon to administer a number of estates, having on hand at one time seven and at the present time four.

Although not a member Mr. Shuler attends the Presbyterian church and gives to its support. In politics he has been a staunch Republican since casting his first vote for Abraham Lincoln, and he was a member of the board of supervisors one term. He also served as a member of the school board twenty-six years, and in 1870 was elected road commissioner, which office he filled for twenty-three consecutive years. His career seems almost phenomenal, yet his success has been by no means the result of fortunate circumstances. It has come to him through energy, labor and perseverance, directed by an evenly balanced mind and by honorable business principles.

**J**OHAN FOLCKERS ONKEN. No better illustration of the characteristic energy and enterprise of the typical German-American citizen can be found than that afforded by the career of this successful farmer, now residing on section 21, Hopkins township, Whiteside county, Illinois. Coming to this country with no capital except his abilities he has made his way to success through wisely directed effort and he can now look back with satisfaction upon past struggles.

Mr. Onken was born in Oldenburg, Germany, June 23, 1838, and is a son of Ulferhts and Inse (Johnson) Onken, who were married in 1851. The father was born December 31, 1805, and spent his entire life in Germany, where his death occurred in 1864. He rented land and followed farm-

ing until the last few years of his life. His wife also died in Germany, in November, 1844. For several generations her ancestors lived in the same province of Germany and followed agricultural pursuits. Our subject is the third in order of birth in a family of seven children, of whom three died in infancy. The others were as follows: Onke, born in 1833, died unmarried at the age of twenty-seven years. Graf, born in April, 1836, was married in April, 1863, to Mary Fremine, by whom he has three sons, and they live in Hanover, Germany. Katherine, born October 25, 1840, came to America in company with our subject's wife, in 1870, and in March, 1871, married Joseph Schiffmacher, now a cooper of Sterling, Illinois.

In 1867 John F. Onken crossed the broad Atlantic to the United States, and on landing came at once to Hopkins township, Whiteside county, Illinois, where he worked by the month for others for four years. In 1870 he was united in marriage with Miss Hannah Ricklefs, also a native of Oldenburg, Germany, born February 8, 1849. She is one of a family of six children: Marie, born November 23, 1835, and married John Haien, who died in Germany two years later, leaving one child. For her second husband she married Folker Bolongius, and in 1867 they came to the United States. They are now residents of Nelson, Lee county, Illinois, and have no children. Elizabeth K., born in 1837, married Eilert Renken, who died in Germany, in 1870, leaving three children. Ghina O., born December 20, 1839, married August Mentsen and died at the birth of their only child, who died in infancy. Henry R., born February 4, 1845, married Johannah Jacobs, has eight children and resides in Hopkins

township, Whiteside county. He served with distinction as a soldier in the German army for three years, during which time he participated in the Franco-Prussian war of 1870. F. Elizabeth, born September 7, 1851, is the wife of John S. Johnson, of Nelson, Lee county, Illinois, and they have seven children.

Mr. and Mrs. Onken have become the parents of ten children, namely: (1) Richard, born March 26, 1872, now resides in Hopkins township. He married Emma Johnson and has three children, one son and two daughters. (2) George, born June 27, 1873, married Katie Harms, in February, 1896, and they have one child. Their home is also in Hopkins township. (3) Mary E., born August 28, 1875, was married, March 21, 1895, to Walter Ward, a railroad man living in Round Grove, Illinois. (4) Susannah K., born August 14, 1877, was married October 25, 1895, to Robert Ward, a railroad man of Belvidere, Illinois, and they have one child. (5) Emma Louisa, born August 28, 1878, (6) Garrett William, born November 15, 1880, (7) Anna Sophia, born January 24, 1883, (8) Julia Phoebe, born September 23, 1885, (9) Alfred John, born November 11, 1887, and (10) Eddie Johnson, born January 28, 1889, are all at home with their parents.

After his marriage, Mr. Onken purchased his present fine farm of one hundred and sixty-four acres in Hopkins township, to the improvement and cultivation of which he has since devoted his energies with most gratifying results. The land is now under a high state of cultivation and good and substantial buildings have been erected thereon. Mr. Onken is a thorough and skillful farmer, a man of good business ability, and is highly respected by all who

know him. In politics he is a Republican, and in religious faith a German Lutheran. For the success that he has achieved in life he deserves great credit for it is due entirely to his own industry, perseverance and good management, and he has secured for himself and family a good home and comfortable competence.

JACOB M. VAN DEMARK is one of the well-to-do and prosperous citizens of Rock Falls who is able to lay aside business cares and spend his declining years in ease and quiet. He is the architect of his own fortune, having started in life with but little capital beyond his own industry and laudable ambition to rise in the world.

Mr. Van Demark was born in Ulster county, New York, December 18, 1831, and belongs to a family of Holland origin that was early founded in that county. His paternal grandfather, Sylvester Van Demark, was a native of New York and a soldier of the war of 1812. The father, Jacob S. Van Demark, was born and reared in Ulster county, and there married Miss Maria Parker, a native of Connecticut, where her ancestors settled at an early day in the history of this country. After their marriage they continued to reside in Ulster county for many years, while the father was engaged in business as a farmer and mechanic. He finally came west and spent his last years in Sterling, Illinois, where he died in 1871.

In the county of his nativity, the subject of this sketch grew to manhood, receiving a good common-school education and learning the carpenter's and joiner's trade, at which he worked in the east for

about eight years. On the 19th of February, 1856, he was united in marriage with Miss Mary A. Lane, who was born, reared and educated in the same neighborhood as her husband and successfully engaged in teaching school prior to her marriage. Her parents, Cornelius and Catherine (Elmendorf) Lane, were also natives of Ulster county, New York. Her father opened up a farm in Henry county, Illinois, but later came to Hume township, Whiteside county, where he continued to make his home throughout the remainder of his life. He was born September 17, 1800, and died April 7, 1895, and was remarkably well preserved for one of his years. His wife passed away in 1899. They were faithful members of the Baptist church, and highly respected by all who knew them. Mr. and Mrs. Van Demark have two children. Fred F., the older, is now operating the old home farm. He married Minerva Arnold and has two children, Vernon and Mary. Irma is the wife of Charles J. Lee, a farmer of Hume township, and they have four children, Wayne, Leland, Mildred and Irma.

In 1858, Mr. Van Demark accompanied his father-in-law on his removal to Henry county, Illinois, and located on the northern line of that county, where he worked at the carpenter's and joiner's trade for about two years, but in 1860 he bought a forty-acre tract of wild land in Tampico township, Whiteside county, and took up his residence thereon. For six years he engaged in the cultivation of that farm, and then sold and bought a partially improved place of eighty acres north of Tampico, to which he subsequently added from time to time until he had about three hundred acres of very valuable and productive land. He set out

a good hedge fence, placed the land under a high state of cultivation, and erected thereon a large and pleasant residence and substantial barns and outbuildings. In connection with general farming he carried on stock raising with marked success until 1894, when he rented his farm and moved to Rock Falls, where he purchased residence property and converted it into a comfortable home.

Politically, Mr. Van Demark was originally a Whig and cast his first presidential vote for Taylor in 1856, but at the next election he voted for Abraham Lincoln, and has since been a staunch Republican. While a resident of Tampico township he served as township clerk, highway commissioner, and a member of the school board for several years. While not a member of any religious organization, he attends and gives to the support of the Methodist Episcopal church. He bears a high character for sterling integrity, and wherever known he is held in high regard.

SAMUEL C. HARVEY, deceased, was a worthy representative of one of the old and prominent families of Whiteside county, and for many years was one of the leading business men of Sterling. He was born in New York state, February 10, 1836, but when only two years old was brought to this county by his parents, Joel and Rachel (Cole) Harvey, also natives of New York. The family first located at Round Grove, but afterward removed to Empire, now known as Emerson, in Hopkins township, where he erected and operated woolen, grist and saw mills, and also ran a general store, his son assisting him in all his enterprises. On coming to the county, he also entered a large amount of land in Hopkins township



SAMUEL C. HARVEY.



and devoted a part of his time to agricultural pursuits. Subsequently he removed to Sterling, where he engaged in mercantile business, but kept an interest in the other property. He also bored an artesian well, which was known as the Harvey artesian well and which supplied the city with water for a number of years. He was very extensively engaged in the real-estate business and was one of the most prosperous and successful men of his time in this county. He died September 3, 1875, and his wife passed away March 26, 1892.

In their family were seven children, of whom Samuel C., our subject, was the eldest; Elizabeth died at the age of seven years; Phebe is now the wife of George G. Keefer, of Sterling; Mary is the wife of Abram Waldron, of Chicago; Martha is the wife of J. F. Strock, of Sterling; Julia died in infancy; and Alice is the wife of Edgar H. Galt, of Sterling.

Samuel C. Harvey acquired his elementary education in the public schools of Sterling, and later attended Knox College at Galesburg. On the completion of his education he returned home, and engaged in milling and farming with his father until the Civil war broke out. May 24, 1861, he enlisted as a private in Company B, Thirteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, but was afterward made a sergeant, being mustered out with that rank. He took part in some of the most notable engagements of the war, but fortunately was never wounded.

Not long after his return from the war, Mr. Harvey was married, December 26, 1864, to Miss Margaret A. Dickey, who was born in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, December 23, 1833, a daughter of Thomas and Martha (McNeely) Dickey, also natives of the Keystone state. For a number of years

her father was cashier in the bank of Lancaster City, Pennsylvania. Her paternal grandfather was Thomas Dickey, a son of Moses Dickey, while her maternal grandfather was David McNeely, a farmer of Pennsylvania. Some of her maternal ancestors took an active part in the Revolutionary war. Mrs. Harvey is the third in order of birth in a family of five children, the others being Albert, who died at the age of twenty-five years; Martha, wife of Richard B. Witmer, of California; James, who died at the age of three years; and Catherine, deceased wife of T. Y. Davis, of Sterling. The father of these children died in 1839, and the mother departed this life in 1851.

Four children were born to our subject and his wife, namely: Mary A., now the wife of E. Leroy Galt, of Sterling, by whom she has one son, Robert Harvey; Joel, who died in infancy; Samuel J., who married Nellie T. Robb, and is engaged in business in Sterling as a member of the Sterling Manufacturing Company, though he makes his home in Rock Falls; and Elsie M., who lives with her mother in Sterling.

After his marriage, Mr. Harvey took up the occupation of farming in Hopkins township, and continued to follow that pursuit for a number of years. He then removed to Sterling and became a member of the Empire Feed Manufacturing Company, with which he was connected for a few years, while later he was interested in the artesian well with his father and retained his connection with that enterprise until a year or two before his death. He never fully recovered his usual health after his return from the army, and died October 29, 1883. He was an honored member of William Robinson post, 274, G. A. R., and politically was identified with the Republic-

an party. While residing on his farm he served as collector of Hopkins township. His personal honor and integrity were without blemish, and he was a brave soldier, a patriotic citizen and true friend—one who commanded the respect and confidence of all with whom he came in contact either in business or social life. Mrs. Harvey is an earnest, consistent Christian woman, a member of the Presbyterian church and the Ladies Missionary Society, and her children are all members of the same church. The family is one of social prominence in Sterling.

**H**ON. JAMES M. PRATT, who is now practically living a retired life in the city of Erie, Illinois, has been a resident of Whiteside county a period of sixty-two years, and has in every sense of the word been one of its most useful and enterprising citizens, a fact which is attested by the many responsible positions which he has been called upon to fill, and by the further fact that he has always had the esteem and good will of his fellow men. He is a native of Erie county, New York, born April 7, 1822, and is the son of John C. and Hannah (Olds) Pratt, natives of Massachusetts.

John C. Pratt was the son of John Pratt, also a native of Massachusetts. In the war of 1812 he served his country faithfully, and at the conclusion of that struggle he moved to Erie county, New York, where he married Hannah Olds, daughter of Charles and Ruth Olds, and they became the parents of twelve children. Cordus, the first born, was scalded to death in childhood. Dialetha married Martin Potter, and they moved to Whiteside county, Illinois, where

they were living at the time of her death in 1845. James M. is the subject of our sketch. DeWitt Clinton was by profession a physician. He married Sarah Thompson, and they lived in Lee county, Illinois, where his death occurred in 1879. Lucretia married John Reynolds, and they made their home in Lyndon township, where her death occurred in 1845. Clymena married John T. Oates, and they were living in Fenton at the time of her death in 1847. Amanda was twice married. Her first husband was Samuel Emery, and after his death she married Joseph Shorett, and they now reside in Shelby county, Iowa. Lucius married Lucinda Garrison, and they now reside in Lyndon township. Charles married Amelia Shorett, and they resided in Lyndon township at the time of his death in 1870. Harriet F. died when a small child. Wheeler never married. During the Civil war he offered his services to his country, and died in 1864 from fever contracted while in the discharge of his duties as a soldier. Thurston married Kate Kear, and they reside in western Iowa. In 1837 the family came to Whiteside county and the father took up about a section of land in Lyndon township and opened up a farm. His death occurred in 1842.

James M. Pratt came to Whiteside county in 1837 with his parents and remained with them until after he attained his majority. His education, begun in the schools of his native state, was completed in the schools of Whiteside county. He acquired industrious habits and materially assisted in opening up the home farm. On the 17th of November, 1844, he was united in marriage with Miss Lucinda Emery, a native of New York and daughter of John and Lucinda Emery, who were among the



early settlers of Whiteside county. By this union thirteen children were born, eight of whom lived to maturity, two dying in middle life. Those living are John, who married Sue Mahana and resides in Shelby county, Iowa; Varcella, wife of Jasper Carpenter, and living in Erie; Cyrus E., who married Amelia Risenbiger, the couple making their home in Erie; Allen M. married Blanche Taylor, and residing in Fenton township; Clinton married Lizzie James and residing in Rock Island, and Manston W., who married Rubina Saxton, and residing in Erie.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Pratt located in Fenton township, where in due time he became the owner of one thousand and ten acres of excellent farming land, which he had under cultivation. As a farmer and stock raiser he was an undoubted success, always up with the times, and the advocate of every improvement that would tend to advance the agricultural and material interests of the community. His interest in agriculture was not confined to his own neighborhood, but was manifested in various ways and occasions. He was chiefly instrumental in the organization of the fair in Morrison and was elected its first president in 1871, and filled the office in a most acceptable manner for eight years.

Mr. Pratt has always shown a commendable interest in political affairs, and from the organization of the Republican party until 1878, he was a staunch advocate of its principles. In that year he differed with his party on the money question and became an earnest advocate of the principles of the Greenback party. By that organization, in the fall of 1879, he was elected a member of the legislature and served with credit to himself and constituents for two

terms, taking an active part in the legislation of the state. While residing in Fenton township, he served as a member of the county board of supervisors for sixteen years, being one as a member of the first board after the adoption of the township organization law. He is now the only one of the original number living, save William C. Snyder, of Fulton. His record in that body was as honorable as it was long. He also served as highway commissioner in Fenton township for about ten years. In 1889 he was elected president of the village board in Erie and filled that position for six years. It mattered not what the position he was called on to fill, he discharged its obligations with fidelity and no breath of scandal was ever attached to his record as a public official. For the past three years he has affiliated with the Democratic party, believing that the position taken by its leaders on the great questions of the day being more nearly in accord with the best interests of the people.

After spending many years in labor on the farm, Mr. Pratt concluded that he had a right to a few years of ease, so, in 1888, he left the farm and moved to the village of Erie, where he has since resided. He later sold his farm and invested the proceeds in various ways, purchasing with part some sixty acres adjoining and lying within the corporate limits of Erie. Here, with his good wife, he lives in the affections of the people, and with the proud satisfaction that his life has not been wholly in vain, but that he has been instrumental in doing some good in the world and adding to its happiness.

Coming to this county in an early day, when indeed it was but a wilderness, he has witnessed its growth and contributed ma-

terially to its progress. He takes pleasure in looking back over the years that have passed, and takes delight in mingling with his companions of other days and recounting with them the deeds of pioneer times. For twelve years he acted as president of the Old Settlers' Society and took great interest in its meetings. Surely the life of such a man is worthy of emulation, and should be an incentive to the young in right living and right doing.

SAMUEL L. WHEELOCK, a retired farmer and honored citizen of Rock Falls, who was for forty years actively identified with the agricultural interests of Whiteside county, is a native of Massachusetts, born in Berkshire county, January 26, 1825, and comes of a family of English origin which was founded in the new world in colonial days. His paternal grandfather, Samuel Wheelock, was a soldier of the Revolutionary war, and during that struggle he located in Berkshire county, Massachusetts, where he cleared and developed the farm on which our subject and his father, Luther Wheelock, were both born. Our subject's great-grandfather also bore the name of Samuel. In his native county, Luther Wheelock grew to manhood and married Clarissa Marcy, also a native of Massachusetts, and a daughter of Lawton Marcy, one of the early settlers of Berkshire county. The father of our subject continued to reside on the old homestead farm until 1865, when he sold the place and later removed to Blandford, Hampden county, Massachusetts, where he spent his last days.

In much the usual manner of farmers' sons of his day, Samuel L. Wheelock passed his boyhood and youth on the old home-

stead, receiving rather a limited education by attending school only through the winter months. In 1844, at the age of twenty years, he was married in Berkshire county, to Miss Almena R. Langdon, who was born in Hampden county, but was reared in Berkshire county, Massachusetts. Her father, Amos Langdon, was also a representative of an old and honored family of that state.

In 1854 Mr. Wheelock left the east and came to Whiteside county, Illinois, and spent the first winter in Portland. He then located in Prophetstown, where he worked at anything he could find to do for about six years. Subsequently he operated rented land in Prophetstown township for three years, and then purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Hume township,—a part of his present farm. This he fenced, improved and placed under a high state of cultivation, and as his financial resources permitted he added to it from time to time until he has four hundred acres all in one body. He set out fruit and forest trees, erected good and substantial buildings and made many other improvements which added greatly to the value and attractive appearance of the place. In connection with general farming he also engaged in raising and feeding stock for market, but in 1893, he laid aside business cares and responsibilities and has since lived retired in Rock Falls.

Mr. Wheelock has been called upon to mourn the loss of his estimable wife, who died January 3, 1892, and was laid to rest in Tampico cemetery, where a neat monument has been erected to her memory. They had three children, namely: Amanda, who now keeps house for her father, is the widow of William Dennison, and has two children, Herbert and William, both of

whom are married and reside in this county; Elbert E. is a farmer of Tampico township; and Luther A. carries on the old homestead farm.

Since the organization of the Republican party, Mr. Wheelock has been one of its staunch supporters, but has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking, though he served one term as supervisor and several terms as township trustee. He is a faithful member of the Congregational church of Rock Falls, and merits and receives the confidence and respect of all who know him. The success that he has achieved in life is due entirely to his own unaided efforts for he started out to make his own way in the world empty-handed, and by industry, perseverance and good management worked his way upward until he is now a substantial and prosperous man, owning a large and valuable farm in Hume township, and a pleasant home in Rock Falls. After a useful and honorable career, he can well afford to lay aside all business cares and live in ease and retirement.

**EDGAR H. GALT.** One of the busiest, most energetic and most enterprising men of Sterling, Illinois, is the subject of this sketch, a prominent loan and real estate dealer. On the maternal side he comes from good old Revolutionary stock, and he is in every way a splendid type of our best American citizenship.

Mr. Galt was born in Sterling, August 19, 1855, a son of Capt. James and Mary (Culver) Galt. The father was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, June 29, 1826, and was a son of John and Sarah M. (Buyers) Galt, also natives of that county, the former born May 3, 1801, the latter

August 14, 1805. The Galt family in America is descended from James Galt, a native of Ireland, who came to this country in the beginning of the seventeenth century and settled on the head waters of the Pequea in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania. In the east the grandfather of our subject engaged in general merchandising and also followed milling for a number of years. On the 19th of May, 1844, he, with his family, consisting of wife and thirteen children, landed in Whiteside county, Illinois, and for a number of years he conducted a general store in Sterling. He then purchased a tract of land in Hopkins township and laid out the town of Galt, and was one of the most extensive land owners in the county at that time. He died August 24, 1868, and his wife passed away October 25, 1898. Of their thirteen children, five are still living, namely: John B., Elizabeth, Joseph, Mrs. D. M. Crawford and Mrs. John Buyers, all residents of Sterling.

Captain James Galt, the father of our subject, received a common-school education, but as he left school at the age of fifteen years the greater part of his knowledge was acquired by reading and observation in subsequent years. At the age of sixteen he entered his father's store in Sterling, as clerk, and later engaged in general merchandising on his own account with James Crawford, being in partnership with that gentleman for four years. At the end of that period he turned his attention to the real estate and loan business, and also became a very extensive land holder. He was quite a prominent and influential man of his community and was called upon to administer a number of estates. He was also made one of the first aldermen of the city, was school trustee and held other local of-

fices. On the 12th of March, 1862, he was appointed quartermaster in the army with the rank of captain, and was assigned to the Army of the Potomac under General Sherman. While on duty he was captured by Colonel Moseby and his guerrillas, and for ninety days was incarcerated in Libby prison, at the end of which time he was paroled and exchanged. He never recovered his usual health after returning home, and died October 3, 1869. Of his three children, two died in infancy, leaving our subject the only surviving member of the family, as the wife and mother died December 30, 1859, at the early age of twenty-three years. She was born in Pennsylvania, May 11, 1836, a daughter of William and Huldah (Bowman) Culver. Her father, who was a farmer by occupation, died in Michigan, after which the mother with her daughter came to Whiteside county, Illinois, at an early day, and took up her residence in Sterling. Subsequently she married Joseph Crawford, and she died in Dixon, Illinois, January 24, 1897, at an advanced age.

Left an orphan at an early age, Edgar H. Galt was reared by relatives, and was educated in the public schools of Sterling and at the college of Mount Vernon, Iowa. He began his business career as a breeder and raiser of fancy stock, and continued to follow that occupation until 1894, when he embarked in the real estate and loan business, to which he has since devoted his time and energies with most gratifying results.

On the 7th of June, 1877, Mr. Galt was united in marriage with Miss Alice R. Harvey, a native of this county, and a daughter of Joel and Rachel Harvey, who were born in New York state and came to Whiteside county, Illinois, at a very early

day. Her father, who was a wagonmaker by trade, entered quite a large tract of land in Hopkins township, and at what is now known as Emerson, but at that time was called Empire, he erected a blacksmith shop, wagon shop, gristmill, carding and woolen mill, which he conducted in connection with the operation of several farms. Later he sold his property in Empire and removed to Sterling, where he established a general store and brickyard, and became one of the most successful men and capitalists of the place. He died in 1875, and his wife departed this life March 26, 1892. They had seven children, Samuel, Elizabeth, Phebe, Mary, Martha, Julia and Alice, of whom four are still living. To Mr. and Mrs. Galt were born two children: James E., who was born June 28, 1878, died at the age of twelve years; and Ralph, who was born May 28, 1882, and is now attending the Sterling high school. Fraternally Mr. Galt is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, the Mystic Workers of the World, and the Home Guards, and politically he is identified with the Republican party. As a business man and a citizen he stands high in the esteem of his fellowmen, and his pleasant, genial manner wins him friends and has made a popular citizen of his native city.

**HENRY POTT.** Among the influential and prominent citizens of Hahnman township, who are indebted for their present prosperous condition to their own industry and energy, is the gentleman whose name introduces this sketch. He has been a resident of the county since September, 1853, and now owns and occupies a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres on section 27,

Hahnaman township, adjoining the village of Deer Grove.

Mr. Pott is a native of Germany, born near Cologne, Prussia, July 14, 1844, and is a son of Jacob and Catherine (Straugh) Pott, also natives of the Fatherland, where the former followed the occupation of farming until 1853, when he emigrated with his family to the United States. He came direct to Chicago, Illinois, then traveling by wagon from Peru to Sterling and arriving in the latter city sometime in September. There he was befriended by a German tailor, as on reaching here his funds were exhausted. At first he worked at any thing which he could find to do, and then engaged in farming upon rented land. At length he was able to purchase one hundred and twenty acres of wild land, and to it he subsequently added until he had two hundred and forty acres of valuable land, which he placed under a high state of cultivation and improved with good buildings. Finally he retired from active labor and moved to Sterling, where he bought residence property and lived retired until called from this life in 1881. His wife survived him until 1893, and they now sleep side by side in the Sterling cemetery. In their family were six children, namely: Christ, a farmer of Lee county, Illinois; Henry, our subject; Mathias, a farmer of Portland township, Whiteside county; Barbara, wife of Henry Flock, a retired citizen of Sterling; Mary, wife of William Weber, a farmer of Humphrey, Nebraska; and Peter, who died in Sterling during childhood.

In this county, Henry Pott was reared, and in the country schools he acquired his education. He aided in the work of the home farm until after the Civil war broke out, when, on the 11th of August, 1862, at

the age of eighteen years, he enlisted as a private in Company D, Seventy-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. With the Army of the Cumberland, he participated in the battle of Perryville, where was slightly wounded by a gunshot in the hip, and later took part in the skirmish at Lancaster, Kentucky, and the battle of Stone River, Tennessee. Later he was on detached duty guarding railroads in Tennessee, and subsequently took part in the battles of Missionary Ridge, Lookout Mountain, and the Atlanta campaign, at which time he was almost constantly under fire for six months. He was also in the battles of Jonesboro and Lovejoy Station. He was again wounded by a gunshot which shattered the bone of his nose and carried away his left eye. Thus permanently disabled, he was taken first to the field hospital, later to what was originally a rebel hospital in Atlanta, then to Chickamauga hospital, and from there to a Nashville hospital, No. 14. Subsequently he was sent to Louisville, and from there to a Jeffersonville hospital, where he remained some time. He was then given a furlough and came home to cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln. Afterward he spent some time in the Jeffersonville hospital, and was then taken down the Ohio river to Mound City, where he was honorably discharged in February, 1865.

After his return home, Mr. Pott aided in the operation of the home farm until his other eye became affected and he nearly lost the sight of that also, but it finally got all right. He and his brother Christ afterward rented the home place and carried it on together for three years. The following year our subject engaged in farming there alone, and then bought one hundred and twenty acres of his present farm, which at that time

was partially improved. He has since extended its boundaries until he now has two hundred and forty acres, which he has placed under excellent cultivation and improved with good buildings, which stand as a monument to his thrift and enterprise.

On the 10th of October, 1869, Mr. Pott was united in marriage with Miss Mary Spangler, a native of Pennsylvania, who during the war of the Rebellion came to this county with her parents, George and Elizabeth Spangler. By this union nine children have been born, namely: Henry C., engaged in the livery business in Prophets-town; Jacob R., George A. and Albert B., who help carry on the home farm; Lizzie M., Emma, Catherine, Frances and Genevieve Angeline, all at home.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Pott is an ardent Republican, and has served as a delegate to the county conventions of his party, and is now a member of the township Republican committee. For twenty-five years he has been an active member of the school board, has been clerk of the district some years, a drainage commissioner six years, and is now commissioner of highways and treasurer of the board. His official duties have been discharged with the utmost promptness and fidelity, winning for him the commendation of all concerned. Religiously he and his wife are members of the Catholic church of Sterling.

---

**ELWOOD J. PITTMAN.** Numbered among the wide-awake, energetic young business and loyal citizens of Sterling is Elwood J. Pittman, who, though he has not reached the quarter of a century mile post in the highway of life, has already made a

name and place for himself in the knowledge and esteem of the general public.

His paternal grandfather was born May 1, 1798, and died October 2, 1875, a few months after the birth of our subject. The latter's paternal grandmother was born on the 21st of February, 1804, and died in Pennsylvania, May 31, 1844. Five years subsequently, the grandfather came to the west, where he found plenty of employment at his trades as a mechanic and carpenter, and at the end of two years he bought a farm of eighty acres, situated in Hopkins township, Whiteside county, and continued to dwell there until his demise. His children were eight in number, four of them being sons. Mary, the eldest daughter, born January 7, 1827, became the wife of William Jones, and died in 1865; Elizabeth, born August 22, 1828, died in 1897. She was her father's housekeeper for a number of years after the death of her mother. Sarah, born August 21, 1830, and unmarried, resides with her brother, David. Benjamin, born January 23, 1831, has never married, and now lives in Kansas. Abram, born October 10, 1833, married Esther Pittman, and they have five children. Their home is in Oklahoma. During the Civil war, Benjamin and Abram enlisted in the Ninety-second Regiment of Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and were in the service for some six months. William, born March 13, 1836, married Susan Lamb, and has two children. They reside in Sterling. Susanna, born February 18, 1840, died June 15, 1875, unmarried.

David, father of E. J. Pittman, was born March 26, 1836, in Bedford county, Pennsylvania, and in 1849 accompanied his father and other members of the family, to Illinois. Here he was employed as a farmer

and made a comfortable home for his bride. On the 12th of September, 1861, he married Hester Johnson, by whom he had four children. Royal S., born July 29, 1862, chose for a wife Hattie Mensch, their marriage being celebrated February 28, 1884. Their home is in Sterling, where he is financially interested in the street-sprinkling system, and is engaged in general teaming. He is the father of three children: Milan W., born December 2, 1865, married Nora Peugh, and has three children. The home of the family is in Carroll county. Clara M., born July 12, 1870, lives at home and is employed as a teacher in the city schools. The father of Mrs. David Pittman, Robert Johnson, was born March 8, 1797, in Pennsylvania, and her mother, Rebecca (—) Johnson, was born July 13, 1807. This worthy couple had twelve children. The eldest, Louise, born August 1, 1820, and now living in Round Grove, this county, is the widow of John Armstrong, by whom she had seven children: Joseph, born June 24, 1828, died, unmarried, when twenty-two years of age. Elizabeth, born December 1, 1830, is the widow of Lanson Winke, who died in 1889, at their home in Sterling. They were the parents of fifteen children: Margaret, born January 2, 1833, and now living at Emerson, Illinois, is the widow of Martin Ryerson, who died in the spring of 1897, leaving four children. Sarah Ann, born February 22, 1835, married William Petty, had seven children, and with her husband has passed to the silent land. Denton, born February 14, 1837, died when twenty-two years old, having been killed by a stroke of lightning. Nancy, born March 16, 1839, is the widow of Emanuel Metzger, his death having occurred in October, 1897. She lives in Missouri, and four

of her children survive: Robert, born February 8, 1843, married Mary Tuttle, and has two children. Their home is in Hopkins township. Emma R., born December 25, 1844, married Christ Hershey, and became the mother of four children. She died in 1891. William, born April 7, 1847, wedded Ella Kendall, and has four children. He resides in Iowa, and has survived his wife, who died in 1894. Harriet, born August 23, 1849, died at the age of five years.

The year after his wedding David Pittman settled upon the homestead, which has ever since been his place of residence. It comprises one hundred and twenty acres, situated in Hopkins township, and the many substantial improvements which he has made renders this one of the most valuable country homes in the county. He is a Republican, and takes an interested part in local affairs, warmly championing everything conducing to the advancement of the county. Religiously he is a member of the English Lutheran church.

Elwood J. Pittman, youngest son of David Pittman, was born June 17, 1875, and in his boyhood he attended the public schools of this his native township. Later, in order to better equip himself for the duties of life, he went to the commercial college in Sterling, where he pursued a course of bookkeeping and qualified himself in banking and general business transactions. On his father's farm, he thoroughly learned agriculture in its various branches, and being exceptionally well posted on the values of machinery, live stock and farm property, he commenced the business of auctioneer before he was twenty years of age. Possessing all of the essential business qualifications for this difficult and arduous calling, he has made a

great success of it, and for some years he no doubt carried the palm as being the youngest auctioneer in the state. He is known, not only in all parts of this and adjoining counties, but has sometimes been called into different portions of the state. In the autumn of 1898 and the spring of the following year he presided over fifty-five sales, and in the fall of 1899 he has superintended twenty-two auctions. During the past year he has made his home in Sterling, and, in partnership with his brother, has capital invested in the city street sprinkling system. He has won a gratifying measure of success within a short period of time, and bids fair to become wealthy and influential.

From his youth, Mr. Pittman has been an ardent believer in the policy of the Republican party. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the Knights of the Globe, and lodge No. 3563, Modern Woodmen of America, of Galt. Personally, he is deservedly popular with everyone, and a brilliant future is before him.

**R**OBERT H. DONICHY. One of the foremost business men of Morrison is Robert H. Donichy, who is in the prime of life, and possesses the enthusiasm and enterprise which are apt to mark that period in the career of an American. Integrity and strict attention to the wishes of the public have led to his success, and, without exception, his patrons are his friends.

In tracing his history, it is found that he is a native of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, his birth having occurred August 5, 1861. He is one of the ten children of Joseph and Mary A. (Allison) Donichy, the father a native of Lancaster county, born May 16, 1820, and the mother born in

Charlestown, West Virginia, June 15, 1822. She removed to the Keystone state when a child and was married there on the 21st of March, 1844. Laura, her eldest child, born January 23, 1845, died at the age of four years. Susan A., born April 13, 1846, became the wife of J. Strouse, a railroad engineer, who died in 1882. She is living at present in Philadelphia with her daughter Laura. Joseph R., born April 24, 1848, departed this life at his home in Sterling, Illinois, in 1886. He had married Emma Lytle, in Pennsylvania, and three children graced their union, Frank and Lizzie, and one who died when young. David A., born August 4, 1850, is an old and trusted employe of the Northwestern Railway, and is now the agent at Nelson, Illinois. His wife formerly was Anna Scott, of Como, Illinois, and their children are four in number: James F., born December 16, 1852, died in infancy. Isaac H., born August 6, 1854, is engaged in the grocery business in Morrison. He married Retha Overecker, of Ashton, Illinois, and their five children are: Edith, Laura, Don, Marie and James B. Mary E., born May 29, 1856, is the wife of Harry Reed, a farmer of Hopkins township, and they have six children. William C., born March 22, 1858, and now employed as a conductor on the Chicago & Northwestern Railway, is married, and of their two children, one is deceased. Samuel B., born January 23, 1866, and unmarried, is an engineer in the employ of the same railroad corporation, as are two of his brothers, and at present his headquarters are in Chicago.

After the close of the Civil war, Joseph Donichy determined to come to Illinois, and in 1867 located upon a farm near Como, Whiteside county. There he dwelt for nine years, when, disposing of his property, he



removed to the town of Empire (now Emerson) and leased a residence for six months. In company with his estimable wife, he visited the Centennial exposition, and, upon his return, purchased a farm situated north of Emerson. In 1884 he retired, and from that time until his demise, April 21, 1889, made his home in Sterling. His wife, surviving him a few years, was called to her reward, April 6, 1896.

Robert H. Donichy received a common-school education in Como and Emerson, and, under the training which he obtained on the old homestead, became a practical agriculturist. In 1885 he removed to Morrison and purchased a livery business, in which line of enterprise he continued successfully for a period of four years. Then, disposing of the livery, he invested the proceeds in a grocery at Sterling, but as soon as he could he sold the stock, and, returning to Morrison, bought out Mr. Clark, and from that time until the present has conducted a livery, as formerly. In addition to this, he is an auctioneer of more than average ability, and his services in this line are in great requisition throughout this section of the state. By his own merit he has won the good opinion of the people of this locality, and financial success is crowning his labors. Politically, he is a Republican, and, fraternally, he is a Knight of Pythias.

On the 18th of December, 1883, Mr. Donichy and Addie M. Miller, daughter of J. J. and Catherine (Seidel) Miller, were united in marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Miller were natives of Germany, but when young they came to the United States and were married in La Salle. During the '50s they located in Sterling, where Mr. Miller plied his trade as a baker, which calling he had learned in Germany. Mrs. Donichy's eldest

sister, Sophia, is the wife of D. A. Bricker, of Sterling, and has one child, Jessie. Jacob and Annie are unmarried and residents of Sterling. Henry died in California, and Moses is a merchant tailor of Dixon, Illinois. Mrs. Donichy, who was born in this city, August 4, 1861, has become the mother of two sons and two daughters, namely: Helen L., Harry M., James R. and Anna Louise.

**HENRY E. GERDES.** This worthy citizen of Hopkins township, Whiteside county, is a native of Oldenberg, Germany, born January 3, 1830. His father, John H. Gerdes, whose birth occurred in the same city February 24, 1797, married Gertie Smith, who was born in 1796. Of their six children, the eldest, Hilly Maria, died at the age of two years, and Edo died in infancy. Ida C., becoming the wife of John B. Euken, of Oldenberg, came to the United States in 1879, and with her five children reside in Cass county, Iowa. Gerhardine, born in 1833, married Meint Carstens, in 1854, and has four sons: Folkert, Herman, George and Anton, the latter now living in Cass county, Iowa. George, who was employed in Queen's hospital, in Honolulu, died with the yellow fever. Herman, born February 2, 1836, and now deceased, was married in Germany and reared two sons and a daughter, while two of his sons have passed away. His widow remarried and is now a resident of Nebraska. The father of our subject owned a farm in Germany and continued to dwell there until his death.

The marriage of Henry E. Gerdes and Margaret Hayungs, who was born October 4, 1833, was solemnized June 17, 1854, in

Oldenberg, and shortly afterward the young couple started for the United States. Coming to Illinois, they located near Prairieville, Lee county, residing there for four years. Then, coming to Hopkins township, Mr. Gerdes bought a quarter section of school land, which property he later sold. He resided in that township for twenty-five years, and for four years owned and cultivated a farm in Kansas. In 1888 he returned to this county, and after carrying on a farm of one hundred and seven acres in Genesee township for six years he purchased a place in Coleta. This property, comprising a comfortable house and seven acres of land, afforded him a good home for his declining years, but, in addition to this, he owns three hundred and sixty-two acres of excellent farm land— one hundred and thirty-five acres situated in Hopkins township, one hundred and twenty acres on sections 30 and 31, and one hundred and seven acres on section 21, Genesee township. As a farmer he has met with well-deserved success, and in all his undertakings has been prospered.

The first wife of our subject departed this life March 26, 1856, and was placed to rest in Brownville cemetery. Their two children, twins, died in infancy. For a second wife Mr. Gerdes chose Rebecca M. Cohenour, their union being celebrated April 25, 1858. Her father, Joseph M. Cohenour, was born in 1809, in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, and married Mary Morland, of the same state. Their eldest child, Nancy Jane, born February 5, 1830, married Jacob Myers, of Genesee township, and their four children are: Mary Ellen, Joseph, Ann Eliza and John Andrew. Rebecca M., born December 25, 1831, is the next in order of birth. Peter, born September 23, 1833,

married Susan Cruthers, now deceased, and makes his home with his six children— Frank, Elizabeth, Samuel, Lydia, Robert and Margaret. Eliza M., born July 31, 1835, is the widow of Joseph Miller, and resides in Clyde township. Their six children are named as follows: Harvey, Joseph, Mary, Hannah, Alpharetta and John. Thomas, born May 23, 1837, died, unmarried, at the age of eighteen years. Margaret E., born April 22, 1842, died at the age of two years. Catherine, born December 29, 1844, married John Reed, and is the mother of four children— Isaac, Maud, Albert and Edmond. Joseph, born April 3, 1847, married Amanda Mann, and their children are Vernon and Hazel. David, born September 19, 1850, married Catherine Runyon, and has several children. Joseph M. Cohenour was a machinist by trade, and was active in the affairs of the community. Politically he was a Republican, and religiously a Dunkard. Both he and his wife died in Illinois and are buried in Rock Creek cemetery.

Eight children were born to Henry E. and Rebecca M. Gerdes. John H., the eldest, married Mary Yeager and had the following named children: Henry C.; Mary, deceased; John, who married Dora Journey; Clara, who died at the age of nine years; Ann Eliza died at the age of nine months, and Joseph L. died when about two years old. David E., a minister in the Dunkard church, preaches at Clyde and Rock Creek alternate Sundays. He married Ellen Bechtel, February 8, 1888, and their five children are named respectively: Ephraim L., Rebecca H., Wayne, Galen Glenn and Henry Ralph. The family reside in Clyde township. Herman E., now living in Arizona, wedded Mary Glaze in 1888, and their

children are Ethel, Emma, Isabelle and Lester. Lemuel J., whose home is situated about one mile south of Coleta, in Genesee township, married Lillie Harrison, December 11, 1896, and their two children are Margaret A. and Elberta Rebecca. Laura Ellen became the wife of J. C. Kingsbury, February 2, 1892. The young couple, who have a pleasant home in Coleta, have a little daughter, Olive M. Emma C. resides, with her husband, William Becker, on one of her father's farms in Genesee township. She was married January 11, 1895, and has two sons, Ellery Ronald and Arthur Eden.

In manner, Mr. H. E. Gerdes is very quiet and unassuming and has the reputation of being generous to a fault, and ever ready to respond to the call of the needy and destitute. Formerly, he was a German Lutheran in religious faith, but becoming convinced that the creed of the Dunkard church is the most suited to the needs of humanity, he embraced its tenets, and has been an active and valued worker in the cause. Politically, he was formerly a Democrat, but the policy of the Republican party, especially during the last few years, appealed strongly to him, and he now gives that organization his allegiance.

**J**OSEPH MILLER, deceased, was for over forty years prominently identified with the agricultural interests of Whiteside county, and was honored and respected by all who knew him. He was born in Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, July 23, 1802, a son of Lewis and Barbara (Meyers) Miller, farming people of that state. On reaching man's estate our subject took up the occupation to which he had been reared and successfully engaged in farming through-

out life. He remained in Pennsylvania until 1840, and then came to Whiteside county, Illinois, locating in Newton township when much of his locality was still in its primitive condition. He aided in the early development and improvement of the county, and converted a tract of wild land into a fine farm of four hundred and eighty acres, upon which he continued to make his home until called from this life September 2, 1884.

Mr. Miller was thrice married. On the 24th of May, 1832, he wedded Miss Sarah Grier, who died September 18, 1836. By this union two children were born: Rachel Ann, who was born April 1, 1833, and is now the wife of Joshua Salehamer; and Lewis Grier, who was born February 9, 1835, and is now deceased. Mr. Miller was again married, March 14, 1839, his second union being with Miss Elizabeth Thompson, by whom he had seven children, namely: Joseph A., who was born March 9, 1841, and died in the Union army during the Civil war; Sarah L., born September 7, 1842; John N., who was born April 6, 1844, and is now deceased; Mary Jane, born March 3, 1846; Samuel Thompson, born August 11, 1848; William M., born July 10, 1850; and Moses F., born May 8, 1853. The mother of these children died October 4, 1867. On the 19th of January, 1869, Mr. Miller was united in marriage with Mrs. Katherine Ege, and to them was born one child, Joseph A., born April 10, 1871. Mrs. Miller was born in Pennsylvania, September 14, 1832, a daughter of Peter and Nancy Reisch. She was first married, June 20, 1852, to Joseph Ege, and by that union four children were born: William L., born October 29, 1853, is deceased; Charles F., born July 20,

1856, is living; Eva M., born November 25, 1858, married S. H. Arrell, but is now deceased; and Hettie B. was born March 31, 1861.

Politically Mr. Miller was a staunch supporter of the Democratic party, and during his life time held several township offices, the duties of which he most capably discharged. He was widely and favorably known, and in his death the community realized that it had lost one of its valued and useful citizens.

**J**OHN REED, who owns and operates one hundred and eighty acres of land on section 12, Jordan township, Whiteside county, is one of the successful farmers of the community, and all that he has is the acquirement of years of earnest, honest toil. His has been an active and useful business career, and he commands the respect of all with whom he has been brought in contact.

Mr. Reed was born in Emerson, this county, May 21, 1855, a son of Benjamin and Harriet (Clark) Reed, who were natives of Franklin county, Pennsylvania, and were married there. They became the parents of ten children, namely: Ellen, who became the wife of James McDowell, a farmer residing near Emerson, by whom she has five children; Frank, who died in childhood; Emily, wife of Joseph Bednar, now a resident of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, five children having been born of their union; George, who died in childhood; Kate, who like those named above was born in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, and is now the wife of Joseph Lockhart, of Topeka, Kansas; John, of this review; Reuben, a resident of Sterling, who married Barbara Kehr, and has five chil-

dren; Clara, wife of Frank Taylor, of Sterling, and the mother of two children; Arthur, twin brother of Clara; and Edna, the youngest of the family.

The subject of this review resided with his parents in Hopkins township, Whiteside county, until twenty-three years of age, and became familiar with all the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. On leaving home he rented land and also worked for others until he purchased his present farm in Jordan township. He has been very successful in his farming operations, and although he began business for himself on a small scale he is now the owner of one of the valuable properties in the township. One hundred and eighty acres of rich land yield to him a golden tribute in return for the care and labor he bestows upon it, and the excellent improvements and substantial buildings upon the place stand as monuments to his thrift and enterprise.

On the 28th of December, 1886, Mr. Reed was united in marriage to Miss Emma Carolus, a daughter of Isaac and Amelia (Binkley) Carolus, who were natives of Franklin county, Pennsylvania, but now reside in Sterling, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Reed now have three children: Alice, Ada and Clara. He is one of the leading citizens of the community, and his fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, have frequently called him to public office. He has served as school director and highway commissioner, discharging his duties with promptness and fidelity. He is a member of Sterling camp, No. 12, M. W. A., in politics is a Democrat, and religiously is connected with the English Lutheran church. In all life's relations he is true and faithful to the trust reposed in him, and as

one of the representative farmers of his native county, he well deserves mention in this volume.

**JOSIAH S. SCOTT.** The subject of this review is one whose history touches the pioneer epoch in the annals of Whiteside county and one whose days have become an integral part of that indissoluble chain which linked the early formative period with that of latter-day progress and prosperity. He bore an active and prominent part in the early development and prosperity of the county and now after an honorable and useful life he has lived retired in Rock Falls, his home being on Tenth avenue.

Mr. Scott was born in Morgan county, Ohio, May 18, 1819, and belongs to one of the pioneer families of that state. His father, Jesse Scott, Jr., was born in Luzerne county, Pennsylvania, in 1790, and was a son of Jesse Scott, Sr., also a native of Pennsylvania. At an early day they removed to Ohio, and were among the first to locate in Morgan county, where in the midst of the wilderness they cleared and improved farms. There the father of our subject married Miss Anna Sherman, a granddaughter of Abel Sherman, who was the last white man killed by the Indians in Ohio. In connection with farming, Jesse Scott, Jr., followed the millwright's trade. He was a natural mechanic and very handy at any kind of work. In 1838 he built a large river boat which he launched on the Muskingum river, and loaded with different kinds of stock, domestic fowls, farm machinery, tools and provisions. In this he and his father, together with the family of Conklin, started for Illinois. The boat was

supplied with sails, which were used when the wind was in the right direction, but at other times it was propelled by horse power. They floated down the Ohio, and up the Mississippi and Rock rivers to Rock Falls. Mr. Scott then sold his boat and took up a homestead in this county. Here he spent his remaining years, dying December 14, 1879. His wife had passed away in 1875, both dying in the arms of our subject.

As Josiah S. Scott had no school advantages in his youth, he is wholly a self-educated man. He grew to manhood in his native state and in early life learned the carpenter's, joiner's and cabinet maker's trade, and after coming to Illinois worked as a carpenter at intervals for some years. Returning to Ohio, he was married in Delaware county, March 13, 1846, to Miss Harriet J. Coryell, who was born in Pennsylvania, but was reared in Delaware county, Ohio, of which her father, John M. Coryell, was a pioneer settler. He brought his bride to his new home in Whiteside county, Illinois. In Hume township he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of government land, to which he later added until he had three hundred and twenty acres of land in the home place. He also bought and improved other farms, and now has three patents of lands, signed by presidents of the United States. Upon his land he erected good and substantial buildings and successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising for many years. He was the first in his community to engage in the breeding of pure blooded short horn cattle, and also bred and dealt in standard bred horses. Renting his farm in 1883, he moved to Rock Falls and has since lived a retired life.

Mrs. Scott departed this life October 21,

1899, and her remains were interred in Riverside cemetery, Sterling, where a monument now marks her last resting place. The children born to our subject and his wife were as follows: Walter is a business man of Montmorency; Edwin was a physician of Oakland, Coles county, Illinois, where he died in July, 1892; Eleanora died in infancy; Celestia is the wife of William E. Richardson, who is now at the soldiers' home in Danville, Illinois, while his wife and daughter live in Rock Falls; Hiram B. is principal of the Lewis Academy in Wichita, Kansas, and a minister of the Christian Church of Valley Center, that state; Eliza J. is the wife of Bernard Miller, of Prairieville, Lee county, Illinois; Franklin A. died in infancy; Alice A. is the wife of Charles Hollis, of Rock Falls; Jesse F. is a physician of Oakland, Illinois; Orange M. is a farmer of Palo Alto county, Iowa; Bertha L. is the wife of Joseph Jenkins, of Panora, Guthrie county, Iowa; and Hattie A. lives with her father in Rock Falls.

Mr. Scott cast his first presidential vote for Martin Van Buren, and supported the Democratic party until 1860, since which time he has been an ardent Republican. He has made a guess on each election since 1840 and his predictions have always proved correct. He now predicts that President McKinley will be re-elected in 1900. He filled the office of school director for some years and has also been commissioner of highways, but has never cared for political preferment. In early life he was a Presbyterian in religious faith, but he and his daughter now hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church. Since May, 1839, he has made his home in this county, and has therefore witnessed almost its entire development. In those early days he

killed a large number of deer and wolves, besides great quantities of wild game of all kinds, and his wife also killed numerous prairie chickens and animals that preyed upon her domestic fowls. He has seen the wild and swampy land drained and transformed into highly cultivated and productive farms and ever bore his part in the work of improvement. As an honored pioneer and representative citizen of his adopted county he is certainly worthy of prominent mention in her history and his sketch will be read with unusual interest by his many friends.

CHARLES J. LONGSDON. Whiteside county has been the home and scene of labor of many men who have not only led lives that should serve as an example to those who come after them but have also been of important service to the community through various avenues of usefulness. Among them must be named Charles J. Longsdon, who passed away at his home in Sterling, March 17, 1896, after a life rich in those rare possessions which only a high character can give.

He was born in Charleston, South Carolina, January 4, 1830, and was the son of an English squire, William Longsdon, of Great Longstone, England, who was a magistrate of the Queen's bench. The estate of the family was known as Longstone, while the Norman name for it was Longesdune. Our subject could trace his ancestry back through an unbroken line for twenty-eight generations to the eleventh century. The first of the family in England was Serlo de Longsdon, a Norman, who distinguished himself in the battle of Hastings as aide de camp of William the Conqueror and in re-



CHARLES L. LONGSDON.





ward for his services a grant was made, entitling him and his successors "To hawke, hunte, fische and fowle, cutte downe tymber and digge uppe stone quarries between Matlock and Mam-Tor, the consideration was that the family was always to keep a bull, a boar and a stallion for public use and furnish two gentleman in armour. In proof of this ancient armour, swords, halberds deck the walls of the old manor house at Little Longstone. The massive walls of that building have enclosed the joys and sorrows of this honorable and highly esteemed family for over eight hundred years. In one of the upper rooms, known as the eagle chamber, is a stone five feet square which forms part of the chimney over the mantel piece, on which is the motto "Rectae et Suariter," and a double headed eagle, the emblem used on the Longsdon arms and crest. The title of gentleman has ever been associated with the name of Longsdon.

When about thirty years of age, 'Squire Longsdon came to America and located in Charleston, South Carolina, as agent for a number of English capitalists to invest his and their money in American railroads. He did not remain here permanently, but went back and forward between here and England. He purchased stock in the Illinois Central, the Pittsburg & Fort Wayne, the Pennsylvania Central and the Grand Trunk Railroads, and during the construction of the last named road was general paymaster, having full charge of the funds of all the stockholders. He was a most capable financier and excellent business man. He married Miss Maria Lord, a southern lady, by whom he had two children, Emma J., and Charles J., our subject. As the mother died when her son was only two years old, the father took the children to England,

where they were educated. He became a very wealthy man. He died March 4, 1876, and his daughter died February 13, 1874. She was an artist of superior ability, one of the best in England, and was known all over the continent. Her brother's widow, Mrs. Longsdon, of Sterling, has in her possession a number of works of art in oil, water colors and India ink done by Miss Emma, and among others there are several dozen wine doilies decorated with landscapes, pictures from Punch with humorous dialogues attached.

Charles J. Longsdon, of this review, was educated at Walton Academy, Liverpool, England, from which he was graduated at the age of fourteen. It was his wish to enter the ministry, but his father desired him to follow in his footsteps and keep the title in the family which was unbroken for eight hundred years. In 1848 he came to the United States and located in Genesee township, Whiteside county, Illinois, where he took up land two years later. At the time of his death he owned two hundred and seventy acres in that township and large tracts in Polk and Dunn counties, Wisconsin, and also in Minnesota. He was also a stockholder of the Illinois Central, the Pittsburg & Fort Wayne, the Pennsylvania Central and other railroads. He continued to superintend the operation of his farm in Genesee township until his death, but in 1892 he removed to Sterling, though he had made his home in Coleta for nine years previous.

On the 10th of February, 1874, Mr. Longsdon was united in marriage with Miss Gertrude S. Stiles, of Sterling, a native of Lewis county, New York. Her parents, Nathan C. and Ann E. (Wright) Stiles, also natives of New York, and the latter a daugh-

ter of Rufus Wright, of Massachusetts. Her paternal grandfather was Sullivan Stiles, the son of an English gentleman, who came to the new world with two brothers. One located in Massachusetts, one in Toronto, Canada, and the third in South Carolina. Mrs. Longsdon belongs to the Massachusetts branch. Her father was a farmer both in New York and the latter in Illinois. On coming to this state he first located in Milledgeville, Carroll county, later spent a year or two in Lanark, and then came to Genesee township, Whiteside county, where he lived for a number of years. Subsequently he spent five years in Coleta, and then came to Sterling. He and his wife lived with Mrs. Longsdon for nine years after her marriage, and they, too, removed to Coleta. In December, 1896, they came to Sterling, where they now make their home at the age of seventy-six and seventy-one years respectively. They are widely and favorably known and have many warm friends in this county. Of their two children, Mrs. Longsdon is the older. John S. Stiles, the younger, is a farmer and stock raiser of Kansas. He first married Sarah McGee, by whom he had two daughters, Nellie and Gertrude, and by a second marriage he also has two children.

Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Longsdon, of whom the oldest, a daughter, died in infancy. Emma, born July 7, 1876, was a graduate of the Sterling schools, and died October 5, 1899, being laid to rest in the Riverside cemetery. She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and the Daughters of the Globe, and her death was greatly mourned by her many friends as well as relatives. Anna L. and Gertrude Elizabeth are now attending the Sterling high school.

For some time previous to his death, Mr. Longsdon was in poor health, and on the 12th of March, 1896, he departed this life. His funeral, which took place at the family residence in Sterling, was conducted by Rev. H. T. Clendenning, Rev. Matlack, Rev. Grover Clark and Rev. Davis, and his remains were interred in Riverside cemetery. Politically he was a Republican, and religiously was a member of the church of England. Though he never united with any church in this country, he attended the Methodist Episcopal church, gave liberally toward its support and took a very active part in its work. Those who knew him best were numbered among his warmest friends. As a citizen he was honorable, prompt and true to every engagement; as a man he held the honor and esteem of all classes of people; as a husband and father he was a model worthy of all imitation; unassuming in his manner, sincere in his friendships, steadfast and unswerving in his loyalty to the right. His memory will be a sacred inheritance to his children; it will be cherished by a multitude of friends.

**G**EORGE R. PROCTOR, M. D. Prominent among the medical profession of Whiteside county stands George R. Proctor, of Coleta. He possesses unusual aptitude for his chosen calling, and has the confidence of the entire community. Though yet in his early prime, he has given abundant evidence of skill and well applied principles of the healing art, which eventually will bring to him renown and financial prosperity.

The Doctor's father, David G. Proctor, a native of Indiana, came to Illinois at an early day, and is now making his home in

Genesee township, Whiteside county. He married Sarah Ann Hurlless and to them seven children were born, namely: Cephus C., George R., Ira R., Minnie J., Richard G., Elizabeth and one who died in infancy. In the sketch of D. G. Proctor, which appears elsewhere in this work, a full history of our subject's ancestors may be found.

The birth of Dr. George R. Proctor occurred on his father's farm in Genesee township, May 25, 1869. In his boyhood he attended the district schools, and, as he was a diligent student, made rapid progress, and soon began preparing himself for a teacher. Subsequently, he pursued a course in the Shenandoah (Iowa) normal school, and then, for a period of four years was employed as a teacher in the common schools of Carroll and Whiteside counties, Illinois. Having determined to become a physician, he went to Iowa City, Iowa, where he attended the Iowa State University for two years. Later, he went to Rush Medical College, in Chicago, and there received the degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1896. Immediately after his graduation, he returned to Coleta, where he established himself in practice, in partnership with Doctor McBride. The latter a year later removed to Sterling, since which time Doctor Proctor has had charge of the entire practice, and has made rapid progress in his loved work. Neglecting no means of advancement within his power, he has taken two post-graduate courses in Chicago, and has been a regular attendant at the meetings of the Rock River Valley Medical Association. In 1899, when that well-known society assembled at Dixon, Illinois, Dr. Proctor was honored by being elected to the responsible office of vice-president of the association. He is also a member of

the American Medical Association and the Mississippi Valley Medical Association. He is the medical examiner for the local lodges of the Knights of the Globe, and the Mystic Workers, with both of which he is identified as a member, and, besides, he is the medical adviser of the Modern Woodmen of America, the Home Forum and the New York Life Insurance Company. In his political faith he is a Democrat.

The marriage of Doctor Proctor and Jennie D. Tavenner was solemnized September 14, 1897. The young couple have a little son, David T., born July 17, 1898. Mrs. Proctor, whose birth occurred October 10, 1871, is one of the four children of Joseph and Fannie Tavenner. Her only sister, Mayme, is the wife of David Brown, of Gladbrook, Iowa. John, elder brother of Mrs. Proctor, married Lena Munde, and has one child. Their home is in Hazelhurst, Illinois. The younger brother, Albert, resides with his parents. Doctor Proctor and his wife are members of the United Brethren church, and receive a cordial welcome in the foremost social circles of Coleta.

**W**ILLIAM W. BLEAN is one of the leading and influential agriculturists of Newton township, Whiteside county, Illinois, where he owns and operates one hundred and fifty acres of land on sections 11 and 13, and also has seven acres in Fenton township. He was born in Newton township, February 5, 1856, a son of James and Hettie (Weakley) Blean, both natives of Pennsylvania, where their marriage was celebrated. Our subject's grandparents were John and Elizabeth Blean and Joseph and Martha Weakley. After his marriage

James Blean came to Illinois and took up his residence in Newton township, Whiteside county, where in partnership with his father he purchased a farm of two hundred and fifteen acres. He at once turned his attention to the improvement and cultivation of the land, and for some years successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising. In 1861 he laid aside all personal interests and offered his services to the government as a soldier of Company B, Seventy-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He entered the army as second lieutenant, and was killed in the battle of Perryville, which was his first engagement. His widow is still living and now makes her home with her son, James Blean, on the old homestead in Newton township. To them were born six children, of whom the two oldest died in infancy unnamed. William W., our subject, is the next in order of birth; Elizabeth K. is the wife of John Hawk, a farmer of Newton township; John C. and James A., also farmers of that township.

William W. Blean, the subject of this sketch, made his home with his mother until a year after his marriage, when he located upon his present farm, which he has since converted into one of the most highly cultivated and well improved tracts in the neighborhood. He carries on general farming and stock raising with marked success; feeds a large number of cattle and hogs each year; and also buys and sells stock for the local markets.

On the 13th of April, 1882, Mr. Blean was united in marriage with Miss Mary E. Efner, a daughter of Edward and Amanda (Stagg) Efner, and the children born to this union are as follows: Hettie E., Mary E., Leonard, Albert, Cora, Eva and Harold. The two oldest daughters are now attending

school in Portland. The parents are faithful members of the Presbyterian church of Newton, and are held in high regard by all who know them. Fraternally Mr. Blean is a member of Erie camp, No. 14, M. W. A. By his ballot he supports the men and measures of the Republican party, and he has been honored with local offices, having most creditably served as school director, collector and assessor for several years.

**M**ICHAEL CARNEY, who is industriously engaged in the prosecution of a calling upon which the support and wealth of a nation largely depends, and in which he is meeting with deserved success, has been a resident of Portland township, Whiteside county, for thirty-three years, during which time he has witnessed important changes for the better. He was born in Massena, St. Lawrence county, New York, April 5, 1848, a son of James Carney.

James Carney, a native of Ireland, came to this country when a young man, and located in St. Lawrence county, where he was engaged in the independent occupation of a farmer until his death, in 1857. He married Miss Sally England, a life-long resident of New York state, and a daughter of Robert England, who emigrated from old England to America in early life, becoming a pioneer of St. Lawrence county. She survived him many years, passing away in 1888, leaving eight children, as follows: John, who settled in Whiteside county as a farmer in 1864; Mrs. Margaret Andrews, of St. Lawrence county, New York; William, of the same county; Michael, the particular subject of this brief biography; Elizabeth, wife of Joseph Cockings, of Erie, Illinois; Jane, wife of Joseph Crump, of St. Lawrence

county, New York; Mary, who lives with her sister, Mrs. Andrews; and Robert, who owns and operates the old home farm in St. Lawrence county.

Michael Carney received excellent educational advantages in the graded schools of Massena, where he lived until the spring of 1866, when he came west to join his elder brother, John, in Portland township. The first season of his sojourn here he worked as a farm hand by the month, and was afterwards employed by the year. Commencing then to work for himself, he rented land and for several years carried it on with excellent pecuniary results. In 1877 he invested his money in a tract of land containing one hundred and twenty acres, and there continued general farming and stock raising and feeding, meeting with such good success that he was enabled to buy more land, and build a convenient residence and substantial barn and outbuildings. Disposing of that property at an advantage, he bought a farm of one hundred and twenty-two acres in the same neighborhood, where he continued his operations with an equal amount of success. In 1897 he sold that farm, and has since had charge of the estate on which he now resides. It contains eight hundred acres of land, lying on the Rock River Bottoms, very favorably situated, and well adapted to his chosen occupation of general agricultural and stock raising.

Mr. Carney was married, in June, 1870, to Esther M. Chase, who was born and bred in Allegany county, New York, but came to Whiteside county with her father, David D. Chase, about 1850. On November 27, 1885, Mrs. Carney passed to the life beyond, and her body was laid to rest in Sharon cemetery. Two children were born of their union, as follows: Zene D., who is

married, is engaged in business in Erie, this county, and Dency M., who married August Soubeck, of Spring Hill, has one child, Edith Esther. Politically Mr. Carney has invariably voted the Republican ticket since casting his first presidential vote, in 1872, for General U. S. Grant. He has served sixteen consecutive years as constable, and for several terms was one of the school board. Fraternally he was a charter member of Erie lodge, I. O. O. F., but for the past twelve years he has belonged to the Prophetstown lodge of Odd Fellows, and he is likewise a member of the Home Forum, Spring Hill lodge.

**JAMES COATS.** Back to stanch old Scotch ancestry does Mr. Coats trace his lineage, and that in his character abide those sterling qualities which have ever marked the true type of the Scotch nation, is manifest when we come to consider the more salient points in his life history, which has been one marked by consecutive industry, invincible spirit, sturdy loyalty and unwavering honor,—all of which have resulted most naturally in securing him a position in the respect and esteem of his fellow men. He is now successfully operating, in connection with his brother, a fine farm of two hundred and ninety-five acres, all of which has been acquired through their well directed efforts.

Mr. Coats was born about seven miles from the city of Glasgow, in Lenarkshire, Scotland, October 15, 1834, and is a son of James and Ellen (Nesbit) Coats, who were also natives of the same land. His paternal grandparents were Thomas and Mary Belle Coats, and to them were born seven children: James, Archibald, John, Robert,

Annie, Lizzie and Margaret. On the maternal side the great-grandparents of our subject were Alexander and Ellen Morton, who lived and died in Scotland. The maternal grandparents were Thomas and Mary (Morton) Nesbit, who had a family of six children, as follows: William, Alexander, Thomas, Ellen, Christina and Jeannette. One of the maternal uncles of Mr. Coats served in the marine service under Nelson and was on the boat when the famous English admiral was shot.

James Coats, Sr., the father of our subject, accompanied by his wife, two sons and a daughter, removed to New Zealand in 1860, and there the parents died, while the children continued their residence on that island. Mr. and Mrs. Coats had a family of nine children: Mary, Thomas, James, Mary and William, twins, John, and twins who died in infancy.

The subject of this review, James Coats, of Jordan township, received but limited educational privileges, his opportunities being limited to study in the parish school prior to his tenth year. While in his native land he worked on the railroad as a section hand for a year and a half, and was also employed on public works for a similar period. In 1857 he came to America, joining his brother Thomas, who had previously located near Toronto, Canada. The same year they made their way to Illinois, and after working by the month for a year and a half James and his brother rented land for seven years. They then purchased the farm upon which they now reside and began farming on their own account. After a short period Thomas returned to Scotland, where he married Miss Isabelle Atchison, and with his bride he again came to the New World. Four daughters and two sons

were born of their union. The mother died February 28, 1894, after which Thomas went to live with his children.

Up to that time the brothers had been associated in their farming operations, and upon his sister-in-law's death James Coats rented his brother's interest in the farm, and has since operated the property alone. He has always carried on general farming, and at one time engaged in raising Durham short-horn cattle, but is not now connected with that enterprise. He has been very successful in his farming operations, and still continues the supervision of his farm, although he has left the more arduous field work to his sons.

Mr. Coats was married October 30, 1868, to Ellen Miller, daughter of Joseph and Ellen Marshall Miller, who were also natives of Scotland, and came to the United States in 1852, the family locating in Whiteside county, Illinois. There were four children: Ellen, Agnes, Hugh and Mary. With the exception of Mrs. Coats all were born in this state, and she was educated in Jordan township. Her father died in 1874, her mother in 1895, and they were buried in the family graveyard on the farm. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Coats have been born ten children: James A., Mary E., Agnes A., Joseph R., Lillie B., William H., Margaret, John, and May and John. The first child who was given the name of John died May 6, 1885. Agnes A. is now the wife of Thomas Bracken, and lives in Jordan township. James A. married Grace Pratt, a native of Iowa, and the other children are with their parents on the home farm.

For six years Mr. Coats has filled the office of school director, and is deeply interested in the cause of education and whatever tends to benefit the community. In

politics he is a Democrat, voting with the party at national and state elections, but at local elections, where no issue is involved, casting his support for the man whom he thinks best qualified for office, regardless of party affiliations. He was at one time a member of the Grange, and his wife is a member of the Baptist church. His life has been an active and useful one, and his business has been so well conducted that he has secured a handsome competence, numbering him among the substantial farmers, as well as respected citizens of Whiteside county.

**D**J. PARKER, deceased, was for several years one of the leading and prominent citizens of Garden Plains township, where he was successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits. He was born in Vermont, April 14, 1835, a son of Abel and Amanda Parker, farming people of that state. There our subject grew to manhood and learned the carpenter's trade. On coming west in 1852, he located in Chicago, where he worked at his trade for a railroad company for two years, and in March, 1854, became a resident of Whiteside county. He was employed as a carpenter in Garden Plains for a time, and later engaged in general merchandising and also served as postmaster of that place from 1857 to 1859, inclusive. In the spring of 1860 he went to Pike's Peak, in company with a large number of men in search of gold, and remained there until the following September.

After his return from Pike's Peak to this county, Mr. Parker was married, December 20, 1860, to Miss Mary Eleanor Parker, who was born in Garden Plains, April 6, 1841, a daughter of Jacob and Rosa Parker.

Her father was also a native of the Green Mountain state and a pioneer of this county, having taken up his residence in Garden Plains township, at what is known as Parkers Grove, in August, 1835. Mrs. Parker was the second white child born in Garden Plains township, and the marriage of her parents was the second one in the township. To our subject and his wife were born seven children, namely: Wilber D., born July 22, 1861, is married and with his wife and two children resides in Albany, Illinois; Harry J., born May 26, 1864, is married and with his wife and two children resides in Davenport, Iowa; Fred L., born May 6, 1867, is married and with his wife and child lives in Sterling; Minnie R., born August 20, 1869, died at the age of one year; Jessie E., born January 16, 1871, is the wife of R. H. Fagan, station agent at Garden Plains Corners, and they have two children; John A., born February 11, 1873, and Nellie Edith, born October 23, 1880, are both at home with their mother.

For one year after his marriage, Mr. Parker operated his father-in-law's farm and one year rented, then purchased eighty acres of land on section 28, Garden Plains township, which at that time was all raw prairie. He located thereon and at once turned his attention to the improvement and cultivation of his place, which he soon converted into a good farm. The first home of the family was a little shanty, which was later replaced by a pleasant residence, and surrounded by good, substantial outbuildings. To his original purchase Mr. Parker added another eighty-acre tract in 1864, and throughout life successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising. By his ballot he supported the men and measures of the Republican party, and always took an

active and commendable interest in public affairs. His fellow citizens, recognizing his worth and ability, often called him to office, and he most capably and satisfactorily served as supervisor for about eleven years, school treasurer for nine years; school trustee a number of years, and road commissioner fifteen years. He died July 9, 1897, honored and respected by all who knew him. Since the death of her husband, Mrs. Parker has most successfully conducted her farm and business affairs, and has displayed good business ability in the management of the sale. She is a most estimable lady, and like her husband has many friends.

---

**M**A RTIN COLEMAN is a wide-awake and enterprising business man of Deer Grove, where he is engaged in general merchandising, in which line of trade he has built up a large and extensive business by his own energy and enterprise, and gained a most enviable reputation for his financial sagacity and honorable, straightforward dealing.

Mr. Coleman is a native of Ireland, and when a young man came to America, landing in New York May 15, 1872. For one year he worked on a farm in Oneida county, New York, and on the 15th of October, 1873, went to Pittsburg, where he worked in a factory until March 6, 1876. Subsequently he worked by the month on a farm in Pennsylvania until coming to Whiteside county, where he arrived on Sunday, November 22, 1877. Here he was also employed as a farm hand for several years, but in 1884 came to Deer Grove and bought the business of C. F. Garrett, a dealer in general merchandise and agricultural imple-

ments. He has enlarged his stock to meet the growing demands of his trade, and now carries a good assortment of dry goods, groceries, implements, etc., and has established an enviable reputation for good goods and fair dealing.

In Sterling, in 1878, Mr. Coleman was united in marriage with Miss Maggie Ford, who was born in Canada, but was reared and educated in Sterling. Her father, Peter Ford, now of Deer Grove, was born in Ireland, June 22, 1802, and is now ninety-eight years of age, but still retains all his faculties in good condition. He has made his home in this county for almost half a century and is widely and favorably known. In the family of Mr. and Mrs. Coleman are the following children: Martin J., who assists his father in the store; Mary, who is living with an aunt in Topeka, Kansas; Katie, who also aids in the store; Bessie; Delia; Patrick P. and Agnes. The family are communicants of the Tampico Catholic church, and Mr. Coleman is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

Politically he votes the Democratic ticket at national elections, and cast his first presidential ballot for Samuel J. Tilden, but at local elections votes independent of party, endeavoring to support the best men for the offices. He has been township school trustee and a member of the school board for years, and by his influence and support he has done much toward securing good schools in his section of the county. He has most creditably served as justice of the peace for sixteen years, township clerk fourteen years, and been postmaster of Deer Drove continuously since 1884, with the exception of six months. He is an intelligent, progressive citizen of liberal views,



and is heartily in sympathy with every movement that will in any way add to the prosperity of his community. His life contains many valuable lessons of incentive, showing the possibilities that are opened to young men who wish to improve every opportunity for advancement.

LEHMAN L. EMMONS, who is now living a retired life in Rock Falls, Illinois, has made his home in this county for over half a century, and was for many years actively identified with its agricultural interests. He was born in Litchfield, Litchfield county, Connecticut, June 17, 1821, and is a representative of one of the old and honored families of that state. Three brothers, natives of England, came to the new world in colonial days, and one settled in Virginia, the second in New Jersey, and the third in Connecticut. From the last our subject is descent. His paternal grandfather, Herman Emmons, was one of the pioneers of Litchfield county, and there the father, Lehman Emmons, was born and reared. The latter married Ursula Beech, a daughter of Laban Beech, and in 1828 they moved to Canaan, Wayne county, Pennsylvania, where as a mechanic Mr. Emmons worked at the cooper's trade for many years. He died in that county.

The subject of this sketch grew to manhood in Pennsylvania, and there learned the wagonmaker's and wheelwright's trades, at which he worked for about five years before coming west. At Pittston, in the Wyoming valley, Pennsylvania, he was married, to Miss Jane Hale, a native of that place and a daughter of Joel Hale, a representative of one of the old families of Pittston. By this union seven children

were born, of whom five are still living, namely: W. B., a fruit grower of Rock Falls; Sarah, wife of M. H. Ward, of Sterling; Elizabeth C., at home; Lehman L., editor of the Morrison Record; and Lydia M., wife of J. C. Buell, of Montmorency township. Those deceased were Frankie, who died when a young lady, and Sarah Ann, who died in infancy.

Mr. Emmons carried on business as a wagonmaker in Pittston, Pennsylvania, for four years after his marriage, and then, in 1846, came to Whiteside county, Illinois, locating in Sterling, which was then a straggling village of about one hundred and fifty inhabitants. There he opened a shop, and in connection with his brother, I. B. Emmons, engaged in wagon making, blacksmithing and general repair work until 1850. He then purchased two hundred acres of raw land on the south side of the river in Coloma township, and commenced immediately to improve and cultivate his land. He erected upon his place a good set of farm buildings, set out fruit and ornamental trees, and transformed the wild land into well-tilled fields. He finally sold this farm for eighty-five dollars per acre, and in the fall of 1870 bought the Joel Wood farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Montmorency township, which he operated for thirteen years. At the end of that period he purchased a lot in Rock Falls and erected thereon a good residence, where he has since lived retired.

Mr. Emmons joined the Odd Fellows Society at Como, and later was a member of the lodge at Sterling, but for the last twenty-five years has not attended the lodge. Originally he was an old-line Whig in politics and cast his first presidential ballot for William Henry Harrison, in 1840, but since

the organization of the Republican party in 1856, he has been one of its staunch supporters and has served as a delegate to a number of conventions. He has taken a very active and prominent part in local politics, and his fellow citizens, recognizing his worth and ability, have often called him to office. In 1855 he was appointed postmaster of Coloma and served for two years during President Pierce's administration; was deputy enrolling officer during the Civil war; was supervisor of Coloma township twelve years; township trustee some years; and township treasurer. After a long and useful life, he is now calmly resting from his labors, and is spending the evening of life pleasantly at his home in Rock Falls, surrounded by the love, respect and esteem of a large circle of friends and acquaintances.

**H**ON. DAVID McCARTNEY, deceased, was for many years one of the most prominent citizens of Whiteside county, and was not only well known in the county but throughout the entire state. He was born of Scotch-Irish parentage in Dansville, New York, in 1805, and there grew to manhood. In his native state he was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth A. Agge, a native of Massachusetts, born in Salem, Massachusetts, in 1821. They became the parents of five children, three of whom died in infancy. Those living are Fannie, born in Fulton, Whiteside county, Illinois, May 28, 1856, and who is now the wife of Charles M. Worthington, of Sterling, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume; and Annie, who is yet living in Sterling.

In 1854 Mr. McCartney came with his family to Whiteside county, and located in Fulton. He there read law, and in 1856

was admitted to the bar, and soon took rank among the ablest practitioners in western Illinois. For twelve years he served as prosecuting attorney for the circuit comprising the counties of Whiteside, Lee, Carroll and Ogle counties. When the law was changed and the office of prosecuting attorney for the circuit was abolished, and that of county attorney created, he was elected county attorney for Whiteside county and served for eight years. As a prosecutor he was one of the best known in the state, and was a terror to the evil doers.

On the organization of the Republican party Mr. McCartney became one of its most staunch advocates, and continued identified with it until his death in 1886. As a platform speaker he had few peers, and his services were in demand by the state central committee of his party in every state campaign. His ready wit, quick repartee, and his ability to relate a story effectively made him a favorite on the stump, and a drawing card. His death was greatly lamented throughout the county and state, as his friends were many. His good wife survived him some years, dying in 1898.

Mrs. Fannie Worthington inherited the ability of her father, and also his taste for political life. She accompanied him in many of his campaign tours through the state, and made a study of the political questions of the day. On the death of her father she was invited by the Republican state central committee to enter its service, and in 1888 began her career as a campaign speaker, touring the state and occupying the platform and speaking with such men as Senator Cullom, Governor Fifer, and other men of note. For three weeks she was under the management of the Repub-

lican national committee, and was the only woman who spoke on both the tariff and money issues, she having made a thorough study of each. She is one of the best posted persons on tariff and money in the country, and the state and national committees are always glad to avail themselves of her services. She has made forty speeches in sixty days, appearing in various parts of the state. For four years she served as postmistress of the state senate, and for two years was bill clerk in the senate. She has also served as private secretary to state and United States senators. Mrs. Worthington was a member from Whiteside county of the Illinois State Republican convention of 1898.

Mrs. Worthington is a member of the Congregational church, and has frequently filled the pulpit, speaking on current topics and on the temperance question. When not engaged in political work she lives a very quiet life in her home in the eastern part of Sterling, which commands a fine view of the Rock river.

**THOMAS ROBINSON, SR.** It is astonishing to witness the success of young men who have emigrated to America without capital and from a position of comparative obscurity have worked their way upward to a position of prominence. The readiness with which they adapt themselves to circumstances and take advantage of opportunities afforded brings to them success and wins them a place among the leading and successful men of the community in which they reside. In Mr. Robinson, of Rock Falls, we find a worthy representative of this class; he came to this country empty handed, and through his own

well directed and energetic efforts has become one of the most substantial and prosperous citizens of his adopted city.

Mr. Robinson was born in Wilkeshire, England, January 6, 1801, and there grew to manhood. In early life he followed the sea for five years, sailing on one vessel three and a half years and visiting all of the important seaports of the world. The remainder of the time was spent on a British man of war. On giving up his seafaring life, he worked at anything which he could find to do until coming to the United States with a cousin, in 1846. He first located in Luzerne county, Pennsylvania, where he worked in the mines, and as he received good wages, he was soon able to purchase a lot in Pittston and erect thereon a good residence.

On New Year's eve, of 1848, Mr. Robinson was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Hale, a native of Pennsylvania. Her sister married L. L. Emmons, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. In 1854, Mr. Robinson came to Whiteside county, Illinois, joining his brother-in-law, Mr. Emmons, and in Coloma township he purchased forty acres of land which was entirely unimproved. He bought a little school house, which he moved to his farm and converted into a dwelling, and immediately turned his attention to the cultivation and improvement of the place. Subsequently he purchased a forty-acre tract adjoining and also forty acres in Montmorency township, and as the years passed his converted his farm into one of the most desirable places of its size in the locality. He also gave considerable attention to the raising of stock horses, cattle and hogs and at one time sold twelve hundred and thirty-eight dollars worth of hogs. He also invested in

Kansas land, and still owns three quarter-sections of good land in Grove and Dodge counties, besides his farm in this county and one business block and six residences in Rock Falls. He left the farm in 1886, and has since lived retired in Rock Falls.

Mrs. Robinson died February 13, 1895, and her remains were interred in Rock Falls cemetery, where a neat monument now marks her last resting place. To our subject and his wife were born eight children, namely: Charles, a farmer of Boone county, Nebraska; Lord John, a resident of Cripple Creek, Colorado; William, a farmer of Nebraska; Thomas, Jr., and James, both residents of Rock Falls; Rose, wife of Marshall Oakley, of Nebraska; Carrie, wife of Paul Jones, of California; and Anna, at home with her father.

Politically Mr. Robinson is a supporter of the men and measures of the Democracy, but has never taken an active part in political affairs, aside from voting. His daughter, Miss Anna, is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, but he was reared in the Episcopal faith, or the Church of England. Although ninety-eight years of age, he is still quite active and possesses all his faculties to a remarkable degree. He is known far and wide as a man of sterling character and worth, and has the respect and esteem of all with whom he comes in contact. He is a man of recognized ability, and the success that he has achieved in life is due to his own perseverance, industry and sound judgment.

ANDREW J. OSBORNE, the well-known author and lecturer on monetary topics, residing in the city of Erie, has been a resident of Whiteside county, with

the exception of a few years spent in Iowa, for nearly half a century. He was born near Ashville, Massachusetts, December 17, 1828, and is the son of James and Rebecca (Glass) Osborne, both of whom are natives of Great Britain, where they were married, and from whence they come to the United States shortly after, locating near Ashville, Massachusetts. They were the parents of two sons—James, born in 1826, and Andrew J., the subject of this sketch, December 17, 1828.

In his eastern home the first twelve years of the life of Andrew J. Osborne were passed. He then came west to Livingston county, Michigan, where he remained four years, and in the spring of 1844 came to Illinois and lived in Henderson county for two years. In December, 1846, he came to Whiteside county, which, with the exception mentioned, has since been his home. On his arrival here, he engaged as a farm hand and worked for various persons until 1848, when he made a trip on foot to New York state, driving a herd of cattle. Leaving the village of Erie in June, 1848, he arrived at his destination in September following. He was in the employ of Collins Belding, and on the trip earned ten dollars per month, together with his expenses *en route*. The entire distance was covered on foot.

Arriving in New York, Mr. Osborne decided to attend school for a time, and did remain there one year for that purpose. Previous to this time his opportunities were limited for obtaining an education, but being a great reader he had laid the foundation for a good education. The eastern pupils were very much surprised to think that one could come from the west even knowing how to read and write, or having any

knowledge of mathematics. In 1849 he returned to Whiteside county, and for the next four winters was engaged in teaching, working on farms during the summer months.

On the 24th of March, 1853, Mr. Osborne was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth M. Smith, daughter of B. H. Smith, who was numbered among the early settlers of Kane county. By this union eleven children were born, ten of whom are now living—Charles F., Alla C., Henry A., Barnett A., Jessie E., Grant S., Elizabeth C., Rebecca, Lucy and Andrew J. The deceased one is Rachel M.

After his marriage, Mr. Osborne commenced farming in Erie township, having previously acquired one hundred and twenty acres of land. He there remained following the vocation of a farmer for a number of years, and then moved to the village of Erie, where he erected a steam saw mill and engaged in sawing lumber. He soon disposed of his interest in the mill and moved to western Iowa, where he lived five years. Not being satisfied with that country, he returned to Illinois in the spring of 1861, and first located in Henry county, where he engaged in farming. In the winter of 1863 he again returned to Whiteside county, which has since been his home. For a number of years after his return he engaged in farming. He then turned his attention to bridge building, which occupation he followed for about twenty years, or until about 1890, since which time he has lived practically a retired life.

In the beginning of the Civil war, Mr. Osborne's attention was called to the question of the national finances of the country, and he conceived the idea of converting the national debt into the paper money of the

country, and have the nation issue through the treasury department a form of credit money, or paper, for all supplies and services rendered during the war, as well as for other purposes. In regard to this question, he first published a leaflet called "The Philosophy of Money." This leaflet enunciated the principles on what was afterwards founded the greenback policy of the government, which, in effect, was that the debt of the nation is a legal tender to all the people thereof. Three hundred copies of this leaflet were sent to the various members of both branches of the national legislature. This was before the bill was passed provided for the issuing of "greenbacks." Whether the ideas on which that law was founded came directly from Mr. Osborne or not, it is certain that he advocated substantially the plan long before the passage of the law.

Mr. Osborne has continued to advocate the principles on which the greenback law was founded to the present time, and in advocacy of his views has occupied the lecture platforms and published several pamphlets on the subject, besides contributing to the local press. In 1879 he published a pamphlet entitled "A Treatise on Money," which was extensively circulated and well received. In 1898 he published a book entitled "The Monetary Revolution," in which he advocated the theory of the advance in the philosophy and science of money adapted to a republican form of government, and the sovereignty of the people. The book was dedicated to "Liberty and Labor." A perusal of the work convinces one of the author's deep thought and familiarity with the subject of the financial system of the country. He has made it his life-long study, and his views are well

worthy the consideration of the statesmen of the nation.

Mr. Osborne was the leader of the Greenback party in Whiteside county, and in 1882 was nominated by his party a candidate for the legislature, but owing to the weakness of the party he failed of an election, although he received a handsome vote in the district. His own township, however, gave him a majority of its votes, which was, indeed, a compliment. He has always been a friend of the laboring classes, and in the advocacy of his views on the monetary questions of the day, he endeavors to present some views beneficial to the men who toil and fall, failing to receive just recompense for their labors. He is a frequent contributor to the *Legal Topics*, a paper of well known repute, published in Fulton, Illinois, and his contributions find many readers, who read to their profit. As a citizen and neighbor, he is greatly esteemed by all.

**F**RANCIS O'NEIL. Among the more prominent and enterprising farmers of Hahnaman township who are of alien birth is the gentleman whose name heads this sketch. Like others of his countrymen he has brought to the new world the habits of economy and frugality which are inherent characteristics of his native land, and the exercise of which, accompanied by industry and good management, have raised him from a humble position to one of affluence. He now owns and operates a fine farm of four hundred and twenty acres in section 15, Hahnaman township, a mile and a half from Deer Grove.

Mr. O'Neil, who is familiarly called Frank by his numerous friends, was

born in County Mead, Ireland, in July, 1842, and in 1864 came to America, landing in Quebec, Canada. He went at once to New York city, where he arrived in May of that year, and after spending eight weeks there, he went to Connecticut, being employed for about a year on the construction of Fort Hale at East Haven. He next drove an oil wagon in Melbourn, New Jersey, for about two years, and in the fall of 1867 came to Whiteside county, Illinois, joining his brother, William O'Neil, who had located here about six months previously. After working at farm labor by the month for several years, in 1872 he purchased eighty acres of his present farm from William McCune. At that time it was a wild piece of swampy land, but he got up a petition for a ditch, which was at length constructed though it cost him fifteen hundred and twenty dollars. Mr. O'Neil drained, fenced and improved his first purchase, erecting at first only a small house upon the place, but as time has advanced, and he has prospered in his undertakings, he has added to his landed possessions until he now has four hundred and twenty acres of land, which he has placed under a high state of cultivation and improved with good buildings, including a pleasant home. He makes a specialty of stock, raising and fattening hogs and cattle for the market.

While in New Jersey, Mr. O'Neil was married, September 5, 1867, to Miss Winifred Finner, and to them have been born five children: Margaret, wife of William Drew, of Sterling; William is a contractor on the canal; Henry is in the employ of his brother, T. L., of Prophetstown; Frank, who helps carry on the home farm; and T. L., a business man of Prophetstown.

Politically Mr. O'Neil is a supporter of

the Republican party and its principles, and his fellow citizens, recognizing his worth and ability, have elected him to several local offices, the duties of which he has most capably discharged. He has been drainage commissioner of the township; collector two years; township trustee; a member of the school board; and clerk of the district.

**J**OHN E. MOSIER, one of the gallant defenders of the Union during the Civil war, and a prominent retired farmer of Rock Falls, residing at No. 611 Avenue A, was born in Cayuga county, New York, February 28, 1848. His grandfather, Elias Mosier, was a soldier of the war of 1812. He was a native of New Jersey and a pioneer of Cayuga county, New York, where he cleared and improved a farm. John Mosier, the father of our subject, was born in New Jersey, in 1816, but was reared in Cayuga county, New York, where he married Miss Carolina Ransier, who was born in that county, April 26, 1829, a daughter of Peter Ransier, also one of the first settlers of the county. Her paternal grandfather, George Ransier, was a soldier of the Revolutionary war. He bought six hundred acres of government land in Cayuga county, which he subsequently gave to his six children, four sons and two daughters. His son, Peter Ransier, was a native of Onondaga county, New York, and in early life married Miss Elthea Bordman. They made their home in Cayuga county, where he died in 1854. After his marriage the father of our subject continued to engage in farming in that county until 1866, when he came to Illinois and took up his residence in Erie, Whiteside county, where he lived retired for some years. Later he made his

home with a daughter in Middleport, New York, where he died October 30, 1898, at the ripe old age of eighty-two years. His remains were brought back to this county by our subject and interred in Leon cemetery, Prophetstown township. The wife and mother is still living and finds a pleasant home with our subject in Rock Falls.

Mr. Mosier, of this review, passed his boyhood and youth in Cayuga county, New York, where he was living at the opening of the Civil war. In January, 1864, although only sixteen years of age, he joined the boys in blue of Company C, One Hundred and Eleventh New York Volunteer Infantry, which was assigned to the Second Corps, Army of the Potomac, and with that command he participated in the battle of the Wilderness and was in active service until the surrender of General Lee, April 9, 1865. He received two flesh wounds but was never seriously injured. He participated in the grand review in Washington, D. C., at the close of the war, and was honorably discharged in that city, June 10, 1865.

Two days later Mr. Mosier reached home. In January, 1866, at the age of eighteen years, he came to Whiteside county, Illinois, where he at first worked as a farm hand, but the following year he purchased forty acres of unimproved land in Prophetstown township, which he at once commenced to break and improve. Subsequently he bought an adjoining forty-acre tract, and still later sixty acres more, making a good farm of one hundred and forty acres, which he placed under a high state of cultivation and improved with substantial buildings. He continued the operation of his land until 1893, when he rented the farm and moved to Rock Falls. Here he owns a good home and is now living a retired life.

He owns some valuable property in New York, having, in 1898, purchased a fine apple orchard of eighteen acres in Royalton, Niagara county.

In Prophetstown, Mr. Mosier was married, February 23, 1870, to Miss Fannie E. Andrews, a native of that town, and to them were born three children, namely: Mamie, who is well educated and is now successfully engaged in teaching school; Erving J., who is married and engaged in farming; and Nellie, who has also been well educated.

The Republican party has always found in Mr. Mosier a staunch supporter of its principles, since he cast his first presidential vote for General U. S. Grant, in 1872, but he has never sought political honors. He is a staunch friend of education and our public school system, has ever used his influence to secure good schools and teachers, and for several years efficiently served as a member of the school board and clerk of the district. He is an honored member of the Grand Army post of Sterling, and is widely and favorably known throughout the county. His mother is a faithful member of the Christian church of Rock Falls.

---

**WARREN F. POWERS.** Among the representative business men of the county none are more deserving of representation in this volume than Warren F. Powers, who for many years has been connected with the agricultural interests of the community, and who has, through his well-directed efforts, gained a handsome competence that numbers him among the substantial citizens of his township. His keen discrimination, unflagging industry and resolute purpose are numbered among his

salient characteristics, and thus he has won that prosperity which is the merited reward of honest effort.

Mr. Powers was born in Palmyra township, Lee county, Illinois, in September, 1851, his parents being Abijah and Amanda (Sprout) Powers, who were natives of Massachusetts, the former born in 1814, the latter in 1819. The father was educated in the common schools of his native state, and in 1837 came to the west, but after two years returned to the Bay state, and on the 8th of September, 1839, married Miss Sprout. He then brought his bride to Illinois, locating in Palmyra township, Lee county, where he later secured a claim of government land, for which he paid a dollar and a quarter per acre. From time to time he added to his property until he had two hundred and eighty-one acres in the home farm, and a timber tract of twenty-five acres near by. During the first years of his residence here he carried on general farming and later dealt extensively in thoroughbred Durham cattle, doing more to improve the grade of stock raised in this section of the state than any other man of his time. He was also a prominent factor in public affairs, and exerted a strong influence in the public life of the community in the side of progress and improvement. He filled all the township offices, and in 1876 was elected to the state legislature, where he served one term and then declined a renomination. He was a prominent member of the assembly during that session, served on several important committees and was a warm friend of R. R. Hitt. He was also a leading member of the Old Settlers' Association and his upright and useful life won him many friends in all classes of society. He continued to



supervise the management of his farm until his death, which occurred in July, 1891, his remains being interred in Prairieville cemetery. His widow still survives him and is now living on the old homestead with her son, Austin. They became early and influential members of the Congregational church, Mr. Powers contributing liberally to all the charitable and other work of the church. He contributed more than one-third of the amount necessary for the erection of the house of worship, and at his death bequeathed one thousand dollars to the church, the interest of which is used in the church property. He left to his family the priceless heritage of an untarnished name and his example is well worthy of emulation.

Mr. and Mrs. Powers were the parents of six children: Alfred A., the eldest, died at the age of six years. Alvira A. is the wife of Captain Charles Eckles, of Marshalltown, Iowa, a native of England who came to the United States with his parents during his childhood, and at the breaking out of the Civil war enlisted in 1861, as a member of Company D, Thirty-fourth Illinois Infantry, in which he served until the cessation of hostilities. He now has three sons and a daughter. Nellie C., the third child of Abijah Powers, died in September, 1889. She was the wife of Anson Thummell and left a husband and five children to mourn her loss. Mary A. is the wife of James C. Nickerson, and has two sons and a daughter. Warren F. is the next of the family. Austin resides on the home farm with his mother. He married Miss Adella Tollman, of Iowa, and they have three children. All the members of this family were born in Palmyra township, Lee county.

Warren Powers was educated in the

common schools of Lee county and spent one year each as a student in Mount Vernon, Iowa and in Evanstown, Illinois. He remained on the home farm with his parents until he had attained his majority and in December, 1872, wedded Miss Mary E. Miller, also a native of Lee county. The lady is a daughter of Henry and Frederica Miller, and her ancestors, natives of Germany, came to the United States in 1837. Her parents had two sons and seven daughters, she being the second in order of birth. Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Powers, namely: Eva M., wife of Charles Le Fevre, of Sterling township; Willard D., bookkeeper for Mr. John Peck, a coal dealer of Sterling; Frank W., who is engaged in bookkeeping for a coal company in Clark City, Illinois; Earl A., who died in infancy; Lottie A.; Nellie A. and Morris A., at home.

In the spring of 1873 Mr. Powers took up his abode in Jordan township, Whiteside county and for nine years resided a mile west of his pleasant home, to which he came in 1882, remaining here continuously since. He has three hundred and twenty acres on section 36, Jordan township, the greater part of which is under a high state of cultivation. All of the buildings and other substantial improvements on the place stand as monuments to his thrift and enterprise, and indicate his progressive spirit. He has been generally successful in his farming operations and has dealt quite largely in hogs and cattle, fattening them for the market. For the past two years he has rented his farm and now has fifty cows on the place in charge of a tenant. He thus furnishes milk to the Anglo-Swiss condensed milk factory, in Dixon, and from this derives a good in-

come. His life has always been a busy and active one, and has brought him a high degree of prosperity.

In politics Mr. Powers is a Republican, and socially he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America, the Knights of the Globe, and the Ancient Order of United Workmen. Mr. and Mrs. Powers belong to the Congregational church in Prairieville, of which four of their children are also members, and of which he is serving as trustee. He is also a prominent worker in the Sabbath-school, and does all in his power to promulgate the principles of Christianity whereby men are made better and life becomes happier and holier.

**C**HARLES P. GARWICK is the junior member of the firm of Ackerman & Garwick, well-known merchants and bankers of Coleta, Whiteside county, Illinois. He is a wide-awake, energetic business man—a true type of western progress and enterprise—and in his undertakings has steadily prospered until he is now one of the substantial citizens of his section.

Mr. Garwick was born on the 11th of December, 1853, in Butler county, Pennsylvania, and is a son of Jacob and Lena (Wolff) Garwick, natives of Alsace, Germany, who on coming to the new world located in Butler county, Pennsylvania, where they spent four years. The following year was passed in Cook county, Illinois, and at the end of that time they took up their residence in Carroll county, this state. In his native land the father had followed the miller's trade, but during his residence in Pennsylvania took up the occupation of farming, and in 1856 purchased eighty acres of uncultivated land in Carroll county, Illi-

nois, to which he subsequently added a one-hundred-and-sixty-acre tract, making a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres in Fair Haven township. Upon that place he continued to make his home until called from this life in 1878, at the age of sixty-six years. He was quite a progressive and successful farmer, and was highly respected by all who knew him. His wife died in 1884, at the age of seventy-four years.

To this worthy couple were born eight children, of whom six reached years of maturity, namely: (1) Jacob, a resident of Clyde township, Whiteside county, married Sarah Zook, and died at the age of sixty-two years, leaving five children. (2) Henry, also a resident of Clyde township, is married and has six children. (3) George was a member of the Thirty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry during the Civil war, and was killed in a skirmish. He was unmarried. (4) Frederick, formerly of Clyde township, but now a retired citizen of Chadwick, Carroll county, married Macky Deitz, and has four children. (5) Louis, also a retired farmer of Chadwick, who was formerly a resident of Fair Haven township, Carroll county, married first Louisa Smith, who died leaving one child, and for his second wife he married Bertha Gragorious, by whom he has two children, and Charles P. is the youngest.

Our subject grew to manhood upon the home farm and acquired his literary education in the district schools of Fair Haven township. He remained with his father until he was married, December 17, 1877, to Miss Barbara Ackerman, a sketch of whose family is given in connection with that of C. E. Ackerman on another page of this volume. By this union three children have been born: Jacob, who resides with

his parents in Coleta; Lizzie, who is attending the high school of Milledgeville; and Lettie, who is also attending school at that place.

After his marriage, Mr. Garwick took charge of one hundred and twenty acres of the home farm, to which he subsequently added eighty acres, making a fine farm of two hundred acres on section 25, Fair Haven township, Carroll county, which he successfully operated until January, 1895, when he rented the farm and moved to Coleta, purchasing a half interest in the general mercantile business of C. E. Ackerman at that place. They also do a good banking business under the firm name of Ackerman & Garwick, and in both undertakings have been eminently successful. They are sagacious, far-sighted business men of known reliability, and have the confidence and respect of their many patrons.

Fraternally Mr. Garwick is a member of Lafayette camp, No. 76, M. W. A., of which he is one of the three directors, and also belongs to Coleta garrison, No. 160, K. of G. He is a member of the Lutheran church, but as there is no church of that denomination in Coleta, he now attends the Methodist Episcopal church. His political support is given the Republican party, and while living on the farm he most efficiently served as school director for nine years.

THOMAS J. WORMAN, an honored and highly respected citizen of Rock Falls, whose home is on East Third street, was born in Hampshire county, West Virginia, October 5, 1827, and is of German extraction, the Worman family being founded in America by two brothers, natives of Ger-

many, who were among the first to settle in Maryland.

W. W. Worman, the father of our subject, was born in Towson, Maryland, October 15, 1802, and there spent his boyhood and youth. When a young man he went to West Virginia, where he married Miss Nancy C. Cundiff, who was of Welsh ancestry. Her father, John Cundiff, was born at Fauquier Court House, Virginia, and was the son of an Englishman and a pioneer of the Old Dominion, who was a cavalryman during the Revolutionary war and took part in the battle of Brandywine. The father of our subject became a prominent contractor and builder of Hampshire county, West Virginia, and erected the court house and several public buildings in Romney. About 1838 he moved to Knox county, Ohio, where he successfully carried on business for some years along the same line, but after the death of his wife he returned to Maryland and remained there for several years. He finally joined our subject in this county and here died April 24, 1883, his remains being first interred in Rock Falls cemetery.

In Ohio, Thomas J. Worman grew to manhood, and he attended the common and select schools of that state. During his youth he learned the carpenter's and joiner's trade with his father, serving a three years' apprenticeship. When a young man he came to Illinois, in 1849, and first located in La Salle, making the journey from Chicago to that place by way of the canal on the Red Bird line of boats. In La Salle he worked at the carpenter's and joiner's trade for about two years.

While there Mr. Worman was married, December 16, 1852, to Miss Sarah P. Brown, who was born near Buffalo, Erie

county, New York. Her parents, Joshua and Elizabeth (Keyser) Brown, were both natives of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and were married in a Quaker meeting house in that city, as they were members of the Society of Friends. From their native state they removed to Erie county, New York, where Mr. Brown was engaged in business as a merchant tailor for some years, but in 1835 they came to LaSalle county, Illinois, and took up their residence in Troy Grove, where he took up land engaged in the midst of the wilderness opened up a farm. He died there in 1842, but his wife survived him many years and spent her last days with Mrs. Worman in Rock Falls, where she died in 1881, at the age of eighty-two years, being laid to rest in Sterling cemetery. She was the mother of thirteen children.

Mr. and Mrs. Worman began their domestic life in La Salle, where they made their home while he was employed as a civil engineer on the Illinois Central Railroad, between Dixon and Bloomington, for three years. Later they removed to Mendota, where as a contractor and builder he erected a number of public building and private residence, including the Blackstone school. During the Civil war, he enlisted at Mendota, in August, 1861, as a private in Company E, Thirty-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was in active service until discharged for disability in 1862, taking part in the battle of Pea Ridge, Arkansas, and several skirmishes, and following General Price through that state and Missouri. After being discharged he returned to his home in Mendota, but later joined the Fifteenth Kentucky Cavalry, and remained with that regiment until 1863, when he was again mustered out and returned home.

Subsequently he was a member of the Thirty-first Illinois Volunteer Infantry, Colonel Logan's old regiment, and he was in active service with that command until the close of the war, when he was again honorably discharged. He continued to engage in business as a contractor and builder in Mendota until after the great fire in Chicago, in 1871, when he went to that city and for three years aided in its reconstruction. In 1876 he became a resident of Rock Falls, where he bought a lot and erected his present residence. Here he engaged in contracting and building for a time and also worked in the shops of the Keystone Manufacturing Company at intervals until 1897, when on account of failing health he retired altogether from active labor.

To Mr. and Mrs. Worman were born ten children, namely: Thomas A., a business man of Rock Falls, residing at home; William S., who is married and engaged in business in Chicago; Edgar B., who is now at home; Kate E., wife of L. L. Emmons, Jr., editor of the Morrison Record; Fanny L., wife of O. J. Thompson, a stock dealer of Des Arc, Arkansas; Fred C., who is connected with the mail service and resides in Butte, Montana; Charles G., a stenographer in the office of the superintendent of the Northwestern Railroad at Boone, Iowa; Henry K., who died unmarried, June 16, 1888; William D., who died in childhood, and Charles, who died in infancy.

Politically, Mr. Worman was first a Democrat, but in 1856 joined the Republican party, and in 1868 was a delegate to the Prohibition party in Chicago, and has since affiliated with the last named party. At local elections, however, he votes for the best men, regardless of party lines. For some years he was a member of the board

of education. Fraternally, he belongs to the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, being an Ancient Odd Fellow, and to the latter two of his sons also belong. His wife is an earnest member of the Congregational church of Rock Falls, and they stand high in the community where they have so long made their home. Those who know them best are numbered among their warmest friends, and no citizens of Rock Falls are more honored or esteemed.

**B**ENJAMIN F. LATHE. One of the leading citizens of Morrison is Benjamin F. Lathe, who, after an extremely active and useful life, has retired to enjoy the fruits of his toil. He has passed through the hardships of frontier existence, and has met with many reverses, yet has bravely surmounted the difficulties in his pathway, winning a position of affluence and influence in the community.

His father, Reuel Lathe, a native of Charlton, Massachusetts, born in 1803, was a farmer. For a wife, the latter chose Sally Robbins, a native of the same town, born in 1800, and at the time of their marriage making her home with her grandfather. In 1845 the Lathe family removed from their late home in Steuben county, New York, to Lyndon township, Whiteside county, Illinois. John, the second son of Reuel Lathe, had come to these prairies the year before and had pre-empted land, which he purchased when the land office was established. The father continued to improve his farm until shortly before his death, which event took place in 1861. His widow remained on the old homestead with her son Benjamin until she passed to the silent land, in 1876. The

father was a Republican, and in religion was a Universalist.

Benjamin F. Lathe, whose birth occurred June 15, 1830, in Steuben county, New York, is one of ten children, two of whom died in infancy. Moses, who came to Illinois in 1848, died in this county. He had five children, all but one of whom survive, and one of his sons, Charles, lives on Lathe island, near Erie, Illinois. John, the second son of Reuel Lathe, died at his home in Lyndon township, and of his two sons one is deceased, and Hosea B. is a resident of Galesburg. Jabez, who was married but had no children, lives near Erie with his nephew and is the owner of some farm land near Lyndon. Sarah E., with her husband, Milo Chapin, lives in Prophetstown, and their only surviving child, Samuel, is a resident of Portland township. Phæbe A., who never married, died in 1861, when about twenty-seven years of age. Violetta A., deceased, wife of J. E. Sands, had four children of whom three survive—Fred, Mrs. Ella Marcy, of Lyndon township, and Frank E., of Morrison. Lasira D., widow of James Knox, of Mount Pleasant township, has three children: James Reuel, of Monrovia, California; Edgar P., of Union Grove township; and Fred M., of Mount Pleasant township.

When he was a lad of fifteen years B. F. Lathe came to Whiteside county, and until he was twenty-six years of age he remained on the parental homestead, engaged in agriculture. After his marriage the young man arranged to purchase his father's farm of one hundred and sixty acres, and in time he had placed it under high cultivation, making valuable improvements, and eventually increasing the boundaries of his place until it now comprises two hundred and forty

acres, all situated in Lyndon township. He has raised stock and grain, and has met with success in his various undertakings. In 1892 he rented the farm and retired, and for a year lived in Morrison. He then joined his son and purchased two hundred and twenty-eight acres of the Thomas farm, and there dwelt for four years. In 1897 he became the owner of a new house on East Main street, Morrison, paying two thousand dollars for the property, which he improved and is now making his home.

In 1860 Mr. Lathe suffered greatly by the Comanche tornado, which devastated his homestead, wrecking his house, barns and orchard, everything being a total loss. He himself was injured seriously, and today carries scars on the head and face as mementoes of the long weeks when death fought for his life and almost won the victory. Upon recovering he bravely set about making a new start, for it was necessary for him to plant a new orchard and build a new house and barns and buy new implements for the cultivation of his farm. In 1897 he fell from a high wagon and sustained an injury to his hip which will make him lame during the remainder of his career. For sixteen years he was a school director in Lyndon township, and in political faith he has been a stalwart Republican. Religiously he is an adherent of the Universalist church.

The marriage of B. F. Lathe and Lydia Knox was solemnized February 20, 1856. She was born in Erie county, New York, September 25, 1831, a daughter of James and Amy (Martin) Knox, who removed to Whiteside county in 1835. Here they were among the earliest settlers, and for years the Indians, whose camp was not far distant, in the Big Woods, on the Ox-bow

river, traded with them, obtaining provisions and clothing. For over a year the Knox family lived largely upon the meat of wild turkeys and wild hogs, the latter being very plentiful in this region at that day. James Knox built and operated the first ferry-boat on the river, near Prophetstown, and for many years it was one of the well-known landmarks of this county. He owned a farm on the present site of Morrison, later sold it and moved one mile east of Morrison, and died at his old home there in 1860. His wife subsequently made her home with one of her sons until her death in 1866. All of her ten sons and two daughters lived to maturity. William, deceased, married Mary J. Emery, who, with six of their seven children, survives. Martin died in California. Alson, deceased, married Julia Weaver, who, with nine of their children, survives him. Peter died, leaving a widow, H. Emeline (Hawley) Knox. James married the sister of B. F. Lathe, and died, leaving three children. Archibald, deceased, married Minerva R. Garrison, who is living in Mount Pleasant township, as are their four children. Henry L. died in Mount Pleasant township, where he owned a good farm. John J., of Mount Pleasant township, married Lucy Humphreys. Mary died, leaving a husband, Byron McIntyre, now of Michigan, and four children. Allen, who resides in Kansas, married Mary Utley, and has several children. Louis Knox, a drayman of Morrison, wedded Emma Hulett, and has one son, Louis.

The marriage of Benjamin F. Lathe and wife was blessed with four children. Alice R. became the wife of W. H. Bloom, editor of the Courier, of Sutherland, Iowa. David B., unmarried, is living at home with his parents. James F. is a thrifty young farmer

of Mount Pleasant township, where he owns a valuable homestead. He married Nettie McNutt, and has a pleasant home. Clara L. is the wife of David L. Broyles, of Union, Iowa. He is a farmer and owns a good homestead of two hundred and eighteen acres.

-----

**A**BRAHAM B. TITUS. Among the self-made men of Whiteside county who have accumulated a sufficiency of this world's goods through their own energy and thrift to enable them in their declining years to lay aside active business and live retired, is the gentleman whose name introduces this sketch. He was born in Onondaga county, New York, November 8, 1828, a son of Leonard and Maria (Becker) Titus, both natives of the Empire state. The father was a mechanic and worked at the blacksmith's trade in New York until 1835, when he removed to Gallia county, Ohio, and purchased a farm. He also erected a shop and divided his time between work at his trade and agricultural pursuits. He died there in 1848. His wife survived him many years and reared their family, dying in 1896, at the advanced age of ninety-three.

The early life of our subject was principally passed in Gallia county, Ohio, where he attended the district schools through the winter months and aided in the farm work during the summer season. He remained with his mother until coming west in 1850, when he located in Richland county, Illinois, though he afterward worked by the month for three seasons in Morgan county, this state.

In Richland county, Mr. Titus was married, in April, 1853, to Miss Elizabeth

Chauncey, a native of that county and a daughter of Isaac Chauncey, who was from Tennessee and was one of the pioneers of Richland county. By this union seven children were born, namely: Leonard, who is married and engaged in farming in Champaign county, Illinois; Helen, at home; Edgar, who is married and engaged in business in Stewart, as a dealer in lumber, coal and grain. Ira, who is married and engaged in business with his brother in Stewart; Charles, who is married and follows farming in Champaign county; Martha, deceased wife of Fred Hitchcock, by whom she had one child, Neleta; and Jesse, who is married and follows farming in Lee county, Illinois.

For two or three years after his marriage, Mr. Titus engaged in farming on rented land and then bought ten acres in Richland county, upon which he built a log cabin, and to which he later added an adjoining ten acres. In the meantime he went to Pikes Peak in 1858 and spent nine months in gold mining with fair success. He not only cultivated his own land, but also operated rented tracts and worked by the day at anything which he could find to do. In 1863 he removed to Champaign county, where after farming upon rented land for six years, he purchased a forty-acre tract of wild land, to the improvement and cultivation of which he devoted his energies until 1874, when he rented the place, and for six years lived upon a farm of four hundred acres, which he leased. Here he met with excellent success in his farming operations, and was finally able to purchase one hundred and sixty acres of raw prairie land, which he broke, fenced, ditched and improved with good buildings. In 1892 he sold that place for eighty dollars per acre

and purchased a well improved farm of three hundred and twenty acres in Montmorency township, Whiteside county, which he still owns. In 1893 he bought residence property in Rock Falls, where he has since made his home, while devoting his time to looking after the operation of his farm. He had no capital to aid him in starting out in life for himself, but he has worked his way steadily upward until he is now one of the prosperous citizens of the town. His success is due to his perseverance, untiring enterprise, resolute purpose and commendable zeal, and withal his actions have been guided by an honesty of purpose that none have questioned.

In his political affiliations Mr. Titus was a Whig from the time he cast his first presidential ballot for Zachary Taylor until 1860, when he voted for Abraham Lincoln, and continued to support the Republican party until after voting for General Grant in 1868, but since that time has been independent in politics. During his residence in Champaign county he served as drainage commissioner for six years, and has also been alderman of Rock Falls for one term. He united with the Odd Fellows lodge at Olney, Illinois, on Christmas eve, 1857, has since filled all the offices, and is now past grand of his lodge. Wherever known he is held in high regard, and he has made many warm friends during his residence in this county.

**J**OHAN R. RENNER, an enterprising and energetic agriculturist, residing on section 18, Hahnaman township, Whiteside county, Illinois, was born in Greene county, Pennsylvania, February 17, 1842, a son of William and Elmina (Reinhart) Renner,

also natives of that county, and that latter a daughter of John Reinhart. In 1840 the father first came to Whiteside county, Illinois, and located at Deer Grove, where he took up a claim of one hundred and sixty acres, and two years later he was joined by his family. Later he entered other land, and for several years devoted his attention to the improvement and cultivation of his farm, but finally sold out and removed to Bureau county, Illinois. A few years later, however, he returned to this county and located on the farm near where his widow still resides. There he died in 1859, honored and respected by all who knew him. His widow has now reached the ripe old age of eighty-four years.

As soon as old enough to be of any assistance, John R. Renner began to aid in the arduous task of converting the wild land into well tilled fields and his education was acquired in the primitive schools of those early days. During the Civil war he was one of the brave boys in blue, having enlisted in August, 1862, in Company K, One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, under command of Colonel Thomas J. Henderson, later General Henderson. With the Army of the Cumberland he participated in the engagements at Somerset, Kentucky; Knoxville; Franklin, and the Atlanta campaign. He was taken prisoner at Columbia, Tennessee, November 30, 1864, and sent to Andersonville prison, where he was held until the close of the war and then released. He joined the federal forces at Jacksonville, Florida, and on his return north was honorably discharged at Springfield, Illinois. He reached home in July, 1865, and resumed work on the home farm. Mr. Renner's first purchase of land consisted of eighty acres on section 21,



Hahnman, and to it he later added another eighty-acre tract. Since then he has purchased one hundred and eight acres on section 17, the same township, and since owns both places, which he has converted into well improved and highly cultivated farms. He is a skillful and systematic farmer and due success has not been denied him.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Renner is a Republican, and has never faltered in his allegiance to that party since casting his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln, while in the army in 1864. He has been a member of the township Republican committee and has been a delegate to the county conventions of his party. He was elected and served as road commissioner for fourteen years, and was also drainage commissioner ten years. He is an honored member of the Grand Army post of Tampico, and as a citizen and soldier he merits and receives the respect and esteem of all who know him.

**A**D. WOOD, a well-known farmer and highly esteemed citizen of Newton township, whose home is on section 22, was born in Berkshire, Massachusetts, December 8, 1849, a son of Mason B. and Mary (Paul) Wood. The father was a native of Massachusetts, and in that state engaged in farming during early life, but in 1865 he came to Whiteside county, Illinois, and took up his residence in Newton township, where he died in March, 1887. His wife passed away in June, 1886. In their family were seven children, namely: Zelotus R., who is now conducting a hotel in Berkshire county, Massachusetts; Amelia, wife of J. B. Frazelle, of Clinton, Iowa; Susan, who married Edward A. Tucker,

and both are now deceased; A. D., our subject; John B., a farmer of Newton township, Whiteside county; Caroline, wife of W. H. Valentine, of Montana; and Olive, deceased.

A. D. Wood remained at home with his parents until he was married, February 9, 1888, to Miss Margaret Blean, who was born in Whiteside county, February 10, 1851, a daughter of Robert and Margaret (Thompson) Blean, natives of Cumberland county, Pennsylvania. They now have one child, Lida M., who was born July 24, 1889, and is attending school.

During his early life Mr. Wood became thoroughly familiar with all the duties which fall to the lot of the agriculturist, and throughout his active business life has successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising. After his marriage he located upon his own farm on section 28, Newton township, and there continued to reside until 1896, when he sold the place and moved to the H. Y. Beardsworth farm. He is the owner of eighty acres of valuable and well-improved land on section 27. Politically he is a staunch supporter of the Republican party and its principles, but has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking. He takes considerable interest in educational affairs and has served as school treasurer for a number of years. Both himself and wife are faithful members of the Presbyterian church, of Newton, and he also belongs to the Knights of the Maccabees.

**P**ALMER COLLINS, the well-known and popular foreman of the Keystone Manufacturing Company, was born in New London county, Connecticut, April 22, 1840, a son of Captain Amos and Phebe S.

(Brown) Collins, also natives of Connecticut. His paternal grandfather, John Collins, was born in Rhode Island, but at an early day removed to the Nutmeg state. The maternal grandfather, Joshua Brown, was also a native of Rhode Island and a soldier of the war of 1812. The father was born in New London county, March 5, 1808, and there he continued to make his home throughout life engaged in agricultural pursuits. He held a captain's commission in the state militia. He died in 1885 and his wife passed away in 1888. In their family were four children, two sons and two daughters, namely: Phebe E., wife of W. B. Brown, of Rock Falls; Palmer, our subject; Frances, who married Oliver G. Brown, and both died in Connecticut; and Lott K., who lives on the old homestead in that state.

Palmer Collins was reared upon the home farm and educated in the common schools of the locality. On leaving home at the age of fifteen years he commenced working as a farm hand by the month and was thus employed for eight years, after which he engaged in farming on his own account for seven years. In 1873 he came to Rock Falls, Illinois, where for two years he clerked in a store, and later accepted a position in the Fayette dye factory. He next entered the employ of the Keystone Manufacturing Company, and after being with them for seven years he was made foreman, which important position he has now acceptably and creditably filled for eight years, being one of the most valued and trusted employes of the company.

In Rock Falls, in October, 1877, Mr. Collins was united in marriage with Mrs. Mary L. Aument, who was born in Connecticut, but was reared and educated in

Whiteside county, Illinois. Her father, John Enderton, was a native of Massachusetts, and was one of the pioneers of this county, being first engaged in business in Sterling and later in farming in this county. Prior to his marriage, Mr. Collins purchased a lot and built the house which has since been his home. Fraternally he is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and politically he is independent. He takes quite an active and prominent part in public affairs, and for five years served as alderman of the city to the entire satisfaction of his constituents. His estimable wife is a member of the Congregational church and both are held in high regard by all who know them.

GEN. C. P. EGE, a veteran of the Civil war, with a record for service that is honorable and creditable, has been a prominent citizen of Whiteside county for nearly a half century. He was born at Pine Grove Furnace, Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, November 10, 1835, and is the son of Major Joseph A. and Jane E. (Woodburn) Ege, both of whom were also natives of Cumberland county, Pennsylvania. Captain Peter Ege, the grandfather, was proprietor and manager of Pine Grove Furnace in an early day. He married Jane E. Arthur, of the same family from whom Chester A. Arthur, ex-president of the United States, was descended. Captain Peter Ege was captain of the Adamantine Guards, and during the Baltimore insurrection was wounded in the arm. John Blean, who died in Newton township, Whiteside county, Illinois, in 1864, was his orderly sergeant, and warded off in part the saber blow aimed at Captain Ege's heart. Michael Ege, the father of Peter, in company

with his brother George, owned and operated five furnaces and forges in Pennsylvania and one in New Jersey. He married Ann Dorothy Wolf, a sister of Peter Wolf, of York, Pennsylvania. The father of Michael and George Ege was Michael Ege, a native of Germany, who came to this country in 1738 in the sailing vessel *Friendship*, and in 1744 married Catherine Hultz, a sister of Governor Hultz, of Pennsylvania. She was his second wife. The father of Michael Ege, Sr., was Bernard Ege, also a native of Germany, but who came to this country and lived and died in New Jersey.

Captain Peter Ege was born January 1, 1776, and married Jane E. Arthur in 1799. At the reception following, George and Martha Washington were present, and, in pledging the bride's health, Martha Washington claimed the privilege of naming the first born. The first born were twins and were named George W. and Martha. Their son, Joseph A., the father of our subject, married Jane E. Woodburn, daughter of James and Agnes (Martin) Woodburn, the former of Irish and the latter of Scotch descent, both residents of Newville, Cumberland county, Pennsylvania. By this union there were eleven children, as follows: Jane Elmira, who died in infancy; Margaret W., wife of Major John G. McFarland, of Minneapolis, Minnesota; Jane L., wife of Peter Mayberger, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin; C. P., the subject of this sketch; Martha E., wife of George Reddy, of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; Joseph Stockton, a minister in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; Henrietta M., wife of Judge James S. Burd, of Minneapolis; Colonel Joseph A., who served as colonel and provost marshal during the Civil war; James H., a corporal in the Civil war, and who was three times sheriff of Hennepin county, Minne-

sota, where he now resides; Frances H., who died single, in California; and Ellen, who died in infancy. The mother of these children dying, the father later married Kate Rush, who bore him four children: William Lusk, who died in Whiteside county, in 1895; Charles F., of Newton township; Eva M., widow of Harper Earl, of Guthrie, Oklahoma; and Hettie B., a teacher in the female seminary at Oakland, California. The family came to Whiteside county in 1857 and located at Kingsbury, where the father died, January 11, 1862.

The subject of this sketch was reared in his native state, and after attending the Shippensburg and Big Springs Academies, he entered Dickerson College, Carlisle, Pennsylvania, where he learned civil engineering. In 1855 he came to Whiteside county and visited his cousin, Hettie Blean, wife of Lieutenant James Blean, who was killed at Prairiesville, Kentucky, in 1862. After visiting for a time, he went to Minneapolis, Minnesota, and became associated with his brother-in-law, Major McFarland, who founded the first bank in that city. In the financial crisis in 1856 the bank failed and he returned to Whiteside county.

In 1857 Mr. Ege engaged in farming in Newton township, making his home with Deborah Booth, who was a daughter of Edward Hart, the son of John Hart, one of the signers of the declaration of independence. Her husband, Major William Booth, served with that rank in the war of 1812. His brother Isaac was a general; his brother Daniel was colonel of the Virginia volunteers in 1812; his brother John, a captain, and his brother Stephen a corporal. The captain and corporal were killed in battle at Norfolk. Major Booth located in Newton township in 1839 and died in 1854. Deb-

orah Booth survived him many years, dying in 1874.

While boarding with Mrs. Booth, our subject there met for the first time his wife, then Miss Harriet L. Booth, a granddaughter of Major and Deborah Booth, and daughter of Elijah and Sarah (Beckler) Booth. They were married September 21, 1861. Mrs. Ege, who was one of a family of four children which grew to maturity, was born August 1, 1838. The others were Sylvester H., born January 16, 1835, now a resident of Albany, and who was among the first to go to California after the discovery of gold, was a sergeant of a California regiment during the Rebellion; Martha J., born December 25, 1839, is the wife of J. P. Early, a sergeant of the Ninety-third Illinois Volunteer Infantry, who was wounded at the battle of Champion Hill; and Melinda, born November 19, 1841, late the wife of S. H. Beckwith, of Ames, Iowa, and who had a son serving as sergeant in the Spanish-American war. The maternal grandmother of Mrs. Ege was Martha (Sweeney) Beckley, the only daughter of Captain Sweeney, one of the heroes of the Revolutionary war. He located in Lebanon, Pennsylvania, but was drowned while taking a cargo of goods from Baltimore.

To General and Mrs. Ege nine children were born. Martha L., born July 27, 1862, died December 25, 1864. Harriet, born October 29, 1865, died February 12, 1891. She was a talented young lady, a teacher and worker in the church, and was well and favorably known. Mary E., born February 3, 1867, was married June 17, 1891, to Charles Wheaton, a druggist of Lorain, Illinois. Henry P., born October 12, 1868, is a druggist in Lorain. Henrietta W., born January 2, 1870, was married March

14, 1895, to W. F. Rumble, cashier of the bank at Laurel, Mississippi. Deborah Booth, born September 23, 1871, was married June 21, 1894, to W. L. Olds, of Albany, Illinois. Sylvester A., born August 21, 1876, was a clerk on a gunboat, and a volunteer in Company M, First Mississippi Volunteers, during the Spanish-American war. Sarah K. is a teacher in the public schools of Albany. One child died in infancy.

In 1858-9, Mr. Ege was engaged a portion of his time as civil engineer with the Chicago & Northwestern Railway Company, and also one year later, his associates in the early spring of 1861 being George B. McClellan, afterwards major-general in the United States army and Democratic candidate for president in 1864; Richard Bushnell, who served as a major in the Thirteenth Illinois Regiment during the Civil war and was killed in the battle of Ringgold Georgia; and George Brown, who served as a captain during the same struggle.

Coming through a long line of patriotic citizens, Mr. Ege was by nature and inclination a lover of his country, and when the first call of President Lincoln was made for armed men to suppress the rebellion, he offered his services and enlisted as a private in the Ellsworth Zouaves, and April 15, 1861, left Chicago, under command of Captain Ellsworth, for Springfield, Illinois, from which place they were sent to Birds Point, Illinois, where the command was stationed for some time. Few veterans can show a better record for service than General Ege. His promotions came rapid, and his duties were arduous from the very date of his enlistment. He was later transferred from the Ellsworth Zouaves and August 1, 1862, was

commissioned first lieutenant of Company A, Thirty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was promoted captain of the same company, December 12, 1862. On the 13th of September, 1864, he was promoted major of the regiment, and November 10 of the same year lieutenant-colonel. Five days later he was commissioned colonel, and July 4, 1865, was brevetted brigadier-general. From May 11, 1865, until mustered out of the service, he was brigade commander of the Second Brigade, Second Division, Fourteenth Army Corps, under General George Thomas.

The Thirty-fourth Illinois Regiment was known as Thomas' skirmish regiment, being drilled in skirmish tactics. Colonel Ege was the first man wounded in his regiment, his wound, which was in the hand, being received in a skirmish with the enemy at Green River, Kentucky, where two companies—A and F—were engaged. In the two days' fight at Shiloh his regiment was actively engaged, and he was slightly injured by the concussion of an exploding shell. He was with his regiment through the entire siege of Corinth, and was with it in the marches and counter-marches through Tennessee and Kentucky, and was with his command when Buell was cut off. He commanded the skirmish line at the battle of Kenesaw Mountain, and was ninth in command when the battle opened, there being eight ranking officers. In one-half hour's time they were all disabled—five dead and four wounded—and he was left in command of his regiment during the greater part of the siege of Atlanta.

While charging the works at Rome, Georgia, Colonel Ege was again wounded and left on the field for about four hours. He was in command of his company in the

charge at Jonesborough, and was in command of the skirmish line at Triune and Bloody Run. He was part of the time in command of his regiment at Stone River, which was a three days' engagement, his colonel being wounded. While protecting a wagon train during that engagement, with a portion of his command he was cut off from the main army, but they fought their way out, saving the train, with the exception of four wagons. He commanded the skirmish line at Missionary Ridge, Lookout Mountain and Kinggold's Gap. He was with the advance guard for the relief of Burnside at Knoxville, and for three days they were short of provisions. Returning to Chattanooga, the regiment was in camp for a time.

Colonel Ege was in command of his regiment in the memorable march to the sea with Sherman, being at all times in the advance or skirmish line. He was wounded the second time in the hand at Savannah, while charging the enemy's works. At the battle of Bloody Run he had his horse shot from under him, while at the same time he received a wound from a ball in the neck, fortunately not severe. During the war he had three horses shot from under him. On account of the wound in his hand he was given leave of absence at Savannah, and, after a short furlough, he rejoined his regiment at Goldsboro, North Carolina, and conducted it through North and South Carolina to Richmond, Virginia, and from thence to Washington, where it took part in the grand review. From Washington the regiment was sent to Louisville, Kentucky, where it was mustered out of service.

On returning home at the close of the war General Ege engaged in farming on the old farm, but in 1866 sold it and moved to

another farm near Albany. Having been engaged in the reading of law for some time, in 1867 he was admitted to the bar and engaged in practice in connection with his other business. When the Albany Lumber Company was organized, he became its first president, and for four years served in that capacity, when the company sold out. In 1866 he moved to the village of Albany and built the hall now used by the Masonic fraternity and known as Masonic hall. For many years he has been engaged in buying and shipping grain, and has paid out to the farmers in the vicinity as much as three thousand dollars in one day for grain. He was a partner in the first store erected in Albany after the great tornado, the firm being Haslett, Marcy & Co.

In politics General Ege is an uncompromising Republican, and he has taken an active part in public life. For nine years he served his township as a member of the county board of supervisors, with credit to himself and constituents. Fraternally he is a charter member and past master of Albany lodge, No. 156, A. F. & A. M., which was organized at his residence. He is also a member of the chapter and commandery of the same order, and a charter member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and Modern Woodmen of America. His interest in the Civil war is maintained by meeting with the veterans in Captain A. F. Knight post, No. 460, G. A. R., of which he is a member and past post commander. He is a member of the Presbyterian church in Albany, and for many years was one of the trustees of the church. The family is a cultured one and stand high in the social circles of Albany and Whiteside county, and is living retired in Albany, Illinois, awaiting the last bugle call.

**M**ARLOW CROSBY MCKENZIE, a prominent citizen of Hume township, who is now living retired upon his farm on section 28, has been a resident of this county since July, 1865, and by shrewd judgment, excellent management and fair dealings, has acquired a sufficient property to enable him to give up business cares and enjoy the result of his former labors.

Mr. McKenzie was born in Essez county, New York, August 26, 1823, and is a son of William McKenzie, a native of the same place, and a grandson of Squire Bill McKenzie, a pioneer settler of that county, where he died at the age of forty-eight years. There the father grew to manhood and married Levisa Richmond, an aunt of George P. Richmond, whose sketch appears on another page of this volume. William McKenzie followed farming upon a part of the old homestead in Essex county until called from this life in 1841. His wife survived him for a time. They had five children, namely: William R., one of the early settlers of Whiteside county, Illinois, where he opened up a farm and spent his last days, dying here in 1890; Katherine, who married and settled in Ticonderoga, Essex county, New York, where her death occurred; Milton, now seventy-nine years of age, who owns and operates the old home farm; Marlow C., our subject; and Laura, who married George T. McKenzie and died in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

During his youth Marlow C. McKenzie was given rather limited school advantages, so that he is almost wholly self-educated. He remained with his father until the latter's death, and then, in 1842, came to Whiteside county, Illinois, where he worked on a farm for three years and a half. He

then went to Wisconsin, where he worked in the pineries one season, and also in a sawmill. Subsequently he returned to Essex county, New York, where he was employed in a sawmill for a time, and later boated on the canal and lake one season, and then tended a lock for a time. In Cohoes, New York, he was married, in 1849, to Miss Marion M. Haven, also a native of Essex county, and a daughter of George H. Haven. They began their domestic life on the Haven farm, which Mr. McKenzie operated for three years, and then, in 1852, they went to California by way of the Panama and Isthmus route. They took a steamer on the west coast and proceeded to San Francisco. Our subject engaged in mining and purchased an interest in mines. He also worked by the month in a livery stable, and later was interested in several different enterprises, all of which proved successful with the exception of his mining ventures. After eight years spent on the Pacific coast he returned east in 1860 by the same route. For two years he was engaged in the meat and butcher business in Port Henry, New York, and then sold out and again came to Whiteside county, Illinois, arriving here in July, 1865. The following month he purchased a slightly improved place of fifty-six acres, and as there were no buildings upon it, he erected a house eighteen by twenty feet, and began to make further improvements. He has since enlarged his residence, has built a good barn and other outbuildings, and made many other improvements which add greatly to the value and attractive appearance of the place, which now comprises one hundred and sixty acres under a high state of cultivation.

Mr. McKenzie has been called upon to

mourn the loss of his estimable wife, who died April 26, 1897, and was laid to rest in Prophetstown cemetery, where a near monument has been erected to her memory. Their only daughter, Martha May, died at the age of eighteen years. In 1893 he and his wife returned to New York, and spent four months very enjoyably in visiting old friends and scenes. In 1898, he again spent a month in that state. He has practically lived retired from active labor since 1889, devoting his time to looking after and keeping up his place.

Politically, Mr. McKenzie was an old-line Whig, later a Know Nothing and supported Fillmore in 1856; in 1860 he voted for Abraham Lincoln, and has since been a staunch supporter of the Republican party. He has taken quite an active interest in public affairs and has been elected to official positions of honor and trust, having served as highway commissioner, and a member of the county board of supervisors two years, during which time he was a member of the equalization and other committees. He was initiated into the mysteries of the Masonic order while a resident of New York, and now belongs to Prophetstown lodge, F. & A. M., and also Prophetstown chapter, R. A. M. Wherever known he is held in high regard, and those who know him best are numbered among his warmest friends.

**JAMES SMACK.** Among the energetic and enterprising farmers of Newton township who have met with success in their chosen calling is the subject of this review who owns and operates a good farm of eighty acres on section 5. He was born in Rochester, Monroe county, New York, June 14, 1837, a son of Edgar and Melinda

Smack, in whose family were five children, namely: George, deceased; William; James; John and Sarah.

James Smack was reared and educated in his native state, and early became familiar with every department of farm work. In 1857 he came to Whiteside county, Illinois, and took up his residence in Newton township, but lived on several different farms before purchasing his present place on section 5. The well-tilled fields and neat and thrifty appearance of the farm plainly indicate his careful supervision and show conclusively that he thoroughly understands the occupation which he has chosen as a life work. In connection with general farming he is also engaged in stock-raising.

Mr. Smack has been twice married, his first wife being Miss Sarah Early, by whom he had two daughters: Isadora, wife of Noah Nofke, and Isabel, at home. After the death of his first wife he wedded Miss Mary C. Davis, and by this union has one daughter, Effie M., wife of Joseph Stevenson. In his political views Mr. Smack is a staunch Democrat, and has most creditably and acceptably filled the offices of highway commissioner for ten years, and school director for twenty years. Socially he is a member of the Home Forum.

**J**UDGE EDWIN G. ALLEN, an honored old resident of Sterling, who is now living retired, was born in Brighton, Monroe county, New York, September 22, 1830, and is a son of Lemuel and Mary Ann (Armstrong) Allen. The father was a native of Vermont, as was also the grandfather, Lemuel Allen, Sr., who was a soldier of the war of 1812, and after that conflict removed to Monroe county, New York, when Lemuel,

Jr., was a small boy, becoming one of the pioneer farmers of that locality, where he spent the remainder of his life. There the son grew to manhood and married. He followed farming throughout life, became quite well-to-do, and supported first the Whig and later the Republican party. He died in 1883, at the age of eighty-four years; his wife in 1840, at the age of thirty-eight. She was born in England, but when only six weeks old was brought to this country by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Armstrong, who settled in Pittsford, Monroe county, New York, at what is still known as Armstrong Hill. Our subject is the younger in a family of two children, the other being Lemuel.

Edwin G. Allen obtained his primary education in the public schools of his native state, and later attended Madison Academy in Wayne county, New York. At the age of sixteen he commenced teaching school in that state, and during the five years he was thus employed he was the second teacher in the public schools of Monroe county to receive twenty dollars per month. He had learned the carpenter's trade, and during the summer months followed that occupation, while he taught school during the winter. On attaining his majority he went to Ann Arbor, Michigan, taught the Carpenter Corners school, built their school-house and also engaged in mercantile business, remaining there for three years. At the end of that time he sold out his business and removed to Battle Creek, Michigan, where he clerked for T. B. Skinner & Company for one year, and in 1855 came to Sterling, which was then a stirring and thriving little town, the railroad having just been completed a month before his arrival. In partnership with a Mr. Holmes, he





E. G. ALLEN.



embarked in mercantile business, under the firm name of Allen & Holmes, where the Burial Case block now stands, but in December, 1856, their store with all its contents, together with most of the town, was destroyed by fire. The following year he built the house now occupied by W. M. Dillon, on the corner of Broadway and Third street, for General E. N. Kirk, and in the fall of the same year bought the interest of Mr. Hoover in the firm of Feather & Hoover, and resumed general merchandising on Third street. His health failed, and the next spring he sold out and began the study of law with General E. N. Kirk and Frederick Sackett, at the same time doing most of the writing for them. He was admitted to the bar by examination in 1861, and opened an office of his own. Soon afterward he was elected police magistrate, and most creditably filled that office for twelve years, doing a large amount of work. He also served as justice of the peace for twenty-nine years, and in the meantime filled the office of county judge for four years right after the Civil war in a most acceptable and satisfactory manner. While in office he built up a good general practice, making a specialty of office work, such as preparing cases, etc., but doing little as a trial lawyer. All through the war and a few years later he was also engaged in the real estate and loan business, and met with most excellent success in his business ventures. From March, 1864, until the following August, he was in the pay department with Major Henry at the front. Since 1890 he has lived retired, having laid aside business cares to spend his remaining days in ease and quiet.

On the 10th of March, 1859, Mr. Allen was united in marriage with Miss Lois L.

Peck, who was born and reared in Ypsilanti, Michigan, a daughter of Joseph Peck. By this union two children were born, namely: Lemuel, who is now revising clerk for the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad at Milwaukee, married Daisy Hetfield, of Sterling, and has one son, Lemuel H. Mary is the wife of William H. Randall, of Durand, Illinois, and has one son, Edgar Allen. In 1891 Mr. Allen bought a commodious and pleasant residence at the corner of Avenue D and Eighth street, where he and his wife now reside. He was a Republican in politics until the Greenback movement, with which he has since been connected. Socially, he is a member of Sterling lodge, No. 612, F. & A. M.; Sterling chapter, R. A. M., of which he is past high priest; Dixon commandery, K. T.; and Freeport consistory. He was the first chancellor commander of Corinthian lodge, No. 69, K. P., and for a number of years represented the local order in the Grand lodge. He is widely known and highly respected and has a host of warm friends in the community where he has so long made his home.

**HON. DANIEL RICHARDS**, deceased, was one of the most distinguished of the citizens of Whiteside county, a man with not only a local, but a national reputation. He was born April 5, 1821, in Orangeville, Wyoming county, New York, and was the son of Paul and Lois (Stone) Richards. They were the parents of a large family of children, all of whom are now deceased. Paul Richards was the first judge of the county court of Wyoming county, a man of more than ordinary ability, and for a time was a member of the Legislature of New York.

Daniel Richards received a liberal edu-

cation, and in his youth exhibited that zealous interest in public affairs which ever characterized his life and made him more than an ordinary man wherever he lived. At an early age he took up teaching as a profession, following that occupation with success for some years. For a time, however, he engaged in the mercantile trade at Orangeville, pushing the business with all his characteristic energy. In 1844 he was attracted to the great west and determined to see the country for himself. Accordingly he visited Illinois and spent the entire year in traveling over its broad prairies, but at the close of the season returned to his home in Orangeville, where for ten years he continued to engage in the mercantile trade.

On the 29th of August, 1850, Mr. Richards was united in marriage with Miss Frances Barrett, also a native of Orangeville, Wyoming county, New York, and daughter of Theodore S. and Caroline J. (Damon) Barrett, who came to Whiteside county in 1857, and here spent the remainder of their lives. On first coming to the county they settled in Sterling, and a little later moved to a farm near Galt. While residing in New York, Theodore S. Barrett took a prominent part in public and official life, but after coming to Illinois he lived a more retired life. His death occurred at the home of Mrs. Richards in 1894, at the age of eighty-six years. His wife died in 1860. They were the parents of four children: Frances is the wife of our subject. Theodore H. served with distinction during the Civil war and attained the rank of general. He commanded a regiment in the last battle of the war. He now resides at Herman, Minnesota. Lucia C. died at the age of fifteen years. Lorenzo M., who was born in Orangeville, New York, August 8,

1836, died in Sterling at the home of Mrs. Richards, May 23, 1895. He was well known in Whiteside county, and was universally esteemed. His education was completed in the Genesee and Wyoming Seminary, a well known educational institution in western New York, which had among its professors Horace Briggs, LL. D., and Prof. Norman F. Wright, both men of the highest character as educators. In 1855 he came to Sterling, but returned to New York a few months later. After completing his education, he spent the summer of 1857 in what was then the territory of Minnesota, and in the fall of that year again came to Sterling, which was ever afterwards his home, until death came to his relief. For some years he was a teacher in the public schools, and at the time he was stricken with paralysis in 1865 he was principal of the first ward school. He was a brainy man and had high and lofty hopes, but for thirty years he carried his burdens uncomplainingly until death came to his relief.

In 1854 Mr. Richards made his second trip through the west looking for a location, finally deciding to cast his lot with the city of Sterling, and in 1855 moved with his family to the place. Forming a partnership with Henry Garrettsee, he engaged in the hardware business, but they were in business but a short time when, in the fire of 1856, they were burned out. Wasting no time in lamentation, they at once opened up business in the Keystone block, and were soon in the midst of a good and profitable trade.

The business energy of Mr. Richards, and his rigid integrity in all the relations of life, with the natural abilities that he possessed to an extraordinary degree, soon at-

tracted the attention of his fellow citizens, and those who sought his counsel and society found in him a man of marked ability and unswerving integrity of character. He was blessed with a keen sense of right, justice and honor, and clung to these with a tenacity of purpose that won for him a warm place in the heart and affections of all good people. He had a strong mind, great force of character and energy of purpose that made him a leader in the Republican party in city, county and state. He ably represented Sterling in the board of supervisors of the county, and served with honor and distinction for many years.

In 1860 Mr. Richards entered heartily into the memorable campaign that resulted in the election of Abraham Lincoln as president, and made many able speeches in favor of freedom and a free country. He was a fine speaker, pleasing in address, forcible in his arguments, and always had ideas that were new and original and convincing. So rapidly did he secure the confidence and esteem of the people that in 1862 he was nominated by the Republican party for the office of state senator in the district comprising the counties of Lee, Ogle and Whiteside, and was unanimously elected, the opposing party not considering it worth while to put up a candidate against him.

Soon after his election, Mr. Richards sold out his hardware business and gave his entire time, energy and ability to his constituents. The Legislature of Illinois in the winter of 1862-63, was one of the most memorable ones in the history of the state. The party opposed to the prosecution of the war was in the majority, and they favored extreme measures for stopping its progress. The ablest men in the state in both parties

were in the Legislature, and that memorable session, brought to such an unexpected termination by being prorogued by Governor Yates, will stand as being one of the most remarkable in the history of the state. It was during that session that Mr. Richards' remarkable tact and great ability as a ready thinker and able debater and legislator shown out and made him a leader in the senate. He won a high and commanding position among the prominent men of the state, and exerted great influence for good among all parties. His ability and unswerving integrity attracted the attention of President Lincoln, and it is said that the name of Daniel Richards was a sufficient endorsement for any favor that he could bestow.

At the close of the session of the Legislature, Mr. Richards entered the law office of Honorable Perkins Bass, of Chicago, became a close student, and was later admitted to the bar after a most creditable examination. In the death of President Lincoln he lost a valued friend who only waited a favorable opportunity to tender him a suitable reward for his fidelity to his state and country in a trying time. Through the efforts of Honorable E. B. Washburn, afterwards minister to France, President Johnson tendered him the position of tax commissioner for the state of Florida. Personally he did not desire this position, but was urged to take it as it was very desirable that some true, tried and honest man should assume the duties at once, inasmuch as the other two commissioners were of the opposite party. He yielded to the urgency of the occasion and started at once for Fernandina, Florida. He was made president of the board, a position he occupied until the office expired by limitation.

Florida was about calling a convention to frame a new constitution, preparatory to being re-admitted to the Union. The issue was clear and marked between the regular Republican party and the followers of Andrew Johnson. Mr. Richards was appealed to by the colored people and members of the Republican party to espouse their cause and canvass the state. True to the noble instincts of his nature, he could not stand idle and see the oppressor's heel placed upon the colored men of the state. With his whole heart and soul he entered the contest and made the canvass of the state for the oppressed and down trodden ones. He was elected a member of the convention, his party was victorious, and as a reward for his faithful labors, he was elected president of the convention. The party opposed to him in the convention proposed to make every office in the state, except members of the Legislature, to be appointed by the governor and removable at his pleasure. To this outrage upon a free people, the whole nature of Mr. Richards revolted, and he utterly refused to countenance it. This created a division, and the result was a bolt in the convention. Two constitutions were framed and submitted to Congress for acceptance, and that body admitted Florida under the bolters' constitution, to the exclusion of as good a constitution as any set of men ever framed for a free people to live under.

Those who knew Mr. Richards best can truthfully testify that it was a part of his nature to hate wrong and oppression, no matter from what source it came. With the success of that great outrage upon the people of the state, died within him all hope of peace, happiness and prosperity for the people, and he resolved to free himself from all

responsibility, and from that moment he retired from political life, and worn out in body and mind, and wondering, as he often expressed it in view of the triumph of dishonesty and wrong, "if God was just." Fearing his power and influence still, he was approached by the successful party to know if he would accept a position as one of the judges of the supreme court of the state. True to his nature and teachings, he indignantly spurned the offer, and from that time on he gave his time and attention to the practice of law, and ranked as one of the ablest men in the state, and "Judge Richards," as he was called there, will ever be remembered by the good men of Florida as one of her ablest, most honest and upright citizens.

When Governor Reed was impeached and on trial he sent a special train for Judge Richards to come and defend him, saying to him, "You are the only man in the state that can save me." Under his able and skillful management the governor was cleared. Being of a delicate constitution, inherited from a family of whom none are now living, his constant and incessant labors, aided by the climate, soon sowed seeds of a disease that terminated his life. For more than a year it preyed upon him, gaining power over his shattered constitution daily, until he was completely prostrated. As soon as he gained sufficient strength he returned to his home in Sterling, and at first the change seemed to be beneficial, and it was hoped that he might recover, but it was not to be. Gradually he became weaker and suffered most extremely, but patiently and resignedly he awaited the hour of dissolution. Finally a sleepy stupor came on. Peacefully he slept, and peacefully he passed away on the 21st of January,

1872. Thus passed from view a good husband, an affectionate parent, an honored citizen, and above all, an honest man.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Richards are Ella G., a fine musician and vocalist, who makes her home with her mother; Carrie, wife of J. F. Utley, of Sterling; and Grace F., wife of Charles E. Windom, a nephew of Ex-Secretary Windom, and who is engaged in the furniture business in Sterling. Since the death of Mr. Richards the family have resided at their old home, No. 604 Fourth avenue, honored and respected by all.

SAMUEL ALBERTSON. Illinois owes its high standing among the sovereign commonwealths that make up the United States to the high character and dauntless spirit of the settlers who made their home within her borders in early days. To their inspiration and work is due her wonderful progress in agriculture, manufacturing and the arts. They opened the mines, transformed the wilderness into fertile farms; established churches and schools in the savage wilds, laying the foundations for the grand institutions of philanthropy and learning which are the glory of the state at the present day. Among these brave and far-sighted pioneers was Samuel Albertson, who is now, after a long and busy life, living retired upon his farm on section 14, Sterling township, Whiteside county.

He was born in Clinton, Dutchess county, New York, January 18, 1818, a son of Joseph and Elizabeth (Ham) Albertson, also natives of that county, where they continued to make their home until 1832, when they removed to western New York, settling in the town of Mendon, Monroe county.

There their son Frederick had located as early as 1820. The family made most of the journey to Monroe county by canal. There the father purchased land and made his home throughout the remainder of his life. He was a successful and progressive agriculturist and was a prominent member of the Society of Friends, for which he preached for many years.

Our subject is the twelfth in order of birth in a family of thirteen children and the only one now living, though ten reached years of maturity. He well remembers hearing his father tell of the hard winter of 1774, when the snow did not melt for over six weeks. He acquired the greater part of his education in his native county, but attended school for two terms after the removal of the family to Monroe county, New York. He then assisted his father in the operation of the home farm until his marriage.

On the 5th of November, 1839, Mr. Albertson married Miss Hannah De Garmo, who was born in Ulster county, New York, July 6, 1819, a daughter of Elias and Clemma (Powell) De Garmo, both natives of Dutchess county, New York, and the former of French descent. The father was a tanner by trade, as was also his father, and he followed that occupation for many years, but after his removal to Monroe county, New York, in 1833, he purchased land and turned his attention to farming. There he continued to make his home until called from this life. By his first marriage he had eight children, all of whom reached man and womanhood, Mrs. Albertson being the fifth in order of birth. She has two brothers still living, Rufus and Peter De Garmo, retired citizens of Oswego, Labette county, Kansas. Her father was again

married and by the second union had two children, who are now residents of Rochester, New York. To Mr. and Mrs. Albertson were born three children, namely: (1) Harriet is the wife of Owen N. Hurst, a farmer of Furnace county, Nebraska, and they had two children: Frank, deceased; and Annie, who is now the wife of Charles Kerr, of Nebraska, and has four children. (2) Arthur died July 6, 1868, at the age of twenty-four years, as the result of an accident. He was unmarried and at home at the time of his death. (3) Ella married John E. Woodyatt and died August 22, 1879. They had three children, Arthur, Grace and Lulu. Grace now makes her home with our subject and his wife.

After his marriage, Mr. Albertson remained in Monroe county, New York, until September, 1841, when he and his wife came by way of the lakes to Chicago, which at that time was little better than a mud hole. His brothers, Isaac and John, had come to this county, in 1835, and had two of their friends to meet our subject and his wife in Chicago. They remained in that city one night, just long enough to get their goods off the boat, and then started for Whiteside county in a prairie schooner, paying one dollar per hundred to have their freight transferred and one dollar a piece as their fare. They were three days and a half in making the trip. On arriving here, Mr. Albertson had a claim already taken up from the government, which was being held by his brothers. This consisted of eighty acres of prairie land on section 14, Sterling township, and eight acres of timber land, with no improvements upon it. He lived the first winter with his brother, but began immediately to split rails for fences and to cut logs for his cabin, which was erected the

following spring. He had only twenty-five cents remaining after the completion of his home and that was spent for sugar to be used in the medicine for his sick child. On leaving the east he had enough money to enter his land and bring with him two two-year-old steers and two two-year-old heifers. The first year spent here proved a hard one for this pioneer family. Mr. Albertson made all the bottoms for his chairs, while he traded for the frames, and he also made his own bedstead and also a cupboard out of dry-goods boxes which he had brought with him. Wild game at that time was plentiful and furnished the family with most of their meat. Sterling at that time was two towns, known as Chatham and Harrisburg, and their combined population was only about two hundred.

Selling his first farm in 1850, Mr. Albertson purchased his present place of one hundred and sixty acres from his brother, and for many years was actively and successfully engaged in general farming. From 1885 to 1898 he rented his land and lived at the mineral springs, where he built houses, baths, barns and a pavilion, and had entire charge of the place until July, 1898, when he sold out to Hiram L. Edmunds, who conducted it in connection with his brother for a few months, at the end of which time John H. Ahrens also became interested in the enterprise. They got up subscriptions and secured a charter, forming what is now known as the Sterling Fair Association. In the fall of 1898 Mr. Albertson returned to his farm on section 14, Sterling township, where he and his wife are now living retired. Although past eighty years of age they still enjoy excellent health and look many years younger, Mrs. Albertson still having a complexion as fair as a girl's.



Their home life is ideal, and they are loved and respected by all who know them. By birthright they are Quakers, but are now Spiritualists in religious belief, while in politics Mr. Albertson is independent. In early life he was a Democrat until a few years prior to the Civil war, when he joined the Republican party on account of the slavery question, and remained one of its supporters until 1873, since when he votes independent. As one of the honored pioneers and representative citizens of the county, he is certainly entitled to honorable mention in its history and this brief account of his life will be read with interest by his many friends.

**D**AVID G. PROCTOR, one of the honored pioneer citizens of Whiteside county, and now living in Genesee township, is a son of George R. and Mary (Green) Proctor, the former a native of Kentucky. The Greens were of Irish extraction, and were early settlers in Pennsylvania, while the Proctors located in Virginia in colonial days.

The brothers and sisters of our subject were eight in number. Sarah B., the eldest, married William Moxley, and had one child, who is deceased. Mr. Moxley died in 1863, and his wife in 1867. Margaret J. Proctor married L. S. Crouch, of Lee county, at the age of nineteen years. and a Illinois, and they have two daughters son. Mellissa E. died, unmarried, Mary A. is the wife of William H. Brewer, of Monroe county, Mississippi, and they have two children. The next child died in infancy, and George R. died at the age of two years. Harriet N. became the wife of Andrew J. Hurless, of Carroll county, and

has two children. Eliza married Clinton Manning, of Genesee township, and they are the parents of two children.

David G. Proctor was born in 1840, in Lawrence county, Indiana, and continued to reside there until he was fifteen years of age. His father having died in Genesee township in 1855, the young man, who was the eldest son, and was well trained as a farmer, proceeded to be his widowed mother's mainstay, and the supporter of his numerous brothers and sisters. He rented land in Genesee township for several years. In 1893 he purchased the sixty-acre farm which had been occupied by his mother, in this township, and which, by her death, in the year mentioned, was left to the heirs. Mr. Proctor has been very successful as a farmer, and has made many substantial improvements upon his fine homestead, which now comprises one hundred and forty-seven acres.

For a helpmate along life's journey, David G. Proctor chose Sarah Ann Hurless, a daughter of Cephus and Elizabeth (Overholser) Hurless. She was born in Ohio, and her marriage to Mr. Proctor took place in 1865. On the paternal side, she comes of old Virginia ancestry, while on the maternal line, she is of German descent. Martin Overholser, the grandfather of Mrs. Proctor, now ninety-one years old, and a resident of Coleta, is hale and hearty, notwithstanding his advanced age. He has many living descendants, as may be seen from the following: he has eight children, eighty-nine grandchildren, forty-six great-grandchildren, and seven great-great-grandchildren—a total of one hundred and fifty. Dr. Proctor's infant son, David, is of the fifth generation living to-day in Genesee township. Cephus and Elizabeth Hur-

less were the parents of six children, of whom Adeline and another died in infancy; Susanna became the wife of H. C. McCray, of Carroll county, Illinois, and has two sons: Rebecca J. married Joseph Bushman, of this township, and they have three children; and George P., of Pocohontas county, Iowa, married Carrie Wells, and has two daughters. After the death of his first wife, Cephus Hurless married Tabitha Winters, and had eight children by that union. Five of the number died in infancy, and three survive, namely: William, Belle and Roy. William, who wedded Annie Conway, and has two children, resides in Genesee township. Belle became the wife of Miles Wallace, of Carroll county, and they have three children. Roy, who is unmarried, is engaged in teaching school, and lives in Coleta.

Seven children blessed the union of David G. Proctor and wife. Cephus E., a farmer of Clyde township, Whiteside county, married Bertha Daniels. George R., a practicing physician, whose sketch is printed elsewhere in this work, is a leading citizen of Coleta. Minnie J. is the wife of Mathias Spang, Jr., who carries on a farm situated half a mile east of Coleta. The young couple have one child. Ira R. and Richard G., unmarried, live at home and assist their father in the management of the farm. Elizabeth also lives with her parents. The youngest of the family, a boy, died in infancy.

In all local affairs, Mr. Proctor has been active and interested. He has never been an aspirant to political office, but has served as a tax collector in his township. In national politics, he sides with the Democratic party. His wife is a member of the United Brethren church, and he is lib-

eral and broad-minded in his religious views. The entire community, in which he has so long dwelt, esteems him highly, looking upon him as a representative of the sterling pioneer element, who founded this county.

SAMUEL A. THOMPSON, who is living a retired life in the city of Erie, was for many years one of the most active and enterprising farmers of Whiteside county, where he has been living for the past forty-three years. He was born in Meigs county, Ohio, July 29, 1823, and is the son of Reuben and Philinda Thompson, both of whom were natives of Vermont. They had a family of four children. The mother dying when our subject was but a child, he was taken and reared by William Davis, with whom he remained until he was twenty years old. He then learned the carpenter's trade at which he worked for some years, two years of which time serving as a ship carpenter on the Mississippi river, the boat running between New Orleans and Memphis.

In 1850 Mr. Thompson made a visit to Whiteside county, at which time he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Fenton township. In 1856 he came to the county and took up his permanent residence on the land and commenced its improvement. He became a very successful farmer, and from time to time added to the area of his land until he was the owner of seven hundred and fifty acres. While actively engaged in farming, he made a specialty of stock raising, and was an acknowledged authority in the value of stock.

On the 28th of April, 1858, Mr. Thompson was united in marriage with Mrs. Elizabeth Bull, widow of Elijah Bull, and

who was a native of the state of Vermont, and born March 22, 1828. By this union there were born two children: Jennie M., born December 19, 1858, now the wife of James Carr, of Omaha, Nebraska; and Reuben A., born February 25, 1869, and now residing in Fenton township. He has been twice married, his first union being with Miss Anna Casenston, who died five months after their union was solemnized. He later married Miss Nora McMurphy. By her former marriage, Mrs. S. A. Thompson had one son, George E., born April 5, 1856. He was adopted by Mr. Thompson, grew to manhood and married Miss Nellie Eddy, and they reside in Fenton township. Mrs. Thompson died March 13, 1890. She was a devoted member of the Christian church and died in the full assurance of faith, being greatly lamented by all who knew her.

Mr. Thompson was married the second time, his second union being with Miss Juliet Campbell, the date of the marriage being May 13, 1894. She is the daughter of Harrison and Julia A. Campbell, and is a native of Ohio, born April 5, 1845. She resided in her native state until her marriage with Mr. Thompson, since which time she has made her home in Erie, Illinois. Her father was a farmer in Ohio. He married Julia A. Kent, a native of Vermont, and to them were born nine children. Warren died at about the age of twenty years. Caroline married Franklin Keck, and they reside in Ohio. James B. married Elizabeth Entsler, and they yet live in Ohio. Mary D. married William H. Carr, and they yet reside in the Buckeye state. Martha also resides in Ohio. Juliet C. is the wife of our subject. Emma E. resides in Ohio. William H. has been twice mar-

ried, his second wife being a Miss Charity Foster. They also reside in Ohio. Lucinda married Harvey Tripp, and their home is in Ohio. Mr. H. Campbell died in Ohio, February 20, 1891. His wife is yet living in Ohio at the ripe old age of eighty-three years.

For some years Mr. Thompson has been in ill health, in consequence of which he divided much of his property among his children and moved to the city of Erie in 1894, since which time he has been living a retired life. He is a member of the Christian church at Erie, as is also his wife. The large bell in use by that church was a present by Mr. and Mrs. Thompson, and cost about one hundred and fifty-five dollars. Few men are better known in the western part of the county than Mr. Thompson, and while his wife has not been long a resident of the place, she has made many friends and both are held in the highest esteem.

**H**ENRY S. LANDIS, whose farm is on sections 14 and 23, Sterling township, has been identified with the agricultural interests of Whiteside county, for almost half a century. He was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, March 17, 1820, a son of Daniel and Margaret (Shafer) Landis, also natives of the Keystone state. The father, who was a teamster and later an innkeeper in Pennsylvania, died when our subject was only four years old. In his family were five children, Eliza, Emanuel, Maria, Henry S. and Annie, all of whom are now deceased with the exception of Henry S.

After the death of his father our subject was bound out until fifteen years of age, and then worked for wages as a farm hand. His education was acquired in the schools

of his native county. In 1841, he married Miss Fannie Stauffer, who was born in Lancaster county, November 13, 1820, a daughter of John and Margaret (Ebee) Landis, also natives of Pennsylvania. In early life her father was a farmer and later followed the miller's trade. He had nine children, Benjamin, Fannie, Peter, Christ, Margaret, John, Annie, Barbara, and one who died young. With the exception of Mrs. Landis, all of this family remained in the east. To our subject and his wife were born thirteen children, namely: Annie, Barbara, Margaret, Susanna, Amos, Maria, John, Henry, Emma, Emanuel, Fremont, Reuben and Daniel, all of whom are still living with the exception of Daniel, who died in infancy.

In 1851, Mr. Landis, accompanied by his wife and four children, came west by way of the Great Lakes to Chicago, which at that time was a small town, and by stage proceeded to Dixon. They finally reached Sterling after two days spent upon the road. After a few days spent in that town, Mr. Landis purchased a farm of one hundred and forty-seven acres from John Albertson, a part of which had been fenced and a barn erected thereon. He commenced immediately to operate his farm, but lived in town until fall, when he moved into a log cabin upon his place, into which the snakes would often crawl. To the further improvement and cultivation of this farm he has since devoted his energies, and still owns all of the original tract with the exception of three acres and a half, which he sold to the fair association. He has had no specialty but has always engaged in general farming. Politically he is identified with the Republican party, and served as school director for many years. His wife

is a member of the Menonite church and both are held in high regard on account of their sterling worth and many excellencies of character.

JACOB Y. LEHMAN, D. V. S., a successful veterinary surgeon of Sterling, Illinois, was born in Columbiana, Columbiana county, Ohio, August 22, 1844, and is a son of Jacob H. and Mary (Yoder) Lehman, both natives of Pennsylvania. The father, who was a farmer by occupation, died in Ohio in 1873, at the age of sixty-five years. In his family were fifteen children, thirteen of whom are still living, but our subject is the only one residing in Illinois. His boyhood and youth were passed upon a farm in Ohio, and he was educated in the common and high schools of that state.

When twenty years of age, Mr. Lehman went to Indiana, where some of his brothers and sisters had located, and while there continued the study of veterinary surgery which he had commenced in his native state. Later he engaged in practice with an old veterinary surgeon, and still later was associated with an Englishman of that profession, Dr. J. D. Selden, being engaged in practice and traveling with him for some time. In 1866 he came to Sterling, where he followed his chosen profession until the fall of 1883, when he entered the Chicago Veterinary College, which had just been established and was one of the eight students during the first term. After completing the prescribed course and receiving his degree, he returned to Sterling and resumed practice. He is now one of the oldest and best qualified practitioners in the county, his practice extending over a period of thirty-five years, during which

time he has given his entire attention to his profession and built up a large and paying practice.

On the 26th of May, 1873, Dr. Lehman married Miss Harriet A. Baker, a native of Geneva, Illinois, and a daughter of John R. and Harriet A. (Foote) Baker. Her father was one of the pioneers of Kane county, this state, and is now living in Loup City, Nebraska, and a hale and hearty old gentleman of eighty-eight years. To the Doctor and his wife were born four children, of which Charles E. died in infancy; Carl C. is now a stenographer in the First National Bank of Chicago; Olive L. is bookkeeper and cashier in Fernburg's store of Sterling; and Harriet A. is still attending school. Both the Doctor and his wife are members of the Congregational church. In politics he is a Republican. The family is well known and highly respected.

**JOSHUA L. HARRISON** is a young and enterprising farmer residing on section 3, Hopkins township, where he owns and operates a farm of one hundred and three acres of well improved land. He was born in Genesee township, Whiteside county, Illinois, October 2, 1869, and is the son of James H. and Julia A. (Fitzgerald) Harrison, the former also a native of Genesee township, born in 1842, and the latter a native of Illinois but of Irish descent, whose parents, Patrick and Mary (Barry) Fitzgerald, were born in Ireland in 1805 and 1803, respectively, and who were married in their native country, after which they immediately emigrated to America, where all their children were born. Their children were as follows: Michael B. is a contractor and builder, and also a manufacturer of brick.

He married Catherine McCarty, and they reside in Sterling. William H. was by trade a painter. He went west, married Miss Thorpe, but returned to Whiteside county in 1886, and died on the home farm in Genesee township. Mary A. married David Bryson, and they are the parents of three children. Their home is in Sioux City, Iowa, where he is engaged in the real estate business. James M. and Ellen are twins. The former married Mary McCarty, and they have one child. He is a partner with his brother in the manufacture of brick, and the family resides in Sterling. Ellen married Charles Galbraith, and they have three children. Their home is in Crawford county, Iowa, where Mr. Galbraith is engaged in the real estate business. Richard P. married Lizzie Wilton and they have one child. They reside in Garwin, Iowa, where he is engaged in the practice of law. John C. is a retired farmer and real estate dealer. He is married and has three children. They also reside in Garwin, Iowa. Julia A. is the mother of our subject. Frances married John D. Moore, by whom she has five children. Their home is in Rock Falls, Illinois. Thomas E. is a bridge contractor and resides in Chicago. One child died in infancy.

The paternal grandfather of our subject was born in Yorkshire, England, and in 1832 came to the United States, making his way direct to Chicago, Illinois, where he bought one hundred and sixty acres of government land, which he afterwards traded for some lots in Fulton, Illinois. He later located in Sterling, where he was employed for a time by Mr. Brink, after which he purchased some government land and opened up the farm where his son, James H., now resides. He married Mary Taylor,

a southern lady, who was probably born in North Carolina. His death occurred in 1876, while his wife survived him some years, dying in September, 1885. Their family consisted of four children. Alice married Jerry Pittman, and they are the parents of eight children. Their home is in Greene county, Iowa. James H. is the father of our subject. Sarah H. married James Lynch, and they reside on the home place in Genesee township. Seven children blessed their union. Joseph E. married Margaret Pugh, and they have six children. They also live in Genesee township.

James H. Harrison grew to manhood on his father's farm in Genesee township, and was educated in its common schools. He continued at home, assisting in the farm work, until near the close of the Civil war, when he enlisted in Company G, One Hundred and Fifty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and served for eleven months, or until the close of the war. His uncle, William H. Fitzgerald, who first served three years in the United States navy, was also a member of that company and regiment, serving as orderly sergeant. Three other uncles, Richard V., John C. and James M. Fitzgerald, also served in the Union army in the Civil war. Returning from the service, on the 30th of September, 1865, he was united in marriage with Miss Julia A. Fitzgerald, by which union four children were born, one of whom, Francis H., died when one year old, and one died in infancy. William H., born September 4, 1867, married Lizzie A. Deets, February 16, 1889. They have two children, and live in Genesee township. Joshua L. is the subject of this sketch.

Joshua L. Harrison, of whom we now write, spent his boyhood and youth on the

farm in Genesee township. He obtained a good common-school education, and is now a practical business man of affairs. He was married December 16, 1891, to Miss Nellie J. Deets, also a native of Genesee township, born July 26, 1872. Her father, William Deets, was born in Germany, and in his youth came to America, first locating in Dayton, Ohio, where he married Catherine Overholzer. They later came to Whiteside county, Illinois, locating in Genesee township, where he became a wealthy and prosperous farmer, operating at one time about twelve hundred acres of fine farming lands. He is now living a retired life in Sterling, Illinois. His wife is a native of Ohio, of German descent. They are the parents of eleven children, of whom Nellie is fourth in order of birth.

After his marriage Mr. Harrison operated his father's farm in Genesee township for one year, together with forty acres of his own land. He then purchased the farm where he now resides, which he has under excellent improvement, it being one of the best farms in the vicinity. He also has one of the best stone quarries in Whiteside county, and has no trouble in disposing of the entire output of the quarry each year. He is doing a good business both in his quarry and on his farm, and in his farming operations he devotes himself to mixed farming.

Fraternally, Mr. Harrison is a member of camp No. 3994, M. W. A., of Emerson, and of garrison No. 160, K. G. In religion he is not a member of any church, but his mother and other members of the family are members of the Christian church. In politics he is a Republican, and has served his township for one term of three years as road commissioner, and is now serving as

school trustee. In July, 1860, he enlisted in the Sixth Regiment Band, being a musician of undoubted ability, having served as instructor in a band in his neighborhood for seven years. Yet young, he has good prospects before him.

**CAPTAIN WILLIAM PARKER.** One of the prominent representatives of the journalistic profession is the gentleman whose name heads this brief notice, the well-known editor of the Rock Falls News, of Rock Falls, Illinois. He was born in Maysville, Kentucky, November 6, 1835, a son of William and Sarah (Ruggles) Parker. His paternal grandfather was a native of Virginia, and went down the Ohio river to Kentucky at an early period in the settlement of that state. The Captain's father was a pioneer merchant and trader of Maysville, and was also engaged in steamboating on the Ohio and Mississippi rivers. He served one term as sheriff of Brown county, Ohio, and died in Ripley, that state, in October, 1884.

In his native city Captain Parker passed his boyhood and there he received his early education in the Rand & Richardson Seminary. Going to Ripley, Ohio, at the age of fifteen years, he secured employment in the office of the Ripley Bee, where he remained three years, acquiring the trade of a compositor. He next went to Cincinnati, where he worked in the Enquirer job printing house for two years. He was now twenty years of age and well prepared to fight the battle of life for himself. Coming to Salem, Illinois, he vigorously conducted the Salem Register as the champion of General Fremont during that noted political campaign, and subsequently he located at

Centralia, where he published The Centralian.

At the outbreak of the Civil war, Captain Parker was the manager of the Dixon Telegraph, at Dixon, Illinois, of which Isaac Boardman was owner. He entered the military service at that place, as second lieutenant of Company A, Seventy-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, September 20, 1862; was promoted to first lieutenant on the 20th of December, that year, and to captain, March 23, 1863. His regiment was temporarily stationed at Dixon, which left that place September 27, 1862, and proceeded to Jeffersonville, Indiana, crossing the Ohio river into Kentucky the last day of that month. With his command he took part in the battle of Perryville, and led his company in the battle of Murfreesboro. After the battle of Chickamauga, in which, however, his regiment was not heavily engaged, a re-organization was effected, by which it was assigned to the Fourth Army Corps, Third Brigade, First Division, Army of the Cumberland, at that time under the command of General Howard. During the siege of Chattanooga this command performed very effective service. Captain Parker was in the thickest of the fight, in scaling Lookout Mountain under General Hooker, during the greater part of the first day, and on the day following he participated in the battle of Missionary Ridge, capturing a large number of prisoners and the train of the enemy's headquarters. An interesting incident of this battle was the surrender to Captain Parker of the son of General Breckenridge. His command was finally discharged at Chicago, July 1, 1865.

Captain Parker then returned to his old home in Dixon, but subsequently removed to Ottawa and purchased a half-interest in

the Ottawa Republican. He remained there about two years and then disposed of his interest in the paper and purchased the Wenona Index, which he conducted until 1870. While at Wenona he served as postmaster for three years, being appointed during President Johnson's administration. In 1870 he purchased the Amboy Journal, which he conducted for two years, and then went to Kansas, where he was interested in various newspaper enterprises until 1876. During that year he returned to Illinois and located in Mendota, where he engaged in newspaper work until coming to Rock Falls in 1883. He established the Rock Falls News, a weekly journal, which he has since conducted with marked success, his son-in-law, Charles L. Mentzer, being associated with him in business at the present time. Fraternaly he is a Royal Arch Mason, and is a charter member of Will Enderton post, No. 729, G. A. R., of Rock Falls, of which he is past commander. The Captain is a public-spirited and progressive citizen, who has manifested the same loyalty in days of peace as when he followed the old flag to victory on southern battle fields.

At Salem, Illinois, Captain Parker was married, June 18, 1857, to Miss Ella B. Bond, a daughter of Enoch and Jane (Sargent) Bond, originally from Ohio. Three children were born of this union, namely: Jennie W., who married W. M. Geddes, of Nebraska, and died in 1883, leaving one son; Anna F., now the wife of C. L. Mentzer; and E. Bond, who was accidentally killed by a railway locomotive in 1882. Ella B. Parker died on the 11th of May, 1897, and on the 12th of June, 1898, Captain Parker married Mrs. Edna E. Mason, of Chicago.

Captain Parker was in at the organiza-

tion of the Republican party in Illinois, at Bloomington, in 1856, and has been a consistent and active Republican ever since. He has never aspired to hold public office, though frequently solicited to do so, but his services have always been at the command of his friends.

**F**REDERICK MATZNICK. One of the substantial citizens of Hopkins township, Whiteside county, is Frederick Matznick, whose home is situated on section 28. He is a native of Prussia, Germany, born on the 16th of February, 1843, a son of Frederick and Marie Matznick. The father, who died when our subject was a child of but seven years, was in the Prussian army for some years, and at the battle of Estring received a number of severe flesh wounds. His widow, who reared her children with rare wisdom and fortitude, brought them to the United States in 1867, believing that greater opportunities for their future welfare could be found in this land of the free. Her useful life came to an end in 1881, but her memory is still tenderly treasured in the hearts of her numerous friends.

Like all the sons of the Fatherland, Frederick Matznick received excellent educational advantages in the public schools, and, in common with all his able-bodied companions, he then entered the German army. As a soldier he served his country faithfully for a period of three years and four months, and not until then did he feel at liberty to seek his own fortune and private interests.

On the good ship which conveyed Frederick Matznick, his mother and sister to America, was a young lady, a friend of the family, Amelia J. Lemke. She was born in



Prussia May 20, 1840, and became the wife of our subject March 26, 1868. Their eldest child, Frank H., was born December 22, 1868, and resides at home. Ida, born December 16, 1870, married August Miller, May 14, 1891; they have three children, and are now residents of Sterling, Illinois. Herman G., born October 7, 1872, and Charles D., born July 3, 1874, are unmarried and assist their father in the work of the homestead. Lizzie E., born February 14, 1876, is the wife of Archibald Matthias, of this township, and they have two children. Emma, the fifth child of our subject, died in infancy. Hannah M., born May 31, 1879, resides at home.

Christian, the elder brother of Frederick Matznick, died in Germany, unmarried. Charles, born August 20, 1830, emigrated to the United States in 1860, and is now a citizen of Hopkins township. He married Miss Sterns and has three children. Lottie, born February 2, 1833, became the wife of Christ Fibercorn, and their only child, Lottie, died in Iowa, February 2, 1895. Fredericka, born in Germany, February 2, 1835, married Frederick Rohm, and four children were born to them. Of that family all are deceased save two of the children, who now live in Chicago.

After his arrival in this country, Mr. Matznick worked for farmers for some nine or ten years, in the meantime carefully accumulating a sum of money to invest in a farm, when the proper opportunity presented itself. In 1885 he purchased the fine farm where he now dwells, and has made substantial improvements since that time. It is now considered one of the best farms in the township, and bountiful harvests are reaped every year by the thrifty owner and his stalwart sons.

In his youth, Mr. Matznick received a common-school education, and it has been a fixed purpose with him to provide his children with as excellent privileges as it has been in his power to give them. His interest in the public schools of this district led to his being appointed as a director, in which capacity he served for one term. Besides this, he served as a road commissioner for two terms. Politically he is a Democrat. Faithful to the creed of his childhood, he is a German Lutheran in religious faith.

**HULL SCOFIELD**, a well-known liveryman of Rock Falls, who is successfully engaged in business at No. 311 Main street, was born in Stamford, Connecticut, March 17, 1857, a son of David and Betsy B. Scofield. The father, who was a native of Westchester county, New York, and a farmer by occupation, came to Illinois on horseback in 1858, and later moved his family, locating in Sterling. He purchased a tract of government land in this section but did not actively engage in farming, though he soon became a large property owner, possessing over a section and a half of good farming land in Lee county, just over the line from Whiteside county. He died in this county in 1882, but his wife, who was also a native of New York, is still living on Locust street, Sterling, and enjoys good health at the age of seventy-four years.

To this worthy couple were born five children, of whom our subject is the second in order of birth, the others being as follows: David W., a prosperous farmer of Buena Vista county, Iowa, died upon his farm in 1889, leaving a widow and two children. E. Grant, a native of Rock Falls,

Illinois, is now a successful farmer of Buena Vista county, Iowa, where he owns over one thousand acres of land and is extensively engaged in stock raising. He is married, but has no children. Seely is a prosperous farmer of Lee county, Illinois, where he owned three hundred and twenty acres of farm land, and has held nearly all of the township offices. Jennie is the wife of M. P. Mighell, a farmer of Buena Vista county, Iowa, and they had three children, all of whom are now deceased.

Hull Scofield was only a year old when brought by his parents to Sterling, and in the schools of that city he obtained his education. After laying aside his text books he located on his father's farm in Harmon, Lee county, Illinois, where he remained five years, and then came to Rock Falls and embarked in the livery business at his present stand. He has built up a good business and enjoys an excellent trade.

In 1870, Mr. Scofield was united in marriage with Miss Annie M. Baker, of Dixon, Illinois, the daughter of Ludwig Baker, a retired farmer of that place, and to them were born three children, two of whom are now living. Holman D., born in Iowa City, Iowa, died in Rock Falls, May 13, 1891, at the age of thirteen years. Edward B., born in Rock Falls, February 14, 1883, and Effie C., born in the same place, November 1, 1884, are with their father. The wife and mother died in Rock Falls, April 27, 1899, and was laid to rest at her old home in Dixon.

Of excellent business ability and broad resources, Mr. Scofield has attained a prominent place among the substantial citizens of Rock Falls, and is a recognized leader in public affairs. He is at present serving as alderman from the second ward, and is one

of the board of managers of Rapids camp, No. 151, M. W. A. He also belongs to the uniformed rank, Knights of Pythias, and is quite popular socially.

**J**OHAN E. MILROY. Genesee township, Whiteside county, has been fortunate in its pioneers and citizens, for, almost without exception, they have been characterized by all of the qualities which are found in the patriot. Education and all worthy enterprises have been fostered by them, and the result may be seen in the high standing of this community in the state.

The paternal grandfather of our subject came to the United States from Scotland, his native country. William Milroy, the father of John E., was born in Schenectady county, New York, September 15, 1829, and when he was twenty years of age he came to Illinois. In 1860, he located upon a tract of eighty acres of land, situated in Carroll county, and is yet living in that vicinity. Success attended him in his business ventures, and from time to time he bought additional property, until his landed estate amounted to five hundred and twenty acres. Of late years, he has not been so actively engaged in farming as formerly, and, having divided some of his land among his children, he merely attends to the general management of the remainder.

William Milroy married Harriet M. Potter, who likewise was a native of Schenectady county, New York, her birth having taken place August 24, 1832. Of their six children George P., now of Carroll county, Illinois, wedded Etta Wood, and their children are named respectively: Agnes, William, Ellen, Mary, Clinton, Elvie and Glenn. Isabella L., unmarried, lives on

the old Carroll county homestead with her parents. William H., also of Carroll county, chose Kittie Cary for a wife, and their two children are named respectively: Cecil and Arnold. Ella A., wife of D. M. Myers, a merchant of Morrill, Kansas, has one daughter, Maud. Sydney B. F., who assists in the management of his father's farm, married Della Lockett.

John E. Milroy was born in Schenectady county, New York, August 26, 1859. He received a district school education and continued to give his father his services in the work of the home farm in Carroll county until he was twenty-five years of age. He then started out in an independent career. Here he rented land for about a year, and finally became the purchaser of the property, which comprises one hundred and sixty-one acres located on sections 11 and 12, Genesee township. For years he has given his attention to the raising of a general line of crops and has kept a certain amount of good live stock. Financial prosperity has crowned his labors, and to-day he is assured of a competence.

In all his joys and sorrows, Mr. Milroy has found a true helpmate in his devoted wife, whose name in her girlhood was Mary Lillian Teachout. Her parents, Cyrus A. and Mary T. (Olin) Teachout, were natives of New York state, the former born in the town of Half Moon, and the latter in Pike, Wyoming county. After their marriage they came to Carroll county, Illinois, in 1854. Two of their five children died in infancy. William T., of Rock Falls, married Ella N. Friend, and their six children are: Mabel, Lottie, Zae, Dossie, Neta and Porter. Morton A., of Coleta, married Rebecca J. Stanley, and their three children are: Lula, Clifford and Forrest.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Milroy was solemnized December 17, 1884. She was born in Carroll county, April 5, 1865, and by her marriage she has become the mother of six children. One of the number died in infancy, and the others are Earl R., Maud L., Arthur R., Harold J. and Viola May.

Fraternally, Mr. Milroy is a member of Coleta lodge, No. 65, Mystic Workers of the World, and at present is acting in the capacity of master. Politically, he has taken a very active part in the local affairs of the Republican party. For seven years he ably served as a school director; for some time was a commissioner of highways, in 1898 was elected supervisor, and is a member of the finance committee, and is chairman of the educational committee. The same lively interest which he has manifested in the government of his own county, and in the general prosperity, has been noticeable in his church activities. In company with his estimable wife, he belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church of Coleta, and is a class-leader, trustee, treasurer and superintendent of the Sunday school.

HERBERT T. BEARDSWORTH, president of the Bank of Erie, has a wide reputation as a most capable financier and occupies a position of no little prominence in business circles. His life demonstrates what may be accomplished through energy, careful management, keen foresight and the utilization of powers with which nature has endowed one and the opportunities with which the times surround him.

A native of Whiteside county, Mr. Beardsworth was born in a log cabin, in Newton township, August 21, 1849, and is

a son of John and Mary A. (Shaw) Beardsworth, natives of England, the former born in Yorkshire, the latter in Staffordshire. In the summer of 1844 they bade good-bye to friends and native land and sailed for America, landing in New Orleans. Coming up the Mississippi river, they reached Albany, Illinois, in August, and took up their residence in Newton township, where the father entered forty acres of land in the spring of 1845. In England he had followed the shoemaker's trade, but here he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, and became one of the most successful farmers and stock raisers of the county. To his original forty-acre tract he added from time to time as his financial resources permitted until at the time of his death he owned two thousand acres of valuable land in Whiteside county, besides a large amount of personal property. He died January 10, 1895, and the mother of our subject passed away January 3, 1869. They were highly respected and esteemed by all who knew them.

To this worthy couple were born the following children: Richard, a well-known capitalist and farmer of Newton township, married a Mrs. Zook, and for his second wife a Miss Fletcher. His death occurred November 20, 1899. Alfred was a member of Company C, Eighth Illinois Cavalry, during the Civil war, and died at Fairfax Court House, Virginia, January 21, 1865. Edward died in infancy. Herbert T., our subject, is the next of the family. Albert J. married Priscilla Gibbler and resides in Albany, Illinois.

Herbert T. Beardsworth grew to manhood on the home farm, and the education he acquired in the district schools of the neighborhood was supplemented by a course

of study at Albany and Davenport. On the 22d of February, 1874, he was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Metcalf, of Albany, who was born in England, November 4, 1854, and when six years of age was brought by her parents, Frank and Hannah Metcalf, to America, locating in Albany. By this union four children were born, namely: Grace M., born March 27, 1875, graduated from the Morrison high school with high honors, as valedictorian of her class, and later married Joseph A. Miller, a resident of Davenport, Iowa, and a graduate of the Davenport Business College. Hattie M., born February 19, 1878, Harry G., born September 13, 1881, and Frank B., born March 27, 1883, are all at home.

After his marriage, Mr. Beardsworth turned his attention to farming and stock raising, and in his labors met with marked success. He continued to reside upon his farm until 1896, when he removed to Erie and has since made that village his home. For some years before leaving the farm he had engaged in loaning money, and on coming to Erie established what is known as the Bank of Erie. Under his able management it has steadily prospered until it is now one of the leading financial institutions of the county.

Politically Mr. Beardsworth has always affiliated with the Republican party, and is now a member of the Republican committee from Erie. He is also president of the school board, and takes quite an active interest in education affairs. While living on his farm, he held several local offices, such as township clerk, assessors, and treasurer for a number of terms, but now gives almost his entire time and attention to his banking business; however, he is always willing to give his support to every enterprise which

he believes will prove of public benefit. He and his wife are members of the Presbyterian church and are held in high regard by all who have the pleasure of their acquaintance.

**J**EWETT C. BUELL, a well known and prosperous dairyman and farmer residing on section 8, Montmorency township, where he owns a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres, was born in New York, May 22, 1858. His father, Clinton C. Buell, was born in Lebanon, Madison county, New York, March 22, 1828, and was educated at the academy in Hamilton, that state, from which he was graduated in 1851. At the age of eighteen years he commenced teaching school, and the greater part of his life was devoted to that profession. He served as principal of Hamilton Academy for four years, and was the founder of the Hamilton Female Seminary, which was carried on by a stock company and which graduated thirty-nine young ladies under his administration, but was closed at the financial crisis of his career. In 1859 he went to Anamosa, Iowa, where he was engaged in the grocery business until after the Civil war broke out. He raised part of a company of soldiers and was elected captain, but it was afterward joined with another, and he was made regiment quartermaster with the rank of first lieutenant. His brigade, which was a part of the Fourteenth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, was the first to scale the ramparts of Fort Donelson, and the stores were taken in command of Lieutenant Buell. He participated in the battles of Pittsburg Landing and Shiloh, the siege of Vicksburg, the battle of Meridian, and Banks' expedition up the Red river, and in the pursuit of Price through

Missouri. After three years of arduous service he was mustered out in November, 1864. On receiving his discharge Mr. Buell came to Sterling, where he invested his money in hay, but this venture did not prove successful, as the government had seized all cars and he was left without any means for shipping. He then purchased about five hundred and sixty acres of land in Montmorency township and turned his attention to agricultural pursuits; being a practical farmer, he met with good success in that business. He gave special attention to dairy farming, and was one of the pioneers in the creamery business, building the first creamery in the county. In 1866 he was made principal of the third ward school of Sterling, and was the first principal of the second ward school conducted in the present building. On the 21st of July, 1853, Mr. Buell was united in marriage with Miss Mary A. Niles, who was also born in Madison county, New York, November 5, 1828, a daughter of John and Sarah (Mosley) Niles, who spent their last days in Whiteside county. To Mr. and Mrs. Buell were born seven children, of whom three died young. Of the others our subject is the eldest; Fred, who is engaged in the creamery business in Prophetstown, is married and has two children, Dorothy and Angeline; Charles C., an attorney of Chicago, is married and has two children, Temple and Charles; Sarah is the wife of Harvey Strickler, a resident of Austin, a suburb of Chicago, and they have two children, Harvey and John. Both the parents are now deceased, the father dying December 31, 1885, and the mother September 11, 1897.

The early education of Jewett C. Buell was acquired in the country schools of Mont-

morency township, and later he attended the Northern Indiana Normal School at Valparaiso, taking a preparatory course. He remained at home with his parents and followed farming until his marriage, which was celebrated January 10, 1881, Miss Lydia Emmons becoming his wife. She was born in Doloma township, this county, March 26, 1861, a daughter of L. L. Emmons, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. They now have a family of six children, whose names and dates of birth are as follows: Mary J., February 19, 1883; Clinton L., January 3, 1887; Fred J., October 30, 1889; Jewett C., December 11, 1892; Francis E., August 16, 1895; and Donald Dewey, October 28, 1898. The daughter is now attending the Sterling high school.

For two years after his marriage, Mr. Buell engaged in farming in Lyndon township, and then removed to his present farm, on which he has erected a house since his father's death, but otherwise the place remains unchanged. He has also been interested in the dairy and creamery business for twelve years, and in his business career he has been very successful. Socially he is a Knight Templar Mason and a member of the Modern Woodmen camp, No. 1912. Religiously, his wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He is a Republican in politics but has never been an aspirant for public office. He is a wide-awake, energetic business man, of known reliability, and as a citizen is always ready to discharge every duty that devolves upon him.

**SHERMAN D. COLLINS** is a leading and popular citizen of Erie, who is now successfully engaged in the real estate busi-

ness. His ability, enterprise and straightforward dealings have gained for him an enviable reputation, and although he is still a young man comparatively, his popularity is established on a firm basis—that of his own well-tested merit.

Mr. Collins was born July 18, 1865, a son of James and Elizabeth Collins, and he received his education in the public schools of Erie. He remained under the parental roof until he was married, September 4, 1890, to Miss Ida L. Waite, who was born September 20, 1862, a daughter of William and Mary A. Waite. They have one child, Claude C., born August 16, 1892.

After his marriage, Mr. Collins was engaged in the hotel and restaurant business for some years, but now gives his attention to the real estate business, in which he is meeting with good success. He is a staunch supporter of the Republican party and its principles, and has ever taken an active and prominent part in local politics. As one of the leading and influential citizens of his town he has been honored with important official positions, having been a member of the board of trustees for eleven years, and president of the same for two terms. He is now serving in the latter capacity with credit to himself and to the entire satisfaction of his constituents. Fraternally he is a member of Erie lodge, No. 667, F. & A. M.; Evangeline chapter, No. 52, O. E. S.; and Acorn lodge, No. 317, K. P.

**JOHN BEELER**, whose home is on section 7, Sterling township, comes from the fatherland, and the strongest and most creditable characteristics of the Teutonic race have been marked elements in his life and have enabled him to win success in the

face of opposing circumstances. He possesses the energy and determination which mark the people of Germany and by the exercise of his powers he has steadily progressed, and has not only won a handsome competence but has commanded universal respect by his straightforward business methods.

Mr. Beeler was born in Baden, Germany, November 30, 1848, a son of Christian and Catherine Beeler, also natives of Baden, where the father engaged in farming throughout life. He died when our subject was quite small, but the mother is still living in Baden. Our subject attended the public schools of his native land until fourteen years of age, and then worked on the home farm until his emigration to America in 1864. He sailed from Liverpool, and landed in the United States after a voyage of thirteen days. He came at once to Sterling, Illinois, where he had friends living, and on reaching here found that he had but ten dollars with which to begin life in the new world. He secured work with Mathias Wahl, of Genesee township, and remained with him for two years. Later he engaged in farming on the shares for John Dietrehn, Joseph Myers and Peter Bressler, being a year with each.

At the end of that time Mr. Beeler was united in marriage with Miss Anna Bristley, also a native of Baden, Germany, and a daughter of Christ and Mary Bristley. Mr. and Mrs. Beeler have two children: Margaret E., the older, has attended the Sterling Business College, completed the normal course in 1895, and is now pursuing art studies at Dixon College. Edgar is attending the Sterling Business College.

Mr. and Mrs. Beeler began their domestic life in Palmyra township, Lee

county, where he bought eighty acres of cultivated and well-improved land, on which they lived for eleven years. In 1886 he purchased a fine farm of two hundred acres in Sterling township, on which they have since made their home. He has extended the boundaries of his farm by the additional purchase of a one-hundred-and-eight-acre tract, and now has one of the most desirable places in the township. In 1896 he erected a handsome modern residence at a cost of three thousand dollars, the architect being James Capp, of Sterling. The house is heated by a furnace and supplied with all modern conveniences. He has also erected a fine barn 42 x 70 feet. He is extensively engaged in stock raising, feeds all of his corn to his stock, and makes a specialty of draft, Norman and Clyde horses. A man of keen perception, of unbounded enterprise, his success in life is due entirely to his own efforts, and he deserves prominent mention among the leading and representative citizens of his community. He is a member of the Lutheran church of Sterling, and in politics is a Republican.

**J**OHAN E. SCOTT, who owns and operates a well improved farm of one hundred and ninety-seven acres in Hopkins township, Whiteside county, is now living retired in the village of Como. He has been very successful as an agriculturist, and by the exercise of industry and natural ability has accumulated a competency for his declining years. The respect and general regard of his neighbors and acquaintances are his to a gratifying degree, and a synopsis of his history will, doubtless, prove of interest to many.

Born near Waterford, Morgan county, Ohio, May 26, 1826, John E. Scott is one of the thirteen children of Jesse and Anna G. (Sherman) Scott. The eldest of the family, Asa, born February 26, 1817, married Elizabeth Taylor, when he was twenty years of age, and both are now deceased. They became the parents of sixteen children, five of whom reside near Como. Jane, born March 5, 1818, married Isaac Bretelle, who died many years ago. She is still living, her present home being in Nebraska, with one of her four surviving children. Josiah S., born May 18, 1819, married Harriet Correll, in 1843, and they became the parents of twelve children. She died in September, 1899. David, born December 5, 1820, married Lavina Stone and had nine children. Both are now deceased. Hiram B., born January 6, 1822, died June 21, 1850, unmarried. Adrial, born November 30, 1823, married Mary Salome, and died in 1896. Their five children survive, and the widow is now making her home in Iowa. Joel S., born September 30, 1824, wedded Polly Stillions, and their only child, Polly, is deceased. The mother, born October 7, 1834, died October 7, 1851. Mr. Scott subsequently married Elizabeth Correll, and had two children, but all of the family have passed away. Mary E., born June 4, 1829, married Edwin Scott, who survives her, his home being in Rock Falls, Illinois. Their family comprised six children. Maria A., born February 14, 1831, married Lewis Davis. Both are deceased, but their five children survive. Caroline A., born August 8, 1832, became the wife of Alphonzo Brooks, and had three children. The parents died in California about twelve years ago. Alice E., born February 27, 1834, died September 9, 1845. Emeline,

born February 7, 1842, was drowned in Rock river near Como May 8, 1845.

Jesse Scott, the father of our subject, was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, and served in the war of 1812, as captain of a company, under command of General Johnson. Subsequently, he engaged in the milling business, at one time operating three flour mills. In 1830, he came to Illinois, where he engaged in work as a carpenter and blacksmith. He lived to a good old age, dying when in his ninetieth year. He was married on New Year's day, 1815, to Miss Sherman, who was a devoted helpmate, sharing his joys and sorrows.

When he was ten years of age, John E. Scott removed to the west with his parents. His father built a flat-boat, and conveyed his family and household goods to Illinois, by the way of the Muskingum, Ohio and Illinois river, as far as Rock river, landing at Como, June 1, 1830. Then commenced a life of considerable hardship, but the family possessed the true pioneer spirit, and accepted uncomplainingly whatever came to them, believing that better times were in store. John E. Scott continued to live upon his parents' farm until his marriage, and subsequently became the owner of the property which had belonged to his father. He has continued to improve and cultivate this farm, until it is now considered one of the most valuable places in the county. He has endeavored to do his duty as a citizen, and in his political preference is a Republican. Religiously, he is connected with the Methodist Episcopal denomination.

The marriage of J. E. Scott and Mary Jane Shereer was celebrated November 4, 1852. Their eldest child, Anis Cecelia, born October 7, 1853, married David



Donichy, of Nelson, Illinois. They have three sons and one daughter. Anna Eliza and Anna Adelia, twins, were born October 23, 1855. The former became the wife of Charles Van Drou, and had five children. She died August 23, 1895, and Mr. Van Drou married Kittie Walton, and resides in Sterling. Anna Adelia became the wife of Oscar Partridge, who cultivates the farm owned by our subject. They are the parents of two daughters. Amy Augustine, born July 27, 1857, died May 20, 1860. Oscar H., born March 15, 1859, married Emma Kramer, and lives in Sterling. Mrs. John E. Scott's grandparents, John and Mary (McClurd) Sherer, were married in Germany, removed thence to Glasgow, Scotland, where her father was born. He went to Canada upon attaining his majority later located in Chicago, and for some years prior to his death dwelt in Joliet, Illinois. He departed this life, July 24, 1851, and his wife, formerly Mary M. Cochran passed away December 23, 1850. Their marriage took place October 16, 1832; their daughter Mary Jane was born October 26, 1833, and her twin brother died at the age of six weeks.

**R**OLLIN H. WOODS, the well known and popular mayor of Rock Falls, is a native son of Whiteside county, born on the old home farm in Montmorency township, May 22, 1866. His father, Peter C. Woods, a native of Indiana, came to this state in 1864, and located in Montmorency township, Whiteside county, where he engaged in farming and stock raising. He married Ann Blacklidge, of Metamora, Indiana, and to them were born three chil-

dren, of whom our subject is the youngest. Chester, born in Metamora, Indiana, died in Whiteside county, in 1885, at the age of twenty-two years. Edgar, also a native of Metamora, came to Illinois with his parents, and is now engaged in farming a few miles south of Rock Falls. He married Anna McWhorter, of Whiteside county, a daughter of Hon. Tyler McWhorter, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work, and they have seven children, all living.

Our subject spent his boyhood on the home farm and began his education in the common schools of the neighborhood. Early recognizing the advantages to be accrued by a good education, he eagerly seized the opportunities given him for the same, and attended the Sterling high school and later took the teacher's and surveyor's course in the Northern Illinois Normal School at Dixon, from which institution he was graduated. He then taught school for several terms, and in 1889 opened a livery business in the city of Rock Falls, which he successfully conducted for two years, when he sold out and was in the railroad employ for some time, but not finding his last occupation congenial to his tastes, he returned to his old home and in 1892 opened a real estate and insurance office in Rock Falls. This business he has managed with a great deal of skill and energy, has built up a good patronage, and become thoroughly acquired with the people and business interests of the city. For a time he was also a dealer in cigars and tobacco, which business he sold out in November, 1899.

At Rock Falls, March 15, 1893, Mr. Woods was united in marriage with Miss Lida Wagley, a daughter of Joseph Wagley, of Rock Falls, and they now have a little son, Rollin E., born May 31, 1897. The

family have a pleasant home at No. 202 Fourth avenue.

In 1894, Mr. Woods was elected alderman and took an active part in the business of the city council and in the affairs of the city. He was re-elected to the same position in 1896 and was an active member of the committee on finance, and streets and alleys, being chairman of the former committee. In the spring of 1899 he received the nomination for mayor, in recognition of his qualifications for that office and his untiring activity in advancing the best interests and prosperity of the city, and after a hard fought contest between the different candidates for that office, he came out victorious, being elected by a large majority, and carrying every ward. He is by no means unacquainted with the responsibilities of the office, his two terms as alderman having fitted him for its duties. He has always been greatly interested in the affairs of the city, looking toward its advancement and improvement. He is himself a property owner in Rock Falls and has the interests of a true citizen in her welfare. Fraternally he is an active and prominent member of the Knights of the Globe and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

**L** EONARD A. SLAYMAKER, a progressive farmer of Newton township, residing on section 14, where he owns ninety acres of land under good improvement, in addition to which he has a lot of timber land on section 16. He was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, September 27, 1836, and is the son of George and Anna Elizabeth (Rockey) Slaymaker, both of whom were natives of the same county and

state, the former born in 1799, and the latter in 1818. They were both reared in their native county and there married. Eight children came to bless their union, of whom seven are yet living. Mary J., who is now the owner of the old family homestead in Newton township, is now making her home with her sister, Mrs. Dr. Lundy, of Lyons, Iowa. Lavinia C. is the wife of James Harris, of Bellfont, Pennsylvania. Leonard A. is the subject of this sketch. Anna E. is the wife of Ishmael Monroe, of San Joaquin county, California. George M. is a farmer of Newton township. Samuel H. died in Newton township January 4, 1883. Sarah, wife of Dr. Lundy, of Lyons, Iowa, was killed in a railroad wreck in 1881. James H. makes his home in Albany, Illinois.

George Slaymaker came with his family to Whiteside county, Illinois, in April, 1855, and after residing in the village of Albany one year, located in Newton township, where he rented a farm for four years. He then bought a farm in the township on section 15, adjoining the present farm of our subject, which he improved, and on which he resided during the remainder of his life, his death occurring July 15, 1881. In his native state he took an active part in public affairs, but after coming to Whiteside county, he lived a quiet and retiring life.

The paternal grandfather of our subject, Captain John Slaymaker, commanded a company of riflemen during the war of 1812, and was in active service. His son George, the father of our subject, being too young to carry arms, accompanied his father in the service in the capacity of a teamster. The paternal great-grandfather was a soldier in the Revolutionary war, and was present at Braddock's defeat. George Slaymaker had the privilege of seeing the Marquis

de Lafayette when the latter was on his last visit to the United States.

The boyhood of our subject was spent on the farm in his native state, and he received a good common-school education. At the age of eighteen years, he entered a machine shop in Luzerne county, Pennsylvania, to learn the machinist's trade, but this object was interrupted by the removal of the family to Whiteside county, he accompanying them. He remained with the family until the spring of 1859, when he started with a party of five to Pike's Peak. Those comprising the party were his uncle, Alexander Slaymaker, Samuel Coffman, James Burns, a Mr. Gordon, and our subject. On reaching Omaha, they learned that Pike's Peak was "busted," and some of the party concluded to return home. Mr. Slaymaker was of the number that concluded to go on to the end of their journey. With their team of oxen they started across the plains, and at Fort Laramie met Horace Greeley, who was coming home from his famous overland trip. Arriving at their journey's end, the season was spent at Boulder and Long's Peak, Colorado, engaging in prospecting and mining, but without much success. In the fall the party sold out the claim they had located and returned home with the same ox team with which they made the outward trip. They arrived at home just at the beginning of the winter.

Soon after his return home, Mr. Slaymaker was united in marriage with Miss Mary Stagg, the wedding ceremony being celebrated at Fulton, Illinois, February 26, 1861. She was born in Henry county, Illinois, October 16, 1842, and came to Whiteside county with her parents, Thomas and Nancy (McDermott) Stagg, when but five years old. Her father was a native of New

Jersey, and located near Columbus, Ohio, and from there moved to Henry county, Illinois, in the thirties, and to Whiteside county in 1847, locating in Albany, where he engaged in blacksmithing a number of years, and later bought a farm in Newton township, where he spent the remainder of his years, dying in December, 1884. Mr. and Mrs. Slaymaker have been blessed with no children of their own, but reared from infancy a niece of Mrs. Slaymaker, Mary Effner, daughter of Edward and Amanda Effner, and she is now the wife of William W. Blean, a prominent farmer of Newton township.

After marriage Mr. Slaymaker engaged in farming in Newton township until the fall of 1872, when he rented his land and moved to Marion county, Kansas, where he purchased a claim and spent one season engaged in farming. In the spring of 1874 he returned to Whiteside county intending to sell his property here and take up his permanent residence in Kansas. Being unable to sell to advantage, he concluded that Whiteside county was a good enough place in which to live, and therefore he returned to his farm and Kansas lost a good and valuable citizen and Illinois regained one.

Since his return from Kansas Mr. Slaymaker has given his sole attention to agriculture, following an intelligent system of mixed farming. He has made nearly all the improvements on his place, which is one of the best in his township. In politics he is a Democrat and has given considerable attention to political affairs. For four years he served as justice of the peace in his township, and he has also given much of his time to educational affairs as a member of the board of education. He and his wife are members of the Newton Presbyterian

church, in which he has been an active worker, serving for twenty-five or thirty years as elder or trustee. He has also been active in Sunday-school work, serving as superintendent for many years. Fraternally he is a member of Pilot camp, Modern Woodmen of America. As a citizen he is progressive, and all who know him have for him unbounded respect. His home is a cultured and refined one, and his hospitality is unbounded.

**J**OHAN G. LIMERICK, one of the most energetic, enterprising and progressive business men of Rock Falls, is a native of Illinois, born in Bureau county, January 18, 1864, and is a son of George and Letitia Limerick. The father, who was a native of New York, came to Illinois when a small boy and later took up government land in Bureau county which he developed into a good farm. He followed agricultural pursuits throughout life and died upon his farm in Bureau county, in February, 1875. His wife passed away at the same place in 1878. Of their nine children, only three are now living besides our subject, namely: A. H. is a prominent citizen of Winfield, Kansas, and principal and superintendent of the public schools of that place; Maggie is the widow of Thomas A. Bishop, a prosperous farmer of Whiteside county, and she now lives with her three children at 1005 West Fifth street, Sterling; and Minnie E. is the wife John Stewart, who is engaged in the express business in Chicago.

The subject of this sketch was reared on the home farm in Bureau county, where he remained until nineteen years of age. He attended school in Ohio, that county, and when his education was completed went to

Boone, Iowa, where he was employed in the grocery business for a short time. While there Mr. Limerick was married, April 14, 1885, to Miss Ella Hartman, of that place, a daughter of Henry and Leah Hartman. Three children were born of this union: Elmo J., born in Boone, Iowa, January 27, 1886, died in Rock Falls, in 1890, and was buried in Sterling, Illinois; the second child died in infancy unnamed; Volney G., born in Rock Falls, December 17, 1891, completes the family.

Mr. Limerick remained in Boone, Iowa, until April, 1887, and then came to Rock Falls, where he has since resided. He was employed as clerk in the hardware store of A. J. McNeil & Company for a period of seven years, and for one year by E. U. Taylor, another hardware merchant of Rock Falls. In 1896 he embarked in business for himself, purchased a barber shop, which he has since owned, but does not give all his time to the business, being now engaged quite extensively in the fire insurance business. He has obtained the agency for several of the best companies, and by his industry and close attention to his business has built up a large and prosperous patronage in that line. In the spring of 1898, he was elected city collector for a term of one year. During that time the office was made an appointive one, and upon the expiration of his term he was appointed by Mayor Woods for another term. He is a public-spirited citizen who gives his support to every enterprise for the public good.

**W**ILLIAM E. CURTIS, a prominent liveryman of Rock Falls, and a worthy representative of an honored pioneer family of this county, was born in

Tampico township, December 14, 1854, and is a son of George W. Curtis, a native of Connecticut, who was born May 6, 1822, and lived near Hartford until 1848, his time and attention being devoted to farming and stock raising. While still a resident of the east he was united in marriage with Miss Lois R. Hart, a daughter of Russell and Lois Hart, of New York state, and to this union six children were born, of whom our subject is the fourth in order of birth, the others being as follows: Nancy E., born on the Fox river, at Newark, Illinois, is now the wife of Brantson H. Gray, a carpenter of Rock Falls, and they have six children, all living: Henry, Minnie, Jean, Arthur, Lois and Catherine; George H., born at Newark, is now traveling in Europe; Jessie L., born in Newark, married Delia Batcheler, of Montmorency township, this county, by whom he has four children, and he is now engaged in farming in Ness county, Kansas; Lois Isabelle, born in Tampico township, Whiteside county, is the wife of Irwin Green, of Montmorency township, who is now a Methodist minister of Creamery, Iowa, and they have three children, Ethel, Maurice and Herbert; and Emily A., born in Tampico, married Frank Bryan, a farmer of Montmorency township, where she died in February, 1884, at the age of twenty-four years, and was buried there.

Immediately after his marriage, George W. Curtis came west and first located on the Fox river, near Newark, Illinois, where he engaged in farming and stock raising for some time. Subsequently he removed to Tampico township, this county, where he purchased two hundred and forty acres of government land, and to its cultivation and improvement he devoted his time and attention for fifteen years. He next made his

home in Coloma township, about two miles east of Rock Falls, until 1887, when he moved to Rock Falls and erected there a residence. He lived here until November, 1899, when he removed to Caro, Michigan, where he has property interests and where he and his wife intend to reside.

The early life of our subject was spent upon the farm in Tampico township where he was born, and in the district schools of the neighborhood he began his education, pursuing his studies there through the winter months, while during the summer season he aided his father on the farm. In 1869 he removed with the family to Coloma township, where he continued his school life and remained with his father for about two years. At the end of that time he started out in life for himself, and for seven years worked on different farms in this county.

January 15, 1878, Mr. Curtis led to the marriage altar Miss Edna Barber, a daughter of Sidney and Sophia (Martin) Barber, of Rock Falls, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. By this union four children have been born, namely: Elmer, born in Montmorency township, this county, June 11, 1881, is now attending the public schools of Rock Falls, from which he will graduate in 1900; Arthur, born in this county, December 30, 1882, is a student in the high school of Rock Falls; and Sidney, born June 21, 1889, and George W., born December 25, 1891, are also in school.

After his marriage, Mr. Curtis went to Nebraska, where he spent one summer, and on his return to Whiteside county, he engaged in farming in Montmorency township until 1889, when he came to Rock Falls and embarked in the livery business, which he has since carried on with most excellent

success. He is one of the leading business men of the city and quite prominent in public affairs. He was highway commissioner of Coloma township for six years, and alderman of Rock Falls, from the second ward, in 1895 and 1896. Politically he is identified with the Republican party, and fraternally he belongs to the Knights of Pythias, of Sterling; the Knights of the Globe, of Rock Falls; the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and the Mystic Workers of the World.

**FERNANDO N. BREWER** is now practically living a retired life upon his farm in Lyndon township, Whiteside county. He is numbered among the pioneer settlers of this locality, for since his early boyhood days he has been identified with the interests of this section of the state, and has borne his part in its progress and development. He has seen its wild lands transformed into fine farms, while its hamlets have become villages and industries and commercial enterprises have been introduced. Long familiar with the county and its history, Mr. Brewer well deserves representation in this volume, and he is also deserving of the success which has crowned his well-directed efforts in business. His diligence and enterprise brought him prosperity, and he is now accounted one of the substantial citizens of the community.

A native of Berkshire county, Massachusetts, he was born July 23, 1836, and is of Welch lineage, probably five generations of the family having resided in America since the progenitor came from Wales to the New World. The grandfather, Daniel Brewer, was born August 19, 1784, in Berkshire county, Massachusetts, and was

married in 1806 to Electa Langdon, who was born August 26, 1787. His brother was a soldier in the war of 1812. Daniel Brewer died February 2, 1869, and his wife passed away February 8, 1870. Their children were Emeline, born October 23, 1807; Daniel P., born November 18, 1809; Hiram, born July 29, 1811; John, born June 28, 1814; Eleazer T., born August 8, 1816; Esther M., born January 19, 1819; Nathaniel, born March 26, 1821; Harriet N. and Henry L., twins, born September 1, 1823; Reuben R., born June 8, 1825; Harriet N., born March 23, 1828; and Phebe A., born September 13, 1830. Of these children only three are living—Reuben R., of Berkshire county, Massachusetts; Phœbe, of Connecticut; and Daniel P., father of our subject.

Daniel P. Brewer was born in Berkshire county, Massachusetts, in November, 1809, and when a young man learned the tailor's trade, which he followed until his removal to Whiteside county, in 1837. He married Emeline Hollister, who was born in Berkshire county, in 1811. They became the parents of five children, of whom our subject is the eldest. Elizabeth was married May 18, 1856, to H. L. Osborne, now deceased, and resides in Sterling, Illinois. Their children are Adelbert; Lois; Harper; Elva, wife of Frank Blair, of Sterling; Etta; one who died at the age of eighteen years, and one who died in infancy. Lucelia, the third of the family, was married November 24, 1862, to S. A. Langdon, of Morristown. James Oren, a farmer of Lutesville, Missouri, was married April 2, 1874, to Rebecca H. Winner, and they have three children—May, a teacher; Earl and Jessie. Esther N. was married March 6, 1876, to J. H. Upton, a farmer of Portland township, and

their children are Ralph, Mabel, Blanch and Ruth.

Fernando N. Brewer was only a year old when brought by his parents to Illinois and thus he was reared amid the wild scenes of the frontier and with the family experienced all the hardships of pioneer life. His father became a resident of Portland township, where he has since resided, owning at one time two hundred acres of land, which he has deeded to his youngest daughter, with whom he now makes his home. Before putting aside business cares he engaged in general farming and was quite successful in his undertakings. In politics he is a Republican and held several offices in the township. About 1885 he put aside all business cares and has since lived retired. His wife died November 12, 1894, since which time he has resided with his youngest daughter.

Mr. Brewer, of this review, attended the first school established in White-side county and remained at home until twenty-six years of age, working the old homestead farm on the shares with his father for five years. He then married Cordelia Frary, who was born in Prophetstown township, December 20, 1842, a daughter of Marvin and Eliza (Wight) Frary, early settlers of that township, to which place they removed from New York about 1839. Their only child was Mrs. Brewer. Mrs. Frary, however, was twice married, her first husband being Sampson Ellethorpe, by whom she had a son yet living,—E. S. Ellethorpe. Katie Brill Brewer was born in Tampico township, White-side county, Illinois, January 19, 1870. Her parents both died before she was four years old; she then came and lived with our subject as one of the family. She graduated

at the Prophetstown school in 1896 and has since worked at her trade of dressmaking while still making her home with Mr. and Mrs. Brewer.

After his marriage Mr. Brewer located on a farm owned by his wife, where he remained for a year. He then purchased one hundred acres of land and has since added to his farm until it now comprises four hundred acres of highly improved land. It was only partially under cultivation when it first came into his possession but he transformed it into rich and fertile fields, erected new buildings and fences and added many modern accessories and equipments. He engaged in general farming and stock raising and for a time engaged in the dairy business, but later abandoned that and made a specialty of the raising of Durham cattle. In 1891 his son assumed the management of the farm and he has since lived retired, enjoying a rest which he has truly earned, for his career was an active and useful one, characterized at all times by the strictest integrity in his trade transactions.

Mr. and Mrs. Brewer became the parents of two children: Mason P., born in 1866, now operates the homestead and is an energetic and enterprising agriculturist. In April, 1891, he married Harriet Austin, and they have four children,—Buell, Carl, Harriet and Nellie. The daughter, Eva E., is the wife of George Fisk, of Lyndon township. He owns a farm in Fenton township in connection with his brother, but is now living on his father's farm. They have two children, Roy and Myrtle.

Mr. and Mrs. Brewer hold membership in the Methodist church of Lyndon, and he has held several offices in that organization. In politics he is a staunch Republican and

has served as supervisor, assessor and in other local positions of trust and responsibility. He is one of the directors of the County Fair Association and has been one of the directors of the Old Settlers' Association for over thirty-four years. The presidency of this society has been tendered him, but he declined to serve. The association is in a very flourishing condition, and its annual meetings are attended by about ten thousand people. Throughout the county Mr. Brewer has a wide acquaintance and is held in the highest esteem by all. For more than fifty years he has been identified with the interests of this locality and few are more familiar with its history. His diligence and honesty in business have brought him gratifying success, and his fidelity to duty in public and private life have won him a leading place among the honored residents of this section of Illinois.

**F**RANK HODGES, one of the most progressive, enterprising and energetic farmers and stock raisers of Whiteside county, has spent his entire life here, his birth occurring in Coloma township, March 12, 1859. His father, Francis W. Hodges, now an honored and highly esteemed citizen of Rock Falls, was born in Massachusetts, August 11, 1824, a son of David and Clarissa (Jones) Hodges, and was reared by his aunt. He was married February 6, 1855, to Miss Mary Stewart, who was born in New York March 19, 1839, a daughter of James and Jane Stewart, and by this union four children were born, namely: Joseph W., born March 19, 1857, is a resident of Rock Falls; Frank, our subject, is the next in order of birth; Jenny L., born October 13, 1861, is the wife of Y. C. Stevenson, of

Cleveland, Ohio; and J. Stewart, born March 12, 1875, lives at home with his parents. It was in 1840 that the father came to Whiteside county and subsequently he purchased a farm of ninety acres in Coloma township, to the improvement and cultivation of which he devoted his energies during the greater part of his life. There he continued to make his home until his removal to Rock Falls in 1895.

Frank Hodges remained with his parents until reaching man's estate, acquiring an excellent knowledge of agricultural pursuits, and receiving a good practical education in the common schools. On the 11th of November, 1889, he was united in marriage with Miss Nora Thompson, a daughter of R. M. Thompson, of Morrison, whose sketch appears on another page of this work. Our subject is now in partnership with his father-in-law in the stock business and has control of Mr. Thompson's land, amounting to about nineteen hundred acres. Annually he feeds from two hundred and seventy-five to three hundred head of cattle and about five hundred hogs, and as a stock raiser and general farmer is meeting with most gratifying results. He is a man of keen discrimination and sound judgment and generally carries forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes. In his political affiliations he is a Democrat, and in his social relations is a member of the Modern Woodmen.

**J**OHN L. THOMPSON is a skillful farmer and successful stock raiser whose home is on section 15, Fenton township, Whiteside county, Illinois, where he owns one hundred and sixty acres of land, and also has an adjoining tract of ten acres on sec-



tion 19. He was born in that township, March 26, 1852, and is a son of R. M. Thompson, a retired farmer of Morrison, whose sketch will be found on another page of this work. Our subject remained under the parental roof until he attained his majority and then began the battle of life for himself. He purchased his present farm, and upon that place has since followed his chosen calling with marked success. He devotes considerable attention to stock raising, and usually keeps on hand enough stock to consume all the grain raised upon his farm. Lately he has turned his attention to dairy farming, and for that purpose now keeps from fifteen to twenty cows.

Mr. Thompson was married, December 23, 1880, to Miss Carrie E. Hamlin, who was born in Erie, Whiteside county, February 17, 1861, a daughter of S. Benjamin and Nancy Hamlin, the father born in New York, the mother in Pennsylvania. The father engaged in the cooper business in Erie, having formerly learned the trade while a resident of Ohio. Mrs. Thompson is the sixth in order of birth in a family of seven children, the others being as follows: (1) Oliver C., now a resident of Peoria, and county engineer of Peoria county, Illinois, married Susan Aldapher, and they had four children, two of whom died in infancy. Those living are Sylvester B. and Howard W. (2) Ammi Rogers, a street railway conductor of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, married Lucy V. and Roe, and they have two children, Fred N. Roy. (3) Alfred Albert died when young. (4) Addie E. is the wife of John B. Wood, of Fenton, Whiteside county, and they have five children: Harry; Carrie N. and Callie E., twins; Fred; and Willis. (5) Ida Ellen died at the age of twelve years. (7) Frank B., a farmer residing in

Erie, married Mary Anna Mutschler. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson have become the parents of two children: Roy J., born January 13, 1885, and Matt C., born May 20, 1888. Both attend the public schools.

Mr. and Mrs. Thompson hold membership in the Christian church of Erie, and are highly respected and esteemed wherever known. He is also a member of Ewing lodge, No. 175, M. W. A., and politically is identified with the Democratic party, although he was reared a Republican. He is now an advocate of the free coinage of silver, believing it to be for the best interests of the entire country.

**L**EOPOLD STOECKLE, deceased, was one of the leading business men of Sterling for some years, and took an active part in promoting its substantial improvement and material development. An adopted son of America, his loyalty was above question and his labors in the interest of the city were most effective and beneficial.

Mr. Stoeckle was born in Baden, Germany, November 11, 1832, and when about fifteen years of age was brought to America, by his parents, Ludwig and Eliza Stoeckle, who located in Cleveland, Ohio. There he learned the barber's trade, and at the age of eighteen he removed to Chicago, where he continued to work at his trade for some years, conducting the barber shop in the Sherman House for a part of the time.

In that well-known hotel, Mr. Stoeckle was married, January 5, 1852, by Rev. Rowley, a Methodist Episcopal minister, to Miss Cathrina Bergman, who was born in Prussia, Germany, February 15, 1831, and when fifteen years of age came to America

with her parents, John August and Kathrina (Steffin) Bergman. In Chicago her father followed his trade of carpenter and builder, and also engaged in the real estate business, buying and improving city property and then selling it again. In this way he accumulated a competency. Both he and his wife died in Chicago and were laid to rest in Calvary cemetery.

To Mr. and Mrs. Stoeckle were born thirteen children, namely: John Lee, born November 26, 1852, is now a barber engaged in business on the corner of First avenue and Third street, Sterling; Rosa and Kathrina, twins, born December 15, 1853, died in infancy; Emil Albert, born April 6, 1855, resides with his mother; James, born November 27, 1856, died when three days old; Mary A., born February 11, 1858, is the wife of William Perkins, of Minneapolis, Minnesota; Eugene, born December 14, 1859, died when ten days old; Edward Eugene, born December 17, 1860, is a barber of Stafford, Kansas; Walter Julian, born December 2, 1862, is a mail carrier of Sterling; Julius, born January 5, 1865, died April 6, the same year; William, born October 24, 1866, died May 10, 1868; William August, born October 6, 1868, is bookkeeper for the Wire Works Company, of Sterling; and George Rudolph, born October 10, 1871, was accidentally drowned in Rock River, August 11, 1887.

After his marriage, Mr. Stoeckle conducted the Sherman House barber shop until 1859, when he came to Sterling and opened a shop in the Boynton House, then the principal hotel in the place. There he remained in business for two or three years, and then removed farther down town, carrying on business at several different places until he finally purchased property and in

1868 erected the store building on Third street now occupied by the D. & W. Clothing store, which has since been remodeled, improved and modernized by Mrs. Stoeckle, who has put in a new front. He also bought the building on the corner of Third and Locust streets, formerly owned by the Patterson Banking Company, now the Adam Express Company's office. He also purchased a residence at No. 209 Fifth avenue, which is now occupied by his son, William Stoeckle. He built up a successful and profitable business and judiciously invested his savings in town property. Since her husband's death, Mrs. Stoeckle has most ably conducted her business affairs. In 1887 she built a double house on Second street between Eighth and Ninth avenues, and in 1892 erected her present fine residence on Fifth avenue beside the old home now occupied by her son.

During his entire business career, Mr. Stoeckle gave his undivided attention to his trade, and by industry and economy, and the exercise of good judgment in investments he made a signal success. He was of a kind and genial disposition, and was a friend and counselor to those in need. He was a man who made many friends and had no enemies. He was prominent in the leading fraternal societies, being a Knight Templar Mason, and a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and other orders. He died June 1, 1881, honored and respected by all who knew him.

**E**JOE McENTIRE, M. D., a prominent and successful young physician of Erie, is a native of Illinois, born in Rock Island county, April 22, 1874, and is a son of Thomas L. and Elizabeth McEntire, both of whom

were of Scotch-Irish descent. After completing his literary education he began preparation for his chosen profession. He entered Rush Medical College, of Chicago, and on the completion of the prescribed course was graduated from that noted institution May 22, 1895. On the 1st of November, of the same year, he opened an office in Erie, Whiteside county, Illinois, and as his skill and ability became recognized he built up a good practice which he now enjoys. He is a progressive physician and constant study and close application have kept him well informed on the latest discoveries made in the practice and science of medicine and surgery.

---

ALEXANDER J. McNEIL is a leading hardware merchant of Rock Falls and occupies a foremost position among the prominent business men of the city. He is a native of Whiteside county, born on a farm adjoining Rock Falls, in 1857, and is a son of Robert McNeil, of Coloma township, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work. He was reared on the farm where his father still resides, and remained under the parental roof until twenty-four years of age, while he obtained his education in the district schools of Coloma township, pursuing his studies in the little brick school house east of Rock Falls, near the old home farm. He well remembers many times during his boyhood of herding cattle on the present site of Rock Falls. His youth was that of the common farm life of the boys of the west, full of that natural freedom of life, slowly molding that character which, through habits of industry, patience and duty, and untrammled by vice,

makes our best and noblest citizens of today—makes the brains of our country.

In 1879, Mr. McNeil came to Rock Falls and commenced business life by entering into partnership with A. M. Batcheler in the agricultural implements business under the firm name of Batcheler & McNeil, and in which he continued for three years. Being offered the position of traveling salesman for the McCormick Harvester Company, in 1883 he accepted, disposed of his business and remained with them until October of the same year when he began traveling for the Sterling Manufacturing Company, remaining with them two years. He afterwards held a similar position with the Barnes Manufacturing Company of Freeport and was in their employ until March 1888, when he returned to Rock Falls and embarked in the hardware business, which he has successfully conducted ever since. In 1896 the frame building which he occupied was destroyed by fire, but with characteristic energy he immediately commenced the erection of another, and as the result now has a fine substantial brick structure, the interior arrangement of which is perfectly adapted for the display of the full line of hardware which he carries.

In the fall of 1883, Mr. McNeil was united in marriage with Miss Carrie Chase, of Washington D. C., a sister of Hon. B. F. Chase, of the pension department at Washington. They have one child, Emily J., born in Rock Falls November 17, 1889.

Mr. McNeil is a popular citizen and held in high esteem by the people of Rock Falls. He has always been an active worker in the interests of the city. In 1896, at the time his store was burned, he, in return for their noble services, gave the fire department of Rock Falls and Sterling a fine banquet on

Lincoln's birthday, which returned in uniting these departments into a friendly exchange of duties, so that ever since mutual assistance is rendered on every necessary occasion. Politically Mr. McNeil is an ardent Democrat, but has never cared for political honors. He is a prominent member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of the Globe, being one of the directors of the Knights of the Globe Mutual Benefit Association. Mr. McNeal and his wife are members of the Presbyterian church and he has been an active member of the Y. M. C. A., of which he is now a director.

**T**HOMAS J. WILBER, who is now living retired from active labor in the village of Erie, was born in New York state, July 28, 1840, a son of James and Katherine (Nolls) Wilber. The father, who owned and operated a sawmill in that state, died about 1884, and the mother departed this life in 1871. In their family were eleven children.

Our subject was reared by his maternal grandfather, and remained with him until twenty-two years of age. On the 23d of January, 1867, he was united in marriage with Miss De Vera Grover, and soon afterward they came to Whiteside county, Illinois, locating on a farm in Garden Plains township, where they lived for about two years. The following year was spent in Iowa, but at the end of that time they returned to this county and took up their residence in Erie, where Mr. Wilber was successfully engaged in mercantile business for a number of years. He owns a good farm of eighty acres in Fenton township, which he has improved and cultivated, and resided on it for seven years. Since the spring of

1899 he has lived retired in Erie, enjoying the fruits of former toil.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilber have one child, Lawrence A., who is now engaged in the stock business in Hillsdale. The parents are both earnest and consistent Christians, though members of different religious denominations, Mr. Wilber belonging to the Christian church, his wife to the Seventh Day Adventist church. In politics he is independent, voting for the men whom he believes best qualified to fill the offices, regardless of party affiliations. He commands the respect and confidence of all who know him and is one of the honored citizens of his community.

**B**ERNHARD JOHNSON. The Teutonic race has always been an important element in our national progress, and Germany has furnished to America many of her best citizens. Our subject is one who came from the fatherland to the new world and to-day he is one of the most extensive farmers and stock dealers of Whiteside county, owning four hundred acres of valuable land and leasing five hundred acres additional. He was born in the Grand Duchy of Oldenburg, Germany, September 16, 1840, and is a son of Tobias Johnson, whose death occurred when our subject was only three months old. The mother bore the maiden name of Margaret Mennen, and like her husband was a native of Oldenburg. Bernhard was their only child, but after the death of the father the mother wedded Frederick Lubben Hendrichs, and by that union had two children, both of whom died in early life.

Bernhard Johnson obtained his education in the public schools and remained in

the fatherland until twenty-six years of age, when he came to Illinois, believing that he might better his financial condition in the new world. For thirteen years he made his home in Dixon, where he engaged in sprinkling streets and also purchased and operated a gristmill, which he conducted successfully for some time. At length he sold out and took up his abode in Nelson township, where he engaged in farming on rented land. In 1878 he came to Montmorency township, Whiteside county, where he purchased two hundred and forty acres of land to which he afterward added a quarter section, making four hundred acres in all. Here he is engaged in the raising of grain and stock. His farm was not improved when he located thereon, but he has since erected an elegant brick residence and made all modern improvements. He has a sewerage system on the farm and water is piped to all the buildings. The barns and out-buildings are models of convenience, and the residence, which was erected in 1895, is supplied with all improvements. The land is under cultivation or used for pasturage purposes, for he is extensively engaged in the raising of stock. At one time he rented his farm and removed to Chicago, where he remained for five years. During the World's Fair, he conducted a hotel and boarding house there, and yet owns some suburban property in that city. Since his return he has engaged quite extensively in dealing in stock, buying both cattle and sheep in all sections of the country. He annually ships about twelve carloads of each, and now has about seventeen hundred sheep upon his farm. He is regarded as one of the most successful stock dealers in this section of the state, and has conducted his business with such marked energy and enterprise that he

has justly won a place among the wealthy agriculturists of his adopted county.

While in Dixon Mr. Johnson was united in marriage, April 22, 1869, to Eva E., daughter of J. J. and Marie E. (Dirkes) Juelfs, natives of Germany. Mrs. Johnson was born in that country in 1848, and by her marriage has become the mother of four children: Mamie, wife of John Terhune, who is residing on a farm in Lee county, and they now have two sons, Harry and Lester; Albert, who wedded Olive E. Pettitt, and is now renting a farm adjoining his father's; Effie, wife of Harry Erd, an operator at the postal telegraph station in Chicago; and Fred, who is assisting his father on the farm. The parents are consistent members of the Lutheran church, and enjoy the high regard of many warm friends. In politics Mr. Johnson is a staunch Republican, an advocate of sound money, and for a number of years has acceptably filled the office of school director. His hope of bettering his financial condition in the new world has been more than realized, and he has justly gained a place among the representative agriculturists of Whiteside county, for his business career has been characterized by integrity and unfailing industry.

HON. J. G. MANAHAN, deceased, was for many years one of the most prominent and successful lawyers of Whiteside county, his home being in Sterling. He made a specialty of patent law and in that line gained a most enviable reputation. He was born in Concord, Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, May 12, 1837, a son of William and Isabella (Galt) Manahan, natives of the same county. There the father

engaged in merchandising and also ran a private railroad. He was born February 25, 1806, and was a son of James E. Manahan, who was born near Baltimore, Maryland, March 16 or 18, 1777, and with his wife came to Whiteside county, Illinois, here spending their remainder days. The great-grandfather of our subject was James Manahan, who was born March 16, 1740, and died February 17, 1823. He was a soldier of the Revolutionary war under General Washington. The family is of Scotch-Irish extraction, and was founded in this country by a native of County Cavan, Ireland.

In his native county, William Manahan, father of our subject, was married in 1829, to Miss Isabella Galt, an aunt of Thomas A. Galt, of Sterling, and a descent of Robert Galt, who emigrated to this country in 1710. In 1846 they came to Galt, Whiteside county, Illinois, and here Mr. Manahan became an extensive landholder, owning property in different parts of the county up to the time of his death. He was one of the first settlers of this region to come down the Ohio and up the Mississippi, and then drive across the country to Fulton. He continued to live on his farm near Galt until elected sheriff of the county in 1854 when he removed to Sterling, then the county seat. He was one of the most prominent and influential citizens of this part of the state, as well as one of its honored pioneers. On locating here he took up a tract of government land and had to go to Springfield to enter the same. In connection with agricultural pursuits he was also engaged in the hardware business in Sterling, and owned an interest in R. B. Whitmer's store, becoming quite wealthy. He died while on a visit to his farm in

Hopkins, June 16, 1886. He was a faithful member of the Presbyterian church, and as an Abolitionist took an active interest in the underground railroad prior to the Civil war.

J. G. Manahan, our subject, remained on the home farm until the removal of the family to Sterling in 1854. He attended Knox College, Galesburg, and later read law with Kirk & Ward, of Sterling, the latter an older brother of Judge Ward, who is represented elsewhere in this work. Before finishing his law course, however, he enlisted in 1861, in Company B, Thirteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and his military career was a brilliant one until shot in front of Vicksburg during the siege of that place. Up to this time he was with his regiment uninterruptedly and was always found at his post of duty, valiantly defending the old flag and the cause it represented. After being wounded he was sent to the hospital at St. Louis, and later was detailed to guard rebel prisoners at Rock Island and took the first prisoners to Governor island. He was in the service over three years and was then honorably discharged and returned home.

While recuperating he spent three years upon his father's farm and left it at the end of that time in excellent condition. On the 25th of December, 1866, he married Miss Chattie L. Ward, a sister of Judge Ward, and they remained on the farm until the following year when they returned to Sterling and purchased the ground on which the beautiful home of the family now stands, at No. 507 Fifth avenue. Here his widow and daughter, Miss Mary Isabella, now reside. The latter has taken up the work of her father as far as securing patents are concerned. On the 29th of November,

1899, she was married to Frederick W. Honens, who is employed as a civil engineer on the Hennepin canal.

In 1868 Mr. Manahan was admitted to the bar and engaged in practice in Sterling, being a partner of Colonel William Kilgore for some years. He enjoyed an extensive practice, especially as a patent lawyer before the supreme court of the United States, and as such had few equals and no superiors. He assisted in organizing the Sterling Gas & Electric Light Company, and also had an interest in the Gas Engine Company. His fellow citizens, recognizing his worth and ability, called him to public office, and he most acceptably served as mayor of the city three terms, alderman many terms, and in 1882 was elected to the state Legislature on the Republican ticket. He was a member of the state board of charities for twelve years from 1879, and was a warm personal friend of Governors Fifer and Tanner, but was asked to resign by Governor Altgeld. He took an active interest in everything for the upbuilding of the city, and bore an important part in organizing the public library. He died September 11, 1897, honored and respected by all who knew him. He was an earnest and sincere Christian, a member of the Presbyterian church, in which he served as deacon for over a quarter of a century and was also Sunday school superintendent for many years. Upright, reliable and honorable, his strict adherence to principle commanded the respect of all. The place he won in the legal profession was accorded him in recognition of his skill and ability, and the place he occupied in the social world was a tribute to that genuine worth and true nobleness of character which were universally recognized and honored.

EDWARD ASHLING, deceased, was one of the prominent and highly respected citizens of Rock Falls, whose early life was identified with the growth and upbuilding of the county. He was a native of Illinois, born in Aurora, November 27, 1854, and was a son of William and Susanna (Nickson) Ashling, who were born in England and came to the United States at an early age, being married in Aurora, Illinois, November 13, 1853. The father, who is a carpenter by trade, was born January 12, 1829, and is still living in Rock Falls, but the mother died December 8, 1893, at the age of sixty-four years.

Of the seven children born to them our subject was the oldest, the others being as follows: (2) William, born November 7, 1857, is a farmer of Montmorency township, this county. He married Addie Tuttle and had three children: Lloyd, deceased; Frank and Fred. (3) Mary, born in Aurora, in 1860, married Alonzo Stone, a farmer, who died in Nelson township, Lee county, Illinois, in 1886, and she now resides in Rock Falls. They had five children: Arthur, now twenty-one years of age; Mabel and Olive, who died in Nelson township; Gilbert, who died in Rock Falls; and Alice, who is attending school in the latter place. (4) Louisa died in 1863, at the age of fourteen months. (5) Ellen, born August 2, 1865, lives in Rock Falls. (6) Frank, born in November, 1867, in Montmorency township, this county, died in Rock Falls, in October, 1886. (7) Sadie, born in Montmorency township, in 1870, is the wife of Elmer E. Teach, a blacksmith, of Rock Falls, and they have two children, Floyd and a baby unnamed.

The first twelve years of his life, Edward Ashling passed in his native city, and

then moved with the family to Montmorency township, Whiteside county, where he grew to manhood. After his marriage he followed farming in that township for twelve years and in his undertakings met with excellent success. In 1887 he moved to Rock Falls, and during his residence there devoted his time to looking after his property interests, being the owner of a large farm in Lee county. He erected a fine residence in a most beautiful part of the city and lived there until his death, which occurred December 10, 1889. He was widely known as an upright, reliable business man, and he commanded the respect and confidence of all with whom he came in contact either in business or social life. He was a man of the times, broad-minded, public-spirited and progressive, and in his death the community realized that it had lost a valued citizen.

On the 17th of February, 1873, Mr. Ashling was united in marriage with Miss Mary J. Stone, and to them were born five children, namely: Lois I., born in Nelson, Lee county, Illinois, in February, 1874, was married in February, 1895, to Lucius Parks, a farmer of Nelson township; George William, born in Nelson, in 1875, is a farmer of Lee county; Olive J., born in Nelson, in September, 1877, was married in 1897, to Lyle Golder, a farmer of Montmorency township, this county, and they have one child, Hugh Edward, born in September, 1898; Clarence M., born in Nelson, in 1880, died there at the age of four months; Edward W. A., born in Nelson, in 1885, and Luverne V., born in Rock Falls, in 1889, are both at home with their mother.

Burrell H. Stone, the father of Mrs. Ashling, was born in New York state, in 1821, and was the second child of Luther

and Lamina Stone, who were married October 19, 1817. They came west about 1834 and settled at Fairpoint, Lee county, Illinois, and both died in Nelson, that county, Luther Stone in 1863, his wife in 1875. He was a farmer and stock raiser by occupation. In their family were seven children: Willard, Burrell H., Samuel, Alonzo, Savina, Albert, and one son who died unnamed. Burrell H. Stone was about fourteen years of age when he came to this state with the family and took up his residence at Fairpoint, Lee county, which place is now known as Nelson. There he followed farming and stock raising throughout life, dying in Nelson, May 7, 1886. In 1851 he married Miss Isabella McNeil, who was born in Paisley, Scotland, in 1832, and in 1849 came to America with her parents, Alexander and Janet (Mason) McNeil, also natives of Scotland. They crossed the Atlantic on a sailing vessel and landed in New Orleans in safety, but the mother died while coming up the Mississippi river. The father, with his family, located in Lee county, this state, where he lived for several years and then moved to Chicago where he continued to make his home until called from this life July 4, 1861. He was an engineer and followed that occupation throughout life. Mrs. Stone was the eldest of his five children; Mary, the second, is the wife of H. F. Batcheler, a manufacturer of Rock Falls; Robert is represented on another page of this volume; Jane is the wife of John Lyle, a farmer of Florida, by whom she has four children; and George M., a resident of Chicago, is married and has two children.

Mrs. Ashling is the second in order of birth in a family of five children: (1) Lois J., born in Lee county, in 1852, died at Nelson in 1858. (3) Jessie A., born in Nel-



son, in 1856, is the wife of J. F. Schofield, of California; by a former marriage she has one child, Ernest W. Beal. (4) George D., born in Nelson, in 1861, is a farmer of Burt, Iowa. He married Elma Tuttle, of Sterling, and they have four children: Maude E., Anna Belle, Clara and George H. (5) Lamina, born in Nelson, in 1864, is the wife of Walter Cameron, of Georgia; by a former marriage she had one son, Lester Robinson, now nine years of age.

**M**RS. CAROLINE H. BURR, widow of Captain James Madison Burr, is one of the honored pioneers of Whitesides county, and few, indeed, if any, of the citizens here to-day can with her boast a continuous residence within the county boundaries of three-score years. She well recalls in memory the appearance of Como and the surrounding country, as she first beheld it, when Chicago was a tiny hamlet and the Mississippi river was, practically, the western frontier boundary. Nobly and faithfully did she perform the duties which fell to her share, not only as a wife and mother and neighbor, but also as one of the founders of the future prosperity and civilization of the county and state.

The birth of Mrs. Burr occurred in New Hampshire, December 20, 1820. Though now in her eightieth year, she possesses unusual vigor and strength of mind and body, and her accounts of her early experiences in this new country are highly entertaining. She was one of the five children and is the only survivor in the family. Her father died in 1827, in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, and her mother passed to the better land in 1869.

The marriage of Captain James M. Burr

and our subject occurred in New Hampshire, August 22, 1840. He had followed the high seas for a number of years prior to that event, but at last had concluded to establish a home in the west. Prior to his marriage he had made a western trip and had located a tract of land near the present town of Como, also building a small cabin, which sheltered his family for many years after their arrival here. Mr. Burr was a son of Martin and Eunice (Turner) Burr, who were married in Boston, Massachusetts. The father died November 19, 1846, and the mother survived until August, 1855. They were the parents of nine children. Martin Burr was a member of the Masonic order, belonging to the blue lodge. In religion he was a Congregationalist, while, politically, he was a Whig. His father and uncle, natives of England, came to the United States in the early part of this century.

For some thirty years, Captain and Mrs. Burr continued to dwell upon their comfortable homestead in Hopkins township, and there all of their children were born. The death of their first-born, James Madison, who died in infancy, was the first event of the kind in Como. Their eldest daughter, Adeline E., became the wife of David Davis, and after his death she was united in marriage with Colonel Wharton J. Green, who had won his title in the Confederate army, and who then, as now, makes his home in North Carolina. Eunice T., deceased, was the wife of Charles N. Munson, and the mother of two sons and one daughter. Subsequent to her death, Mr. Munson re-married, and with his wife, two sons and daughter, is now living in Kansas City. Hetty B., of Marshalltown, Iowa, married Charles Heitshu, of Pennsylvania, and had two sons, one of whom survives.

Charles M., who married Mary Bowles, and has one daughter, resides in the beautiful city of Los Angeles, California. J. Ellery, of Sterling, Illinois, chose Lucy Partridge for his wife, and their home is blessed by two sons and two daughters. William T., whose home is in Como, married Mary Wilkinson, and has two sons and a daughter.

In all his relations in life, Captain Burr was upright and loyal to high principles. For some time prior to his death, he was identified with the Odd Fellows society at Como, and in his political creed he was a stalwart Republican. He retired from the active labors of an agriculturist, and thenceforth made his abode in Como, where he was ranked among the most honored and representative citizens. In 1890 he and his beloved wife celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. It was a truly memorable occasion, one not easily forgotten by any of the participants. Most of the immediate relatives of the venerable couple were present, and beautiful souvenirs came to them from the Pacific and Atlantic coasts, from the north and the south. Since the death of the Captain, on the 10th of October, 1891, Mrs. Burr has resided with her children, passing the winter at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Green, in North Carolina, while the rest of the year she resides, as for sixty years past, in Como, where cling the associations of almost a life-time.

**H**ARLOW SMITH, a well known and prominent farmer residing on section 34, Hume township, Whiteside county, Illinois, has for over half a century been identified with the agricultural interests of the county and has been an important fac-

tor in its upbuilding and development. He was born near Toronto, Canada, May 18, 1830, and is a son of William and Anna (Sutherland) Smith, who were born, reared and married in Vermont, and from that state removed to Canada, where the father engaged in farming throughout the remainder of his life.

On leaving the Dominion, in the spring of 1849, Mr. Smith came to Whiteside county, Illinois, and found work with Warner Brothers at Prophetstown. For three years he engaged in teaming, mostly to Peru, and in the meantime purchased a horse-power threshing machine, which he operated during the threshing season for some years. Later he purchased one of the first steam threshers in the county, and has successfully engaged in the threshing business in season for forty-nine years. In early days he also broke prairie with ox teams for a number of years. He has also devoted considerable time in breeding and raising a fine grade of Hambletonian horses and at the present time has about sixty head of high grade horses on hand.

In Lyndon, this county, December 3, 1854, Mr. Smith was united in marriage with Miss Louisa Pope, who was born near Spaulding in Lincolnshire, England, and is a sister of Aaron and Thomas Pope, who are presented elsewhere in this volume. They began their domestic life in the village of Prophetstown, where they made their home for one year, and then rented a farm adjoining Mr. Smith's place. Our subject's first purchase consisted of eighty acres of wild land in Tampico township, which he fenced, broke and improved with good buildings, but after residing thereon for about five years, he removed to his present farm on section 34, where he has two hundred acres, on

which at that time was only a small house, while much of the land was still in its primitive condition. To its further improvement and cultivation he has since devoted his energies with most gratifying results. He has a pleasant residence, good barns and other outbuildings, surrounded by forest and fruit trees, and everything about the place betokens the thrift and enterprise of the owner and shows conclusively that he thoroughly understands the occupation which he has chosen as his life work. He has bought, improved and sold several farms, and besides his home place, he now owns a valuable farm of two hundred and twelve acres in Tampico township.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith have a family of six children, namely: Carrie L., now the wife of Fred Brown, of Hume township; Ida J., wife of R. B. Smith, of Prophetstown; Sarah Ella, wife of James Farrell, of Prophetstown; William N., a prominent Republican and one of the township officers, and correspondent of the agricultural bureau, residing at home; Minnie E., wife of Dr. T. L. Rounds of Tampico; and Herbert H., who is married and engaged in the livery business in Erie. Our subject and his wife have also reared and educated two other children.

The Republican party has always found in Mr. Smith a staunch supporter of its principles, and although he has never sought nor desired public office, he has been called upon to serve as commissioner of highways, and school director for fifteen years. He has acquired a handsome competence through his own well-directed and energetic efforts and has not only advanced his individual prosperity but has also materially promoted the general welfare by transforming the wild land into highly cultivated fields and

converting the county into one of the best agricultural districts of the state. As a valued and useful citizen of the community he is well worthy of prominent mention in a work of this character.

**H**ENRY C. LANDIS, a successful agriculturist residing on section 23, Coloma township, who devotes the greater part of his attention to market gardening, and is the owner of a good farm of eighty-seven acres on sections 23 and 26, was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, May 6, 1833, a son of A. N. and Maria (Pickle) Landis, also natives of that county, where the father followed the occupation of farming in early life. In 1847 he came with his family to Whiteside county, Illinois, and purchased land in Sterling township, where he improved a good farm of one hundred and forty acres. He continued to actively engage in agricultural pursuits as long as his health permitted and then removed to Sterling, where he lived retired until called from this life. There his wife also died. They were consistent members of the Menonite church, and were highly esteemed by all who knew them.

In their family were the following children: Elmira, who married H. B. Stillman and died, leaving one daughter, Harriet, wife of James Stitzel, of Nelson; Nancy, who married Henry Shelters, of Iowa, and they have one son, Abraham; Mary, deceased wife of R. A. Getts; Henry C., our subject; Lizzie, wife of Henry Feather, both of whom died leaving three children, Lorenzo, Mary and Lizzie; Harriet, wife of John McKinstry, of Nelson, Illinois; Abraham, a resident of Nelson, who is married and has four children, Eva, Grace, Maude and

Harry; John, of Chicago, who is married and has two sons, Walter and Leslie; and Benjamin, of St. Paul, Minnesota, who is married and has one son, Clyde.

Henry C. Landis began his education in the public schools of his native state, and in 1847 accompanied his parents on their emigration to this county, where he worked on his father's farm until he attained his majority. Returning to Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, he was there married, in 1859, to Miss Melinda Summey, who was born there, in 1840. Her parents, Daniel and Anna (Frick) Summey, came to Whiteside county in 1865, and spent their last days in Sterling, where the father worked at the tailor's trade on first coming to the county. His wife was an earnest member of the Congregational church. Of their five children, one died in infancy and one at the age of nineteen years. Those living are Melinda, wife of our subject; Anna, wife of S. W. Bard, of Pennsylvania; and Clayton, a resident of Chicago, who is married and has two children, Edna and Dorothy.

After his marriage, Mr. Landis returned to Whiteside county, and after successfully operating a rented farm in Sterling township for four years, he purchased his present place in Coloma township, upon which he has made many useful and valuable improvements, including the erection of two houses, barns and other outbuildings. He has engaged in general farming on a small scale but devotes the greater part of his time and attention to truck gardening, in which he has met with marked success.

To Mr. and Mrs. Landis were born seven children, of whom three died when young. The others are as follows: (1) William, a traveling salesman of Melrose Park, married Bertha Fowler and they have six

children: Ralph, Hallie, William, Arthur, Byron and Walter. (2) Ada is the wife of Walter Fox, of Chicago, a salesman in a music store, and they have two children, Harry and Zella. (3) Grant, who lives on the home farm, married Anna Dickson, and they have three children, Helen, Chester and Grant. (4) May is the deceased wife of Daniel Brown, of Beardstown, Illinois, who was in the employ of a railroad company.

Mr. Landis cast his first presidential vote for John C. Fremont, and has ever since been an ardent supporter of the Republican party, always taking a deep and commendable interest in public affairs and doing all in his power to insure the success of his party. He filled the office of road commissioner for some time. Both he and his wife are active and prominent members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Rock Falls, of which he is one of the trustees, and are held in high regard by all who know them.

**S**IDNEY BARBER, deceased, was numbered among the honored pioneers of Whiteside county, who settled here when this locality was a wild and unimproved region. In the work of development he took an active part and aided in opening up the country to civilization. As the years passed he faithfully performed his duties of citizenship and his interest in the welfare and progress of the community never abated. Becoming widely and favorably known, he made many friends, and his death was a loss to the entire community.

Mr. Barber was born in Pownai, Vermont, May 5, 1815, and was one of the first settlers of Whiteside county, having located here in 1839. He purchased a tract of government land on the Dixon road east of

Rock Falls, where he engaged in farming and stock raising, it being the farm now owned by Charles Hey. In 1849 he crossed the plains with an ox team to California, but failing in his quest for gold, he returned to Illinois and resumed the occupation of farming upon the place he had previously purchased, which continued to be his home until 1865. During that year he bought a farm near Round Grove and lived there until 1875, when he retired from labor and moved to Rock Falls to spend the remainder of his life in ease and quiet, enjoying the fruits of a life of thrift and industry.

On the 4th of June, 1840, Mr. Barber was united in marriage with Miss Sophia Martin, of Prophetstown, Illinois, and to them were born three daughters, namely: (1) Frances was married October 30, 1862, to Theodore Jenkins, now a prominent undertaker of Beaumont, California, to which state they removed in 1882, after having lived in Sterling, Illinois. They have three children, all born in Sterling: Elleda, born May 22, 1875; Ruth, born November 13, 1876; and Arthur, born March 4, 1881. (2) Edna, born in Rock Falls, is the wife of William E. Curtis, an enterprising business man of that place, where he conducts a livery stable, and they have four children: Elmer, Arthur, Sidney and George W. (A sketch of Mr. Curtis is given on another page of this volume.) (3) Ada, born in Rock Falls, is the wife of Joseph Wright, a traveling salesman for agricultural implements and a respected citizen of Rock Falls. Their family consists of Sidney, who was born in Rock Falls and is now twelve years of age; and Fred, who is a son of Mr. Wright by a former marriage.

Mr. Barber died in Rock Falls on Saturday, April 15, 1899. He was a man of

strong character, who during a long life of almost eighty-five years never tasted either tobacco or alcoholic stimulants as a beverage. While not identified with any church organization, his life was his religion, and he believed that a man should be judged by his acts, not by his professions. He left to his family and many friends the memory of a noble life, never to be effaced, a life of honesty, industry, patience and hope. He was very much interested in the study of natural history, and his pleasant home on the corner of East Second street and Avenue B, where his widow still resides, contains a large collection of shells and minerals of great worth and beauty. Mrs. Barber, who is also much interested in conchology, made an exhibit of her collection of shells at the World's Columbian Exposition at Chicago in 1893, and was presented with a testimonial of merits by the Illinois Woman's Exposition Board.

**J**OHNS ESLLINGER, a well-known and successful farmer who owns and operates one hundred and fifty-nine acres of land on section 1, Ustick township, was born in Baden, Germany, March 11, 1843, a son of Jacob and Katie (Buehler) Esllinger, also natives of Baden. The father, who was a prosperous farmer, died there when our subject was only nine years old, leaving two children, the younger being George, still a farmer of Baden. For her second husband the mother married George Arnold, by whom she had four daughters, but only one of them, Christina, came to America, and she died near Empire, Whiteside county, Illinois, in 1880. The mother departed this life in 1893.

John Esllinger received his education in

the schools of his native land, and at the age of twenty years entered the German army. He was in the standing army for two years, and altogether was in the military service of his country for four years. Before coming to the United States he married Miss Barbara Werley, who was born near Baden in 1839, and to them have been born ten children, one of whom died in infancy while the family were crossing the ocean to the New World. Annie is the wife of William Croon, who lives on a farm adjoining our subject's place, and they had three children, two of whom died from poisoning in August, 1899, George being the only survivor. Lizzie is the wife of Elmer Broom, a farmer of Clyde township, and they have three children, Aaron, Vernie and Milford. Lena is the wife of James Green, a farmer of Ustick township, and they have one son. William assists his father in the operation of the home farm. Susie resides at home. Mary and Christina are now in Sterling. Katie is at home with her parents. Matthias, the oldest of the family, was born in Germany, and on reaching manhood joined the United States regular army, with which he served for three years or until the expiration of his term of enlistment. Later he worked as a blacksmith in the employ of the government in Arizona, and there contracted a disease, from which he died on Easter Sunday, 1894.

One year after his marriage, in 1869, Mr. Eslinger, with his little family, sailed for America, and on landing in this country came direct to Ustick township, Whiteside county, Illinois, where he worked as a laborer for three years. Subsequently he operated rented land near Coleta for one year, and then moved to a farm near Sterling, belonging to Peter Bressler, and con-

ducted that place with marked success for four years, at which place he met with quite a loss, having all his personal effects destroyed by fire. He then purchased eighty acres of land in Ustick township. He made a number of improvements upon his farm, but after living there for five years he sold it and bought another of one hundred and sixty acres, where he now lives, paying for the same forty-eight dollars per acre. He has erected thereon good and substantial buildings, making for himself a comfortable home in his old age. He carries on general farming, but makes a specialty of stock-raising, keeping principally hogs, to which he feeds most of the grain raised on his farm. He is one of the representative men and successful farmers of his township, is highly respected by all who know him, and is a member of the New Menonite church, to which his wife also belongs.

**W**ILLIAM H. MIDDAGH is one who has met with many difficulties and obstacles in the path of success, but by determined purpose and indefatigable energy has steadily worked his way upward and is now the owner of one of the good farms of Whiteside county, having sixty acres of land on section 32, Coloma township. He is one of the worthy sons of Illinois that New York has furnished to the Prairie state, his birth having occurred in Ulster county, of the Empire state, on the 25th of January, 1825. His father, Jacob H. Middagh, was a miller by trade, and in connection with his industrial pursuits he carried on general farming. He, too, was a native of Ulster county, and there married Catherine Winchell, who was born in that county and was of German lineage. They became the

parents of three sons and two daughters, all of whom reached years of maturity, namely: Lemuel, who died in New York; Susan, wife of Isaiah Oakley, a resident of Broome county, New York; William H.; De Witt, who entered the Union army in the Civil war and died of measles contracted in the service; and Mary, deceased wife of David Thurston. The parents have also passed away, both dying in the Empire state, where they spent their entire lives.

In the early schools of New York, William H. Middagh obtained his education, making his home under the parental roof until his marriage. During the period of his youth he also learned the miller's trade, which he followed for a number of years. In October, 1846, he wedded Susie E. Brooks, who was born in New Jersey, in 1826. Her parents were also natives of that state and in their family were three children: Lewis, who is living in New York; Mrs. Middagh; and Mary, wife of Peter Elmendorf. The parents of this family died in New York, where the father carried on farming. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Middagh has been blessed with five children: John, who died at the age of nine years; Sylvester, who is living with his father; Ella, wife of William Stewart, of Binghamton, New York, by whom she has three sons, Frank, Roy and Charles; Ida, wife of Warren Murray, by whom she has a son, Roy, who is living in Coloma township; Horatio, who resides in Texas and has three children.

After his marriage, William H. Middagh of this review purchased the mill and farm belonging to his father and carried on the dual business for a number of years, meeting with good success. He then sold the property and removed to Broome county,

New York, where he purchased one hundred acres of timber land, which he cleared and improved, transforming the property into a valuable farm. He erected thereon good barns and outbuildings and a comfortable residence and by well-kept fences divided the place into fields of convenient size, in each of which was a spring.

In 1866 Mr. Middagh arrived in Whiteside county and purchased eighty acres of land,—the farm upon which he now resides. In addition to this he has also operated rented land. At one time he suffered a loss of two thousand dollars, his hogs dying of disease, and also lost some valuable horses and fourteen colts in this way. In the face of difficulties, however, he has persevered and is to-day one of the substantial farmers of the community, and he well merits the success that has come to him. In politics he is a Democrat, and his wife belongs to the Christian church. In Whiteside county he has a wide acquaintance, and is held in high esteem for his sterling worth.

**C**HARLES H. PAYSON, deceased, was for many years one of the best known and most highly esteemed citizens of Rock Falls, with whose industrial and business interests he was prominently identified. He was born in Ulster, Bradford county, Pennsylvania, June 14, 1819, and was a son of William and Betsy (Cransie) Payson, natives of Connecticut and Pennsylvania, respectively. He was the second in order of birth in their family of six children, only two of whom are now living. William C., a farmer by occupation, died in Missouri; Emily is the widow of John Owens, of Towanda, Pennsylvania, and has six children, three children by her first husband, Peter

Osborne; Sarah is the wife of Lewis Hette, a retired carpenter of Chicago, and they have two children, Emily and William; and Edward is a retired farmer of Owego, New York.

Our subject was reared and educated in Waverly, New York, and there he was married, August 15, 1848, to Miss Mary A. Russell, a daughter of Jacob H. and Polly (Dunn) Russell, of Pennsylvania. Her father, a harness maker by trade, was born in 1796, and died in Factoryville, New York, August 28, 1872, and her mother was born in Pennsylvania, April 12, 1802, and also died in Factoryville, in February, 1842. In their family were six children, two of whom besides Mrs. Payson are now living. They were as follows: Jacob P., born in 1823, lives in Nebraska. John Q., born October 29, 1828, died in Milledgeville, Illinois, January 1, 1898. He married Emeline Johnson, and to them were born four children, Leila, Walter, Mary and Emilo. Elizabeth A., born August 25, 1839, is the wife of T. Jefferson Smith, an express messenger of Antioch, Illinois. Charles H., born July 9, 1834, followed the trade of a harness maker and died June 18, 1855, unmarried.

To Mr. and Mrs. Payson were born the following children: Charles Edgar, born January 21, 1850, is a machinist in Chicago. He is married and has six children living, and one deceased. Harry E., born September 3, 1853, is engaged in the cigar and tobacco business in Chicago and is also a telegraph operator. He was married, October 18, 1882, to Mertie M. Sawyer, of that city. Lizzie E., wife of Hon. J. W. White, a prominent attorney of Rock Falls, was born October 23, 1854, and died January 30, 1893, leaving three children

all born in Rock Falls, namely: Mary Bessie, Leo Payson and Ralph M. Frank R., born April 19, 1862, is a fireman living in Mankato, Minnesota.

After his marriage, Mr. Payson continued to reside in New York state for a number of years, four of his children being born there. He carried on business as a carriage manufacturer in New York until February 22, 1865, when he came west and first located in Sterling, Illinois, but a year later removed to Rock Falls, where the family still reside, occupying one of the finest homes in the city, which was erected by our subject soon after locating here. He became one of the most prominent business men of the city, and was extensively engaged in the manufacture of carriages for many years.

His death, which occurred September 7, 1893, was the result of a cancer, complicated with other diseases, from which he had suffered from 1882. He was a man of influence and stood high in the community where he had so long made his home. He was widely known and very popular with every one. He was noted for his strict integrity and incorruptible honor, and though he was never a member of any church he was a regular attendant of the Methodist church and a close follower of the principles of morality. In all the relations of life he was found true to every trust reposed in him, and it is safe to say that no man in Rock Falls had more friends or was more highly respected than Charles H. Payson.

---

**M**RS. MARGARET W. DEETS.  
 Nearly forty-five years have rolled away since Mrs. Margaret Deets came to Whiteside county, and now, after many



years of such hardships and privations as only the pioneers know, she is passing the evening time of her life surrounded by the comforts and privileges which were beyond her reach in her young womanhood.

She comes of the sturdy old patriotic stock which laid the foundations of this great republic, "building better than they knew." Her paternal great-grandfather, who owned two large flour-mills in Pennsylvania, taxed his mills to their utmost capacity, grinding grain to be made into bread for the army of Washington. On one occasion, when his son, the grandfather of Mrs. Deets, then a youth of seventeen, was engaged in driving a large team of horses, hauling supplies for the army, a squad of British soldiers attacked him, and though he managed to escape, seven bullet-holes were found in the wagon-bed. The mother of the young patriot did all within her power for the cause of the colonists, and it was not until blindness afflicted her that she ceased to bake bread for the army. The parents of Mrs. Deets were John and Margaret (Reece) Wetzel, natives of Franklin county, Pennsylvania, and Maryland, respectively. They removed to Summit county, Ohio, later to Stark county, same state, and at length came to Whiteside county.

Mrs. Deets is one of thirteen children, she being next to the youngest: Catherine, born August 4, 1813, married Henry Wymer, and both are deceased. They had two children, both of whom have passed away. Polly died in infancy. Daniel, born September 2, 1815, and now a resident of Rock Falls, Illinois, married Mary Beidler, September 15, 1839, and they have six children. Jacob, born December 12, 1816, wedded Susan Beidler, in 1842, and with their six children live in Genesee town-

ship. John, a resident of Michigan, was born May 29, 1818, and chose Camilla Ward for his wife. They are the parents of four sons. George, born January 18, 1820, married Mary Limerode, February 17, 1849, and two daughters were born to them. The wife and mother died September 18, 1854, and Mr. Wetzell makes his home with his niece, Mrs. Scott, in Rock Falls, Illinois. His daughters are married and have children. Elizabeth, born August 17, 1821, became the wife of Cyrus Harting. She departed this life many years ago, and left several children. David R., born April 7, 1823, never married, and died September 15, 1894. Andrew, born March 18, 1825, married Sarah Ward, and had four children. He has passed to his reward, while his widow resides in Stark county, Ohio. Joseph, born December 9, 1827, married Ellen McKien. Seven children were born to them, and Mr. Wetzel now resides with his son Thomas. Hannah, born June 5, 1829, became the wife of Lewis Spots, and of their several children, five survive, the others dying in infancy. Their home is in Lee county, Missouri. Lewis, born June 3, 1837, wedded Mary Lawyer, March 25, 1858, and they had four children. The parents are citizens of Galt, Whiteside county, having retired from their life-work, farming.

The birth of Mrs. Margaret (Wetzel) Deets took place on the 7th of December, 1831, in Summit county, Ohio. She was a babe of two months when her parents removed to Stark county, same state. In 1855 she came to Whiteside county, and the following year became the wife of Louis Deets, who was a thrifty farmer of Hopkins township. The young couple were economical and rapidly made progress to-

ward a competence, but, when the war of the Rebellion came on, the patriotic husband left his plow and went to the defense of the Union, his brave wife bidding him God-speed. In 1861 he enlisted in the Fifty-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and served for three years. Later, he resumed his regular calling, and continued to devote himself to his home and business until his death, July 14, 1882. Since that time, his widow has carried on the old homestead near Emerson, and has enjoyed the same measure of success as did her esteemed husband in days of yore.

Twelve children came to bless their humble home. The eldest, William Wilson, born December 20, 1857, married Anne Engle, August 31, 1881, and is a resident of this township. Their two sons, aged fourteen and sixteen, are at home. Elizabeth, born November 2, 1861, became the wife of Henry Johnson, and is the mother of four children. Mr. Johnson, who owns a fine ranch of over one thousand acres, situated in the state of Washington, is an extensive dealer in lumber and grain, also. James M., born April 7, 1865, married Olive Carolus, and has four children. Their home is at Emerson, where Mr. Deets is engaged in the trade of a wagon-maker, and, in addition to this, owns and operates a large farm in this township. Charles T., born February 6, 1874, married Iona Carolus, November 8, 1896, and they have one child living, another having died in infancy. He is a successful lawyer, of Almira, Washington. Four sons and two daughters died in infancy; Caroline, born in 1860, died in February, 1874, and Jennie, born June 6, 1867, died in 1877.

In his political faith, Mr. Deets was an ardent Republican. He was industrious and

enterprising, and, besides providing liberally for his large family, he left a comfortable estate and, what is better, an unblemished name and record to his posterity. Religiously, he was identified with the United Brethren church.

---

**J**OHAN P. FURRY. More than half a century ago John P. Furry came to Whiteside county, and during this long period, which covers nearly the whole span of the county's development from a primitive state to its present flourishing condition, he has been actively interested in its progress. A gentleman of much more than ordinary information and attainments, he is an interesting conversationalist, and, as he has spent years in traveling and making himself familiar with the wonders of his own beautiful country, he is enthusiastic on the subject, as he well may be. His upright course in life commands the respect and commendation of everyone, and his labors as a founder of this county justly entitle him to a prominent place in its annals.

The birth of John P. Furry occurred in Dutchess county, New York, November 22, 1817. He is a son of David and Sally (Palmateer) Furry, of Washington, New York. The mother died when our subject was only five years of age, leaving three children, of whom Mrs. Annie M. Platt, now four-score years of age, and a childless widow, resides in Poughkeepsie, New York. Mrs. Cornelia Freer, also a widow, and now seventy-eight years of age, has two daughters, Cornelia and Mary. She, too, is a resident of Poughkeepsie. David Furry married again, after the death of our subject's mother, but his second wife died

within a few years, and he passed into the silent land when but thirty-eight years of age.

Thus John P. Furry was left an orphan at the early age of eleven years. He received a public-school education, and continued to reside in New York until 1847, when he came to Illinois. Settling in Jordan township, he engaged in farming for about a year, after which he operated a saw-mill for two and a half years, and, having laid aside a certain amount of capital, invested it in the farm which he has since looked upon as his home. Originally, he purchased one hundred acres, at three dollars an acre, and when he erected his humble house on the place, there were no other dwellings within sight. This was in 1853, and, as the years rolled by, great changes were made, not only upon his own property, which speedily was transformed into one of the finest farms in the township, but the entire locality gradually progressed, under the earnest efforts of the pioneers. To his first purchase Mr. Furry added land at different times—about ninety-five acres altogether, but has since disposed of a portion, and now retains only one hundred and thirty-nine acres, this being situated on section 16, Jordan township.

In 1847 Mr. Furry married Harriet Goodenough, who shared his pioneer labors in this locality, and was called to the better land in 1859. Their eldest child, Mary C., became the wife of Oliver Tolbott, of this township, and they have one daughter, Alice. George W., a resident of Seattle, Washington, and one of the progressive hardware merchants of that live city, is married and has two daughters, Florence and Mabel, and an infant son. He served as a private in the One Hundred and Fortieth Illinois

Infantry during the Civil war. Ella, wife of Frank J. Miller, who carries on the old homestead, has one daughter, Lottie. Nellie, who married Fernandus Jacobs, of this township, have four children—Hattie, Florence, John and Guy. Albert D. and Gilbert S. are deceased. In 1861 Mr. Furry married Nancy Hawley, a native of Pennsylvania, and for twenty years they pursued the journey of life together, Mrs. Furry being summoned to the home beyond the river in 1881.

In his early manhood Mr. Furry met with an accident which partially disqualified him for arduous undertakings. While engaged in hauling logs from the woods, one of them rolled over upon him, pinioning him to the ground and permanently injuring him. Since his retirement from the management of his farm, in 1885, he has rented it to his son-in-law, Mr. Miller, and has spent some time in traveling. He has crossed the Rocky mountains by four routes, has visited all parts of the United States and Canada, has voyaged on the Atlantic as far south as Florida, and has taken a trip on the Pacific to Van Couver's Island. In the course of his journeyings he has been in thirty-four states and territories, and thus is well prepared to judge of the greatness and resources of this powerful nation. In pioneer days he aided in the laying out of highways and other local improvements, and has voted at all of the township elections for over half a century. During most of the time of his residence here he has held school offices here, and as assessor, collector, road commissioner, has discharged the duties of each position with zeal and efficiency. Originally a Whig, he later joined the Republicans, and now is a Prohibitionist.

JOHN R. THOMPSON, deceased, was for many years one of the most highly esteemed and honored citizens of Whiteside county, where his entire life was passed. He was born on the old homestead in Portland township, September 15, 1838, a son of Robert and Lydia (Graham) Thompson, both of whom were natives of Ireland, being among the first settlers of the county, having located here in 1836 when this region was almost an unbroken wilderness.

Amid scenes familiar on the frontier, John R. Thompson grew to manhood. When a boy he resided for a few years with his parents in Prophetstown, but the greater part of his life was spent on the home farm in Portland township, and in the district schools of the neighborhood he acquired a good practical education. On the 2nd of December, 1861, he enlisted as a private in Company B, later transferred to Company K, Thirty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and served his country faithfully until December 6, 1862, when he was discharged on account of disability. He was wounded in the left hand at the battle of Shiloh, April 6, 1862. In April, 1863, he re-enlisted in Company K, Thirty-fourth Volunteer Infantry, and served until the close of the war, when he was honorably discharged and returned home to engage in the more quiet pursuits of farm life.

On the 10th of May, 1868, in this county, Mr. Thompson was united in marriage with Miss Celestia Herman, born in Marion, Linn county, Iowa, but who was reared and educated in Peru, Illinois. When a young man her father, Moses Herman, came to this state, and here married Betsy Underwood, a daughter of Lewis Underwood, one of the pioneers of Whiteside county. To our subject and wife

were born four children: Sylvia, now the wife of George E. Warner, a farmer of Prophetstown township; Graham G., who is married and engaged in farming in Portland township; Fred J. and Pearl, who are still with their mother.

Mr. and Mrs. Thompson began house-keeping on the old Thompson homestead on the Rock River bottoms in Portland township. He and his brother, H. C., purchased the home place, which they operated together until 1880, when J. R. Thompson bought his brother's interest and carried on the farm alone until September, 1891, when he rented it and moved to Prophetstown. From time to time he added to his land possessions until he had seven hundred acres of fine farming land, upon which he erected a commodious and pleasant residence, good barns and outbuildings and made many other improvements which added to the value and attractive appearance of the place. He was one of the most progressive, enterprising and energetic agriculturists of his community. He gave considerable attention to stock raising, and was the first to introduce pure blooded short horn cattle into the township; of which he afterward made a specialty. He purchased the first McCormick harvester and binder in the township. He was a hard worker and success crowned his well-directed effort.

On account of ill health, Mr. Thompson spent his last years in retirement, and he died at his home in Prophetstown, January 20, 1899, being laid to rest in the cemetery at that place, his comrades of the G. A. R. post having charge of the interment. Politically he was a staunch Democrat, and fraternally was an active and prominent member of John A. Parrott post, No. 543.

G. A. R., and a member of the Masonic lodge, of Prophetstown. He was faithful to his country and to his friends, and in his home was a most exemplary husband and father. His death occasioned the deepest regret throughout the community, and Whiteside county thereby lost one of its valued citizens.

**B**ENJAMIN F. BOYNTON, deceased, who was for many years an honored and trusted employe of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad and a highly respected citizen of Rock Falls, was born in Grass Lake, Michigan, September 26, 1837, and was a son of Zerah and Permelia (Buss) Boynton, both natives of Vermont. In 1834 the father removed to Michigan and settled at Grass Lake, where he became a prosperous farmer.

Our subject was reared upon his father's farm and remained there until about nineteen years of age, when he entered the employ of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company, with which he was connected until his death, with the exception of a few years spent with the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad. On leaving their employ he moved to Aurora, Illinois, and again entered the service of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad. After living there about two years, he came to Rock Falls in 1873, and continued to make this place his home until his death, which occurred April 25, 1899. For a short time he was in the employ of the Michigan Central and the Chicago & West Michigan Railroad Companies, but throughout his railroad career, he was mostly connected with the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Road. He rose from a humble po-

sition to that of conductor on passenger trains, holding the latter position for a quarter of a century to the entire satisfaction of the company and many patrons of the road, for he was a popular, genial man who made many friends.

On the 25th of December, 1861, in Chicago, Mr. Boynton was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Petrie, a daughter of Charles and Lusina (Allard) Petrie, of that city, and by this union four children were born, namely: (1) Charles Z., born in Grass Lake, Michigan, was killed near Freeport, Illinois, October 8, 1893, while employed on the railroad as fireman. He married Miss Emma Palmer, who with her two children, Elsie and Franklin, reside in Grass Lake, Michigan. (2) Fannie is the wife of Amos K. Frey, of Rock Falls, who is in the employ of the government as surveyor on the canal. He is a son of Henry and Lizzie (Kreider) Frey, of Jordan township, and is the youngest in a family of eleven children, all of whom are living. The other two children of our subject died in infancy.

Mr. Boynton was a consistent and faithful member of the Congregational church, and belonged to the Knights Templar, the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Conductors' Relief & Aid Society. Politically he was a Republican, but never took an active part in political affairs aside from voting. He was held in high regard by all who knew him and had many friends in his adopted county.

**C**HARLES STURTZ. For almost a third of a century, Mr. Sturtz has resided in Whiteside county, and during this time has been actively connected with its

agricultural and stock raising interests. He is to-day the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 12, Montmorency township, and well-tilled fields and substantial improvements of the place indicate his careful supervision and enterprise. As he is widely and favorably known in this locality, the record of his life cannot fail to prove of interest to many of our readers, and it is therefore with pleasure that we prepare his history for publication.

Mr. Sturtz was born July 6, 1837, in Somerset county, Pennsylvania, and is a son of John and Rebecca (Beale) Sturtz. The father was born in Bucks county, Pennsylvania, December 17, 1799, and there followed farming during the greater part of his life. His wife was born in Somerset county, in 1805, and both have now passed away, the former having been called to the home beyond in 1868, the latter in 1883. Both were members of the Reformed church, and the father was of German lineage. In their family were fourteen children, five of whom died in childhood. The others are Catherine, who resided in Pennsylvania until her death; Herman, a resident of Montmorency township, Whiteside county; Margaret, who died in Pennsylvania; Christiua, wife of James Close, of Pennsylvania, by whom she has eight children; Susan, wife of J. L. Kendall, of Pennsylvania, by whom she has twelve children; Charles; Noah, a farmer of Iowa; John E., a miner and farmer of Ohio; and Louisa, wife of Enoch Long, proprietor of a confectionery store of Rock Falls.

Charles Sturtz acquired his education in the public schools and when about twenty years of age began teaching. In 1862 he entered the Union army as a member of Company H, One Hundred and Seventy-first Pennsylvania Infantry, in which he

served for ten months with the rank of first sergeant. He was also in several sharp skirmishes. In 1863 he returned home and worked upon a farm until 1865, when he re-enlisted, becoming a member of Company D, Third Maryland Regiment of Home Guards. At the close of the war he returned home and worked with his father until 1868, when he came with his family, having in the meantime married, to Whiteside county. Here he operated rented land for four years, when, with the capital he had acquired through his own efforts, he purchased a farm of his own. He has since carried on general farming, and has also fed cattle for the market, shipping about four carloads annually for the past eight years. This has added materially to his income and made him one of the well-to-do farmers of the community.

In 1859 was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Sturtz and Miss Catherine Kendall, who was born in Somerset county, Pennsylvania, in 1839, a daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth (River) Kendall, who were also natives of Somerset county, and were the parents of six children, Mrs. Sturtz being the eldest. The others are Hannah, now deceased; Jesse; Joseph; Samuel and Jonathan. Fourteen children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Sturtz: Oscar L., a photographer of South Bend, Indiana, who is married and has two children, Hazel and Lucile; Charles E., an attorney of Kewaunee, Illinois, who has one daughter, Zola; Alice, wife of Herman Baughman, an employe of the American Express Company in Dixon, Illinois, by whom she has three children, Clyde, Lula and Esther; Wilson, who is living in Dixon; Martha, wife of Arthur Emmett, of Nelson, Illinois, by whom she has twin daughters, Edith and Ethel; Grant, who was married

in 1898 and is practicing dentistry in Marinette, Wisconsin; Louis, who is married and is a photographer of Green Bay, Wisconsin; Herman, a member of the class of 1900 in the Chicago Dental College; Lawrence, who is working for his father; Cora, Edward, LeRoy and Harry, who are under the parental roof; and one who died in infancy. The parents are members of the Lutheran church of Sterling. In politics Mr. Sturtz is an advocate of Republican principles, and has served as assessor for a number of years, also acceptably filled the positions of school director and trustee. When in Pennsylvania he was justice for the peace for some time and has in all these positions discharged his duties in a very prompt and reliable manner. Socially he is connected with the Grand Army for the Republic, with the Modern Woodmen of America, and the Royal Neighbors of Montmorency, and is to-day as true to his duties of citizenship as when he followed the stars and stripes upon the battle fields of the south.

**YORK EDDY** was for many years prominently identified with the agricultural interests of Whiteside county, but is now living a retired life in Erie. Throughout his career of continued and far-reaching usefulness his duties have been performed with the greatest care, and business interests have been so managed as to win him the confidence of the public and the prosperity which should always attend honorable effort.

Mr. Eddy was born in Oneida county, New York, September 5, 1831, a son of Augustus and Olive Eddy. The father was a native of Vermont and a farmer by occu-

pation. He came to Illinois in 1835, and in 1854 took up his residence in this county, where he continued to make his home until called from this life, in 1889. The wife and mother died in 1863. They had six children, namely: Lousina and Philena, both deceased; Lorenzo, a resident of Colorado; York, our subject; and Calista and Noble, both deceased.

Mr. Eddy, whose name introduces this sketch, remained under the parental roof until his marriage, which was celebrated January 27, 1853, Miss Louisa D. Newton becoming his wife. She was born in Oneida county, New York, October 1, 1833, a daughter of Marshall Newton. To Mr. and Mrs. Eddy have been born eleven children, of whom the eldest is deceased. The others are Ai, Seth, Nellie, Clarence, Laura, Seward, Lloyd, Newell, Dana and Lottie, seven of whom are married and have families of their own.

Mr. and Mrs. Eddy began their domestic life in Du Page county, Illinois, where they lived for about a year and a half and then came to Whiteside county, locating in Erie township, where he purchased four hundred and ten acres of land, which he converted into one of the most desirable farms of that region. With the exception of a year or two, he gave his entire time and attention to the cultivation and improvement of his farm until 1891, when he removed to Erie and has since lived retired. While on the farm he made a specialty of stockraising and in that industry he met with most gratifying success.

During the dark days of the Civil war, Mr. Eddy manifested his patriotism by enlisting, in October, 1862, as a private in Company I, Seventy-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and remained in the service a lit-

tle over a year, when he was discharged on account of ill health. He casts his ballot with the Republican party, and gives his support to those measures which he believes will prove of public benefit. Wherever known he is held in high regard, and those who know him best are numbered among his warmest friends.

---

**W**ILLIAM L. McWHORTER. Among Whiteside county's native sons is numbered this gentleman, who owns and is successfully conducting a fine farm on section 3, Montmorency township. He was born in this township, August 23, 1860, and is a son of Hon. Tyler McWhorter, of whom a sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. In the district schools of the neighborhood he acquired his preliminary education, which was supplemented by a commercial course in the Sterling Business College. In his youth he early became familiar with all the duties and labors which fall to the lot of the agriculturist, being his father's assistant until he attained his majority. After his marriage he rented the old homestead for four years and successfully engaged, not only in general farming, but also in stock raising, doing his own shipping and marketing his cattle and hogs in Chicago. In this way he acquired the capital with which to purchase a farm of his own, and in 1892 he bought his present property, consisting of two hundred and sixty-one acres of valuable land on section 3, Montmorency township. The greater part of his land is now under a high state of cultivation, and he is also successfully engaged in stock raising. His methods are at once practical and progressive, and in all trade transactions he is thoroughly reliable.

On the 12th of March, 1890, Mr. McWhorter was united in marriage with Miss Margaret A. Beale, who was born in Somerset county, Pennsylvania, December 28, 1866. Her parents were also natives of the Keystone state and never came to Illinois. The mother died when Mrs. McWhorter was thirteen years of age and when a maiden of eighteen summers she came to Whiteside county to make her home with her uncle, Herman Sturtz. Two children were born of their union: Margaret Louise, now nine years of age; and one who died in infancy. The parents have many warm friends in the community and enjoy the hospitality of many of the best homes in this locality.

Mr. McWhorter is a member of Montmorency camp, No. 1912, M. W. A., and belongs to the Lutheran church of Sterling. In politics he is a Republican, but has never been an aspirant for political honors, preferring to devote his time and energies to his farming interests. Since taking up his abode at his present home, he has erected a large barn and made many other substantial improvements, including the planting of an orchard of about two hundred trees. He is very industrious, and his well-directed efforts have brought to him a success which ever crowns earnest labor.

---

**H**UGH SHANNON, one of the largest land owners in Whiteside county, and one of the most progressive citizens of Genesee township, is a self-made man in the best sense of the word. Commencing the battle of life empty handed he gradually accumulated wealth by the exercise of the talent with which nature had plentifully endowed him. For years he has been num-



bered with the most enterprising of our local farmers, and by reason of the interest which he has taken in the raising of high-bred stock, his name has been a familiar one at the fairs and exhibitions of this county and the northern part of the state.

A native of the northern part of Ireland, Mr. Shannon's birth place was only about six miles from the shores of Scotland. He was born May 28, 1835, a son of Robert Shannon, a native of the same locality. The grandfather of our subject, James Shannon, was born in Scotland. Robert Shannon, who was a wealthy man at one time, lost his property by becoming security for friends, and came to America to retrieve his fortunes. With his wife and fourteen children he landed in Canada in 1849, with but seventy-five cents. His wife, whose maiden name was Rose Young, was a native of Ireland, born about 1816, and her death occurred in July, 1881. For six years they lived on rented land in Canada, but were ably assisted by their sons and ultimately became the owner of one hundred acres of land in Whiteside county. After his wife's death the father disposed of his property and made his home with his children. His death occurred in Sterling in 1889, under the hospitable roof of his daughter, Jennie, widow of Bert Hazzard. His other children were named respectively: Ellen, Mary, wife of James Hillyer; Hugh, Thomas, Rachel, Robert, John, Annie, Glasgow, Archie, Jennie, David, George and Prudence. The only survivors of this large family are: Hugh, Thomas and Jennie. Thomas, now retired from business, resides in Sterling. He has five children.

As stated, Hugh Shannon left his native land in 1849, and after he reached Canada he found employment as a farm hand, re-

ceiving four dollars a month. The following year he worked during the summer season and attended school in the winter. Strong and capable, he had little difficulty in obtaining work, and just before coming west he received seventy-five dollars for a few weeks' labor. As this was the largest sum which he had ever had in his possession at one time he considered himself rich, but the same enterprising spirit which characterized him as a boy has been noticeable throughout his business career. For two years he worked as a carpenter, put down wells, and did other kinds of hard labor in this county, carefully husbanding his earnings. For seven years after his marriage he rented land, but his economical wife was of great assistance to him in his early struggles, and as the Civil war was in progress and men were in great demand at the front, the young wife was forced to help her husband in the fields. Thus by earnest effort they laid aside some capital with which they purchased a small tract of land, this proving the nucleus of their subsequent fortunes. Mr. Shannon traded his farms several times, and finally purchased a desirable tract of land to which he has kept adding, and at the present time he owns five hundred and ten acres in Genesee township and one hundred and sixty acres in Lyndon township. Nearly all of this property has been improved by him personally, modern buildings adding much to the desirability of these farms. For years he has been one of the most extensive buyers and shippers of live stock in the township. On one occasion he shipped ten car loads to the city market. He raises grain and hay for the purpose of feeding his stock, and makes a specialty of raising fine cattle and hogs. Moreover, he has been locally noted for the valuable,

high-bred horses which he has owned, and at one time he paid forty-one hundred dollars for two fine animals. For many years his horses have taken premiums at fairs, and at the Columbian Exposition held in Chicago, when he had over forty-five competitors in that special department, he was awarded the fourth premium for draft horses. At local fairs he has usually carried away the first or second prizes, and so fine were his exhibits that for some years no one could be found to enter into competition with him, and he was consequently compelled to withdraw his horses. He has been present at every fair held in Morrison and Sterling of late years, for twenty years having been assistant marshal.

Socially, Mr. Shannon is very popular, and is one of the favorites at the old settlers' meetings and reunions. In his political faith he is a Republican, and while he has never sought public office, his fellow townsmen have prevailed upon him to hold several local positions of responsibility and trust. During a period of four years he served efficiently as township supervisor.

About six months after coming to Illinois Hugh Shannon wedded Susannah Durstine. She was born in Pennsylvania, in 1835, and consequently was twenty years of age at the time of her marriage. She had come to the west with her parents at seventeen years of age, and for six months had resided in Iowa. Her father then purchased land in Illinois, and for several years was engaged in general farming. Martin Durstine, for this was his name, with his wife, formerly Mary Harvey, was a native of the Keystone state. The union of our subject and wife was blessed by the birth of one daughter, namely, Mary E., now the wife of Chauncy Brown, who resided on a portion

of her father's farm, and is engaged in the live stock business in company with Mr. Shannon. Mr. and Mrs. Brown have had seven children: May, Minnie, Hugh, Edith, Josie, Warren and Eva. Not many young couples have commenced life together with less capital than did Mr. and Mrs. Shannon. As he sometimes laughingly says, he borrowed ten dollars, seven of which he invested in a suit of clothes, while three dollars was given to the minister for performing the ceremony. Thus he started his new life in debt, but it was not long ere he was on the high road to success.

Mrs. Shannon had ten brothers and sisters, namely: Hannah; Jacob, who died in Murphreesboro, Tennessee, while serving his country in the war of the Rebellion; Sarah, wife of John A. Boston, a Nebraska blacksmith; Harvey, making his home with our subject; Martin, deceased; John, of Rock Falls, who served as orderly to Colonel Kirk, during the Civil war; Henry; Wilson; Rebecca and William. During the Civil war Harvey Durstine enlisted as a private in Company A, Thirty-fourth Regiment, Illinois Infantry, and served under Captain E. B. Ward. Among the important battles in which he participated were the following: Shiloh, Corinth, La Vern, Knob Gap, Stone river, Liberty Gap, Chickamauga, Rocky Face Ridge, Resaca, Rome, Dallas, Kennesaw mountain, Peach Tree creek, Jonesboro, being mustered out at Louisville, Kentucky, September 7, 1864.

GEORGE T. MARFLEET, who is at the head of the Rock Falls Ice Company and is a leading business man of Rock Falls, Illinois, was born in Chautauqua county, New York, November 18, 1837, and is a son of

George K. and Elizabeth (Pierson) Marfleet, both natives of England, who came to the United States in early life and were married in New York. They lived in that state until coming west in 1857, when they located in Portland township, Whiteside county, Illinois. The father died in Erie, this county, in 1873, and the mother passed away in January, 1858. Our subject is the second of their three sons: (1) Pierson K., a prominent lawyer of Prophetstown, married Lydia Ramsey, a daughter of David Ramsey, of that place. (2) Philip T. was a farmer of Prophetstown, enlisted in 1861 in the Union army during the Civil war, and died at Springfield, Illinois, in the winter of 1862.

In the county of his nativity, George T. Marfleet remained until sixteen years of age and then came overland to Portland township, Whiteside county, Illinois, where he engaged in farming for three years. Returning to the east, he attended school for a year, and on the completion of his education again came to this county, where he taught school in Tampico township through the winter months for about five years, while he worked on farms through the summer season. He continued his residence in that township until 1884, when he came to Rock Falls and was engaged in the butcher business for a time. Since then he has given his attention to the ice business, in which he is still interested with his son Kirkman under the name of the Rock Falls Ice Company. By fair and honorable dealing they have built up an extensive trade and are numbered among the representative business men of the city.

On the 13th of December, 1865, Mr. Marfleet was united in marriage with Miss Frances C. Post, a daughter of Ethan and

Jane (Whitcomb) Post, of Chautauqua county, New York. Her parents came west in 1853 and located in Iowa. Her mother died in Polk county, that state, and her father's death occurred in Newton, Kansas, September 20, 1876, and there his remains were interred. In early life he followed the occupation of farming, but later engaged in mercantile business. To Mr. and Mrs. Marfleet were born two sons, namely: Kirkman S., born in Tampico township, July 16, 1867, obtained a good education under the able instruction of his father and during his youth assisted in the labors of the home farm. When eighteen years of age he had a great desire to go west and finally went to Kansas, but not being pleased with the country, he returned to Illinois at the end of five months. For three years and a half he was in the employ of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company, and was with the Northwestern Railroad Company from 1884 until 1893, after which he worked in the paper mill at Rock Falls for two years, and since then has engaged in the ice business with his father. They commenced operations on a small scale but now have a plant of eight hundred tons capacity. He has been successful in his business undertakings and has already acquired some property. George T., Jr., our subject's younger son, was born in Tampico township, September 9, 1869, and is an expert molder in the employ of the Keystone Manufacturing Company of Rock Falls. He married Effie M. Swarthout, of that city, and they have one child.

During the trying days of the Civil war, Mr. Marfleet manifested his loyalty and patriotism by enlisting in the volunteer service in September, 1861, for three years, but before his term expired he was discharged

for disability. He has always taken an active interest in public affairs, is public-spirited and progressive, and while a resident of Tampico township filled a number of local offices, among the number being that of justice of the peace for four years. He is at present tax collector of Rock Falls and Coloma township, and is one of the highly respected and honored citizens of the place.

**HON. EDWARD H. NEVITT.** One of the pioneers of Illinois, and throughout his long and useful life intimately associated with the development of its resources, no one is more truly worthy of being represented in its annals than is the Hon. E. H. Nevitt, now a resident of Albany, and formerly an able member of the state Legislature.

William Nevitt, father of the above, was of English descent, and was born in Brownsville, Pennsylvania, in 1779. In his early manhood he was engaged in teaming and freighting between Philadelphia and Pittsburg, on the old Conestoga road. His parents having located at Wheeling, Virginia, about 1807, he went to the then far west, also, and in 1810 he became a resident of Breckinridge county, Kentucky, where he met and married Mary Edelin, a native of Port Tobacco, Maryland, her birth having occurred in 1781. In 1818 the young couple located in White county, Illinois, buying land near Carmi. There Mr. Nevitt was busily engaged in the improvement of his farm until 1834, when he removed to Knox county, and three years later came to Whiteside county. Here he had located a tract of land in the fall of 1836, purchasing a claim from some speculators, and when this land came into the market in 1839, it passed

regularly into the possession of Mr. Nevitt. It is situated on section 25, Albany township, was entered at the Galena land office and since then has never been held by any one outside the family. His executive ability was early recognized, and the General Assembly appointed him as a justice of the peace. At another time, he was honored by being made one of the commissioners on the improvement of the Wabash river. When a resident of White county, he was a candidate for the Legislature, on the Whig ticket, but in common with others of that party he suffered defeat. He died in 1848, and was survived by his widow, whose demise occurred in 1860. They were the parents of eleven children, namely: John, James, Maria, Elizabeth, Clement, Nancy, William G., Allen, Susan, Edward H. and Wilson. Edward and his sister Susan, wife of Thomas Finch, of Eldridge, Kansas, are the only survivors of this once large family.

The birth of the Hon. E. H. Nevitt was at Carmi, Illinois, January 6, 1822, and was fifteen years of age at the time that his parents removed to Whiteside county. He continued to give his attention to agricultural pursuits until 1850, save such time as was devoted to the acquisition of an education. His higher studies were completed at Knox College, Galesburg, Illinois. From 1850 until June 3, 1860, he was successfully engaged in the lumber business at Abany, but on the last named date a tornado destroyed his house and lumber yards, and for nearly five years he sought to regain the measure of prosperity which had hitherto blessed him. For one season he served as United States mail agent between Dubuque and Rock Island, after which he resumed his former calling as a lumber dealer, and

continued to give his energies to that line of commerce until he retired from active business in 1886.

While still a young man Mr. Nevitt was called upon to serve in official capacities, and, as the years passed, fresh honors came to him without solicitation. When Albany township was organized he was chosen to be its first assessor, and for twenty years he was retained in the office. As school commissioner he has served this county and for seven consecutive terms he was a supervisor of his township, resigning during the last term of his office, in order to accept the higher responsibilities of representative to the state Legislature from the eleventh district, including Whiteside and Carroll counties. He was elected to that important position in the fall of 1876, and served on several of the leading committees. He distinguished himself in the Assembly by the exercise of the same qualities of public spirit which had animated him in local affairs. He was again elected as a supervisor and held that office for six consecutive terms, in the meantime having charge of the construction of the Erie and Prophets-town bridge. From 1891 to 1893 he served as school treasurer. Formerly, he was a Whig, casting his first ballot for Henry Clay in 1849, and of late years he has been a staunch Republican.

The marriage of Mr. Nevitt and Hannah Alvoid was solemnized at Le Claire, Iowa, December 27, 1855. She was born May 26, 1826, at Ellicottville, New York, and died November 30, 1882. Her only child, Lizzie Blanche, born April 19, 1856, died November 18, 1858. The second marriage of Mr. Nevitt took place January 15, 1884, Jennie F. Winer becoming his bride. She is a native of Lockport, New York, born Au-

gust 5, 1854. By her marriage has become the mother of two children: Fannie A., born March 1, 1886, and Edward H., Jr., born February 27, 1888.

In his fraternal relations Mr. Nevitt is a Master Mason, being identified with Albany lodge, No. 566, F. & A. M. For the past twelve years he has served as treasurer of the lodge and in various ways has materially contributed to the welfare of the organization. For many years Mr. Nevitt has been numbered among the members of the Albany Methodist Episcopal church, and for a long period he has acted as one of its trustees.

**C**OLONEL MOSES DILLON, one of the most prominent business men of Sterling, a dealer in lumber, grain and coal, was born in Zanesville, Ohio, September 19, 1845, a son of Lloyd and Margaret (Culbertson) Dillon, the former a native of Baltimore, Maryland, the latter of Pennsylvania. The paternal grandfather, John Dillon, was also born in Baltimore of Quaker ancestry, and was a pioneer pig iron manufacturer at Dillon's Falls, near Zanesville, Ohio. The Colonel's father died in Zanesville, in 1845, and the mother departed this life in 1879. To them were born five children, namely: Ella, who died in childhood; Lloyd H.; Mary P.; Washington M.; and Moses.

In 1856 Colonel Dillon removed with the family to Dixon, Illinois, and four years later came to Sterling, where, after receiving a good common-school education, he clerked in the dry goods store of Mr. Crawford until he entered the army during the Civil war. On the 19th of May, 1864, he enlisted at Sterling in Company A, One Hundred and Fortieth Illinois Volunteer In-

fantry, under Captain James A. Morgan and Colonel L. H. Whitney. From the camp at Dixon the regiment was ordered to Camp Butler, Springfield, Illinois, June 18, and from there proceeded by railroad to Cairo. Three months were spent in guarding the Memphis & Charleston Railroad, after which they returned to Memphis and from there went to Camp Frey, Chicago. At the time of Price's invasion of Missouri, the command was sent to assist in repelling the rebels' advance on St. Louis. Colonel Dillon was mustered out at Camp Frey, October 29, 1864, and returned to Sterling.

For ten years he was successfully engaged in the grocery business as a member of the firm of Smith & Dillon, and then turned his attention to the lumber, grain and coal trade, buying the established business of Judge Golden. In this enterprise he has met with marked success, and is to-day one of the most prosperous and substantial of the place. He owns a grain elevator and also owns and operates a large planing mill.

On the 8th of May, 1867, Colonel Dillon married Miss Emma J. Golden, daughter of Judge Joseph and Prudence Golden. Her father was at one time judge of the Woodstock district. Mrs. Dillon died June 14, 1888, leaving five children, namely: Mary P., Margret A., Alice E., Joseph G. and Moses L. The Colonel was again married, January 6, 1892, his second union being with Mrs. Anna H. Whipple, one of the most charming and cultured ladies of Sterling and a general favorite in society. After a two months trip to the Pacific coast, they settled down at their elegant home in Hawthorne Villa, a beautiful suburb of Sterling.

Socially Colonel Dillon is quite prominent and belongs to the Ancient Order of

United Workmen, the Modern Woodmen of America, and Sterling lodge, No. 174, I. O. O. F. He has been lieutenant colonel of the First Regiment P. M. of Illinois, and was commander of Will Robinson post, No. 274, G. A. R., in 1888. While serving in the latter office he conceived the idea of erecting a soldiers' monument at Sterling, which resulted in the satisfactory consummation of his plans. The completion of this artistic memorial to Sterling's devoted sons who so gallantly fought for their country during the dark days of the Civil war, is due to the untiring efforts, zeal and patriotic fervor of Colonel Dillon while serving as president of the soldiers and citizens' committee. It is not only a grand tribute of honor to her dead soldiers, but also to the cause for which they so heroically fought. Among the distinguished guests present at the dedication, July 4, 1890, was General Alger, commander in chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, while the oration was delivered by General McNulta, then of Bloomington, Illinois. In 1889 Colonel Dillon was a member of the staff of Commander-in-Chief Warner, of the Grand Army of the Republic. He is an ardent supporter of the Republican party, is a member of the Presbyterian church, and was a member of the building committee in 1887. By many laudable public and private acts and beneficencies the Colonel has conferred honor on the community in which he lives and has given to his country an example of lofty patriotism which will ever dignify his name and memory.

**J**ERRY V. McCARTY was for several years one of the leading and representative business men of Rock Falls, but is now

living a retired life. Though born on the other side of the Atlantic, he is thoroughly American in thought and feeling, and that he is patriotic and sincere in his love for the stars and stripes was manifest by his service in the Civil war.

Mr. McCarty was born in London, England, June 20, 1842, a son of Dennis and Johanna (Cochlan) McCarty, both natives of Ireland. The mother died when our subject was only three years old, and in 1849 the father married Margaret Barry, also a native of the Emerald Isle. For twenty years he was a resident of London, England, and then, in 1850, emigrated to America and first located in New England, where he made his home for a part of one year. In the fall of 1850 he removed to McHenry county, Illinois, and in 1851 went to Stephenson county, later living in several Illinois counties until 1857 when he came to Whiteside county. He died October 3, 1871, but his second wife is still living and makes her home in Rock Falls. To them were born the following children: Kate, who was married, in 1872, to M. B. Fitzgerald, contractor of Sterling; Mary, wife of James Fitzgerald, also a contractor of Sterling; Ella, wife of James Ballou, a cornicemaker of Chicago; Julia, a resident of Chicago; and Fannie, wife of James Wolfe, of Chicago. Of the four children born of the first union only two are now living, John and our subject.

Jerry V. McCarty was only eight years old when he came with the family to this country and the time spent in New England remained with the family in its various moves until coming to Whiteside county, in 1857. Since then the home of the family has been in Whiteside county. In 1861, our subject enlisted for three years in Com-

pany E, Thirty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and participated in sixteen general engagements. During the battle of Shiloh he was twice wounded. On receiving an honorable discharge at Atlanta, September 17, 1864, he returned home and took up the more quiet pursuits of farm life, which claimed his attention for five years. Becoming tired of that occupation, he entered the employ of the Rockford, Rock Island & St. Louis Railroad Company, and was a locomotive engineer for two years, and the following eleven years was employed by the Panhandle, the western system of the Pennsylvania system. During eleven years he lived in Logansport, Indiana, but with the exception of this time he has lived in Whiteside county, Illinois, since 1857. At the end of that period he started in business in Rock Falls as a dealer in coal and building material, and in that undertaking he met with well-merited success, accumulating considerable property. In September, 1899, he sold out his business, and is now living retired, surrounded by all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life, which have been obtained through his own industry, perseverance and able management.

On the 22d of April, 1875, Mr. McCarty was united in marriage with Miss Mary Amelia Cassidy, a daughter of James and Elizabeth (Kissinger) Cassidy. The father, who was a native of Pennsylvania, and a contractor by occupation, died at his home in Logansport, Indiana, in 1866, but the mother is still living and continues her residence there. Besides Mrs. McCarty they had three other children, namely: (1) Cecelia, born at Logansport, is the wife of James Shafer, a locomotive engineer of Huntington, Indiana, and they have one

child, Augustus. (2) John M., born at Logansport, is now a restaurant keeper in the city. He is married and has one child. (3) William, also born in Logansport, is a machinist and foreman of the round-house of the Panhandle Railroad Company at that place. He married Emma Thackarh, and they have one child, Florence.

Mr. and Mrs. McCarty have two children: (1) Charles J., born in Logansport, Indiana, September 29, 1876, and was eight years of age when he came with his parents to Whiteside county, Illinois. He graduated from the Rock Falls high school in 1894, and then took up the study of electrical engineering at the State University in Champaign, Illinois, completing the four years' course. For a time he was engaged in the coal business with his father in Rock Falls, but is at present the superintendent of the electric light plant of that city. (2) Gertrude, born in Logansport, August 26, 1880, resides at home with her parents.

**O**LIVER TALBOTT, long one of the representative agriculturists of Whiteside county, is now living practically retired at his pleasant home near Sanfordsville. He may be justly termed a self-made man, for to his own unaided efforts he owes the competence which he now enjoys, and which is amply sufficient for the needs of himself and family during the remainder of their lives. In all local affairs, which should receive the attention of patriotic citizens, he has been active and zealous, doing all within his power to advance the welfare of the public.

James Talbott, the father of the above, was born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, in August, 1801. He was a car-

pent and builder by trade, and after his marriage he removed to Cincinnati, where he continued to work at his usual calling for a number of years. In 1833, he started by boat for Peoria, and at Louisville the river was frozen and the family could proceed no further on their journey until the ensuing spring. They lived in Peoria only a year, Mr. Talbott being employed in the building of two mills on the Kickapoo river. Then, buying oxtteams and wagons, he moved to Whiteside county, and here followed his trade as a millwright for some five years. In 1835 he built the Wilson mill, known all over this section of Illinois. Besides the one which he erected at Sterling and one at Buffalo Grove, he put up many others in various locations round about, and won the reputation of being unsurpassed in his special line of business. Building a log house on Buffalo creek, it became a regular stopping place for travelers on the way from Dixon to Galena, and hospitality was one of the prime traits of Mr. Talbott's character. In 1835 he started to Peoria, one hundred and ten miles away, for flour, but when he arrived found that the wheat had yet to be threshed, and then had to wait until grain was ground before he could return home with the flour. For several years he was occupied in farming, and at one time owned about three hundred acres. About 1873 he retired, thenceforth making his home in Sterling. His death took place in 1879, his wife dying in 1882. Politically he was a Democrat, and frequently officiated in local positions, being the first supervisor of Jordan township, and holding that place for four terms, and also being assessor, collector, justice of the peace and commissioner for several years at a time. Thus, it may plainly be seen that he was a man of much



more than ordinary ability, and that his neighbors and friends reposed great trusts to his keeping, confidently believing in his efficiency and integrity. He was raised a Quaker and after coming to this county he joined the Methodist Episcopal church, and until his death lived a noble Christian life.

The wife of James Talbott bore the maiden name of Sarah Woods, and she, too, was a native of Westmoreland county, her birth having occurred June 5, 1807. Two of their ten children, Mary J. and Sarah, died in infancy, and John W., the eldest born, died in Kansas, unmarried. Hannah A., wife of Aaron Doty, of Kimball, South Dakota, has three living children. Martha died about 1876; she for some years engaged in teaching school in Iowa, and also taught several terms in Jordan township. Annetta, unmarried, resides in Sterling. James died, leaving a wife and four children, Belle, Bessie, James and Bertha. Their home is in Jordan township. Samuel, of the same township, has four children, Fred, Grace, Walter and Floyd. Amelia makes her home with her sister, Annetta, at the old homestead in Sterling.

The birth of Oliver Talbott took place in Louisville, Kentucky, December 18, 1833. His education was obtained in the schools of this county, and when of suitable age began the struggle for a livelihood. He thoroughly mastered agriculture in its various details, and dwelt with his parents until he was twenty-five years of age. Having no capital, he rented farms for several years, and then bought eighty acres of land, a part of the old homestead, at three dollars an acre. By good management, he was enabled to add to this amount, until he now owns over five hundred acres, all being under cultivation and valuable. Stock-

raising has been one of his most profitable undertakings, and success came to him ere he had arrived at the prime of manhood. In 1891, he retired from active labors. His property is situated in Whiteside, Ogle and Carroll counties, comprising some of the best land in these sections.

In 1888, Mr. Talbott married Mary C. Furry, who was born in Victor, New York, in 1845. One daughter has been born to this worthy couple, Alice, whose nativity occurred January 14, 1890. She is a pupil in the local school, and is making rapid progress in her studies. Mrs. Talbott was for twenty-five years a successful teacher in the schools of this county, and is a graduate of the State Normal at Normal, Illinois. Both as an educator and as president of the Whiteside county branch of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, which important office she has held for the past ten years, she has become widely known, not only in this county, but throughout the northwest. Both Mr. and Mrs. Talbott have traveled considerably, and are well posted in the leading events and issues of the day. He has attended all of the great expositions in this country since the Centennial, including the one held at Atlanta, Georgia, and the New Orleans Cotton Exhibition. Generous to a fault, Mr. Talbott has assisted friends and acquaintances times without number, both financially and in other ways, and is loyal to the high principles of Christian manhood which were inculcated in him by his estimable parents. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and take earnest interest in religious enterprises. Politically, he is a Prohibitionist. Many of the important local offices have been filled by him, such as school

trustee, constable, road commissioner and tax collector, and the same fidelity which he has manifested in all of his relations with his fellow men have actuated him when serving in a public capacity.

**R**OBERT McNEIL. Quite a number of the leading and prominent citizens of Whiteside county were born on the other side of the Atlantic, and have transported to this land of fertility and plenty the thrifty habits of their native country. Among these none is better known or more widely respected than the gentleman whose name heads this sketch. His home is on section 27, Coloma township, where for many years he was actively engaged in farming, but is now living retired.

Mr. McNeil was born in Paisley, Scotland, November 27, 1836, a son of Alexander and Janet (Mason) McNeil, also natives of that country. In 1849, with their family, they sailed for the United States, and arrived safely in New Orleans, but the mother was taken sick and died before reaching this county, being laid to rest in the cemetery at Albany, Illinois. The father, who was a machinist by trade, remained in Whiteside county for two years and then went to Chicago, where he worked at his trade until his death. In the family were five children, namely: (1) Isabella is the widow of Burrell Stone, who was an extensive and prosperous farmer, and she now spends her summers in Rock Falls, Illinois, and the winter in Florida. She has four children living, Mary J., Mina, Jessie and George, and one deceased. (2) Mary is the wife of Henry F. Batcheller, who was supervisor of Coloma township for twenty-five consecutive years, but is now

living retired in Rock Falls, and they have three children; Imogene, wife of S. O. Roberson; Addison; and Mrs. Fay Roddemeyer. (3) Robert, our subject, is the next of the family. (4) Jane is wife of John A. Lyde, of St. Andrews Bay, Florida. George lives in Chicago, and is a machinist; has charge of R. F. Crane's machine shops.

Robert McNeil acquired his education in the schools of his native land, and after the emigration of the family to the new world, he began life for himself as a farm hand, being thus employed until able to purchase land. During his boyhood, he also engaged in teaming from that county to Chicago and Aurora, and drove cattle to market in the former city. From his wages, he at length saved one hundred dollars in gold, and with it purchased a tract of government land before he was twenty years of age. For a number of years he successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising, making a specialty of Durham cattle, and at one time owned two hundred and eighty acres of very valuable and productive land, one hundred and eighty acres of which he still owns.

In July, 1856, Mr. McNeil was united in marriage with Miss Jean Lyle, who was also born in Paisley, Scotland, January 22, 1839, and was one of a family of ten children. Her parents were James and Agnes (Allison) Lyle, who came to this country in 1843, and took up their residence at Buffalo Grove, Ogle county, Illinois, where the father followed farming, though in Scotland he was a manufacturer. Of the nine children born to our subject and his wife one died in infancy. The others are as follows: (1) Alexander J., a hardware merchant of Rock Falls, is married and has one child, Jean E. (2) Agnes is the wife of James

H. Donaldson, living near Polo, Illinois, and they have three children, Robert W., Harold J. and Mildred. (3) William E., a farmer of Montmorency township, this county, is married and has four children, Bessie, Lester, Walter and Jean. (4) John M., also a farmer of Montmorency township, is married and has three children, Arthur, Emery and Mary. (5) Jean is employed in the store of her brother, Alexander, in Rock Falls. (6) Margaret is at home. (7) Robert B., reporter for the Standard, and a resident of Rock Falls, is married and has three children, Wayne L., Althea and Dorothea. He was a corporal in Company E, Sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, during the Spanish-American war, and was sent to Porto Rico. (8) Mary L., living at home, is the wife of Harry Kadel, and they have one son, Donald McNeil Kadel.

Mr. and Mrs. McNeil began their domestic life upon the farm which is still their home. They are devout members of the Presbyterian church, and are held in high regard by all who know them. Politically Mr. McNeil is a Democrat, but is a supporter of the sound money platform. He has been honored by his party with local offices, which he most creditably and satisfactorily filled, being treasurer of the board of road commissioners for fourteen years; school director for the same length of time, and postmaster of Rock Falls for four years. He is a prominent member of the Whiteside County Agricultural Society, of which he was president two years, and was also president of the Whiteside County Caledonia Club, a Scotch society, of which he was one of the organizers. He began life in the new world without capital, but he steadily overcame the obstacles in the path

to success by his perseverance, energy and good management, so that he is now one of the well-to-do and substantial men of his community, as well as one of its representative and honored citizens.

**H**AKM T. MEINS. One of the most enterprising farmers of Hopkins township, Whiteside county, is the gentleman whose name heads this sketch. By the industry and economy which he has practiced from his early manhood he has acquired a competence, and at the same time has won the respect of everyone with whom he has been associated, on account of his uniform integrity and honor.

A native of Oldenberg, Germany, he was born December 21, 1830, a son of Henry Wilhelm Meins. The latter was born in the same city, November 21, 1800, and his wife, Maria Meins, of the same place, was born on the 5th of the same month. They were married on Christmas-day, 1825, and became the parents of four children. Teita Margaret, born February 24, 1827, married Diedrich L. Johnson, and four children blessed their union. Their home is in this township. Mein N. Meins, born in August, 1828, and unmarried, came to Illinois in 1858, and soon after his arrival died from the effects of a sunstroke, on the 8th of August, 1858. Mary, born in 1840, came with her parents to the United States in 1859, and died the following year. The father of Henry W. Meins was Mein Eden Meins, who with his wife, Teita Margaret (Hendricks) Meins, lived to a ripe old age at their home in Oldenberg province, Germany, had five children, four of the number being sons.

It was in the year 1859 that Henry W.

Meins and his family crossed the Atlantic, determined to make their future home in Illinois. They located on a farm in Hopkins township, but at the end of a year or two, the father, who was in poor health, retired from active labors. He died at the home of our subject when in his eighty-fifth year. His wife died some years previously, when she had attained the age of three-score and ten.

H. T. Meins passed twenty-four years of his life in his native province, receiving a liberal education. In 1854, he came to the United States, and upon landing in New York city, preceeded to Norwich, Connecticut. There he dwelt for four years and, by careful husbanding his resources, had a snug sum laid aside at the end of that period. Love for his Fatherland and old friends drew him back to Germany, where he remained only six weeks, visiting his relatives. A second time he sailed for the new world, in 1858, accompanied by the lady who became his wife, formerly Anna Christina Johnson. Their marriage was celebrated July 4, 1858, in New York city, whence they came to Sterling, Illinois. There the young couple remained for two years, the husband plying the trade of a shoemaker. In 1860, he bought eighty acres of land in Hopkins township, a portion of his present large homestead, which comprises two hundred and ten acres. He has continued to improve this property, and his commodious house, and other buildings (the barn reputed to be the largest in the township) render this country home one of the most attractive in this county.

In all of his business undertakings, Mr. Meins has met with well deserved success. In all public affairs, in which the welfare of the community is at stake, he takes a

patriotic interest, and though he formerly was a Democrat, he became convinced of the fact that the party's position on the money question, in 1896, was unsound, and accordingly, being a man with the courage of his convictions, he cast his ballot for William McKinley and sound money. Religiously, he is a German Lutheran.

The father of our subject's wife, Christopher Johnson, was born August 26, 1830. Another brother, Frederick, who served as a volunteer in the Franco-German war, and was severely wounded in the arm, was subsequently appointed by the government as a conductor on a German railroad. He is now deceased. He had two children by his first marriage. They are both now in Illinois. To the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Meins two daughters were born. The elder, Annie Christina, born August 28, 1859, is the wife of John Fulfs, married December 4, 1879. Their home is in Genesee township. Of their three living children, two are daughters. The younger child of our subject, Hannah Armenia, married Henry W. Stern, in 1883, and, with their two sons, they reside on the home farm.

**F**RANK BAER. There is no element which has entered into our composite national fabric which has been of more practical strength, value and utility than that furnished by the sturdy, persevering and honorable sons of Germany, and in the progress of our union this element has played an important part. Intensely practical, and ever having a clear comprehension of the ethics of life, the German contingent has wielded a powerful influence, and this service cannot be held in light estimation by those who appreciate true civilization and

true advancement. Among the most prominent of Sterling's citizens who were born in the fatherland was Frank Baer, now deceased.

He was born in Hesse, Darmstadt, Germany, April 11, 1828, and was left motherless when but an infant. His father afterward married again and he was reared by his stepmother, remaining at home through his school days. At the age of fourteen he began serving an apprenticeship to the butcher's trade, and continued to follow that occupation in his native land until 1854, when he crossed the broad Atlantic to America. He spent several years in traveling from place to place, working at his trade in different states.

While working in La Salle, Illinois, Mr. Baer met Miss Caroline Dorr, to whom he was united in marriage, June 27, 1857. She was a native of Wurtemberg, Germany, and a daughter of John and Rosa (Heffner) Dorr. At the age of seventeen years she left home and native land and came to the United States. She landed in this country after a voyage of fifty-two days on board a sailing vessel, on which forty of the passengers died. She stopped first in Chicago, where she remained a year, and then went to La Salle, where she made her home until after her marriage.

Mr. Baer continued to work at his trade in La Salle until 1867, when he came to Sterling, and opened a butcher shop of his own on Third street between Sixth and Seventh avenues. After renting this property for a short time he purchased it and continued to conduct his market for many years. In 1890 he built the comfortable residence on Seventh avenue now occupied by his family, and soon afterward moved his shop beside it, in order that he might be

nearer his business. Finally, in 1892, he sold his business to his son Frank and son-in-law, Harry Carter.

To Mr. and Mrs. Baer were born eight children, as follows: Caroline is now the wife of Frank Uphold, of Sterling. Minnie is the wife of Theodore Fisher, of Chicago. Emma is the wife of Lawrence Troger, of Chicago. Katherine is the wife of Harry Carter, of Sterling. May is the wife of Walter Stoeckle, of Sterling. Frank, born September 27, 1867, died November 17, 1897. He was the only son of the family, and was an infant in arms when the family came to Sterling. After his father retired from business, he and his brother-in-law carried on the market until his death, which was a severe blow to the family and friends. He was a most exemplary young man, respected and esteemed by a large circle of friends, and was stricken down in the vigor of early manhood just before he was to have been married to a most estimable young lady. Elizabeth, the next of the family, was born August 4, 1872, and died January 11, 1877. Josephine is at home, the companion of her widowed mother. The children were all liberally educated in the city schools.

Mr. Baer was a supporter of the Democratic party but was not a politician in the sense of office seeking. Fraternally he was a charter member and one of the twelve who organized the United Workmen lodge in Sterling. After a long, useful and well-spent life he passed away at his home in Sterling, March 28, 1899. He had come to Sterling a poor man, and by close attention to business and the able assistance of his wife had acquired a competency, and was in a position to enjoy the fruits of former toil when called from this life. He was widely and favorably known and no man in

the community had more friends or was more highly esteemed. Since the death of her husband, Mrs. Bier has ably attended to her property interests. She is a most estimable lady and like her husband is held in high regard by all who know her.

**L** E. MATTHEWS, the present efficient county treasurer of Whiteside county and an honored veteran of the Civil war, was born in Kalamazoo county, Michigan, March 10, 1841, and is a son of Alonzo A. and Charlotte (Williams) Matthews, both natives of Massachusetts, the former born March 26, 1812, the latter February 9, 1814. His paternal grandparents, Eggleston and Charlotte (Stowe) Matthews, were also natives of the old Bay state, and the latter was a relative of Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe. The grandfather, who was a farmer by occupation, moved from Massachusetts to Mentor, Ohio, with an ox team and sled in 1824, when his son Alonzo A. was only about a year old, and there took up a tract of wild land which he cleared and transformed into a good farm. In 1830 he went to Kalamazoo county, Michigan, and this journey was also made with an ox team. In company with the father of our subject he took up one hundred and sixty acres of land where the Michigan Central depot at Galesburg, Michigan, now stands. He died soon after locating there, leaving five children, namely: Hannah, Julia, Anson, Alonzo A. and Gideon, all of whom are now deceased with the exception of Alonzo A. The mother of these children died about six years after the removal of the family to Ohio.

Alonzo A. Matthews was educated in the schools of Mentor, Ohio, and there

grew to manhood. At the age of twenty-one, he married Miss Charlotte Williams, who is the eldest in a family of eight children, five of whom are still living. Her father, Levi Williams, was a native of Massachusetts and a carpenter by trade. At the age of sixteen he went to Lenox, Ohio, where he followed his trade in connection with farming, and built nearly all of the large churches of that locality, making a specialty of that work. Later he moved to Irving, Kansas, where he and his wife both died. His father lived to the advanced age of one hundred and one years, and a year prior to his death walked two miles to the polls to vote. About 1832 Alonzo A. Matthews removed to Kalamazoo county, Michigan, where his father had previously located, and he settled upon an eighty-acre tract of land which he entered from the government. While in Ohio he had studied medicine and for a few years he engaged in practice in Michigan, leaving his farm to be operated by others. About 1846 he returned to Ohio and located in Geauga county, where he engaged in farming, but made a specialty of dairying, until 1855, which year witnessed his arrival in Erie, Whiteside county, Illinois. The following year he returned east for his family. He bought land in Erie township, and engaged in farming until old age prevented him from engaging in such arduous toil, since which time he has made his home in the village of Erie. Of his eight children, seven reached years of maturity, namely: Wealthy, now deceased; Worthy, a resident of Erie, who married Sophia Herriman and has four children; Luther E., our subject; Julia, wife of R. B. Herriman, of Missouri, by whom she has two children; Gideon G., of Chicago, who married Ora Williams and has

seven children; Carrie, wife of L. D. Gridley, of Savannah, Illinois, by whom she has two children; and Anson, a resident of Erie, who married Estella Smith, now deceased.

Luther E. Matthews, of this review, was educated in the district schools of Ohio, Michigan and Illinois. Just after he attained his majority, in August, 1862, he enlisted in Company I, Seventy-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, which was mustered into the United States service at Dixon, Illinois, and from there went to Louisville, Kentucky, September 30, where Bragg was then located. In the battle of Perryville, October 8, our subject was wounded in one foot, and in the same engagement fifty of the regiment were killed and one hundred and fifty wounded. They participated in the battle of Murfreesboro, where only two were killed, and during the battle of Chickamauga guarded the ammunition train. Later they took an active part in the battles of Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge, Ringgold, Georgia, Dalton, Rocky Face, Resaca, Dallas and New Hope Church, where our subject was again wounded through the right knee. He was sent home and honorably discharged from the service at Quincy, Illinois, in November, 1864, on account of his wounds.

The first winter after his return home, Mr. Matthews taught school and then engaged in farming on his own account, but continued to live with his parents. Later he followed various occupations. On the 3d of January, 1871, in Erie, he married Miss Marie Alden, who was born in New York, in 1850, a daughter of William Alden, a farmer of that state. She died in 1874, leaving one child, Alden, who died at the age of six months. Mr. Matthews was

again married, November 14, 1877, his second union being with Miss Lucy L. Hubbard, who was born in this county in April, 1857, and is a daughter of Benjamin and Virginia R. (Thompson) Hubbard, both natives of Ohio. The father, who was a farmer by occupation, is now deceased, but the mother is still living and now makes her home with our subject. They had four children, of whom Mrs. Matthews is the eldest.

After his second marriage Mr. Matthews embarked in the butcher business in Erie, which he carried on for eight years, and then built the lunch counter at the end of the stage route in Denrock, which he conducted for four years. During the World's Fair in Chicago, in 1893, he conducted a boarding-house and kept roomers in that city. On his return to Whiteside county he opened a grocery and hardware store in Fulton, which he carried on until 1896, and the following two years was proprietor of Hotel Matthews at that place. In November, 1898, he was elected county treasurer, and is now filling that office with credit to himself and to the entire satisfaction of his constituents. He served as assessor of Fulton one year, and during his residence in Erie served as president of the village board, supervisor and town clerk. His public and private life are alike above reproach, and he has the confidence and respect of all who know him. Since casting his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln, in 1864, he has been an ardent supporter of the Republican party. Socially, he belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America and Alpheus Clark post, G. A. R., and religiously both he and his estimable wife are members of the Christian church of Fulton.

JAMES M. WINTERS, who is now living a retired life in the village of Coleta, was for many years one of the substantial farmers of Carroll and Whiteside counties. He was born March 22, 1809, in Genesee county, New York, where the first eight years of his life were passed. His father, Timothy Winters, was born in Pennsylvania, just across the line from New York. In 1817 he removed with his family to southern Indiana, where the remainder of his life was spent. There our subject grew to manhood, living with his father until he was twenty-one years of age. He then went to learn the blacksmith trade, at which he continued for two years, since which time until his retirement from active business life he followed the avocation of a farmer.

In 1831, Mr. Winters was united in marriage with Miss Susan Giger, a native of Tennessee and daughter of George and Tabitha (Henderson) Giger, who was one of fourteen children, two of whom, however, dying in infancy. These surviving infancy were Sally, John, Susan, Loraine, Isaiah, Betsy, Josephus, George, Matilda, Eliza, Wylie and Kittie. All of the family are now deceased, except Isaiah and Wylie, who reside in Indiana, and George, who is living in California. After his marriage, Mr. Winters remained in Indiana until 1847, and there six of his nine children were born—Catherine, William J., Tabitha, George C., James P. and Elhannan C. Catherine married Newton Dodd, by whom she had five children, one of whom died in infancy. The others were Phœbe, James, Emily and Henry. Her husband is now deceased, and she is making her home in Oklahoma. William J. married Elizabeth Fowler, and they became the parents of six children—Elsie, Perry, Mary, Lizzie, Viola and Frank,

the last named dying in infancy. The family now reside in Marion county, Nebraska. Tabitha married Cephas Herless, by whom she had six children, of whom four are now living—James, William, Belle and Roy. Mr. Herless is deceased, but Mrs. Herless is yet living, making her home in the village of Coleta, Illinois. George C. married Emily Mason, and they had one daughter, Eva. When the Civil war was in progress, George enlisted in the Thirty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and died from typhoid fever on December 27, 1861, at Louisville, Kentucky. James P. married Olive Baxter, and they have three living children—Nora, Clinton and Howard. They lost one in infancy. James is a veteran of the Civil war, having served in the Fifteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry for three years. He was in the battles of Shiloh, Hatchel, Vicksburg, and other minor engagements. For his services, he now draws a pension of eight dollars per month. The family now reside in the state of Washington, sixty miles east of Seattle.

Leaving Indiana in 1847, Mr. Winters came with his family to Illinois and located in Carroll county, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of government land and commenced the development of a farm. To his original purchase he added from time to time until he had a fine farm of three hundred and twenty acres, which he later sold and purchased a farm of one hundred and forty acres, also in Carroll county. This farm he rented for a number of years, but has since sold it, and is living retired, enjoying the fruits of a well spent life. While residing in Carroll county the family was increased by the birth of three children, Matilda, Melissa and John, the latter dying in infancy. Elhannan married Paulina Sco-



ville, and they have three living children, James, Alice and Carl. Wayne died in infancy. Elhannon was four years in the service of his country during the Civil war, enlisting for three years in the Thirty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and before the expiration of his term of service re-enlisted as a veteran. He was in the battle of Shiloh, and was with Sherman in his march to the sea. He was once a prisoner a few days, but was exchanged, and permitted to go home on a furlough, from which he returned to his regiment and remained with it until the close of the war. He now draws a pension of fourteen dollars per month from the government. With his family he makes his home in Rock Falls, where he is serving as justice of the peace, city clerk, insurance agent, and does a general collecting business. Matilda married Elijah Olmsted, and they have five children, Grover, Lemon, Susan, Wright and Emeline. They now live in Milledgeville, Carroll county, Illinois. Melissa married Charles Wallace, and they have had eight children, four of whom are now living—Luther, Clarence, Emeline and Jane. They now reside in Oklahoma territory.

In his farming operations Mr. Winters met with good success, converting wild land into productive farms, bringing them under a high state of cultivation. In 1883 Mrs. Winters departed this life, and her remains were interred in the village cemetery at Milledgeville, Carroll county, Illinois. She was a good woman, a loving wife and affectionate mother, and her loss was greatly lamented. On the 11th of December, 1885, Mr. Winters for his second wife married Miss Annie Skill, a native of Ireland, and daughter of Timothy and Margaret Skill.

Mr. Winters in early life was a Whig,

casting his first presidential vote for William Henry Harrison. On the formation of the Republican party he identified himself with it, and continued to vote that party ticket until some twelve years ago, since which time he has voted the Prohibition ticket. Fraternally he formerly was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, but has not affiliated with the order for a number of years. Religiously he is a member of the United Brethren in Christ. He is a self-educated man, his school life being of very short duration, attending for a few months a country school when a small boy, and for about three months when twenty years of age. He is now in his ninety-first year and has a remarkable memory, with his faculties unimpaired, save for the loss of hearing, being slightly deaf. He can see to read and write without glasses. To such men, pioneers of a new country, a debt of gratitude is due, and it is safe to say that no man in Whiteside county has more friends than "Uncle Jimmy Winters," as he is familiarly known.

CLARK R. POWELL, proprietor of the Sterling Nursery & Fruit Farm on section 23, Sterling township, and one of the most prominent and successful horticulturists of this section of the state, was born in Saratoga county, New York, September 12, 1820, and is a son of Joseph and Hannah (Bowman) Powell, both natives of Dutchess county, that state. When our subject was six years old, they removed to Monroe county, New York, where the father successfully engaged in farming for many years. In his family were nine children who reached years of maturity, namely: Jacob, Lydia Ann, Nathaniel, Martha,

Eliza, Henry, Clark and Nelson. Only two are now living, Lydia Ann, widow of Isaac G. Ewer and a resident of Mendon, Monroe county, New York; and Clark R., our subject.

During his boyhood, Clark R. Powell attended the public schools of Monroe county, and for one winter was a student at the academy in Masidon Center, Wayne county, New York. After completing his education he remained at home, assisting in the work of the farm until the fall of 1849, when, at the age of twenty-three years, he came to Whiteside county, Illinois, where his brothers, Jacob and Henry, had previously located. He lived with them in Sterling township for four years, and then returned to the east.

On the 17th of October, 1853, Mr. Powell was united in marriage with Miss Mary E. Quick, a native of Ulster county, New York, and a daughter of Harvey and Judith S. Quick, natives of New York and Pennsylvania, respectively. The father always made his home in the east and followed the occupation of farming. To Mr. and Mrs. Powell were born five children: Albert, who is with his father; Malissa A., who is the widow of Moses Hartman and makes her home with our subject; Edwin, a fruit farmer of Sterling township, who married Lizzie Andreas and has one child, Tracy; Theron, a resident of Coloma township, who married Ora Taylor and has two children, Mary and Ralph; and Martha, who married Howard L. Wink, now of Battle Creek, Iowa, and died at the age of twenty-six years.

After his marriage, Mr. Powell returned to Sterling township, Whiteside county, Illinois, and purchased thirty acres of land, upon which he set out a nursery, being the

second man in the county to engage in that business. He has added to his land but has never extensively engaged in farming, preferring to devote his time and attention to horticulture. He started in the nursery business on quite a large scale, and gradually enlarged his business until the Civil war, when sales began to fall off and have gradually decreased. The business will probably be closed out in the spring of 1900. He has made a specialty of apples, but also deals in all kinds of fruit and ornamental trees, shrubs, etc. He has sold nearly all of the evergreen trees found in the county and they have now become splendid trees. About thirty years ago, Mr. Powell also embarked in the fruit business, and now raises all kinds of berries. His red raspberries include the varieties known as Louden, Miller's red, and Thompson's early prolific; the black raspberries are the Olders, Gregg, Eureka, Conrath and Kansas; the blackberries, Snyder, Stone, Hardy, Western Triumph and Ancient Briton; strawberries, Clyde, Crescent seedling, Splendid, Marshall, Warfield, Bissell and Haverland; currants, white Dutch, Cherry and Fay's prolific; and gooseberries, red jacket and Drowling. In 1897 his output of raspberries amounted to sixteen thousand quarts, and he always has splendid crops in every way. He sells all his fruit in Sterling and vicinity. He is an active and prominent member of the Northern Illinois Horticultural Society and also of the Rock River Valley Society. He is deeply interested in everything pertaining to his chosen calling, and thoroughly understands every department of the work. He is a Free Thinker, though formerly he was a member of the Unitarian church. In early life he was a supporter of the Democratic party, but joined the Republican party on

its organization and has since fought under its banner. He is widely and favorably known, and as a horticulturist and citizen stands high in the esteem of his fellowmen.

**PETER R. BOYD.** Prominent among the business men of Morrison is this gentleman, who for over a third of a century has been identified with the history of the city. He is a man of keen discrimination and sound judgment, and as a financier he ranks among the ablest. He was born in Stephenson, Ayrshire, Scotland, February 7, 1844, a son of William and Mary (Scott) Boyd. For many generations the home of the family has been in Ayrshire, only about four miles from Auld Brif o' Doon, where Robbie Burns was born in an old thatched cottage, which our subject has often seen. He is a great admirer of Burns' writings, and has many relics from his old place. Mr. Boyd's mother was a direct descendant of Sir Walter Scott. The parents were born devout members of the Presbyterian church and the father was a farmer by occupation. More extended mention is made of this couple in connection with the sketch of Hugh H. Boyd on another page of this volume.

Our subject began his education in his native land. In 1859 he came with his parents to this country on the Edinburg, one of the early steamers, which at that time was making her first trip. Coming direct to Whiteside county, Illinois, the father purchased a small farm near Morrison, on which our subject grew to manhood, his education being completed in the district schools of the neighborhood. During the Civil war he enlisted for ninety days in Company B, One Hundred and Fortieth

Illinois Volunteer Infantry, which was assigned to the Third Brigade, Second Separate Division, Army of the Cumberland, but he was in the service at this time for six months, taking part in the engagements around Nashville and Chattanooga. He re-enlisted in Company G, One Hundred and Fifty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, the last regiment raised during the war—and remained in the service until after hostilities ceased, being mustered out September 26, 1865. He was always found at his post of duty, valiantly fighting for the old flag and the cause it represented, and from private was promoted to the rank of first lieutenant.

After spending another year upon the home farm, Mr. Boyd came to Morrison, in 1866, and entered the employ of Drs. Taylor & Anderson, who were engaged in the drug and grocery business, remaining with them fifteen years, and having full charge of the store after the first two years. Subsequently he was with T. R. King, in the creamery business, as bookkeeper for three years. In the meantime he had made some very wise investments in real estate, and to the real estate and loan business he has since devoted his energies with most gratifying results. He has owned a great deal of both city and farm property. He is a shrewd and capable business man, upright and honorable in all his dealings, and has met with well-deserved success.

In 1872 Mr. Boyd married Miss Eliza A. Fraser, a native of Nova Scotia, Scotland, and a daughter of Deacon William Fraser, an elder of the First Presbyterian church of Morrison, who was born in Inverness-shire, Scotland, and belongs to a very prominent family. Two children were born of this union: Paul Fraser and Daisy M. The son was born in Morrison, November 8,

1874, and attended the common and high schools of that city, from which he was graduated in 1893. During the following three years he clerked in the drug store of J. H. Snyder & Company, and then entered the pharmaceutical department of the Northwestern University, at Chicago, from which he graduated with the degree of Ph. G., in 1897, with special mention for work in the microscopical laboratory. He was again with Snyder & Company for a short time and for one year was connected with the Grand Pacific Pharmacy, but in February, 1899, he was forced to resign his position on account of ill health and has since been at home. The family residence is a fine modern structure at No. 311 Wall street, where Mr. and Mrs. Boyd have spent their entire married life. The family are prominent members of the Presbyterian church and occupy an enviable position in social circles.

Fraternally Mr. Boyd is also an active and influential member of Alpheus post, No. 118, G. A. R., of which he has been commander three times, and which he has represented in the state encampment. He is a member of the Knights of the Maccabees, and his son belongs to Dunlap lodge, No. 321, A. F. & A. M. Politically Mr. Boyd is a staunch Democrat, and for three terms of two years each he has been alderman from the third ward. During that time extensive improvements were made in the city. While chairman of the fire and water committee the fine water works system was inaugurated and the mains laid. He has also been a prominent and influential member of the school board for nine years, during which time the north side school was built and an addition made to the high school. His support is never withheld from

any enterprise calculated to prove of public good, and he is regarded as a useful and valued citizen of the community.

**H**ARVEY C. HULL is now serving as police magistrate in Prophetstown, a position he has filled for eight years with credit to himself and satisfaction to his constituents. He is thoroughly impartial in meting out justice, his opinions are unbiased by either fear or favor, and his fidelity to the trust reposed in him is above question.

Mr. Hull was born in Washington, Litchfield county, Connecticut, January 10, 1830, a son of Bradford J. and Catherine (Teeple) Hull, also natives of that county, her father, Luke Teeple, being a representative of one of its oldest families. From Litchfield county, the father of our subject removed to Woodbury, Connecticut, where he worked at the carpenter's and joiner's trade, and also owned and operated a farm and sawmill. He and his wife celebrated their golden wedding, September 17, 1872, and also the grandmother Teeple's one hundredth birthday; she is living to the remarkable old age of one hundred three and a half years. The father was presented with a gold headed cane on which was engraved his name and date. The cane was of oak made from a piece of timber taken from an old stone house erected at Guilford, Connecticut, in 1640 and used as a fort. Mr. and Mrs. Hull spent their last days in Woodbury. In their family were nine children, namely: Charles B., who died in North Guilford; Mary, deceased wife of James Thomas, of Woodbury; Catherine A., deceased wife of W. H. Harrison, of North Guilford; Harvey C., our subject; Polly Ann, wife of Russell Potter, of North Guilford; Emily C., wife of

J. C. Harrison, of Northford; Annie F., now deceased, was the wife of Augustus S. Davis, of Woodbury; and William N., of Chicago, Illinois. With the exception of our subject and the youngest brother, all remained in Connecticut.

In his native state, Harvey C. Hull grew to manhood, and under the direction of his father he learned the carpenter's and joiner's trade at Waterbury, Connecticut. There he was married, in 1850, to Miss Jeanette L. Scarritt, a native of Waterbury. In 1855 they removed to Geneseo, Illinois, where he worked at his trade for about a year and then came to Prophetstown to engage in contracting and building. In 1859 he started for Pike's Peak, going down the Mississippi and up the Missouri rivers as far as Kansas City, where he met so many returning from the gold fields and heard such adverse reports, that he turned back. He stopped at Fulton, Missouri, where he obtained a good position as a carpenter on the construction of the lunatic asylum and upon other buildings. He remained there until late in the summer of 1860, and as a subcontractor made considerable money. His wife had joined him at Fulton. In the fall of 1860 they returned to Connecticut, where he worked at his trade until 1862, and then again came to Prophetstown, Illinois, where he at first followed carpentering and building. In 1871 he embarked in the grain and lumber business in Lyndon, to which point he had the first freight shipped over the new railroad. On the construction of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad through Prophetstown, he returned to this place, where he erected an elevator and engaged in the grain and lumber business with J. J. Greene for about three years, at the end of which time he

sold out and turned his attention to the furniture trade, in which he was interested for eight years and a half. Later he conducted a drug store as a member of the firm of Hull & Smith, for three years and a half.

Mr. Hull's first wife died in Prophetstown, February 11, 1866, leaving one son, Charles W., a banker and clothing merchant of Kirwin, Kansas. Mr. Hull was again married in Prophetstown, July 7, 1868, to Mrs. Harriett Gresty, a native of England, and a daughter of Peter and Harriett (Hall) Langford. She was reared in Manchester, and was first married in Liverpool, August 14, 1872, to James Gresty, also a native of England and a farmer by occupation. They emigrated to the new world in 1881, and located in Prophetstown, Illinois, on the 6th of May of that year. Here Mr. Gresty died March 10, 1891, leaving two children: Ollie and George, who is still attending school.

On the 7th of October, 1864, our subject enlisted in Company C, Seventy-fifth Illinois Volunteers, and was mustered in at Dixon, Illinois. He was in the last battle at Nashville, Tennessee, and from there went to Huntsville, Chattanooga and Knoxville and Elizabethtown, Tennessee, and was finally discharged at Nashville, Tennessee, May 7, 1865, by the order of Secretary Stanton.

On attaining his majority, Mr. Hull identified himself with the Whig party, but in 1856 voted for John C. Fremont and has since been an ardent Republican. He has served as supervisor of this county for two years and was president of the board of village trustees for four years and a half. He was a member of a number of important committees, including those on bridges,

equalization and the county house. He was a councilman for a number of terms, and since 1891 has served as police magistrate. He has also been superintendent of the cemetery since 1881, and his various official duties have been performed in a most capable and satisfactory manner. He is a Royal Arch Mason, a member of the Blue lodge and chapter of Prophetstown, and both he and his wife belong to the Eastern Star and are members of the Congregational church.

**J**OHAN P. FULLER, a veteran agriculturist, now retired from the activities of life, is spending his declining days in peace and plenty on the homestead which he reclaimed from its primitive wildness, in section 21, Portland township. For three score and three years, or since 1836, he has been a resident of Whiteside county, and has been an interested witness of the various changes that have taken place, watching with delight the rapid transformation of timber land and prairie into a rich and productive agricultural country, at the same time aiding by every means within his power its growth and advancement. As a man of honesty and integrity, and one of the few remaining pioneers of his day, he is held in high honor by his fellow-townsmen, and is universally respected. He was born July 4, 1822, in Cattaraugus county, New York, a son of Levi Fuller, and grandson of Edmund Fuller, a pioneer of Oneida county, New York.

Levi Fuller was born, bred and educated in Oneida county, New York, from whence he went in early manhood to Cattaraugus county where he took up wild land and established himself as a farmer. In 1831 he

removed with his family to Erie county, Pennsylvania, and there continued his chosen occupation five years. In 1836 he emigrated to the broad prairies of the west, making the journey through the intervening forests with teams, and bring with him his wife and children and all his worldly possessions. He came directly to Whiteside county, arriving in Portland township February 6, and took up a claim of one hundred and sixty acres, one-half of which was timber land. He built a log house in which he and his family dwelt ten years, and begun breaking up and improving his claim. He subsequently sold his first purchase, and buying another farm in the same township was there engaged in the pursuit of agriculture until his demise, in 1856. His wife, whose maiden name was Betsey Martin, was also a native of Oneida county, New York. She survived him many years, passing away in August, 1887, at the venerable age of ninety-six years. She bore her husband ten children, seven sons and three daughters, all of whom grew to years of maturity, and of whom three sons and one daughter are now living.

John P. Fuller, a lad of fourteen years when he came to Portland township, completed his education in the pioneer schools of his day, and during his minority assisted his father in clearing the parental homestead. After his marriage, in 1846, he rented land on which he farmed three or four years; then taking up a claim of one hundred and twenty acres he began the laborious task of developing a productive farm. Erecting a log cabin for himself and family as the first necessary improvement, he occupied it several years before his means warranted his building his present substantial residence, and other convenient

farm buildings. Before commencing operations on a large scale much of his land had to be cleared of timber, or the swamps drained, but his resolution and unbounded energy overcome all obstacles, so that his farm in point of improvements now stands second to none in this locality. The difficulties that beset the pioneers of his time can be scarce imagined by the younger generation. Deer, wolves, and other wild beasts of the forest were plentiful, and though their flesh sometimes furnished food for the family they often terrorized the few inhabitants of the place. A large part of the year the roads were in a fearful condition making the journey to Chicago, whither the surplus produce had to be taken by team, there being no thought of railways then, a trip to be dreaded. Mr. Fuller carried on mixed farming for many years, and in addition to this was prosperously engaged in stock raising and dealing, becoming one of the best known stockmen of the county.

Mr. Fuller was married in Warren county, Illinois, June 25, 1840, to Miss Almira Lamphere, who was born in Oneida county, New York, August 5, 1821, a daughter of Caleb P. and Lucinda Martin Lamphere. Her parents emigrated to Illinois in 1842, settling first in Warren county, from whence, in 1851, they removed to Whiteside county, where they spent the remainder of their lives. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Fuller seven children have been born, two of whom have passed to the life beyond, Guy E. having died at the age of fourteen years, and Alma M. when eleven years old. Those now living are as follows: Clark C., a farmer in the past, served as deputy sheriff twelve years, and as sheriff four years; Willis H., a business man of Port-

land township, is married and has one child, Edwin; Emma J., wife of Charles E. Sibley, of this county, has seven children, Grace, Robert, Frank, Ralph, Jay, Freeman and George; Lydia L., wife of Henry Sibley, has one child, Ray; and Kate E., wife of George Talcott, a farmer of Portland township, has four children, Bertha, Laura, Clara, and Hattie.

On June 25, 1896, Mr. and Mrs. Fuller celebrated their golden wedding, children, grandchildren and friends to the number of one hundred or more gathering at their home. Hearty congratulations to the aged couple were extended; the bountiful repast was enjoyed by all; and after an evening of joyful sociability the numerous guests departed, leaving as golden mementoes of the occasion many articles of value, including a gold watch for Mr. Fuller, and a quantity of gold coins for his worthy wife.

In 1844 our subject witnessed a terrible cyclone which destroyed all property in its wake. It took the house which he was in from its foundation and scattered it for miles, and crippled him so that he feels the effects to this day. It also destroyed a great deal of stock and killed several people in the neighborhood.

Politically Mr. Fuller was a Jeffersonian Democrat for many years, but in 1860 and 1864 he gave to Abraham Lincoln his presidential vote, and since that time has supported the measures of the Prohibition party. Although never an aspirant for official honors he has not shirked his duties as a public-spirited citizen, but has served with acceptance to all concerned as commissioner of highways for seventeen years, and for a number of terms was a school director.

**W**ILBUR D. HEATH, a reliable and intelligent young agriculturist of Lyndon township, who owns and operates a fine farm of one hundred and twenty acres on section 5, is a native of Whiteside county, born near Round Grove, July 1, 1871. His parents were George and Electa (Fellows) Heath. The father was a native of Massachusetts, as were also his parents, Ira and Mary (Harmon) Heath. The grandmother of our subject was born in 1820, and is now living in Hopkins township, this county. She is the mother of five children, but Henry, a resident of Hopkins township, is the only one now living. Throughout his active business life the father of our subject followed farming, but during his last years was unable to engage in active labor on account of the effects of a stroke of paralysis. He died in 1876, and his wife passed away two years later. Six children were born to them, but two died in infancy. Those living are as follows: Laura is now the wife of Leroy Garrison, a carpenter of Fenton township, and they have one child living, Loyal, and two deceased, Lelia and Nina. Charles, now a farmer of Dakota, married Hattie Garrison, and they have five children, Glenn, Bessie, Vera, Charles M. and one whose name is unknown. Wilbur, our subject, is the next of the family. Willis, who is unmarried, makes his home with his brother Charles in Dakota.

After the death of his parents, Wilbur Heath was adopted by Charles Ristrow, with whom he remained five years, and was educated in the country schools near Tampico. At the age of fifteen he started out in life for himself as a farm hand, and was thus employed until his marriage, after which he worked by the day for a year. The following two years he operated a

rented farm, and then purchased one hundred and twenty acres in Lyndon township, for which he paid sixty dollars per acre. Here he has since successfully engaged in general farming, and his honorable, upright course commends him to the confidence and high regard of all with whom he has dealings. In his political affiliations he is a Republican.

On the 5th of June, 1895, Mr. Heath was united in marriage with Miss Jeannie B. Matthew, who was born in Hopkins township, April 7, 1869, and to them were born two children: Lloyd T., who died in infancy; and Bessie L. Mrs. Heath's parents were Thomas and Anna (Thomson) Matthew, both natives of Scotland, the former born July 15, 1808. To them were born five children, of whom one died young. One of those still living is Jeannie, wife of our subject. William Archibald, a resident of Hopkins township, married Lizzie Matznick and has two children, Ralph and Glen. Robert A., a graduate of Rush Medical College, Chicago, and now a physician of Laveta, Colorado, married Gertrude Lewis and has one son, Lewis T. Elizabeth G. is the wife of Jacob Steiner, who lives on a part of the home farm in Hopkins township, and they have one daughter, Jeannie Verle. Thomas Matthew, the father of these children, first married Margaret Dumire, a native of Scotland, by whom he had two children, of whom Robert died young, while Thomas is still living. The latter married Euphemia Dalrymple and they have one son, Harold T. In early life Mrs. Heath's father came to America and for some time made his home in Virginia, but in 1835 became a resident of Whiteside county, Illinois, where he died December 10, 1892. By occupation he was a farmer. His second wife, Mrs. Anna



Matthew, came to this state when only four years old, and died in 1876. Mrs. Heath's paternal grandparents, Robert and Margaret (Thomson) Matthew, were life-long residents of Scotland.

**C**HARLES NASH RUSSELL. The deserved reward of a well spent life is an honored retirement from business, in which to enjoy the fruits of former toil. To-day, after a useful and beneficial career, Mr. Russell is quietly living at his beautiful home at No. 702 Second avenue, Sterling, surrounded by all the comforts that earnest labor has brought him. He has been a resident of this county since the spring of 1846, and has lived in Sterling since 1863.

Mr. Russell was born in Greenfield, Massachusetts, February 3, 1826, a son of Charles and Adeline (Nash) Russell. The father was born in Northampton, Massachusetts, May 26, 1797, of English descent, and was a representative of the same family to which Lord John Russell belonged, the family being founded in this country by three brothers of the Duke of Bedford. The great-great-grandfather of our subject was Hezekiah Russell, a farmer of Connecticut. His son, Hezekiah Russell, Jr., was born in Wethersfield, Connecticut, and at the age of sixteen went to Northampton, Massachusetts. He was a captain in the state militia and a carpenter by trade. His son, Thaddeus Russell, grandfather of our subject, also followed that occupation. He was born in Northampton and died at the age of fifty years. The father, Charles Russell, followed the tailor's trade throughout life. On the 21st of January, 1823, he married Miss Adeline Nash, who was born in Duxbury, Vermont, February 12, 1805,

a daughter of Eber Nash, a pioneer of that state. To them were born eleven children, nine sons and two daughters, of whom five sons came west, our subject being the first of these. Seven of the family are still living. After his marriage the father removed to Greenfield, Massachusetts, and in 1829 took up his residence in Colrain, where he died May 6, 1871. The wife and mother passed away September 23, 1882. Both were faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he served as class leader and chorister for some years.

During his boyhood Charles N. Russell, of this sketch, worked in Colrain, until sixteen years of age, and then went to New Salem, Massachusetts, to live with a Unitarian clergyman, and while there was given an academic education. In 1846 he came to Como, Whiteside county, Illinois, and spent the last year of his minority with the son of the minister. He taught school in Princeton, Illinois, for two winters and then accepted the position of clerk with the firm of Holmes & Hopgood. In their employ he often drove a team to Chicago for goods, as not a foot of railroad had yet been built in the state. He remained with that firm four years, receiving one hundred and ten dollars per year and his board, and for the second one hundred and fifty dollars.

On the 25th of December, 1851, Mr. Russell was united in marriage with Miss Julia T. Sampson, and the next spring started in business for himself on a small scale at Como, where he built up a good trade. He also served as postmaster of the place and as town clerk for a number of years. Besides his business property he owned a farm near Como. In 1863 he removed to Sterling and opened a general store on Third street, but later engaged in

the clothing business with excellent success for a number of years, as a member of the firm of Russell & Burrett. He erected the building in which they carried on business and built up an excellent trade, but retired from the firm over twenty years ago. About fifteen years ago he purchased a farm, which he operated for a few years, but has now laid aside all business cares. He was one of the organizers and directors of the Sterling National Bank for some years, and still owns two store buildings on Third street besides his residence property. For the success that he has achieved in life he deserves great credit, for it is due entirely to his own energetic and well-directed efforts. On coming to this state his capital was very limited. He paid one dollar for the privilege of riding on a wagon from Chicago to Dixon, and as he had but a dollar remaining when he arrived in the latter city, he walked from there to Como. His labors have been crowned with prosperity, and he is now quite well-to-do, able to spend his declining years in ease and comfort, free from the turmoil of business life. He is a staunch supporter of the Republican party, and has served as alderman from the Third ward of Sterling.

Mrs. Russell, who is a consistent member of the Congregational church, was born in Duxbury, Massachusetts, June 16, 1825, a daughter of Captain Henry Briggs and Nancy (Turner) Sampson, and granddaughter of Colonel William Turner, of Massachusetts. Mrs. Russell's father, who was an old sea captain, removed from Massachusetts to Maine, where he spent two years, and in 1836 came to Illinois. After spending three years in Tremont, Tazewell county, he came to Como with its first colony and engaged in the hotel business here for several years

on the old stage line from Chicago to Rock Island. Many noted people of the country stopped with him during early days. He died in Como, December 31, 1865, and his wife passed away October 5, 1854. His father was Job Sampson, also a sea captain, who was born September 19, 1766, and was descended from Henry Sampson, one of the Mayflower passengers. From Henry he traced his ancestry through Caleb, David and Chapin. The family lived in the neighborhood of Duxbury, Massachusetts, for many years and intermarried with the Standish and Alden families. Caleb Sampson, previously mentioned, wedded Mercy Standish, daughter of Alexander Standish and granddaughter of Miles Standish. David Sampson married Mary Chapin, of Marshfield, Massachusetts, and their son, Captain Job Sampson, married Betsy, third daughter of Samuel Windsor, of Duxbury, a descendant of Philip de Lanoie, who came to Plymouth on the Fortune in 1621. Mr. and Mrs. Russell have two children: Anna F., at home; and Charles Turner, who married May Hubbard, a native of Vermont, and now resides in Sterling.

**D**E WITT C. WAITE is a successful agriculturist residing on section 5, Ustick township, where he operates two hundred and forty acres of land. He does not confine his attention to one line of occupation, however, but as an attorney has built up a good practice in both Fulton and Ustick. He is wide-awake, energetic and progressive, and has displayed excellent business ability in the management of his affairs.

Mr. Waite was born in Chickasaw county, Iowa, April 22, 1866, a son of Cyrus H.

and Catharine (Noble) Waite. His paternal grandfather was Downer Waite, an extensive farmer of Lawrence county, New York, who owned one thousand acres of land which he divided among his children. He had five sons and five daughters, of whom the following are still living: William W., a resident of Erie, Whiteside county, Illinois; Byron, of Henry county, Missouri; Hannah, wife of Follet Johnson, of New York; Melvina, wife of John Hitchcock, of St. Lawrence county, New York; and Cyrus H., father of our subject. In early life the last named followed the carpenter's trade and also worked as a bridge builder, but later turned his attention to agricultural pursuits. He was born near Rutland, Vermont, July 22, 1830, and is now living retired in Prophetstown, Whiteside county, Illinois, where he owns a comfortable residence besides a country home on forty-four acres of land in Portland and Prophetstown townships. His wife, who was born in Essex county, New York, in 1838, died on the home farm in 1892. Her parents were natives of Canada and of English descent.

Our subject is one of a family of twelve children, nine sons and three daughters, of whom one died in infancy. The others are as follows: Almira, wife of Fred Reynolds, a carpenter of Prophetstown, by whom she has two children, Catharine and Gordon; Celia, wife of Charles Turner, also a carpenter of Prophetstown, by whom she has two children, Richard and Mina; Douglas A., who is clerking in a store in Prophetstown; Downer, who married Eliza Turner and is working at the carpenter's trade in the same place; De Witt C., our subject; Fred, a resident of Prophetstown; Almon, bookkeeper for a baggage and express com-

pany in Chicago; Harry, an attorney of Prophetstown; Dolly, wife of Clate Seeley, a farmer near Prophetstown; and William and Luther, both at home.

During his boyhood and youth De Witt C. Waite attended the country schools and worked on the home farm. Later he was a student at the Northern Illinois Normal School at Fulton, from which institution he was graduated, and also graduated from the law department with the degree of Ph. D. Subsequently he taught school for ten years, and after his admission to the bar engaged in practice for two or three years, and then turned his attention to farming and stock raising, making a specialty of cattle and hogs. He still has a law office in Fulton, and enjoys quite an extensive practice in that place, Thompson and Ustick.

On the 20th of June, 1888, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Waite and Miss Cora Barrett, who was born in Carroll county, Illinois, May 31, 1868, and was educated in the district schools and Fulton College, where she pursued a scientific course and was graduated. Her parents, Henry S. and Abigail E. (Safford) Barrett, were both natives of New York, the former born in 1831, the latter in 1841, and from Essex county, that state, they came to Whiteside county, Illinois, in 1849. Here the father engaged in farming for a time, but is now living retired in Fulton, though he still owns a farm in this county and another in Carroll county. In his family are two daughters, Cora, wife of our subject; and Mabel R., at home. Mr. and Mrs. Waite have two children, namely: Pearl, born in 1890; and Cyrus H., born in 1892.

At the age of ten years, Mr. Waite was taken by his father to Iowa, where he spent five years in true pioneer style. He has

been chased by wolves, and has broken prairie with three yoke of oxen. He also herded cattle for a time in Clay county, that state. Politically he is an ardent Republican, has been a delegate to the county conventions of his party, and was elected supervisor, which office he resigned as he had not the time he believed necessary to devote to its duties. While a member of the county board he was on several important committees—the judiciary, county house and claims. As a business man he has met with most excellent success, and besides his valuable farm of two hundred and forty acres, he owns three houses and twelve lots in Fulton. Both he and his wife are charter members of Ustick lodge, No. 9, Mystic Workers, and are also earnest members of the Presbyterian church, taking an active interest in its work, while Mr. Waite has filled the office of elder.

**H**ORACE B. COLE. For almost sixty years our subject has been a resident of Whiteside county, and has witnessed almost its entire development. On leaving here in June, 1840, wolves, deer and other wild game were plentiful. He has seen the wild lands transformed into beautiful homes and farms, hamlets grow into villages and thriving towns, the railroads, telegraphs and telephones introduced, and all of the interests and evidences of an advanced civilization adopted. He made his home in Portland township, where for many years he was actively engaged in agricultural pursuits, but has now laid aside all business cares and is living retired in Prophetstown.

Mr. Cole was born in Erie county, New York, June 10, 1819, a son of Daniel F. and Mary (Fones) Cole, who were born,

reared and married in Rhode Island. His paternal grandparents were Daniel and Margaret (Sherman) Fones. The former was also born in Rhode Island, of English ancestry, and was a soldier of the Revolutionary war. The father of our subject was a soldier of the war of 1812. On leaving his native state he removed to Erie county, New York, where he improved and cultivated a farm, making it his home until called from this life at the age of eighty-four years. His wife survived him for some time and was nearly ninety years of age at the time of her death.

In the county of his nativity, our subject passed his boyhood and youth in much the usual manner of farmer boys of his day, his early education being somewhat limited, but later he attended the Aurora Academy for two or three terms. He then engaged in teaching in Erie county, New York, and also after coming to this county, following the profession for about ten years. In 1840, in company with an older brother, Daniel F. Cole, Jr., who first came to this county in 1837, our subject started westward, traveling by team from Buffalo. They were twenty-two days upon the road, and arrived here in June, 1840. Mr. Cole took up a claim of one hundred and sixty acres in Portland township, erected thereon a cabin, and immediately began to transform the wild prairie land to highly cultivated fields. The following year he entered the land from the government, and fenced a portion of it, and as time advanced he made many valuable improvements thereon, including the erection of a pleasant residence, good barn and other outbuildings. In those early days he hauled his grain and farm produce to the Chicago markets, the trip occupying from eight to twelve days. Later he purchased

two hundred and forty-five acres of land near Geneseo, Henry county, and improved that place, and also bought three hundred and twenty acres of raw land in Willow county, Nebraska. Throughout his active business life he engaged in general farming and stock raising with marked success, and as he prospered in his undertakings he is now able to lay aside all the cares and responsibilities of business life and live retired at his pleasant home in Prophetstown. In 1896 he rented his farm to his son, but has since given him the place.

Mr. Cole was married in this county, in 1858, to Miss Belinda H. Brewer, a native of Massachusetts, who came here when a child with her father, Nathan Brewer, one of the early settlers of Portland township. Mrs. Cole died June 11, 1896, and was laid to rest in Sharon cemetery, Portland township. By this union three children were born, namely: Hugh W., a lawyer and farmer of McCook, Nebraska; Tibbie, wife of Emmett Brooks, a farmer of Atkinson township, Henry county, Illinois; and Fred H., a resident of Prophetstown.

In early life Mr. Cole was a supporter of the old-line Whig party, casting his first vote for "Tippecanoe and Tyler, too," in 1840, but, in 1856, he voted for John C. Fremont, and has since been a staunch Republican. He has been a delegate to numerous conventions of his party and has been honored with official positions of trust and responsibility, serving as supervisor for about twelve years, during which time he was a member of several important committees, and as assessor and trustee of his township. He has also been actively identified with the educational interests of his community, laid out the school lands for Portland township, was a member of the

school board for a number of years, and school commissioner for about fifteen years. He is a prominent member of Prophetstown lodge, F. & A. M., of which he is past master and which he has represented in the grand lodge; and he is also past grand of I. O. O. F. lodge. He is honored and respected wherever known, and on the rolls of Whiteside county's prominent pioneers and representative citizens his name should be among the foremost.

CHARLES A. HAMILTON, a representative farmer of Whiteside county, whose home is on section 20, Lyndon township, was born on the farm where he still resides, September 13, 1858, and is the son of John M. and Anna B. Hamilton, his father being one of the honored pioneers and highly respected citizens of the county.

John M. Hamilton was born in Northampton, Hampshire county, Massachusetts, May 11, 1814, and is the son of Adam R. and Nancy (Miller) Hamilton, also natives of Massachusetts, from which state they removed with their family to New York, when John M. was about eight years old. They located in Clarendon, Orleans county, where they were pioneers. While yet residing in that county, John M. experienced the religion of Jesus Christ and united with the Congregational church. He also about that time signed the temperance pledge, which he has faithfully kept to the present time. In 1835 he accompanied his father and the family to Whiteside county. Chauncy G. Woodruff and William D. Dudley were in the party, and they came through with horse teams and covered wagons. They left their homes in New York May 11, 1835,

and in their journeying passed through the states of Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan and Indiana to Chicago, thence to Plainfield, Illinois, where the women and children were left, the men proceeding on their way in search of a location. In speaking of this event, John M. Hamilton thus writes:

“After leaving the families at Plainfield, my father, William D. Dudley and C. G. Woodruff and myself came to Rock river at Dixon, at which time there was but one log house there. We wished to go down Rock river to Prophetstown, and were told to go two miles south on the Peoria road, then turn to the right and follow an Indian trail which would lead us directly to Prophetstown. We started out looking for the trail, and when we had gone two miles or more, we failed to see any old trail, but came to a new trail which we followed into the Winnebago swamps and got lost. On Saturday morning we thought we would go straight north till we struck Rock river. Having a pocket compass to guide us, we struck out, expecting to strike the river every minute. At night when we camped out the mosquitoes were so thick that the air was full of them. We built a fire which we covered with prairie sod, which made a big smoke. This kept the pests away. We remained in camp all day Sunday, but started out bright and early Monday morning, and struck Rock river about night at Prophetstown, where we found one old settler, Asa Crook, who had settled there the previous year. We remained with him a day or two, and then crossed Rock river in Mr. Crook's ferry boat, poling across. We came up through the Ox Bow, through the tall prairie grass, striking the bluff ten or twelve rods west of the Prophetstown road, and went west until we came to where is now

Mr. Dudley's door yard. We camped there until the next day, when we went north in the Rock creek timber, which we claimed, together with the prairie between it and camp. The next day we went southwest down into what we call the “big woods,” and claimed it, and the prairie between it and the camp, holding it for our friends. We then went to work to build a shanty twelve feet square of poles, and when it was high enough to put on the roof, father and Mr. Dudley went to Plainfield for the families.

In May, 1848, John M. Hamilton married Miss Prudence Wright, in Northampton, Hampshire county, Massachusetts, by which union there were three children born. (1) John L. is married and has two children, Prudence E. and Ray M. The first named is married and makes her home in Chicago. (2) Caroline married J. H. Smith and died in Kansas, after which the family moved to Morrison, Illinois. She had six children: Anna, Bessie, Kate, Amelia, Brent and Helen. (3) Elvira married Philip Stone, of Lyndon, and died during a surgical operation in Chicago, leaving two sons, Evans and Karl. Mrs. Prudence Hamilton died August 27, 1855, and for his second wife, Mr. Hamilton married Mrs. Anna B. Woodard, whose maiden name was Thompson, in Adrian, Michigan. She died November 17, 1890. By this second union there were three children. George died in infancy. Frederick E. married Carolina Perry, by whom he had one son, Charles L., a resident of Chicago. Frederick died in 1898. Charles A. is the subject of this sketch. Since the death of his wife, John M. Hamilton has made his home with our subject upon the farm where he located on first coming to the county al-

most sixty-five years ago. At that time there were no improvements upon the place and what is now highly cultivated fields was then wild prairie. Mr. Hamilton successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising until about ten years ago, when he laid aside business cares and has since lived retired. Since the formation of the Republican party he has been one of its staunch supporters.

Charles A. Hamilton, of this review, was reared on the old homestead where he now resides, and was educated in the district schools of the neighborhood. He now operates the farm, comprising two hundred and fifty-nine acres, and is also engaged in buying hay and straw and baling it for shipment. On the 23d of June, 1881, he was united in marriage with Miss Theora Emily Helms, a daughter of Henry E. and Lucy (Gould) Helms, whose sketch appears on another page of this volume. By this union seven children were born, two dying in infancy, and one, Herbert E., died at the age of three years. Those living are, namely: Grace E., Arthur E., Lucy A. and John H.

In his political affiliations Mr. Hamilton is a Republican, and is one of the leading politicians of Lyndon township, as well as one of its representative men. He is a member of the town committee, has been appointed judge of election for a number of years, has filled the office of town clerk for five years, and for four consecutive years has most acceptably served as assessor. He is a member of Lyndon lodge, No. 750, F. & A. M., of which he is now master. Also a charter member of the Modern Woodmen of America of Lyndon, and a charter member of the Knights of Pythias lodge at Prophetstown, and of Mystic Workers of the World, No. 41, at Lyndon.

JOSHUA HOLLINSHEAD, who owns and successfully operates an excellent farm of two hundred and twenty-five acres of land on sections 7 and 8, Ustick township, and also another of one hundred and twelve acres on section 12, Fulton township, was born near Toronto, in upper Canada, September 7, 1827, and is a son of John and Elizabeth (Rush) Hollinshead, the former of Welsh and the latter of English descent. Both families were founded in America during colonial days. The mother was born December 12, 1806, and was a descendant of Dr. Rush, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. Her mother, Mrs. Julia A. Rush, did garrison duty in the Revolutionary war. The father of our subject was born near Trenton, New Jersey, January 6, 1798, and brought his family to Whiteside county, Illinois, when Joshua was only thirteen years of age. He located in what is now Clyde township, which at that time had not been surveyed, and took up a half section of land, which he commenced to improve, but died in 1842, about a year after his arrival. His wife survived him a number of years, dying in 1864. In their family were seven children, namely: Joshua, our subject; Julia Ann, who married C. C. Knight, and died in 1883; Jacob, who died in Fulton, Illinois, in 1895; Daniel, who also resides on section 8, Ustick township; Lydia, deceased wife of D. Farwell, a retired farmer; Mary, wife of H. Worthington, of Fulton, and Emily, also a native of Fulton.

The early life of our subject was passed upon the frontier in true pioneer style, and he was educated in the primitive log school-house with its slab benches for seats. Being the oldest of the family, he took charge of the home farm after his father's death, and

successfully carried on the same until the children were grown. In 1848 he was united in marriage with Miss Nancy Ingham, a native of New York state, who died in 1858, leaving two sons. John David, the elder, died in Idaho at the age of twenty-eight years. Reuben P. was a soldier in the Seventh Corps in the Civil war, and since his discharge has engaged in the bakery business. He married Mary S. Brumagine and they have three children, two sons and one daughter.

After the death of his wife Mr. Hollinshead disposed of his business interests here and went west for his health, but returned to this county at the time of his mother's death. Later he married Mrs. Mehitable (Applebee) Lawrence, widow of Albert Lawrence. By her first marriage she had one son, Professor Wallace G. Lawrence, who was reared by our subject from the age of six years. By the second union five children were born, but two died in infancy. Those living are George, a resident of Fulton, who married Addie Fisk and has four daughters; Mattie, wife of Waite Lewis, who lives east of Morrison, and by whom she has one son; and Emma, wife of Edward Blodgett, who is a graduate of a law college and a resident of Fulton. The mother of these children died July 9, 1882, and Mr. Hollinshead was again married August 21, 1883, his third union being with Miss Emma Wilson, who was born in St. Louis, Missouri, November 6, 1859, and is daughter of John and Ann (Wilson) Wilson, the former a native of Toronto, Canada, the latter of England. At the opening of the Civil war Mr. Wilson was a railroad engineer in the south, but, being a Union sympathizer, had to come north. He was captured and wounded, still carrying a rebel

bullet in his body. He now makes his home in Clinton, Iowa. His wife died in 1881, leaving five children, namely: Emma, wife of our subject; Laura; Walter; Cora T.; and Phernia, who married a nephew of our subject.

Mr. Hollinshead is engaged in general farming and makes a specialty of baling hay, a part of which he ships and the remainder he sells to the home market. He has met with well deserved success in life and is now quite well-to-do. Between the ages of twenty and thirty years he devoted considerable time to hunting and trapping, not only because he enjoyed the sport, but also because it proved quite profitable financially. Four times he has crossed the plains and has kept a full account of each day during his travels. He is a staunch Democrat, and has taken quite an active and prominent part in local politics. His fellow citizens, recognizing his worth and ability, have elected him to several official positions of honor and trust, having served as supervisor two terms, assessor three terms, school trustee two terms, and road commissioner and director. He was also a member of the committee appointed to select a name for his township, and in many ways has been prominently identified with public affairs.

---

**F**REDERICK WOOD, a highly esteemed citizen of Morrison, who is now living retired from active labor, was born near the town of Oldham, in Yorkshire, England, April 8, 1832, a son of Joseph and Mary (Broadbent) Wood, also natives of that shire, where the father worked as a spinner in a woolen mill. When our subject was seven years of age the family came to Amer-



ica on a sailing vessel and were twenty-eight days in crossing the Atlantic. They landed in New York and from there went to Massachusetts, where they remained about a year, the father being employed in a woolen mill. Subsequently he worked for five or six years in Glenham, New York, and was similarly employed by a Mr. Higgins at Haverstraw, New York, for about three years. In October, 1849, he came to Illinois in company with our subject, and purchased a claim in Clyde township, Whiteside county, which he immediately entered and to the cultivation and improvement of which he and his son at once turned their attention. The following spring he was joined by his wife and the remainder of the family. Only thirty-five acres had previously been broken and a log house erected thereon. These constituted the only improvements. So sparsely was the county settled at that time that not a house was in sight from their home and there were only two dwellings between it and Fulton and two between it and Sterling. They did most of their trading at Fulton, which was then a little hamlet containing between twenty-five and fifty inhabitants, and was twelve miles across the open prairie from their home. The father continued the operation of this farm until he retired from active labor. He died in May, 1884, and his wife, who had preceded him to the world beyond, died April 9, 1873. They had four children: Joseph and Mary were twins. The former died at the age of twenty-three years, but the latter is still living and is the wife of Simon Stapleton, a retired citizen of Morrison. James married Elizabeth Demmon and is engaged in farming near Edwardsburg, Michigan. Frederrick completes the family.

Coming to the United States at the age

of seven years, our subject was reared in this country, but his school privileges were limited and the greater part of his education has been acquired by reading and observation. At the age of eight he commenced working as a feeder in a mill at Glenham, New York, for one dollar and a quarter per week, and when twelve began working as a stripper in a tobacco shop, where he was employed until coming to Illinois, with the exception of one winter spent with his parents at Haverstraw, New York.

Mr. Wood remained on the home farm until his marriage, which was celebrated December 30, 1852, Miss Sarah Milnes becoming his wife. She was born in Lowell, Massachusetts, July 6, 1833, a daughter of Thomas and Sarah (Exley) Milnes, both natives of Yorkshire, England, the former born February 20, 1802, the latter January 27, 1800. Her father was the oldest in a family of three children whose parents were Joseph and Ann Milnes, of Yorkshire. Joseph Milnes was a mechanic and a very clever man. Mrs. Wood's maternal grandparents were John and Mary Exley, of Yorkshire, who came to America at an early day and located in Bloomfield, New Jersey; the grandfather established a woolen mill and engaged in the manufacture of blankets and cloth for men's underwear, having previously been engaged in that business in the old country. He made his home in Bloomfield until his death. In his family were six children. In 1829 Thomas Milnes came to the new world and was seven weeks in crossing the ocean. He brought with him his wife and six children, of whom the eldest was but eight years of age. Arriving in New York, Mr. Milnes went at once to Bloomfield, New Jersey, where he worked as a blanket maker for a few months, and then

went to Lowell, Massachusetts, where he found employment at his trade of carpet weaving. On the 1st of June, 1842, he and his family arrived in Whiteside county, Illinois, and he purchased a claim of a Mr. Hollinshead, and entered the same that fall. Mr. Milnes in company with his eldest daughter returned east and the following spring was joined by his wife and four younger children, leaving two sons to operate the farm while the younger members of the family were being educated. He died in the east June 12, 1847. Of his fourteen children, nine reached years of maturity, namely: Susanna first married William H. Ainley, by whom she had two children, Mary M. and Sarah L., who both died young. For her second husband she married Andrew Murray, but is now a widow. She has spent most of her life in the east but is now living with our subject. Rachel died at the age of seventeen years. John married Eliza Townsend, and died leaving four children. Ann married Chester Millard and died leaving one child. Thomas married Sarah Aldrell and died leaving five children. Mary died young. Joseph married Jame Masa and died leaving four children. Sarah is the wife of our subject. George was a soldier of Company C, Seventy-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was killed at the battle of Perryville during the Civil war.

To Mr. and Mrs. Wood were born nine children, namely: (1) Mary is the wife of William Beswick, whose sketch appears on another page of this volume. (2) Joseph, who operates the old home farm in Clyde township, married Rebecca Jane King and had two children, Frank Mason and Eva M., the latter now deceased. (3) Thomas died in infancy. (4) Thomas M., a farmer of Clyde township, married Margaret Mason

and has two children, Nettie M. and Andrew F. (5) Sarah is the wife of Charles Kennedy, of Clyde township, and they have one child, Mary L. (6) George is engaged in the lumber business in Montana. (7) William H., a farmer of Montana, married Clara Sheridan and has one child, George W. (8) Susan is the wife of Robert E. Cochran, of Morrison. (9) Edith is the wife of Pierre Jackson, of the same place.

After his marriage Mr. Wood entered eighty acres of land in Clyde township, upon which he lived for two years and then sold and bought eighty acres of the farm which he still owns, but has since extended its boundaries until it contains two hundred acres. Under his able management the well tilled fields yielded bountiful crops and he gave considerable attention to the raising of hogs for market. In March, 1882, he removed to Morrison in order to give his younger children better educational advantages, and there he has since made his home. He casts his ballot in support of the Republican party and has always taken a deep and commendable interest in educational affairs, having for thirteen years efficiently served as school director. His wife is a member of the Episcopal church and both are held in high regard by all who know them.

**T**HOMAS HUGGINS, one of the most prosperous and successful agriculturists of Garden Plains township, Whiteside county, Illinois, comes from across the sea, his birth having occurred in Kent county, England, August 8, 1831. His parents, Thomas and Eliza Huggins, were farming people of Kent, where they spent their entire lives. Our subject was reared and educated in his

native land, and was married on Christmas day, 1849, in Kent, to Miss Susan Randolph, a daughter of William Randolph.

After his marriage Mr. Huggins remained in England for four years, being engaged in agricultural pursuits, but in 1853, with his wife and two children, he sailed for the new world. He first settled in New York state, where he followed farming until 1856, and then came to Illinois, locating in Garden Plains township, Whiteside county. Here he purchased and improved a farm of one hundred acres, and meeting with success in his farming operations, he has been able to add to his landed possessions until he now has a valuable land of four hundred acres, which is under excellent cultivation and improved with good buildings. He is a systematic and skillful farmer and a good business man of sound judgment and industrious habits. He carries on general farming and stock raising, but has never made a specialty of any one branch of agriculture. The success that he has achieved in life is due entirely to his own well-directed efforts, and for the same he deserves great credit. Politically he is identified with the Republican party, and gives his support to all measures which he believes will be of public good.

To Mr. and Mrs. Huggins were born twelve children, namely: Thomas, born in England, May 12, 1850, wedded Mary Drury and is now engaged in farming in Newton township, this county; Edward, born in England, January 8, 1852, married Mary Hudson, by whom he had six children, and also followed farming in Newton township; Eliza, born in New York state, January 22, 1854, is the wife of John Jordan, a farmer of Garden Plains township, and they have one child; George, born in

New York, April 11, 1856, married Henrietta Bolds, by whom he has four children, and is engaged in farming in Garden Plains township; Henry, born in this county, November 23, 1857, resides on the home farm; Oliver O., born December 2, 1859, married Minnie Randolph, by whom he has one child, and they live in Albany, Illinois; Frank, born October 5, 1861, married Luella Shears, by whom he has three children, and he followed farming in Newton township; Rosa Emma, born August 10, 1863, is the wife of George Heffelfinger, a farmer of Garden Plains township; Fanny M., born July 29, 1865, is the wife of Harvey Byers, a United Brethren minister of Kent, Illinois, and they have three children: Freddy, born September 27, 1867, died when about three years old; Amelia A., born March 29, 1871, is the wife of Albert Curry, a farmer of Newton township, and they have two children; Albert J., born September 8, 1872, wedded Mary Udy, by whom he has two children, and he is engaged in farming in Garden Plains township.

**S**AMUEL BLAGG, who is practically living a retired life in Erie, Illinois, was born in Gallia county, Ohio, July 14, 1827, and is a son of Isaac and Polly (Steele) Blagg. The father was a native of Virginia and a shoemaker by trade, but followed the occupation of farming during the greater part of his life. He was killed by a horse when our subject was quite young, but the mother is still living at the advanced age of ninety-four years, and makes her home in Ohio. In their family were six children, as follows: William, who died in infancy; Allen, who died when young; Samuel, our subject; Betsy Ann, wife of

William C. Glenn, and Sarah and Sutherland, who both died young.

Samuel Blagg remained under the parental roof until he was married, January 12, 1846, to Miss Nancy Stickleman, who was born in Gallia county, Ohio, September 8, 1822, a daughter of George and Nancy Stickleman. They began their domestic life upon a farm in Ohio, where they remained until 1856, and then came to Whiteside county, Illinois, locating in Erie. Here Mr. Blagg has been principally engaged in general farming and stock raising, and still owns a valuable and well improved farm of one hundred and ninety acres on section 18, Erie township, besides fifteen lots in the village of Erie.

To Mr. and Mrs. Blagg were born eight children, namely: Filisteen, who died when quite young; Sarah V., who also died when quite young; Lucetta Jane, wife of William Stone, residing in Erie; Polly E., at home; Alice M., who died young; Hiram, a resident of Erie; Grace D., wife of Charlie Adams, of Erie; and Elias Grant, also a resident of Erie.

In his political views, Mr. Blagg is a Republican, but has never cared for the honors or emoluments of public office. He is widely and favorably known and justly merits the high regard in which he is held, for his life has been an honorable and upright one.

**R**ALPH Y. BREED, a well-known grain dealer of Erie, is an important factor in business circles and his popularity is well deserved, as in him are embraced the characteristics of an unbending integrity, unabated energy and industry that never flags. He is a leading business man of the village,

and as a public-spirited citizen is thoroughly interested in whatever tends to promote the moral, intellectual and material welfare of the community.

A native of Illinois, Mr. Breed was born in Schuyler county, November 5, 1861, and is a son of Dr. S. P. and Alzina (Powers) Breed. In their family were seven children, but three are now deceased, those living being Lena May; Lizzie R., wife of Edward Sisler, of Lincoln, Nebraska, Luella and Ralph Y. The parents are still living and now make their home in Princeton, Illinois.

During his boyhood and youth our subject remained at home with his parents, and on the 25th of November, 1885, he was united in marriage with Miss Nellie M. Sapp, by whom he has three children, namely: Clifford, De Ette and Carrie Belle. Mr. Breed lived in Princeton until after his marriage and then located on a farm in Bureau county, near that city, where he engaged in farming and stock raising with marked success until the spring of 1896, when he removed to Erie. Here he purchased the grain business of Arthur McLean, and has since successfully carried on the same. He is an enterprising, wide-awake business man of known reliability, and is a progressive citizen. In politics he is a staunch Republican, and before coming to this county held several township offices, while during his residence in Erie he has acceptably served as village trustee. Fraternally, he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias.

**A**NDREW RAPP. This gentleman worthily illustrates the commonly accepted view of the character of the enterprising German citizen, who has come to

the United States empty handed, and through his own efforts has worked his way upward to a position of affluence, and has also gained the confidence and respect of all with whom he has been brought in contact.

Mr. Rapp was born in Germany, October 11, 1846, and was reared and educated in his native land. When about twenty-one years of age he crossed the broad Atlantic, and on landing in New York came immediately to Illinois and located in Washington, Tazewell county, where he was engaged in the butcher business for some time. On Christmas day, 1873, Mr. Rapp was united in marriage with Miss Theresa Hoffmeyer, a daughter of Joseph and Barbara Hoffmeyer. She was born in Switzerland, February 26, 1849, and came to America when twenty-four years of age. Two children have been born to our subject and his wife, namely: Charles, born October 26, 1874; and Mamie, born October 28, 1877.

After his marriage, Mr. Rapp continued to engage in the butcher business in Washington for a year and a half, and then removed to Roanoke, Illinois, where he was interested in the same line of trade for several years. It was in 1895 that he came to Whiteside county and purchased a valuable farm of three hundred and sixty acres in Portland township, which he has placed under a high state of cultivation and made many improvements thereon. In the fall of 1899, he removed to Erie but still devotes his time and attention to the operation of his farm. He has met with well deserved success in his labors, and is now one of the substantial and prosperous citizens of his adopted village. Although he is comparatively a recent arrival in Whiteside county,

he takes a great interest in its welfare, and is already recognized as a valued and useful citizen of the community in which he lives. His son Charles expects soon to embark in the meat business in Erie.

**J**OHAN H. MENSCH, a prominent farmer residing on section 10, Newton township, Whiteside county, Illinois, was born in Columbia county, Pennsylvania, July 3, 1858, and is a son of William and Anna C. Mensch. The father is still living and makes his home in Sterling, but the mother died May 9, 1893. They were the parents of sixteen children, of whom ten are still living, namely: Martin L., a farmer of Oklahoma; William A., a farmer of this county; Eva, wife of Higgin Yates, of Omaha, Nebraska; John H., our subject; Allie A., wife of Milton Miller, a harness maker of Milledgeville, Illinois; Hattie, wife of R. Pittman, of Sterling; Jacob, a farmer of Kansas; Clarence, a farmer of Emerson, Whiteside county; Lora, wife of John Chalmers, a mechanic of Sterling; and Ida, wife of Caleb Shultz, in the produce business at Milledgeville.

John H. Mensch remained under the parental roof until he attained his majority, and then started out in life for himself as a farmer in Hopkins township. On the 21st of February, 1882, he was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Howell, by whom he had two children, Ada, born July 1, 1884; and Lloyd, born September 11, 1888. The wife and mother died in October, 1894, and on the 4th of November, 1896, Mr. Mensch was again married, his second union being with Mrs. May Sliminger, who was born February 29, 1868, a daughter of Elwood and Rhoda Elliott. By the second mar-

riage there is one child, Lora, born February 28, 1897. Mrs. Mensch had two children by her former marriage, but only the younger is now living, Julia, who was born December 21, 1891.

In 1893, Mr. Mensch purchased his present fine farm in Newton township, which comprises one hundred and sixty acres of rich and arable land, which he has placed under a high state of cultivation, and upon which he has made many improvements. He is successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising, keeping on hand enough stock to consume all of the grain which he raises. He is an energetic and progressive farmer, and as a business man he generally carries forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes. He casts his ballot in support of the men and measures of the Republican party, and socially is a member of the Home Forum and is also a member of the Philadelphia Mutual Life.

**I**SAAC GIBLER, a well-known citizen of Newton township, owns and operates a good farm of eighty-two acres on section 10. As a judicious tiller of the soil he has met with success, and as a man and citizen holds a high position among his neighbors. He was born in Ohio, March 20, 1845, and is a son of Jeremiah and Mary (Nevitt) Gibler. The father was a native of Pennsylvania, but when young went to Ohio, where he spent the greater part of his life engaged in farming. He died November 26, 1871. In his family were eleven children, namely: Amanda, deceased; Isaac, our subject; Christian A., a resident of Oregon; Amos and John, both deceased; James, a farmer of Newton township, this county;

Disberry, deceased; Rhoda S. married L. E. Booth, a resident of Albany, Illinois; Elizabeth, wife of John Ray, of Albany; Joseph, a resident of Iowa; and Carrie, wife of Charles Natt, of Clinton, Iowa.

The boyhood and youth of our subject were passed under the parental roof, and there he remained until he was married, May 21, 1874, to Miss Mary E. Switzer, who was born July 26, 1853, a daughter of Anthony I. and Martha Switzer. Her mother died December 25, 1898. Mr. and Mrs. Gibler have a family of eight children, whose names and dates of birth are as follows: Leslie, March 8, 1875; Martha E., January 4, 1877; Arthur, May 7, 1880; Carrie Ann, February 10, 1883; Ralph, October 1, 1885; Edith, May 11, 1888; Rowland, February 28, 1892; and Clide, February 21, 1895. With the exception of Ralph, who died February 22, 1887, all are still living and reside at home.

After his marriage, Mr. Gibler commenced farming on his own account, and lived on several different farms until, in 1880, he purchased his present farm. He has always given more or less attention to stock raising, and for several years operated a threshing machine in connection with his regular farm work. In politics he is a pronounced Democrat and his support is given every measure which he believes will prove of public benefit.

**J**OHAN A. PACE, one of the active, prominent and enterprising citizens of Newton township, is engaged in agricultural pursuits on section 24, and in his farming operations is meeting with well-merited success. He is a native of Indiana, born November 25, 1855, and is a son of Michael

and Penelope Pace. The father, who was also a farmer by occupation, died in Indiana in 1855. He was twice married, and by the first marriage had two children, Nathan and Lucinda, and by the second four, namely: Jacob, now a farmer of Iowa; Lafayette, a farmer of Washington; Melinda, wife of Arthur Wood, a resident of Erie, Illinois; and John A., our subject. After the death of the father, the mother married S. N. Jones, and now lives in Iowa.

The subject of this sketch remained with his mother until his marriage, which was celebrated November 30, 1880, Miss Lucy J. Lumbart, a daughter of Abraham and Charlotte Lumbart, becoming his wife. They began their domestic life on the farm of eighty acres on section 24, Newton township, where they still continue to reside. Besides this property, Mr. Pace also owns one hundred and ninety-five acres on sections 13 and 24, the same township, and in the cultivation and improvement of his land has met with marked success. He devotes considerable attention to stock raising, and in this branch of his business has also been successful. The Republican party has always found in him a staunch supporter of its principles, and he has now capably filled the office of school director for six years. Fraternally he is a member of the Modern Woodmen camp, No. 14, of Erie. He is well known and highly respected, and has a host of warm friends in his adopted county.

**R**A. THOMPSON. Among the young men of Whiteside county who have selected agriculture as their vocation in life, and who, judging from present indications, are bound to realize their most sanguine

anticipations, is the subject of this biographical notice, who resides on section 34, Fenton township, where he owns and successfully operates a valuable farm of four hundred and three acres.

Mr. Thompson was born in that township, February 25, 1860, and is a son of S. A. Thompson, a sketch of whom is given elsewhere in this volume. He received good school privileges, attending first the common schools of Fenton and College Sterling, and later a college at Omaha, Nebraska. On completing his education he was first engaged in mercantile business in Omaha, for one year, and then entered the fire department of that city, with which he was connected about two years. On leaving Omaha, he returned to Whiteside county, and located on the farm where he now resides. In connection with general farming he is engaged in stock raising, making a specialty of full-blooded Clyde horses and trotting stock, Durham cattle and Poland China hogs. His wife is interested in the fancy poultry business, raising buff cochins.

In 1892, Mr. Thompson married Miss Anna Carrtenson, a daughter of Henry Carrtenson, of Erie, but she died about three months after their marriage, and he was again married, January 1, 1895, his second union being with Miss Lenora McMurphy, a daughter of George McMurphy. Fraternally Mr. Thompson is a member of the Masonic order, the Knights of Pythias, and the Modern Woodmen of America. In politics he is independent, voting for whom he considers the best man for the office, but he has never taken any interest in local politics. He is held in high esteem by his neighbors and friends, and ranks among the leading agriculturists and most popular citizens of Fenton township.

**JOHN J. BESSE.** In the busy community located in the thriving little village of Erie we find several energetic and thorough-going business men who have attained success through their own tact, good judgment and perseverance. Among this number is the gentleman whose name heads this biographical notice, and who, at present, is successfully engaged in business as a stock dealer.

Mr. Besse was born in Portland township, this county, October 25, 1850, a son of Randolph and Sarah Besse, of Portland township, this county. The father was born in New York state and throughout life has followed the occupation of farming. In the family were four children, of whom our subject is the oldest; Louisa is the wife of Frank Schmied, of Prophetstown; George W. is a farmer of Erie; and Anna Eliza is the wife of W. E. Baxter, of Erie.

Our subject spent his boyhood and youth on the home farm. On the 15th of April, 1874, he was united in marriage with Miss Ida E. Crandall, a daughter of Lafayette Crandall, and they had two children: Maud, who was born July 29, 1876, and died August 29, 1878; and Mabel, who was born September 20, 1883, and died the same year. The mother of these children died November 29, 1884, and for his second wife Mr. Besse married Miss Emma R. Schmied, who was born February 26, 1853, a daughter of Jacob and Rachel Schmied. By this union three children have been born, namely: Goldie D., born June 12, 1887; Randolph S., November 19, 1889; and John H., March 1, 1893.

Mr. Besse began his married life upon the old Arnet farm in Portland township, where he lived for four years, and then removed to the village of Erie, where he was

engaged in the livery and furniture business for one year. The following year he engaged in farming, but at the end of that time he returned to Erie. He purchased two hundred acres of land in Erie township, upon which he lived for nine years while successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits. At the end of that period he moved to Prophetstown, where he carried on the butcher business for one year, and then returned to Erie, where he erected the pleasant residence which has since been his home. Besides his village property he also owns three hundred and fifty acres of land, which is under a high state of cultivation and well improved. Since 1891 he has successfully engaged in stock dealing. He is a business man of more than ordinary ability, and has won success by his well-directed, energetic efforts, and the prosperity that has come to him is certainly well deserved.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Besse is a Republican, and he has most creditably served his fellow citizens as road commissioner, a member of the village board for about six years, and school director for the same length of time. Socially he is quite popular and is an active and prominent member of the Knights of Pythias, the Master Masons, the Eastern Star, the Modern Woodmen of America, the Home Forum, Fraternity League and Mystic Workers of the World.

**WILLIAM H. ALLEN**, a prominent and influential citizen of Erie, Illinois, was born in Dublin, New Hampshire, in 1839, and belongs to a most distinguished and honored family. His ancestors were among the followers of William the Conqueror, and settled in Lancaster and York-



shire, England. From this branch of the family the Stewarts of Scotland were descended. The Allens, being Republicans, came to this country on the restoration of King Charles II to the throne of England, and settled in Massachusetts. Our subject's paternal grandfather, Ebenezer Allen, was a native of Lancaster, Worcester county, Massachusetts, and a son of Ebenezer Allen, Sr., who was also born in that place and served with distinction as a lieutenant in the Revolutionary war. The father of the latter was for twenty years a member of the Massachusetts governing council, and during the Revolution he equipped a regiment with his own money, sending it out to fight for the liberty of the colonies. He did not command it himself, but all of his seven sons took an active part in the war, those being Ebenezer, Solomon, Elijah, Elisha, Amos, Peter and William. He was a cousin of Ethan Allen, of Revolutionary fame, who also had seven sons in the Continental army.

S. B. Allen, the father of our subject, was a native of New York, and a farmer by occupation. In early manhood he married Miss Sarah Richardson, who was born in Massachusetts, and was a daughter of Captain Ebenezer.

Our subject is the oldest in a family of three children. Samuel R. Allen, his brother, is now a prominent attorney of Little Rock, Arkansas. He was at one time adjutant-general of that state and served in that capacity for a number of years. Sarah A., the only sister, resides in Whiteside county, Illinois.

William H. Allen, of this review, was admitted to the bar in 1866, and has since been actively engaged in the practice of law, mostly in Rock Island and Whiteside coun-

ties. For the last few years he has been a resident of Erie, is the only lawyer in the village, and is now serving as city attorney. He also owns and operates a fine farm of three hundred and thirty acres located partly in Erie, Newton and Fenton townships.

In 1864, Mr. Allen was united in marriage with Miss Mary A. Orr, and by this union seven children have been born, namely: William C., a lawyer of Moline, Illinois; Samuel R., a lawyer of Spokane, Washington; Sarah R., at home; Van S., a farmer of Erie township; Henry B. and Katherine B., both at home; and John O., who is studying law in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Mr. Allen is not only a good lawyer, but is a man of excellent business and executive ability, whose sound judgment and unflinching enterprise and capable management have brought to him a well-merited success. He is a staunch supporter of the Democratic party and its principles as advocated by William J. Bryan, and served as supervisor of Erie from 1863 to 1878. In the latter year he was elected to the state Legislature, and re-elected in 1880, serving in all two terms. Fraternally he is a member of the blue lodge, No. 667, F. & A. M., of Erie.

**A**BEL BYAM is a valued and esteemed agriculturist residing on section 29, Fenton township, where he has a fine farm of two hundred acres, which is under excellent culture and well improved. The buildings upon the place are of a neat and substantial character, and a fine orchard and good fences all betoken thrift and prosperity. He has met with a merited success in his farming operations.

Mr. Byam was born in New Hampshire, March 7, 1822, and is a son of Benjamin and Lucy (Fasset) Byam, and grandson of Reuben Byam. The father was also a native of New Hampshire, where he continued to make his home throughout life, owning and operating a farm of seventy acres. In his family were seven children: Clarissa, widow of Otis Beamis and a resident of Massachusetts; Mary Ann, deceased wife of Aaron Jones, Abel, our subject; Benjamin, a retired farmer of New Hampshire; Nathan G., deceased; Leonard, a farmer of New Hampshire; and Charlie, a resident of Pittsfield, Massachusetts.

Abel Byam is indebted to the common schools of his native state for his educational advantages, and he remained at home until reaching manhood. In 1848 he married Miss Irena Brown, who was born September 6, 1825, a daughter of Samuel and Louisa Brown. To Mr. and Mrs. Byam were born nine children, namely: Charles Owen, deceased; George, a resident of Erie, Illinois; Emma, wife of A. E. Hamilton, a lawyer of Harper county, Kansas; Mary Ann, deceased; Clara, Stephen D. and Zedie, all at home; Caroline.

After his marriage, Mr. Byam came west and located first on a farm of eighty acres in Indiana, on which he lived for twenty years. In 1868 he came to Whiteside county, Illinois, and purchased a farm of sixty acres on sections 30 and 31, Fenton township. He has since added to his place until he now owns two hundred acres of rich and arable land. He has devoted his time and attention to its improvement and cultivation with most gratifying results, and has also successfully engaged in stock raising. He is a supporter of the Republican party, but has never taken much interest in public affairs,

and has never been an office seeker. His life has ever been such as to win for him the confidence and respect of those with whom he has been brought in contact, and he is numbered among the honored citizens of Fenton township.

GEORGE NEER, one of the successful and prosperous citizens of Erie, Illinois, who is now living a retired life, was born in Logan county, Ohio, May 8, 1841, a son of Adam and Sarah (Pollock) Neer, and a grandson of Adam Neer, Sr. Throughout life the father followed the occupation of farming and made his home in Logan county, Ohio, where he died September 23, 1867. He was three times married, his first wife being Rachel Blair, by whom he had one child, Samuel, now deceased. His second wife was the mother of our subject, and to them were born six children, but four died in infancy, the others being George, our subject, and Mrs. Rachel A. Brotherson, of Newton township, Whiteside county. For his third wife he married Jane Blair, and of the eight children born of this union, three died in infancy. Those living are Isaac, David, William and John, all residents of Ohio, and Addie, a resident of Indianapolis, Indiana. All three wives died in Ohio.

Our subject remained on the home farm until nearly twenty-one years of age, and received his education in the common schools of his native state. During the Civil war, he enlisted in March, 1862, in the First Ohio Infantry, under General McCook, and was discharged in the fall of the same year. He then came west and took up his residence in Portland township, Whiteside

county, Illinois, where he operated rented land for a time.

On the 10th of September, 1863, Mr. Neer was united in marriage with Miss Harriet Witt, who was born in McDonough county, Illinois, October 16, 1844, a daughter of Harvey and Hannah Witt. She was the youngest in a family of four children, the others being as follows: Georgiana, deceased, was the wife of John Ranson. George went to California in 1852, and ten years later sailed for Australia, since which time nothing has been heard of him. Horace died in infancy. To Mr. and Mrs. Neer have been born seven children: Sarah J., now the wife of Adam Young, Jr., of Erie township; Frank G., who married May Getty, and is engaged in farming in Vernon county, Missouri; Horace A., a resident of Bureau county, Illinois, who married Gertrude Pratt, but she died September 3, 1899; John D., who married Ada Imel and lives in Bureau county; Hannah L., wife of Ira Talcott, a farmer of Portland township, Whiteside county; and William and Hattie C., both at home with their parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Neer began their domestic life upon a farm in Portland township, where they remained five years, and then moved to Erie. A year later they located on a farm of three hundred acres, which is partly situated in four different townships, but their residence was on section 6, Erie township. This valuable farm Mr. Neer owned and successfully operated for twenty-eight years, being engaged in general farming and stock raising, but in February, 1897, he removed to the town of Erie, where he is now living retired from active labor, enjoying a well-earned rest. The success that he has achieved in life is due to

his own industry, enterprise and good management, for on coming to the county he was in rather limited circumstances, but being a skillful farmer and a man of more than ordinary business ability, he has prospered.

By his ballot Mr. Neer supports the men and measures of the Republican party, and he has been called upon to serve in a number of local offices of honor and trust, being assessor of his township eleven years, highway commissioner nine years, drainage commissioner two terms, and school director twenty-one years, during which time a fine school-house was erected in his district in 1896, at a cost of eight thousand dollars, it being heated with steam and supplied with all modern conveniences. Fraternally he is a member of Rock River camp, No. 14, M. W. A., and both he and his wife are members of the Christian church of Erie. They merit and receive the respect and esteem of all who know them and have a host of warm friends throughout the county.

**JAMES A. MEIGHAN**, a well-known and highly respected citizen of Fenton township, has had a somewhat varied and interesting career, but is now quietly and successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits on section 19. He was born in the town of Fulton, Schoharie county, New York, November 8, 1838, a son of John and Anna (Vrooman) Meighan. The father was a native of Ireland, but when young came to this country, and for a number of years was engaged in the practice of law in Albany, New York. The Vrooman family was of Holland descent and was founded in New York state about 1812.

Our subject was reared by his maternal

grandfather, Adam P. Vrooman, who lived in Fulton until Mr. Meighan was seven years old and then removed to Orleans county, New York, where he owned and operated a farm. Our subject remained with his grandparents until sixteen years of age, when he commenced life for himself by working at the blacksmith's trade. A year later he went to sea on a whaler and for a number of years was connected with different whaling expeditions in the South Pacific ocean near New Zealand, the Friendly and Society Islands. There he met with several thrilling experiences such as men engaged in that business are likely to meet.

On leaving the sea, Mr. Meighan went to Williamsport, Indiana, in September, 1859, and while there cast his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln. At the first call for troops at the opening of the Civil war, he entered the volunteer service, enlisting in the Tenth Indiana Infantry, and fought under Generals McClellan and Rosecrans in West Virginia. After being honorably discharged from the service, he followed railroading for one year, and then went to Chicago, where he joined the marine artillery service, with which he was connected for about a year. He served on several different boats and was in a number of hazardous expeditions. Later he was in the quartermaster's department for about six months, and was foreman on the docks at Beaufort, South Carolina. The war having ended he settled down to the more quiet pursuits of civil life and in the spring of 1866 took up his residence in Whiteside county, Illinois. After working on a farm for about three years, he purchased one hundred and six acres on section 19, Fenton township, in 1869, and has since devoted his energies to the cultivation and improvement

of his place. His specialty has been fruit raising, and he has upon his farm a fine, well-kept orchard of about ten acres.

On the 7th of April, 1868, Mr. Meighan was united in marriage with Miss Eliza O. Dudley, who was born September 16, 1846, a daughter of William O. and Louisa Dudley. To them have been born six children, namely: Anna Francis, born June 15, 1869, is at home; G. Emerson, born October 31, 1870, married Emma Snyder, by whom he has one child, Bernice, and they reside in Fenton; Charles Alfred, born June 6, 1873, is also a resident of Fenton; Jennie Ruth, born June 10, 1875, lives in Fenton township; Frederick D., born February 19, 1880, died May 27, 1881; and Nellie O., born August 20, 1881, is at home. The family hold membership in the Baptist church of Erie and stand high in the community where they reside. Socially Mr. Meighan affiliates with the Masonic order, and politically is identified with the Republican party, but takes no active part in political affairs aside from voting.

**HENRY HEIN** is one of the most esteemed citizens of Rock Falls and for many years he was prominently identified with the agricultural and business interests of the county. At present he is not actively engaged in business, but a good judge of human nature will observe in his manner the reserve force which indicates both ability and energy.

Mr. Hein was born in St. Louis, Missouri, April 21, 1859. His father, Frederick Hein, was a native of Germany, born in Holstein, in 1829, and there he was reared and learned the carpenter's trade. When a young man he crossed the Atlantic and

settled in St. Louis, where he engaged in the furniture business for a few years. In that city he married Miss Amelia Feistle, a native of Saxony, Germany, and to them were born the following children: Frederick, a farmer of Dunlap, Iowa; Henry, our subject; William, a farmer of Dunlap, Harrison county, Iowa; and Matilda, wife of Frederick May, of Dunlap, Iowa. In 1859 the family came to Whiteside county, Illinois, and the father purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Montmorency township, to which he added until he had five hundred acres. After operating his farm for some years he rented it and moved to Sterling, where he bought a residence property and lived retired until his death. He died July 8, 1895, at the age of sixty-six years, but his wife is still living at the old homestead on Fourth avenue, Sterling, between Third and Fourth streets.

On the home farm Henry Hein passed his boyhood and youth, obtaining his education in the district schools of the neighborhood, and also acquiring an excellent knowledge of every department of farm work. On the 17th of October, 1882, he led to the marriage altar Miss Carolina Miller, who was born, reared and educated in this county. Her father, William Miller, was one of the early settlers of Jordan township, but who removed from that township to Montmorency township, where he lived twenty-two years. He is now living retired in Rock Falls. Our subject and his wife have two children, Le Roy J. and Harry W., who are attending the home schools.

After his marriage, Mr. Hein purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Montmorency township, and at different

times added to it until he had three hundred and twenty acres, which he placed under a high state of cultivation and supplied with all modern improvements. He erected thereon a good set of farm buildings, including a pleasant residence, and in connection with the operation of his own land he cultivated rented tracts, the entire amount aggregating eight hundred acres. He was one of the most successful farmers and stock raisers of the county. He now rents his farm, which is well stocked with a good grade of horses, cattle and hogs, in which he owns a half interest. In 1893 he moved to Rock Falls, where he purchased a lot on Sixth avenue and erected a commodious and pleasant residence in modern style of architecture—one of the best in the city. While living here he has engaged in the stock, hay and grain business, but is now practically living retired.

The Democratic party finds in Mr. Hein a staunch supporter of its principles, but at local elections he endeavors to vote for the best man, regardless of party lines. He has never sought or desired official honors, though he served as a member of the school board for some years. Religiously he and his wife are members of the English Lutheran church of Sterling, and socially he belongs to the Odd Fellows lodge of Rock Falls, in which he has filled some of the chairs, and both he and his wife have taken the Rebekah degrees. Almost his entire life has been passed in this county, and he has proved a valued and useful citizen. He has championed every movement designed to promote the general welfare, has supported every enterprise for the public good, and has materially aided in the advancement of all social, educational and moral interests.

JAMES C. HUBBARD, deceased, through years of his identification with Whiteside county enjoyed the highest respect of his fellow citizens by reason of his strict integrity and sterling worth. He was born in New York state, October 12, 1822, but in early life came to Whiteside county, Illinois, with his parents, with whom he remained until after their deaths. He then took up the carpenter's trade, at which he worked until his marriage.

On the 14th of October, 1853, Mr. Hubbard married Miss Maria L. Putney, who was born in North Adams, Massachusetts, October 1834, a daughter of Arthyr and Lucinda Putney, and a granddaughter of Joseph and Jemima Putney. She was one of a family of three children, of whom one died in infancy, and the other, Louisa, died at the age of seven years. To our subject and his wife were also born three children, namely: Maria L.; Lula L., wife of William H. James, a farmer of Penton township; and James P., a farmer of Erie township.

After his marriage, Mr. Hubbard turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, and successfully operated a fine farm of three hundred and ninety-seven acres in Erie township, which land had been entered from the government by Mrs. Hubbard's father and is now in her possession. Mr. Hubbard did not confine his attention alone to farming, for at different times he was interested in a number of other enterprises. He built the steam gristmill now owned by Mr. Pierce and also built and conducted the creamery which he afterward sold to Mr. Mason. For a number of years he was also engaged in mercantile business in Erie, and in all his undertakings he met with fair success, being a man of good business ability

and sound judgment. Throughout the greater part of his life he was a supporter of the Democratic party, but during his last years voted the Prohibition ticket, and he was called upon to fill several local offices. He was a consistent and earnest member of the Baptist church and died in that faith, May 18, 1886. In the spring of 1893, Mrs. Hubbard removed to Erie, where she erected a good modern residence, and here surrounded by a large circle of friends and acquaintances she expects to spend her remaining days.

ROBERT DAIL, a thrifty, well-to-do farmer, residing on section 15, Portland township, Spring Hill, is a typical representative of the self-educated, and self-made, men of Whiteside county. A native of the Emerald Isle, he was born June 13, 1843, at Adengosh, Monaghan county, a son of Nathaniel and Jane (McNeil) Dail.

Nathaniel Dail spent his early life in Monaghan county, living there until after the birth of his three sons. In 1851, disposing of his farm, he emigrated with his family to the New World, hoping in this land of plenty to better his financial condition. Boarding a sailing vessel, the Charles Chanler, at Liverpool, England, he was six weeks on the Atlantic before arriving at New Orleans, from whence he sailed up the river to Albany, Whiteside county. This journey was saddened by the death of his faithful wife at St. Louis. Coming directly to Portland township, he bought eighty acres of land on Spring Hill, on which he was actively engaged in agricultural pursuits until his death. His sons, all of them farmers in Portland township, are as follows: Nathaniel, who served in the late Civil war;

Robert, the subject of this brief sketch; and John.

Robert Dail, a lad of scarce nine years when he came to this county, motherless, lived with an uncle for four or five years thereafter, and then began earning his own living in earnest, working by the month as a farm hand. A hard-working, industrious lad, prudent and economical, he saved his wages and in course of time bought forty acres of land from his father. The Civil war was then in progress, and on May 8, 1864, he enlisted for one hundred days in Company B, One Hundred and Fortieth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, which started from Springfield to join the Army of the Tennessee. He did duty along the lines of the Memphis & Charleston Railway, guarding transportation for nearly six months after his term of enlistment expired, when, on October 19, 1864, he was honorably discharged from the service, in Chicago. Returning home, Mr. Dail resumed work on his small farm, and within two years had erected a snug little house in which he and his bride set up housekeeping, he being tired of boarding. From time to time he has added to his landed possessions, so that he now owns and operates one hundred and sixty acres of well-improved land, carrying on mixed husbandry with most gratifying results. The cozy house has been enlarged, and a substantial barn and good outbuilding erected; his farming implements are of the most approved pattern; and everything is in keeping with the appliances of a first-class agriculturist. For almost half a century he has lived in this town and county, and has ably assisted in the development of this fertile and productive agricultural region; since his boyhood days the wild beasts have fled before the advancing steps of civ-

ilization; and the small hamlets that dotted this part of Illinois have grown into prosperous towns and villages under his observation, a change that he has watched with pleasure, and while lending his aid to important movements in that direction has at the same time been enabled to accumulate a modest competence for himself.

Mr. Dail was married, July 4, 1866, to Miss Elizabeth McNeill, who was born in Ireland, in 1844, and came to Illinois with her parents when a child. Seven children have been born of their union, as follows: Tremayne, who is married, lives at Walnut, Illinois; Bertha; Florence, wife of Edward Pomeroy, of Colona, Henry county, has one child, Lillian; Lillie; William, who is married, assists in the management of the home farm; and Robert Dail, Jr., whose wedded life has been saddened by the death of a son, Derwold D., who lived but eighteen months. Politically Mr. Dail is a sound Republican, having been a supporter of its principles since casting his first presidential vote, in 1864, for Abraham Lincoln. He has never sought public office, preferring to devote his attention to his private interests, but he has served as a member of the school board several years.

**E**M. PECKHAM, an energetic and enterprising farmer residing on section 24, Erie township, Whiteside county, Illinois, was born August 14, 1856, in Rome, Oneida county, New York, and is a son of William H. and Melvina M. (Miller) Peckham, also natives of New York, as was the grandfather, William Peckham. For some years the father was engaged in the lumber business in Rome, but his last days were spent at Vienna, New York, where he died

December 20, 1882. The mother is still living and now makes her home in Syracuse, New York. Twelve children were born to them, namely: Achsah L., widow of C. H. Reed and a resident of Iowa; Emma, wife of Frank Baker, a carpenter of Taberg, New York; two who died in infancy; William C., a resident of Prophetstown, Illinois; Wells R., who died in the service of his country during the Civil war; Mary, who died in New York; George W., a resident of Taberg; Alfred, a harness maker of Erie township, Whiteside county; E. M., our subject; Frank, a worker in brass at Boston, Massachusetts; and Cora, wife of E. G. Halstead, a merchant of Syracuse, New York.

Mr. Peckham, whose name introduces this sketch, remained at home until his marriage with the exception of one year spent in the west. On his return to New York, he was married, November 22, 1882, to Miss Nettie M. Abel, a daughter of William P. and Maria Abel, of Vienna, New York, and by this union one child was born, Daisy R., who was born February 17, 1884, and is at present attending college in Fulton, Illinois.

For about two years after his marriage, Mr. Peckham remained in New York, engaging in farming, and in 1884 came to Whiteside county, Illinois, locating first in Prophetstown township where he rented a farm and remained there one year. He then purchased one hundred and one acres on section 24, Erie township, and its cultivation and improvement he has since devoted his energies. He has erected thereon a large modern residence, and has made many other improvements which add to the beauty and value of the place. He carries on general farming and stock raising, and

in his undertakings has met with well deserved success. In politics he is an ardent Republican, and he has held the office of highway commissioner, since the spring of 1887, and has been treasurer of the board for ten years. Fraternaly he belongs to Rock River camp, No. 14, N. W. A., and of Acorn lodge, No. 317, K. P., of Erie, while religiously his estimable wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church of that place.

ALLEN E. PARMENTER, junior member of the firm of Parmenter Brothers, general merchants of Lyndon, and the present supervisor from that town, is one of the most energetic, enterprising and successful business men of that part of the county. He is a native of Illinois, born in Rock Island county, December 20, 1853, and is a son of John G. Parmenter, who for many years successfully followed farming in that county, but spent the last fifteen years of his life in retirement from active labor. He was born in New York, December 14, 1831, and died in Lyndon, Illinois, in February, 1891, having come to this county in 1890. He married Harriet Waite, a native of Indiana, and now a resident of Lyndon. To them were born the following children: George H. and Allen E., who compose the firm of Parmenter Brothers; Sophia, who married A. M. Bruner and died in Nebraska; Frank B., who is district secretary of the Young Men's Christian Association at Rock Island, which position his father had previously filled; and Charles W., who was serving as postmaster of Lyndon at the time of his death, which occurred in January, 1893.

George H. Parmenter, the oldest son,



was born in Rock Island county, March 30, 1852, and in the public schools of that county acquired his education. He remained at home until his marriage and followed agricultural pursuits until his removal to Lyndon. In December, 1875, he married Miss Amanda J. DeBord, a native of Illinois and a daughter of Elijah and Susan (Collins) DeBord, who were born in Kentucky. She is one of a large family, of whom four others are still living, namely: Samuel and William, residents of Kirnhan, Shelby county, Iowa; John, who lives with his parents at Harlan, the same county; and Ann, wife of Gilbert Clark, of Randolph, Iowa. Of the five children born to Mr. and Mrs. Parmenter, one died in infancy, and the others are Drucilla, Elsie, Susie and Helen. In October, 1882, he removed to Lyndon, and purchased an interest in the general store owned by his brother, Allen E. Parmenter, and his brother-in-law, A. M. Bruner. They carried on business at first under the firm name of Parmenter & Bruner, but since the withdrawal of Mr. Bruner the name has been changed to Parmenter Brothers. Prior to August, 1898, they owned two stocks of goods, but during that month the business was consolidated, and they now have the leading store of the kind in the place. They carry a large and complete assortment of dry goods, groceries, boots, shoes, etc., in fact everything found in a first-class general store, and enjoy an excellent trade. They also own a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Rock Island county, and are extensively interested in the poultry business, dressing and shipping fowls to the city markets, and employing from twelve to fifteen men in this way during the best season. They also have a branch house in Reynolds, Illinois.

Allen E. Parmenter was also reared and educated in Rock Island county, and spent his early life under the parental roof. On coming to Whiteside county, in 1880, he embarked in mercantile business at Lyndon in partnership with Mr. Bruner as previously stated, and has since been one of the leading business men of the place. He was united in marriage with Miss Mary E. Smith, and to them have been born three children: Sophia, Hattie and Elbert.

Socially the brothers are members of the Modern Woodmen camp, No. 72, of Lyndon, and the Mystic Workers of the World, No. 41, and politically are identified with the Republican party. George H. has served as school director three terms, and is now a member of the village board, in which he is serving on the finance committee. In 1897, Allen A. was elected supervisor and so acceptably did he fill that office, that he was re-elected two years later by a large majority, being the present incumbent in that office, the duties of which he has most capably discharged. He is chairman of the printing committee, and a member of the equalization and educational committees.

---

**W**HILLIAM AUGUST HEIN, a prominent and successful farmer residing on section 20, Hahnman township, is a native of Illinois, born in Kendall county, February 15, 1857. His father, Jacob Hein, was born, reared and educated in Germany, and on his emigration to the new world in 1841, located in Kendall county, Illinois, where he married Christina Crumm, also a native of Germany, who came to this country when a young lady. In 1859 they removed to Whiteside county, the father hav-

ing previously purchased a farm on section 19, Hahnaman township, and to its cultivation and improvement he devoted his energies throughout the remainder of his active business life. He owned two hundred acres of very valuable and productive land, and upon that place he died in February, 1893. His first wife, who was the mother of our subject, died May 1, 1860, and he later married again.

Upon the home farm William A. Hein grew to manhood, and attended the district schools of the neighborhood. He continued to assist his father in the labors of the fields until he attained his majority, and then rented a place with his brother Jacob, who now owns and operates the old home farm. Our subject has met with well-deserved success in his lifework and now owns a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 20, Hahnaman township, upon which he has made many useful and valuable improvements, in the way of buildings. He also owns forty acres in Tampico township, and is successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising.

Mr. Hein was married in Tampico township, March 31, 1892, to Miss Liva M. Cain, who was born in Bureau county, Illinois, but was reared and educated in Whiteside county. She is a graduate of the Tampico high school, and for five years prior to her marriage successfully engaged in teaching, the last year as teacher in the schools of Tampico. Her father was Eli Cain, a prominent farmer of this county. Our subject and his wife have two children: Mary R. and Mason A.

Since casting his first presidential vote for James A. Garfield, Mr. Hein has been a staunch supporter of the Republican party, has served as a delegate to county conven-

tions of his party, and is now committee-man of his township. He has also filled the offices of township clerk and constable in a most commendable manner. Socially he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and the Masonic fraternity, and both he and his wife are connected with the Eastern Star and Royal Neighbors, while she also belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church of Tampico.

**W**ILLIAM D. SLAYMAKER, a prominent farmer residing on section 32, Garden Plains township, Whiteside county, Illinois, was born in Pennsylvania, January 28, 1839, and is a son of James H. and Jane E. (McIlvain) Slaymaker, and a grandson of Captain John Slaymaker. The father was also a native of the Keystone state, and there he engaged in hotel keeping throughout the greater part of his life. In his family were eight children, namely: John S., a farmer of Harvey county, Kansas; Thomas A., a hardware merchant of Peabody, Kansas; R. M., a farmer living near that place; James H., deceased; William D., our subject; Anna M., also a resident of Peabody, Kansas; Elizabeth J., deceased; and Sarah J., who died in infancy.

In his native state William D. Slaymaker passed his early life. On first coming to Whiteside county, Illinois, in 1851, he located in Newton township, where he made his home for some time. He was married, March 3, 1870, to Miss Martha A. Curry, who was born in Allegheny county, Pennsylvania, December 18, 1845, a daughter of Joseph and Anna Curry, farming people. By this union five children were born, as follows: John C., a farmer of Garden Plains township; William M., who is now

with his parents, but intends, in the spring of 1900, to move to Iowa, where he has purchased a farm; and Alvin B., Samuel L. and Lizzie Jane, all at home.

After his marriage, Mr. Slaymaker located on a farm of eighty-two acres in Garden Plains township, and after residing there for twelve years traded the place for his present fine farm of one hundred and twenty acres on section 32, the same township. Here he is now successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising; also keeps fifteen milch cows for dairy purposes; and devotes considerable attention to the raising of poultry. He is an enterprising and energetic farmer and the success that has come to him is certainly well-merited. In his political views he is a Democrat, and he has been called upon to fill the office of school director. Socially, he holds membership in the Modern Woodmen camp at Albany, and religiously both he and his wife are earnest and consistent members of the Presbyterian church of Newton township.

**HENRY E. JENKS**, an agriculturist of energy and ability, residing on section 7, Fenton township, where he owns and operates eighty acres of highly cultivated land, was born in Essex county, New York, May 18, 1844, a son of Warren and Free-love (Potter) Jenks. The father was born in New York, February 7, 1805, a son of Edmund and Sarah Jenks and grandson of James Jenks. His parents were natives of Vermont, and in 1804 moved from that state to New York. By occupation Edmund Jenks was a farmer. Our subject's father remained in the Empire state until 1854, which year witnessed his arrival in Whiteside county, Illinois. He purchased the

farm of eighty acres on section 7, Fenton township, where our subject now resides, and throughout his active business life followed farming. He is still living at the advanced age of ninety-four years, is hale and hearty and possesses an excellent memory. On the 21st of October, 1830, he married Miss Free-love Potter, who was born in Rhode Island, May 12, 1806, a daughter of Anthony Potter, and died February 28, 1886. To them were born six children, namely: Merrill, Austin, Martin, Martha, George and Henry. Of these Merrill and George died in infancy; Martha died at the age of eighteen years; and the others are still living.

Henry E. Jenks, our subject, was reared on the home farm and educated in the district schools of the neighborhood. He never left the parental roof and since reaching manhood has engaged in the operation of the home farm, his entire time and attention being devoted to general farming.

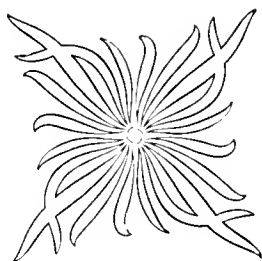
On the 4th of July, 1867, Mr. Jenks led to the marriage altar Miss Elizabeth Norton, who was born in Huntingshire, England, December 28, 1843, and in November, 1851, came to the United States with her parents, John and Sarah Norton. Her mother was taken ill while crossing the Atlantic, and died in New York city, November 12, 1851. From New York, the family proceeded to Cincinnati, Ohio, where they made their home for three years. There her father married Miss Ellen Dobson. In 1854, with his family, he came to Whiteside county, Illinois, and located in Union Grove township, where his death occurred May 27, 1870. In that township, Mrs. Jenks grew to womanhood, receiving her education in the district schools. At the age of sixteen, she commenced teaching,

and taught the first school that was organized in the Bunker Hill district, in Union Grove township. She afterwards attended the high school in Fulton, Illinois, and taught six years in the schools of Fenton and Newton townships.

To Mr. and Mrs. Jenks have been born seven children, namely: Sarah Martha, born May 25, 1869, is now the wife of W. H. Davis, of Oregon; Jennie Edith, born April 11, 1872, is engaged in teaching school in Newton township, this county, and resides at home; Laretta E., born August 7, 1877, and Mary Inez, born August

29, 1880, are attending school in Wheaton, Illinois; Charles E., born February 13, 1883, died January 14, 1885; Herman H., born October 31, 1884, and Ira J., born December 6, 1886, are both at home.

Formerly Mr. Jenks affiliated with the Republican party, but being a strong temperance man he now supports the Prohibition party, and does all in his power to advance the moral and material welfare of his township and county. He and his wife are consistent and faithful members of the United Brethren church, and take an active part in all church work.











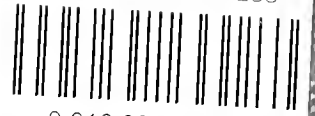








LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



0 016 096 006 1